



Catholic Schools Week

January 28 - February 2

Striving to Be Saints & Scholars

OLM School Open House
Sunday, January 28
10:00am - 12:00pm

For more information go to olmschool.org



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Striving to be Saints and Scholars!

Mass Intentions

 for the Week

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 JANUARY 28, 2024**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

The Mass of Anticipation for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM Al Behbehani—Memorial

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM Bill Daly—Memorial
 10:30AM Margaret E. Murray—Memorial
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

Weekday
 7:30AM Monsignor Edward F. Egan—20th Anniversary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Weekday:
 7:30AM Dolores K. Vespia—9th Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

St. John Bosco, Priest
 7:30AM John Bosco Rhee—Birthday Remembrance

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Weekday
 7:30AM Pat Crowley & Maribeth Redman—Memorial

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

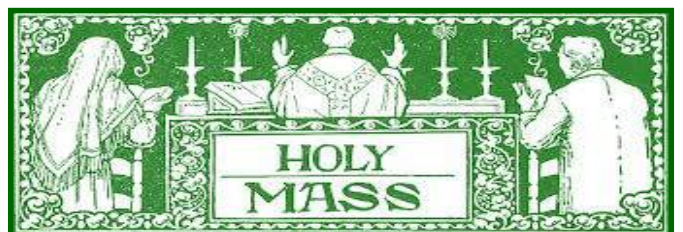
The Presentation of the Lord
 7:30AM Ryan Casey—Memorial
 9:00AM Deceased Alumni, Faculty & Benefactors of OLM School

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Weekday; St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr; St. Angar, Bishop: BVM
 8:30AM David Fleming & Noel Michael Gammell—Mem.
The Mass of Anticipation for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM George Murray—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30AM Michael Romano—Memorial
 9:00AM Michael Pietros—Birthday Remembrance
 10:30AM Barbara A. Sedlock—17th Anniversary
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish





Dear Parishioners:

This week is Catholic Schools Week across America. Catholic schools enrolled more than 5 million students in the mid-1960s, but today, just 1.6 million. Many things have contributed to this decline, including decaying family life, demographic decline, economic stress, and massive secularization.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a modest increase in enrollment in Catholic Schools across the country. This was largely because Catholic Schools did an excellent job with online learning. They also reopened to students much quicker than many public schools.

We cannot sit back and rest on our laurels. Rather, Catholic schools must continue to strive for excellence in forming the whole person. The central mission of Catholic Education is to teach our Faith. Now, more than ever, this world needs children who embrace the truths of our Church, who understand that God created us male and female, who believe in the sanctity of life, who see the human dignity of each of God's children, and who believe in objective truth.

There will be challenges whenever we stick to our mission of teaching the Catholic Faith. Children generally believe what their parents teach them about religion. Thus, they have questions, as they should. The Catholic Church, which has survived two millennia, is well-prepared to answer them.

Therefore, those to whom students pose their questions must also be properly catechized

and committed to their Catholic Faith. Catholic Education and Catholic Educators must ensure a faithful environment where parents can be assured that their child's Catholic Faith is retained, deepened, and not destroyed. In short, we must keep the Catholic in our Catholic schools.

And so, as we celebrate this Catholic Schools Week to highlight the importance of Catholic Education, We can be proud of our parish school that strives to fulfill its mission. Our students are properly formed in our classrooms with rigorous academics, creative arts and music, competitive athletics, discipline, virtuous living, and a solid foundation in the teachings of the Catholic Faith.

OLM School offers an education where the rich teachings of Christ and his Church are taught, not the values of popular and politically correct culture. Our students study in a Catholic environment where the Faith is taught joyfully and authentically. The Faith isn't only taught but actively lived out with Mass, Confessions, prayer, devotions, and charitable good works.

The great success of our school is due to the outstanding Principal and Faculty at OLM School. They are supported by committed parents who support the mission and are willing to sacrifice for the school's common good. And, of course, the centerpiece of our excellent school is our student body. Our students strive every day to learn and love as Catholic disciples.

Our Lady of Mercy School is truly a Catholic School in the best sense. It is a school where we strive daily to be saints

and scholars. So join us as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week and OLM School! I invite you to visit the school this Sunday at the Open House from 10:00am until Noon. See the great things happening and meet our wonderful students, parents, and faculty members.

Join us on Friday at 9:00am as we celebrate our Annual Catholic Schools Week Mass on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. It commemorates our Lord's presentation in the Temple as a young child.

