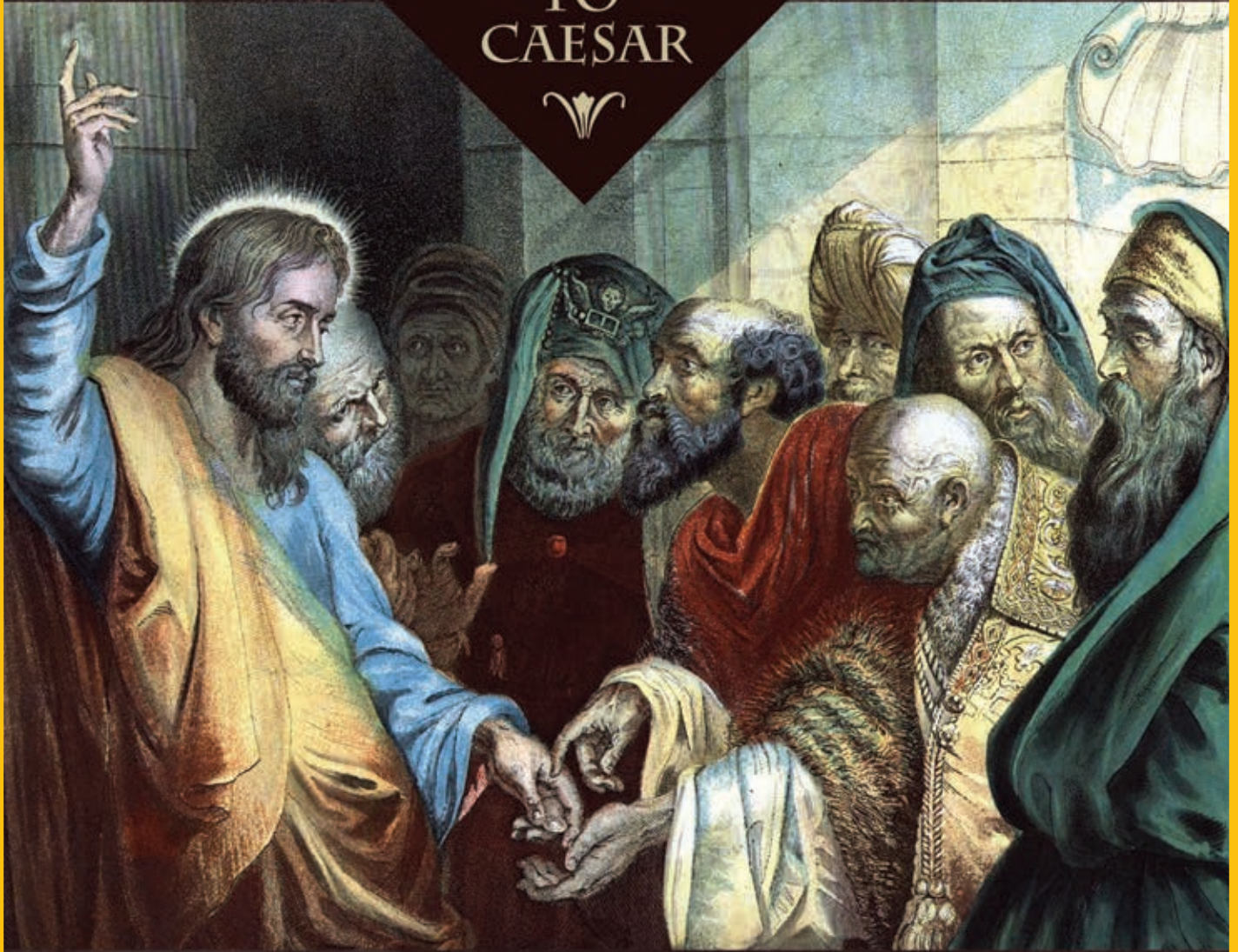


“REPAY TO
CAESAR WHAT
BELONGS
TO
CAESAR



AND TO
GOD WHAT
BELONGS
TO GOD.”

