



# *Our Lady of Mercy Parish*

*16 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack, NH 03054*

**Website:** [www.olmnh.org](http://www.olmnh.org)

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/olmnh>

## **Mass Schedule**

Saturday - 4:30pm

Sunday - 8:30am and 10:30am

Monday, Tuesday, Wed, & Friday - 8:30am

Holy Days - 8:30am and anticipated 7:00pm

## **Parish Staff**

Rev. Msgr. Paul Bouchard, Pastor

Email: [FrPaul@olmnh.org](mailto:FrPaul@olmnh.org)

Mr. John Castelot, Deacon

[deaconjohn@olmnh.org](mailto:deaconjohn@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Marie Dancy Pastoral Associate

Email: [mdancy@olmnh.org](mailto:mdancy@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Catherine Guman, Business Manager

Email: [cguman@olmnh.org](mailto:cguman@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Elaine Lamb, Director of Parish Religious  
Education Program

Email: [emlamb2@olmnh.org](mailto:emlamb2@olmnh.org)

Mr. Joseph Lamoureux, Youth Minister

Email: [jlamoureux@olmnh.org](mailto:jlamoureux@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant for  
Religious Education

Email: [kjrush1@olmnh.org](mailto:kjrush1@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Alyce Bolduc, Receptionist/Secretary

Email: [alemae@olmnh.org](mailto:alemae@olmnh.org)

Mrs. Nancy King, Director of Music

Email: [nking@olmnh.org](mailto:nking@olmnh.org)

**Parish Office/Rectory: 424-3757**

**Religious Education Office: 424-4477**

**Fax: 424-1780**

## **Mission Statement**

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, founded in 1954, is a Roman Catholic community that shares in the life of Jesus Christ, obedient Father, and guided by the Holy Spirit. As a faith community, our mission is: to celebrate the sacraments and to proclaim the Word of God; to minister the spiritual and temporal needs of our parish through prayer, works of charity, personal witness, education, and evangelization; to welcome all people to active participation in our parish community; and to preserve the faith of the church amidst a changing world and diverse social climate. We commit ourselves to this mission, under the patronage and protection of Mary, Mother of Mercy, with faith, hope and love in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May 1999

## **Welcome New Parishioners!**

All new parishioners should formally register with the parish by visiting the Parish Office and filling out a registration form. If you move away, please notify the Parish Office.

## **Sacraments of Initiation**

Baptism for infants is usually celebrated on the last Sunday of each month. All parents must attend a parent enrichment session prior to the Baptism of their child. Please contact the Pastoral Minister, Marie Dancy, at the Parish Office to sign up for the class. It is recommended that parents attend these sessions during pregnancy. Preparation of all parishioners for Confirmation and First Communion is an integral part of living the Catholic Life. Please call the Parish Office for more information and assistance.

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation and Confession**

Parishioners are encouraged to experience sacramental forgiveness on a regular basis. Confession is available on Saturdays at 3:00pm and by appointment. If you wish to set up an appointment please call the office to speak with Father Paul. Special communal reconciliation services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

## **Weddings**

The policy of all Catholic parishes in the state of New Hampshire is that couples must contact their parish priest at least 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Couples should never make any final arrangements (especially for the wedding reception hall) prior to meeting with the parish priest. A Marriage Preparation Program is also required. A parish Wedding policy brochure is available upon request.

## **Sacrament of the Sick**

If possible, please do not wait until a critical moment to call a priest for the Sacrament of the Sick. Anyone who is seriously ill may receive this sacrament of healing and hope. It is recommended that family members be present for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.

## **Hospital Visitation**

A Catholic Chaplain is available at all our local hospitals. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish a parish priest to visit a family member of the parish who is hospitalized.

## **Outreach and Home Ministry**

Please call the Rectory to inform us in the event you are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist or the Sacrament of the Sick or that you need other ministry.

