

MY GOD, MY GOD,
WHY HAVE YOU
FORSAKEN ME?

MATTHEW 27:46

Mass Intentions

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The OLM Parish Priests are offering private Mass daily for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church. In particular, we remember this week these intentions:

Monday of Holy Week, April 6

The Honorable Edward P Sowa, Jr—Memorial

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 7

Beatrice Alfano—Birthday Remembrance

Father Jack F. Heaney—Memorial

Spv Wednesday of Holy Week, April 8

Robert F. Armstrong—Birthday Remembrance

Dorothy M. Ruggiero—Memorial

Holy Thursday, April 9

The Deceased Bishops & Priests of the Diocese of Providence

Holy Saturday, April 11

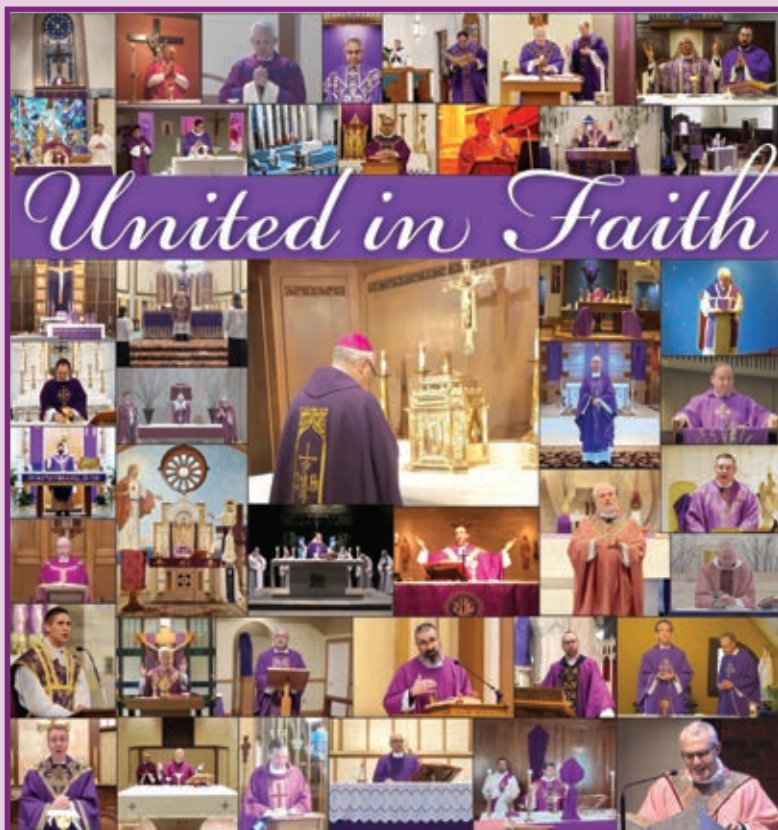
The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

Easter Sunday, April 12

The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

**No Mass can be celebrated on Good Friday*

Watch Mass at OLM online!



Facebook Page

To Watch streaming of Mass Go to:
www.facebook.com/OLMparishEG/

YouTube Channel

In addition to Facebook Live, the parish streams on YouTube.

*Join us daily for streamed Mass.
Celebrate Holy Week online this week!*





Dear Parishioners:

We continue to live a new way of life as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. We don't socialize the way we once did, instead we now text, call, email or Zoom! Zoom is a way for many people to talk live together online. It is being used by our OLM School Faculty for the new way we teach school children now with distance learning.

We don't shop the way we once did as now we keep "social distance" and those over 60 have special hours. We don't drive the way we once did as now we only go out for the basics and watch New Yorkers being pulled over and told to quarantine.

The government has now deemed many businesses and activities as non-essential. The list of essential and critical businesses seems to be a reflection perhaps of what our society truly values. Among the critical businesses are gun shops, liquor stores, and marijuana centers. They along with hospitals, grocery stores, and pharmacies are essential to surviving the pandemic!

Sadly missing from the list of essentials is the worship of God. Yes, the Church wishes to comply with public safety concerns and seeks not to spread the virus. Prayer, however, is essential! Thus OLM Church is open every day for private prayer. Confessions are still heard so sinners might be forgiven!

This certainly is not an irresponsible act of defiance but rather because we know God is truly essential and quite critical in these days despite what any

elected official or government bureaucrat decides!

Daily, the priests of OLM offer Mass for you and your intentions. Daily, the good sisters of OLM pray before the Eucharistic Lord for your well being, and for an end to this pandemic. Daily, individuals make their way into OLM to kneel before God and offer prayers. This is critical and essential and must continue!

On this Palm Sunday we begin the holiest week of the year. It is perhaps the strangest of Holy Weeks any of us may ever experience. The glorious and solemn ceremonies of the Triduum now to be celebrated with simplicity in empty churches. The RCIA candidates are not be baptized and confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

A strange Holy Week lay ahead of us! However, it does not mean we must not celebrate it with prayerfulness and holiness even if from a distance. The Holy Week Services at OLM are available online so that all our parishioners can, and should, participate from home.

We must prepare for this Holy Week by ensuring we set aside the proper time and space in our homes to watch and pray together. While we are not physically together in the same building, we are truly united as the Body of Christ in faith, hope and love. So mark your calendar for Holy Week, and take the time needed to prayerfully enter into the great mysteries of our faith.

In many ways this Holy Week each one of us is on retreat in a monastery, albeit one with all the comforts of home! While it is comfortable for us we must strive all the more to make it

more prayerful and holy!

It has been said that the contemplative life of the monastery is the highest form of life that a Christian may live. For in responding to God's call to holiness, a contemplative monk or nun fulfills an important role in the Church: they visibly witness by a life of prayer and contemplation to the absolute priority of God. It is often called "*the angelic life*," because the contemplation of God continues in heaven and throughout all eternity. The life of the monastery is already a foretaste of what is to come as we contemplate our great and loving God.

