

The Solemnity of Pentecost

May 15, 2016



Our Lady of Mercy Church

East Greenwich, Rhode Island



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**Pentecost Sunday
 May 15, 2016**

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Vigil Mass of Pentecost
 5:00PM William & Mary Mulcahy—Memorial

SUNDAY, MAY 15

The Solemnity of Pentecost
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00 AM Joseph D’Amato—Memorial
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 5:00PM Douglas Hauser—Memorial

MONDAY, MAY 16

Weekday
 7:30 AM Victor Piotrowicz—Memorial

TUESDAY, MAY 17

Weekday
 7:30AM Ines Almonte—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Easter Weekday; St. John I, Pope & Martyr
 7:30AM Special Intention

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Weekday
 7:30AM John Readey—Memorial

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Weekday; St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest
 7:30AM Mildred Forsythe—Memorial

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Weekday; St. Christopher Magallenes, Priest & Martyr; BVM
 8:30AM Special Intention

Mass of Anticipation for the Most Holy Trinity
 5:00PM W. Barbara O’Hara—Memorial

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Pentecost Sunday
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00 AM Richard Lefebvre—Memorial
 10:30AM Edward V. Healey, Jr. —5th Anniversary
 5:00PM Edward F. Doorley III—11th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

Mother Nature was kind to us on Saturday's celebration of First Communion. No rain showers to dampen the day. The sixty-five children were well prepared and eager to receive the Eucharistic Lord for the very first time.

Our Church was decorated beautifully, the music was superb, the children angelic and the First Communion Masses truly celebrations of faith, hope and love. I offer thanks to all who helped to make the day so meaningful and beautiful especially our First Communion Class teachers, aides and volunteers. Also, we thank the parents and families of these children for bringing them to the Altar of God to receive Jesus Christ sacramentally for the first of many times.

These First Communicants are the future of our parish and Church, so please continue to pray for them. Pray that they and their families might continue to stay close to the Eucharistic Lord. We hope that they might always find meaning and direction in their lives by nourishing and strengthening themselves at Sunday Mass.

I recall the words that Pope Emeritus Benedict spoke to a First Communion Class meeting with him. He said: *"The Mass centers life. We live amid so many things. And the people who do not go to church, do not know that it is precisely Jesus they lack. But they feel that something is missing in their lives. If God is*

absent from my life, if Jesus is absent from my life, a guide, an essential friend is missing, even an important joy for life, the strength to grow as a man, to overcome my vices and mature as a human being.

With the passing of the weeks and years, we feel more and more keenly the absence of God, the absence of Jesus. It is a fundamental and destructive incompleteness. I could easily speak of countries where atheism has prevailed for years: how souls are destroyed, but also the earth. In this way we can see that it is important, and I would say fundamental, to be nourished by Jesus in Communion. It is he who gives us enlightenment, offers us guidance for our lives, a guidance that we need."

The Church and grounds are looking good and I thank our hard working OLM Maintenance Staff of Paul Anderson, Jeff Franzone and Dave Belanger. They got everything ready for First Communion Day while working in the rain and cold. If you see them around be sure to thank them for all their hard work for our parish.

The weather this past week cooperated with sun and warm temperatures so they could continue their work. They are working on the grounds at the Franciscan and Mercy Convents. Trees were cut down and some shrubs are to be removed. New plantings and flowers are to be planted around the convents. Our good Sisters are excited about this project so keep an eye

out in the coming weeks.

Today we celebrate the great Solemnity of Pentecost which celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church fifty days after Easter. In the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

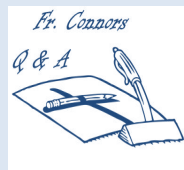
They were able to speak their native Galilean dialect but were understood by people of many different languages and nations. It is considered as the birthday of the Church because from that point on the Apostles carried the Good News of Christ to the whole world.

Pentecost is probably one of the most important days on the Church calendar, but it often gets overlooked by Catholics. The same Holy Spirit who filled the apostles on Pentecost comes down upon our Church of OLM. We call upon the Holy Spirit to fill us with tongues of fire, so that with passion, love and great courage, we might bring the Gospel out to our world which so desperately needs to embrace it.

Let us pray: *Come, Holy Spirit, Fill the Hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love!*

Don't forget our OLM May Devotions every Monday night at 7:00pm! Try it, you might like it! Prayerful congratulations to our First Communion Class! Happy Pentecost! Be well. Do Good. God Bless. Go Sox!

Father Healey



Dear Fr. Connors: Why is Pentecost so important?

This Sunday the Church celebrates the great Solemnity of Pentecost. It is the Church's birthday. At Pentecost the Holy Spirit descends on the apostles gathered in prayer with Mary. They go out and tell the whole world the news of the Gospel. It is just as our Lord said: He will not leave us orphans; He leaves us His Church.

