

Palm Sunday



...the very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road...

Matthew 21



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Mass Intentions
 for the Week
 ©JPPC

The Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord
March 20, 2016

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

The Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 4:00PM Mary Gianardi—3rd Anniversary

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

The Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00AM Phyllis & Guy DiRaffaele—Memorial
 10:30AM Bethany Briggs—Memorial
 5:00PM Mary Cardillo—1st Anniversary

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Monday of Holy Week
 7:30 AM Special Intention
 12:05PM Special Intention

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Tuesday of Holy Week
 7:30 AM Souls in Purgatory
 12:05PM John Gardner, Jr.—Memorial

SPY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Wednesday of Holy Week
 7:30AM Thomas Cavanagh—Birthday Remembrance
 12:05PM Fr. Charles H. Downing—Memorial

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Mass of the Lord's Supper
 7:00PM Deceased Bishops, Priests & Deacons of
 the Diocese of Providence

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Friday of the Passion of the Lord
 7:00PM The Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Easter Vigil
 7:30pm The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy





Dear Parishioners:

Palm Sunday sets the stage for the final showdown between Jesus and his detractors. Today, Passion Sunday, the final scene is to be played out. This is Holy Week, when the whole Christian world comes together to commemorate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of his mission, and the fruition of the task that the Father had sent him to do.

Everything Jesus had done so far, every word, every action, every miracle, had been building up to the climactic events of this coming week. All the players are now in place, all the elements of the play are now ready, and Jesus enters into his passion after a life of faithful service to his Father and to the people whom he loved.

The final scene in Jesus' life appears to the whole world as a scene of tragedy, a failure of tremendous proportions. Here was a man who did nothing but good, who spoke only of peace, who cared only that the will of God be done. And he was to end his life in the most cruel and humiliating way—crucifixion, at the hands of the very humanity he was sent to redeem.

In the eyes of the world which calculates its investments in terms of the returns it will get, Jesus has to be judged a failure, his mission futile, his words, fallen on deaf ears, his death the final judgment of a failed and wasted life.

Passion Sunday begins

Holy Week on this sad note. It sets the tone for the somber and solemn days ahead. But there is, inserted into this sadness, an unmistakable element of triumph.

For we all know that the play doesn't end with the crucifixion and death of Jesus on the cross, at the hands of those who rejected him. We know that death would not be the final word, that after the agony of Good Friday and the silence of Holy Saturday, will come the glory and triumph of Easter.

At Easter the very life of Jesus will find vindication in the hands of his Father who will give him the greatest reward of all by raising him from the dead and destroying death forever. The life of Jesus, his works and his deeds, did not happen in vain.

This is the real end or point of the story of Jesus. It is also the point of the story of our own lives, the glory of the resurrection is the promise that awaits us all. On that glorious Easter morning, when the women rush to anoint Jesus' body in the tomb, they discover, not a dead Jesus, but an angel who tells them that he is no longer there, for he has been raised up. This is complete vindication. Jesus had been right all along, death is not the final word. Neither are suffering and pain. The joy of Easter is what awaits all who remain faithful to God's promise.

I invite you to enter into this holiest of weeks by joining us for the Sacred Triduum. On Holy Thursday we celebrate the one and only Mass allowed, the Mass

of the Lord's Supper. We solemnly celebrate the Last Supper where Jesus instituted the priesthood and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Our Church becomes that upper room where the Lord gathered with his disciples. Following the Last Supper, the Lord went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Our Church becomes that garden as we gather before the repository in silent prayer and adoration until Midnight.

On Good Friday, we mark the Passion and Death of the Lord. No Mass is allowed to be celebrated on this day. We walk the Way of the Cross at 3pm and celebrate the Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death at 7pm. Good Friday is not the end of our story, just as it wasn't the end of Jesus' story.

On Holy Saturday, we spend the day in silent prayer until the Mother of All Vigils, the Easter Vigil at 7:30pm. The Vigil Mass is an occasion of great joy as we celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation for our newly baptized and confirmed and glory in light of the resurrection. On Sunday we rejoice in the glory of the empty tomb of Easter. Masses are at 7:30am, 9am and 10:30am. There is no 5pm Mass on Easter Sunday.

It's Holy Week! Pray, adore, celebrate and rejoice in the mysteries of our Faith. God Bless.



Dear Fr. Connors: What do we know about St. Joseph?

The Bible does not tell us a great deal about St. Joseph. He was the foster-father of Jesus and the husband of Mary.

St. Matthew’s Gospel explains that he was a righteous man. He was a just man. That is, Joseph was a man of God. An angel appeared to St. Joseph encouraging him to marry the Blessed Virgin Mary after she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph also was told to flee to Egypt after Herod declared the massacre of the infants after the birth of Christ.

