

I am the vine and you are the branches

*I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.*

JOHN 15:1



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**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
 MAY 2, 2021**

**SATURDAY, MAY 1**

*Mass of Anticipation for 5th Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM Special Intention

**SUNDAY, MAY 2**

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM Thomas J. Chisholm—Memorial  
 9:00AM Monsignor John Lolio—9th Anniversary  
 10:30AM Marian & Brian Gillcrist—Memorial

**MONDAY, MAY 3**

*Saints Philip & James, Apostles*  
 7:30AM Christopher Connolly—Birthday Remembrance

**TUESDAY, MAY 4**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Mary & James Daly—Memorial

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 5**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Sue Carcieri—Birthday Remembrance

**THURSDAY, MAY 6**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Monsignor John W. Lolio—9th Anniversary

**FRIDAY, MAY 7**

*Easter Weekday*  
 7:30AM Deborah & Edward Sullivan—Memorial

**SATURDAY, MAY 8**

*Easter Weekday*  
 8:30AM Michael Monteleone—16th Anniversary  
*Mass of Anticipation for 6th Sunday of Easter*  
 5:00PM Roy & Lisa Damiano & Henry & Theresa Mangiante—Memorial

**SUNDAY, MAY 9**

*The Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
 7:30 AM All Mothers  
 9:00AM Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 10:30AM All Mothers





Dear Parishioners:

Let's hope all those April showers bring May flowers! The month of May is dedicated to our Blessed Mother. As our parish patroness, we honor her with May Devotions on Mondays at 7:00 pm. We come before the Eucharistic Lord, pray the Rosary, and receive Benediction. It's a great way to honor our Blessed Mother, so please join us.

Pope Francis has encouraged Catholics across the globe to dedicate the Marian month of May to pray for an end to the pandemic. The Rosary is to be recited daily at the 30 Marian Shrines from various parts of the world. It takes place under the theme "*The whole Church was fervently praying to God,*" which recalls a verse in the Book of Acts (12:5).

After more than a year, and with the world still in the grips of the pandemic, the Pope and the Church are imploring God for an end to the suffering which so many people bear. Join us every Monday in May as we fervently pray the Rosary for an end to the pandemic.

May is also the month of First Communion as next Saturday, the children of OLM make their First Holy Communion at a Noon Mass. The Mass concludes with the May Crowning of our Blessed Mother. Please pray for these children as they make their final preparation for this glorious day in their lives!

This week I received a communication from the Diocesan Office of Worship about the changing guidelines and restrictions for churches during the pandemic. Following

the Governor's Office and the RI Department of Health guidelines, certain practices at Mass may now resume effective on May 7, 2021.

The communication calls for removing all tape, markings, ropes, and signs related to Covid restrictions. Since indoor seating capacity increases from 75% to 80%, the roping off of pews is no longer necessary. Also, the sanitizing of the church with harsh chemicals after each Mass is no longer required, and routine cleaning is to resume.

Processions at Mass may continue, including bringing up the gifts at Sunday Mass. The hymnals are allowed back in the pews and singing resumes. Also, Holy Water fonts will be filled once again. Our ushers can take up the collection once again, as has been our practice.

These changes are undoubtedly good news for churches and congregations across the state. The cleaning chemicals are taking a toll on the pews. Blessing ourselves with Holy Water is a most welcome restoration! Processions and singing add much to our solemn celebration of Holy Mass.

The communication makes it clear that parishioners must continue to wear facemasks while indoors during Mass. It also directs us to provide ventilation whenever possible. So the church windows are to be left open during Mass if the weather cooperates.

As for seating in the church, the social distance of three feet is in effect. Every pew is now to be available for seating and the ropes removed! We must continue to be vigilant by washing hands, wearing masks,

and keeping a minimum distance of three feet.

We are working on a plan to gradually reinstate many of these practices over the next several weeks. We ask for your continued patience and understanding as we try our best to follow guidelines and resume some of our formerly restricted practices. Your cooperation is essential in achieving this, so please cooperate by sanitizing your hands, wearing a mask, and keeping social distance as far as possible.

