



Jesus Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

He is Truly Risen!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Wishing you all a most Blessed and

Holy Easter!

Alleluia!



Mass Intentions for the Week

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EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD MARCH 31, 2024

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Easter Vigil

7:30PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
 9:00AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish
 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 1

Monday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Lillian Dolly Healey—37th Anniversary

EASTER TUESDAY, APRIL 2

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Kevin F. Healey—Birthday Remembrance

EASTER WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Mariakutty Peter—Memorial

EASTER THURSDAY, APRIL 4

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM Michael Krieger—Memorial

EASTER FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Friday within the Octave of Easter

7:30AM All Souls in Purgatory—Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

8:30AM George Bonaski—Memorial
Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM Teo-Thomas Cahir—Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

The Second Sunday of Easter

7:30AM The Deceased Members of the Sciola Family-Mem
 9:00AM Chip Barger—Memorial
 10:30AM Elizabeth Callagahn—Memorial
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish





Dear Parishioners:

Happy Easter! Alleluia, He has Risen! Today, we celebrate the center and core of our Christian faith, the Resurrection! For our faith is a Resurrection Faith. We rejoice today, for the Risen Christ, having conquered sin and death, remains with us across the ages.

The Lord's Easter gift to the Church and the world is the gift of hope. Because the Risen Christ remains with us personally and collectively, we never face life's challenges alone. Christian hope teaches us that we are destined for eternal life, and hope is meant to sustain us in the concrete realities we face each day.

As we celebrate this Easter, no truth is more relevant than hope built on Christian faith. St. John Paul II said: *"Yes, Christ is truly risen, and we are witnesses of this. We proclaim this witness to the world so that our joy will reach countless other hearts, kindling in them the light of the hope which does not disappoint."*

Our society and world are deeply divided in many ways. Our politics and populations are polarized. There is war and growing violence across the globe. There is no room for debate, listening, persuading, and being persuaded to a good compromise. The language of true tolerance has been replaced by hardened ideologies. It is into these deep divisions that the Easter message must be spoken anew.

So now is the time to help the world see even more clearly Christ's passion, death, and Resurrection as the most profound expression of

unfathomable love and mercy. This love and mercy must be proclaimed despite the war, destruction, sin, apathy, and tensions in the Church and the world.

Christ's victory and continued presence shine in our lives through the Church, the sacraments, and the witness of God's people. Signs of that continued witness are visible in those we welcome into the Church at the Easter Vigil, as we do this Easter at OLM.

Today, on Easter Sunday, Christians desperately need to proclaim the cross and live in Easter hope. This hope exposes the lies of the world and is stronger than conflict or worldly ambition for power and status. It invites and welcomes all who seek the peace that only true discipleship can bring, living in conformity to God's will rather than our own. It is a true new beginning.

Pope Francis memorably taught in his Easter homily last year, *"It is always possible to begin anew because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us despite all our failures. From the rubble of our hearts — and each one of us knows the rubble of our hearts — God can create a work of art; from the ruined remnants of our humanity, God can prepare a new history. He never ceases to go ahead of us: in the cross of suffering, desolation, and death, and in the glory of a life that rises again, a history that changes, a hope that is reborn."*

The empty tomb of Jesus was a sign of God's victory over hatred, violence, death, and everything that diminishes the human person and community.

"Amor vincit omnia": love overcomes everything. That is an authentic love overcomes, a self-sacrificing love, not a self-indulgent love.

As we celebrate Easter, our call is to be people of faith, hope, and love. To be people who let the light of the Easter Candle burn brightly within us so that others may share in the joyful truth of the Easter message. *"We are an Easter People, and Alleluia is our song!"*

Such Easter hope is not found in an ideal, an ideology, or philosophy but in an encounter with a person, the Risen Christ. The Christ who went to a place where no one else would willingly go for us. The Christ who then emerged from a place where no one else has ever - the grave!

