



BE VIGILANT AT ALL TIMES.

LUKE 21:36



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Father Bernard A. Healey, *Pastor*.....884-4968
 pastor@olmparish.org

Father Daniel M. Mahoney, *Associate Pastor*....884-4968
 associatepastor@olmparish.org

Mr. David E. Cote, *Business Manager*.....884-4968
 business@olmschool.org

Mrs. Sandra A. Demers, *Admin. Assistant*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org

Mr. Paul E. Anderson, *Facilities Director*.....884-4968
 parish@olmparish.org

St. Patrick's Cemetery Office.....886-5296
 parish@olmparish.org

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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, *Director*.....884-4410
 outreach@olmparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY & CHOIR

Mr. Henri M. St. Louis, *Music Director*.....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

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 pmcnabb@olmschool.org

Main Office.....884-1618

Mr. David Cote, *School Business Manager*.....884-1618
 business@olmschool.org

Mrs. Bethany Verret, *Office Manager & Admissions Coordinator*
 office@olmschool.org.....884-1618

Mass Intentions
 for the Week
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**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 NOVEMBER 28, 2021**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

The Mass of Anticipation for First Sunday of Advent
 4:00PM Teresa M. Romano—Memorial

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

The First Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Teresa M. Romano—Memorial

9:00AM Dr. Jeremiah O'Connell—22nd Anniversary

10:30AM John T. Cole—3rd Anniversary

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Advent Weekday

7:30AM Jeannette Carreau—1st Anniversary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

St Andrew, Apostle

7:30AM Mary E. Healey—42nd Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Advent Weekday

7:30AM Neal J. Armstrong—Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Advent Weekday

7:30AM Thomas Chisholm—Birthday Remembrance

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

St. Francis Xavier Priest

7:30AM Emily Devlin—64th Anniversary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Advent Weekday; St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:30AM Special Intention

Mass of Anticipation for Second Sunday of Advent

4:00PM Special Intention

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM Fr. Stanley T. Nakowicz—10th Anniversary

9:00AM Peter & Gloria Monti—Memorial

10:30AM Dr. Stephen Burns—Memorial

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy





Dear Parishioners:

I hope you had a joyful Thanksgiving with family and friends. This Thanksgiving was especially joyous as I traveled to my sister's home in Saratoga, New York. Since the pandemic, we have not gathered together for Thanksgiving Day.

In fact, due to the pandemic last Thanksgiving, I ate alone in the Rectory, albeit with a nice Thanksgiving meal accompanied by a glass of fine wine and a good cigar afterward. So this year was a true blessing to eat Thanksgiving Dinner with my family once again!

And to add to the blessings, our own Father Mahoney cooked a Thanksgiving Dinner for the Rectory, so we've plenty of leftovers for turkey sandwiches, soup, and hash!

As we gathered together at the Thanksgiving Table, we thanked God for the many blessings and bounty bestowed upon us. The blessings of family and friends, the blessings of being able to gather together, and the blessings of bountiful good food!

In these turbulent times in our World, it is easy to forget the many blessings we enjoy and instead focus upon "what's wrong with the world."

The London Times once sent out an inquiry to famous authors, asking the question, "What's wrong with the world today?" The great British Catholic writer G.K. Chesterton responded succinctly: "Dear Sir, I am. Yours, G.K. Chesterton."

Chesterton would follow with his remarkably perceptive book *What's Wrong with the World*, in which he suggests: "In the modern World we are

primarily confronted with the extraordinary spectacle of people turning to new ideals because they have not tried the old. Men have not got tired of Christianity; they have never found enough Christianity to get rid of. Men have never wearied of political justice; they have wearied of waiting for it."

As Christians, we must never give in to weariness and despair. Despair is the idea that even God cannot save us from looming disaster. We must be a people of hope and joy, not doom and gloom! And so as we begin this Sunday the great season of hope, Advent, we rejoice!

"Advent," says Pope Francis, "*is a journey toward the horizon of hope. It does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God. A hope that does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful!*"

As we begin the holy season of Advent and the Church's new year, we start in the hope of the Lord. Saint Thomas Aquinas taught the motive of hope is God's infinite power. We can hope because we believe that "*for God all things are possible.*"

The virtue of hope is not a warm feeling, a sunny mood, or a habit of optimism. As the great Catholic French novelist Georges Bernanos once wrote, optimism has nothing to do with hope. Optimism is often foolish and naïve. It is a preference to see good where the evidence is undeniably bad.

Bernanos called optimism a "*sly form of selfishness, a method of isolating oneself from the unhappiness of others.*" Hope

is very different. It's a choice to trust in God. "*The highest form of hope,*" Bernanos said, "*is despair, overcome.*"

The hope of Advent is not to hope that Jesus will come back into the World at Christmas. Jesus did come into the World two thousand years ago—God-made-man, Word made flesh, in Bethlehem. This is a historical fact. Hope is rooted in history, but hope is also about our present and our future.