It is sometimes called Candlemas Day since the blessing and procession of candles are included in the liturgy. The blessing of candles is closely related to the Gospel, introducing Jesus as the "Light of the people." The candles are blessed with these words: *"O God, source and origin of all light, we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers, you may be pleased to sanctify with your blessing + these candles, which we are eager to carry in praise of your name, so that, treading the path of virtue, we may reach that light which never fails."*

This blessing is fitting for Catholic Schools Week as we celebrate our faculty and students praising the Lord, treading the path of virtue, and seeking the light of Christ! Happy Catholic Schools Week! Celebrate OLM School! Be well. Do good. God Bless!

Father Healey

Blessing of Throats



**Throats will be
Blessed at all
Masses
February 3 & 4
In Honor of the
Feast of St. Blaise**

Weekly Collection

January 21, 2024

Weekly.....	\$10,857.00
EFT.....	\$4,972.00
	Total=\$15,829.00
Outreach.....	\$273.00
The Catholic University of America.....	\$2,179.00

January 22, 2023

Weekly.....\$16,436.00

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



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

Second Collections

**This Week: : Saints & Scholars Fund
Next Week: Building & Grounds Collection**



In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed especially **Giovina “Jean” Iannucci** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.

Rest In Peace



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated in memory of the Deceased Alumni, Faculty and Benefactors of OLM School.

In your charity, please pray for them.



OLM FAITH FORMATION

UPDATE

First Communion Class Schedule

Sunday, February 4: Class. Children & Parents to attend.

Sunday, March 2: Class

Confirmation Class Schedule

Sunday, February 11: 8th Grade Class

For questions and more information please contact Mr. Jeremy Long, Director of Faith Formation at 884-4968 or email at faithformation@olmparish.org



•**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, February 1, 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



Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

Catholic School Week Calendar

Sunday, January 28

9:00AM Alumni Mass & Open House., 10am-12pm

Monday, January 29

Finding God in Story

We welcome Carey Wallace, author of Stories of the Saints and Psalms of Wonder to share with our students her journey as a Catholic writer!

Tuesday, January 30

Finding God in Fun

Students will have the opportunity to go bowling with their classmates, sponsored by the PTG!

Wednesday, January 31

Finding God in Your Neighbor

Warm clothing drive for Emmanuel House. We say thank you to the clergy, religious, teachers, and parents who make our school what it is! Students may dress down in OLM Spirit gear or blue and white.

Thursday, February 1

Finding God in Music

We welcome Mr. Ryan Tremblay back to OLM to perform for our students and share his story as a Catholic musician and evangelist!

Friday, February 2

Finding God in Prayer

Catholic Schools Week Mass at 9:00 am, Collation to follow in the School Gym, open to all guests in attendance at Mass Teacher appreciation luncheon 1:00-2:00 pm, provided by the PTG. Middle School St. Valentine's Dance 6:30-8:30 pm!



*Congratulations
To
The
Newly Baptized*

Camille Rich Turchetta,
and her parents, John and Laura.

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

— The Rite of Baptism



Presentation of the Lord



The feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the commemoration of Mary and Joseph’s presenting the infant Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem, celebrates Christ as our true light who has come into the world.

For as the holy man, Simeon, said on that day,

... [M]y eyes have witnessed your saving deed

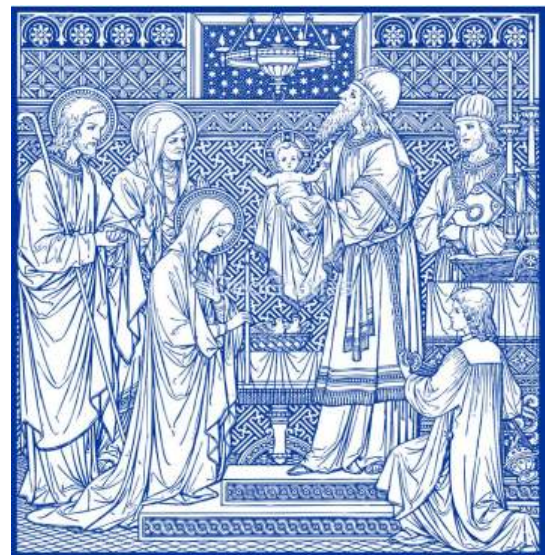
displayed for all the peoples to see:

A revealing light to all the Gentiles,

the glory of your people Israel.

The blessing of candles, traditionally done on this day, is a fitting symbol for such a celebration and has given the feast its popular name of Candlemas Day.

This feast used to be known as the Purification of Mary, which commemorated a Jewish rite performed for women forty days after childbirth.



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.

“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.”
-St Mother Teresa of Calcutta

First Friday Adoration
Friday, February 2, 2024
Exposition at 12:00 PM
Adoration All-Afternoon
Benediction at 6:00 PM
Adorers are needed. Sign up online

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