

“ John will drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb, and he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ”

LUKE 1:15-16



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Mass Intentions
 for the Week



**THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
 JUNE 24, 2018**

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Vigil of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist

5:00PM Kate Bedard—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM Bruce Hart—Birthday Remembrance

10:30AM Edward & Dolly Healey—Memorial

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Weekday

7:30AM John Charles Allard—Memorial

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Weekday

7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Weekday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

7:30AM Special Intention

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr

7:30AM Fr. George Behan—Memorial

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles

7:30AM Special Intention

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Weekday; First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church; BVM

8:30AM Marie Oliverio—1st Anniversary

The Mass of Anticipation for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00PM Alfred, Julia & Alfred J. Mastracchio—Memorial

SUNDAY, JULY 1

The Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM Raymond Wesson, Jr.—7th Anniversary

10:30AM Raoul Roberts—3rd Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

Last Saturday night our Summer Seminarian, Patrick Ryan, and myself attended Mass at Portsmouth Abbey. The Mass was celebrated by Timothy Cardinal Dolan of New York who also delivered an address at the dinner that followed. This was part of the Annual Portsmouth Institute which this year examined "Faith, Family and Civilization."

An apostolate of the Benedictine monastic communities of Portsmouth and Saint Louis Abbeys, the Portsmouth Institute for Faith and Culture is a center for Catholic scholarship and evangelization. It explores Catholic thought and promotes Christian culture by examining the connection between faith and reason, religion and public life. It annually holds a conference in June.

Cardinal Dolan delivered an outstanding talk at the dinner which featured some of his trademark humor. His insights into the family life and the Church in our contemporary culture were excellent. It was a great evening and the Cardinal provided much food for thought for the large crowd gathered at the event.

This Saturday night our OLM Youth Group are hosting a cookout in Mercy Park! Hamburgers, cheese burgers and hot dogs are to be served and tickets can be purchased at the event. We thank the many parishioners who bought tickets last weekend and are joining us.

This cookout is a fundraiser for the OLM Youth Group who are attending the huge Steubenville East

Conference this July. The funds raised help defray the cost of the conference, lodging and transportation. I thank those parishioners who generously sponsored some of our youth group for this pilgrimage. If you are interested in sponsoring a teen for the pilgrimage, please contact me at the Parish Office.

The OLM Youth Group chose to celebrate the priesthood for their cookout. We are grateful for their recognition of their parish priests. Fr. Barrow celebrates three years of priesthood on Wednesday, June 27th. I celebrate twenty-three years of priesthood on Sunday, June 24th. Fr. Connors celebrates six years of priesthood on Saturday, June 23rd. And Bishop Evans celebrates forty-five years of priesthood on July 2nd!

As Billy Burdier, our OLM Youth Activities Coordinator, mentioned last weekend at Masses, that is over 75 years of priestly service. It seems just like yesterday that I was ordained by Bishop Gelineau at the Cathedral. In the name of my brother priests, we thank our OLM Youth Group for their recognition of our priesthood and prayers.

Next Saturday Bishop Tobin is to ordain Transitional Deacon Phillip Dufour as a priest of the Diocese of Providence. Deacon Dufour has been studying at the North American College in Rome and after ordination is to return to complete his studies. The

Ordination Mass is Saturday, June 30th at 10:00am at the Cathedral in Providence. Everyone is most welcome to attend the Mass which is always

a very joyful, beautiful and solemn occasion. Please keep our newest priest of Providence in your prayers.

You may have read in last week's edition of the R.I. Catholic that Bishop Tobin announced that he has, in conformity with the Code of Canon Law and the Priest Personnel Policy of the Diocese of Providence, appointed twenty-three pastors to a new six year term effective July 1, 2018.

I am happy to report that I was one of those twenty-three pastors. At the end of this month, I mark the end of my first six year term as Pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Church. It has been a truly wonderful six years serving as pastor to this great parish with such committed, faithful, and joyful parishioners. I continue to thank God for the blessing that OLM has been to my priestly life and I pray that my pastorate may always be faithful, joyful and fruitful.

On Monday morning we begin our OLM Vacation Bible School. It runs every day all week and is a fantastic opportunity for our parish children to learn about Christ and His Church. It is a week of fun and faith! We look forward to seeing the many children here at OLM each morning. Keep them in your prayers.

It's summer! If you're traveling away this summer check out Masstimes.org to find where you can go to Sunday Mass. Do good. Be well. God Bless. Go Sox!



What do you study in the seminary?

In this past academic year, my first in the seminary, I took a few philosophy courses, two semesters of Latin, and two theology classes. This is all part of what they call a “pre-theology” program. In this program I study mostly philosophy at Providence

College for two years with ordinary undergraduate students while I live with the other seminarians at the seminary in Providence. The coursework in pre-theology prepares me to study theology at the graduate level, which is what I will do when the diocese assigns me to a major seminary at the close of this coming year. There I will study for four years before I am, God willing, ordained a priest.

I have enjoyed my philosophy classes, which so far have been logic, ethics, medieval philosophy, and metaphysics. Logic teaches us how to reason, how to argue, and how to tell when people are doing those tasks well or poorly. Ethics provides us with an understanding of morality through what God has revealed to us and through what we call “natural law”, which helps us to discover what is right and wrong based on reason and the ordering of the world. In medieval philosophy my classmates and I were introduced to the great thinkers of the world from the time of the Roman Empire to the Renaissance, and we examined the richness of thought that was going on during that often overlooked time period. This subject helps us to appreciate the schools of thought that held prominence before more modern thinkers came along and started traditions we encounter today.

