



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 Epiphany of the Lord ✕ January 5, 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

Holiday 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





PARISH DIRECTORY

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

Mrs. Carolyn C. MacCrae, *Bookkeeper*..... 884-4968
 bookkeeper@olmparish.org

Mr. Paul E. Anderson, *Facilities Director*..... 884-4968
 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

Mr. Douglas E. Green..... 884-4410
 outreach@olmparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Jeffrey M. Allard 884-4968

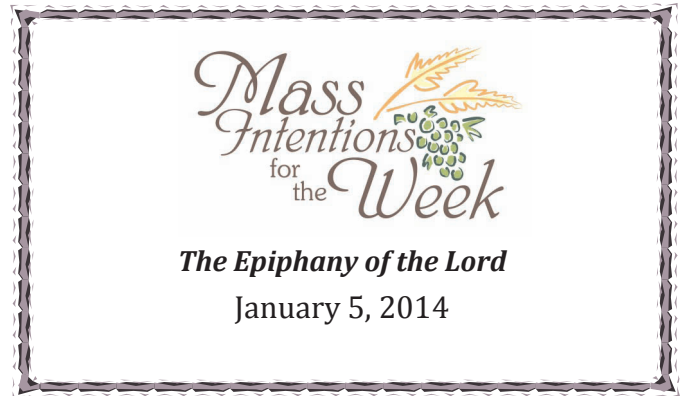
Mrs. Deirdre A. Donovan..... 884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

Main Office..... 884-1618
 secretary@olmschool.org

Extended Day Program 886-0742

New Discoveries Pre-School 885-0776



SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord
 4:00 PM Ellen Simms—4th Anniversary

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

The Epiphany of the Lord
 7:30 AM Fred Gretchen—4th Anniversary
 9:00 AM Thomas Cavanagh—Memorial
 10:30 AM Antonetta DiNapoli—Memorial
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Christmas Weekday/St. Andre Bessette, Religious
 7:30 AM Joseph Zaino & 248th Company B—Memorial

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

Christmas Weekday/St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
 7:30 AM Marie Therese Giguere—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

Christmas Weekday
 7:30AM Lillian E. "Dolly" Healey—Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Christmas Weekday
 7:30 AM Special Intention

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Christmas Weekday
 7:30AM Special Intention

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Christmas Weekday
 8:30 AM Intentions of Jonathan Casey Family
Mass of Anticipation for 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





Dear Parishioners:

We continue to bask in the light of Christmas as we celebrate the great feast of the Epiphany this weekend. The arrival of the Magi to adore and worship the Newborn King, Jesus Christ is a great solemnity in the Church. They brought expensive gifts to give the baby Jesus. And so Epiphany is an occasion of gift giving and gift receiving.

It is called "*Little Christmas*" in many cultures where on Epiphany Day not Christmas Day that the gifts are exchanged. Epiphany is an occasion for us to reflect upon the many gifts we have been given in life and how well we share those gifts with others.

In a book entitled *Forty-Two Gifts I'd Like To Give To You* the author mentions many gifts we might give each other in life. They include: the gift of good advice, the gift of being optimistic, the gift of being patient with the problems of life; the gift of doing what's right and knowing what's wrong; the gift of believing in your abilities and the gift of spreading joy around.

On Epiphany we might consider joyfully offering the Christian version of such gifts including offering a kind word to someone who is feeling down; a helping hand to someone in need; the assurance of prayers for someone who is ill or unemployed; the constancy of companionship for someone who is lonely or isolated; the gift of our time to both our family and our God; the gift of listening with

undivided attention to those we love; the gift of our silence in the face of gossip; the gift of forgiveness for someone who has hurt us and even the gift of forgetfulness of others past faults and transgressions.

These gifts along with the gift of our Catholic faith are lived out through our loving service and support for one another both the neighbor and the stranger. They flow from the ultimate gift of God's saving grace. Today we celebrate not only the Epiphany of the Three Kings but also the gift and grace made manifest among us and within us in God made Man, Jesus Christ.

Like the Three Kings I too have been travelling around searching for the star. Well, not really the star but rather the crèche below it. One night during this Christmas Season I spent a some time driving around the streets and neighborhoods of our parish. I was admiring the beautiful Christmas lights and decorations on houses both big and small. Some displays are quite spectacular!

However, in searching for the star over the stable like the Three Kings I soon discovered that noticeably absent from many houses was a crèche on the front lawn. I did see Santa and his reindeer including several versions of Rudolph but not too many Holy Families!

I know that in most homes the crèche has a place of honor near the tree or in a prominent place in the house but not so outside the home. Why is that?

Shouldn't it be front and center when we decorate our homes both inside and outside?

While pondering all this it occurred to me that we don't have a crèche outside at Our Lady of Mercy!! So I quickly ordered an outdoor nativity set from Tally's the day after Christmas! Next year It will adorn our Church property as a focal point of the season we celebrate.

Perhaps you might consider the same for your own front lawn. Wouldn't it be a beautiful site to behold on every lawn all over East Greenwich the Holy Family! Instead of Santa and reindeer we would see the sheep and shepherds, the Three Kings and even perhaps the star shining brightly above the crèche!

