

*"If you are
King of the Jews,
save yourself."*

LUKE 23:37



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Mass Intentions *for the Week*

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
NOVEMBER 24, 2019

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Mass of Anticipation for Christ the King

4:00PM Steven Simms—Memorial

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM Rita M. McGoff—Memorial

10:30AM John T. Cole—1st Anniversary

5:00PM Adolf & Frances Gruber—Birthday Remembrance

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Weekday; St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

7:30AM Special Intention

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Weekday

7:30AM Frank & Teresa Heran—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Weekday

7:30AM Jeremiah O'Connell—20th Anniversary

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Thanksgiving Day

9:00AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Weekday

7:30AM Fr. Gerald W. Hussey—Memorial

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30AM James & Priscilla Rigg—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for 1st Sunday of Advent

4:00PM Mary E. Healey—40th Anniversary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

First Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM John Vincent Roche—1st Anniversary

10:30AM Vivian & Raymond Ericson & Hugh McGraw—Mem.

5:00PM Jane Walsh—Memorial



**We must
empty
Purgatory
with our
prayers.**

-St. Padre Pio



Dear Parishioners:

I thank the many parishioners who have so generously responded in support of the Our Faith, Our Future Capital Campaign. Thus far we have over \$750,000 pledged toward our goal of \$2 Million. It is a great start to this vital campaign for the future of our wonderful parish.

I offer my thanks also to Joe and Carol Cavanagh and Michael and Brooke O'Connell who serve as the Our Faith, Our Future Campaign Chairs. Their leadership and support has helped to get us off to this great start for the campaign.

This weekend we are asking every parish family to make their pledge in support of the campaign. We are asking every one of our 2,200 parish families to consider a pledge of \$4,000 over four years. We know that some may be unable to afford this size gift, but also that many others can afford to do more. However, everyone can make the same size sacrifice.

This campaign is part of the larger diocesan campaign called Grateful for God's Providence. It's total goal is \$50 Million, and already \$42 million has been pledged by Catholics across the state. Our portion of the campaign that will support the Grateful for God's Providence Campaign is \$535,000.

We have already gone beyond that amount, so please know that every dollar pledged this weekend goes directly in support of the projects at OLM. These critical projects are estimated to cost \$1.5 Million and will help ensure the future of our beloved parish.

We are truly blessed to live in such a community as East Greenwich and worship at Our Lady of Mercy. God has been generous with the blessings bestowed upon our town, our parish and our families. One of the sincerest ways to express our gratitude to God is to share our blessings.

I am very hopeful that each and every parish family will make the necessary sacrifice and share their blessings in support of the Our Faith, Our Future Capital Campaign. With such sacrifice and support, we are certain to be successful in reaching our goal of \$2 Million! I thank you in advance for your sacrificial support Our Faith and Our Future!

We need every parish family to participate to be successful in this vital campaign for our parish. As we consider our support of this noble effort, I am reminded of the words of St. Pope John Paul the Great: *"Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence."*

May we remember those who have gone before us at Our Lady of Mercy and by whose sacrifices left us this parish. May our present effort in support of our parish be full of enthusiasm and sacrifice. And may we always be confident of our future as a family of faith!

It is gratitude that we celebrate this week as a nation on Thanksgiving Day as we gather with family and friends and share a meal. Although it is a civil holiday, it is primarily a spiritual occasion for us to stop, reflect upon our blessings and offer prayerful thanks to God the

Almighty Father.

On Thanksgiving Day before we eat our turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie, even before we enjoy the football games and good times with family and friends, we must offer prayers and thanksgiving to God.

We give thanks to God for bestowing so many blessings upon us. We give thanks for the blessings of freedom and liberty, prosperity and good fortune, family and faith! The great spiritual writer, St. Teresa of Avila reminds us: *"In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God, and in all things give Him thanks."*

Certainly the best way for us as Catholics to offer prayerful thanks to God is at the Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00am on Thursday. Together we gather as a parish family to offer praise and thanksgiving to God as together we pray and worship at Holy Mass. There is no better way to begin Thanksgiving Day then to gather as a family of faith and celebrate the Eucharist, which itself means thanksgiving in Greek.

Following Thanksgiving Day Mass, I make my annual trip up to my sister's home in Saratoga, NY for the holiday dinner. This year as an added blessing, I get to baptize my new grand-niece next Saturday afternoon in NY. Happy Thanksgiving! Be well. Do good. God Bless. Go Pats! *Oremus pro invicem!*

Father Healey



Why do we call Christ King?

At every Mass we pray the “Our Father.” In that prayer we pray for God’s kingdom to come. Every king has a kingdom over which he rules. As a king, Jesus Christ is no exception; albeit unlike earthly rulers, his kingdom has no limits. As the liturgical year ends the Church draws our attention to the reality of Christ’s kingship. In 1925 Pope Pius XI instituted this special feast. At that time Europe and the world were reeling from the catastrophic destruction of World War I. Secularism, nationalism and consumerism were on the rise. The old institutions, kingdoms and powers of the world faded away. In the wake of the demise of these earthly kingdoms, Pope Pius reminded Christians then and now that the kingdom to which we belong is “spiritual and concerned with spiritual things.”

