

**The Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 23, 2017**



***"My Lord and my God!"***

**Our Lady of Mercy Church**  
East Greenwich, Rhode Island  
[www.olmparish.org](http://www.olmparish.org)



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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
 APRIL 23, 2017**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

*Mass of Anticipation for the Second Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM Lisa Tanner—Memorial

**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

*The Second Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 9:00 AM Laurea & Leo Hackett—Memorial  
 10:30AM William & Catherine Pearson—Birthday Rmbr.  
 5:00PM Sean T. Healey—Birthday Remembrance

**MONDAY, APRIL 24**

*Easter Weekday/St. Fidelis of Sigmarigen, Priest & Martyr*  
 7:30AM John Gardner, Jr.—Memorial

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

*St. Mark, Evangelist*  
 7:30AM David W. Gamache—1st Anniversary

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Deceased of Zaino & Mattiace Families—Mem.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

**FRIDAY, APRIL 28**

*Easter Weekday/St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St. Louis de Montfort, Priest*  
 7:30AM Armando F. Lusi—Memorial

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29**

*St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church*  
 8:30AM Eric Arnold—Memorial  
*Mass of Anticipation for the Third Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM Robert "Bob" Girasol—Memorial

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30**

*The Third Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM Richard Casey, Jr. —Memorial  
 9:00 AM Deborah Anderson—Birthday Remembrance  
 10:30AM Dr. Augustine Capotosto-10th Ann. & Deceased  
 Members of the Capotosto & Gelardi Families—Memorial  
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church





Dear Parishioners:

We had a tremendous celebration of Holy Week and Easter! The Holy Week ceremonies were truly prayerful and reverent. The Easter Liturgies were joyous! As St. Augustine said so long ago, "*We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!*"

None of the solemnity, beauty and glory of Holy Week and Easter is possible without the hard work of so many good people. We thank all who worked to ensure that the most sacred time of our Church Year was possible and wonderful.

We thank Celia Franzone and her dedicated crew of decorators who made the Church so beautiful with flowers and decorations. We thank Nancy Wray and her band of Sacristans who cleaned, polished, and prepared all the vessels and vestments for Holy Week. We thank Henri St. Louis, Deirdre Donovan, the OLM Adult and Children Choirs for providing such beautiful music for the Sacred Triduum.

We must thank Paul Anderson and his hard working maintenance crew for ensuring the Church was so clean and the grounds so beautiful. We thank our loyal Altar Servers who served each of the ceremonies with great reverence. We thank our ushers for their service and hospitality to our many visitors. We thank our Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for their faithful service during Holy Week.

Yes, all these good folks, and many others, deserve our gratitude for the hard work in seeing to all the details of Holy Week and Easter and for making

the celebration of Holy Week truly beautiful and joyful.

In your name I also thank our zealous young Associate Pastor, Fr. Barrow and our dedicated Parish Deacon, John Dowd, for their support and hard work in planning and executing all that goes into Holy Week and Easter. They are a great blessing to our parish!

We must, however, give all the gratitude to the one who truly deserves our thanks and praise, Almighty God! God is the great giver of all that is beautiful and joyful and so we thank Him for the many blessings received during Holy Week and the Easter Season! St. Ignatius of Loyola reminds us: *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam*, All for the greater glory of God!

We give thanks to God also for those who were baptized and received into the Catholic Church at Easter. Across the globe thousands joined our Church and now share in confessing our Catholic faith each Sunday.

We welcome them all including those who were received into the Church here at the Easter Vigil. Let us continue to pray that their faith flourishes in their lives. We also had the great joy of baptizing infants on Easter Sunday. Easter is all about new life and so it is always joyous when we witness that new life in Christ first hand.

Our celebration of Easter, the greatest feast of the Church, does not end in only eight days. As the Catechism reminds us: "*Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts,' the 'Solemnity of solemnities.'*" As such, the

celebration of Easter extends for fifty days. The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one 'great Sunday.'

We rejoice in the Risen Christ and celebrate the Easter Season with a joyful and lively faith. In an ancient Easter homily, St. John Chrysostom reminds us as he reminded the early Church why we celebrate with such great joy:

*"O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages."*

We thank Fr. Nathan Ricci for assisting at Masses during Easter. Father was home from his studies in Rome visiting his family for Easter. He reports that Fr. Connors is studying very diligently as we might expect! Fr. Barrow is on a well deserved vacation this week! We thank our good neighbor, Bishop Evans, for helping to cover Masses.

Happy Easter! Christ is Risen! Alleluia! So celebrate Easter with joy and faith. Be well. Do good. God Bless!

*Father Healey*



**Why the Easter Bunny?**

Fr. Healey is oft to say: "It would not be Easter without Peeps." We all know that little marshmallow treat, deceptively tasty looking on the outside (at least to me, but then again there is no judgment concerning taste), which represents the Easter Bunny. Why is Easter associated with the Easter Bunny? It goes back to Easter Eggs. In Germanic and Anglo-Saxon countries it was the bunny which would bring the eggs. The egg is the symbol of fertility and rebirth which Christians associated with the Resurrection. Eggs were originally painted to represent Christ's blood.

The Easter Bunny has become ubiquitous in America, but at least in Italy rabbits and bunnies are most often associated with stews. The richer symbol for Easter is the lamb. For the Jewish people the lamb was the symbol of sacrifice. In the Book of Exodus, God commanded the Israelites to sacrifice a lamb or a goat and place its blood over the lintel of their home. By doing so, they were *passed over* and saved from death. God commanded that this event be commemorated in the Passover feast. It was the blood of the sacrificial lamb which forgave the sins of the people in the Temple. The sacrifice of a lamb was merely the pre-figurement of the greatest and final sacrifice: the sacrifice of the Son on the Cross. In Isaiah's famous prophecy the Suffering Servant he writes: "Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth." Behold, Jesus is the Lamb of God who offers the perfect sacrifice of obedience and love on the Cross to free us from sin, recapitulate God and man, and transform us into his Body (to become sacrificial lambs ourselves). In his resurrection Christ *passed over* from death into life and this Passover has been extended to us. We partake of this sacrifice in the Mass when we partake of his body and blood.

