

*Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 28, 2017*

Memorial Day



*Our Lady of Mercy Church
East Greenwich, RI*



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THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 28, 2017

SATURDAY, MAY 27

Mass of Anticipation for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

SUNDAY, MAY 28

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

9:00 AM Bernard Frezza, Jr.—Memorial

10:30AM Amico & Emma Truppa—Memorial

5:00PM Josephine Dolenc—Memorial

MONDAY, MAY 29—MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

Easter Weekday

8:30AM All Deceased Veterans

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Mary & Bernard Falchini—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30AM Marilyn Mellon Haxton—Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

St. Justin, Martyr

7:30AM Fr. Roger L. Marot—Memorial

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Easter Weekday/Saints Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs

7:30AM Patty Corrigan—Memorial

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs

8:30AM Hans G. & Hans F. Loeffler—Memorial

Vigil of Pentecost

5:00PM Albert Catanio—3rd Anniversary

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Pentecost Sunday

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

9:00 AM Stanley Berek—12th Anniversary

10:30AM Edward Doorley—12th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

It's hard to believe its already Memorial Day Weekend, but alas it has arrived. We remember all those who have died in service to our nation this weekend. The late President Ronald W. Reagan reminded us of the importance of Memorial Day in a speech in 1983.

President Reagan stated: *"Memorial Day was established to commemorate those who died in the defense of our national ideals. Our ideals of freedom, justice, and equal rights for all have been challenged many times since then, and thousands of Americans have given their lives in many parts of the world to secure those same ideals and insure for their children a lasting peace. Their sacrifice demands that we, the living, continue to promote the cause of peace and the ideals for which they so valiantly gave of themselves."*

Let us pray for the many who have fallen in defense of our nation and liberty. They gave the ultimate sacrifice and deserve not only our gratitude but our continued prayers and remembrance. We will offer Mass for the fallen on Memorial Day at 8:30am, please join us.

In special way, the Town of East Greenwich remembers Memorial Day with a Parade. Included is a stop at the World War Two Memorial to pray for the dead and a service of remembrance at Town Hall. It is a great American tradition that is alive and well right here in our own town, so join us in marking Memorial Day with prayer and pride.

Also on Memorial Day, we celebrate our final May

Devotions at 7:00pm. Deacon Brian Morris will lead our devotions in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. Deacon Morris worked at the Lourdes Shrine in France one summer and helped to escort the many sick and infirm pilgrims who go there for healing and consolation.

Deacon Morris is the son of OLM Parishioners, John and Marybeth Morris. He graduated from OLM School and Bishop Hendricken High School and earned a degree at Wake Forest University. After a few years in the working world, he felt called to the priesthood and soon entered the seminary. He has just completed his seminary training and education at St. John's Seminary in Boston.

Next Saturday at 10:00am, Deacon Morris is to be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Providence along with two other young men from Rhode Island. It is a great day for Deacon Morris and his family, but also a great day for the Church of Providence and especially for Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

Everyone is invited to attend the Ordination Mass at the Cathedral next Saturday morning. If you've never been to an ordination before try to make it as it is truly a solemn and beautiful celebration. Also, this Friday night at 7:00pm there is a Holy Hour for Vocations at Holy Apostles Church in Cranston. Our OLM Adult Choir is singing at the Holy Hour. Please join us as we join the three men to be ordained in prayer for more priestly vocations.

Finally, next Sunday at 1:00pm the entire OLM Parish

Family is invited to attend Father Brian Morris at his First Mass of Thanksgiving. Please join us as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday in such a special way. A reception at Mercy Park follows Father Morris's First Mass and he is to offer his first priestly blessings. Come and celebrate such a joyous occasion in the life of our parish.

We offer our heartfelt congratulations to the soon to be Father Morris and his family. We thank them for the gift of his priestly vocation. We wish him all the best for his priestly ministry in our Diocese of Providence.

The newly ordained are awaiting their first parish assignments by Bishop Tobin. However, I am confident that no matter which parish he is assigned to serve, Father Morris will be a great blessing. He is a fine and zealous young priest!

I urge you to continue to pray for Deacon Morris as he makes his final preparations for priesthood. Come to May Devotions on Monday night to hear him preach and lead us in devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes. Wish him well when you see him.

The Church celebrates Her birthday on Pentecost Sunday next weekend. It is fifty days since Easter and we mark the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. Be well. Do good. God Bless. Happy Memorial Day! Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!



Can a civilly divorced person receive Holy Communion?

There is confusion when it comes to the reception of Holy Communion and persons who have undergone a civil divorce. Between two baptized, marriage is for life; it is a bond instituted by God between two people, which mirrors Christ's love for his Church (there are more details in regard to mixed marriages, but for the sake of brevity those can be discussed later). Just as Christ never ceases to love His Church, so too, the bond between two people joined in marriage can never be broken. As we know an annulment is not a divorce, since an annulment declares that there was never a bond. Divorce *claims* to have the power to break the power of God. The Church does not recognize civil divorce granted by the state and so still considers the two people to be married. As a civil action divorce is concerned only with the legal effects of marriage (distribution of property, custody of children, etc.). So even if a person has received a divorce that person can still come to the sacraments and can still receive Holy Communion.