# MASS INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, October 1st**

**Vigil: Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**4:30 PM:** Barbara Valine req by the Maki family

**SUNDAY, October 2nd**

**Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30AM:** Ruth Watkins req by Diane Boissy & Alyce Bolduc and for all parishioners

**10:30AM:** Tom Gannon req by the Gannon family

**MONDAY, October 3rd**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30 AM:** Patricia A. O'Neil Valenti req by Eileen Dunn

**TUESDAY, October 4th**

**St. Francis of Assisi**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30 AM:** Blanche Shea req by her son Bill, Dee & Craig Shea

**WEDNESDAY, October 5th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30 AM:** Craig Marson req by Kurt & Liz Lochman

**THURSDAY, October 6th**

**NO MASS**

**FRIDAY, October 7th**

**Our Lady of the Rosary**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30 AM:** Joffre & Alcina Thibault req by their family

**Saturday, October 8th**

**Vigil: Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**4:30 PM:** Jack Healy req by Kurt & Liz Lochman

**SUNDAY, October 9th**

**Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**8:30AM:** Brian Desroche (7th Anniv) req by his mom & Annette Doucette (25th Anniv) req by the Jenness family

**10:30AM:** Ethel (Peggy) Garlick req by Pat Lyons and for all parishioners

## Taking Care of Business

When we were kids, my brothers and sisters and I thought that you were not supposed to say the blessing before meals in a restaurant. You were not supposed to flaunt your faith in public. It probably had more to do with fear of being embarrassed if non-believers saw us praying. I think of that when I hear St. Paul telling Timothy, "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7). All three readings mention the difficulties that people of faith will encounter, and each reading has its own way of facing those hardships.

Jesus gives the practical advice: Look at the difficulties of being a disciple as just part of your job. No servant expects to be praised by his master for doing his job. So if the Lord says I must forgive those who hurt me, or be patient with customers, or share what I have with the poor--no problem; it's part of the job of a disciple. If someone I know is in pain, I'm there to support them. Too tired to go to church after work on a holy day? Just taking care of business.

So how do we get the strength and self-control to roll with the punches? Paul reminds us in the second reading to stir the gifts of the Spirit into flame. If you take time to pray every day, if you look for God in other people, if you see difficulties as your share of the cross--you'll find those gifts of faith, power, love, and self-control beginning to grow stronger inside.

We can trust that this is more than just wishful thinking by going to the first reading. When the prophet cries out for help with the misery and violence in the world, he hears God's promise that the vision (of hope for deliverance) will be fulfilled even if it seems to be delayed. We too hear that promise when we start to get discouraged, for God's promise "will not disappoint" (Habakkuk 2:3).

Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

## Parish Stewardship



**Weekend of Sept 25th:** \$5906.00

**Retired Priests:** \$4319.00

*120 Club Winners - Congratulations*

Week #8: Grace Villiard & Bernadette Whittington

## Sanctuary Lamp



The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of October 1st through October 7th is lit in memory of **Allen Miller**.

If you would like an opportunity to dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp, over the Tabernacle, in memory of a deceased loved one or for a special intention, please contact the parish office at 424-3757. The lamp will burn for one week.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS  
THIS SUNDAY—October 2, 2016**

The feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, is October 4th.



St. Francis is known as the patron saint of animals. It is customary for Catholic churches to hold ceremonies honoring animals around his feast day. Father Paul will be blessing the animals on Sunday, **October 2nd at 1:00 pm in the church parking lot.** Animals must be in a cage or on a leash. Light refreshments will be served.



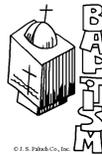
**FUEL COLLECTION**

As any New England resident knows, heating costs can be a considerable expense. The same is true for the parish. Steps have been taken to increase efficiency for our buildings,

but the cost remains high.

The weekend of October 9th we will have a second collection to help defray the cost of heating all three of our buildings during the winter months. Thank you for your generosity in helping with this expense.

**BAPTISMS**



We would like to welcome into our parish community: *Olivia Noel Lanning, Penelope Ann Cantella, Wesley Curtis Rostron.*

May your children bring you joy and happiness in the years ahead. Be assured of our support and prayers as you exercise the responsibility of training your child in the practice of faith.

**OCTOBER BABY SHOWER  
WE WILL BE COLLECTING ALL MONTH**

Throughout the month of October, our parish will remember in a special way, pregnant and parenting teens, their newborns and children in need of assistance. Donations of new, unwrapped items will be donated to two pregnancy assistance agencies in Manchester: Birthright and Pennacook Pregnancy Center. Your gifts may be placed in the playpen in the back of the church beginning the weekend of October 1st through October 29th.

