



## **PARISH DIRECTORY**

### **PARISH OFFICE**

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Father Shemek Lepak, <i>Associate Pastor</i> .....	884-4968
associatepastor@olmparish.org	
Mr. David Cote, <i>Business Manager</i> .....	884-4968
bookkeeper@olmparish.org	
Mrs. Lucy Forloney, <i>Secretary</i> .....	884-4968
parish@olmparish.org	
Mrs. Carolyn MacCrae, <i>Bookkeeper</i> .....	884-4968
bookkeeper@olmparish.org	
Mr. Paul Anderson, <i>Facilities Director</i> .....	884-4968
maintenance@olmparish.org	
St. Patrick's Cemetery Office.....	886-5296
maintenance@olmparish.org	

### **PARISH CONVENTS**

Mercy Sisters Convent.....	884-9292
Filippini Sisters Convent.....	886-4753

### **OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Mrs. Michele St. Jean ( <i>Grades 7-9</i> ).....	884-1061
confirmation@olmparish.org	
Sr. Rose Iapaola, M.P.F. ( <i>Grades 1-6</i> ).....	884-2578
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### **OFFICE OF OUTREACH**

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

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Bro. Roger Chingas, F.S.C.....	884-4968
music@olmparish.org	

### **OLM SCHOOL**

Main Office.....	884-1618
secretary@olmschool.org	
Extended Day Program.....	886-0742
New Discoveries Pre-School.....	885-0776



### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 19**

*Vigil of the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
4:00PM Frederick Gretchner—3rd Anniversary

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 20**

*The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
7:30AM The Intentions of the Fandetti Family  
9:00AM For All Parishioners  
10:30AM Monsignor Michael Dziob—Memorial

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 21—MLK HOLIDAY**

*St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr*  
8:30 AM Donald M. Fogg—22nd Anniversary

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 22**

*Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*  
7:30 AM Antoinette Mulcahy—Memorial

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23**

*Weekday/St. Vincent, Deacon & Martyr*  
7:30 AM For the Unborn

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 24**

*St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*  
7:30 AM Dewitt Clinton Auld, Jr.—Memorial

### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 25**

*The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*  
7:30 AM Intentions of the OLM Cenacle

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 26**

*Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops*  
8:30 AM Jean M. Selwyn—12th Anniversary  
*Vigil of the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
4:00 PM Michael Brown—Memorial

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 27**

*The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
7:30 AM Dorothy Beaudoin—Memorial  
9:00 AM For All Parishioners  
10:30 AM Margaret M. Healey—25th Anniversary





Dear Parishioners:

If you have been following the news you would see that the RI House of Representatives is poised to pass legislation that will redefine marriage. Testimony for and against the legislation was heard this past week by the House Judiciary Committee. It appears likely that for the first time there are enough votes to pass the bill out of committee and have the entire House of Representatives vote on the measure very soon.

Unfortunately, while Rhode Island continues to struggle with high unemployment and rising homelessness, leaders in the State House of Representatives have decided that they will focus their energy on the very divisive issue of redefining marriage and threatening religious freedom.

The Catholic definition of marriage is simple. Marriage is a partnership of one man and one woman who are joined together for their own mutual good and for the procreation and education of children. At a time when family life is under significant stress, the principled defense of marriage is an urgent necessity for the well-being of children and families, and for the common good of society.

Neither two men or two women can possibly form a marriage. Our law would be wrong if it said that they could. The basic structure of marriage as the exclusive and lasting relationship of a man and a woman, committed to a life with

the potential of having children, is given to us in human nature, and thus by nature's God.

Some have said that this bill would simply extend marriage to some people who have long been arbitrarily excluded from it. They are wrong. The pending bill would not expand the eligibility roster for marriage. *It would radically redefine what marriage is for everybody.*

It would enshrine in our law – and thus in public opinion, public policy and practice – three harmful ideas: that marriage is only a romantic-emotional union, children do not need both a mother and a father and the main purpose of marriage is adult satisfactions.

This proposed legislation will also have long term consequences because laws teach; they tell us what is socially acceptable and what is not, and most people conform to the dictates of their respective society. Therefore, those who believe that marriage can only truly exist between one man and one woman would now be treated as bigots. Thus, those who follow the dictates of their conscience and religious faith would be subject to charges of discrimination and intolerance because marriage is redefined to appease a powerful special interest group and accommodate a small percentage of our society.

