

# 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?" Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Mt 20:13-16a)*

*September 24, 2023*

## *Our Lady of Sorrows Parish*

*59 Cottage St., Sharon, MA*

### *Fall Mass Schedule*

#### *Weekend Masses*

*Saturday 4:30 PM*

*Sunday 7:30, 8:45 & 11 AM*

#### *Weekday Masses*

*Wednesday, Thursday,*

*Friday*

*9 AM*

#### *Adoration*

*Friday after the 9 am Mass*

*Benediction at*

*12 Noon*

#### To Contact Us:

Parish: 781-784-2265

Website: [www.olossharon.org](http://www.olossharon.org)

Parish Email:

[parish@olossharon.org](mailto:parish@olossharon.org)

Pastor:

Rev. John Chen



## **Sacraments**

We welcome those seeking the sacraments of the Church. For information on celebrating the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office.

### **Baptism**

4th Sunday of Each Month

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday at 3:45 PM or by appointment

### **Adoration**

Friday at 9:30 AM to Noon

## **Connecting**

If you are housebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, if you are in need of prayer or if you need assistance from our community, please call the Parish Office or send us an email. We want to hear from you.

## **Bible Study:**

Wednesday at 10 AM in the Bullock Center  
All are Welcome!

## **Contact Us:**

We welcome your ideas and involvement. Please contact us. We also invite you to visit and contribute to our prayer book in the back of the church.

**Parish Office: 781-784-2265**

**Web: [www.olossharon.org](http://www.olossharon.org)**

**Email: [parish@olossharon.org](mailto:parish@olossharon.org)**

## **Our Vision**

*We welcome all to our community as we celebrate and explore our Catholic faith. We embrace the unique religious composition of Sharon. We proclaim the Risen Lord who gathers us as a community. We pursue open dialogue as we follow the teachings of Jesus Christ through lifelong learning and faith formation. We practice and promote social justice that affirms the Dignity of every human being. We call upon the grace and talents of all parishioners to strengthen our living church.*

Please visit our full Vision Statement at our website.

### **Staff:**

**Rev. John Chen, Pastor**

[frjohnchensj@olossharon.org](mailto:frjohnchensj@olossharon.org)

### **Associates**

**Rev. Francis X. Clooney, S.J.**

**Rev. Kevin Spicer, C.S.C.**

**Monica LaFond**

**Director of Faith Formation**

[mlafond@olossharon.org](mailto:mlafond@olossharon.org)

**Tzipora Stessman**

**Coordinator of Pre-K Faith Formation and Service**

[tstessman@olossharon.org](mailto:tstessman@olossharon.org)

**Daesik Cha, Music Director**

[dcha@olossharon.org](mailto:dcha@olossharon.org)

**Lynn Jacobs, Office Manager**

[ljacobs@olossharon.org](mailto:ljacobs@olossharon.org)

**Parish Pastoral Council:**

**Pastor**

**Parish Finance Council:**

**Jim Spoto ~ Chair**



## Weekly Offertory

The average cost to run the parish is \$9,600 per week. Our expectation is that 73% or \$6,980 will come from the weekly offertory. Parishioners contributed \$5,843 for the week ending **September 17, 2023**. Thank you.

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## Weekend Readings ~ #1164

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 55:6-9

**2nd Reading:** Philippians 1:20c-24

**Gospel:** Matthew 20:1-16a



## Prayers for the

Sick

Mike Methot, Lauren Magobabs, Owen Devlin, Douglas Devlin, Jeanne Bruner, Joe Kurtzer, Kathleen O'Brien, Eden Glover

Deceased:

Hazel Blundell McDonough, Don Landis, Gerald Boulet, Frances Singarella, Edward Connors, Francis Fox

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## Music

**Mass Parts**

#320-370-373-372-389

**Gathering ~ #596**

Praise to You, O Christ, Our savior

**Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm #191**

"The lord is near to all who call on him"