Since we hear nothing about St. Joseph during the public ministry of Jesus—and Mary is entrusted to St. John upon the death of Christ—we know that he must have died before the Lord began His public ministry. Joseph is a patron saint of a happy death since he is believed to have died with Mary and Jesus present as is portrayed often in art.

St. Joseph is also the patron saint of the universal Church. At every Mass, everyday celebrated around the world the name of St. Joseph is invoked in the Eucharistic prayer. He is especially the patron saint of fathers and of Christian families. He worked as a carpenter and so is also a patron to laborers.

St. Joseph is often invoked as a patron saint associated with chastity since he lived in perfect chastity with the Blessed Virgin Mary. Many who have had difficulties in this area find in St. Joseph a model and a powerful intercessor.

On March 19th the Church celebrates the Solemnity of St. Joseph. This is a great feast day in the Church. Even in Lent the Gloria is recited and the priest wears white vestments. May 1st is another feast day of St. Joseph in which the Church celebrates the feast of St. Joseph the Worker, recalling his labor and dignity of work. **St. Joseph...pray for us.**

If you have a question about the Catholic Church or Catholic Teaching, please email questions to: associatepastor@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

March 13, 2016

Weekly.....	\$11,715.50
EFT.....	\$3,093.50
	Total=\$14,809.00
Mission Collection.....	\$2,804.50
Outreach.....	\$672.00

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: CRS Rice Bowl

Next Week: Easter Collection



2016 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

Our Lady of Mercy Church 2016 Catholic Charity Appeal

Parish Goal =\$193,864

Pledged to date:\$91,255.00

Number of pledges:205

Average Gift=\$456.00

47% of Goal

**Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McDevitt
OLM Catholic Charity Appeal Chair**

**Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Zubiago
OLM Bishop’s Partnership in Charity Chair**

Please pledge your gift today!



Religious Education
NEWS

●ALL RE Classes meet this weekend. No RE Class next weekend due to Easter Holiday.

Congratulations to our First Communion Class on their First Confessions!



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.

●Easter Baskets: Any items for Easter Food baskets should be left in the box in the vestibule. Easter candy, canned vegetables, stuffing, instant potatoes, rice, jello and puddings ●For more information contact Doug Green, OLM Outreach Director 884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org

Thanks for your support!



●NO School: Holy Thursday, March 24 for Professional Development Day. No School on Good Friday, March 25th. School resumes on Easter Monday, March 28th.

Discover the OLM Advantage

www.olmschool.org

*THE STUDENTS OF OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL
INVITE YOU TO*



THE LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

6:00PM

IN OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

**JOIN US AS OUR OLM MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS
CONTINUE THE OLM HOLY WEEK TRADITION OF
THE LIVING STATIONS SET TO SACRED MUSIC**



All OLM High-schoolers are welcomed to join the OLM Youth Group, which meets every Sunday night in the OLM gym from 7:15-8:30 PM. The Youth Group is a great chance for students to socialize, and grow in prayer. The Youth Group features frequent Eucharistic adoration, guest speakers, as well as fieldtrips outside of the parish. There is no need to sign up or register. For more information or questions, contact Michael LaChimia at mlachimia@olmschool.org

Holy Week & Easter

at Our Lady of Mercy
East Greenwich, RI



PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

Masses: Saturday 4pm,
Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am & 5pm
Blessing of Palm at all Masses
10:30 am Solemn Procession of Palms
Confession: Saturday 3pm—3:45pm

MONDAY, MARCH 21ST

Masses: 7:30am & 12:05pm
Confession: 11:45am—Noon &
6pm—6:45pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND

Masses: 7:30am & 12:05pm
Confession: 7am—7:20am

SPY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23RD

Masses: 7:30am & 12:05pm
Confession: 11:45am—Noon
Living Stations of the Cross: 6pm

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 24TH

Morning Prayer: 8:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper with
Mandatum: 7:00pm • Adoration
before the Repository until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH

Morning Prayer: 8:00am
Stations of the Cross: 3:00 p.m.
Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's
Passion and Death: 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH

Morning Prayer: 8:00am
Easter Vigil Mass: 7:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 27TH

Masses: 7:30am, 9:00am,
& 10:30am • No Sunday 5:00pm
Mass on Easter Sunday

Our Lady of Mercy Church • Rev. Bernard A. Healey, Pastor

65 Third Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818 • (401) 884-4968 • www.olmparish.org

Easter Memorial Flowers



Please return all Easter Flower Memorial donations and envelopes as soon as possible. Your generous donations in memory of loved ones helps to defray the expense of the beautiful flowers that decorate our Church at Easter. **Thank you for your generosity.**



Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening Mass moves forward to 5:00PM beginning **April 2, 2016**. Saturday Confession moves forward to 4:00pm also beginning on Saturday, April 2, 2016.

Please plan accordingly.