There is also another important question of religious freedom. The Church engages in various ministries through our institutions and employees, and

we serve everyone who comes to us especially the poor and marginalized because that is what Christ showed us to do. However, the law redefining marriage can be used in ways that violate religious liberty.

Some claim that as long as religious ministers are not forced to preside over same sex "marriages" the principle of religious freedom is protected. This is not true. The notion that the exercise of religious freedom is confined to the interior of churches, synagogues, temples or mosques or what one does on Holy Days is incorrect.

The freedom of religion also extends to the many ministries of religious organizations and the individual conscience. So if marriage is redefined in civil law, without proper conscience protections, individuals and religious organizations – regardless of deeply held beliefs – will be compelled to treat same sex unions as the equivalent of marriage in their lives, ministries and operations.

I urge you to contact your State Representative and State Senator and ask them to defend marriage not redefine it. Call them today and email them by going to [www.faithfulcitizenri.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenri.org) and clicking the link to defend marriage. The future of marriage can only be protected if we speak up now! God Bless.

Father Healey

## The Catechism Corner

The 1979 U.S. Bishops' pastoral on racism teaches that "racism is a sin: a sin that divides the human family, blots out the image of God among specific members of that family, and violates the fundamental human dignity of those called to be children of the same Father." Though God intended that all creation live in the harmony and love that unites it as one, human beings, exercising their free will, defied the will of God and replaced the divinely planned harmony with division, the divinely willed unity with conflict, the divinely intended community with fragmentation. One form of human division, conflict and fragmentation is racism: personal, social, institutional and structural. Racism mars our identity as a people, as the human race made in the image and likeness of God. Jesus, the incarnation of the eternal Son of God, entered human history two millennia ago. When Jesus came into the world, his people, God's people, the Jewish people, were a conquered people, often despised by their foreign rulers. Jesus gave us the means to find our way back to his Father, whom he taught us to call our Father. We are again to walk in unity, as one people enjoying the variety of plants, animals and human cultures, which constitute the world redeemed by Christ. Through his preaching and healing, through the pattern of discipleship he called people to follow, through his bodily resurrection from the dead, the Lord Jesus literally embodies for us a new way of life, which conforms to the will and reign of God. Jesus transcends, challenges and transforms everything that divides the human community. He calls us back to a communion with one another, a unity, which reflects the communion of God's own Trinitarian life. Racism, whether personal, social, institutional or structural, contradicts the purpose of the incarnation of the Word of God in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Racism contradicts God's will for our salvation. We cannot claim to love God without loving our neighbor. Since racism is a failure to love our neighbor, only freedom from racism will enable us to be one with God and one another. The vision of a community dwelling in God's unconditional and universal love may sound like an impossible dream, but in God all things are possible. The radical conversion needed to overcome the sin of racism is made possible by the Holy Spirit. Sent by the risen Christ, the Holy Spirit dwells in our hearts and in our midst to empower us to live truly as God's people. By the power of the Holy Spirit acting in us, we can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. In South Africa, Blessed Pope John Paul II stated that solidarity is "the only path forward, out of the complete moral bankruptcy of racial prejudice and ethnic animosity." Learn more by **checking it out** in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* # 1928-1935



## Weekly Collection

**JANUARY 13, 2013**

Weekly.....\$13,102.58  
 Outreach.....\$246.00  
 Annual (to date).....\$78,922.00

*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

This Week: The Catholic University of America  
 Next Week: The Church in Latin America

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

## THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

Friday—6:00 PM—Parish Appreciation Dinner  
 Saturday—1:00 PM—First Communion Retreat

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



**MLK Holiday**  
**Monday, January 21**  
**Mass at 8:30 AM**

*The Parish Office is closed in observance of the holiday.*

**O**BRETHREN  
 we no man  
 anything except  
 to love one  
 another

ROM-13

## Ordinary Time



**T**he word “ordinary” in Ordinary Time does not mean “common.” It means “according to an established order.”

Recalling mathematics, an ordinal number shows the order of a unit in a given series. “Ordinal” is the root of “ordinary” in this sense.

These Sundays come one after another in numerical order, therefore they are “ordinary.”

As a matter of fact, the name in the Latin liturgical books for this period is *Tempus Ordinarium*, which does not really translate to “ordinary time” but rather to “counted time.”