A divorce can be a terrible thing to endure. It introduces disorder into the family and into society. Just about everyone who authentically enters into marriage does not do it with the expectation that at one point they will divorce their spouse. To willfully breakup a marriage or abandon one's spouse is a serious issue, but it is not always the case that a person does so maliciously. As the *Catechism* states in number 2386: "It can happen that one of the spouses is the innocent victim of a divorce decreed by civil law; this spouse therefore has not contravened the moral law. There is a considerable difference between a spouse who has sincerely tried to be faithful to the sacrament of marriage and is unjustly abandoned, and one who through his own grave fault destroys a canonically valid marriage." Hence, the person responsible for the breakup of the marriage should confess their sin before receiving Communion.

As long as a person does not remarry, or is not living inappropriately with someone, then the person is free to receive the sacraments within the Church. If a person does remarry civilly or outside of the Church, then that person should not receive Holy Communion until the situation is regularized. I encourage anyone in such a situation to come meet either with Fr. Healey or me and we would be happy to try and regularize the situation.

If you have a question about the Catholic Faith, email your questions directly to Fr. Barrow at associate@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

May 21, 2017

Weekly.....	\$10,899.00
EFT.....	\$1,504.50
	Total=\$12,403.50
Outreach.....	\$327.50
Trinity Dome Collection.....	\$855.00


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: St. Patrick's Cemetery Fund
 Next Week: Building & Grounds Collection



2017 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

2017 Parish Goal = \$193,864
Pledged to date = \$226,023.00

Number of Donors = 512
% of Parish Goal = 107%

Average Gift = \$420
Total Raised in 2016 = \$268,928

Over Parish Goal! Thank You for Your Generous Support!

Marriage Banns

III-Michael David Ethier & Alyssa Jeanine Marquez
 Our Lady of Mercy Our Lady of Mercy



Monday, May 29, 2017-Memorial Day Holiday

Mass at 8:30am

The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.



This Week at OLM School:

Monday, May 29: Memorial Day Holiday, No School
 Tuesday, May 30: Reading Week Begins
 Wednesday, May 31: School Assembly at 8:05am
 Friday, June 2: Middle School Dance

Discover the OLM Advantage!



Register Today for RE Classes Next Year

•Registrations are now being accepted for the 2017-2018 year. **Registrations are now only done on-line** at: <http://forms.parishgiving.org/form-2592082/> You may also access the link on the Parish Website: www.olmparish.org and go to Faith Formation and then Religious Education for Children. **All registrations are due by June 30th to avoid the late fee.** We accept children in Grades 1-8. **Please note:** Current Grade 8 students who are being Confirmed this November 5th **DO NOT** have to register!



•**OLM Bereavement Group** meets **Thursday, June 1 at 4:00pm** in Mercy House. All those experiencing loneliness, isolation or grief are invited to attend.
 •For more information, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org

MAY DEVOTIONS

MONDAY, MAY 29 AT 7:00PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT, RECITATION OF THE ROSARY, MEDITATIVE MUSIC AND SPIRITUAL TALK

JOIN US AS WE PRAY THE ROSARY BEFORE JESUS TRULY PRESENT IN THE EUCHARIST.



“OUR LADY OF LOURDES”

BY DEACON BRIAN MORRIS

**First Friday Adoration
 Friday, June 2**



Exposition following 7:30am Mass
 All-Day Adoration
 Benediction at 5:00pm

Adorers needed, please sign up in vestibule.

NB: There will be no First Friday Adoration in July & August. It resumes on Friday, September 1.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Rejoices in the Ordination of Her Native Son

Brian John Morris

*To the Sacred Order of the Priesthood through the
imposition of hands and the Invocation of the Holy Spirit*

By His Excellency,
The Most Reverend Thomas J. Tobin, D.D.,
Bishop of Providence

Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 10:00am

**Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul
Providence, RI**

All OLM Parishioners are most welcome to attend.



**Please join Father Morris in celebrating
his ordination to the priesthood at**

**A Mass of Thanksgiving
Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 1:00pm
Our Lady of Mercy Church
East Greenwich, RI**

*A reception and First Priestly Blessings
follow at Mercy Park.*

Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations

Friday, June 2, 2017 at 7:00pm

Holy Apostles Church

800 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston, RI

Praying with those to be Ordained Priest

Rev. Mr. Stephen M. Batty

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Wakefield

Rev. Mr. Jean Joseph Brice

St. Michael Parish, Providence

Rev. Mr. Brian J. Morris

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, East Greenwich



*Join us on the eve of ordinations to the
priesthood in the Diocese of Providence as
we pray for vocations with those men to be
ordained.*

