



Blessed are
those who
have not seen
and have

believed

JOHN 20:29



Mass Intentions for the Week

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 7, 2024

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Mass of Anticipation for the 2nd Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM Teo-Thomas Cahir—Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

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

EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 8

The Annunciation of the Lord
 7:30AM John & Joyce Shanley—Memorial

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Marie Franzone—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Mary Proia—9th Anniversary

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr
 7:30AM Robert F. Armstrong—Birthday Remembrance

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Easter Weekday
 7:30AM Father George Behan—Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Easter Weekday; St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr
 8:30AM Margaret D. Carr—Memorial
Mass of Anticipation for the 3rd Sunday of Easter
 5:00PM Ann Gail Shahinian & Maria Dichario-Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

The Third Sunday of Easter
 7:30AM Evelyn & Michael Simon
 9:00AM Christian Cole Franzone—Memorial
 10:30AM John & Michael McNulty—10th Anniversary
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish





Dear Parishioners:

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad," the Psalmist sings on Easter Sunday. And indeed, in this Easter Season, we continue "to rejoice and be glad!" For there is much good news of great rejoicing at OLM.

At the Easter Vigil, we celebrated the Light of Christ, defeating the darkness of sin and death. We rejoiced in the waters of new life as five people were baptized and received into the Church. And so we rightly rejoice with and for them, as they enter the Church and take up the Catholic Faith. Please pray that their Faith grows and bears fruit as they celebrate their rebirth in Christ this Easter Season.

We rejoice, too, at our celebration of Holy Week. It was a solemn celebration of Faith as we recalled our Lord and Savior's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Of course, such glorious liturgical celebrations require many people's hard work and dedication. We rightly thank all those who helped to prepare and make Holy Week and Easter so special at OLM.

We thank Paul Anderson and our dedicated maintenance crew for their tireless cleaning, preparing, setting up, and taking down everything involved in Holy Week. The Church and grounds were cleaned and ready to properly celebrate the mysteries of our Faith.

We also thank our good Franciscan Sisters, led by Sister Lourdes and her band of sacristans. Their humble devotion and faithful dedication to ensuring everything is pressed, polished, cleaned, and

ready for Holy Week Liturgies deserve our deep gratitude.

The decorators deserve our praise and thanks for making the Church beautiful for all the liturgies. The beauty of Easter with all the flowers and plants that decorate our Church results from their hard work and devotion. We thank them for all they do.

The music for Holy Week, Easter, and all of Lent was magnificent. We must thank our Music Director, Henri St. Louis, our soloist, Christiana Caprarelli, and our OLM Choir for the beautiful music that always lifts us to God. As St. Augustine said: *"When we sing, we pray twice!"* All these talented people helped us pray twice, and we are grateful.

We thank all our Lectors for joyfully proclaiming God's Word and our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for helping us with the large crowds at Easter Masses. We are grateful to those Ministers who brought Communion to our many shut-ins. Our ushers did a superb job ensuring everyone could find a seat, as the crowds on Easter Sunday were thankfully very large!

And finally, we thank our many OLM Altar Servers for their exemplary service. They dutifully and reverently served God at his Sacred Altar with great devotion and dedication. We must also thank our Master of Ceremonies, Erik Carlson, Seminarian David Del Bonis, and Luke Simms, who returned from university, for their faithful service during Holy Week and Easter.

On behalf of Father Mahoney, Father Connors, and

myself, we thank you, OLM's good and faithful parishioners, for your steadfast devotion during Lent and Holy Week. Your witness to the Faith is truly heartening and encouraging.

We also thank the many parishioners who were so generous to us at Easter. Your well wishes, gifts, and delicious goodies are deeply appreciated, and we thank you. Your support of our priestly ministry calls us to "rejoice and be glad!"

