

November 19, 2023

# Our Lady of Sorrows Parish

59 Cottage St., Sharon, MA

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 7:30, 8:45 & 11 AM

Weekday Masses:
Wednesday
7 AM and 9 AM
Thursday and Friday
9 AM

<u>Adoration</u> Friday after the 9 AM Mass Benediction at Noon

THANKSGIVING MASS November 23rd at 9 AM

To Contact Us:

Parish: 781-784-2265 Website: <u>www.olossharon.org</u>

Parish Email: 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: <u>www.olossharon.org</u>
Email: 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

#### **Associates**

Rev. Francis X. Clooney, S.J. Rev. Kevin Spicer, C.S.C.

Monica LaFond
Director of Faith Formation
mlafond@olossharon.org

Tzipora Stessman Coordinator of PreK-5 Faith Formation and Service

tstessman@olossharon.org

Daesik Cha, Music Director dcha@olossharon.org

Lynn Jacobs, Office Manager 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 \$7,167 for the week ending **November 12, 2023**. Thank you.

#### Weekend Readings ~ #1188

1st Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

#### **Mass Intentions**

Saturday, November 18th at 4:30Pm
Maureen McCurdy Foley
Sunday, November 19th at 8:45 AM
Dominic Chu Van Duong
Sunday, November 19th at 11 AM
Lilly Noronha

#### Mass Intentions Welcome

Memorial Masses can be scheduled for a weekend or weekday Mass except for Holy Days of Obligation and Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Easter Vigil and Easter Day. The suggested offering for a Memorial Mass is \$10. Please call the office at 781-784-2265 for assistance.



Please Pray for those in need of our prayers, that God's healing and comforting presence will be with them.

Sick

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

Deceased:

David Bowlby, Gerald Boulet, Frances Singarella, Edward Connors, Francis Fox, Paula Pariseau, Edith Isidro Chan, James Delaney, Augustus "Gus" Spano

#### **Music**

Mass Parts #320-327~370-373-372-389

Gathering ~ #852

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 86 ~ #128

"Blest are those who love you, happy those who follow you, blest are those who seek you, O God."

Offertory ~ #653
There Is A Longing
Communion ~ #932
One Bread, One Body
Recessional ~ #769
Go Make Of All Disciples

#### 2nd Collection ~ Retired Religious Sisters October 18th & 19th

This weekend the Archdiocese is taking up the Collection for Retired Religious Sisters. Since 1988, the collection has provided needed financial support for religious communities which have served the Archdiocese of Boston as educators and health care and social service providers. Please give generously in recognition of the Sisters' years of dedicated service. For more information, please contact the Delegate for Religious at 617-746-5637.

#### Youth Volunteers Needed for the Advent Workshop!

Are you a middle or high school student who likes working with younger kids? Are you crafty? Do you like Christmas? If you said "yes!" to any of these questions, consider signing up to help out at the Advent Workshop!

Middle and high school students are needed to help with the Advent Workshop planned for Sunday, December 3 from 8:30 am to 12 pm in O'Connell Hall. Youth volunteers will help set up and facilitate crafts for the kids attending the Workshop. We will also be prepping the crafts and decorating **O'Connell Hall from 1-3 PM on Saturday**, **December 2**. To sign up to attend the Prep Party or to help out at the Advent Workshop visit the parish website under Service Opportunities.



#### Pastor's Note

Dear parishioners and friends of Our Lady's,

The month of November is the month during which we remember the souls of all the departed, which means that we remember not only those we have known and loved who have died, but also the deceased whom we have never met in life. In dedicating this month to remembering all souls, the Church reminds us that many souls are waiting in need of help to be in heaven with God. This is what our Lord Jesus desires. Raising His eyes to Heaven, Jesus prayed, saying: "Father, my disciples (all of us) are your gift to me, I wish that where I am they also may be with me..." (John 17:24).