**Items Needed:**

**Important—Both agencies are in great need of diapers in all sizes.**

**Other Items:**

- Baby wipes
- Sleepers
- Baby blankets
- Onesies
- Clothing up to 3T
- Infant socks
- Bibs
- Enfamil
- Baby washcloths
- Bottles, sippy cups



**PARISH COOKOUT**

A good time was had by all who attended the parish picnic last weekend at the American Legion. Food, fun, and fellowship were the cornerstones of the picnic. The talents of many in our parish were combined to make a fun afternoon of community for parishioners to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy. Thank you to all the parishioners who attended and made it such a huge success.

**Spend 4 days with Matthew**

**These presentations will help us to better understand the gospel readings of the year, and will help us to enjoy the particular treasure that Matthew's gospel offers.**



In the month of October, on Tuesday mornings in the church hall after the 8:30 Mass; and on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM in the Parish Center; and on Saturday mornings at 10 AM in the Parish Center, there will be presentations about the Gospel According to Matthew. This is offered in preparation for Cycle A, which begins on November 27, and extends throughout 2017.

Sign ups will be held this weekend and next weekend (September 24/25 and October 1/2) after all the masses or you may call the parish office anytime during the week at 424-3757.

*October 2, 2016*

**OCTOBER  
DEDICATED TO THE HOLY ROSARY**

October is a good time to reflect on our heavenly Father's great gift of life, Mother Mary's role in our Salvation, and the sanctity Jesus brought to humanity by becoming one of us.



Praying the rosary is a wonderful way to offer spiritual support for life at all stages and in all vocations by invoking Our Lady's intercession. Through prayer you can make a difference.

Each day of October 2016 has been dedicated to a specific intention. To participate, simply sign your name on the day you wish to pray the Rosary. The calendar can be found in the main entrance of the church. Each day can be chosen by more than one person. Sign ups will continue during the month of October.

**UPCOMING DATES  
FOR ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

What are those **People Who Meet on Wednesdays** talking about this week? Gratitude and thankfulness. Join in this week's discussion - **Parish Center, 7 PM, Wednesday, October 5.**

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On **Thursday, October 6 at 7 PM**, at the Parish Center there will be an adult discussion on Christian Morality. All are welcome!

**Adults Interested In the Catholic Faith?**

Have you been considering becoming a part of the Catholic Church Community and would like to know more about it? Call Marie Dancy at 424-3757 or write [mdancy@olmnh.org](mailto:mdancy@olmnh.org)



**Has your child not yet started formal Religious Education/Faith Formation Classes or Missed a few years and are looking to bring them back?**

We welcome you and your child back. We are here to work with you to find the best way to educate your child in the way of the Catholic Faith. Maybe you or someone you know has children or teens that are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church and faith...Know that it is never too late to come back!

Whether your child is just starting or perhaps was not able to attend for a few years...we are here to help you. Consider this an invitation for you to call the parish office at 424-4477 and speak with Elaine to discuss the specific needs of your children and family.

***Religious Education Upcoming Dates  
Mark Your Calendars***

Oct 2—Opening Mass for the 1st Penance Program  
10:30 AM

Oct 5 — **Grades 1-6 Wednesday** classes begin 4:15  
to 5:30 pm at Masticola Upper  
Elementary School.

**ALTAR SERVER MEETING  
For ALL Altar Servers**



Fr. Paul has asked that all servers already active in the ministry come to an **all server meeting** on either Saturday, October 15th from 5:30 to 6:30 pm **or** on Sunday, October 16th from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. You only need to attend one of these meetings.

We will review recent changes to our server practices and discuss any issues or concerns you may have.

If you are not an altar server and think you might like to join this ministry, please come to one of these meetings for more information. See you there.

**SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS  
ANNUAL FAIR  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH  
9AM TO 3:30 PM**



This fundraiser will help the community as they undergo extensive repairs to their retirement home as well as their responsibilities to the senior and sick in their community.

There will be theme baskets, raffles, grab bags, lucky draw, prizes, bake sale, crafters, penny sale, lunch and more...

Join us at Holy Cross Hall, 357 Island Pond Rd, Manchester, NH. Admission and parking are free.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
K of C CRAFT FAIR  
Friday, November 4th  
Saturday, November 5th

More information will follow!!

Please keep all the men and women who serve our country in the military in your prayers. May God keep them safe at all times.

## Information Page

Acct #: 694750

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Merrimack, NH 03054

Contact Person: Kathleen Rush

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Fax: (603) 424-1780

Email Address: [kjrush1@olmnh.org](mailto:kjrush1@olmnh.org)

### **BULLETIN FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 2ND**

**Kathy**

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