

“RISE AND
DO NOT
BE AFRAID.”

MATTHEW 17:7





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THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 8, 2020

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Mass of Anticipation for The 2nd Sunday of Lent
 4:00PM Harold & Barbara Schock—Memorial

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

The Second Sunday of Lent

- 7:30 AM Joe & Margaret Foley—Memorial
- 9:00 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
- 10:30AM Albert Cantanio—Birthday Remembrance
- 5:00PM George E. Selwyn III—Memorial

MONDAY, MARCH 9

Lenten Weekday

- 7:30AM Evelyn & Fred Bouro—Memorial
- 12:05PM Francis P. O'Donnell—Memorial

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Lenten Weekday

- 7:30AM Dorothy Green—Memorial
- 12:05PM The Hon. Joseph F. Rodgers, Jr.—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Lenten Weekday

- 7:30AM Hans G. & Hans J. Loeffler—Memorial
- 12:05PM Deborah Sullivan & Bobby Anderson—Memorial

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Lenten Weekday

- 7:30AM Louis Forys—Memorial
- 12:05PM Lillian K. Poulin—Memorial

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Lenten Weekday

- 7:30AM Fr. James Verdelotti—Memorial
- 12:05PM Rita Roslyn McCoy—Memorial

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Julie Gil—Memorial

Mass of Anticipation for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

- 4:00PM Dr. Mark Palumbo—Memorial

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

The Third Sunday of Lent

- 7:30 AM Mary Falchini—Memorial
- 9:00 AM Chris Tasca—6th Anniversary
- 10:30AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church
- 5:00PM Lawrence Hruda—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

By now we've all learned that the Coronavirus Flu has hit Rhode Island. Some staff and students at St. Raphael Academy in Pawtucket have been diagnosed with it after traveling to Italy and France on a school trip. St. Ray's cancelled school this past week.

In other parts of the world where there has been an outbreak, churches, schools and all public gathering locations have been closed. Also, some local Bishops have suspended public Masses in Italy and other countries. Professional soccer teams in Europe have been playing in empty stadiums.

We must stand in solidarity with those affected by the Coronavirus and their families, health workers who are valiantly trying to diagnose and treat patients, and those under quarantine awaiting results of their screening for the virus. We continue to offer our prayers for healing, and support those organizations, both domestic and international, working to provide medical supplies and assistance to address this serious risk to public health.

Here at OLM we have already suspended the communal sign of peace. We have instructed our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to wash and sanitize their hands in the sacristy before and after the distribution of Holy Communion. We try to regularly clean surfaces lots of people touch in Church and change the Holy Water in the fonts frequently.

It is also advisable to receive Holy Communion on the hand rather than directly in the

mouth until this flu period has ended. But perhaps one of the best way of protecting us from the flu's spread is for everyone to use common sense and good hygiene.

Here are some guidelines to follow: if you sneeze or cough, please do so into a tissue or into your sleeve not on the person in front of you or in your hand! If you do use a tissue please dispose of it properly. There isn't a day that goes by that dirty tissues are not found on the Church floor! Wash and sanitize your hands before Mass. Do not touch your face unless you've washed your hands. And please if you are sick, have flu or cold symptoms stay home and call your doctor!!

Fear and panic are not the proper response to this Flu Crisis. Rather we should practice good hygiene and respond with common sense and faith. So please pray for those suffering from the flu, and for the crisis to end. Pray for the intercession of St. Charles Borromeo who, as the Archbishop of Milan, was so courageous and faithful in serving the sick and easing the sufferings of the victims of the plague in the 16th Century.

I hope you made it to the Lenten Parish Mission! Fr. Macdonald our Mission Preacher did a fine job! It was truly a grace filled time for our parish family to begin the Holy Season of Lent. Father is a talented and terrific young priest who offered a great message for us to reflect upon and pray about as we take the up the Battle for Lent! May we persevere with Christ in the desert during these forty days of renewal and conversion.

We had plenty of opportunity to make a good Confession each night of the Mission with four priests available to hear Confessions. If you haven't made a good Confession in awhile, consider coming on Monday night at 6:00pm. There are two priests available in Lent including a Guest Confessor. Also, All Day Confessions are scheduled for Saturday, March 21st!

On Saturday afternoon our First Communion Class made their First Confessions. What a great day for these children as they Sacramentally experience God's mercy for the very first time. It is truly an occasion of faith, hope and joy for these children, the priests and our entire parish family.

Saint Pope John Paul the Great teaches: "*Confession is an act of honesty and courage - an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.*" Trust in God's love and mercy. Be courageous, go to Confession this Lent!

In your name, I thank Fr. Tom Macdonald for peaching our Lenten Mission! He did an outstanding job and we are grateful for his priestly ministry. Please pray for him and his good work at St. John's Seminary.

It's Lent so pray, fast and give alms! And remember that all Fridays during Lent are for fish and the Stations of the Cross! Be well. Do Good! God Bless.

Father Healey



What are the different forms of prayer?

In spirituality “prayer” may have a multiplicity of meanings. For instance, it may refer to an activity or to a state of mind. There are styles of prayer and forms of prayer. The Season of Lent is an appropriate time to learn about the different forms of prayers, since prayer is an integral part of the Lenten fast.