MATTHEW 22:21



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- Father Joshua A. Barrow, *Associate Pastor*.....884-4968
 associate@olmparish.org
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- Mr. Paul E. Anderson, *Facilities Director*.....884-4968
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- St. Patrick's Cemetery Office.....886-5296
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- Mrs. Bethany Verret, *Office Manager & Admissions Coordinator*
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- Little Saints & Scholars Program.....886-0742



**THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 OCTOBER 18, 2020**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Mass of Anticipation for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00PM Jeanne Scott—2nd Anniversary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 10:30AM Andrew Rockett—2nd Anniversary

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Saints John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, Priests & Companion Martyrs
 7:30AM John Gardner—Memorial

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Weekday; St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
 7:30AM Louis Forsys—1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Weekday
 7:30AM Vivian Ross—5th Anniversary

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Weekday; St. John Paul II, Pope
 7:30AM Florentina de Leon—35th Anniversary

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

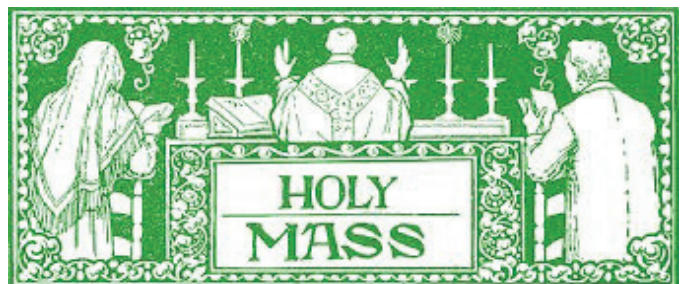
Weekday; St. John of Capistrano, Priest
 7:30AM Thomas Granahan—23rd Anniversary

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Weekday; St. Anthony Marie Claret, Bishop; BVM
 8:30AM Ada Pyun—11th Anniversary
Mass of Anticipation for 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00PM Special Intention

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy
 9:00AM Willaim Stafford, Sr. —Memorial
 10:30AM Ann O'Brien—Month's Mind
 5:00PM Confirmation Mass (live-stream only)





Dear Parishioners:

A parishioner recently told me he was tuning out all the politics that dominate the news, the mail, and even our phones. He is frustrated with the television and radio ads, the campaign pamphlets, literature in the mail and on the front porch, and the seemingly endless news coverage of all things political.

In many ways, I share his frustration with the political process with its infinite advertising. However, we should not grow too cynical, or worse, apathetic about politics. Pope Francis reminds us that "*a good Christian actively participates in politics and prays that politicians may love their people and serve them with humility.*"

The fundamental key to our participation in the political process is prayer. We must pray for our nation, state, and town as we approach the upcoming election. We should also pray for all candidates, regardless of their party or even if we do not support them.

Consider praying the following prayer over the next weeks as we approach Election Day on November 3, 2020:

"Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to understand better the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit, and poverty.

We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.

We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. Amen."

If we begin with prayer, we can then start to form a conscience. It takes time to develop our consciences to make well-reasoned judgments about particular, real-life situations. The Church teaches that it is crucial to work continually on conscience formation to be prepared to make decisions whenever the opportunity arises. This is especially true as we face decisions about which candidates we cast our vote on Election Day. The bishops teach:

"Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere 'feeling' about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil."

As you consider your vote on election day, please pray and form your conscience with the teachings of Christ and His Church on the crucial issues of our day: the sanctity of all human life especially the unborn,

the dignity of the human person, the common good and solidarity, matters of peace and justice, the care of the poor, the immigrant, the sick, the dying and the elderly, religious freedom and liberty, children and education, healthcare and the environment.