In an Easter op-ed in the Wall Street Journal, *"Why Pews Are Packed on Easter Sunday,"* Timothy Cardinal Dolan, the Archbishop of New York, wrote:

"As in a gathering of kin, congregating with one's spiritual family—people with whom one has a deep instant connection—is liberating and fulfilling. There are very few social gatherings where ordinary people can enter and not sense critical eyes sizing them up, assessing their status, and guessing their motives. There are even fewer where every participant sings, recites creeds, and listens to ancient wisdom in a spirit of humility and love.

At its best, Christian worship is such a setting. And when Christians worship at their best, their wandering brothers and sisters tend to come home."

We worshiped and prayed at our best during this Holy Week at OLM, so we rightly rejoice and are glad. Blessings for a Happy Easter Season! Be well. Do good. God Bless.

Victimæ Paschali Laudes

JUST BEFORE the Gospel at Easter Sunday Mass, we sing the Sequence, *Victimæ Paschali Laudes*. The title means “praises to the paschal victim.”

A sequence is a poem set to music and sung during the Liturgy of the Word to ornament the celebration of a given liturgical day. During the Middle Ages, many sequences were composed for specific annual occasions. Only a few remain for public worship today.

The Sequence for Easter tells of the Resurrection. It opens by commanding Christians to sing “praises to the paschal victim.” Paradoxes abound: A lamb redeems sheep. The innocent Christ reconciles guilty sinners to the Father. Death and life are locked in battle, but the Living One rules over death.

The text then shifts to a dialogue with Mary Magdalene. “Tell us, Mary. What did you see along the way?” She responds that she saw the tomb, the glory of the one rising from the dead, angelic witnesses, and the burial cloths. She concludes, “Christ my hope has risen! He is going ahead of his own into Galilee!”

The entire sequence concludes with this prayer: “We know that Christ has truly risen from the dead. Have mercy on us, Victor King.”

The author is probably Wipo, an eleventh-century poet and historian. Two groups of singers may alternate verses. It may also be recited. The dialogue in the middle section probably inspired plays based on the passion.

Today this hymn is obligatory on Easter Sunday and optional for all the other days of the Easter Octave, including the Second Sunday of Easter. The music of the Latin chant inspired classical choral and instrumental music. Other versions of the hymn exist in vernacular languages.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020
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Written by Paul Turner.

Alleluja
Alleluja
Alleluja

Weekly Collection

March 24, 2024

Weekly.....	\$12,802.00
EFT.....	\$4,716.00
	Total=\$17,518.00
Outreach.....	\$2,677.00
Rice Bowl.....	\$11,918.00

March 26, 2023

Weekly.....\$13,163.00

March 31, 2024

Weekly.....	\$17,476.00
EFT.....	\$4,158.00
	Total=\$21,634.00
Outreach.....	\$315.00
Easter.....	\$8,235.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$2,369.00
Good Friday.....	\$1,942.00

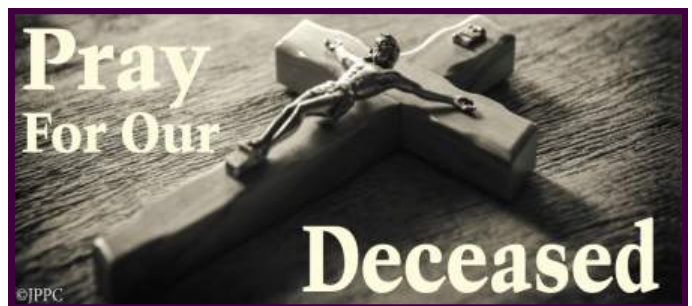
April 2, 2023

Weekly.....\$16,987.00



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

Second Collections **This Week: Building & Grounds**



In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed especially **Michael A. Coscina** and **Michael Ellis** who have died.

Rest In Peace

We offer our continued prayers and congratulations the newly baptized, received, confirmed, and initiated into the Church this Easter at OLM!

