



**SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION**
3:30 - 4:30 Saturday



THE MASS
Sat vigil - 5:00 PM
(school parking lot)
Sunday - 9:00 & 11:00
Weekday - 9:00 Am
(Mon - Sat)



**MEETINGS - VIDEO
CONFERENCING**
ZOOM

OMPH NEWSLETTER

13th Sunday Ordinary Time

June 28, 2020

Dear Friends,

I have to apologize, it's Saturday morning and in a few moments I'll be rushing to get ready for our parish feast day celebration. So, unfortunately this letter is going to be quite short (*with maybe a few typos*).

As I sit in my room with my window open the rain is gently falling on the magnificent front lawn of St. Clement's. I need to first give thanks to Almighty God for the good weather that we have received during the last week (*although we must have needed rain last Saturday*). The First Communion celebrations were wonderful - excellent weather, and last night's Confirmation ceremony was also a success - excellent weather.

Most importantly I want to congratulate those who received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time, and those who were confirmed last night - congratulations! And this Monday evening we will have our OMPH graduation ceremony - congratulations to all of you!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped (*and continue to help*) plan and implement our recent parish activities. I would like to thank a few of these parishioners who have given up so much of their time and talent to serve the parish - *Greg Schlotterer, John Palm, Mary Burkholder, Vince Mento, Jim Lawson, Theresa Novotnak* - **Thank you!**

Finally, as you know we moved into the Green Phase on Friday. What does this mean for us? As far as the church is concerned (*my responsibility*), we need to continue doing everything we have been doing in the yellow phase. The parishioners of OMPH have been doing an excellent job in following all the guidelines set forth by the diocese and CDC - *we cannot let our guard down!*

Covid-19 hits home when a friend or family member tests positive - that happened to me this week. I was informed that my friend and confrere, Fr. George Rosario, C.Ss.R. tested positive for Covid-19. He's in his 80's and he's stationed at the same parish where I came from last year in South Carolina.

Please keep Fr George in your prayers and the community of priests at Our Lady of the Hills in Columbia, SC. And please continue to follow the guidelines set forth by the diocese as we journey through these uncertain times - *wearing masks and safe distancing*.

In this weekend's gospel Jesus calls his disciples - "little ones." Everyone of us is precious and dear to our Blessed Lord, he loves his "little ones" and he will never abandon us. The young men and women who were confirmed remind us - we too - all his "little ones" have been sealed with the Holy Spirit to give us strength, hope, and peace especially at this time.

God bless,

Fr. John

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday vigil, 5:00pm	in the school parking lot
Sunday, 9:00am & 11:00am	in the church (<i>live-streamed</i>)
Weekdays, Mon - Sat, 9:00am	in the church (<i>live-streamed</i>)

Distribution of Holy Communion

Sunday, 12:30pm	under the church drive thru
-----------------	-----------------------------

PARISH ACTIVITIES RESUMING

(starting week of June 21st)

Confessions	Saturday	3:30 - 4:30 in the Church (<i>please wear mask</i>)
Adoration	Friday	Immediately after 9:00 Mass until 4:00pm
Church Visiting Hours		Mon. thru Fri. 9:00am - 4:00pm

DON'T FORGET

Holy Hour	Friday	3:00 - 4:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction
Fr. Jim's Flourishing Family Lessons		Stay tuned for times

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTERING PARISH BUILDINGS DURING TIME OF PANDEMIC

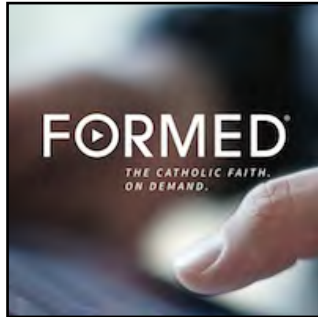
We ask you please do not enter any of the parish buildings unless authorized by Fr. John or Fr. Jim during this time of COVID-19. The buildings are sanitized, and for your safety and ours we do not want to spread the virus. We know many of you have keys to the doors, but we ask you - PLEASE DO NOT ENTER ANY OF THE CHURCH BUILDINGS WITHOUT APPROVAL. Thank you, Fr. John

A NOTE FROM THE PARISH FOOD BANK

During the weeks since the pandemic has hit, the Food Bank has been forced to provide "drive through" distribution on Wednesdays. Consequently, the volunteers have noticed that we are servicing only approximately one-half as many families as we were prior to the pandemic restrictions. As a result the Food Bank volunteers would like to remind the OMPH parishioners that they can access the weekly Food Bank distributions every Wednesday starting at 5 pm until approximately 6:30 pm, until further notice. Also, for anyone who would like to donate food, there is a drop off box outside the church entrance.

NEW PARISH APP - *myParish*

Last weekend we invited our parishioners to download our new parish app, called *myParish*. Each week for the next 16 weeks we will highlight a different feature of the app. If you have an iPhone or and Android this is the app for you. It's simple to use, it helps our parish to be more connected and to deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus.



