A painting of the Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus, surrounded by white flowers. The scene is set against a dark background, with the figures illuminated by a soft, golden light. Mary is depicted with a serene expression, her eyes cast down at the child. She wears a blue robe and a white shawl. The infant Jesus is wrapped in white swaddling clothes, resting peacefully in her arms. The composition is framed by clusters of white flowers, likely lilies, which are in various stages of bloom. The overall mood is tender and reverent.

*Thank her for
the depth
of her love. . . .*

*Happy
Mother's Day*



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Mass Intentions for the Week

**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 13, 2018**

SATURDAY, MAY 12

The Mass of Anticipation for the 7th Sunday of Easter

5:00PM Mariakutty Peter—Memorial

SUNDAY, MAY 13

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

9:00 AM All Mothers

10:30AM All Mothers

5:00PM All Mothers

MONDAY, MAY 14

St. Matthias, Apostle

7:30AM Timothy Franzone—Memorial

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Mr. Young-Ho Pyun—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Victor Piotrowicz—Memorial

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Ines Almonte—Memorial

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Easter Weekday; St. John I, Pope & Martyr

7:30AM Mary "Billie" Gallagher—Memorial

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Easter Weekday

8:30AM Special Intention

The Vigil of Pentecost

5:00PM Frank & Mary Wildenhain—Memorial

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Pentecost Sunday

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

9:00 AM Shirley Wesson—1st Anniversary

10:30AM Elsie M. Calore—1st Anniversary

5:00PM Christopher W. Grenier—Memorial

Alleluja
Alleluja
Alleluja



Dear Parishioners:

Happy Mothers Day! We offer our prayers and best wishes to all our OLM Mothers on this Mothers Day! Masses on Mothers Day are to be offered for all Mothers, living and deceased. In particular, we remember those beloved Mothers whose names are inscribed on the memorial envelopes.

The late Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty, leader of the Hungarian Catholic Church, and a fierce opponent of the communist regime in that nation, once wrote a small book in the 1940s entitled, *the Mother*. In it he reminds us of the importance of motherhood. He writes beautifully about Mothers:

"The most important person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral--a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body . . . The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation. What on God's good earth is more glorious than this; to be a mother?"

Not only is it Mothers Day this weekend, but we also celebrate First Holy Communion. Our OLM Second Graders received Jesus Christ in the Eucharist on Saturday morning with great joy and faith. We rejoice with these children

and their families on this special day. It is truly a joyous day in the life our parish.

We offer our prayers and congratulations to the 64 children who celebrate this important step in their faith lives. We pray that they remember the wisdom of St. Padre Pio, who says: *"Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace."*

On Sunday at the 10:30am Mass the children of our First Communion Class join us for the Annual May Crowning Ceremony. This joyous and beautiful tradition of the Church, and annual Mothers Day tradition at OLM, honors the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Church.

The Church teaches us that we crown the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Queen of the May, *"because she was a perfect follower of Christ, who is the absolute 'crown' of creation. She is the Mother of the Son of God, who is the messianic King. She listened to God's Word and kept it in her heart; she remained steadfastly in close union with her Son, all the way to the foot of the Cross; she persevered in prayer with the Church. Thus, in an eminent way, she won the 'crown of righteousness,' 'the crown of life,' 'the crown of glory' that is promised to those who follow Christ."* May Mary, our Mother, and our Parish Patroness, intercede for us.

On Monday morning the roofers are scheduled to arrive at OLM and begin work on a new Church roof. You may recall the roof was damaged in a wind

storm this winter. We were able to patch it up, but it is clear the roof needs replacing. In order to ensure no further damage would occur our Parish Finance Council thought it best to replace the roof sooner rather than wait. The Church roof is almost 30 years old and its clearly in need of replacement.

After following the guidelines and rigorous process of approval set forth by the Diocesan Office of Planning and Finance, Bishop Tobin granted permission for us to move forward with the project. Several companies bid on the roof replacement job with D'Angelo Custom Homes being awarded the contract. The cost of the roof replacement is \$47,200.

I am thankful to Paul Anderson, OLM Facilities Director, for his great work on this project. He will vigilantly monitor the roof project this week. We hope that the roof replacement is completed by the end of the week. The roofers will begin each day after 7:30am Mass to ensure our worship is not disturbed.

As you know well from maintaining your own homes the costs are high. We have old buildings at OLM that need constant care and maintenance. I am grateful for your generous financial support that enables us to afford such important projects like replacing our roof. Please pray for good weather this week for our roofers! Do good. Be well. God Bless. Go Sox!

Father Healey



If God knows everything, then are we really free?

This past weekend one of our young servers posed an insightful argument: Given a choice between two options, God already knows which of the two we will choose. If God already knows what we will do before we do it, then we must do that action. If we must do the action, then we are not really free. In conclusion, we are not really free.

This ancient argument tries to fit together human freedom and divine foreknowledge. Some strategies have compromised either human freedom or divine foreknowledge. For instance, to preserve the fact that God knows all things, past, present, future and possible, some deny that humans possess freedom (e.g. Fatalists and Calvinists). Others, to preserve human freedom, deny that God knows all things, particularly future events (e.g. Process Theology). We can, however, harmonize the two without denying human freedom or divine foreknowledge.

We need to keep in mind that God exists outside of time. For God all things, all people, all atoms, all times, all events, etc. are present to Him in the one eternal Now. There is no past, present or future for God. Furthermore, knowledge of an action, does not necessitate that action. I may have some secret insight that you are going to the store tomorrow, but my knowledge of your choice, does not necessitate your going. In this answer knowing a choice, does not necessitate that choice.