Finally, metaphysics essentially means “beyond the physical”, and it takes us to the most fundamental questions of what exists and the manner in which things exist. Some outstanding professors, including priests from the order of St. Dominic, and some dedicated Catholic laymen, helped to bring this material to life for us and to pull us into the conversations of truth and wisdom.

These courses, along with my theology classes, all help us to see the world as it really is. A lot of confusion surrounds truth today, and much of the problem stems from poor reasoning that has to be called out and corrected. The education we get in the seminary trains us to arrive at what is true in an ordered, easy, and unerring way. Knowing truth helps us to understand and live out our faith better, to know God better, and to live more in line with the ideals that God has in mind for us.

All Catholics are encouraged to study the faith on their own, but priests have a special role to play in the education of their people and so their training takes several years. When any of us brings knowledge of truth and God to others we are fulfilling our Lord’s call to preach the gospel to all people. I can do that now, but with a bit more study, and the grace of God, I can do it in a much bigger way as a priest.

If you have a question for the Seminarian, please email it to: pryan13@friars.providence.edu



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated this week in memory of Alfred, Julia & Alfred Joseph Mastracchio.

Weekly Collection

June 17, 2018

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$10,771.00 |
| EFT..... | \$2,127.00 |
| Total= | \$12,898.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$380.00 |

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

Supporting the work of the Church

2018 Parish Goal=\$193,864

Pledged to date=\$198,857

% of Parish Goal=103%

Total Donors to date=491

Average Gift=\$405

% of Parish Participation=24%

**Thanks to Your Generous Support
OLM Parish is over goal! Thank You!!!!**



I & II-Brian Anthony Beauvais & Jaime Marie Collard
Our Lady of Mercy Our Lady of Mercy



Register online today for the 2018-2019 Religious Education Year!

Go to the Parish website: www.olmparish.org Then to Faith Formation . Scroll down until you get to Religious Education for Children. The link to register is right underneath that heading.

Registration only during June and July after July 31st a late fee applies.



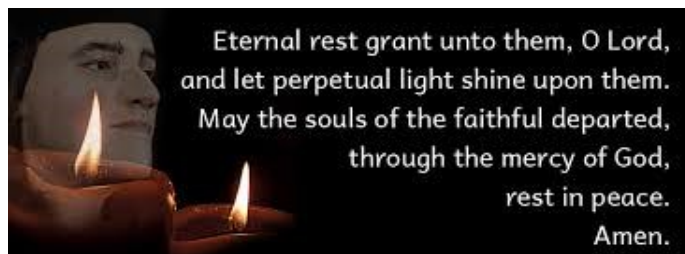
•**OLM Food Pantry** is always in great need of non-perishable food items especially in the summer months. Please leave items in Food Box in vestibule.

•**OLM Bereavement Group Meeting: Thursday, July 5th at 4pm** in Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loneliness are invited to join us for support, prayer and discussion.

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



We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of **Dina Coelho** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at OLM last week.



Calling All Adult Men of OLM!

The Men of St. Joseph meet next Saturday, July 7, 2018 at 7:00am in the OLM Rectory Meeting Room. Join us for a talk on:

**“Moral Theology & Catholic Men”
Fr. Ryan W. Connors, S.T.D.**

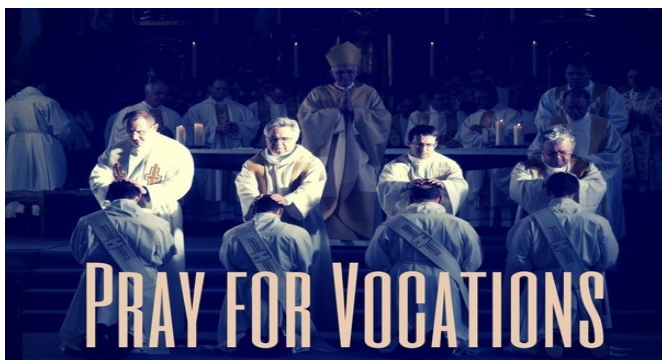
All adult men of OLM are invited to join us for discussion, prayer and fraternity as we seek to strengthen our spirituality and renew our Catholic Faith. For more information contact Deacon John Dowd at 884-4968 or via email at Deacon@olmparish.org

With gratitude to Almighty God
the Church of the Diocese of Providence
Joyfully requests the honor of your presence
at the ordination of



Rev. Mr. Phillip James Dufour
to the Order of the Priesthood
through the imposition of hands
and the invocation of the Holy Spirit
by **The Most Reverend Thomas J. Tobin, D.D.**
Bishop of Providence

Saturday, June 30, 2018 at 10AM
The Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul
Providence, Rhode Island



OLM Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday:
8:00am—4:00pm
Fridays:
8am—12pm Noon

Parish Giving

**We have partnered with Parish Giving
to offer this program to all of our parishioners.**

It's simple: just log on to the Our Lady of Mercy website (www.olmparish.org) and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration instructions. **It's secure:** Parish Giving is Payment Card Industry compliant and uses the strongest Secure Sockets Layering encryption technology available. **It's Convenient:** No more searching for the check book or Sunday morning stops at the ATM machine. You can pick the day of the month for the recurring contributions to be processed. **Tax benefits:** You will be able to print out a report detailing your contributions for the year. **Parish benefits:** Stable monthly contributions and significant reduction of parish administrative costs. **To get started log on to:** <http://www.olmparish.org> and click on the Parish Giving Logo and follow the easy registration steps.

**SUPPORT YOUR HOME PARISH OF OLM WHILE
AWAY ON SUMMER VACATION
OR AT THE SUMMER HOME!**

Vacationing?
Finding a Catholic
Church Is Just a Click
Away!



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL