



† 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  
Holyday 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 Phone ..... 401-884-1618

Email .....olmoffice@olmschool.org

Web..... www.olmschool.org

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

***The Baptism of the Lord ✠ January 10, 2016***

**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

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

**The Reverend Ryan W. Connors, S.T.L., *Associate Pastor***

**Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr.**

**William K. Wray**

*Parish Trustees*





**PARISH DIRECTORY**

**PARISH OFFICE**

Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor*.....884-4968  
 pastor@olmparish.org

Father Ryan W. Connors, *Associate Pastor*.....884-4968  
 associatepastor@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 YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Michael LaChimia, *Coordinator*.....884-4968  
 mlachimia@olmschool.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

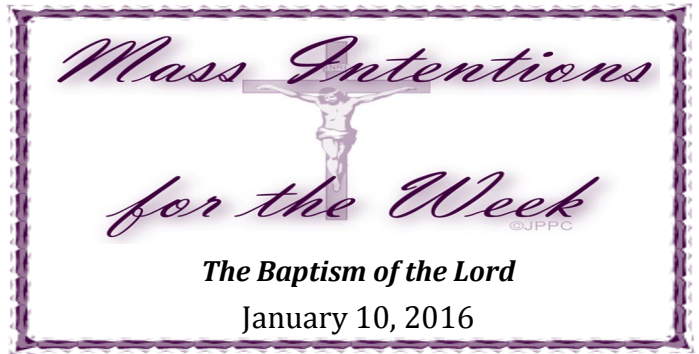
Mrs. Deirdre A. Donovan, *Soloist*.....884-4968  
 musicministry@olmparish.org

**OLM SCHOOL**

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

Mrs. Carolyn C. MacCrae, *School Bookkeeper*..558-0051  
 olmbookkeeper@cox.net

Extended Day Program.....886-0742



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 9**

*The Mass Anticipation for the Baptism of the Lord*  
 4:00PM Ellen Simms—6th Anniversary

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**

*The Baptism of the Lord*

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy  
 9:00AM Charles & Eugenia McGowan—Memorial  
 10:30AM Dolly Healey—Memorial  
 5:00PM Adolph Gruber, Jr.—Birthday Remembrance

**MONDAY, JANUARY 11**

*Weekday*  
 7:30 AM M. Carl Heintzelman—1st Anniversary

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12**

*Weekday*  
 7:30 AM Fr. Raymond M. Kelly—Memorial

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13**

*Weekday/St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*  
 7:30AM Sperantino Almonte—Memorial

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Richard & Florence Burns—Memorial

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 15**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Fred Buoro—Memorial

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16**

*Weekday/BVM*  
 8:30AM Norman Murtha—36th Anniversary

*The Mass of Anticipation for Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

4:00PM W. Barbara O'Hara—Memorial

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 17**

*The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy  
 9:00 AM Emilio & Anna Petrucci—Memorial  
 10:30AM Dr. Robert Carnevale—Memorial  
 5:00PM Dorothy Hoxie—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

Wow! Winter arrived with a vengeance this week! Snow on Monday and below zero wind chills on Tuesday! It's hard to believe that it was just 70 degrees on Christmas Day and we had the air conditioning on in Church! Looks like our old friend winter is here for awhile so put away the shorts and get out the snow shovels!

This week a friend called me from sunny Florida to tell me he was on the beach. He took great delight in telling me it was 75, sunny and warm! I quoted the great Russian writer Anton Chekhov who once said, "*People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy!*"

It's was a good try! Can you really be as happy freezing in Rhode Island as you can be laying in the sun in Florida? Not so sure! Quite a few of our parishioners have flown south to sunny Florida for the winter, I don't think they bought what Chekhov was saying! At least the days are getting a little longer in Rhode Island now!!

Sister Lourdes is returning from the Philippines next week after a month of meetings and conferences with her congregation at the Franciscan Apostolic Sisters Motherhouse. While she was away, Sister Emma was joined by the Franciscan Sisters who serve at the nearby Scalabrini Villa Home. So please be sure to welcome Sister Lourdes home when you see her! We are happy to have her back and I know Sister Emma is too.

The Sisters are truly a

great addition to our parish family. They have often express to me how happy they are here at OLM and how welcomed the parishioners have made them feel. They certainly are a joyful and faithful presence at OLM especially in their work at the parish school, the food pantry, teaching Religious Ed Class and visiting our parish shut-ins.

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. It brings to an end the season of Christmas. On this feast the Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation, or epiphany, which occurred on His baptism in the Jordan River. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget children of God.

Many of the things which accompanied Christ's Baptism are symbolical of what happened at our own Baptism. At Christ's Baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity found its home in our soul. At His Baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons and daughters of God. At Christ's Baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His Baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid temptation and sin.

On Sunday on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord we are to baptize seven children into the Catholic Faith. It is a great day to

celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism and a joyous day for these children, their families and our parish family of OLM.

