



©IPPC

**IF YOU WISH,
YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN.**

MARK 1:40



PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

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

Father Joshua A. Barrow, *Associate Pastor*.....884-4968
 associate@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

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

MUSIC MINISTRY & CHOIRS

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

Mrs. Shirley Medici, *Youth Choir Directress*....884-4968
 musicministry@olmparish.org

OLM SCHOOL

Mr. Patrick H. McNabb, *School Principal*

Main Office.....884-1618

Mr. David Cote, *Business Manager*

business@olmschool.org.....884-1618

Mrs. Bethany Verret, *Office Manager & Admissions Coordinator*

office@olmschool.org.....884-1618

Little Saints & Scholars Program.....886-0742



THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 14, 2021

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Mass of Anticipation for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM Frank DiChiara—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM Ray Greene—Memorial
 10:30AM Anne M. Kelly—10th Anniversary

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15—PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY

Weekday
 8:30AM Special Intention

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Weekday
 7:30AM Luisa Vitiello—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Deborah O'Connell—7th Anniversary
 12:05PM Edward A. Costa—Month's Mind
 7:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Thursday after Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Mike Sinotte—Memorial
 12:05 Fr. Edward J. McGovern—Memorial

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Friday after Ash Wednesday
 7:30AM Stella Bednar—Memorial
 12:05PM Mary M. Barrow—Memorial

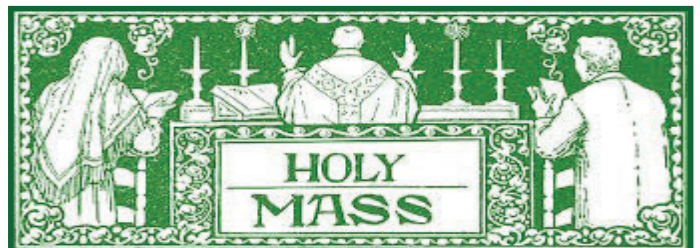
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Saturday after Ash Wednesday
 8:30AM Eraclio Iacobucci—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for First Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Joanne Friday—Birthday Remembrance

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

The First Sunday of Lent
 7:30 AM Dalia Pundys—9th Anniversary
 9:00AM Dorothy Ianacone—2nd Anniversary
 10:30AM Ray Pendergast—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

This Wednesday, we begin the holy and penitential season of Lent. It is a season designed to help us remember our life's mission as a follower of Christ, and recommit to serving the Lord. We begin the solemn fast and commit with fervor and zeal to pray, fast, and give alms.

On Ash Wednesday, there are three Masses: 7:30am, 12:05pm, and 7:00 pm. Confessions on Ash Wednesday with two priests are available from 11:45 am until Noon and 6:00 pm until 6:45 pm. It is February Vacation Week, so there is no OLM School Mass on Ash Wednesday.

The Vatican has mandated a modified method for distributing ashes for this year: sprinkling them on the top of people's heads rather than using them to make a cross on people's foreheads. This change is to protect both the priest and the people from spreading COVID.

The mandate directs priests to bless the ashes with holy water at the altar and then address the entire congregation with words from the Roman Missal. These words are usually said when marking an individual's forehead with ashes: "Repent and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust and to dust, you shall return."

The sprinkling of ashes on individual heads then takes place without any words said to each person. The sprinkling of ashes on the top of people's heads is not something new but is an ancient and customary practice at the Vatican and many other countries.

While we receive ashes

differently this year, the message of Lent remains the same. They are a sign of penance and remind us that we are dust, and we shall return to dust. It is a stark reminder that our life in this world is transitory, and we must always prepare with lives of holiness and faith for eternal life. Indeed we are to be judged by God, so we must: "*Repent and believe the Gospel.*"

For forty days, we take up penance asking the Lord for forgiveness for our sins so that we might celebrate Easter with joy and receive the Eucharist more worthily. St John Henry Newman wrote: "*At Christmas, we are born again with Christ in baptism; at Easter, we keep the Eucharistic Feast. In Lent, by penance, we join the two great sacraments together.*"

To have a fruitful Lent, we should examine our hearts and consciences and be honest about the places in our lives where sinfulness abounds. We should then confess them sacramentally and offer penances and sacrifices, mortifications and fasts, to be free of those sins. We must turn to Christ with humility and honestly seek God's mercy in Confession.

