



THE CHURCH OF

Our Lady of Mercy

65 THIRD STREET ✕ EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818



Phone..... 401-884-4968 Fax 401-884-1415

Parish Email.....parish@olmparish.org

Parish Website..... www.olmparish.org

The Baptism of the Lord ✕ January 12, 2014

† MASS SCHEDULE †

Weekend

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 4:00 PM

Sunday Masses..... 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

September—June..... 5:00 PM

Daily

Monday - Friday..... 7:30 AM

Saturdays & Legal Holidays..... 8:30 AM

Holy Day

Vigil Mass..... 5:00 PM

Holyday Masses..... 7:30 AM & 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Mercy School

Sr. Jeanne Barry, R.S.M.

School Principal

55 Fourth Avenue
East Greenwich, RI 02818

School Phone 884-1618

Email secretary@olmschool.org

Web www.olmschool.org

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Mondays at 6:00 PM or by appointment.

Saturdays at 3:00 PM or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Second Sunday of the month. Preparation Class is required. Please contact one of the parish priests prior to birth of your child.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact one of the parish priests one year prior to the proposed date of your wedding.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact one of the parish priests if you are shut-in, sick, homebound or hospitalized.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

Please contact one of the parish priests or the Office of the Director of Vocations at 331-1316 or www.catholicpriest.com.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday..... 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Reverend Bernard A. Healey, S.T.L., J.C.L., Pastor

The Reverend Ryan W. Connors, S.T.L., Associate Pastor

Joseph V. Cavanagh, Jr.

William K. Wray

Parish Trustees





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PARISH OFFICE

- Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor* 884-4968
 pastor@olmparish.org
- Father Ryan W. Connors, *Associate Pastor* 884-4968
 associatepastor@olmparish.org
- Deacon John W. Dowd, *Deacon Assistant*.....884-4968
 deacon@olmparish.org
- Mr. David E. Cote, *Business Manager* 884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org
- Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, *Administrative Assistant*884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org
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 bookkeeper@olmparish.org
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 parish@olmparish.org
- St. Patrick's Cemetery Office..... 886-5296
 parish@olmparish.org

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Mrs. Michele St. Jean (*Grades 1-5*)..... 884-1061
 reled@olmparish.org
- Mr. Douglas E. Green (*Grades 6-8*)..... 884-4410
 confirmation@olmparish.org

OFFICE OF OUTREACH

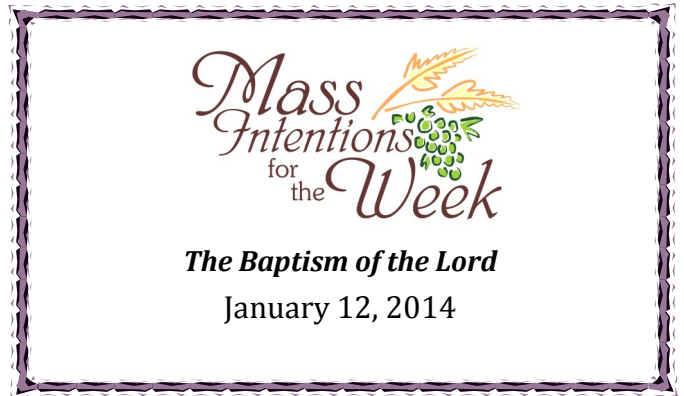
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 outreach@olmparish.org

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- Mrs. Deirdre A. Donovan.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

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 secretary@olmschool.org
- Extended Day Program 886-0742
- New Discoveries Pre-School 885-0776



SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord
 4:00 PM Eugenia & Charles McGowan—Memorial

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

The Baptism of the Lord
 7:30 AM Mildred & John Bigda—Memorial
 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 10:30AM Norman Murtha—34th Anniversary
 5:00PM Marsha DuPree—Memorial

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

Weekday, Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 7:30 AM Thomas Gates—Memorial

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Weekday
 7:30 AM Sperantino Almonte—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Weekday
 7:30AM Intentions of the MMP Rosary Cenacle

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Weekday
 7:30 AM Fred Buoro—Memorial

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

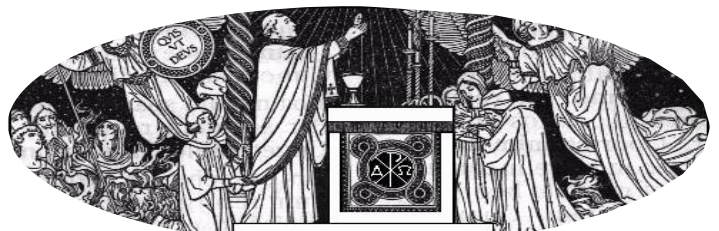
Saint Anthony, Abbot
 7:30AM George C. Jamieson—8th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

Weekday, BVM
 8:30 AM Timothy Albies—Memorial
Mass of Anticipation of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00 PM John, Louise & David Kiernan—Memorial

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Joseph Basler—Birthday Remembrance
 9:00 AM Ted Burzyk—Memorial
 10:30AM Dr. Walter Schubert—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

Take a good look around the Church this weekend at all the Christmas decorations. Make sure you make a stop by the beautiful crèche and offer a prayer or two. You see this is the last weekend of the Christmas Season and all the decorations and the crèche are to be put away for another year.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is the last celebration of the Christmas Season and next week we enter into the Season of Ordinary Time. The mystery of Christ's baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist, the Precursor, proposes the contemplation of an already adult Jesus. This mystery is infinitely linked to the Solemnities of the Lord's birth at Christmas and the Epiphany that we have just celebrated.

