



THE CHURCH OF

Our Lady of Mercy



Phone.....401-884-4968 Fax.....401-884-1415

Parish Email.....parish@olmparish.org

Parish Website.....www.olmparish.org

Sixty-Five Third Street ✕ East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818

† MASS SCHEDULE †

Weekend

Saturday Mass of Anticipation.....4:00 PM

Sunday Mass.....7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM &
5:00 PM (Sept—May)

Daily

Monday - Friday.....7:30 AM

Saturdays & Legal Holidays.....8:30 AM

Holy Day

Vigil Mass.....5:00 PM

Holiday Masses.....7:30 AM & 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Mercy School

Mr. Scott W. Fuller

School Principal

55 Fourth Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

School Phone401-884-1618

Email.....olmoffice@olmschool.org

Web.....www.olmschool.org

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ✕ February 11, 2018

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Mondays at 6:00 PM or by appointment.

Saturdays at 3:00 PM or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Second Sunday of the month. Preparation Class is required. Please contact the parish Deacon prior to birth of your child.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact one of the parish priests one year prior to the proposed date of your wedding.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact one of the parish priests if you are shut-in, sick, homebound or hospitalized and before surgery.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Please contact one of the parish priests or the Office of the Director of Vocations at 401-331-1316 or www.catholicpriest.com.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday.....8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, Parish Secretary

Email: parish@olmparish.org Phone: 401-884-4968

The Very Reverend Bernard A. Healey, S.T.L., J.C.L., Pastor

The Reverend Joshua A. Barrow, S.T.L., Associate Pastor

Deacon John W. Dowd, Parish Deacon

Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr.

William K. Wray

Parish Trustees

Parish Founded 1853



Parish Incorporated 1867



PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor*.....884-4968
 pastor@olmparish.org
 Twitter: twitter.com/FatherHealey

Father Joshua A. Barrow, *Associate Pastor*.....884-4968
 associate@olmparish.org

Deacon John W. Dowd, *Deacon Assistant*.....884-4968
 deacon@olmparish.org

Mr. David E. Cote, *Business Manager*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org

Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, *Admin. Assistant*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org

Mr. Paul E. Anderson, *Facilities Director*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org

St. Patrick's Cemetery Office.....886-5296
 parish@olmparish.org

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Michele St. Jean (*Grades 1-5*).....884-1061
 reled@olmparish.org

Mr. Douglas E. Green (*Grades 6-8*).....884-4410
 confirmation@olmparish.org

OFFICE OF OUTREACH

Mr. Douglas E. Green, *Director*.....884-4410
 outreach@olmparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY & CHOIRS

Mr. Henri M. St. Louis, *Music Director*.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

Mrs. Deirdre A. Donovan, *Soloist*.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

Main Office.....884-1618
 olmoffice@olmschool.org

Mrs. Carolyn C. MacCrae, *School Bookkeeper*..558-0051
 cmaccrae@olmschool.org

Little Saints & Scholars Program.....886-0742

Mass Intentions for the Week

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THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 11, 2018

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Mass of Anticipation for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM Ellen C. Silva, Theresa & Raymond Sylvia—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
 9:00 AM Eileen Maguire—Month's Mind
 10:30AM Barbara A. Sedlock—11th Anniversary
 5:00PM Gerald Celio—1st Anniversary

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Weekday
 7:30AM Deceased of Pundys & Dikinis Families—Memorial

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Weekday
 7:30AM Fr. James Hynes—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14—ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Souls in Purgatory
 9:00AM Deceased Alumni & Benefactors of OLM School
 12:05PM Sperantino Almonte—Memorial
 7:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Thursday after Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Special Intention
 12:05PM Robert Merlino—Memorial

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Friday after Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Shirley Berlanga—Memorial
 12:05PM Special Intention

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Saturday after Ash Wednesday
 8:30AM Deborah O'Connell—4th Anniversary
Mass of Anticipation for the 1st Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Romualdas Jagminas—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

The First Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
 9:00 AM Bruce Hart—4th Anniversary
 10:30AM Matilda Manocchia—Memorial
 5:00PM Jeremiah Rego—Month's Mind





Dear Parishioners:

It was a long night last Sunday as I watched the Superbowl with some priest friends. It wasn't the ending we were hoping for but it was a game to watch. I offer my congratulations to the Eagles and their fans on their first Superbowl victory.

Football season is now over and MLB Spring Training begins soon. But we have a much more important season ahead of us. The Holy Season of Lent begins this Wednesday, February 14th! There has been much discussion about Ash Wednesday as this year it falls on Valentine's Day!

The observance of Ash Wednesday requires prayer, fasting and abstinence from meat. Valentine's Day, on the other hand, is a day for celebrating romantic love, often by dining out on fancy meals and giving chocolate and expensive gifts to a beloved. It's the first time since 1945 that Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day have fallen on the same date.

As Catholics our observance of Ash Wednesday should take precedence over any Valentine's Day celebration. There are Catholic roots to Valentine's Day, as it is associated with a Catholic saint and martyr. However, the holiday as celebrated today, is a commercial enterprise complete with greeting cards, expensive meals and people spending millions of dollars.