There are at least four different forms of prayer: (1) Blessing and Adoration; (2) Prayer of Petition (asking for what we need, including forgiveness); (3) Prayer of Intercession (asking for what others need); and (4) Prayer of Thanksgiving (for what God has given and done).

Prayers of blessing and adoration express praise and honor to God. Some good examples include the Te Deum, the Glory be, or the Gloria. This form emphasizes God’s power and the wonder of His creation. Prayers of petition are perhaps most familiar to all of us. We ask God for what we need, including forgiveness, mercy, strength, and so on. This type of prayer helps us change our minds so that we ask God for what He knows is truly good for us. God knows what we need even before we ask Him of course, but he wants us to ask and so grow in our trust and love of Him. His providence has already anticipated our prayers from the beginning of creation itself to provide for our daily bread. Some examples include the Memorare, and Kyrie at Mass.

Prayers of intercession help fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. Here we ask God on behalf of others. This is particularly important for the souls in purgatory who need our intercessory prayer so that they will be purified and made ready for heaven. This type of prayer emphasizes that we are not isolated individuals in this life, but part of the living Body of Christ. The Hail Mary is an example.

Finally we have prayers of thanksgiving. St. Ignatius of Loyola tells us that the spiritual life begins with gratitude. Thanksgiving instills in us that everything we have comes to us as a gift from God (our health, our families, our friends, and our existence). It is right and just to give him thanks. Grace before meals and St. Thomas Aquinas’ Prayer after Communion are good examples of this.

Just a quick note: The Our Father and the Mass are two of our most perfect prayers not only because they come directly from Christ, but because they encompass all of these forms of prayer.

Weekly Collection 

March 1, 2020

Weekly.....\$14,127.00
 EFT.....\$2,065.00

Total=\$16,192.00

Outreach.....\$1,486.00
 Building & Grounds.....\$3,462.00

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.



**Our Faith, Our Future Goal=\$2,000,000
 Pledged To Date=\$1,753,925
 Total Number of OLM Parishioners=2,120
 Total Number of Pledges=364
 Average Pledge=\$4,818**



Daily Masses during Lent

Monday - Friday, 7:30AM & 12:05PM

Confessions during Lent

Monday - Friday 11:45AM - 12:00PM
 Mondays 6:00PM - 6:45PM with 2 priests
 Saturdays 3:00PM - 3:45PM

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00PM



Religious Education
NEWS

- **March 8:** All RE Grades have class today!
- **First Communion Class:** *Congratulations on you First Confession!* First Communion Retreats on Saturday, March 28 & April 4. Please pray for our First Communion Class!
- **Sunday, March 8:** **ALL Grade 8** Confirmation Candidates, public, parochial and private, are reminded that they have a **mandatory** lecture on Sunday, March 8th at 6:00pm.



Outreach
Update

- **OLM Food Pantry is always in need of non-perishable** food times especially during the winter season. Please drop your donations in the Food Box located in the vestibule of Church. Thank you for your support.
- **OLM Outreach Bereavement Group** meets on Thursday, March 19 at 4:00PM in Mercy House. All those suffering a loss or grief are welcome to join us for prayer, support and discussion.
- **For more information about OLM Outreach,** please contact OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 or via email at outreach@olmparish.org

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

Our Lady of Mercy Church

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASS

TUESDAY, MARCH 17
12:05 PM

The Most Rev. Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
*Bishop of Worcester
Celebrant & Homilist*

Readings and Hymns in the Irish Language.
Homily in English. Reception to follow.



ST. JOSEPH'S DAY MASS

THURSDAY, MARCH 19
12:05 PM

The Most Rev. Robert C. Evans
*Auxiliary Bishop of Providence
Celebrant*

The Rev. Nathan J. Ricci
*Assistant Chancellor of the Diocese of Providence
Homilist*

Mass, Readings and Hymns in Italian.
Homily in English. Reception to follow.



Upcoming Events:

- **Friday, March 13:** OLM School Stations of the Cross at 8:30am. All are welcome to attend. Report Cards go home!!
- **Sunday, March 15:** Open Viewing at the Rhode Island State Science Fair at CCRI

www.olmschool.org

Striving to be Saints & Scholars!

2nd Sunday of Lent



This Sunday's liturgy focuses on faith and trust in God and gives us a kind of preview of Christ's resurrection in the Gospel reading of the transfiguration.

These themes form an excellent background for a special penitential rite or scrutiny that is celebrated today with already-baptized candidates who are preparing for reception into the church at Easter.

It is interesting to note that the transfiguration story is revisited on August 6 with its own feast and a very different liturgy focusing on triumph, praise, and exaltation.



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.



Lent calls us to practical almsgiving! The OLM Outreach Ministry is hosting the



Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner for the Needy at St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the Hill on Monday, March 30th at 5:00pm. Volunteers are needed for set-up, serving meals and clean-up! If you would like to volunteer to

help with this act of charity, please contact the OLM Outreach Office at 884-4410.



OLM Rosary Makers Monthly Workshop

Tuesday, March 10th
9:30 - 11:30 AM
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