



“GIVE GLORY  
TO YOUR SON,  
SO THAT YOUR SON  
MAY GLORIFY  
YOU.”

JOHN 17:1

# Mass Intentions

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*The OLM Parish Priests are offering private Mass daily for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church. In particular, we remember this week the following intentions:*

**Easter Weekday/Memorial Day Monday, May 25**

All Deceased Veterans

**St. Philip Neri, Priest, Tuesday, May 26**

Emily & Frederick Miller—Memorial

**Easter Weekday, St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, Wednesday, May 27**

The Souls in Purgatory

**Easter Weekday, Thursday, May 28**

Fr. Daniel M. Trainor—Memorial

**Easter Weekday, Friday, May 29**

Special Intention

**Easter Weekday, Saturday, May 30**

Special Intention

Russell Ferrara—Birthday Remembrance

**Pentecost Sunday, May 31**

The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

Lorraine Kane—1st Anniversary

Jean Dibble—2nd Anniversary

Marilyn E. Fox—Memorial





Dear Parishioners:

On Monday, Governor Raimondo announced that beginning next weekend, houses of worship in RI could open for public worship. The details of the safeguards and guidelines were to be available at the end of the week. With guidance from the Diocese of Providence, we are presently working on a plan to offer public Mass at OLM.

The schedule of Masses will be limited to ensure time to clean the Church before and after each public Mass. The number of people allowed to attend will be limited to allow for the six feet of separation and social distancing. The communal singing of hymns is not encouraged, and is limited as the hymnals are not in Church.

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass is still in effect, and therefore you are not morally obligated to attend. We urge all parishioners who are elderly and infirmed, and those who have health issues or are sick in any way not to attend Mass. The safety and well being of every parishioner is of paramount concern. Those who choose not to participate in public Mass out of health and safety concerns are entirely justified in their decision.

Also, we urge everyone to wear a face mask during the Mass and also to wash their hands before Mass. We want everyone to be safe. As we resume public Mass know that not everyone might be able to attend due to limitations on the number of people.

As the parish staff and I continue to plan for the resumption of public Masses at OLM, I ask for your patience

and understanding. We hope to communicate the details of our plan this week by Flocknote, and on the webpage. If you have not yet signed up for Flocknote, I encourage you to do so now as this is the most efficient and timely way for us to communicate to the parish.

It is not a time for us to be reckless or rebellious but rather to practice unity and charity. Recently I have noticed an increased lack of charity and civility as people quickly denigrate and berate those with whom they disagree. I assume it is the result of isolation, fear, and frustration during a crisis.

However, such rude impatience with others and harsh criticism offered uncharitably and sometimes angrily are not the way of the Christian. They are more than a bad habit, but instead, they are quite sinful! This week might be the week to make the way back to the Confessional, and worthily prepare for Holy Communion.

After all, the worthy reception of Holy Communion is not a trivial matter. The Catechism teaches what the chief effects of a worthy Holy Communion are: *“First, a closer union with Our Lord and a more fervent love of God and of our neighbor; Second, an increase of sanctifying grace; Third, preservation from mortal sin and remission of venial sin; Fourth, the lessening of our inclinations to sin and the help to practice good works.”*

Over these weeks of isolation due to the pandemic, the Mass is being celebrated daily across the globe. Christ comes to us every day through the Sacred Priesthood and the

daily offering of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

While many have had to fast from the Eucharist temporarily, many of our fellow Catholics across the globe have gone without weekly Communion for much more extended periods due to war, persecution, famine, and remote location. One sage commentator noted: *“Neither our faith, nor our salvation, nor the centrality of the Eucharist depends on insisting on our ‘right’ to receive Communion every Sunday.”*

While the Church encourages the faithful to receive Communion regularly, there is an obligation only to receive once a year, especially during the Easter season. I hope that the fast from the Eucharist leads to a renewal of faith, and a greater understanding of the real presence of Christ. May, the absence of Holy Communion, make our hearts grow fonder for the Eucharist Lord.

