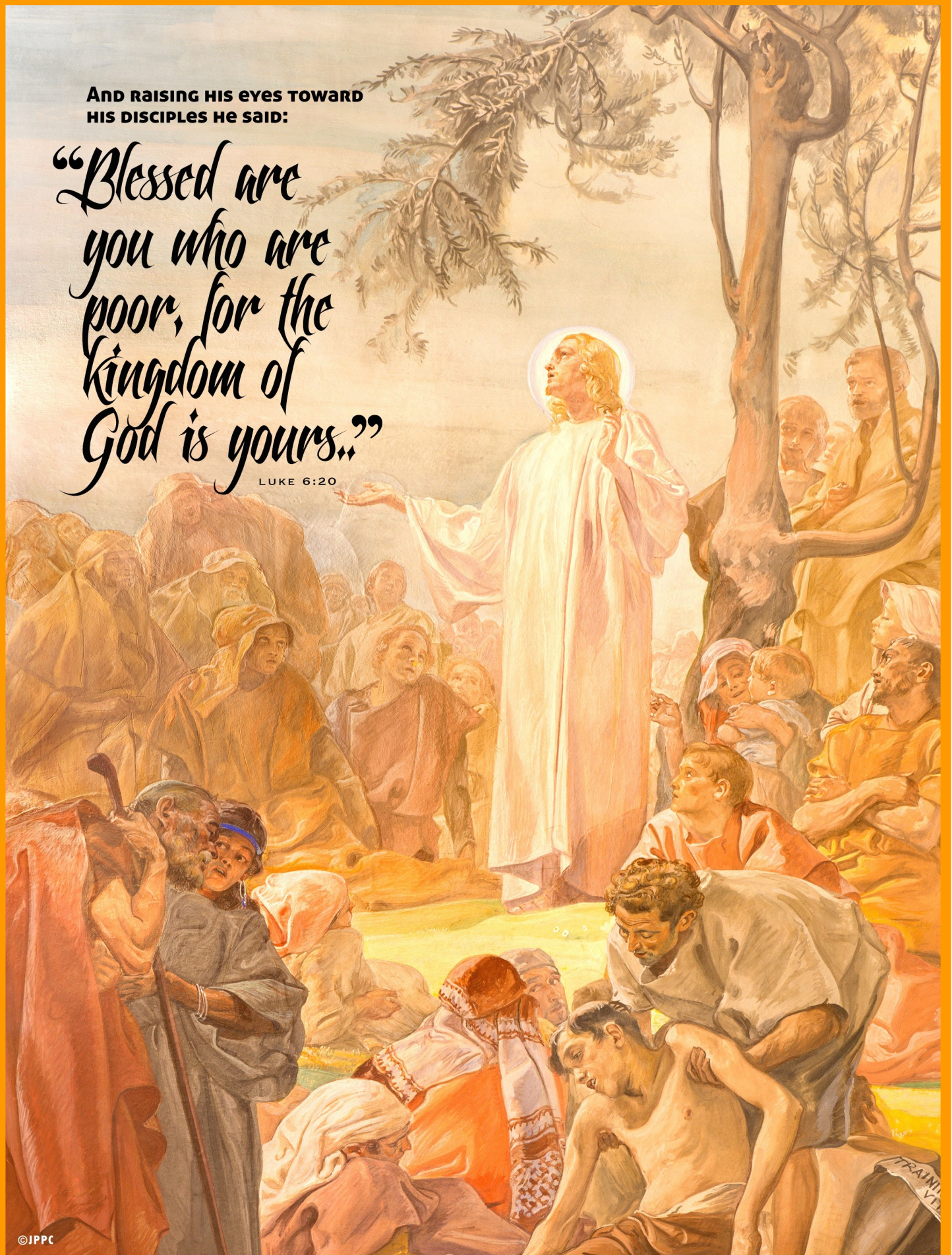


AND RAISING HIS EYES TOWARD  
HIS DISCIPLES HE SAID:

*“Blessed are  
you who are  
poor, for the  
kingdom of  
God is yours.”*

LUKE 6:20





**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, *Parish Deacon* .....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 YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Billy Burdier, *Youth Activities Coordinator*...884-4968  
 Youthactivities@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. Shirley Medici, *Youth Choir Directress*...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  
 ©JPPC

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
 FEBRUARY 17, 2019**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

*The Mass of Anticipation for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 4:00PM William & Catherine Pearson—Memorial

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

*The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:30 AM Frits Weekers—Memorial

9:00 AM Deborah O'Connell—5th Anniversary

10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

5:00PM Carmen Rivera Jackson & Angela Rivera Rodriguez—Memorial

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18—PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY**

*Weekday*

8:30AM Barbara A. Sedlock—12th Anniversary

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

*Weekday*

7:30AM Frits Weekers—Memorial

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

*Weekday*

7:30AM Mariakutty Peter—Memorial

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

*Weekday; St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

7:30AM Dalia Pundys—7th Anniversary

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

*The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

7:30AM George McKenna—Birthday Remembrance

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

*St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr*

8:30AM Bernard St. Jean—Memorial

*The Mass of Anticipation for 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time*

4:00PM George V. McKenna—Memorial

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

*The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:30 AM Special Intention

9:00 AM Ray Pendergast—1st Anniversary

10:30AM Neil St. Jean—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church





Dear Parishioners:

In his Farewell Address to the nation in 1796, President George Washington said: *“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports.”*

We mark Presidents’ Day on Monday and we would do well to remember Washington’s prophetic words. We might also remind our state elected officials about them as they consider and debate new legislation that expands abortion in our state.

