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**THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
AUGUST 23, 2020**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 22**

*Mass of Anticipation for the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
5:00PM Richard & AnnaMae Sceery—Memorial

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 23**

*The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
7:30 AM Evelyn & Fred Bouro—Memorial  
10:30AM Marie McGlynn—1st Anniversary

**MONDAY, AUGUST 24**

*St. Bartholomew, Apostle*  
7:30AM Edward F. Saunders—10th Anniversary

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25**

*Weekday; St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest*  
7:30AM Pat, Nancy & Marie Raimondo—Memorial

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26**

*Weekday*  
7:30AM Michael Zwolinski—Memorial

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 27**

*St. Monica*  
7:30AM Marie McGlynn—1st Anniversary

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 28**

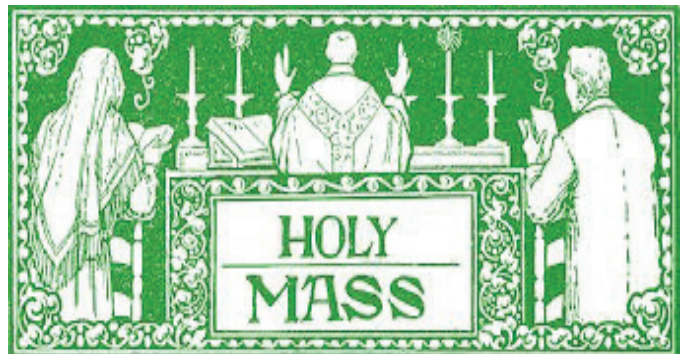
*St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*  
7:30AM Special Intention

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 29**

*The Passion of St. John the Baptist*  
8:30AM Lawrence L. Voyer—Memorial  
*Mass of Anticipation for 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
5:00PM Achille Aquino—Memorial

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 30**

*The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
7:30 AM Teresa M. Romano—Memorial  
10:30AM Edward V. Healey, Sr. & Bernard A. Healey—34th Ann.







Dear Parishioners:

Next Sunday at the 10:30am Mass we celebrate our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). The RCIA is a program of study for adults who are in need of the Sacraments. Candidates usually include baptized Catholics who need to make First Communion and/or Confirmation, baptized non-Catholics who are received into the Church, and also unbaptized Adults who are baptized and confirmed.

Since last fall the OLM RCIA Candidates have been preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Normally we celebrate this Rite with great joy and solemnity at the Easter Vigil Mass, but due to the COVID-19 lockdown we had to postpone it.

This year, seven adult candidates are prepared for the reception of First Communion, conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation and Reception into the Catholic Church. One candidate is being fully received into the Catholic Church, four receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation and two others the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I offer my sincere thanks to Fr. Barrow and his RCIA Team of dedicated parishioners who prepared these candidates for this solemn occasion. Each Sunday they gathered to study and learn more about the Catholic Faith. It is a joyous day to celebrate as we welcome these candidates into our parish family as fully initiated Catholics. Pray for them as they make their final preparation for this joyful occasion in their faith lives. May God bless them and continue to lead them to deeper

faith, greater hope and more profound love.

We also ask your prayers for our OLM School Principal and Faculty. On Tuesday they gather for a retreat here at OLM. Normally the Faculty Retreat is held at the beautiful St. Edmund Retreat Center on Enders Island in Mystic, CT. However, because of COVID-19 restrictions that is not possible this year. The Faculty Retreat is a time of spiritual renewal and refocus for our faculty especially after a rather challenging year.

Our Retreat Master this year is Dominican Friar, Father Jordon Zajac, O.P, who teaches English at Providence College. Father Jordon was ordained this past spring and is a graduate of PC who went on to earn a Ph.D. in English specializing in Shakespearean Drama at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He is an intelligent, talented and dynamic young priest, and we are grateful he is able to lead our faculty on this important spiritual retreat.

