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**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 FEBRUARY 5, 2023**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

The Mass of Anticipation for 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM David L. & Emelia Patenaude—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial
 9:00AM Elizabeth Legare—Memorial
 10:30AM Vincent A. Bruzzese—4th Anniversary
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
 7:30AM Marjorie Costello—1st Anniversary

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

7:30AM Dolores K. Vespa—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Weekday: St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Viigin
 7:30AM Dec'd Members of the Pundys & Dikinis Families

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Weekday
 7:30AM Thomas J. Brescia—Birthday Remembrance

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

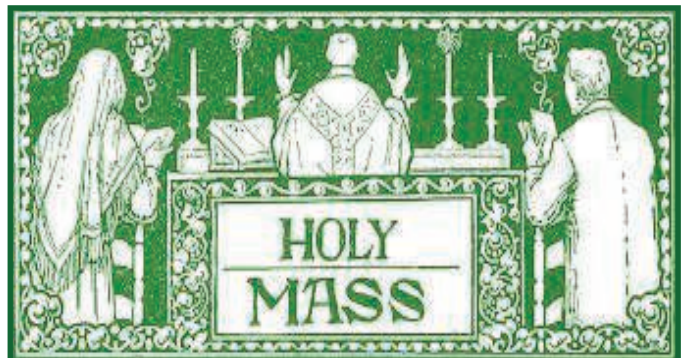
St. Scholastica, Virgin
 7:30AM Deborah Sullivan—Memorial

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Weekday; Our Lady of Lourdes; BVM
 8:30AM Barbara A. Sedlock—16th Anniversary
The Mass of Anticipation for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00PM Margie Perretta—Memorial

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 AM Daniel Patrick Sullivan—Memorial
 9:00AM Bruce Hart—9th Anniversary
 10:30AM Gerald E. Celio—5th Anniversary
 5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy





Dear Parishioners:

Catholic Schools Week was a great celebration at Our Lady of Mercy. I hope you enjoyed our outstanding OLM School students who spoke at Masses last weekend. It is clear from listening to them that they are happy and enjoy going to their school.

We had many new and prospective families tour the school last Sunday during the Open House. It is a great sign of hope for the future but also a result of our principal and faculty's great work and dedication in making OLM School one of the best in the state. One parent told me after Mass that her decision to send her son to OLM School was the best decision she made about her children's education! This is why we have a waitlist for admission!

A few parishioners have asked about the installation of the new doors. Thus far, we have installed two doors. One is the exit door from the Choir loft on Mercy Park, and the other is the exit door from the Sacristy. Each door takes a while to install and adjust, and we are moving slowly but steadily with the project.

We plan to install two doors to the Rectory basement and the front door to the Rectory in the next weeks. Once the weather is warmer, we will begin to put the new doors at each entrance of the Church. Two will be electric doors to help the handicapped gain entry easier. And we will also replace the interior door to the Candle Room.

Next Saturday, February 11, is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the

Sick. Saint Pope John Paul II first introduced it as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. Our Lady of Lourdes is a powerful intercession for the sick, as the many miraculous cures in Lourdes have attested to throughout the years.

In his message for the World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis states: *"On February 11, 2023, let us turn our thoughts to the Shrine of Lourdes, a prophetic lesson entrusted to the Church for our modern times. It is not only what functions well or those who are productive that matters. Sick people, in fact, are at the center of God's people, and the Church advances together with them as a sign of a humanity in which everyone is precious, and no one should be discarded or left behind."*

I ask you to please pray for the sick, especially those OLM parishioners suffering from sickness. Fr. Mahoney and I are routinely called to local nursing homes or parishioners' homes to administer the Sacrament of the Sick. We also cover Kent Hospital for all emergencies twice a month, along with the other priests in the area.

We are not always informed that parishioners are in the hospital or even sometimes that they have moved into a nursing home. If you know of someone or you need to receive the Anointing of the Sick due to illness, upcoming surgery, or if someone is near death, please call the Rectory and let us know. We are happy to bring the Sacraments to those who need them. If someone you know is dying and in need of the

Sacraments, please do not wait; call us immediately. May Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for the sick!

As we consider the sick in our prayers, I remind you of the good work done daily by our hospital chaplains in RI. These dedicated priests and their hospital ministry are funded by the Catholic Charity Appeal (CCA).

The Appeal also funds the many good works of our local Church in assisting the poor, the elderly, immigrants, refugees, Catholic school students in need, and women in crisis pregnancies. All these charitable works funded by the CCA serve thousands of disadvantaged and often marginalized people in our state.

Each year we are asked to prayerfully and financially support the CCA. I am grateful to Jerry and Kim O'Connell for serving as our General Chairpersons of the Appeal at OLM. Also, we thank Mike and Lee Mita, who are serving as the Chairs of the Bishop's Partnership in Charity for those who donate \$1,000 or more to the CCA. Next weekend we begin the CCA here at OLM with the in-pew solicitation at all Masses.

We ask every parish family to prayerfully consider pledging a gift of \$350 made payable over ten months for \$35 per month. Whatever the size of your gift, please know it is appreciated. Please pray for the success of the CCA! Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless!