Infanticide is the practice of killing children soon after birth and it is now legal in New York State. It has been rejected in Virginia where the Governor of that state was pushing its passage. He is a pediatrician, and spoke rather coldly and clinically in describing that the bill would allow for the “comforting” of an unborn child after birth. His idea of “comfort” was putting the child to death!

These horrific and gruesome laws in New York and Virginia are very similar to the extreme abortion bill before the R.I. General Assembly. The abortion extremists who advocate for its expansion and the deregulation of the abortion industry are working hard to pass the bill.

They and their supporters on Smith Hill choose to ignore the science of a preborn child’s fetal development. They use euphemisms like “clump of cells” to describe a tiny child whose eyes and eye lids, nose, mouth, and tongue have formed. at just six weeks.

It is also clear that abortion is a human rights issue as it concerns the right to life of

a preborn child, not the right of a mother to choose life or death for her child!

The current debate on this issue sadly illustrates that many proponents of abortion no longer think abortion should be “safe, rare and legal.” Now they demand that abortion be expanded to include late term abortion and they do so without apology and without shame!

This is not a bill to codify Roe vs. Wade but rather to radically expand it. Paul Linton, a leading legal scholar on abortion law, concludes that this bill could not “*plausibly be regarded as merely ‘codifying’ the principles of the decision Roe v. Wade.*” And it is, in his legal opinion, “*extreme.*”

Our Catholic Faith, the religion and morality President Washington spoke of, teaches that the sanctity of all human life, including the life of a preborn child, must be respected and protected in law. Each and every human being is lovingly and uniquely made in the image and likeness of God.

However, it seems that many of our Catholic politicians who are quick to tout their Catholic education, choose to ignore Washington’s prophetic words about morality and religion. They pretend that opposition to abortion is merely a “Catholic” issue and not a human rights issue as they conveniently cite separation of church and state.

Either they have chosen to dismiss their Catholic faith or they are in fact woefully ignorant of it. Some suspect that their enthusiastic support of extreme abortion legislation is more about political expediency than

moral naiveté or ignorance of their Church’s teaching.

They should consider the words of the President of Notre Dame University, Fr. John Jenkins. He recently commented on the abortion law, stating that:

*“The great threat is not only that it will remove protections for children in or recently out of the womb as well as for the mothers’ lives, but that it will also further numb this moral instinct so central to our common life. History, sadly, is full of examples where the lives of one or another group is deemed not worthy of protection. As we contemplate the effects of this law and the lives it will take, we can only ask, with fear and trembling, ‘Who is next?’”*

It is with great joy and pride that I announce that OLM Parishioner Marianna Toljan is to receive the **St. Timothy Award for Catholic Youth**, from the Diocese of Providence, for her faith, integrity, leadership and service .

Marianna is a longtime OLM Altar Server and volunteer in our Religious Education Program. We commend her great witness of faith and her generous service to our parish. She is to be presented the award at a special Mass on March 3rd at the Cathedral celebrated by Bishop Tobin. All are welcome to attend.

Be well. Do good. God Bless. Happy Presidents Day! Enjoy the winter break!!



**What do we do after receiving communion?**

A person could spend their lifetime studying just the liturgy of the Church. The vestments, the music, and even our posture during Mass are meant to teach us something about what is going on. Through the liturgy the Church teaches us, and forms our minds and bodies to properly respond to God. Worship is essential to being human.

As Professor Anthony Esolen recently wrote “[Worship] is an intrinsic law of contingent being. When we acknowledge our complete dependence upon God, and when we give him and all his works the praise they are due, then, in this self-forgetfulness, this exist from the prison of the ego, from the ‘inhibitions, infantilisms, repressions’ of the average man, we draw nearer to the creation. Praise is the right respond to and the most faithful participation in God’s power and wisdom and love.”

That we know how to worship God I think that we take for granted, but for the Ancient people this was the question. Does God want sacrifices, oblations, or incense? Would God be pleased if we kneel, stand, or lie down in worship of Him? Just as God gave us the Ten Commandments so that we would know how to act, God gave us the liturgy and entrusted its safe-keeping to the Church so that we would know how to worship Him.

So the question this week is: what is the proper way to worship God right after receiving Holy Communion? Typically after receiving Communion everyone is expected to return to their pew and kneel (of course if because of age, illness, or disability this is not possible, then a person may sit). At this point the person is invited to pray, giving thanks to God for the great gift of the Eucharist and to contemplate the mystery of receiving divine life in us.

