



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Website: www.olmnh.org
424-3757; 424-4477; Fax: 424-1780

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
Mr. John Castelot, Deacon
deaconjohn@olmnh.org
Mrs. Marie Dancy Pastoral Associate
Email: mdancy@olmnh.org
Mrs. Catherine Guman, Business Manager
Email: cguman@olmnh.org
Mrs. Laura Paison, Director of Parish Religious
Education Program
Email: lpaison@olmnh.org
Ms. Mackenzie Murphy, Youth Minister
Email: mmurphy@olmnh.org
Mrs. Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant for
Religious Education
Email: kjrush1@olmnh.org
Mrs. Alyce Bolduc, Receptionist/Secretary
Email: alemae@olmnh.org
Mrs. Nancy King, Director of Music
Email: 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, September 16th

Vigil: Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Daniel H. Raby req by his brothers & sisters

SUNDAY, September 17th

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Marguerite Ryan req by her family

10:30AM: Grace Savard req by her daughter Barbara and for all parishioners

MONDAY, September 18th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:10AM: John & Dorothy Kreppin req by Bruce & Janet Angus

TUESDAY, September 19th

St Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Jean Gelinis req by Larry & Pat Miller

WEDNESDAY, September 20th

Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Joseph Arcifa req by Muriel Gelinis

THURSDAY, September 21st

NO MASS

FRIDAY, September 22nd

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For the intentions of the celebrant

SATURDAY, September 23rd

Vigil: Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: For all Parishioners

SUNDAY, September 24th

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Kaz Gontarz req by his wife Joann

10:30AM: Mary Mullaney req by Kurt & Liz Lochman

The Cross of Forgiveness

Why should we forgive those who hurt us? The gospel this Sunday gives three reasons: First, because Jesus commands it. Second, because forgiveness is part of loving one another. And third, because we want to be forgiven for our sins.

Obviously, Jesus expects us to forgive one another. Here he commands us to forgive unceasingly, without limit. Now that could be a challenge for even the most patient person. So does forgiveness exclude tough love? Does it mean we have to let someone hurt us over and over? No, it is possible to forgive someone and also prevent them from hurting us, if we do it with love (the second reason.) For instance, we might forgive an alcoholic family member, but still insist that they get help. We can forgive a son or daughter who breaks the law, but still let them face the consequences so they learn from their mistake. We may forgive a friend who borrows money without repaying it, but still refer them to a credit counselor, instead of lending them more money. Since forgiveness is part of love, it is also part of tough love.

That leads to the third reason: We forgive because we want to be forgiven. Or more accurately, we forgive because we have been forgiven. Jesus has already died for our sins. His resurrection shows us that the Father accepted the sacrifice of his Son Jesus for our sins. If we truly believe that Jesus is risen and that we will rise to eternal life with him in spite of our sins, how can we refuse to forgive someone who hurts us? When we promise to take up our cross each day to follow Jesus, we must remember why Jesus took up his cross and realize that we have to forgive as he does. That is why the cross is such a powerful symbol. It challenges us to accept suffering for Jesus' sake. It reminds us that sometimes our cross is simply forgiving someone rather than hurting them back or hating them. If Jesus gave his life to forgive us, how willing are we to spread that forgiveness around?

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Sanctuary Lamp



The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of September 16th through September 22nd is lit in memory of **Howard Franklin**.

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Lamp lit in memory of or for the intentions of a loved one, please call the parish office at 424-3757.

120 Club Winners - Congratulations

Week #6 : Cathy Guman & Susan Otova

Parish Stewardship



Week of September 10th: \$5276.00
Collection for Hurricane Harvey Victims: \$5678.00

Keep in your prayers all our military men and women who are serving our country in here and abroad.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017 @ 2:00 PM



On Sunday afternoon, **September 24th at 2:00 pm** we will have a communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick and you are all invited to attend. Who should be anointed?

The answer is simple...

- Any person of any age who is suffering from physical, mental or emotional illness may be anointed. You do not need to wait until the illness becomes so grave that you are hospitalized to celebrate this sacrament.
- Any person dealing with fears, isolation and physical limitations of older age may come for the healing and comforting touch of Christ in this sacrament.
- Any person who will undergo surgery in the near future.
- All healthy Catholics who want to thank God for the gift of their good health and want to pray for those who are celebrating this sacrament.

A light reception will follow downstairs

Baked goods are needed for the reception. If you are able to help out by baking a finger dessert, please call Muriel Gelinat at 424-5717.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Our High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12) will be meeting again on Sunday evening, September 24th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Please join us and have some fun!!! For more information or any questions, please contact Mackenzie Murphy at mmurphy@olmnh.org.

RESTORE,RENEW,PROCLAIM THE HOPE THAT IS CHRIST!

The Diocese of Manchester is launching an initiative to strengthen faith formation in our parishes and schools. It is called "Restore, Renew, Proclaim the Hope that is Christ." The goal of this initiative is to make lifelong faith formation a priority and a reality in all of our parishes.