As Pope Francis said: *"He who rolled away the stone that sealed the entrance of the tomb can also remove the stones in our hearts. He did not abandon us; He visited us and entered into our situations of pain, anguish, and death. His light dispelled the darkness of the tomb: He wants that light to penetrate even into the darkest corners of our lives today."*

Fr. Mahoney, Fr. Connors, and I wish you a Holy and Happy Easter! May the Easter Season be a grace-filled time for you and your families. *"Alleluia, He has risen as He said, Alleluia! Alleluia!"* Be well. Do good. God Bless.

Father Healey

Easter

ON EASTER Sunday, we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. On this day, the disciples saw the empty tomb, and the Risen Christ began to appear to them. Easter celebrates our belief in life after death. It ranks first among the feasts of the church.

The Easter Sunday Mass differs a bit from others. The new Paschal candle is lighted and stands near the ambo. Having omitted the Glory to God throughout the season of Lent, we sing it again. The Easter sequence is said or sung after the Second Reading. During Lent, we sang a different acclamation before the Gospel, but now we again sing "Alleluia." In the United States, the Creed may be replaced with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and the sprinkling of holy water on this day.

There are small changes to the Eucharistic Prayer. If you are alert, you will hear during the Preface that Christ became our paschal sacrifice "on this day." If the priest is using Eucharistic Prayer I, he announces that this is the day of the Resurrection of the Lord and that the community prays especially for those newly baptized at the Easter Vigil.

At the end of the Mass, the deacon or priest adds two "alleluias" to the words of dismissal, and you respond, "Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia."

Attendance is strong on Easter, as all those who profess faith in Christ join together in a single celebration. Many worshipers like to dress up for the occasion. The main Easter liturgy is the Easter Vigil on Saturday night, and all Catholics should make every effort to participate in it. But Easter Sunday remains a popular choice for affirming one's faith in the Risen Christ.

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Written by Paul Turner.


Alleluia
Alleluia Alleluia

Weekly Collection

Due to the Easter Bulletin Print Deadline last week's Collection results are unavailable.



Leave a Legacy of Faith for the next Generation! Remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.

Second Collections

**This Week: The Easter Collection
Next Week: Building & Grounds**



A STATE OF HOPE

2024 Catholic Charity Appeal

OLM Parish Goal=\$190,000
Pledged to date=\$156,013
Number of pledges to date=287
Average gift=\$543

2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

OLM Parish Goal=\$190,000
Total Raised=\$277,255
Total Number of Pledges=480
Average Gift=\$578



First Communion Class Schedule

Saturday, April 7 : Class following 9am Mass

Confirmation Class Schedule

Sunday, April 21: Class following 5pm Mass

For any questions and more information please contact Mr. Jeremy Long, Director of First Communion & Confirmation at 884-4968 or faithformation@olmparish.org or Miss Julia Anthon, Directress of Faith Formation, at 884-4968 or faithformationdir@olmparish.org



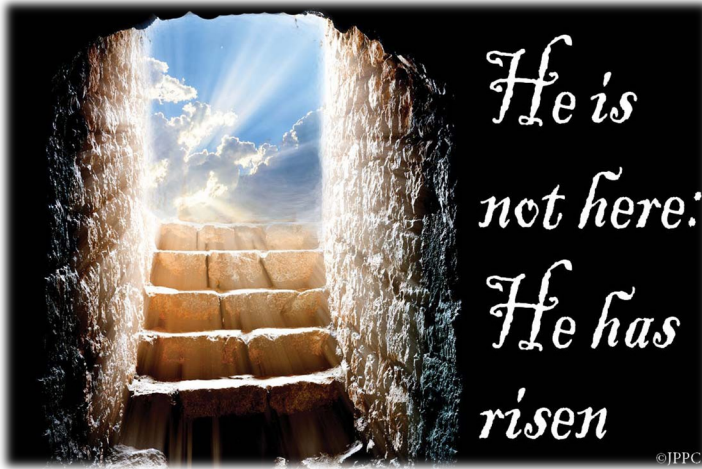
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School Weekly Calendar

- **Monday, April 1:** No School on Easter Monday
- **Friday, April 5:** First Friday Mass at 9:00am

www.olmschool.org

Discover the OLM Advantage!



