

“

He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area.

”

JOHN 2:14-15





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Mass Intentions *for the Week*



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THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 4, 2018

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

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

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM John J. Tassoni—Memorial

12:05PM Melbourne Smith—Month's Mind

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Lenten Weekday

7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

12:05PM Raymond Markham—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Lenten Wednesday; Saints Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

7:30AM Mary Kathryn Garrahy Serrecchia—Memorial

12:05PM Special Intention

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Lenten Weekday; St. John of God, Religious

7:30AM Murray & Mary Catherine Finley—Memorial

12:05PM Anne Vallye—Memorial

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Lenten Weekday; St. Frances of Rome, Religious

7:30AM Susan E. "Miner" Dumont—10th Anniversary

12:05PM Santo Furfari—Memorial

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Lenten Weekday

8:30AM Antonietta Cenami—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for the 4th Sunday of Lent

4:00PM William & Catherine Pearson—Memorial

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

9:00 AM Chris Tasca—4th Anniversary

10:30AM Hans G. & Hans F. Loeffler—Memorial

5:00PM Mary Gianardi—5th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

A few folks recently asked if Church was being left cold over the last week as a form of Lenten discipline. No, it's not. The boiler in Church broke down and we've had to wait for the part to arrive to fix it. Luckily while it was a little chilly in Church, the weather outside has been fairly mild.

The heat should be up and running now during the unpredictable weather of March. The boiler is five years old and this is the first problem we've had with it. The cost to fix it was over \$4,000. I thank you for your generous support to the monthly Building and Grounds Collection which helps defray these unexpected expenses.

You may have noticed a crucifix hanging in the hallway by the sacristy. This crucifix hung for many years at the now closed St. Casimir Church in Providence. We were able to get it without cost and place it here at OLM. It is a beautiful image to behold as you enter that area of Church.

We also were able to get an even larger crucifix from St. Casimir Church. It is very large and beautiful, but in need of some small repairs. This too was obtained without cost to the parish. We plan on hanging it in the OLM School Auditorium in the coming months.

The crucifix is always given a prominent placement in any Catholic Church, as it should in any Catholic home. But it isn't merely an object of devotion or a piece of beautiful art. The cross is a call to us to a conversion to Christ.

Such conversion, we are taught in the Catechism of the

Catholic Church, is done: "*in daily life by gestures of reconciliation, concern for the poor, the exercise and defense of justice and right, by the admission of faults to one's brethren, fraternal correction, revision of life, examination of conscience, spiritual direction, acceptance of suffering, endurance of persecution for the sake of righteousness. Taking up one's cross each day and following Jesus is the surest way of penance.*"

We are called to conversion in our daily lives. Conversion is a major theme in Sacred Scripture. The prophets, St. John the Baptist, and St. Peter preached a call to conversion. Jesus began his public ministry with the words, "*This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.*"

The Lord's first words were a call to conversion. For Jesus, we are all in need of repentance. We all need to recognize our failings and need to place our trust in God's merciful love. Lent helps to do so.

This weekend we welcome our Parish Lenten Mission Preacher, Monsignor Doug Cook, who is preaching all the Masses this weekend. He is preaching a Mission Talk each night on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 7:00pm. Also, each of those nights there are Confessions with four priests begins at 6:00pm.

The theme of our Lenten Mission is "*A Lent to Remember, An Easter to Celebrate.*" This Mission is our opportunity as individuals and as a parish to deepen our faith, take

up the call to conversion and renew our commitment to Christ and His Church.

The renewal from such a time of prayer and reflection should invigorate us. So come out for the Mission this week. It is a time of grace, a time for repentance, a time for change, and a time for becoming a renewed disciple.

Confession is an essential part of any good Lenten Mission. So seize the chance to go to Confession this week and receive God's mercy. St. Alphonsus Ligouri used to say that the sign of a successful Mission was how many people came to Confession! I hope and pray that you keep the four priests in the confessional busy this week!

I have been friends with Msgr. Cook since we studied together in the seminary at the American College in Belgium. He is an exemplary priest and an excellent preacher. He made the long journey to lead us on the Mission at OLM from sunny Southern California! We thank him for his presence at OLM and preaching our Mission.

Let's make this a Lent to remember at Our Lady of Mercy, so we can truly celebrate Easter with a renewed faith and great joy!! Come to the Mission this week! Go to Confession this week! Invite a friend and bring along a neighbor with you!! Do good. Be well. Repent and believe in the Gospel! See you at the Mission!

Father Healey



Should a Catholic be Cremated?

The quick and easy answer is that the Church does not forbid cremation, unless it is chosen for reasons that are contrary to Christian teaching. In fact if a person were to choose cremation for reasons which go against our Lord's teaching, such a person would not be fit for a funeral (since at that point they have, essentially, renounced his teachings). What would these reasons be? For instance, one reason is the disbelief in the resurrection from the dead at the end of the world. Other reasons would be a disdain for the body, thinking that the material world is evil, wanting to spread the ashes over the ocean or keep them at home (usually this implies a strange anthropology, and a mistaken view that we become one with the universe), and so on.

Historically and even today the Church prefers burial of a body over cremation and advocates for it as much as possible. Cremation should not be seen as another equal option, but something chosen due to perhaps a lack of finances (funerals are incredibly expensive), a distant place of burial (the person wants to be buried back in a home country), and so on. These are very practical, non-theological concerns.