Last year on the Feast, Pope Francis baptized several people. In his homily for the celebration, he stated:

*"Baptism integrates us into the body of the Church, into the holy People of God. And in this body, in this people journeying on, faith is passed down from generation to generation: it is the faith of the Church. This is really beautiful!*

*It is a passing of the flame of faith from hand to hand: You, families, take the light of faith from Him in order to pass it on to your children. You receive this light in the Church, in the Body of Christ, in the People of God who are journeying through every time and in every place. Teach your children that one cannot be a Christian outside of the Church, one cannot follow Jesus Christ without the Church, for the Church is Mother, who makes us grow in the love of Jesus Christ."*

Let us all celebrate our own Baptism today. Let us also resolve to faithfully and joyfully live our Baptismal Promises! We congratulate our newly Baptized and welcome them into the Church, their Mother, and into our OLM Parish Family! Have a Happy and Joyful Feast of the Baptism of the Lord! Be well. Do Good. God Bless. Pray for the Pats, please!!!

*Father Healey*

Fr. Connors

Q & A



**Dear Fr. Connors: What are the Holy Days of Obligation and what is their purpose?**

Holy Days of Obligation refer to important feasts in the Church's calendar—in addition to Sundays throughout the year—when Catholics are obligated to attend Mass. Each highlights an especially important aspect of Catholic faith.

Catholics are obligated to attend Mass. Each highlights an especially important aspect of Catholic faith.

Holy Days can vary somewhat in different parts of the world. In the United States, there are six obligatory holy days: January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, the Ascension of the Lord 40 days after Easter, August 15<sup>th</sup>, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Solemnity of All Saints, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day. Some parts of the country transfer the Ascension to the following Sunday.

In the United States, the bishops recently have removed the obligation to attend Mass when the feast falls on a Saturday or a Monday (with the exception of Christmas and the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the US, when the obligation remains even on those days). The idea here is simply that attending Mass two days in a row, especially in parts of the country where priests and people have to drive long distances to attend Mass, imposes an additional burden.

The basic principle is important to recall: men and women are created to worship God. In justice, we have to give God His due. We will never be happy if we refuse to worship God. The Church has the power (and the authority from Christ) to specify precisely how this worship should take place. For that reason, the Church can determine which particular feast requires attendance at Holy Mass.

The seriousness of obligatory holy days has perhaps been forgotten in recent years. It remains the case that refusing to worship on Sunday or an obligatory holy day is a grave sin. (This is different than one being sick or caring for the sick or some other grave reason). However, in principle refusing to worship God when obliged to do so is a grave sin. One ought not receive Holy Communion without first receiving forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. Holy Days remain an important aspect of Catholic faith today.

**If you have a question about the Catholic Church or Catholic Teaching, please email questions to: [associatepastor@olmparish.org](mailto:associatepastor@olmparish.org)**



# Weekly Collection

## December 27, 2015

Weekly.....	\$12,268.50
EFT.....	<u>\$2,172.50</u>
<b>Total=\$14,441.00</b>	
Outreach.....	\$811.50
Christmas.....	\$31,349.50

## January 3, 2016

Weekly.....	\$11,525.50
EFT.....	<u>\$1,527.50</u>
<b>Total=\$13,053.00</b>	
New Year's Holyday.....	\$4,312.50
Building & Grounds.....	\$3,144.55
Outreach.....	\$1,464.50
Annual (to date).....	\$120,359.00

*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 family of Our Lady of Mercy Parishioner **Joseph R. Salvatore** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.

**May he rest in peace.**



**Confession Times**  
**at Our Lady of Mercy**

Mondays:	6:00PM—6:45PM
Saturdays:	4:00PM—4:45PM



# Religious Education NEWS

●All RE Classes resume **this week**, Sunday, January 10

●RE Classes **will NOT meet** next week,  
Sunday, January 17

**RE Class Schedule:**

RE Grades 1-5: 10:00am-11:00am

RE Grades 6-8: 5:45pm-6:45pm

**Attention Confirmation Class Students:** There is a mandatory lecture for all Grade 8 Confirmation Candidates, public, parochial and Home Study on **Sunday, January 10th from 5:45-6:45pm**. Please be prompt and make sure you check-in.



# Outreach Update

The **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of non-perishable food items. Please leave all donated food items in the box in the vestibule of the Church. Thank you for your generous support. For more information contact Doug Green, OLM Outreach Director at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)



- School Mass, Monday, January 11th at 8:15am
- Catholic Schools Week begins January 31st! OLM School Open House, Sunday, January 31st 10-Noon

**Discover the OLM Advantage**

[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)

## A Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Friday, January 22, 2016 at OLM  
43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade  
Decision Legalizing Abortion in USA**

Eucharistic Adoration beginning at 9:00AM

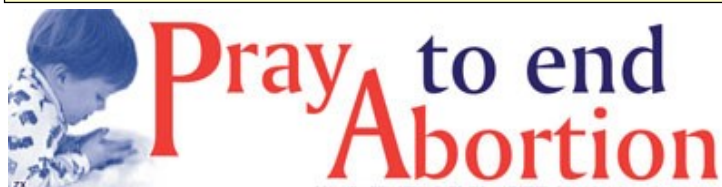
Benediction of Blessed Sacrament  
at 6:00PM with Prayer and Reflection

*“Living The Gospel of Life”*

Fr. Joseph Upton  
Chaplain at URI



*“Every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world’s rejection. They cannot be discarded, as the ‘culture of waste’ suggests!” —Pope Francis*



**OLM Youth Group meets  
Sunday, January 10, 2016  
at 7:15PM**

**in the OLM School Cafeteria**



All High School students (Grade 9-12) are most welcome to join us for our next OLM Youth Group meeting. For more information, please contact OLM Youth Activities Coordinator, Michael LaChimia via email at [mlachimia@olmschool.org](mailto:mlachimia@olmschool.org)