In Lent, we remember that we will face divine judgment one day and that nothing in this life is worth losing eternal happiness and total union with God. As penance, we give up some of our lives' comforts so that our comforts and pleasures won't lead us into sin.

St. John Henry Newman suggested that during Lent, we should also pray for one another. He believed that intercessory prayer was a fundamental

obligation of all Christians, especially during Lent. He kept long lists of people to pray for and committed to asking the Lord for specific things for each one of them.

The lesson of Lent is simple: we will be judged someday, and thus we should act accordingly. We should confess our sins more frequently during these forty days, do more penance, and convert more fully to Christ. We give up some comforts and take up acts of charity so that our comfortable lives don't distract us from following Christ, or lead us into sin. We spend time praying for other people, asking the Lord to grace them in real and particular ways.

In Lent, we have two daily Masses, Stations of the Cross every Friday, Confessions daily, and outside Confessors on Mondays. There is also a Lenten Parish Mission with the Dominican Friars of St. Pius.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen reminds us: "*Never forget that there are only two philosophies to rule your life: the one of the cross, which starts with the fast and ends with the feast. The other of Satan, which starts with the feast and ends with the headache.*" So take up the Cross this Lent with faith, hope, and charity. Pray, fast, and give alms!

Stay safe. Be well. Do good. God Bless. Make a holy and fruitful Lent!



The Distribution of Ashes

This year, due to Covid restrictions the Vatican issued guidelines on the distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. Dioceses throughout the United States traditionally distribute Ashes on the foreheads of the faithful in the shape of a cross. The visibility of the ashes symbolizes the communal aspect of this penitential day. This year the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments asked priests to sprinkle ashes on the top of people’s heads. This practice is not unique to this year. In Italy and at the Vatican ashes on Ash Wednesday are traditionally distributed by sprinkling them on the head of the faithful.

The reason for this practice may be for two reasons. First, sprinkling the ashes on the tops of our heads recalls our Baptism. During the Rite of Baptism, after the pouring of the water, the priest makes the sign of the Cross on the top of the head of the baptized with Sacred Chrism. Baptism configures the baptized to Christ’s death and resurrection. Hence in the Rite we speak of Baptism as a death to one’s old way of life. Sprinkling the Ashes on the top of the head recalls the reality of our Baptism. We are to die to the old life of sin and rise again to the life of grace. Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday, reminds us of this truth.

Second, sprinkling the ashes on the top of the head originates in the Old Testament. In the Book of Nehemiah we find reference to the practice: “On the twenty-fourth day of this month, the Israelites gathered together while fasting and wearing sackcloth, their heads covered with dust” (Nehemiah 9:1). This links us with the Old Testament where we find penitential acts symbolized by ashes there as well.

There are two other levels of meaning to the ashes. They symbolize repentance of sin, and intercessory prayer on behalf of others. We read in Job 42:6: “Therefore, I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.” In 1 Maccabees 3:47 we read: “They fasted that day, put on sackcloth and sprinkled ashes on their heads.” Finally in Daniel 9:3 we read: “I turned to the Lord God, to seek help, in prayer and petition, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.”

So ashes on Ash Wednesday are an ancient sign of remembering our mortality, repenting of sin, and interceding for others. It begins the Season of Lent whereby we unite our intense time of prayer to a period of fasting and supplication to God, drawing closer to God by detaching ourselves from the pleasures of this world. Lent is the time for us to come back to God. Whether sprinkled on our heads or traced on our foreheads the meaning remains the same.