"*To come to know God—the true God—means to receive hope,*" Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI taught in his encyclical *Spe Salvi*. Hope knows the Lord, believing in his promises, and trusting that he loves us, transforms us, and sanctifies us.

Advent calls us to renew such hope. It is a season in the Church's life intended to renew the experience of waiting, hoping and longing, for the Messiah. During Advent, we must enter more frequently into silence, prayer and reflection, Scripture, and the sacramental life of the Church, especially at Mass and Confession. These practices prepare us properly and prayerfully for celebrating Christmas.

Prepare the way of Advent! Overcome despair with hope in Jesus Christ. Our Messiah is coming! Make a good Confession, come to Mass and pray at Adoration! Renew hope and live the Catholic Faith! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless. Go Pats!!!!

Father Healey

*Congratulations
To
The
Newly Baptized*



Rory James Maher
and his parents, James and Lauren

Gwynn Nancy McDevitt,
And her parents, Brendan and Caitlin

Serafina Pascalena Orabona,
And her parents, Frank and Amanda.

“Dear brothers and sisters: these children have been reborn through Baptism, and 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 Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church.” — The Rite of Baptism

Weekly Collection

Weekly Collection results are unavailable due to the Thanksgiving Print Deadline.



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

Second Collections

Next Week: Building & Grounds Collection

First Friday Adoration

**Friday,
December 3, 2021**

*"In the Mass and in Eucharistic Adoration, we meet the merciful love of God that passes through the Heart of Jesus Christ."
-St. Pope John Paul II*

**Exposition of the Eucharist
following 7:30 am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration All-Afternoon
Benediction at 6:00 pm**

Adorers are needed, sign up online.

**Pray
for
Vocations**



The Light is ON for You.
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation



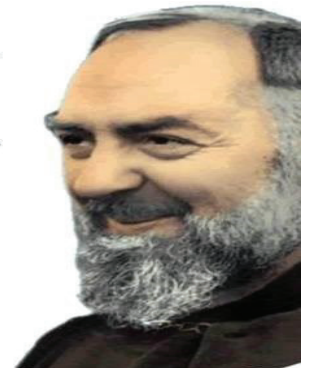
CONFESSIONS AT OLM

Mondays—6:00PM—6:45PM

Saturdays—3:00PM—3:45PM

"Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."

- Saint Padre Pio





Religious Education
NEWS

RE Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 28:

5:00PM Mass ONLY, No Class due to Thanksgiving

Sunday, December 5:

5:00PM Mass & Class, Grades 3,4,5,6 and 7

Sunday, December 12:

5:00PM Mass & Class, Confirmation 2022-Grade 8

Sunday, December 19:

5:00PM Mass & Class: First Communion and Grade 1

Both Parents & Students must attend Mass & Class.




Outreach
Update

•**OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **NON-EXPIRED AND non-perishable food items only and paper goods** in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. **Please do not leave medical supplies.**

Thank you for your support!

•**OLM Bereavement Group:** Next Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 2 at 4:00PM in Mercy House.** All those who are grieving are invited to join with us.

•For information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or email at outreach@olmparish.org



Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

Calendar of Events

•**Monday, November 29:** OLM School Board Meeting at 7pm in School Library

•**Tuesday, November 30:** Weekly School Mass at 8:15am

•**Thursday, December 2:** Beloved Middle School Girls Group meets at 2:30pm

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OLM Prayer Chain

Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain. The power of pray 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 or email directly at 2hart@cox.net. **If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!**

The power of prayer at work!

1st Sunday of Advent



Today is the First Sunday of Advent, the first day of the new liturgical year.

Advent, which always begins on the Sunday closest to November 30, dates back to the fourth century.

It is a four-week period of devout and joyful preparation for the celebration of Christmas and for Christ's second coming at the end of time.

Early in Advent, the liturgy focuses our attention on the second coming. After December 16, it shifts our attention to the events surrounding the nativity.



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.



Children's Christmas Bazaar

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Come support young artists + entrepreneurs and shop for Christmas! There will be gifts included, but not limited to soaps, holiday centerpieces, dog treats, stationary, ornaments, and cupcakes + cookies!

When: December 4th

Where: OLM Parish in Mercy Parish

Time: 1:30 - 3:30

Enjoy complimentary coffee and hot chocolate and enjoy some music while you stroll. 15% of proceeds go to the Mercy House.



PREPARE
A WAY FOR THE LORD
LUKE 3:4

OLM Young Family Group Night of Christmas Caroling



Friday, December 3rd
Gathering at 6:30 PM at OLM Church
Caroling Around the Neighborhood
All Families are Welcome to Join!

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Dear Parishioner... Is there a restaurant on the bulletin you like? Is there a home improvement project you've been putting off? Have you been thinking about finding a new doctor? Have you been thinking about selling your house? Do you need answers to a few legal questions? Is there a tree in your yard that needs attention? Everyone has answered YES to one if not all of these questions. Before you begin looking for anything, check if the goods/services you need are offered by a bulletin advertiser in the Finding Faber™ app. You may find a promotion or coupon & be able to **Support** our advertisers AND **Save**!



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