I am away in Rochester this weekend for the Installation of Bishop Matano as the new diocesan bishop. The bishop is a native of Providence and I had the great pleasure of living and working with him at St. Augustine Parish as a newly ordained priest. Bishop Matano had been serving as Bishop of Burlington, Vermont until this transfer.

I, along with many priests from Providence, including Bishop Evans, are making the trek to northern New York for this great celebration for Bishop Matano. I ask that you please pray for him as he begins his new episcopal ministry in the Diocese of Rochester, NY. Happy Epiphany Day! God Bless!

Father Healey

Dear Father Connors: What does the word “epiphany” mean?



The word “epiphany” means manifestation. It celebrates when Jesus is manifested—or shown—to be the Son of God. Principally, this feast, now celebrated on the second Sunday after Christmas, commemorates the visit of the Magi to worship our Lord.

Traditionally, this feast also included the Baptism of the Lord and the Wedding Feast at Cana. These three events taken together are the full manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God. Even now, the Liturgy of the Hours—the official prayer of the Church prayed by priests, religious and many lay people—makes reference to the Epiphany to the Baptism and the manifestation at Cana. All three events really point to the fact that Jesus is really God.

The visit of the Magi, most prominent in this week’s celebration, marks the arrival of the first gentiles—non-Jews—to worship Christ. They indicate the Jesus has come for everybody. He will be Savior of the whole world. In a way, the arrival of the Magi marks the beginning of the Old Evangelization you might say.

The Magi also represent all the learned of the world, the scientists, the scholars and experts in many fields. They kneel in adoration of the infant Christ. Leaving aside their personal opinions and individual schemes, they get down in the mud of the stable to worship God. Christianity turns the world upside down. A newborn baby is the teacher par excellence. An infant in swaddling clothes possess the divine wisdom—is the divine wisdom—before which we can only adore.

The epiphany is a wonderful feast because it reiterates what is so special about Christmas. The newborn Christ is God Himself. In Him, the God of Heaven has taken on a human fact. There is no need to fear Him, He has made Himself small and asks for our love. Like the Magi, we honor Him, adore Him and let Him into our life to forgive us and save us.

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

Weekly Collection

December 22, 2013

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Weekly..... | \$13,924.50 |
| EFT..... | \$871.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$508.00 |
| Christmas..... | \$27,776.00 |
| Annual (to date)..... | \$91,788.00 |

Collection results for December 29, 2013 are unavailable due to holiday print deadline.

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!



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, **Dorothy F. Mullen and Alice Kettelle** whose Masses of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.

May they rest in peace.



You can find a complete RE Schedule and Registration Forms online under Faith Formation tab at www.olmparish.org

OLM Religious Education Schedule 2013-14

RE Grades 1—5

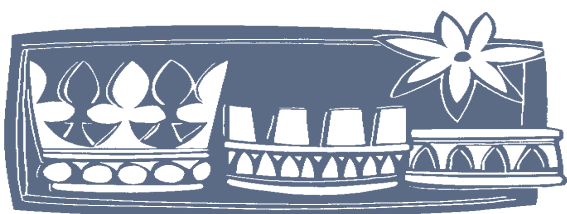
Sundays 10:00AM—11:00AM

RE Grades 6—8

Sundays 6:00PM—7:00PM

All RE Classes resume this weekend!!!

Welcome back RE Students!!



Outreach Update

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.

Thank you for your generous support of our OLM Outreach efforts at Christmas!! Your generous charity helped many families and individuals truly have a Happy Christmas!



Dear Fr. Healey & OLM Parishioners:

Thank you for your generous gift to the boys and young men of Whitmarsh House. Your gift is going directly to our young people and makes our annual Christmas Party possible. Thank you for thinking of our boys. It means a great deal for them to know that they are not forgotten. We wish you and the parish blessings for the New Year.

Brother John McHale, OLP
Executive Director of Whitmarsh House

Dear Fr. Healey & OLM CAL Basketball Teams:



Thank you for the Christmas donation of much needed equipment. Your generosity made for a great holiday for many of our children and helps our school a great deal. God bless you all.

Dr. Carrie McWilliams
Principal
Hennessy Elementary School

Dear Father Healey and Our Lady of Mercy Parishioners:

On behalf of the Office of Immigration and Refugee Service, we would like to thank you and your parishioners for adopting our refugee families that have been resettled by the Diocese this past year. That gifts that were donated by your parishioners brought Christmas and holiday spirit to 7 families from Burma, Liberia, Eritrea, Iraq and Rwanda. May you and your parish family be blessed in the New Year. Thank you once again for bringing joy to these families that call Rhode Island their new home. Merry Christmas and God Bless.

The Office of Immigration and Refugee Services
Diocese of Providence



Epiphany of the Lord



The solemnity of the Epiphany which celebrates the manifestation of God to humanity began in the Eastern Church in the third century.

Called *Theophany*, it was primarily a feast of the baptism of the Lord, but it also incorporated themes of his nativity, the visit of the magi, and the marriage feast at Cana.

The church of Rome adopted this celebration in the fourth century and focused it on the adoration of the magi since it already had a feast of the Lord's nativity in place.

In the United States, we observe the Epiphany on the Sunday between January 2 and 8, but there are places where it is celebrated as a holy day of obligation on the traditional date of January 6.



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.



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East Greenwich, Rhode Island

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