Next, seek to learn the position of each candidate on the fundamental issues of life, dignity and liberty. Then pray to vote as a Catholic Citizen, not a partisan party member. Pray. Inform. Educate. Vote. The Catholic Way to the voting booth!

With joy we announce that Parishioner Steven Valliere, an OLM Lector, is being ordained a Permanent Deacon next Saturday. Pray for him and the other men who are to be ordained by Bishop Tobin for service in our Diocese. We congratulate Steven and offer him our prayerful support. May God grant him a faithful and fruitful diaconal ministry.

Next Sunday at 5 pm, we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation as 70 young adults from OLM receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We welcome Bishop Matano of Rochester, NY, to OLM, for the Confirmation Mass. Pray for these candidates, may they grow in faith, hope, and charity!

Stay safe. Be Well. Do Good! God Bless. Go Pats!!!! Join us at Devotions on Monday with guest preacher, Dominican Fr. Jordan Zajac, OP!

Ask Father

Does an Embryo have a Soul?

Part of the abortion debate revolves around the question of ensoulment. Ensoulment is the time or process when the soul and body come together to form a human being. Hence, the question of when ensoulment occurs is a pivotal part of the abortion debate.

Some pro-choice proponents argue that ensoulment occurs several months after conception based on the writings of some famous church theologians. In 2008 on Meet the Press, when asked about the timing of ensoulment, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi stated: "I would say that as an ardent, practicing Catholic, this is an issue that I have studied for a long time. And what I know is, over the centuries, the doctors of the Church have not been able to make that definition. St. Augustine said at three months. We don't know." Likewise, one of Catholicism foremost theologians, St. Thomas Aquinas argued that ensoulment occurred around forty days after conception. Regardless of some of her theologians, Church teaching has consistently upheld that life is to be protected from the moment of conception. So what are we to make of these claims about some of our greatest minds?

St. Thomas Aquinas, in particular, argued for delayed ensoulment on the basis of the inaccurate biology of his time. Importantly, the Magisterium holds Thomas in high regard. While Thomas's biology is no longer tenable today, his philosophical and metaphysical principles are still applicable. Thinkers today claim that if St. Thomas had our current advanced understanding of human conception, then he would argue that ensoulment occurs right at conception. Some argue that Thomas's philosophy commits him to delayed ensoulment, but this too is not the case.

We see this clearly when we understand that for St. Thomas, in order for a living being to develop, it must have a principle of development. Just like a car needs fuel to run, and the fuel is the principle of motion, likewise a living being needs a principle which allows it to run and mature. We call this principle of motion of a living being the soul. Generally speaking there are three types of souls distinguished by their proper activities: vegetative, sensitive, and rational. Importantly, a living being can only have one type of soul/principle and souls do not develop/evolve from one to the other (gasoline can run a car, but it cannot change itself and power an animal). Hence in order for a human embryo to develop to a mature human person, it must already have a rational (i.e. human) soul. You can't give what you don't have after all. Hence for St. Thomas we can say that ensoulment occurs right at conception.

Weekly Collection

October 11, 2020

Weekly.....\$6,632.00
 EFT.....\$3,777.00
Total=\$10,409.00

Outreach.....\$565.00
 Annual Collection (to date).....\$89,634 .00
 Seminarian Education Fund.....\$1,433.00