**Offertory ~ #653**

There Is a Longing

**Communion ~ #919**

I Come with Joy

**Recessional ~ #850**

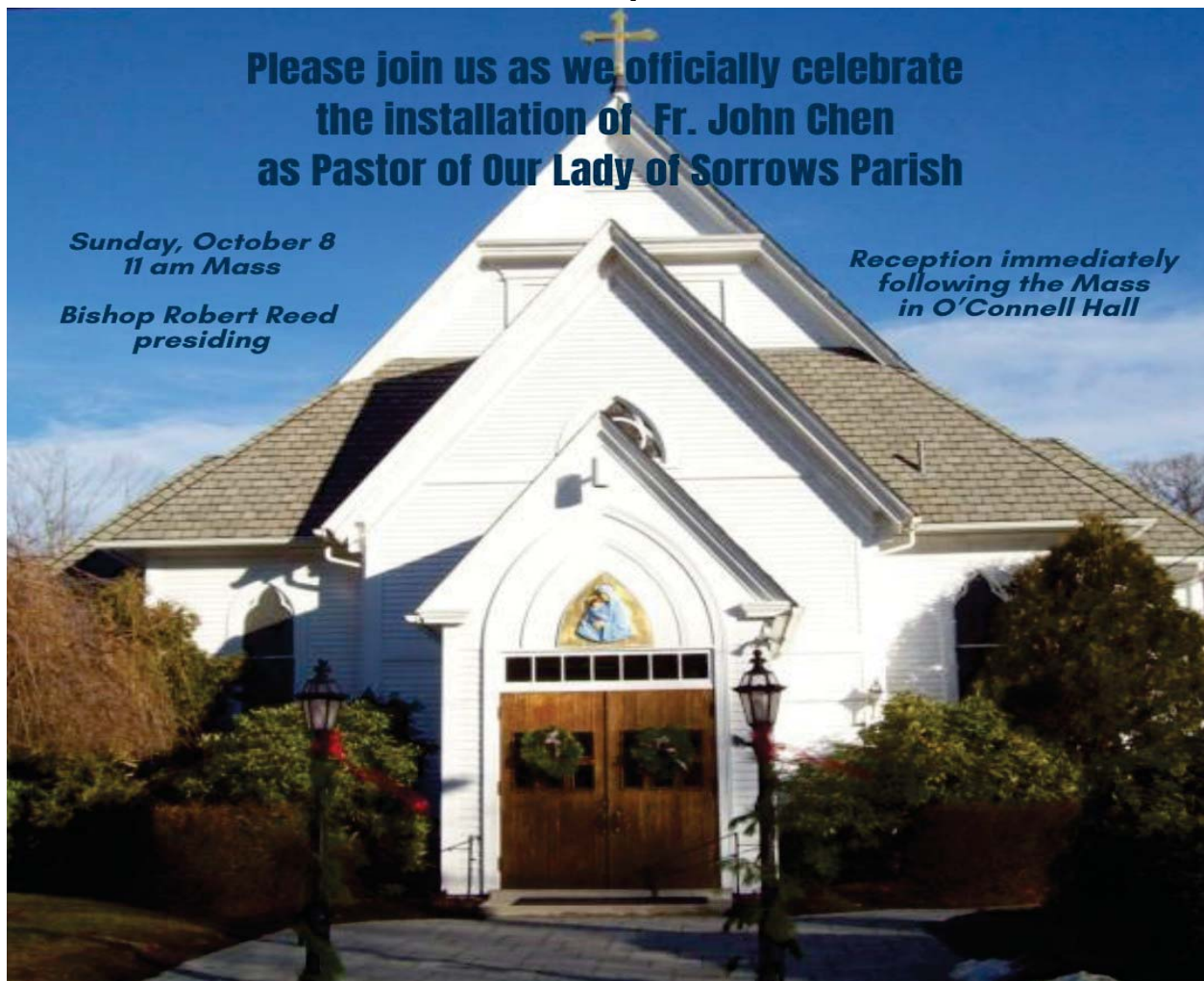
All Are Welcome

**Please join us as we officially celebrate  
the installation of Fr. John Chen  
as Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish**

*Sunday, October 8  
11 am Mass*

*Bishop Robert Reed  
presiding*

*Reception immediately  
following the Mass  
in O'Connell Hall*



September 24 2023



## Pastor's Note

Dear parishioners and friends of Our Lady's, What a beautiful day for our parish community to celebrate the Mass at the Lake. The sky was blue and high, the sun was warm and shining, and the people were happy and joyful. I, personally, was greatly excited simply because of the weather and the number of people present. Mindful that the forecast was for unpredictable weather, we certainly cannot deny God's divine intervention because of our prayers and the intercession of Our Blessed Mother.