This Holy Week make your home a monastery for contemplation and prayer. Turn off the computer and cell phone. Disconnect from the worldly distractions! Prayerfully enter into the contemplation of the mysteries of the Sacred Triduum. On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter; stop to contemplate in prayer and worship the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

St. Benedict said the monastery is "*the family of love*." Make your home that monastery this Holy Week, worship with us online, and pray for an increase of faith, hope and love in our world. Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God. For it isn't only right and just it is truly essential! Be well. Do Good! Stay safe. God Bless. *Oremus pro invicem!*

Father Healey



How to attend Mass Online

The Catholic faithful in the Diocese of Providence and throughout many dioceses of the United States have been a couple of weeks without public Mass. As a result, many parishes have begun livestreaming Masses and devotions. While the Mass has been broadcast for several decades, this was done in tandem with the public celebration of Mass. Today, for just about every Catholic, the only way he or she can participate in the Mass is through streaming services. How are the faithful to watch and attend streamed or videoed Mass?

We can use the following principle to determine how we should act when watching Mass: Our actions should mimic, as much as possible, the actions we would normally perform if we were physically present at the Mass in the church. When the Mass is on; we should follow the gestures and the responses. We should avoid any other activities, whether eating, drinking, talking with family members, texting, messaging and so on. One may text or message before or after the Mass, but such acts during the Mass distract. If one has access to a missalette or the scripture readings, these should be used to help focus one's attention.

How we act dictates how we think, and our physical posture will impact our psychological and spiritual thoughts. We need to resist the urge to simply "watch" the Mass as spectators. Even while physically present in a church during Mass such a temptation rears its head. Now, from the comfort of our living rooms with our televisions, computers and cell phones, such a temptation becomes extremely difficult to avoid. If we watch the Mass the same way we watch the news, then there is a problem. Instead of being an act of worship, such an act is mere curiosity or spectacle.

The Church has always lauded the ability of technology to serve as an evangelizing tool. 'In a world like this, media can help us to feel closer to one another, creating a sense of unity of the human family which can in turn inspire solidarity and serious efforts to ensure a more dignified life for all' Pope Francis, Message for the 48th World Communication Day, Jan. 24, 2014. Yet, it is so easy for our good habits formed through repetitive worship of God at Sunday Mass to decay during these times of separation.

While streaming and videoing the Masses help us to worship God and reconnect with other Catholics it is no substitution for public Mass. May we direct our prayers to an end to this crisis and a return to the public celebration of Mass.



March 29, 2020

Weekly.....	\$7,080.00
EFT.....	\$1,758.00
	Total=\$8,838.00
Outreach.....	\$205.00

Monthly Totals

March 2020

Total Weekly Collection=	\$45,032.00
Total Outreach Collection=	\$3,599.00

March 2019

Total Weekly Collection=	\$55,735.00
Total Outreach Collection=	\$3,738.00

We ask that you please mail your budget envelopes to OLM or place them in the depository located in the Church vestibule. We urge you to contribute online at the Parish Giving link located at www.olmparish.org

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

We now have online giving!

Please consider making a one time or recurring gift by clicking the Parish Giving link on the OLM Webpage. Help sustain our parish through these difficult times – please consider making your Sunday Offertory through online Parish Giving. Online giving is FAST, EASY and SECURE! Please visit our webpage today.

Thanks for your support.



Holy Week Schedule



Join us for Holy Week ONLINE

Monday of Holy Week, April 6

Mass at 7:30am

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 7

Mass at 7:30am

Spy Wednesday of Holy Week, April 8

Mass at 7:30am

Meditation on the Seven Last Words of Christ
with Sacred Music at 7:00pm

Holy Thursday, April 9

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm

Good Friday, April 10

Stations of the Cross at 12:00PM

Liturgy of the Lords Passion at 7:00PM

Holy Saturday, April 11

Easter Vigil at 7:00PM

Easter Sunday, April 12

Easter Mass Livestreamed at 9:00am

All Holy Week Services can be viewed by going to the
OLM Facebook or OLM YouTube online.



Stay Informed at OLM!

Flocknote

Flocknote is an email and texting app for quick and easy communication. Go to OLMparish.flocknote.com or text "OLMParish" to 84576.

Twitter

Fr. Healey is on Twitter. Follow him for the latest news and articles @FatherHealey. Follow him today!

Instagram

Check out activities and photos by going to: www.instagram.com/olmparisheg/



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

PRAY for the SICK

Please pray for the sick & those that care for them



OLM Church Opening Hours **For Holy Week 2020**

Monday of Holy Week

8:00AM–7:00PM

Tuesday & Wednesday of Holy Week

8:00AM–6:00PM

Holy Thursday

7:00AM–4:00PM

Good Friday

12:00PM–6:00PM

Holy Saturday

12:00PM–6:00PM

Easter Sunday

10:30AM–6:00PM

*New Hours allow for Private Mass, Church cleaning & decorating for Holy Week.

Church Open for Private Prayer Only. Please maintain social distance (6 feet). Thank You.



• **OLM Food Pantry** is in **urgent need** of food and paper goods for many members of our 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

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

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Year A



The proclamation of the Passion is central to the liturgy on this final Sunday of Lent.

Because this is an A year in the three-year cycle of Sunday readings, the Passion according to Matthew is read.

Lent ends on the afternoon of Holy Thursday. The season known as Triduum begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on that evening.

Triduum is celebrated as a unit which is why the Mass of the Lord's Supper and the liturgy for Good Friday have no concluding rites. The final blessing does not occur until the end of Mass at the Easter Vigil.



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.

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What's My Name?

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#WHATSMYNAME

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