

*Amen, I say to you,  
{ No prophet is accepted in his own native place }*

LUKE 4:24





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*Mass Intentions*  
 for the Week  
 ©JPPC

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
 FEBRUARY 3, 2019**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

*The Mass of Anticipation for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 4:00PM Samuel Oliverio—Memorial

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

*The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
 7:30 AM Mary Ferris—Memorial  
 9:00 AM Marie Brusci—Birthday Remembrance  
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 5:00PM Susan Metzger—Memorial

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Robert Esposito—Memorial

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

*St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr*  
 7:30AM Joseph Abbatematteo—9th Anniversary

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

*St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs*  
 7:30AM Dolores K. Vespa—4th Anniversary

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Deceased of Pundys & Dikinis Families—Mem.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

*Weekday; St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*  
 7:30AM Deborah Sullivan—Memorial

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

*Weekday; BVM*  
 8:30AM Thomas J. Brescia—Birthday Remembrance  
*The Mass of Anticipation for 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
 4:00PM Joel Robert Anthony Wills—Memorial

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

*The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
 7:30 AM Michael John—Memorial  
 9:00 AM Bruce Hart—5th Anniversary  
 10:30AM Frances Lowry—Memorial  
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church





Dear Parishioners:

On the 46th Anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, New York Governor Andrew Coumo proudly signed into law one of the most extreme abortion bills in the nation. The bill, described as a “death-star” by some, received great support and swift passage in the New York State Assembly.

This bill goes far beyond Roe vs. Wade in its aggressive extremism. It grants non-doctors permission to perform abortions, condones coerced or involuntary abortions by repealing criminal sanctions even in cases where a perpetrator seeks to make his partner “un-pregnant” through an act of physical violence, removes protection for an infant accidentally born alive during an abortion and allows late-term abortions up until just before the birth of a child. This extreme and radical legislation is nothing less than a license to kill a pre-born child at will.

This past week the R.I. House of Representatives had a hearing on two similar bills under consideration. As in New York these bills, H.5125 and H.5127 were introduced under the guise of “codifying the Roe v. Wade decision” in case the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the decision. However, it is really a ruse to push bills that are as radical and extreme as the New York law.

These R.I. bills eliminate any constitutional restrictions on late-term abortions as well as constitutional restrictions on methods of abortion. They also undermine the authority of the State and the Department of Health from enacting and adopting any constitutional

restrictions on the performance of abortions at abortion mills.

In addition, the bills require the State to pay for all abortions sought by Medicaid-eligible pregnant women and women covered by the “payor of last resort” program. The bills also water down the parental consent law for minors seeking abortions.

Many legislators signed on in support of the bills under intense pressure from the so-called “progressive” wing of the General Assembly. They, and their well-financed abortion industry allies, have targeted any legislator who is not in lock step with their extreme abortion agenda. There is nothing in their agenda that is truly progressive, but rather it is an extremist and radical attack upon the sanctity of life.

Make no mistake, these bills are not simply under consideration, but they are gaining support. The powerful and well financed abortion lobby and its “progressive” elected allies including those elected here in East Greenwich, Warwick and North Kingstown, are zealously pushing this anti-life bill. I ask you to contact your state representative and state senator and urge them not to support this radical and extreme abortion bill.

As Saint Pope John Paul the Great stated: *“We are asked to love and honor the life of every man and woman and to work with perseverance and courage so that our time, marked by all too many signs of death, may at last witness the establishment of a new culture of life, the fruit of the culture of truth and of love.”*

Let us pray for the legal protection of the unborn, let us pray that legislators have the courage to respect the sanctity of all human life and reject these radical bills, and let us pray that each one of us has the courage to speak out for the voiceless and innocent unborn. Pray, act and advocate for life!

On Friday of this coming week our OLM School 8th Grade are taking a trip to Quebec for the weekend. The trip includes educational and cultural opportunities to learn about French-Canada. Also, visits to some of the great sites of Quebec and Old Quebec. And time to snow-shoe, sled or ice skate in that winter wonderland!

The group is also visiting the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Shrine. It is perhaps one of the most beautiful churches in North America. They are to attend Sunday Mass at the shrine. Please pray for the students and their chaperones, including Fr. Barrow. May St. Anne, guide and protect them!

If you haven’t heard yet, the New England Patriots are once again in the Super Bowl! Now I’ve heard it said that the only folks rooting for the Pats today live in New England. The rest are New Orleans Saints fans rooting against the Rams. I’m not sure that’s true but I do know everyone in the OLM Rectory including Fr. Barrow is rooting for the Pats to win another Super Bowl! Be well. Do good. God Bless. Go Pats!



**Why a person in mortal sin should not receive the Eucharist?**

Every Catholic is obliged to go to Sunday Mass each and every week. Yet, it is not the case that a person must receive the Eucharist at every Mass. In fact, in some cases it would be spiritually harmful to receive our Lord in the Eucharist. For instance, if a person is in a state of mortal sin, then they should not receive Holy Communion until after they have made a good confession (“except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible [canon 916]”).