The answer to my long-asked question, "Why would the Sorrows of the Blessed Mother become a great celebration for us?", now becomes clear. By sending me to Sharon, God is revealing the answers to me. No one likes suffering, yet, paradoxically, suffering is unavoidable in our lives. The great positive attitude that our community has shown from as early as 1906 when this parish changed its name to Our Lady of Sorrows is undoubtedly faith-inspiring. Not only did the early members of this parish know that God and His beloved ones all endure sorrow, but also they knew well the Sorrows of the Blessed Mother who is dear to us who love life. The earliest members of this church understood the three dimensions of Mary's faith as explained by Pope Francis: the Journey that Mary, the first disciple, took to visit her cousin Elizabeth, the Compassion that Mary as a mother showed to the world during the sufferings of Jesus, and the Prophecy that Mary embodied, as a model for all future followers to be ready to take up Jesus' cross with love.

Friends, how blessed we are to be part of this community. Just as the Son of Man suffered greatly for our sake (cf. Lk 9:22) and just as the Blessed Mother bore all the sorrows of accompanying her Son, Jesus, so we also go through life carrying our own deep sorrows which can be transformed into joy through our faith. Mary did not flee from Jesus' suffering but stood with Him through all. We pray that Our Lady of Sorrows and her Son walk closely beside us and lift up whatever crosses and burdens we bear in life.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank all of you: God and the people of Our Lady of Sorrows. I am indeed blessed to be part of this community. As we hear in this Sunday's Gospel, God is so generous to us.

God Bless, Fr. John Chen



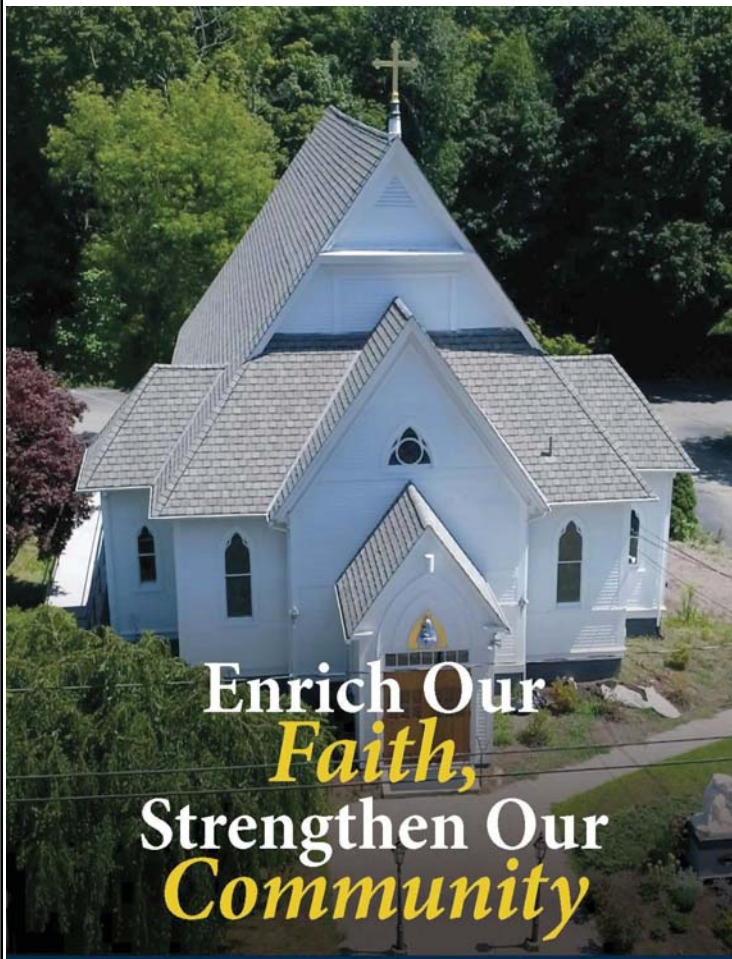
## Eucharistic Adoration

Come adore the Lord for one hour or more in Eucharistic Adoration. We are looking for people to commit to spending a scheduled hour a week with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at Adoration. The Most Blessed Sacrament is exposed upon the altar of Our Lady of Sorrows each Friday immediately following the 9 am Mass until the Benediction at 12 noon. We are trying to find two people per hour. We ask that you come a few minutes before your hour starts and stay with Jesus the entirety of the hour. Please prayerfully consider giving Jesus an hour of your week in Adoration. There is a sign up sheet on the table behind the last row of pews in the church.