Weekly for last year on October 13, 2019

Weekly.....\$15,041.00



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



OLM 2020 PARISH GOAL=\$200,000
PLEGGED TO DATE=\$128,926
DONORS TO DATE=284

OLM 2019 PARISH GOAL=\$200,000

OLM 2019 FINAL=\$210,028

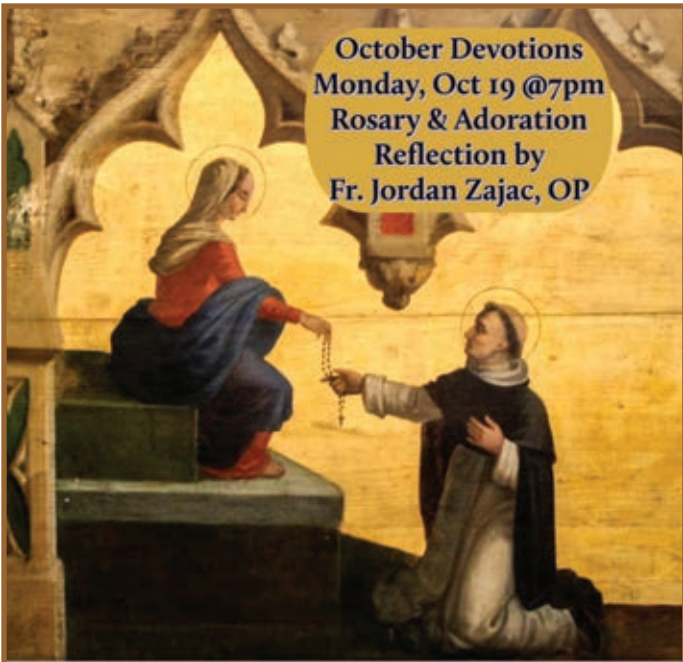
OLM 2019 DONORS TOTAL=484

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING YOUR PLEDGE TODAY ONLINE AT
<https://dioceseofprovidence.org/cca>



In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of whose **Gregory Doyle and Carol Aiello** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated last week.





October Devotions
 Monday, Oct 19 @7pm
 Rosary & Adoration
 Reflection by
 Fr. Jordan Zajac, OP

Come,
 Pray +
 the Rosary



Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

Upcoming School Events

- **Monday, October 19:** School Confessions for Grades 6C, 6K & 7F
- **Tuesday, October 20:** Class Mass for only Grades 3 & 4 at 9:00 am (no livestream)
- **Thursday, October 22:** Colorthon

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• **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated non-perishable foods and paper goods in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. *Thank you for your support!*

• If you are in need of food, rental or financial assistance please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green by phone at 401-884-4410 (leave a message if not in) or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



**CONFESSION
 MONDAY, OCT 19 @6PM
 WITH
 2 DOMINICAN FRIARS**

WITH GRATITUDE TO ALMIGHTY GOD
THE CHURCH OF THE
DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE
JOYFULLY ANNOUNCES THE ORDINATION OF

MR. BRIAN B. CALLAHAN
MR. JOSEPH J. CLOSSICK
MR. JOSEPH J. DAY
MR. JASON A. GARDNER
MR. DAVID E. GILLIS
MR. ALEXANDER J. MARCHETTI
MR. JOHN M. REGAN
MR. OSCAR M. RIVAS
MR. STEVEN R. VALLIERE

TO THE
SACRED ORDER OF DEACONS

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
THE 24TH OF OCTOBER 2020
TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

THE CATHEDRAL OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL
Providence, Rhode Island

*Due to health and safety requirements, this celebration is
not open to the public and admittance requires a ticket.*

*Please follow the celebration via live stream at:
www.youtube.com*

"Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence, RI"



Congratulations
To
The
Newly Baptized

Paul Joseph Lupien
and his parents, Paul and Marissa

Archer Dean Pauley,
and his mother, Elizabeth.

"Dear brothers and sisters: these children, reborn through Baptism, are now called children of God, for so indeed they are. Through Confirmation they will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, they will share at the table of his Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church."—The Rite of Baptism

Pray
for
Vocations



Respect,
protect, love
and serve life,
every human life!

The Gospel of Life, 5

Religious Education
NEWS

The Celebration of Confirmation at OLM

Confirmation Mass Rehearsal

Thursday, October 22nd at 6pm
Candidate & Sponsor must attend

Confirmation Mass

Sunday, October 25th at 5PM (Live-Streamed)
Bishop Salvatore R. Matano
Bishop of Rochester, NY
Confirming Prelate

Only candidates, sponsors & parents may attend

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