FOOT CLINIC

On September 28th from 9:00am to 1:00pm Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting a Foot Care Clinic operated by the well qualified nurses of Home Health and Hospice Care.

The cost is \$28.00 and is payable by cash or check at the time of the appointment. For more information or to schedule your appointment, please call Home Health & Hospice Care at 689-2931. For a full schedule of foot care clinics visit our website at www.hhhc.org.

To accomplish this, we will be looking for ways to strengthen our youth ministry and adult faith formation processes, as well as reimagining our sacramental preparation programs. At the heart of all this is a desire to form disciples of all ages.

Exciting things will be happening in all our parishes as we look forward with hope and confidence that the Holy Spirit will guide all of our efforts. Our parish will continue to be a place where disciples are formed in the faith and sent on mission.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

On September 30th, Deacon John and our Youth Group will be holding a day of service where we will be carpooling to a home in Manchester, NH to do some yard work and work inside the home. This event will take place from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:30 am. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Deacon John at deaconjohn@olmnh.org or Mackenzie Murphy at mmurphy@olmnh.org.

End of Life Planning Workshop

Join your fellow parishioners for an informative workshop on end of life planning and decisions makers. Hear from our presenters on estate planning, medical advance directives and decision making, charitable giving, hospice options and making your own funeral arrangements. Learn how to take charge of your own affairs, and not leave the burden to your loved ones.

Saturday, **September 23rd, from 9:00 – 11:30 am** in the Church Hall. There will be a Q&A period and refreshments will be served.

September 17, 2017

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi 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.



Our Lady of Mercy as part of the Interfaith Community of Merrimack, will be hosting the Blessing of Animals on **Saturday, October 7th at 10:00 am in Watson Park, (across from the Fire Department on Route 3) Merrimack.**

Animals play such an important part in the lives of so many of us. This is an opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the animals in our lives, for their companionship, service and the joy they bring to us. All are invited to gather and bring their pets on leashes or in carriers to receive a blessing as we give thanks to God for "all creatures, great and small."

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FULLY INITIATED MEMBER OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Any person older than 11 years of age who has not received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), are invited to call the parish office at 424-3757 and speak with Marie Dancy to receive more information regarding this process.

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls **Elizabeth O'Gara, William Maliar and Pat Maloney.**



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families of Elizabeth, William and Pat. We pray that the God of compassion be with you during this time of sorrow and that He welcomes Elizabeth, William and Pat into His eternal kingdom of peace.

LADIES GUILD—INSTALLATION

Please join the OLM Ladies Guild installation of officers after the 8:30 am Mass on **Tuesday, September 19th.** It will be followed by a full breakfast provided by Castle Caterers and a brief meeting. A headcount for the caterer is needed by **September 17th.** Please call Irene Jenness at 424-2362 to RSVP or for more information. All ladies of the parish are invited.

**Upcoming Faith Formation Dates
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Meetings

Sept 19: 1st Reconciliation Teacher Mtg 7pm PC
Sept 24: Gr 7-9 Parent Mtg 6:15pm CH
Sept 26: 1st Reconciliation Parent Mtg 7pm PMR
Oct 7: Gr 1-6 (Sat) Parent Meeting 8:15am PC
Oct 18: Gr 1-6 (Wed) Parent Mtg 5:00pm TBA

Classes Begin...

Saturday Classes.....Sept 30th 8:15-9:30 am
Sunday Classes.....Sept 24th 6:15-7:45 pm
Wednesday Classes....Oct 4th 4:15-5:30 pm

TIME IS RUNNING SHORT—CLASSES

BEGIN SOON...We are still in need of several teachers and aides for our Wednesday program.

Please prayerfully consider sharing your time and faith with the children of our parish.

All teaching materials and supplies are provided.

Teacher manuals are easy to follow and the staff is always here to support you and answer any questions. Please call the office at 424-4477 and speak with either Laura or Kathy if you would like more information on volunteering .

YOUNG ADULT MUSIC GROUP



We're looking for some talented teens and young adult musicians (Gr 7-12 or college age) to join our Youth Music Group. If you play an instrument or like to sing, please let us know! Music ministry is a great way to get involved in the parish, and also meet other fellow musicians. We rehearse on Mondays from 6 to 8 pm. Our first rehearsal will be on September 11th in the Church. Please reach out to Nancy King, director of music ministry at nking@olmnh.org . Hope to see you there as we grow this exciting new musical chapter at Our Lady of Mercy!

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER???

Do you love kids? Are you looking for ways to get more involved in the Church? Have you ever wanted to share your faith with others or those younger than you? Do you love to plan events?

Our High School Youth Ministry is currently up and running and we are seeking energetic adults to join us on our Core Team as we are looking to expand our Youth Ministry and create a Middle School Youth Group. If interested, please contact Mackenzie Murphy at mmurphy@olmnh.org.

Information Page

Acct #: 694750

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Bulletin for September 17, 2017

Kathy