

*"In my Father's
house there are many
dwelling places."*

JOHN 14:2

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 the following intentions:

Easter Weekday, Monday, May 11

Dr. Frank M. Detorie—1st Anniversary

Easter Weekday, Tuesday, May 12

Mary G. Cooper—Memorial

Easter Weekday/Our Lady of Fatima, Wednesday, May 13

John “Jack” Donnelly—Birthday Remembrance

St. Matthias, Apostle, Thursday, May 14

Alda M. Bolton—1st Anniversary

Easter Weekday, Friday, May 15

Young-Ho Pyon—Memorial

Easter Weekday, Saturday, May 16

Victor Piotrowicz—Memorial

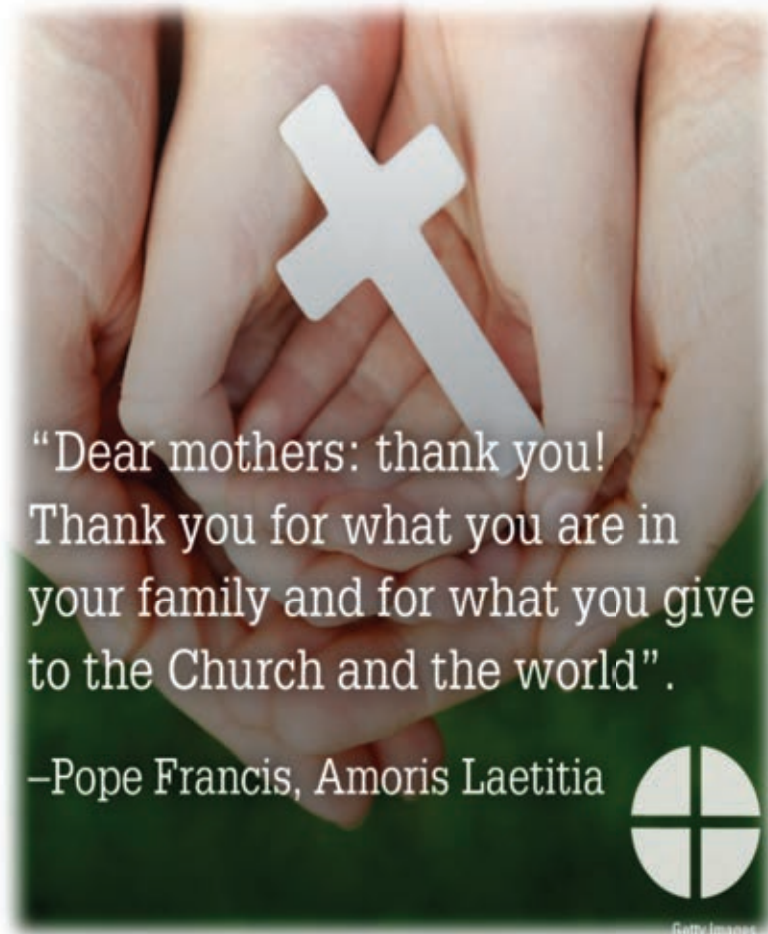
Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 17

The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

Elizabeth Loughlin—Memorial

Marcia Arsenault—1st Anniversary

Margaret Habershaw—Memorial



“Dear mothers: thank you!
Thank you for what you are in
your family and for what you give
to the Church and the world”.

—Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*



Pray to Mary for all Mothers!



Dear Parishioners:

The Venerable Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty, was the Primate of Hungary. He was imprisoned and persecuted by the Nazis in the Second World War and then after the war by the Communist regime. He was a Churchman of heroic faith. Pope Pius XII placed the Cardinal's hat on his head, saying: *"Among the thirty-two, you will be the first to suffer the martyrdom whose symbol this red color is."*

The holy Cardinal wrote these words about Mothers: *"The Most Important Person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral - a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body. The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation. What on God's good earth is more glorious than this: to be a mother?"*

Certainly these words echo our sentiments on this Mothers' Day. For today, we rejoice at the great gift of Motherhood and give thanks for our own Mothers. We thank them for all they mean to us and all they do and have done for us through their maternal love and guidance. We offer Holy Mass this Sunday for all Mothers, living and deceased. May God Bless all Mothers!

On Mothers' Day I lovingly recall my own Mother,

and all she meant to me. She died while I was in college but not a day goes by that I don't pray for her, and for her continued guidance in my life.

These days I often think about what she and my late Father would make of this pandemic. They both suffered in poverty during the depression, and then sacrificed through the Second World War. Yet they persevered through those trials and hardships with faith and courage, and went on to prosper.

This past Friday, May 8th, marked the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. Perhaps during this pandemic we might learn the lessons offered to us by America's Greatest Generation. During the war, they didn't complain or whine. Their greatness is found in their dutiful sacrifice and witnessed in their living the virtue of solidarity. They willingly did what was asked to defeat the Nazis and the Japanese.

During the war my mother gave up attending college to work at Quonset. She along with her three sisters worked to support their widowed Mother. Her older brothers eagerly enlisted and served honorably overseas in the war. My Father was forced to finish college in three years and graduate early in order to enlist. He would join the 88th Infantry, "the Fighting Blue Devils," and fight on the frontlines in the Italian Campaign.