Weekly Collection

February 7, 2021

Weekly.....	\$9,875.00
EFT.....	\$3,679.00
	Total=\$13,554.00
Outreach.....	\$812.00
Building & Grounds Collection.....	\$2,164.00

February 9, 2020

Weekly.....\$12,862.00

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



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

2020 Financial Contribution Statements



Contributions made to OLM from January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020 have been mailed via the U.S. Postal System. If you have questions about your statement or did not receive one, please contact the OLM Parish Office at 884-4968 or directly by email to parish@olmparish.org. Please note that contributions made to the Parish outside the budget envelope system will not be reflected in these statements, nor will any Mass stipends, gifts or memorial contributions. Also, gifts and pledges to the Catholic Charity Appeal and the Grateful For God's Providence Capital Campaign are not recorded by the Parish; the Diocesan Office mails statements of contributions to donors. **We are grateful for your continued generosity and support of our parish especially during the COVID Crisis.**

**Presidents’ Day Holiday
Monday, February 15, 2021**



Mass at 8:30AM

The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.



**DAY of
FASTING
and ABSTINENCE**

Lenten Fast and Abstinence Regulations

Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Also, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting: those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts.



**CRS RICE
BOWL**
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES



**What You Give
Up For Lent
Changes Lives**

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give



Lent 2021
at
**Our Lady
of Mercy Church**

65 Third Street,
East Greenwich, RI

Ash Wednesday • February 17, 2021

Masses with the distribution of ashes
7:30AM, 12:05PM (*live streamed*) and 7:00PM
Confession: 11:45AM - 12:00PM & 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests

Daily Masses during Lent

Monday - Friday, 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions during Lent

Monday - Friday 11:45AM - 12:00PM
Mondays 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests
Saturdays 3:00PM - 3:45PM

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00PM

Lenten Mission

Sunday, March 7 - Wednesday, March 10 (*live streamed*)
"Living for the Other Side"
Father James Mary Sullivan, O.P. & Father Justin Mary Bolger, O.P.
Dominican Friars of St. Pius V Church, Providence
Mission Preachers

Lenten Special Events at Our Lady of Mercy

SOLEMN SAINT PATRICK DAY MASS

Wednesday, March 17 • 12:05PM (*live streamed*)

The Most Reverend Robert J. McManus,
Bishop of Worcester, Celebrant & Homilist

Irish Music, Readings in the Irish Language,
Mass and Homily in English

SOLEMN SAINT JOSEPH DAY MASS

Friday, March 19 • 12:05PM (*live streamed*)

The Most Reverend Robert C. Evans,
Auxiliary Bishop of Providence, Celebrant
The Reverend Monsignor Anthony Mancini,
Rector of the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul, Homilist

Mass celebrated in Italian with Italian Hymns • Homily in English.

ALL DAY CONFESSIONS

Saturday, March, 27 • 9:00AM – 3:00PM
Four or More Priests Available for Confessions

www.olmparish.org • 401-884-4968



First Communion & Confirmation Program Family Mass & Class

• **Sunday, February 21st:** Confirmation Class Mass at 5:00PM followed by Class: **“Vice, Virtue & Conscience”**. Mass & Class is open only to the members of the OLM Confirmation Class & their families.

• **Sunday, February 28th:** First Communion Class Mass at 5:00PM followed by Class: **“How To Go To Confession”**. Mass & Class is only open to the members of the OLM First Communion Class & their families.

First Confession for First Communion Class

Saturday, March 6th at 1:00PM: Students A—L

Saturday, March 20th at 1:00PM: Students M—Z

Guest Confessors will be available at First Confessions for parents and family members.



• **OLM Food Pantry** is continually in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable foods only 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!

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

How Will Ashes Be Distributed?

Ash Wednesday



*You are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*
GENESIS 3:19

The Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments of the Holy See in Rome has issued the following COVID-19 protocols for the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Blessed Ashes are to be blessed and distributed as follows:

1. The priest says the prayer for the blessing of ashes from the ritual found in the Roman Missal and sprinkles the ashes with Holy Water.
2. Then, the priest addresses the whole congregation and only once says the formula, applying it to all in general: *“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return or Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”*
3. The priest then sanitizes his hands, puts on a face mask, **and distributes the ashes by sprinkling them on top of the head of each one without saying anything.** Without any physical contact between priest and recipient and without saying anything directly in front of each person, this method assures the health of both priest and parishioners.



Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

• **February 15-19:** Winter break begins. No school for the week! Enjoy & stay healthy!