To rekindle the fire of our love for our brothers and sisters who died with the hope of joining the Triune God and all the angels and saints in God's kingdom, I want share with you some words of Saint Ambrose about the death of his brother (reprinted from the Divine Office readings for November 2):

Let us die with Christ, to live with Christ

"We have a doctor to heal us; let us use the remedy he prescribes. The remedy is the grace of Christ, the dead boy our own. Let us then be exiles from our body, so as not to be exiles from Christ. Though we are still in the body, let us not give ourselves to the things of the body. We must not reject the natural rights of the body, but we must desire before all else the gifts of grace.

...Christ did not look on death as something to be despised, something to be avoided, and he could have found no better means to save us than by dying. Thus his death is life for all. We are sealed with the sign of his death, when we pray we preach his death; when we offer sacrifice we proclaim his death...

The soul has to turn away from the aimless paths of this life, from the defilement of an earthly body; it must reach out to those assemblies in heaven (though it is given only to the saints to be admitted to them) to sing the praises of God.

Above all else, holy David prayed that he might see and gaze on this: One thing I have asked of the Lord, this I shall pray for: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, and to see how gracious is the Lord."

Friends, these words help us to pray well. Inspired by the readings from the thirty-second Sunday, we pray that we seek the true wisdom which is promised to those who seek it by God and that we prepare ourselves well for the Lord's coming, although we do not know the time. The heart is the vessel which is our wisdom to get furnished; and grace is the oil which we must have in this vessel.

God bless, Fr. John Chen



Thank you to all who donated to help "Our New Family" in town. We are very blessed, and OLOS has blessed others through your generosity! As of now, the family has what they need in order to get by for the next couple of months.

Cardinal O'Malley has asked that if we have donations of winter coats, boots, or socks, please put your donations in the St. Vincent de Paul bin at our parish. The St. Vincent de Paul Society will pick up the clothing, store it at its facility in Stoughton, and then distribution will be made to those in shelters throughout the Archdiocese. In addition to winter clothing, other resources which can be donated at the same time and in the same bins include the following items: diapers, toothbrushes (adult and child sizes)

toothpaste, soap, deodorant, mouthwash, combs, lotion, shampoo, washcloth, and Kleenex tissues.

# Town of Sharon Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service



#### Sunday, November 19, 2023, 7 pm

Unitarian Church of Sharon, 4 North Main Street, Sharon

(Want to sing in a spontaneous, pickup choir? Come early at 5:45 pm to learn a song)

A potluck dessert will follow the service. Please bring a dessert to share.

Please support our food pantries! Bring a non-perishable food item, cash, or you can donate through the Unitarian Church's donation webpage. Scan the QR code and choose "S4JGC Donation to Food Pantry" from the drop-down menu.



All are welcome! Sponsored by Sharon's clergy.

#### Middle School Day of Service

On November 10, eight OLOS middle school students spent the day learning about the Michael Lisnow Respite Center in Hopkinton and volunteering their time and talents doing yard work, making gift baskets, and playing games with the guests. Kudos to these fine young people for giving up their "free" Friday to help others!







# Christmas Giving Tree Nov. 4 - Nov 30, 2023

Share your Holiday Spirit with a gift for a resident at the Evelyn House, a temporary home for displaced families.

Take an instruction tag from the Giving Tree in the church alcove. Bring gifts to the Giving Tree by Nov 30.

Gifts will be delivered on December 7.

For details and to sign up online, scan the QR Code with a phone camera or go to <a href="https://tinvurl.com/4ibsmv5w">https://tinvurl.com/4ibsmv5w</a>

Questions? Michelle Davenport 617-962-5519 or Mary Ann LaHive 781-784-1394 mdavenport2121@gmail.com



Thank you! The OLOS Christian Services Commission

## Enrich Our Faith, Strengthen Our Community

God's love certainly unites us!

This is evident in the parish response to our recent annual stewardship outreach. THANK YOU! I am humbled and grateful for your commitment to Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, especially during challenging times. Through your commitment, our parish remains vibrant, engaged and Christ-centered in the Eucharist and in serving one another.

God's work is never done! Your prayerful response both materially and spiritually is setting the groundwork for a path forward as we plan for the future of our parish and continuation of critical ministries and service programs. Our Lady of Sorrows Parish continues to grow as a strong, faithfilled stewardship community because of parishioners like you!

Thank you for your generosity, prayers, and commitment to Our Lady of Sorrows!