*"Just as you cannot be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the divine rays of His grace, His love, His peace."*

– Pope Paul VI

## “Enrich Our Faith, Strengthen Our Church” Program



This week you will receive a brochure introducing our “Enrich Our Faith, Strengthen Our Church” Program. I’m proud to be part of the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish community. On Commitment Weekend, September 30 & October 1, I invite each of you to participate in this important program and help us respond to God’s great gift of love. I ask that you please review this brochure and prayerfully consider how you and your family can help Our Lady of Sorrows Parish by financially supporting our ministries, furthering our mission, and reinforcing our future.

We ask that all faithful parishioners complete a Commitment Card. A card will be included in the brochure mailing for you to:

mail to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included in this mailing. You can also bring your card to Mass next Sunday **OR** scan this QR code with your phone to

complete the Commitment Card online.

The back of the Commitment Card has a place for you to include any prayer intentions you wish to share. We welcome all intentions and they will be prayed for collectively over the next few weeks. If you would like to speak to a priest, please indicate so on your card and we will be in contact with you.



Our goal is 100% participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish!

God’s Blessings,  
Fr John





Faith Formation  
Registration

The Office of Faith Formation at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish has been spending the summer months getting ready for an excellent upcoming year. If you have participated in the program before, welcome back. If you are new, welcome!

Take a moment now to register your child(ren) for the PreK-Grade 5, Middle School, or Confirmation program. To register or learn more about our program offerings for the year, visit the parish website.

*Classes Begin NEXT Sunday, October 1st*

**PreK-5 Orientation for Parents** ~ Sun., Oct. 1 ~ 9:45-10:45 am in the CSS cafeteria

**Middle School Orientation for Parents** ~ Mon., Sept. 25 ~ 5-6 pm in O'Connell Hall

**Confirmation I Orientation for Parents and Students** ~ Thurs., Sept. 28 ~ 7-8 pm in O'Connell Hall

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with the faith formation program! We still are in need of volunteers! If you have a child in 3rd grade, please consider volunteering to be a catechist! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tzipora Stessman at (781) 784-2265 or [tstessman@oloss Sharon.org](mailto:tstessman@oloss Sharon.org)

**Volunteers  
Needed!**



## **Protecting God's Children Training**

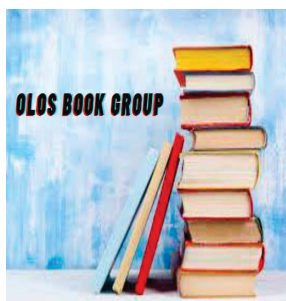
The Archdiocese of Boston requires all adult volunteers involved with OLOS activities or events where children may be present during the course of their volunteering attend a one-time Protecting God's Children training program. This program will be offered on the following dates: **Saturday, October 14 from 1-4 pm OR Sunday, November 19 from 1-4 pm**



You need to attend only one of the sessions being offered. To register scan this QR code

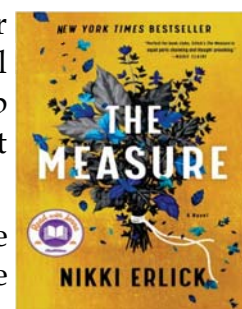


For more information or for assistance determining if this requirement applies to you, please contact Lynn Jacobs at the parish office, [ljacobs@oloss Sharon.org](mailto:ljacobs@oloss Sharon.org).



The next meeting of the OLOS Book Group is scheduled for Sunday, September 24 from 2-3 PM via Zoom. We will discuss **The Measure** by **Nikki Erlick**. The Book Group meets one Sunday afternoon a month to discuss books that broadly deal with spiritual or religious themes.