As a parish family, we patiently prepare for public Mass with an abundance of prudence and caution. So too, we should prepare ourselves individually for the reception of Christ in the Eucharist. Let us do so with prayer and charity, the avoidance of sin, the mercy of a good Confession, and the proper interior spiritual preparation so we might indeed receive Our Eucharistic Lord worthily.

Be Well. Do Good! Stay safe! God Bless. *Our Lady of Mercy, pray for us!*

*Father Healey*

# Ask Father

## What is Pentecost?

In Judaism, Pentecost was the second most important festival after Passover celebrating the giving of the Law on Sinai. It was originally a harvest festival in which the people brought the first fruits of the harvest to God. Yet, it became a celebration of covenant renewal and the giving of the Law at Sinai.

With Christ, Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Church. Poured out by the exalted Jesus at the right hand of God, the Holy Spirit is the new Law descending on His Church. The disciples gathered in the upper room when a mighty wind rushes in with tongues of fire. The Spirit of God filled them.

This event is undoubtedly reminiscent of Ezekiel 37 where God resurrects the dead and ushers in the end times. The discussion of fire links to God's judgment, especially in the preaching of John the Baptist. So it is evident that the early Christians considered themselves to be the eschatological people of Israel living in the last age inaugurated by Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. The experience centered on prophecy is what the book of Joel exactly talks about: God pours out the Spirit of prophecy.

This event also links with the celebration of the Gift of the Law on Prophecy, since it is not just the prediction of the future, the more significant function is to say God's word here and now, thereby writing the Law on the person's heart. The Law was given initially in stone tablets but now written on the hearts of believers.

For Luke, the Holy Spirit seals the New Covenant instituted by Christ, and it opens a new age: the mission of the Church to the Nations. Now God is speaking through the new Israel, the Church, and the Apostles. Symbolically by the gift of different tongues, whereby everyone understands what they say.

The third person of the Trinity by the gift of self continues the work of Jesus, his founding of the Church, and the continuing guidance and sanctification of the Church. The Spirit procures the expansion of the Church. The gift of the Holy Spirit connects to water in baptism. The Holy Spirit, who guides the ministry of the apostles, builds up the Church by being the principle of personal sanctification of believers, by animating their actions through charity, and by inspiring their witness. Luke shows that the Holy Spirit directly connected to Jesus: the Spirit animates the human activity of Jesus, and the risen Jesus pours him out.

# Weekly Collection

**May 17 2020**

Weekly.....	\$5,567.00
EFT.....	\$3,227.00
	<b>Total=\$8,794.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$725.00

**May 19, 2019**

Weekly.....	\$9,035.00
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# Outreach Update

- **OLM Food Pantry** is in **urgent need of food and paper goods** for many members of our local community. Please place all donated non-perishable foods 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!**
- If you are need of food or financial assistance please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 884-4410 (leave a message if not in) or via email at [outreach@olmparish.org](mailto:outreach@olmparish.org)



## MAY DEVOTIONS Livestreamed Mondays at 7:00pm

- Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Recitation of the Rosary
- Sacred Music & Reflection

***"The Rosary is the 'weapon' for these times."*—Saint Padre Pio**



***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](mailto: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!***

## 7th Sunday of Easter (Ascension of the Lord)



**T**he solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord which many of us celebrated on Thursday of this past week is today's celebration in some parts of the world, including Canada and some dioceses of the United States.

The Thursday which falls forty days after Easter was always the traditional day for this celebration, but provinces of bishops now have the option of changing it to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Prior to the current liturgical reforms, the paschal candle was extinguished after the reading of the Gospel on Ascension Thursday. It now remains lit for the entire fifty-day Easter celebration.



*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.*

## *The Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood of Rev. Mr. Paul Hiep Van Nguyen*



**Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 10:00AM  
Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul  
Providence, RI**

*Livestreamed on Youtube.com / Diocese of Providence*

**Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations  
Friday, June 5, 2020**

**Livestreamed at 7:00PM**

*Youtube.com / St. Philip Church, Greenville, RI*

**First Mass of Thanksgiving  
Sunday, June 7, 2020 at 2:00PM  
St. Philip Church  
Greenville, RI**

***Please pray for Deacon Hiep  
as he prepares for his ordination  
as a Priest of Providence!***

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