At Christmas we contemplated the human birth of the Word incarnate by the Virgin Mary. In the mystery of the Epiphany, we then meditated on Christ's manifestation to all nations that was represented by the Magi, the wise men from the East, who came to adore the Child.

Now, in the mystery of Christ's Baptism in the Jordan River, we again encounter and represent the truth of the Lord's incarnation and His manifestation as the Christ. Jesus' Baptism is in fact His definitive manifestation as the Messiah, the Christ to Israel, and as the Son of the Father to the entire world.

This Feast of the Baptism

serves as powerful reminder of our own calling as a Christian disciple – a call begun on the day of our own baptism. And just as Christmas is only part of the story of Jesus, the beginning of his great story, so too our baptism is the beginning of our great stories as members of God's Church.

The Baptism of the Lord calls each of us to renew our commitment to Christ, reflect on our calling as members of God's family and to ask ourselves how we are living out our baptismal promises to love God and neighbor.

Christmas is all about peace and good will and so many people do wonderful and generous things for the poor and needy. At Christmas we give gifts as signs of love and gratitude, we sing songs with joyful hearts, and our Church is full as so many gather to praise and worship the newborn King.

As we end this "most wonderful time of the year" we must ask ourselves a few questions about our faith lives. Does it take Christmas to make us live like Christians? Can we be witnesses of Christ in the ordinary times? Can we help the poor year round? Can we promote peace and good will even in the bleak and cold days of February? Can we be grateful for those who help us even beyond Christmas? Do we faithfully worship and praise God each week?

Christmas has ended and ordinary time now begins. The call our baptism wasn't a call to be a Christian once a year. Rather

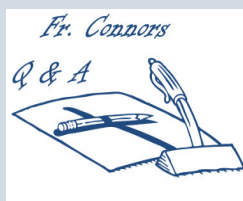
it is a call to be truly Christian in each and every day of our lives, even on the ordinary and hum drum times of our lives. We do this by loving our God and our neighbor with all our heart, our mind and our strength.

In a recent homily Pope Francis talks of the Sacrament of Baptism. He asks: *"Is Baptism, for me, a fact of the past, relegated to a date, that date which you are going to go look for today, or is it a living reality, that pertains to my present, to every moment? Do you feel strong, with the strength that Christ gave you by his death and his Resurrection? Or do you feel low, without strength? Baptism gives strength and it gives light. Do you feel enlightened, with that light that comes from Christ? Are you a man or woman of light? Or are you a dark person, without the light of Jesus? We need to take the grace of Baptism, which is a gift, and become a light for all people!"*

I offer my thanks and gratitude to the 28 new Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who so willingly volunteered to serve God and their parish in these most important parish ministries. They are to be officially commissioned for service this weekend and are to begin their ministry in the coming weeks. I ask you to please keep them in your prayers as they take up their ministry here at Our Lady of Mercy. Have a great week. God Bless. Go Pats!!!!

Father Healey

Dear Fr Connors: What do you make of Catholics who come to Mass only on Christmas and Easter?



The best answer I've heard to this question of "Christmas and Easter Catholics" is from the former Pope Benedict XVI. He explained very simply, "Well, the Church is there for them too." That is, the Church exists for everybody, wherever they are.

Obviously, we want people to come to Mass every Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation. We want people—and, really, God wants people—to live united to Him, in Him, with charity overflowing in their souls. They receive that in the Sacraments and as far as we know, nowhere else. It shouldn't be sugar-coated: missing Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is a grave sin. But, like any sin, the Church's response is simply God's mercy.

It is true that at Christmas and Easter people think again about God. They are woken up from the slumber of thinking life can be just fine without Jesus or His Church. Christmas occasions a second-look, a deeper reflection. And the Church is there for them, for everybody. Nobody, no matter how far their lives may appear from the Church, should ever feel excluded. We are a home for everybody. And to everybody who seeks God's forgiveness, the Church is there with God's mercy.

The truth is there is a little "Christmas and Easter Catholic" in all of us. Whenever we think Christ and His Church have a limited place, a section of our lives instead of the whole thing, we fall into the trap of making God useful for certain occasions but fail to give Him everything. The irony is, it is only when we give Him everything, our whole lives and hearts and minds, that we experience a freedom and joy that comes from nowhere else. That's true on Christmas, Easter and every day throughout the year.