**For our September meeting, we will meet via Zoom.** Please contact Monica LaFond at [mlafond@oloss Sharon.org](mailto:mlafond@oloss Sharon.org) for the Zoom link.



## **Breakfast Donations for Mainspring House**



We are collecting continental breakfast items for donation to the MainSpring House in Brockton, which provides shelter and meals to homeless men, women and children. We need muffins, bagels, cereal in individual serving containers, yogurt in single servings, bread and juice. Donations should be dropped off in the Bullock Center anytime **Monday, September 25 or before noon on Tuesday, September 26**. Please visit the parish website to sign up.



**Altar Server Training**

**COME JOIN US...**



**Learn to serve at our Lord's table!**

Anyone who has received  
First Communion is  
encouraged to participate.  
Adults and parent-child  
pairs are welcome!



**Saturday October 21 from 2:30 - 3:30pm  
in the church.**



**Join us for an Altar Server Ice Cream Social  
in the Bullock Center immediately  
following.**



# Bagged Lunch Brigade

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

11:30am-12:30 pm  
Bullock Center



**We are preparing bagged lunches and need your donations and your help!**

**MainSpring House, a homeless shelter in Brockton, depends on bagged lunches to serve to hungry men, women, and children who are unable to make it to specific meal times at the shelter.**

**Items needed include: cases of small (8 oz) bottles of water, fruit (apples, bananas, and oranges), lunch meat, loaves of sandwich bread, and undecorated sugar cookies. All items should be labeled "Bagged Lunch Brigade" and brought to the Bullock Center by noon on Thursday, October 12. Volunteers are also needed to assemble the lunches from 11:30am-12:30 pm on Saturday, October 14.**

**To help, sign up at [olossharon.org](http://olossharon.org) or contact Tzipora Stessman (781-784-2265 or [tstessman@olossharon.org](mailto:tstessman@olossharon.org)) for more information.**



## FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The volunteers at the Food Pantry have been so grateful for the continued support they have been receiving all summer long. Now that we're approaching the fall and the return to school and many activities, they are seeing an increase in the number of clients, especially since many of them have had their SNAP benefits either cut back or even eliminated. So please try to remember to bring even one or two items to Mass or drop off anytime during the week in the rear of the church. There will be a new flyer posted at the drop off point with suggestions of types of items they see a request for most frequently. Any nonperishable food items will be most gratefully accepted. And on behalf of the volunteers and the Christian Services Commission, thank you and God bless your generosity.

### Knights of Columbus Essay Contest Announcement

Foxboro/Sharon Knights of Columbus Council 6063 is sponsoring an essay contest for Confirmation students at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. Students in our Confirmation I and II faith formation classes are invited to submit an essay of 500-750 words on the topic "How can the Church evangelize in the digital age?" Essays and entry forms are due Friday, November 30, 2023. Essays will be judged on content, grammar and style. Awards include \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place, and \$50 for third place. For more information and the entry form, contact Monica LaFond at [mla-fond@olssharon.org](mailto:mla-fond@olssharon.org)



## *Annual Tootsie Roll Drive*



The Knights of Columbus are conducting their annual Tootsie Roll drive the weekend of September 30-October 1. 100% of the contributions will support adults and children with intellectual and physical disabilities. You can also support the drive by utilizing the attached QR code with your cell phone camera. Hovering the camera on the QR code will give you access to a website that will allow you to donate.

<https://givebutter.com/FoxboroTootsieRoll>



September 24 2023

# Share Your Time & Talents

with the community of  
Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

## Why volunteer?

Connect with others, make a difference, have fun and keep our parish vibrant.

## No time?

## Lots of time?

There are volunteer opportunities to meet your time, talent and interests.



**Scan the QR code**  
(below) to review the opportunities and sign up. Thank you!



Contact Lynn Jacobs: [ljacobs@olossoharon.org](mailto:ljacobs@olossoharon.org) or call 781-784-2265



# PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY BREAKTHROUGH!

**"My feet feel like they're on fire."  
"Each step feels like I'm walking  
through wet paint."  
"I live in constant fear that I'll fall."  
"I can't sleep, my hands and feet  
tingle all night."**

What do all of these people have in common? They suffer from **peripheral neuropathy**. It's estimated that more than 20 million people in the United States have peripheral neuropathy. Unfortunately, this figure may be significantly higher as the disease is often misdiagnosed because of its wide array of symptoms.

