



Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.

MARK 9:2-3



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
 ©JPPC

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
 FEBRUARY 25, 2018**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Stephen J. Reid, Jr.—Month's Mind

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

The Second Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
 9:00 AM Anne Dayian—1st Anniversary
 10:30AM Lisa R. Horne—1st Anniversary
 5:00PM Michael Fabry—Memorial

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial
 12:05PM Timothy Franzone—Month's Mind

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM Shirley Berlanga—Memorial
 12:05PM Jane Daly—Birthday Remembrance

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Lenten Wednesday
 7:30AM Martha & Gottlob Loeffler—Memorial
 12:05PM John Donahue—Memorial

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM Special Intention
 12:05PM Sarah McLaughlin—Birthday Remembrance

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Lenten Weekday
 7:30AM Sister Lucy Vescera—Memorial
 12:05PM Claire Sharpe—Memorial

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

Lenten Weekday/St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin
 8:30AM Todd Youngs—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for the 3rd Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Albert Catanio—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

The Third Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM Tracy Knox—Memorial
 9:00 AM Claire Mahoney—Memorial
 10:30AM Daniel Murphy—Birthday Remembrance
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church





Dear Parishioners:

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the program of catechetical instruction for those adults needing the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation. Here at OLM we are truly blessed to have a great team led by Fr. Barrow who meet every Sunday to teach and learn about the Catholic Faith.

The candidates are non-Catholics who need full initiation into the Church, including Baptism, those non-Catholics needing to be fully received into the Church, and some baptized Catholics who need Communion, and Confirmation. Last Sunday afternoon two of our candidates received the Rite of Election at the Cathedral.

Bishop Tobin presided at the ceremony which had a large group of people from across the Diocese who are to enter into the Church at the Easter Vigil. At this rite, upon the testimony of sponsors, and catechists, and the catechumens' affirmation of their intention to join the Church, the Church makes its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

In the presence of the bishop they inscribe their names in the Book of the Elect at the cathedral as a pledge of fidelity. Now the catechumens are called "the elect" or the *illuminandi* ("those who will be enlightened"). They now begin a Period of Purification and Enlightenment — the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

With great joy we offer our congratulations to two of our

candidates who are now called "the elect." Our "elect" from OLM are Sue Healey, she is to be received into the Catholic Church, and Al Behbehani who is to be baptized and fully initiated into the Catholic Faith. These last weeks of Lent are a particularly intense period of prayer and preparation for these catechumens as they ready themselves for the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil Mass.

I ask you to please keep them in your prayers, that they continue to grow in the faith and in the love and knowledge of God. We rejoice for the so many across the Diocese who have chosen to join us in living our Catholic Faith, and being active members of our Church.

RCIA was traditionally called "Convert Class" until the renewal of the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. But conversion isn't only a term that applies to someone joining another faith tradition or church. Conversion is about a change of mind, and heart, that affects all the baptized. We are all called to a conversion to Christ in our daily lives.

The source of this daily conversion is our encounter with Jesus Christ in prayer, in good works, and in the Sacraments. We find this especially in our experience of his forgiveness, love, and mercy. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the three traditional pillars of Lent. They are the embodiment of this conversion during this holy season.

Lent calls us to renew our dependency on God and others through intense prayer, the experiencing of hunger and serving the needs of the poor.

Conversion is truly living the incarnate love of God manifested at Holy Week, the final destination of our Lenten fast of forty days.

Next week we begin our Annual Parish Lenten Mission at OLM. We welcome Monsignor Doug Cook from Newport Beach, California. He and I studied together for the priesthood at the American College in Belgium and he is an old friend!

The theme of his mission is "*A Lent to Remember, An Easter to Celebrate.*" He will be preaching at all Masses next weekend and then will lead us each night of the Mission. A complete schedule is in the bulletin. This Mission is our time to depart from our regular routine and set aside an intense time of prayer and reflection. We needn't go to a Monastery or Retreat House, but we gather right here at OLM! It is great way to renew our faith and live our call to conversion to Christ. So please mark your calendar and be sure to make the Mission!

I am grateful for your support of the Catholic Charity Appeal this weekend. This crucial collection funds the many good works of our Church in RI, and your support is vital. In the name of the poor, I offer my sincere thanks for your generous response.

It's Lent! Don't forget Fridays are for fish and Stations of the Cross! Do good. Be well. Pray, fast and give!



Are Sundays a part of the Lenten Fast?

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday. So that would mean that Sundays are included as a day of fasting right? Well with or without the Sundays, the days of Lent do not equal 40. So do we get rid of the Sundays?

Well, not exactly. Sundays are technically part of Lent. Liturgically speaking the Sundays of Lent give us the foundation of all Lenten liturgy building up to Holy Week. Furthermore, the number of days is not really a deciding factor. So do we fast?

Code of Canon Law 1247: *“On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Mass. Moreover, they are to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord’s Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body.”*

Since the beginning the Church has viewed Sundays as a day of celebration and remembrance of the Resurrection. Yet even this needs qualification, since we omit the “alleluia” and the “Gloria” on Sundays during Lent.

Furthermore, the Church has never required fasting on Sundays, and the only abstaining on Sundays, as we saw in the Code, is to “abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God.” Yet, at the same time, prayer, fasting and almsgiving are essential spiritual practices that enable us to properly worship God.