With more and more people getting vaccinated, it seems we can gradually return to some everyday living and worshiping at OLM again! Unfortunately, these new changes affect only the church and not our parish school. The restrictions in schools continue much as they have been over the year. We look forward to the day when the school day is more typical again!!

It has been a very long year of pandemic and pain, sickness, and suffering, but signs of hope are here! Let's keep the faith, come back to Mass, and worship God with greater devotion and enthusiasm. Join us on Mondays during May in praying for an end to the pandemic! Saint Padre Pio said: "*The Rosary is the weapon for these times.*" It remains as accurate today as when he said it decades ago! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless.

# Ask Father

## What Happened to the Twelve Apostles?

After our Lord ascended to heaven, he commanded his apostles: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” The Book of Acts and other early Christian writings describe the fulfillment of this command. But what happened to each apostle individually? Some stories we know better than others.

St. Peter traveled throughout Judaea and eventually went to Rome. In Rome he helped form the Christian community and was martyred in the Circus of Nero around AD64. St. Andrew we believe evangelized Greek communities. He was martyred at Patras on a cross in the shape of an “x.” According to Acts, St. James the Great was martyred.

Today pilgrims can visit his tomb in Santiago de Compostela in Spain. St. Philip also ministered to Greek communities and was martyred around the year AD80. St. Bartholomew was martyred and his remains are currently in Rome. St. Thomas, who doubted, traveled to India to evangelize. He was martyred around AD72. You can find his tomb in Mylapore, India. St. Matthew is well known for his Gospel. He was martyred in Ethiopia. St. James the Less became the first bishop of Jerusalem after the apostles dispersed. He was stoned to death in AD62 by Jewish authorities.

St. Judas Thaddeus is the “Apostle to the Armenians.” He suffered martyrdom around AD66 in Beirut, Lebanon. Artwork traditionally depicts St. Simon the Zealot with St. Judas as we believe that they worked and died together in Beirut. St. Matthias evangelized in Cappadocia (modern day Turkey) and then stoned to death by pagans in Colchis (modern day Georgia). St. John, known for his Gospel, was the only apostle to die naturally around the year AD100 on the island of Patmos, Greece.

We can clearly see the power of Christ in the lives of these apostles. These diverse individuals evangelized the world and we see the fruit of their labor today. All but John died martyrs; sharing in our Lord’s Passion. Their example serves as encouragement to all of us who hear the same call of Christ to evangelize.



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# Weekly Collection

**April 25, 2021**

Weekly.....	\$7,286.00
EFT.....	\$3,555.00
	<b>Total=\$10,841.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$1,179.00

**April 26, 2020 (Lockdown)**

Weekly.....	\$9,708.00
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**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**



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



**Please support the Catholic Charity Appeal, make your pledge today**

2021 OLM Parish Goal= \$190,000

2021 Pledged (to date)=\$131,236

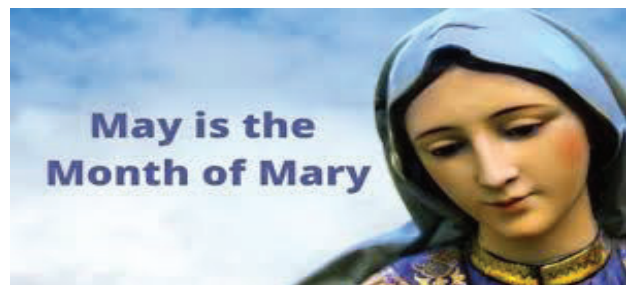
2021 Total of Pledges (to date)=289

2020 Goal= \$200,000

2020 Amount Pledged= \$131,236

Total Number Parishioners Pledges=290

**Thank you for your support.**



## First Friday Adoration

Friday, May 7, 2021



*"When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now." - Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

**Exposition following 9:00 am School Mass  
Adoration All-Afternoon  
Benediction at 6:00pm**

*Adorers are needed, sign up online.*



*Striving to be Saints & Scholars!*

- **Wednesday, May 5:** OLM School Community Zoom Meeting at 7:00pm
- **Friday, May 7:** 9AM School First Friday Mass with Grade 7 (livestreamed)

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[www.olmschool.org](http://www.olmschool.org)*



### OLM SCHOOL SPRING FLING

Virtual Live-Auction  
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FRIDAY MAY 14, 2021



**Sunday, May 2:** Mass at 5pm & Class following Mass. Topic: "Receiving the Real Presence." Mass is for First Communion students and their families only.