Ash Wednesday begins our forty days of prayer, fasting and alms giving. Ashes are smeared on our foreheads with the words: "*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall*

return."

The act of putting ashes on foreheads symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need for repentance. Far from being a merely external act, the Church has retained the use of ashes to symbolize that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptized are called during Lent.

Ash Wednesday is but the opening pitch for forty days of "spiritual spring training", Lent. The goal is Easter. The hope is that, if we unite ourselves more closely with Jesus on His cross through more fervent prayer, greater charity to others, and sincere penance for our sins through His mercy we'll be united with Him in His Resurrection.

There is a complete schedule in the bulletin for Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent at OLM. There are four Masses on Ash Wednesday and they usually see great crowds. Also, I ask you to please take up works of charity by supporting the Rice Bowl Collection and the Catholic Charity Appeal.

Rice Bowls are available to take home and place your sacrificial offerings in throughout Lent. This important collection for the work of Catholic Relief Services aids the hungry of the world. The Annual Catholic Charity Appeal which supports the good works of our Diocese is to be taken up on the weekend of February 25th.

Lent is also a time of penance and conversion from sin. Confessions are heard daily Monday through Friday during Lent at OLM. Also, an extra guest confessor joins us every

Monday night during Lent. On March 24th there are All-Day Confessions at OLM. This Lent make sure to get to Confession!

A penance should be taken up during Lent that might include fasting from some pleasure or comfort in our lives. Giving up something in a sacrificial not superficial way always helps us gain a deeper understanding of Christ's loving sacrifice for us on the Cross.

Also consider taking up some extra daily prayer and committing to a Lenten devotion. With two Daily Masses during Lent we are truly blessed with opportunity to be nourished by the Eucharist. Also, the Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday and are a great Lenten Devotion. Plan on making the Lenten Mission in March with Monsignor Douglas Cook.

Pope Francis teaches us: "*Lent is the favorable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in His Word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor. The Lord, who overcame the deceptions of the Tempter during the forty days in the desert, shows us the path we must take.*" So take up your Lenten path with zeal and commitment on Ash Wednesday.

Please consider moving your Valentine's Day to Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras), and keep the Lenten Fast on Ash Wednesday! Pray, fast and give alms! Take up your cross and live your Catholic Faith! Do good. Be well. A Blessed Lent!

Father Healey



What do the Ashes Symbolize?

Carl Sagan boldly proclaimed: “we are starstuff” presumably because we are made from the elements found in stars. While this may lead to grandiose musings on nebulae and ashes, it is bad metaphysics (it is a way of looking at the world known as Reductionism). Yes, we are made from elements found in stars, but we are something different. It would be a mistake to equate the notion of star dust with the Ashes on our foreheads. In fact it does damage to what it means to be a human being, what the true meaning of ashes is, and the fundamental reality and goal of the universe. What is fundamental about the universe and about reality is not star dust or atoms, it is God, who is a Trinity of persons. As Fr. Thomas White O.P. quipped, “the universe is persons all the way down.” In fact the universe is geared toward personhood, toward rationality. Fundamentally human beings are not reducible to stars; we are rational beings; we are persons.

First and foremost: we were not created to be dust. In Genesis 3:19 God says to Adam after he sins, “you are dust and to dust you shall return.” Ash, therefore, represents mortality as a result of sin. Prior to sin, human beings were God’s stewards, coregents in the Garden and not dust. After the fall, the first sin, we are now subject to sin, suffering, and death. Every human being is mortal and we go back after death to a state of dust and ashes.

There are two other levels of meaning to the ashes. They symbolize repentance of sin, and intercessory prayer on behalf of others. We read in Job 42:6: “Therefore, I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.” In 1 Maccabees 3:47 we read: “They fasted that day, put on sackcloth and sprinkled ashes on their heads.” Finally in Daniel 9:3 we read: “I turned to the Lord God, to seek help, in prayer and petition, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.”

So ashes on Ash Wednesday are an ancient sign of remembering our mortality, repenting of sin, and interceding for others. It begins the Season of Lent whereby we unite our intense time of prayer to a period of fasting and supplication to God, drawing closer to God by detaching ourselves from the pleasures of this world. Lent is the time for us to come back to God.

If you have questions about the Catholic Faith, please send them to Fr. Barrow via email at associate@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

February 4, 2018

Weekly.....	\$13,351.00
EFT.....	\$1,667.00
	Total=\$15,018.00
Outreach.....	\$1,686.00
Building & Grounds.....	\$3,249.00

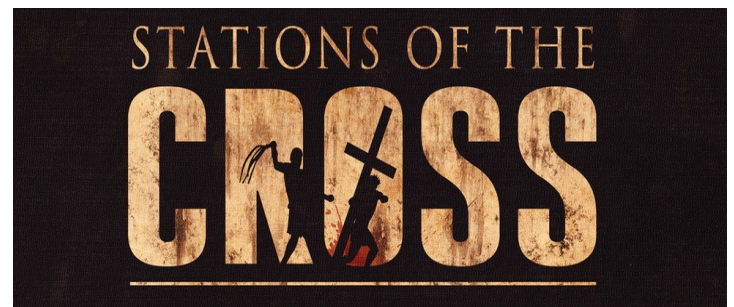
If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

Thank you for your generous support!