Pentecost is the answer to the central problem facing the Church today. Namely, there are many people, who want to separate Jesus from His Church. They want God but not the worship of God. They are spiritual but not religious.

Today on Pentecost we say we're not just spiritual; we're *religious* too. We don't worship a god of our own creation, a god who doesn't make too much fuss about our life. On Pentecost we remember that the Lord of the Gospels, the one born on Christmas, risen on Easter, the real God—has left a Church. He established a family, without which we never come to meet Him. Catholic faith is personal, but it is never private. Every effort to privatize the faith should be resisted. There's always an ecclesial—that is, a church-related—dimension to Catholic faith.

The Church born on Pentecost has a structure, of priests and bishops and popes through the ages. It is not a system we cooked up but a structure given by the Lord. Through the Holy Spirit, the Church born on Pentecost guards the seven Sacraments. Established by Christ, they are efficacious causes of grace. One need not wonder where to meet God. You find Him at the baptismal font, the confessional, the altar rail, the sick bed, at the celebration of sacramental marriage.

On Pentecost we celebrate the Church. We love the Church. Like any family, it's made up of sinners, like us. We love them too. But the very same Church is the bride of Christ, His body of members united to Him.

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

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED



Billy Burdier, our Summer Seminarian, arrives from his studies in Rome in June to work at OLM for 10 weeks. He doesn't own a vehicle and is need of a car during his time at OLM. If you have an extra car or a car not in use that he might be able to use while at OLM, please contact Fr. Healey at pastor@olmparish.org or 884-4968. Thank You for your support!

Weekly Collection

May 8, 2016

Weekly.....	\$12,600.50
EFT.....	\$1,645.50
	Total=\$14,246.00
Ascension.....	\$2,597.00
Outreach.....	\$771.00

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 **Mary A. Arrow** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.

May she rest in peace.



II—Patrick Joseph O'Donnell & Ciara Marina Pisano
Our Lady of Lourdes St. Mary

I—Joseph Girard Tallarico & Gia Marie Pastore
Our Lady of Mercy Our Lady of Mercy

Outreach Update

- The OLM Bereavement Group meets on this Thursday, May 19th at 4:00PM — 6:00PM in Mercy House. All those grieving a loss of a loved one are most welcome to attend.
- For more information contact Doug Green, OLM Outreach Director at 884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



Our Lady of Mercy School Grandparents' Day Friday, May 20, 2016

We are looking forward to a memorable day for our very special OLM Community! Grandparents' Day begins with Mass at 9:00am. All are welcome to join us at Mass. We expect over 250 grandparents so we respectfully request that parents refrain from coming over to school afterward unless they are attending in lieu of grandparents. A light reception in the cafeteria follows Mass for Grandparents and students.

Discover the OLM Advantage!

www.olmschool.org



JOYOUS PENTECOST!



May Devotions at OLM



Every Monday at
7:00PM
During
the Month of May

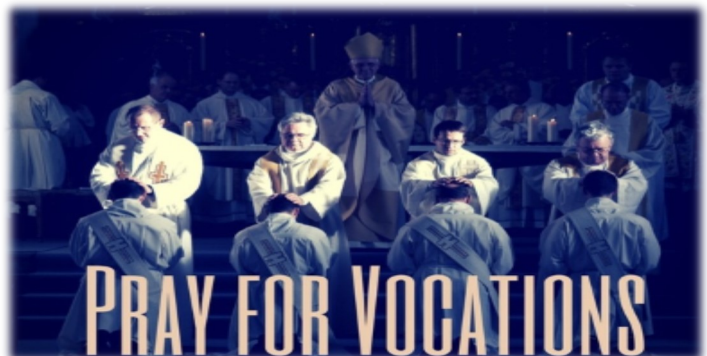
Join us for
the Rosary, Exposition
and Benediction of
The Blessed Sacrament

"Hail Mary, Full of Grace"



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!



Pentecost



On this day of Pentecost, we celebrate the full realization of Christ's work in the coming of the Holy Spirit who confers upon the Christian community strength and courage to live and proclaim the Gospel.

Easter, the church's first celebration of special note, dates back to the second century, and from early on was kept within the context of a fifty-day period called Pentecost. Pentecost as a separate celebration, however, was not established until the fourth century.

In the early church, those not quite ready for baptism at the Easter Vigil were baptized at the vigil of Pentecost.



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.



Join us on **Friday, May 27th** following the 7:30am Mass for a "MAY BREAKFAST" in the vestibule of the Church. All OLM parishioners and their guest are welcome to stop by and enjoy a hot breakfast!



**NEXT SUNDAY,
MAY 22 AT OLM
8:00AM—12NOON**

The RI Blood Bank Mobile will be here next Sunday. Please stop by and give BLOOD! They are in urgent need of BLOOD DONORS. Thank you for your support!