**Saturday, May 8:** First Communion Mass & May Crowning at 12:00PM

**Sunday, May 16:** Confirmation Class Mass & Class. Topic: The Holy Spirit, Pentecost & Confirmation. This Mass is limited to Confirmation Candidates & their families only.



• **OLM Food Pantry** is continually in need of food and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable foods only 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 information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or via email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)

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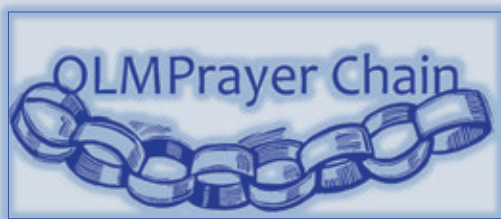
# Congratulations To The Newly Baptized

Griffin Aubrey Wray,  
and his parents, William and Lily.

*“Dear brothers and sisters: this child has been reborn through Baptism, and is now called a child of God, for so indeed he is. Through Confirmation he will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, he will share at the table of Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church.”—The Rite of Baptism*



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed most especially **Beatrice M. Northup and Michelle M. Henault.**



*Our Lady of Mercy Parish invites you to join our active Prayer Chain.* The power of pray is tremendous and many successful results have been reported back. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain as a caller, or simply as one who prays for others and their intentions, please call Mary Hart at 884-5629 or email directly at 2hart@cox.net. *If you know someone in need of prayers due to illness, infirmity, surgery, hospitalization or any serious reason please call us!*

***The power of prayer at work!***

## MAY DEVOTIONS



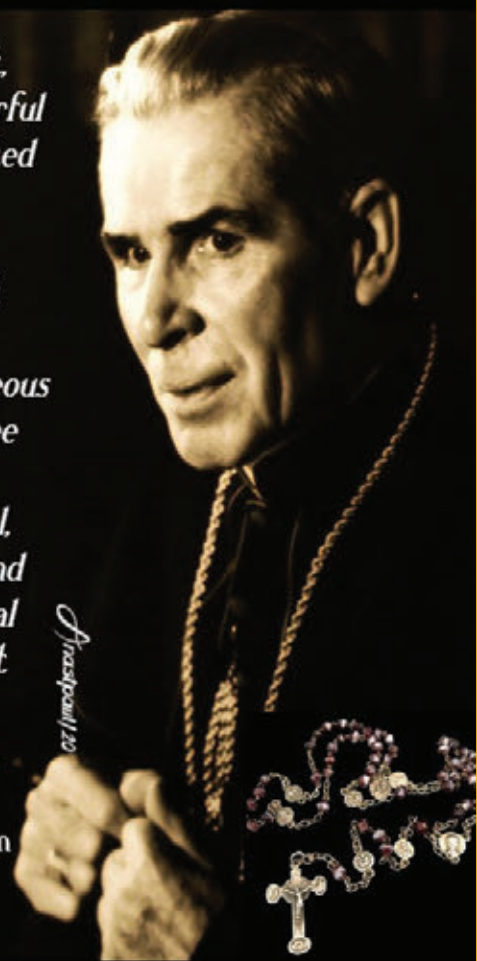
*"Abandon yourself in the hands of Mary. She will take care of you."- St. Padre Pio*

Every Monday in May at 7:00pm  
Adoration, Rosary & Benediction

*The Rosary is the best therapy for these distraught, unhappy, fearful and frustrated souls, precisely because it involves, the simultaneous use of three powers - the physical, the vocal and the spiritual and in that order.*

*Frostpan/10*

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