In many of the ancient churches of Rome the apostles are depicted as lambs. This is not a coincidence (just as many of the parables Jesus gives depict His people as sheep without a shepherd). Jesus asks us to imitate him, take up our crosses, and be transformed into the sacrificial lamb offering up sacrifices of praise, thanksgiving and love. Finally in Revelation, and at every Mass, the heavenly liturgy and banquet is depicted as the worship of the Lamb of God, out of whom flows blood and water. To visualize this image I ask everyone to look up "The Adoration of the Lamb" by brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck.

***If you have a question about the Catholic Faith , email your questions directly to Father Barrow at [associate@olmparish.org](mailto:associate@olmparish.org)***

*Weekly Collection*

**April 9, 2017**


Weekly.....	\$14, 259.50
EFT.....	\$1,547.50
	<b>Total=\$15,807.00</b>
Rice Bowl.....	\$11,401.87
Outreach.....	\$790.50

**April 16, 2017**

Weekly.....	\$17, 357.50
EFT.....	\$3,518.50
	<b>Total=\$20,876.00</b>
Easter.....	\$7,183.50
Good Friday.....	\$1,911.50
Easter Flowers.....	\$2,842.00
Outreach.....	\$339.50

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

***Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.***



2017 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

**2017 Parish Goal = \$193,864**  
**Pledged to date = \$174,829.50**  
**Number of Donors = 413**  
**% of Parish Goal = 90%**  
**Average Gift = \$423**  
**Total Raised in 2016 = \$268,928**

***Thank You for Your Generous Support!***



We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of Our Lady of Mercy Parishioner **Lenora Purvis** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

***May she rest in peace.***



# Religious Education NEWS

- **Sunday, April 23:** No RE Classes due to April Vacation.
- **Sunday, April 30:** RE Grades 2 and 8 only meet
- **Saturday, May 13:** First Communion Mass for OLM School Students at 10:00am & OLM Religious Education Students at 12Noon
- **Sunday, May 14:** May Crowning with the entire Frist Communion Class at 10:30am Mass.




# Outreach Update

- **Food for OLM Food Pantry:** We are always in needed of non-perishable and canned goods for our OLM Food Pantry. Please leave all donated food items in the Outreach Box in the Church vestibule. Thank you for your support.
- For more information, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



- **Monday, April 24:** School resumes! Welcome back!
- **Tuesday, April 25:** School Assembly at 8:05am; Mock Trial Competition, OLM vs. St. Philomena
- **Thursday, April 27:** 8th Grade Graduation Photo
- **Friday, April 28:** Dress Down Day to Benefit RI Right to Life Services
- **Saturday, April 29:** Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser at Quidnesset Country Club at 6:00pm

**Discover the OLM Advantage!**  
[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)



# DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

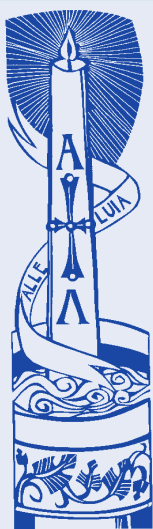
**Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 Divine Mercy Devotions  
 Sunday, April 23rd at 3:00pm**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet**

**Talk on Divine Mercy by  
 Fr. Nicholas Fleming**

**Associate Pastor  
 Saints John & Paul Parish, Coventry, RI  
 All are invited!**

**Congratulations to RCIA Candidates  
Easter Vigil 2017**



Received into  
the Catholic Church  
& Receiving the Sacraments  
of Communion & Confirmation

Courtney *Catherine* Cavanagh  
Donna *Rita* Cerrone  
Nathan *Anthony* Zaleski

Receiving  
the Sacrament of Confirmation  
Brittney *Francis* Cuningham

*“This is the Day the LORD has made:  
Let us Rejoice and Be Glad.  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.”*  
—Psalm 118 for Easter Sunday

*Prayerful Best Wishes  
to our newly baptized at Easter :*



Noah Samuel Gonzalez,  
and parents, Manny & Christine

William Everitt Zaleski  
and parents, Nathan & Kristine.

*“Dearly beloved, these children have been  
reborn in baptism. They are now called the  
children of God, for so indeed they are.”*  
— The Rite of Baptism

**OUR LADY'S**



**ROSARY MAKERS**

**OLM Rosary Makers Monthly Workshop**

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

OLM Cryroom

Materials and instructions provided.

Join us in making rosaries for the missions.

**MEN OF FAITH**  
CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE  
Men of Action

**The Diocese of Providence  
2017 Men's Conference**

*Sponsored by the Men of St. Joseph International  
and the Knights of Columbus*

*“Are You in a Battle?  
Draw Your Strength from the Lord”*

Saturday, April 29, 2017

8:30AM —3:00PM

Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul  
Providence, RI

The Conference includes Mass celebrated by Bishop Tobin, presentations by Ken Yasinski, Founder of Face to Face Ministries and Fr. Matt Williams of the Archdiocese of Boston. There will be live music, morning coffee, and lunch catered by Venda Ravioli. All conferences will be held in the Cathedral Hall and McVinney Auditorium. For more information call the Office of Faith Formation at 401-278-4646.

Registration fee is \$30.