• **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated items in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. All food items should be unexpired and non-perishable. We also are in need of paper goods (paper towels, napkins). Thank you for your support.

• **OLM Bereavement Group:** Our next meeting is on **Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 4:00pm in Mercy House.** All those adults experiencing sorrow, grief or loneliness are most welcome to attend for prayer and discussion.

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



Easter Octave

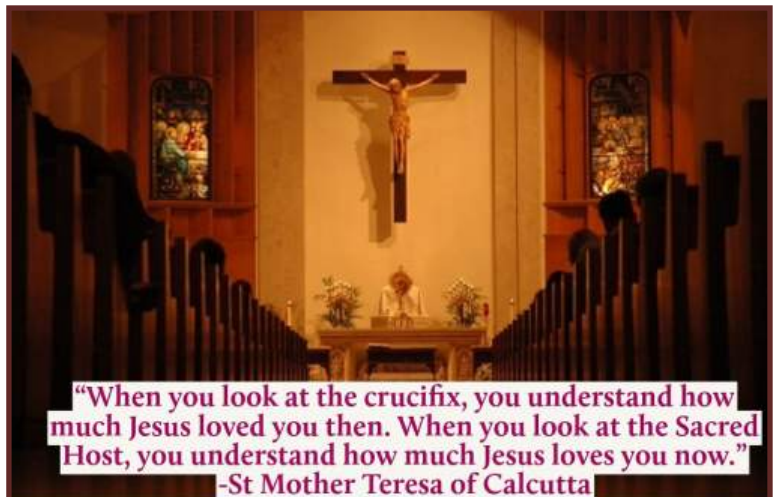
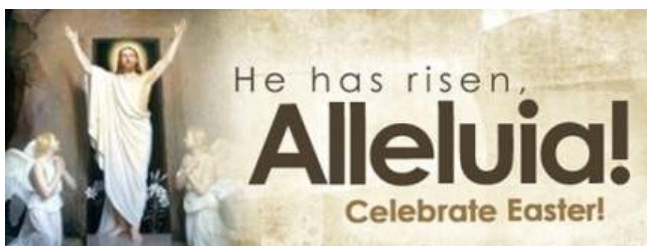
EASTER DAY is eight days long. Easter reigns as the most important feast in the liturgical year. One single day cannot contain it. One entire week cannot contain it. We celebrate Easter for a week and a day. The period is called the Octave of Easter.

Weekday Masses are celebrated “as Solemnities of the Lord” (*Universal Norms on the Liturgy Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 24). The only difference is that the Creed is not recited and there is no Second Reading. We include the Glory to God in the Introductory Rites. The Easter Sequence may follow the Responsorial Psalm. Each Gospel tells one story of how the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples. Whenever the priest chooses the first Easter Preface or Eucharistic Prayer I, he includes words and phrases that call the weekday “Easter day.” The dismissal dialogue at the end of the Mass concludes with two alleluias. The liturgy treats each weekday of the octave as if it were Easter Sunday all over again.

In the early days of the Church, those who were baptized at Easter participated at the cathedral Eucharist every day for a week. Their joy was so full that they kept coming back for more. During this period, the bishop offered them daily catechesis on the sacraments of the church during his homily at the Masses of the Easter Octave.

The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* does not explicitly encourage the newly baptized to participate in the Eucharist during the Easter Octave, but the prayers at Mass still presume that they are there. The Mass prayers assigned to the priest this week make frequent references to these neophytes. The Easter Octave is a sign of the Church’s joy. Christ is risen, and we repeat the good news again and again—eight days a week.

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First Friday Adoration

Friday, April 5, 2024
Exposition following 12:00pm
Adoration All-Afternoon
Benediction at 6:00PM
Adorers are needed. Sign up online

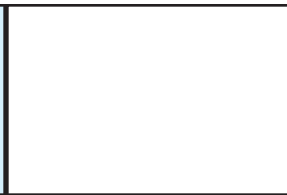


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