*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.*

**“RALLY FOR LIFE” AT RI STATEHOUSE:** *40 Years of Legalized Abortion Remembering Roe & Doe.* Join with RI Right to Life in Rallying for Life in the Rotunda of the Rhode Island State House on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 from 3 to 4 pm. Join with thousands of pro-life Rhode Islanders and pro-life elected officials in the heart of RI State Government to rally for life. **Former Vatican Ambassador Ray Flynn, Keynote Speaker.** Come to stand up for life!!



**“Each of us has a mission, each of us is called to change the world, to work for a culture of life, a culture forged by love and respect for the dignity of each human person.”** —Pope Benedict XVI, Address in Hyde Park, London, Sept. 18, 2010



Congratulations to our Newly Baptized:

**Gavin Riley Aptt**

and his parents, Geoffrey and Jessica.

**“Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He is now called the child of God, for so indeed he is.”**  
—*The Rite of Baptism*



RE Classes Grade 9 on Mondays and Grades 7 & 8 on Tuesdays. RE Classes Grades 1-6, meet Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 4:00PM.

No Grade 9 RE Class on Monday, January 21, 2013 due to the MLK Holiday. No Grades 7 & 8 RE Class on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 as teachers are meeting. All teachers for these grades are asked to come to meeting.

Grade 9 Confirmation families are reminded that baptismal records are NOW due for those not baptized at OLM and all sponsor forms due by the end of January.

Grade 2 First Communion Retreat, Saturday, January 26, 2013. The Celebration of First Penance will take place on Saturday, February 2, 2013 at 1:00PM for the RE First Communion Class.



### **OLM School**

### **Open House and Registration**

**Sunday, January 27 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Come and see what a difference an OLM Catholic Education can make in YOUR child's life! Students, faculty, staff and current families will be on hand to give tours and answer questions about what a difference OLM has made to them. In addition to offering a competitive, challenging curriculum for students in Grades Pre K-8. OLM also offers weekly Spanish, Art, Computer, Library, Health and Music classes, and Physical Education twice a week. We have busing to area towns, before- and- after-school care and multiple extracurricular activities like Mock Trial, Drama, Band, CAL Sports, including our State Champion Cross Country Team (Boys), and Robotics, as well as our five-time State Champion Science Olympiad Team. Please visit [www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org) or call the OLM School office at 884-1618 for further information!



*Father Healey & Father Shemek  
Extend a cordial invitation  
to all staff and volunteers of  
Our Lady of Mercy Church and School*

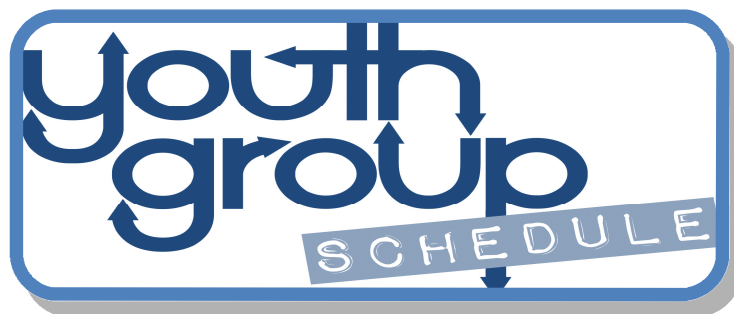
*to an Appreciation Dinner  
On Friday, January 25, 2013*

*at Quidnessett Country Club  
North Kingstown*

*Cocktails 6:00PM Dinner 7:00PM*

*Entertainment & Dancing*

*RSVP by January 22nd at 12:00PM  
at 884-4968*



***Youth Group Save the Date!***

**Youth Group Skating Trip, Sunday, January 27th,** We will leave OLM right after 10:30 Mass for Providence and have lunch at the Providence Place Food Court and walk to the Bank of America Skating Center. RSVP on the Facebook page or email [bcroteau@olmschool.org](mailto:bcroteau@olmschool.org) if you plan to attend. **We are in need of parent drivers.** Please bring money for lunch and admission(\$6) and skate rental(\$4). **Save the Date!** Plan on joining us on **Saturday, March 2nd** as the OLM Youth Group and Altar Servers will be taking a trip to Pat's Peak in NH for skiing and tubing. More information to follow.