Baptism

Dylan Ribon

Hazel Devlin Morgese

**Reception into the Church &
First Holy Communion**

Serenity Dorthea Joan Wojtaszek

**Baptism, Communion,
& Confirmation**

Michael " Nicholas " Brough

Kevin " Michael" Ryan

Eric " Joseph" Cosmopulos



Alleluia



Striving to Be Saints, Scholars, & Athletes!

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to our **OLM School Junior (Grades 5 & 6) Boys Basketball Team** who not only took home the CAL State Championship, but on Palm Sunday in Manchester, NH delivered a 40-37 victory over St. Leo's of the Diocese of Worcester to bring home **the New England CYO Regional Championship!**

Congratulations to our coaches, Mrs. Sara Passananti and Fr. Mahoney, and to all our student-athletes and their families for an extraordinary season!

We also congratulate our **OLM School Grammar (Grades 7 & 8) Girls Basketball Team** who advanced to the New England Tournament and earned a first-round bye before falling to eventual New England Champions Corpus Christi of the Diocese of Hartford. The team then rebounded for a Saturday afternoon victory to finish their season at a very impressive 12-1.

Congratulations go again to Coaches Mrs. Betsy Smith and Mr. David Giardino, as well as to all our student-athletes and their families who contributed to such an outstanding season

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 Pledged to date=\$211,558
 Number of pledges to date=380
 Average gift=\$566

2023 Catholic Charity Appeal

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

Over Parish Goal!!! Thank you for your Generous Support!!



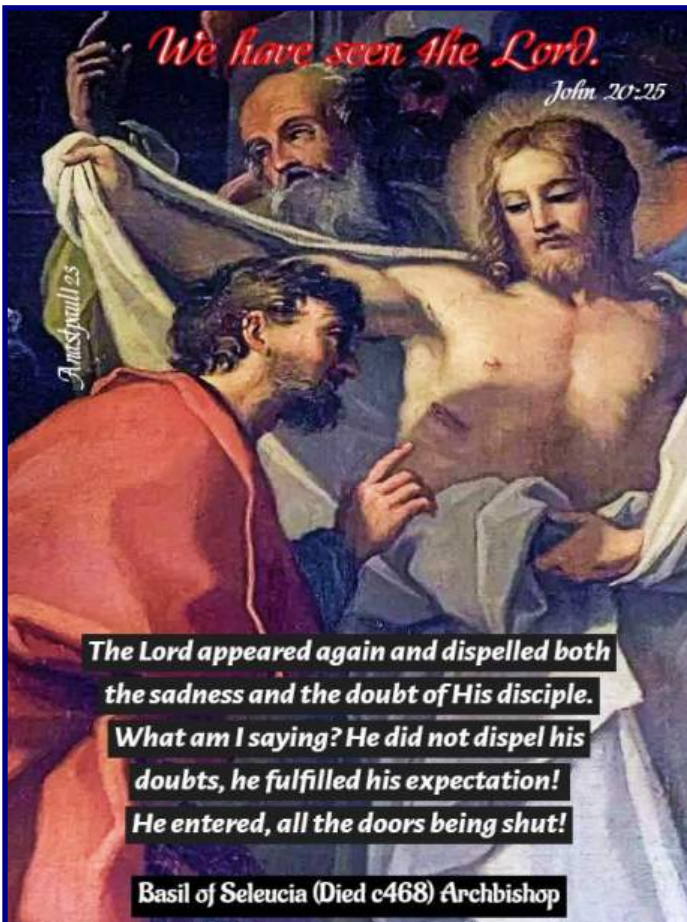
First Communion Class Schedule

Sunday, 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



The Lord appeared again and dispelled both the sadness and the doubt of His disciple.

What am I saying? He did not dispel his doubts, he fulfilled his expectation!

He entered, all the doors being shut!

Basil of Seleucia (Died c468) Archbishop



•**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 18, 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

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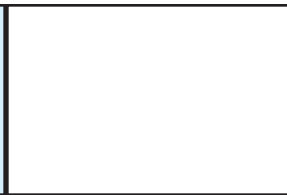
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