Discover the OLM Advantage at
www.olmschool.org

Prepare For



**BASLER
CHIROPRACTIC**
Dr. Steven M. Basler
Dr. Kathy L. Basler
885-0260



MOSJ Painting
Residential Interior &
Exterior Painting
Decks & Power Washing
Serving East Greenwich &
Surrounding Towns
Registered (42328)
Fully Insured
Mr. Malcolm Vakalis, O.P.
401-219-6019

Listening to you
is where we start
every visit.

Accepting new patients
401-286-9992



**OAK
STREET
HEALTH**

Doctors for
Adults on Medicare



Estate Planning Services
Sheri L. Montecalvo, Esq.
Wills | Trusts | Probate | Medicaid Planning
Free Consultation



275 West Natick Rd., Suite 500, Warwick, RI 02886
401-471-6034
www.EstatePlanningwithSheri.com

Vero Industries

**BUYING - GOLD, SILVER & OTHER PRECIOUS METALS
OLD, BROKEN, NEW!**

Silverware, Jewelry, Serving Trays, Tea/Coffee Sets
or Pieces, Watches, Half Earring Pieces, Etc.
Buyer & Seller of individual coins and collections

Call Lee at 401.434.8900

Evening appointments available at our location or yours



EAST PROVIDENCE - WARWICK



**RE/MAX
FLAGSHIP**



Mike and Lee Mita

OLM Parents 2020, '21, '24, '29



www.RIHomesList.com

Mike: 401-632-7638

Lee: 401-447-3860

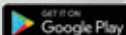
IT'S HERE!

introducing



Finding **FABER**

Connecting sponsors
and the community
in realtime!



Oil change while you wait
Premier brake & alignment specialists
"Friendliest place in town"

5601 Post Rd., East Greenwich • 398-8222

Mallory's Army Foundation
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...
Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com

(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:

Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

Message and data rates may apply.



Commercial Rates are at an **All Time Low**. Contact us today to get a free analysis to see if we can help **Save you money** with your monthly payments on your commercial property. Multi-Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condos. Can close in as little as 45 days! Four season customer service is our top priority.

www.duqfunding.com

1650 Market Street - Suite 3600
Philadelphia, PA 19103

What's My Name?

The **#WHATSMYNAME** Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

**In Remembrance of
Samantha Josephson**



401-885-6811

594 Main St., East Greenwich
Tues-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-5pm
Sun/Mon Closed



Since 1967 **884-8798**
Chef-a-Roni
 Fancy Foods
 Featuring regional specialties from Italy, Germany, Great Britain & Scandinavia for over a quarter century.
 2832 S. County Trail, E. Greenwich

ELOQUENCE
 FINE JEWELRY & GIFTS
 5849 Post Rd. E. Greenwich
 401-885-9141
 36 S. County Commons
 S. Kingstown, RI
 401-284-3333

William J. Riley
PLUMBING & HEATING
 www.rileyplumbing.com
401.738.1688


 ELEGANT EVENTS OVERLOOKING
 NARRAGANSETT BAY
 Banquet Sales • 401-884-1100

THORPE'S
WINES & SPIRITS
 Your Full Service
Liquor Store
 609 Main Street • E. Greenwich


Preschool & Child Care Center
 Where every child is made to feel valued & successful
401-885-PLAY (7529)
 6 Weeks to 5 Years
 Full Day & Half Day • Summer Programs
 www.playgroundprep.com

Wesson Construction
 ADDITIONS • REMODELING Inc.
 CUSTOM CABINETS
 Rick Wesson, Lic. #17503
 225 Middle Road • E. Greenwich, RI
401-884-0970

401-398-8020
DACEY Insurance Agency
 Home • Auto • Business • Life Insurance
Michael Dacey
 631 Main St., East Greenwich, RI 02818
 mike@daceyinsurance.com
 www.daceyinsurance.com

LITTLE RED HEN
 NURSERY, PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN
 AGES 3-6 • 67 YRS OF EXCELLENCE
 www.LittleRedHenSchool.com
 Jane Ann Conway, Director
401-884-5486
 358 OLD FORGE RD.
 EAST GREENWICH, RI


OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL
 ESTABLISHED 1907
DISCOVER THE OLM ADVANTAGE
CATHOLIC • Co-ED
GRADES PRE-K THRU 8
ALL DAY PRE-K & K
 Before & After School Care • Busing
 Parish Tuition Assistance Available
401.884.1618
 www.olmschool.org