You can’t worship God if you are attached to food/drink/possessions after all. So it would seem implied as part of the worship of God even on Sundays to fast, pray and give alms (after all we fast for an hour before mass, we pray during the Mass, and we give alms during the Mass).

We need to combine two things: As I mentioned the Sundays of Lent are still part of Lent. Second, Sundays have a different character than the rest of the weekdays. So my answer is a combination: Yes Sunday is a Feast Day, wherein you may forego your more intense prayer, fasting and almsgiving, while maintaining your regular prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Being a part of Lent, they serve to characterize the rest of the week, our meditations, and our focus. You may choose to continue your more intense prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, but that is up to you.

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

Weekly Collection

February 18, 2018

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$11,188.00 |
| EFT..... | \$2,247.00 |
| | Total=\$13,435.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$475.00 |
| Ash Wednesday..... | \$4,163.00 |

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.



Second Collections
Next Week: Building & Grounds



2018 Catholic Charity Appeal

2018 OLM Parish Goal=\$193,864

2017 OLM Parish Goal=\$193,864

2017 OLM Parish Raised=\$252,073

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

Our Lady of Mercy Church

LENTEN MISSION 2018

March 4 - 7, 2018



A LENT TO REMEMBER
AN EASTER TO CELEBRATE

Msgr. Douglas Cook, Mission Preacher

Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4
Msgr. Cook will preach at all weekend Masses

MISSION TALKS BY MSGR. COOK

Monday, March 5 at 7:00pm
"The Face of Mercy"

Tuesday, March 6 at 7:00pm
"Dignity as a Child of God"

Wednesday, March 7 at 7:00pm
"Gratitude Means Taking Care of Things"

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction will be offered
during the Mission on Wednesday night.

Four priests will be available each night (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)
for Confession from 6PM until 6:45PM.

LENT
PRAY + FAST + GIVE



● **Sunday, February 24:** NO RE Class due to Winter School Vacation. All RE Classes resume next week.

● **Saturday, March 3rd:** First Confessions at 1:00PM for OLM School First Communion Class.

● **Saturday, March 10th:** First Confessions at 1:00PM for OLM RE First Communion Class.



This Week at OLM School

- **Monday, February 25th:** Winter Break ends and school resumes! Welcome back!
- **Friday, March 2nd:** 8th Grade Field Trip to Boston Museum of Science
- **Saturday, March 3rd:** First Communion Class celebration of First Confession at 1:00pm

Discover the OLM Difference!
www.olmschool.org

Attention OLM Youth



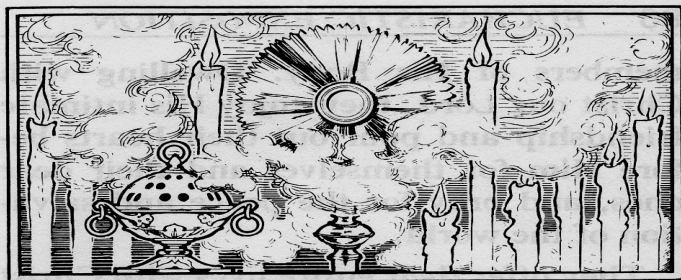
**Our Lady of Mercy
Youth Group**

On March 4th, Our Lady of Mercy announces the start of our Youth Group. This group is meant to help teens to have an encounter with Christ. The meetings will be

held in the School Gym from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm on Sundays. Please encourage any youth from grades 8 to 12 to attend this group.

Contact Fr. Barrow at associate@olmparish.org or OLM Youth Activities Coordinator, Billy Burdier at youthactivities@olmparish.org for more info.

*"Be who God meant you to be
and you will set the world on fire."
—St. Catherine of Siena*



First Friday Adoration Friday, March 2, 2018

Exposition of the Eucharist
following 12:05pm Mass
Adoration All Day

Benediction with Stations of the Cross

Adorers needed, please sign up in Church vestibule.



More than 40 years ago, Catholics in the United States wanted to respond to famine in Africa. Could people who were hungry and starving be helped through Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving? The answer was yes — and the help came in the form of a small cardboard box, marking the beginning of “Operation Rice Bowl” in 1975 in parishes in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Today, CRS Rice Bowl is a tradition for millions of Catholics in the U.S., who employ the Lenten pillars of praying, fasting and almsgiving to change the lives of others while enriching their own. CRS Rice Bowl is available in paper, web and through a mobile app in both English and Spanish.

In 1976, Operation Rice Bowl was adopted by the United State Conference of Catholic Bishops as a national program. In 1977, they voted to make Operation Rice Bowl the official program of Catholic Relief Services. In its first 40 years, more than \$250 million has been given through CRS Rice Bowl to support programs that prevent hunger and poverty around the world. Of that, \$62.5 million went to programs in the U.S. through local dioceses and \$187.5 million went to CRS programs overseas. Each year CRS Rice Bowl funds are directed to between 40 and 45 countries where CRS operates humanitarian response and development programs.

*The Rice Bowl Collection is taken up on Palm Sunday
Thank you for your generous support.*



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

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday during Lent
at 7:00PM



•**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** next meeting is on Thursday, March 1 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