A possible counterargument goes as follows: While human knowledge does not necessitate action, divine knowledge does, because God knows things infallibly, and hence that action must necessarily occur. While I may know that you have chosen to go to the bookstore tomorrow morning, my human knowledge does not necessitate you going. Anything known by God, meanwhile, must necessarily happen, because he possesses infallible knowledge.

To answer this counterargument we return to the distinction between God and time. Because God knows choices outside of time, he knows them as necessary events, but those events are still contingent (i.e. non-necessary) events within time. In other words, we know our past choices as necessary choices, insofar as they can no longer be changed (the past is the past), yet looking back to them we can see that they were free choices. The fact that they cannot be changed now, does not mean that they could not be changed. Likewise, God being outside of time infallibly knows all choices, but inside of time they are still future non-necessary/contingent choices on our part. St. Thomas Aquinas writes: "Hence it is manifest that contingent things are infallible known by God, inasmuch as they are subject to the divine sight in their presentation; yet they are future contingent [choices] in relation to [our choice as the cause]."

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

Weekly Collection 

May 6, 2018

Weekly.....	\$13,147.00
EFT.....	\$1,525.00
	Total=\$14,672.00
Outreach.....	\$1,171.00
Building & Grounds.....	\$3,006.50

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.





2018
CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL
Supporting the work of the Church

2018 Parish Goal=\$193,864
Pledged to date=\$175,887
 % of Parish Goal=91%
 Total Donors to date=439
 Average Gift=\$400
 % of Parish Participation=22%

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



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



This Week at OLM School

- **Monday May 14:** Weekly School Mass at 8:15am
- **Friday, May 18:** 7th & 8th Grade Trip to NYC

Discover the OLM Difference!

www.olmschool.org

OUR LADY'S



ROSARY MAKERS

Monthly Rosary Making Workshop
Tuesday, May 15
9:30am-11:30am
OLM Cry Room

*Materials and instructions provided.
 Join us in making rosaries for the missions. All are welcome to join us!*



We offer our thanks and gratitude to our Religious Education students, teachers, aides and families! Our RE Program resumes next fall. Prayers for a healthy and happy summer!

See you at Sunday Mass!
Mickey St. Jean & Doug Green



Marian Devotions
Mondays in May at
7:00PM

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration,
 Rosary & Meditative Music.



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated this week in memory of Victor Piotrowicz.



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

• **OLM Bereavement Group meets this Thursday, May 17 at 4:00pm in Mercy House.** All those experiencing grief or isolation are welcome to join our time of prayer, discussion and prayer.

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

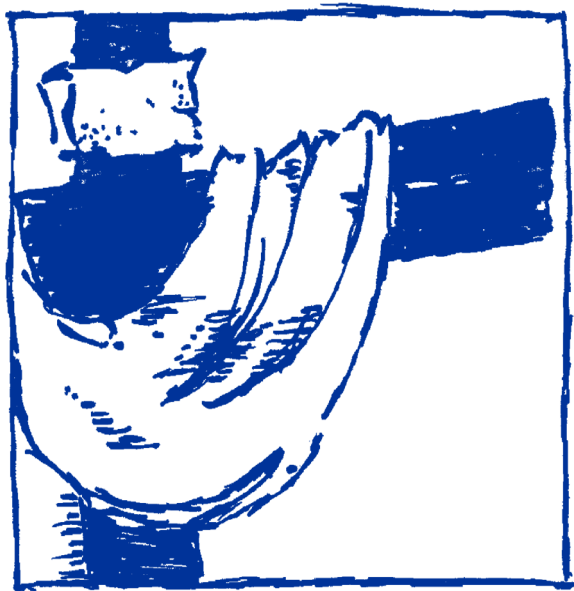
7th Sunday of Easter (Ascension of the Lord)



The solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord which many of us celebrated on Thursday of this past week is today's celebration in some parts of the world, including Canada and some dioceses of the United States.

The Thursday which falls forty days after Easter was always the traditional day for this celebration, but provinces of bishops now have the option of changing it to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Prior to the current liturgical reforms, the paschal candle was extinguished after the reading of the Gospel on Ascension Thursday. It now remains lit for the entire fifty-day Easter celebration.



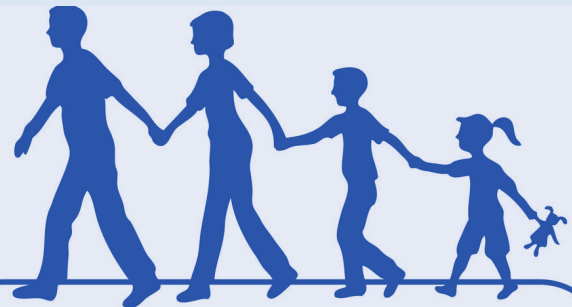
This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.



OLM Young Families
Year End Picnic
at Blue Beach
(near Quonset)
Thursday, May 17, 2018
at 5:30pm

Family Rosary
Pizza and drinks provided!
Join us for good food and good fun!

All young families are most welcome to join with us in fellowship and conversation about our Catholic faith. *Babysitting is available for your children and delicious Pizza served for dinner!* For more information or just to learn more about our group contact OLM Young Families Coordinator Kate Jelinek at: Kate_Jelinek@hotmail.com



OLM YOUNG FAMILIES

“Where there
is motherhood,
there’s life,
there’s joy,
there’s peace.”

Pope Francis