Scalabrini Villa
 Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
 ON NARRAGANSETT BAY
 Short Term Care & Rehabilitation Services
 Long Term Care
 Secured Memory Loss Unit
 Hospice Care
 860 North Quiddesett Road
 North Kingstown, RI 02852
 Tel: (401) 884-1802
 Diane Gladu, LPN, Admissions Coordinator


The Seasons
 EAST GREENWICH
 An assisted living residence
 Developed by the Scandinavian Home and Steere House Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
 5 Saint Elizabeth Way • East Greenwich, RI 02818
401.884.9099 • Fax 401.884-7439
 www.theseasons.org • A CareLink Partner

DISCOVER THE OLM ADVANTAGE
CATHOLIC • Co-ED
GRADES PRE-K THRU 8
ALL DAY PRE-K & K
 Before & After School Care • Busing
 Parish Tuition Assistance Available
401.884.1618
 www.olmschool.org

CESARIO PAVING COMPANY
 Asphalt Driveways, Parking Areas, Sidewalks, Seal Coating, Cement & Landscape Construction, Excavating, Loam Delivery, Snow Plowing & Sanding
 Jim Cesario, Owner, RI Reg. 4541 • Est. 1950
739-4372
 91 DEERFIELD DR., WARWICK, RI

To all those essential workers keeping us safe,
 Thank you your service is invaluable & appreciated.
 JOHN PATRICK publishing company, inc.

THE ORIGINAL
Watson Mulch
 1500 S. COUNTY TRAIL, ROUTE 2
 EAST GREENWICH, RI
 401-885-0600
 WWW.WATSONMULCH.COM
 PAVERS • NATURAL STONE • BARK MULCH • COBBLESTONE • DECORATIVE STONE
 RETAINING WALLS • SCREENED LOAM • STONE VEN EER • BLUESTONE FLAGGING

Rosaries From Flowers
 "Handmade from the Flowers of your Loved One"

 841 MAIN STREET
 TEWKSBURY, MA 01876
 www.rosariesfromflowers.com
 (978) 851-9103
 Mention this ad and receive a free key-chain with your order


FINN AUTO BODY, LLC
 Complete Collision Service • Painting
 Fred Marsocci • 401-821-4500
 405 Washington Street, Coventry, RI

Fish & Chips Fridays 4pm to 8pm

WALT'S ROAST BEEF
 6660 Post Rd., North Kingtown Call ahead 884-9719

COURTESY OF JOHN PONTE FAMILY
GRATEFUL MEMBERS OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

Thank you your service is invaluable & appreciated.
 JOHN PATRICK publishing company, inc.

DR. ROBERT E. MILLER • DR. STEPHANIE SCHULTZ
COMPLETE FAMILY EYE CARE
 CONTACT LENSES • QUALITY EYEWEAR
 (401) 884-6066
 Fellow American Academy of Optometry
 5393 POST RD • EAST GREENWICH, RI

catholicmatch
 Rhode Island

 CatholicMatch.com/dateRI


Saint Elizabeth Home
 • Short Term Rehab
 • Long Term Care
 • Alzheimer's Disease
 Special Care
 One Saint Elizabeth Way
 East Greenwich, RI 02818
401-471-6060
 www.stelizabethcommunity.org


American Red Cross
 Make a Difference in Your Community
VOLUNTEER
 with the American Red Cross
 Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

HILL FUNERAL HOME
 Michael E. Caparco, 1928-2017
 Betsy M. Caparco Harris, Director
 Deborah A. Caparco Runshe
 David A. Ucci, Jr.
 401-884-9222

DISTINCTIVE WINDOW DESIGNS
 HunterDouglas
 Don Altieri - Usher/St. Mary's
 444 Budlong Rd., Cranston, RI
 461-0990
 Featuring full lines of Window Shading, Window Treatments, Shutters, Draperies, Valences, Bedspreads & Curtains.
NOW CARRYING SUNSETTER AWNINGS

BRENTWOOD NURSING HOME

 4000 Post Road, Warwick, RI • (401) 884-8020