Our dedicated faculty are to be commended for the outstanding job they did with distance learning during the COVID lockdown. Such excellence required lots of hard work and true dedication and we are grateful for the many sacrifices they make to ensure the high standards of academic excellence and dynamic Catholic Faith at OLM School. Please pray for them as they gather for retreat.

The faculty is also meeting this week for professional development days. This is a time to focus upon distance learning, teaching techniques, and implementing

the health and safety protocols for our school this year. Our faculty remain committed to ensuring academic excellence and the strong Catholic identity in our outstanding school. Their sacrifice and dedication ensures OLM School is a safe, happy and virtuous place to learn.

While some schools are opting not to reopen for in person education, OLM School remains fully committed to reopening our school for all-day in person learning. Thus far the RI Department of Health has indicated it is completely safe to do so. The first week of school this year is a time of orientation for our OLM School families, students and faculty as they learn more about our safe environment practices and get accustomed to the many new health and safety policies and procedures.

Our Principal, faculty and maintenance staff are working tirelessly at ensuring our school's reopening and ensuring it is safe, and our school ready. We want our little saints and scholars back happily and safely learning and praying!

You can add to this happy and safe reopening by buying a "See You in September" Raffle ticket. The proceeds go directly to funding the many needs of our parish school in response to the COVID crisis. I commend those who have been so generous in their support in our time of need and thank you for your support.

Stay safe. Be Well. Do Good! God Bless.

# Ask Father

## What is an effect of receiving the Eucharist?

There are many effects of receiving the Eucharist worthily (i.e. in a state of grace). Before diving into these effects remember back a couple of weeks I wrote on formed and unformed faith. In that column I mentioned that the reception of the Eucharist does not restore one to a state of grace, which infuses charity, and enables these effects to take place. So, first and foremost, to have these effects one must be in a state of grace. Provided that is the case what are the effects?

St. Thomas Aquinas considers the Eucharist in a similar manner to natural food; sacramental food does in the spiritual realm what natural food does in the physical. The Eucharist: (1) Sustains the life of grace and a new share in it. (2) It enables us to advance to heaven and holiness (through infusion of virtue) which contributes to our spiritual growth and maturity. (3) It regains and recovers lost strength which was lost when one sinned in the past. (4) Finally the Eucharist delights the soul thereby provoking acts of charity and love.

Today we will focus on the notion that Eucharist received worthily diminishes one's desire to sin and wipes away venial sins. When a person has his or her sins forgiven in confession he or she is in a state of grace, but the bad habits and weakness to sin again remain. In this the Eucharist strengthens a person to move forward. It is analogous to a sick person in after surgery in the hospital who is now in rehab. Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion, the bread for our pilgrimage until the moment of death.

The body of Christ we receive in Holy Communion is "given up for us," and the blood we drink "shed for the many for the forgiveness of sins." For this reason the Eucharist cannot unite us to Christ without at the same time cleansing us from the remaining bad habits of past sins and preserving us from future sins. As St. Ambrose writes: "For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord." If we proclaim the Lord's death, we proclaim the forgiveness of sins.

Finally, as bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins. By giving himself to us Christ revives our love and enables us to break our disordered attachments to creatures and root ourselves in him. By the same charity that it enkindles in us, the Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins. The more we share the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to break away from him by mortal sin.

# Weekly Collection

August 16, 2020

Weekly.....	\$6,653.00
EFT.....	\$5,031.00
	<b>Total=\$11,644.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$621.00
Assumption.....	\$1,763.00
	<b><u>Weekly for same week last year on August 18, 2019</u></b>
Weekly.....	\$11,449.00

**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**

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

## OLM Parish Office Hours



**Monday—Thursday**

**8:00am –4:00pm**

**Closed on Fridays during August**

**Due to Covid-19 safeguards, public admittance to the OLM Parish Office is limited. Please call ahead for Mass cards and spiritual bouquets.**

## Confessions at OLM

**Mondays: 6:00PM—6:45PM**

*(Saturday Confessions suspended)*



**Monday, August 24, 2020**  
**a Dominican Friar from the Providence College Priory is our guest Confessor.**

For Confession by appointment please call the OLM Parish Office at 401-884-4968 to speak with a priest for an appointment.