FORMED

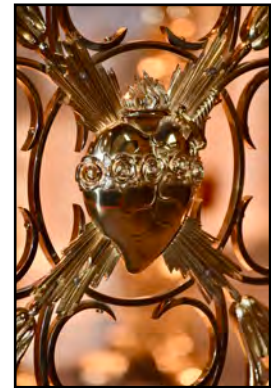
This Catholic website (formed.org) is truly one of the great treasures available to our parishioners - and it's free. All you need to do is go to the website formed.org and search for our parish and then register. On formed.org you can access thousands of movies, religious programs, audios and books - instantly. Here you can watch some of the best Catholic movies, children programs, and engage in entertainment that supports a Catholic lifestyle.

There are bible stories, stories of saints, documentaries, and sacramental preparation materials. What's great, you can watch it anywhere.

PARISH ACTIVITIES DURING PANDEMIC

HOLY HOUR & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET LIVE-STREAMED EVERY FRIDAY - 3:00 PM

I really look forward to the Holy Hour each Friday with the Blessed Sacrament exposed as we chant the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We're also praying for an end to the Pandemic, for the victims of the virus, and for all those who are sacrificing to keep us safe - first responders and health care professionals. During the Holy Hour we are also praying for all of the needs of our parishioners. During the hour of prayer we are also reading a Visit to the Blessed Sacrament by St. Alphonsus Liguori with a prayer of Spiritual Communion. This is a difficult time, but Our Blessed Lord has promised us that He would never abandon us - He is with us always, join us for this very special time of prayer.



FR. JIM'S FLOURISHING FAMILY LESSONS

I want to thank Fr. Jim for putting together such wonderful video programs for our families during this difficult time.

While Fr. Jim is focusing on the family, he is also reaching out to the children in the parish on a separate day.

You can see Fr. Jim's programs on Facebook and on the parish website - please watch for times on the parish website and Facebook.

All of Fr. John's and Fr. Jim's previous talks can be viewed on the parish website (omphchurch.com).

NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

We are so fortunate to have OMPH as our patroness here at our parish. The Wednesday Novena is always a good reminder to me of all the graces that flow through our Blessed Mother to us to protect us and to keep us safe. She truly is our mother, may we continue to run to her in total confidence and trust. As we celebrate our parish feast we are particularly thankful for all the graces we have received through the loving arms of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE

Please do not forget to visit our new parish website (omphchurch.com), we are constantly updating it with new information, such as the latest videos from Fr. Jim and Fr. John, the weekly newsletter, church and local news, new photos, calendar changes, and so much more. Also, there is a place for you to make suggestions to the pastor or to make any comments you wish - we want to stay connected the best we can.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic School COVID-19 Tuition Assistance Fund

As a result of the Coronavirus, our families are facing significant challenges in their lives, including unemployment and loss of income. Our students had to transition from a traditional classroom education to at home distance learning.

Our OMPH School community remains steadfast in our support of our students during this pandemic. Our faculty continues their commitment to our children with digital instruction and support. Our faith community is kept strong with online Daily Prayers, the Weekday Rosary, School Mass and Family Flourishing Lessons.

To support our students and their families in need, Our Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic School has established the COVID-19 Tuition Assistance Fund.

A gift to this specific fund can lessen the financial burden for our families so that we may continue to empower our students to reach their fullest potential, spiritually and academically.



DONATE NOW AT

<https://osvonlinegiving.com/4431/Home/NewQuickGive>

www.omph.org, Facebook @OMPHEphrata

OR Mail donation to: Our Mother of Perpetual Help School - Development Office

Prayer for Families

We bless your name, O Lord,
for sending your own incarnate Son,
to become part of a family,
so that, as he lived its life,
he would experience its worries and its joys.
We ask you, Lord,
to protect and watch over this family,

We ask you, Lord
to protect and watch over this family,
so that in the strength of your grace
its members may enjoy prosperity,
possess the priceless gift of your peace,
and, as the Church alive in the home,
bear witness in this world to your glory.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SOMETHING NEW

Each week we'll be giving you a very simple outline for reading, reflecting and sharing the gospel message with your family members. You can also do the exercise on your own. This is a wonderful way for the family to grow together in faith.



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: Jesus asks his disciples to take their cross and follow him.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel from Matthew

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you listen to this Scripture story today, what is one word or thought that really struck you? What image do you take away from this reading?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: How can you live as a follower of Jesus?

Question for Youth: What does Jesus demand of his followers?

Question for Adults: What does this Gospel teach you about the cost of discipleship and how does it relate to your experience so far?

Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*). Through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

The family is the "Domestic Church." This is the first 'church' where we are taught to come together and pray - perhaps in new and different ways. This is an opportune time for families to come together and pray - perhaps in new and different ways. Please check out the website below, it is loaded with many wonderful and varied prayers.

Also, I have enclosed at the end of this newsletter a program for ***Sunday Prayer at Home*** that can be prayed by the entire family. Since families are unable to receive the Eucharist at this time, the faithful are encouraged to make a ***Spiritual Communion*** (enclosed) which is encouraged by many of saints including St. Alphonsus Liguori.

<http://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/praying.html>

NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

<https://nfcym.org/covid19/>

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF THE CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

<https://www.cgsusa.org/homepage/covid-19-response/>

MASS INTENTIONS - Masses that were scheduled will still be said in private. To schedule a new Mass intention, please call the Parish Office at 717-733-9641.

JUNE 28 2020

FIRST COMMUNION PHOTOS



JUNE 28 2020



JUNE 28 2020



JUNE 28 2020



JUNE 28 2020