Acupuncturists Bryan and Jimmy at New England Wellness Solutions share this belief. "We've been treating neuropathy, in all its various forms, for years and years and so often my patients come to me because of the symptoms, not because of a diagnosis. They read the testimonial of another patient and say to themselves "hey, I feel the same thing'."

Christine C. of Hanover testified to this. "I remember my husband iving me to my consultation and I saw a woman running just outside our neighborhood. I was so envious - I just kept thinking, 'I would give anything just to walk again'. My primary care doctor told me my troubles with pain and balance were just symptoms of old age and gave me a prescription. I was so depressed."

Fortunately, Christine would eventually hear about brothers Bryan and Jimmy from a friend who had received acupuncture. "I just knew I had to see them. They were my last hope."

**"Almost all of our patients come to us with a story similar to Christine's. They've been everywhere else. They've been told there's no hope. They've been told, 'It's just part of getting older' shares Lynne, a Patient Care Liaison at NEWS. "It just breaks my heart but I know how much we can help people like Christine so I'm always so happy when they walk through our door."**

Those diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy often face a very grim reality; Western medicine declares that there is no solution while most alternative therapies carry large price tags and offer little to no resolution. Which is why Bryan and Jimmy at NEWS pride themselves on being the "last resort with the best results".

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves and this damage is commonly caused by a lack of blood flow in the hands and feet. A lack of blood flow results in a lack of nutrients; the nerves then begin to degenerate and die which causes pain ranging from discomfort to debilitating. Because neuropathy is a degenerative condition, once those nerves begin to deteriorate they will continue to do so until they are completely expired, leaving those suffering with crippling balance issues. "In this case, the absence of pain is not necessarily a good thing," shares Bryan. "This usually indicates that your nerves are hanging on by a fragile thread."

So how exactly are Acupuncturists Bryan and Jimmy able to reverse the effects of this degenerative disease? "Acupuncture has been used to increase blood flow for thousands of years which helps to get the necessary nutrients to the affected nerves. But the real magic happens when we integrate acupuncture with modern medical solutions to expedite recovery and healing."

**"I just can't say enough about NEWS," Christine shared through tears of joy. My husband and I moved here 3 years ago and he's gone for walks almost everyday. I always stayed home because of the pain and discomfort. Yesterday I walked with him for the first time in ages! And next week we're starting dancing lessons. I am truly living life these days."**

"According to Christine's test results, she has seen a 74% improvement in

pain and functionality, which is on par with a majority of our patients," shares Lynne. She continues "But more important than those test results is the joy she's expressed being here and hearing about all the amazing things she's able to do because she feels great!"

By seamlessly blending the ancient science of acupuncture with modern medical solutions, Acus Bryan and Jimmy have achieved a 90% success rate in reversing the effects of neuropathy. They start each patient with an initial consultation during which a sensory exam is performed. "this not only aids in making a proper diagnosis but it helps to define just how much nerve damage has occurred" tells Jimmy. "This is important because if a patient has suffered more than 95% damage, there is little that I can do to help them. I'm familiar with the medical miracle but I know my limits as a practitioner and the limits of my medicine."

When it comes to treating peripheral neuropathy, regardless of its origin, early detection greatly improves your chances of a full recovery.

If you or someone you love are suffering from chronic pain that presents as burning, tingling or 'pins and needles' or you've recently been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy, it's important to know that there are options. There is hope.

Call (781)829-9355 to schedule an initial consultation and visit [newellnesssolutions.com](http://newellnesssolutions.com) to learn more about other success stories.



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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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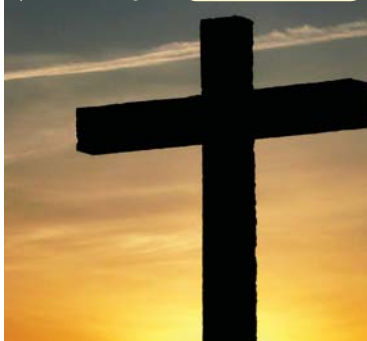
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