**Pray for Vocations**





Religious Education  
NEWS

**The Celebration of First Communion at OLM**

**Saturday, September 12th at 12noon**

**OLM School First Communion Class**

*Practice is in the church with students and at least 1 parent on Thursday, September 10th at 6:00pm.*

**Saturday, September 19th at 12noon**

**Religious Education students  
whose last names begin A—L.**

*Practice is in the church with students and at least 1 parent on Thursday, September 17th at 6:00pm*

**Saturday, September 26th at 12 noon**

**The Religious Education students  
whose last names begin M—Z .**

*Practice is in the church with students and at least 1 parent on Thursday, September 24th at 6:00pm.*

*Please pray for our First Communion Class as they continue to prepare to receive the Eucharistic Lord for the first time. Thank you for your support!*



• **OLM Food Pantry** is in **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 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](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)



**OLM School Summer Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday: 9:00am— 1:00 pm**

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# SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER RAFFLE

Thursday, September 24, 2020

**GRAND PRIZE: \$5,000**

**First Prize \$2,500**

**Second Prize \$1,000**

**Third Prize \$1,000**

**Fourth Prize \$500**



**Support Our Saints and Scholars**

**\$100.00**



In order to obtain your ticket or tickets, please send a check for \$100 per ticket payable to "OLM" to Our Lady of Mercy, "See You in September" Raffle at 65 3rd Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818 or call the Parish Office at 884-4968. There is no limit on the number of tickets you may wish to purchase and the more you buy the better the odds of winning!!!

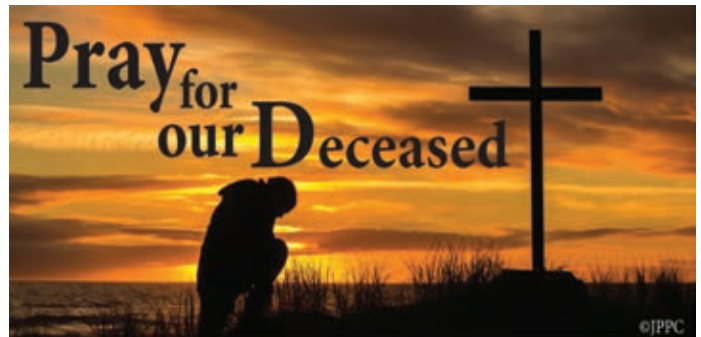
**Put your money on  
the OLM Saints and Scholars!!**

*Congratulations  
To  
The  
Newly Baptized*

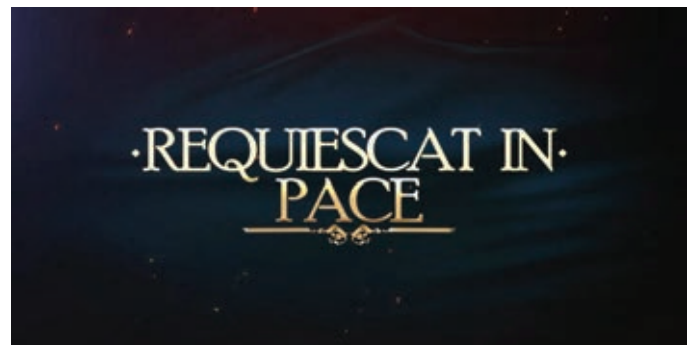
Miles Alexander Albert  
and his parents, Alexander and Heather.

*"Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He is now called the child of God, for so indeed he is. In confirmation he will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In Holy Communion he will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling God his Father in the midst of the Church."*

—The Rite of Baptism



In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Stephen H. Kavanagh, Jr. whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at OLM last week.





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