The reason why the Church prefers burial of a body has its roots in theology and this has not changed. Since Catholics believe in the resurrection of the dead, and the dignity of the human body as created by God, it is only logical that Catholicism also holds that the body of a deceased person should be handled with respect. Consequently, burning it has not traditionally been considered acceptable treatment. For a while the Church forbade cremation because of its close association with paganism, which did not believe in the resurrection. This is the reason for the early Christians in Rome burying their dead separately in the catacombs. In the past it was automatically assumed that a Catholic who had himself/herself cremated had abandoned hope in the resurrection of the body or was actively mocking it.

In your planning I would suggest the following: cremate the body after the funeral if possible. This way the full symbolism of the funeral Mass can be seen by all those present (sprinkling the body with holy water, incensing the body, draping a white cloth over the body, and so on). After cremation the remains are to be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they came. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. Finally, the cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium.

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

Weekly Collection

February 25, 2018

Weekly.....	\$11,811.00
EFT.....	\$1,977.00
Total=\$13,788.00	
Outreach.....	\$221.50

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**



2018

CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

Supporting the work of the Church

2018 OLM Parish Goal=\$193,864

Pledged to date=\$40,508

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of **Anna Hosterman** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.



This Week at OLM School

- **Wednesday, March 7th:** Lifetouch Spring Pictures.
- **Friday, March 9th:** Stations of the Cross at 8:30am
- **Monday, March 12th:** Lenten Confessions at 1:00pm

Discover the OLM Difference!
www.olmschool.org



- **Sunday, March 4th:** All RE Classes meet. Students are reminded to bring their Lenten Food donation.
- **Saturday, March 10th:** First Confessions at 1:00PM for OLM RE First Communion Class.
- **Sunday, March 11th:** RE Grades 3-5 do not meet in the morning but must attend Lenten Confessions immediately following the 5:00pm Mass. Only RE Grades 1 & 2 meet in the morning.
- **Sunday, March 18th & 25th:** All Grade 8 Confirmation Candidates (Public, Private, Parochial & Home School) must attend **MANDATORY LECTURES** in the OLM School Cafeteria.



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

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.



● **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 15th at 4:00PM at Mercy House. All those experiencing grief or loss are most welcome to join us.

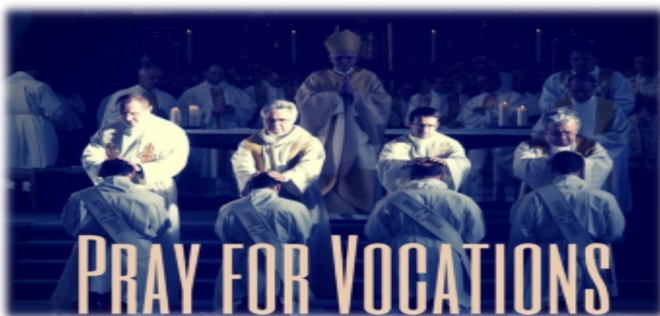
● **For more information about OLM Outreach**, please contact Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at outreach@olmparish.org




Our Lady of Mercy Youth Group

Join us this Sunday, March 4th from 7:00pm until 8:30pm at the OLM School Gym for the First Meeting of the OLM Youth Group. We welcome all 8th to 12th grade students to join with us. For more information or questions, please contact Fr. Barrow at associate@olmparish.org or OLM Youth Activities Coordinator, Billy Burdier at youthactivities@olmparish.org Hope to see you there!

*“Be who God meant you to be
and you will set the world on fire!”*
—Saint Catherine of Siena



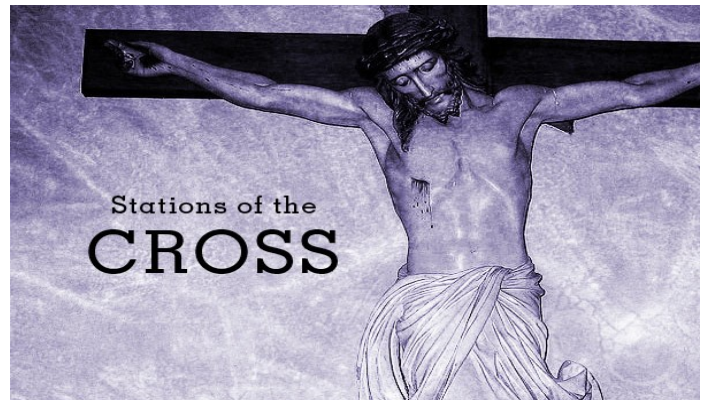
OLM Prayer Chain



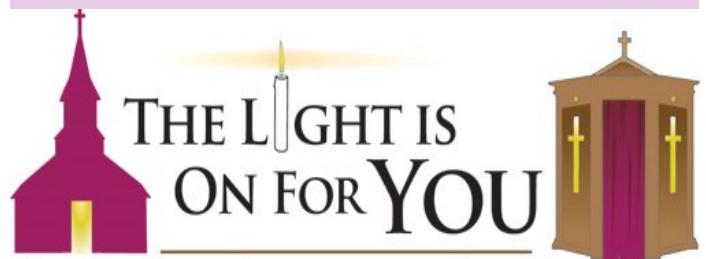
Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain. The power of pray is tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain as a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary Hart at 884-5629 or email at 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!



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



CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions at OLM During Lent
Monday–Friday: 11:45AM–NOON
Saturdays: 3:00pm–3:45pm

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday
March 5–7th
Confessions from 6:00pm–6:45pm
4 Priests available