Father Healey

Oil of the Sick

THE OIL of the Sick is used for a sacrament in the Catholic Church. Traditionally it is olive oil, but any vegetable oil will suffice. The bishop blesses fresh oil each year, but in case of necessity, any priest may bless the oil for this sacrament within the celebration of the rite. In the distant past, lay people anointed the sick, but today only a priest or bishop may administer this sacrament.

The sick were anointed even at the time of Christ. In Mark 6:13, Jesus sent the disciples out to anoint the sick. James 5:14 urges the sick to send for the elders of the church for an anointing. The custom of anointing the sick continued, but for several hundred years only the dying were anointed. The priest prayed for their forgiveness and anointed them on seven different parts of the body.

The custom of blessing oil is ancient. One such prayer dates to fourth-century Egypt. In the Roman Rite, the oil came to be blessed at a Mass with the bishop. That Mass, established for the consecration of Sacred Chrism before the initiation rites at the Easter Vigil, attracted the blessing of the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick. Today, a bishop blesses all three oils at the Chrism Mass, held shortly before Easter each year in every diocese.

The priest anoints the forehead and the palms of the sick, while praying that God will save and raise them up. The anointing accompanies a prayer for physical and spiritual healing.

The Oil of the Sick is often kept in a container marked OI for *oleum infirmorum*, the Oil of the Sick. Almost every priest carries some in his car.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Sacraments © 2020
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Written by Paul Turner.

Weekly Collection

January 29, 2023

Weekly.....	\$8,939.00
EFT.....	\$6,680.00
	Total=\$15,619.00

Outreach.....	\$1,570.00
Saints & Scholars.....	\$8,288.00
Church in Latin America.....	\$1,280.00

January 30, 2022

Weekly.....	\$8,283.00
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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: Building & Grounds



The flowers at the Marian Shrine are donated in memory of **Ann E. Gardiner**. In your charity, please pray for the gentle repose of her soul.





RE Schedule

Sunday, February 5: 9:00am Mass & Grade 3 & 4 Class follows in the OLM School Gym; 5:00pm Mass & Grade 8 Confirmation 2023 Class follows in the OLM School Gym

Thursday, February 9: 7:00PM First Communion Parents Meeting for All Parents on First Penance. In OLM Church.

Sunday, February 12: 9:00am Mass & Grades 1 & 2 First Communion Class to follow in the OLM School Gym

Sunday February 19: Winter Break. No RE Classes.

Sunday, February 26: 5:00pm Mass & Grades 5, 6 and 7 Classes to follow in the OLM School Gym



Striving to Be Saints & Scholars!

Calendar of Events

- **Monday, February 6:** Yearbook Club @ 2:30; Student Council @2:30 pm
- **Tuesday, February 7:** School Mass 8:15am: PTG Meeting @6:00 pm
- **Wednesday, February 8:** Drama Club (Session 2) @2:20-3:30 pm
- **Thursday, February 9:** 8th Grade Trip Planning Meeting @6:00 pm
- **Friday, February 10 :** Youth Ministry Meeting Gym Night @6:30-8:30 pm
- **Saturday, February 11:** Father Daughter Dance 6:00 pm @ The Crowne Plaza

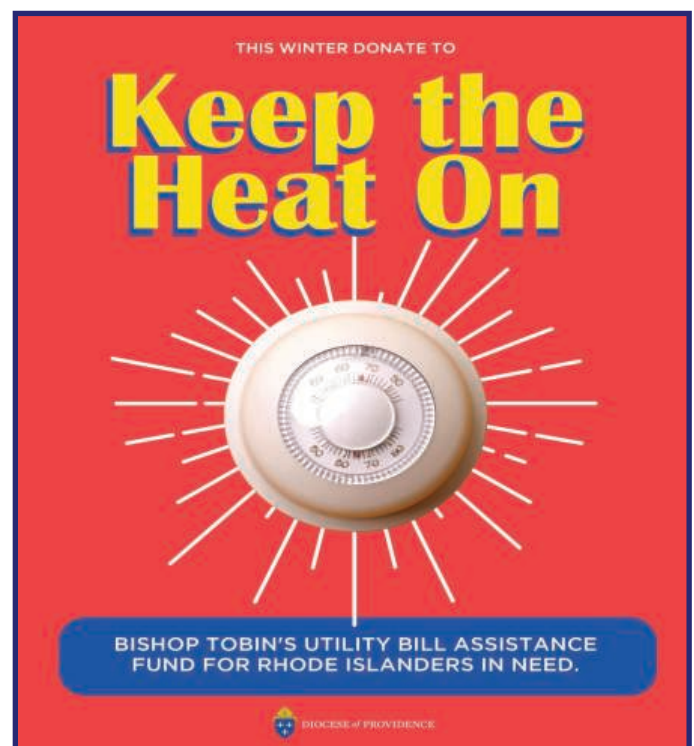
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• **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated items in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. **All food items should be unexpired and non-perishable.** We also are in need of paper goods (paper towels, napkins). Thank you for your support.

• **OLM Bereavement Group:** Next meeting **Thursday, February 16, 2023 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





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- Emergency Services Network for heating and rental assistance

Please prayerfully consider supporting the Appeal with a pledge of \$100, \$250, \$500 or more. However, please know that a gift of any size is welcomed, needed and appreciated.



WATCH THE CCA MINISTRY VIDEOS

See how much your gift makes a difference to those in need.
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