It is also the time for us to mold our wills to the people God wants us to become. There are several other prayers and devotions that the Church provides for us at this time. One such prayer, the Anima Christi, is found on the back cover of the missals in the pews. This is a 14th century prayer which asks Jesus for salvation and sanctification. Also, St. Thomas Aquinas provides a very good prayer of thanksgiving after Mass.

This private act of thanksgiving is not limited to right after communion (and indeed there is usually not enough time). When I was in seminary, at the end of the Mass and when the priest had left the church the other seminarians and I would remain in our places and kneel. We would spend a short amount of time offering our thanks to God for the great gift we had just received and to think about the readings and homily. Very often people leave the Church immediately after the end of the hymn, but spiritually it is a good practice to offer our thanksgiving to God at this point by kneeling for a short period

*Weekly Collection*

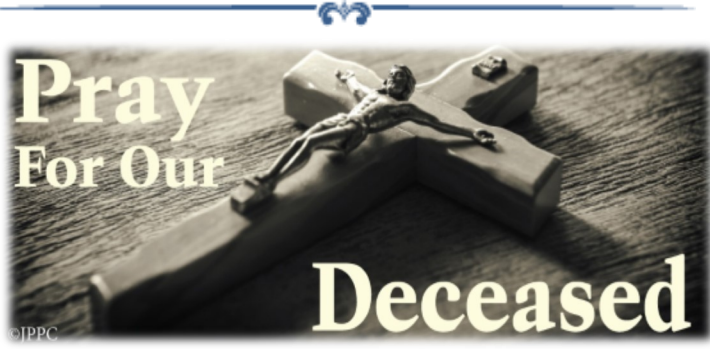
**February 10, 2018**

Weekly.....	\$21,020.00
EFT.....	\$2,499.00
	<b>Total=\$23,519.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$869.00

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.**



We offer our prayers and condolences to the families of whose **Joseph Medeiros, Sr., Vincent Bruzzese, Robert Anderson, Joseph Capuano, Sr. and Linda A. Haskell** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated at OLM.



**Monday, February 18, 2019**

**Mass at 8:30AM**

*The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.*



### Upcoming Events:

- **Tuesday, February 18—24:** School Winter Break. Enjoy your vacation!
- **Friday, March 1st:** First Friday Mass at 9:00AM.

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



***Calling for Voices to Sing Praises to God!!***

## OLM YOUTH CHOIR

If your child is interested in auditioning for the Youth Choir at OLM we have an informational meeting on Friday, March 1 at 2:45PM. Come and meet Shirley Medici, the new OLM Youth Choir Directress, ask questions, sing some warmups and get ready for the audition on Friday 3/8 at 2:45. Parents with questions can come to the first meeting on March 1. Meeting in the OLM School Music Room. See you there!! For more information contact Mrs. Medici at by phone at 401-884-4968 or via email at [musicministry@olmparish.org](mailto:musicministry@olmparish.org)



■ **NO RE Classes on Sunday, February 17 & 24** due to Winter School Vacation.



- **OLM Food Pantry** is always in great need of non-perishable food items. Please leave items in the Food Box in the vestibule.
- **OLM Bereavement Group** meets Thursday, February 21 at 4:00PM in Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss is welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and support.
- **For more information** about OLM Outreach, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)

## Congratulations

We congratulate OLM Parishioner Marianna Toljan who has been awarded the St. Timothy Award for Catholic Youth for her integrity, leadership and service. The award is to be presented at the Catholic Youth Ministry & Scout Awards Mass on Sunday, March 3rd at 1:00PM at Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul. We are proud of Marianna's achievement and commend her on her faithful witness!

Best Wishes to our newly baptized



Aaliyah Bethany Puente,  
and her parents, Thomas and Jayne.

Mackenzie Leigh Desmarais,  
and her parents, Timothy and Heather.

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



**OLD PALM BRANCH COLLECTION**

Baskets will be available beginning next weekend to collect old blessed palm branches. Please deposit your old blessed palm branches in these baskets as they are to be burnt for use as ashes for Masses on Ash Wednesday. *Thank you for your help!*

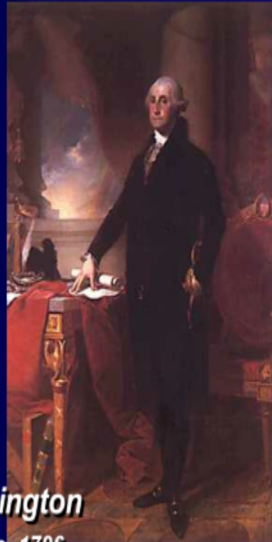


**Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain.** The power of pray is tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain as a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary Hart at 884-5629 or email directly at [2hart@cox.net](mailto:2hart@cox.net).

***If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!***

***The power of prayer at work!***

**"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."**



**George Washington**  
Farewell Address, 1796

HAPPY  
**President's day**



Please  
**P R A Y**  
*for the sick of our parish and those that care for them*