Such a kingdom does not pass away. No earthly power can control it. It envelopes every aspect of our lives. Nowhere and no one can claim to be independent from His rule. Our minds, bodies, families, workplaces, politics, and everything else belong to Him. Nothing can compare to the privilege and honor of such citizenship, which we obtain through Baptism. While a passport can enable us to cross borders, the Sacraments enable us to cross over into eternal life. His rule is one of peace, not as the world gives it, but peace that persists even in the midst of suffering.

Our king wants the free participation of his subjects to be co-builders of his rule. He does not want us to remain cogs in the machine or passive, servile subjects. He calls us “friends”. Such participation means imitating our Lord’s complete self-giving love to his subjects; to serve, rather than to be served. As Pope Pius XI continues: “it demands of its subjects a spirit of detachment from riches and earthly things, and a spirit of gentleness. They must hunger and thirst after justice and more than this, they must deny themselves and carry the cross.”

While the old monarchies have largely faded away in history; others have risen to take their place. Consumerism, hedonism and the like try to draw us into their realms. They make promises of happiness and fulfillment that, while hollow, can bewitch us. The Solemnity of Christ the King serves as a reminder that our allegiance belongs to Christ and only his kingdom is worth serving.

Weekly Collection

November 17, 2019

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Weekly..... | \$10,868.00 |
| EFT..... | \$2,114.00 |
| | Total=\$12,982.00 |
| Outreach..... | \$434.00 |
| Annual (to date)..... | \$89,482.00 |

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

***Thank You for Your Support!
May God Bless Your Generosity!***

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



Second Collections
This Week: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Next Week: Building & Grounds Collection



Please pray for the success of the **Our Faith, Our Future Capital Campaign** at Our Lady of Mercy. We need every parish family to make a sacrificial gift to the campaign. This weekend, **November 23/24, is our Commitment Weekend** and we ask all parishioners to return their pledge cards. Thank you for your support and prayers!

**Our Faith, Our Future Goal=\$2 Million
Pledged To Date=\$791,965**

Thank You for Your Generous Support!!



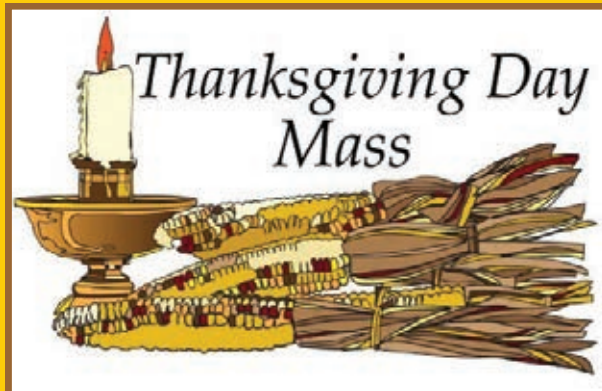
Religious Education
NEWS

- All RE classes meet this weekend
- Confirmation Class: All candidates (public, private, parochial) must attend on Sunday, November 24. Guest Speaker: Social Justice & Poverty. Students should bring donations of gently used backpacks and/or new socks for the homeless.
- No RE classes next weekend due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.




Outreach
Update

- OLM Food Pantry is always in great need of non-perishable food items. Please leave all items in the Food Box in the vestibule.
- OLM Bereavement Group meets **Thursday, December 5th at 4:00PM in Mercy House**. All those experiencing grief or loss are welcome to join us for prayer, discussion and support.
- For more information about OLM Outreach, please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or by email at outreach@olmparish.org



Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00AM
Thursday, November 28, 2019

The Most Reverend Robert C. Evans
Auxiliary Bishop of Providence
Celebrant

The Parish Office is closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday from Wednesday, November 27 at Noon until Monday, December 2nd at 8am.



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- Tuesday, November 26: Weekly School Mass at 8:15am
- Wednesday - Friday, November 27-29: No School for the Thanksgiving Recess

A Happy Thanksgiving Day to all our OLM faculty, staff, students, families, alumni and benefactors.

Mr. Patrick McNabb
Principal

www.olmschool.org

Happy Thanksgiving



Give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good.

Psalm 107:1



OLM Young Families Meeting Thursday, December 5, 2019

5:30—7:00PM, OLM School Gym

All young families are most welcome to come to our first meeting of the OLM Young Families group. OLM Young Families is a group dedicated to providing a place for families to come together, learn about important topics of the faith and family life, and a time to come together to support one another.

*Pizza served for dinner!
Babysitting available!*

For more information or just to learn more about our group contact Coordinator Kate Jelinek at: Kate_Jelinek@hotmail.com

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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!

Pray
for
Vocations



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