I imagine they might be amused by the complaints about the trials of this pandemic. They understood duty and sacrifice and served the common good. They lived in solidarity with one another.

My Father, when on the few occasions he did speak about his war experience, once told me that he spent two years in combat without the Sacraments as no Catholic Chaplain was available. Instead he prayed his Rosary. Towards the end of the war he found a local priest in an Italian village. He was able to go to Confession despite the fact he didn't speak Italian and the priest knew no English, He used the Latin he learned from the Brothers at LaSalle Academy.

We might be tempted to complain about having to line up to go to supermarkets, the lack of toilet paper and flour, wearing masks and practicing social distancing. America's Greatest Generation suffered the destitution of the Great Depression and then lived with ration books and without lots of food items on the Homefront of the war.

We might be frustrated at the suspension of Public Masses and the lack of Holy Communion. But isn't it precisely because of the sacrifice of so many who've gone before us that we are able to enjoy our religious freedom. Today I give thanks for America's Greatest Generation and my Mother and Father, and I consider what they taught me, not so much in their words, but by their witness.

Happy Mothers' Day! Be well. Do Good! Stay safe! God Bless. *Our Lady of Mercy, pray for us!*

Ask Father

What is a Perfect Act of Contrition?

Sin separates us from God. Christ died on the Cross and rose from the dead at Easter in order to forgive our sins and reunite us with God and with each other. We appropriate the saving graces of the Cross through our reception of Baptism. Baptism applies the fruits of the Cross to each individual Christian. Hence, we describe a person who receives Baptism as a new creation in Christ. He or she has been healed of sin, made a child of God, heir to the promise of heaven, and capable of becoming a saint. Unfortunately, the baptized still retain concupiscence, that is, the inclination to evil (sin). Should a person commit a mortal sin, he or she, destroys charity (divine love) in his or her soul, turns away from God, and separates himself or herself from God. How do we repair this shipwreck of sin and reunite with God?

The way in which a person reunites with God and receives forgiveness of mortal sin is through the Sacrament of Confession. The Fathers of the Church described Confession metaphorically as the “second plank after the shipwreck of sin.” For a person to receive forgiveness in the Confessional he or she must have contrition for sins. Contrition is “sorrow of the soul and detestation for sin committed, together with the resolution not to sin again.” Contrition may be of two kinds: perfect and imperfect. Perfect contrition “arises from a love by which God is loved above all else” (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1452). Imperfect (or attrition) “is born of the consideration of sin’s ugliness or the fear of eternal damnation and the other penalties threatening the sinner” (CCC 1453). In both cases a Christian experiences sorrow for sins committed, but the motive for sorrow differs. In the case of perfect contrition, the motive is love of God; whereas for imperfect contrition the motive is fear of punishment. As its name suggests, imperfect contrition shows an imperfection of love on the part of the person.

If it is not possible for a person to get to confession, a private act of “perfect contrition” is sufficient for the forgiveness of mortal sins, if it also includes the intention to get to confession as soon as is possible. It is, however, difficult to make an act of “perfect contrition.” Our attachment to sin hampers our ability to love God fully and exclusively. We may fear hell more than we love God and this is imperfect contrition. Outside of the Confessional, imperfect contrition does not forgive mortal sins. Such a person remains separated from God and should he or she die without developing perfect contrition or going to Confession, he or she will choose to go to hell at death. God, knowing our weakness, gives us the Sacrament of Confession for the forgiveness of mortal sins for those with imperfect contrition.

Hence the availability and reception of the Sacrament of Confession is of utmost importance. It may even be more important than the reception of Holy Communion. Sacramental Confession is the only way that many penitents can confidently return to a state of grace. As a result, here at OLM we offer Confession regularly and encourage the faithful to make use of this wonderful gift from God. While we may be without public Mass, let us not forget about the second plank after the shipwreck of sin.

Weekly Collection

May 3, 2020

Weekly.....	\$8,894.00
EFT.....	\$1,956.00
	Total=10,850.00
Outreach.....	\$472.00

May 5, 2019

Weekly.....	\$13,886.00
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Outreach Update

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

• If you are in need of food or financial assistance please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 (leave a message if not in) or via email at outreach@olmparish.org



MAY DEVOTIONS

Livestreamed

Mondays at 7:00pm

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration

Recitation of the Rosary

Sacred Music & Reflection

“The Rosary is the ‘weapon’ for these times.”—Saint Padre Pio



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until we gather again in
WORSHIP
know that you are
MISSED
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LOVED

5th Sunday of Easter



Our first reading today and for all the Sundays of the Easter season is from the Acts of the Apostles.

This book is considered to be a continuation of the Gospel of Luke—composed by the same author and similarly meant for a gentile audience.

It is a theological essay about the growth and development of the early church as it spread from Jerusalem to Rome.

Though its title sounds as if it is about the twelve apostles, it is primarily concerned with the activities of Peter and Paul.



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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#WHATSMYNAME

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