St. Paul writes to the Corinthians: “A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Mortal sin is a free deliberate choice that kills the life of grace in a person. The Eucharist strengthens the life of grace, but it does not restore it. First the person must make another free deliberate choice to repent and follow Christ again. Confession has the power to restore that life provided that the person repents. Without this dynamic, the person stands as a house divided; a contradiction.

St. Paul continues: “That is why many among you are ill and infirm, and a considerable number are dying.” Paul references the declining church attendance among the Corinthians. He connects the unworthy reception of Holy Communion to a sick spiritual life that eventually leads to a dead spiritual life. The unworthy reception of the Eucharist begins to sicken the person because mortal sin prevents its healing effects. Hence their desire for the Eucharist lessens, the Mass and the entire spiritual life becomes a chore. Much the same way a person sick in hospital loses their desire and taste for food.

The Church denies the Eucharist to people in order to help them realize their serious spiritual state. At this point, forbidding a person to receive Holy Communion simply affirms what is already true and what the person has done to himself. Coming to Mass, but not receiving develops a hunger for the Eucharist. Such hunger helps to push out any sinful desires that may have gripped the person and increase their desire for Confession. Hopefully the person cries out: “O God, it is you I seek! For you my body yearns; for you my soul thirsts, like a dry weary land without water.”

Some argue that they receive Communion in grave sin so that people will not think that they have done some heinous sin. This is not spiritually helpful because it puts personal embarrassment above love for our Lord. The Church gives us a solution. One of the reasons that the Church has the hour fast before Mass is so that people cannot think poorly of others who do not receive. For all we know a person who does not receive Communion did not keep the fast.

If we want to live healthy spiritual lives and if we want Catholics to start coming back to Mass, we must preach the need for both Confession and the Eucharist. If we want our spiritual lives to deepen and grow, then we must regularly confess and abstain from the Eucharist when necessary.

# Weekly Collection

**January 20, 2019**

Weekly.....	\$8,577.00
EFT.....	\$1,908.00
	<b>Total=\$10,485.00</b>
Church in Latin America.....	\$2,161.50
Outreach.....	\$207.00

**January 27, 2019**

Weekly.....	\$10,406.00
EFT.....	\$1,930.00
	<b>Total=\$12,336.00</b>
Saints & Scholars.....	\$10,120.50
Outreach.....	\$232.00

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

**This Week: Building & Grounds**



## Confessions at OLM

**Saturdays, 3:00—3:45pm**

**Mondays, 6:00—6:45pm**



### Weekly Events

- **Monday, February 4:** OLM School Board Meeting at 7:00PM in School Library
- **Tuesday, February 5:** School Mass at 8:15am. All are welcome to attend.
- **Friday, February 8:** OLM 8th Grade Trip to Quebec.

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



*Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain.* The power of prayer is truly tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone who wishes to join the OLM Prayer Chain as either a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary

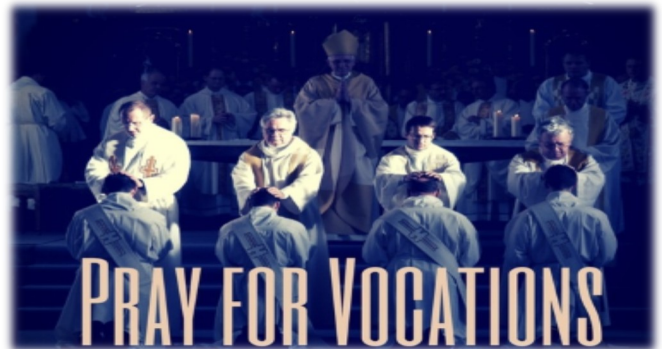
Hart at 884-5629 or email directly at [2hart@cox.net](mailto:2hart@cox.net)

***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!***



- **AM RE Classes (Grades 1-5) on Sunday February 3, 2019 .**
- **RE Grades 6—8 do not meet this Sunday, February 3, 2019**
- **All RE Classes meet next weekend, February 10, 2019 as scheduled.**



• **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 7 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)

# Ordinary Time, Year C



**T**he Gospels for Ordinary Time are a semicontinuous reading of the three synoptic Gospels arranged in a three-year cyclic pattern.

In A years, we read Matthew; in B years, we read Mark; and in C years, we read Luke.

This is a C year, a year for reading Luke, who presents to us a Jesus of universal significance, the savior of all humankind.



*This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.*

## Our Lady of Sorrows Bereavement Support Program

Saints John and Paul Church  
341 S. Main St., Coventry, RI



This special program is designed to provide a healing and peaceful group environment for those who have experienced the death of a spouse.

This Bereavement Support Group is a place for Catholics to learn about grief, share their experiences and feelings with others, and a place to

seek the spiritual support and comfort offered through our Catholic faith. The meetings are most appropriate for adults who are at least three months beyond their loss. Meetings take place at the Saints John and Paul Rectory building, lower level, main entrance. The program is free and offered over eight consecutive weeks, and each meeting will last one and one half hours from 6:30 until 8:00PM. Meetings are scheduled for February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 31, 28. To register or for more information contact Peter A. Magnotta at the Diocese of Providence at 401-421-7833 ext. 217.



**“Actually, sir, the rules were chiseled in stone.”**