If you have a question on the Church and Her teachings for Fr. Connors send it to associatepastor@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection 

December 29, 2013

Weekly.....\$12,596.50
Outreach.....\$217.00

January 1, 2014

Holy Day.....\$3,812.50

January 5, 2014

Weekly.....\$11,7104.00
EFT.....\$679.00
Outreach.....\$1,225.00
Annual (to date).....\$94,638.00

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 generosity!

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next Week: The Catholic University of America

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.



We offer our prayers and condolences to the families of Our Lady of Mercy Parishioners, **John McNulty, Brigitta Bliss and Stephen Moore** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated here last week.

May they rest in peace.



OLM Religious Education Schedule 2013-14

RE Grades 1—5

Sundays 10:00AM—11:00AM

RE Grades 6—8

Sundays 6:00PM—7:00PM

No RE Classes next weekend due to the MLK Holiday. All classes meet this week.

Prayer Chain



Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain. The power of prayer 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. If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!

Outreach Update

The **OLM Bereavement Group** meets Thursday, January 16th at 4:00PM in Mercy House.

The **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food. Please leave your food donations in the box in the vestibule of Church. **Please place all food donations in the large Food Box located in the vestibule of Church.**

Thank you for your generosity.

Diocese of Providence

Office of Life and Family Ministry

RESPECT FOR LIFE EVENTS in JANUARY 2014

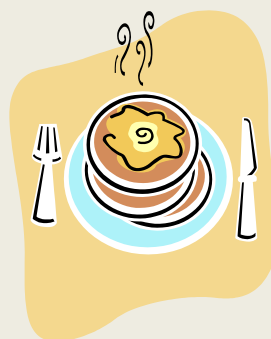
• Tuesday, January 7 through Saturday, January 25 – Come Visit with **Our Lady of Guadalupe!** – The Office of Life and Family Ministry is hosting the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe at many parishes in the Diocese of Providence January. Contact the Office of Life and Family Ministry at 401.421.7833 for more details.

• Saturday, January 18th - **Annual Mass for Life**, “An Invitation to Pray for All Human Life,” 9:00AM Mass on Saturday, January 18, 2014 at St. Paul Church, Cranston. Bishop Thomas J. Tobin is to be the celebrant and Father George Nixon is to serve as the homilist. Prior to the Mass (8:00 a.m.) we will gather at the Broad Street Abortion Clinic for the Rosary.

• Wednesday, January, 22nd – **Annual Bus Trip to the March for Life in Washington, DC**, “2014 MARCH FOR LIFE,” on the 41st Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion on Wednesday, January 22. Bus departs from Providence to DC on Tuesday, January 21st at 7:30pm For list of Pick-up locations and return trip points, please call 421.7833, ext. 218



OLM Monthly Breakfast Group



Please join us for our OLM Monthly Breakfast Gathering on Wednesday, January 29th following 7:30 Daily Mass at Cracker Barrel in Coventry. The OLM Breakfast Group meets the last Wednesday of the Month, everyone is invited and most welcome to join us. Hope to see you there!

Baptism of the Lord



The feast of the Baptism of the Lord, our commemoration of the institution of the sacrament of baptism, is the last feast of the Christmas season and is usually observed on the Sunday following January 6.

The calendar sometimes causes it to fall on a Monday, but in its usual Sunday slot, it offers an excellent opportunity for parishes to focus on baptism by using the rite of blessing and sprinkling holy water or to celebrate the sacrament during Mass, especially if this not the usual custom.

The Baptism of the Lord launches us right into winter Ordinary Time with its concentration on the earlier public life and preaching of Jesus.

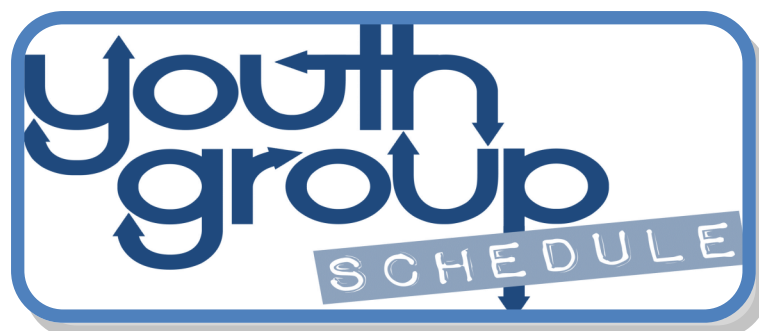


This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.



Upcoming Events

- PTG Board Meeting, Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00PM
- Catholic Schools Week begins on Sunday, January 26th-31st
- OLM School Open House on Sunday, January 26th from 11:30AM until 2:00PM
- Catholic Schools Week Mass on Friday, January 31st at 9:00AM



OLM Youth Group Bowling Night! Join us on Sunday, 19 January, 6:00 - 8:00pm at Kingstown Bowl, 6125 Post Rd, North Kingstown. We will meet and get picked up at the bowling alley. All Youth of the Parish are invited to take on Master Bowler Father Ryan "Strike King" Connors! See you there!!

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