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



Confessions at OLM During Lent
Monday–Friday: 11:45AM–NOON
Mondays: 6:00pm–6:45pm with 2 Priests
Saturdays: 3:00pm–3:45pm



Stations of the Cross
Every Friday during Lent
at 7:00PM
Please join us!



This Week at OLM School

- **Wednesday February 14th:** School Mass for Ash Wednesday at 9:00am
- **Friday, February 16th:** School Stations of the Cross at 8:30AM
- **Monday, February 19th:** Winter Vacation begins. School resumes on Monday, February 26th.

Discover the OLM Difference!
www.olmschool.org



- **Sunday, February 11:** All RE Grades meet as regularly scheduled.
- **Sunday, February 18 & February 24:** NO RE these dates due to Winter School Vacation.



**OLM Rosary Makers
 Monthly Workshop**
 Tuesday, February 13, 2018
 9:30am–11:30am
 in OLM Cryroom

Materials and instruction provided. Join us in making rosaries for the missions.



● **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of non-perishable food items especially during the cold winter months. Please leave items in Food Box in vestibule. Thank you for your support.

● **OLM Bereavement Group** meets this Thursday, February 15 at 4:00PM at Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss are most welcome to join us.

● **For more information about OLM Outreach**, please contact Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at outreach@olmparish.org

Attention Women of OLM Parish

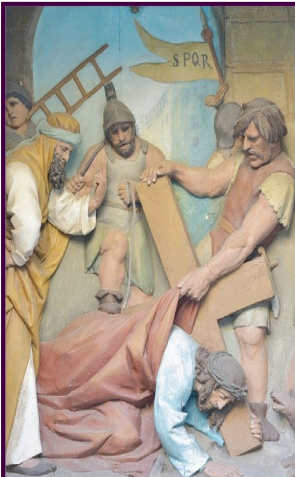
Please join us for a leisurely, prayerful walk through the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We meet the Second and Fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30pm. For more information contact Genevieve S. Kineke at 886-5106.

CALLING ALL MEN!

Are you disappointed with the role you are playing in your life? Your family? Your work? The Church? Do you feel that you have more to offer? Do you want to play a more pivotal role in a world that is hurting and in need of strong, Catholic, men to give their lives for Christ and His Church? If you answered "YES" to any or all of these questions then you will surely want to mark your calendar for Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 6:30pm in McVinney Auditorium, 43 Dave Gavitt Way, Providence (adjacent to Cathedral) for the "Life changing" film... COURAGEOUS! This diocesan-wide men's movie night is open to all men, Confirmation age and older - - throughout the state of RI and beyond and is being sponsored by the Men of Saint Joseph International and the Knights of Columbus!

There is no cost for this event and you can reserve your tickets now, by visiting:
www.mcvinneyauditorium.com/events.

Please feel free to bring a male family member or friend to join you! For more information, contact Keith Kline at leeleejack@aol.com.



Lent

at

Our Lady of Mercy Church

65 Third Street,
East Greenwich, RI

Ash Wednesday • February 14, 2018

Masses with the distribution of ashes
7:30AM, 9:00AM School Mass, 12:05PM and 7:00PM
Confession: 11:45AM until Noon

Daily Masses during Lent

Monday - Friday, 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions during Lent

Monday - Friday 11:45AM - Noon
Mondays 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests
Saturdays 3:00PM - 3:45PM

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00PM
Living Stations of the Cross, Friday March 23, 1:00PM & 7:00PM

Lenten Mission

Sunday – Wednesday, March 4 - 7
Mission Preacher:
Monsignor Douglas Cook, Diocese of Orange, CA

St. Patrick's and St. Joseph Day Masses

St. Patrick's Day Mass
Saturday, March 17, 11:00AM
Auxiliary Bishop Robert C. Evans, Celebrant,
Fr. David F. Gaffney, Homilist
St. Joseph's Day Mass in Italian
Monday, March 19, 12:05PM
Auxiliary Bishop Robert C. Evans, Celebrant,
Father James T. Ruggeri, Homilist

All-Day Confessions for Deanery VII

Saturday, March 24, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

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Lenten Fast and Abstinence

Regulations for Catholics

Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Also, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting: those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts. Pastors and parents are encouraged by the law of the Church to ensure that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated nonetheless in an authentic sense of penance. Following the implementation of the revised Code of Canon Law on November 27, 1983, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States determined that the rules of fast and abstinence which have existed for the last several years in this country be maintained. Namely, that the faithful observe suitable penitential practices on all Fridays throughout the year. These penitential practices need not include abstaining from meat. However, as indicated above, the faithful must not eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. They must also observe faithfully the fast regulations as they have been stated above in accord with the universal law of the Church (Cf. Code of Canon Law, Canons 1250-1252).

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FOR LENT FOR LIFE

WHAT YOU GIVE
UP FOR LENT
CHANGES LIVES.