In Christ,

Fr. John

OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH



# Highlights

\$55,803 in additional offertory commitments

(contributions not

yet realized)

\$6,120

committed in one-time gifts

34%

response rate from those actively supporting the parish new families welcomed into our

parish community

NOTE OF GRATIT

additional electronic giving participants

If you have not yet renewed your commitment to our parish, please return your commitment card within the next few weeks. We are looking for 100% participation from our parish families! Each response makes a huge impact!

#### Our Mission

Joyfully worship and make the Eucharist our core and Summit

- Attend Mass
- Attend Adoration
- · Actively participate in the Liturgy
- · Pray with others

#### **Our Community**

Develop and grow a personal relationship with Christ

- Through scripture and Bible study
- Celebrate the Sacraments
- Join a book study, small group, or class
- Pray to find Christ in everything and to grow in faith

#### Our Witness

God asks us to share our gifts for the good of others

- Join a parish ministry
- · Volunteer to charitable causes
- Practice corporal works of mercy
- Give in faithful response as a generous steward

# OLOS MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

GRADES 6-8 WELCOME!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023 7:00 - 9:00 PM

# EGE GELLAM Fun! PARTY Friends!

Middle school social nights are a safe place for young people to be with their friends and enjoy music, free pizza and snacks, games and activities.

Middle school socials take place in O'Connell Hall with adult supervision. Questions, please contact Tzipora Stessman at tstessman@olossharon.org

The next meeting of the OLOS Book Group is scheduled for Sunday, November 26 from 2-3 pm via Zoom. We will discuss No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I needed to Hear) by Kate Bowler. The Book Group meets one Sunday afternoon a month to discuss books that broadly deal with spiritual or religious themes.

For our November meeting, we will meet via Zoom.

Please Monica LaFond contact a t mlafond@olossharon.org for the Zoom link.

All are welcome. We spend a few minutes at the beginning of each meeting introducing ourselves, so if you haven't come before, don't be shy! We are always glad to see new faces.





OLOS BOOK GROUP

#### **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, November 27th or before noon on Tuesday, November 28th. Please visit the parish website to sign up.

#### **Incorporating Advent Traditions in Family Life:**

November 19 in the Cottage Street School Cafeteria from 9:45 - 10:45 during class time.

Calling all parents, grandparents, and caregivers! Please join us for a special hybrid presentation-conversation on Advent traditions in family life. Come see how families can incorporate advent projects in your everyday (busy) life and continue to make Jesus "the reason for the season!" Share your stories and get ideas from others!



The revival of Middle School Socials is in your hands! Please consider volunteering as a chaperone on one or more of the following dates: December 15, January 12, February 9, March 15 and /or the lookout April 26. To sign up, visit the parish website. Under Youth Ministry, click on the Chaperone Sign Up link. Any questions? Please contact Tzipora Stessman at tstessman@olossharon.org.

#### The Ethical Trade Fair is Back!

For the first time since 2019, the Ethical Trade Fair is coming back to the Advent Workshop. The Ethical Trade Fair is a unique holiday shopping experience. We will have Christmas ornaments, apparel, home decor, specialty food items and handcrafted gifts you won't find anywhere else. For this sale, we partner with SERRV International, a nonprofit fair-trade organization dedicated to lifting disartisans, farmers, and their families out of poverty. All profits will be donated to Catholic Relief Services. This special event is cash or check and carry. Enjoy shopping in a global marketplace without leaving O'Connell Hall!





# **Holiday Cards for Seniors**

Help us let our senior neighbors know we are thinking of them! We are extending a simple cheerful message to those in our parish and surrounding communities during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. These cards will be colored during faith formation Sunday coffee hours during October, November, and December. We will have a table set up with printed cards, stickers, markers, and crayons for all to create and decorate. We need two people to attend and help with the activity. To sign up, please <a href="click here">click here</a>. Please contact <a href="Tzipora Stessman">Tzipora Stessman</a> (781-784-2265) for more information.

### World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence

The Archdiocese of Boston joins the United Nations in recognizing November 18 as the World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence.

Child abuse is a far too frequent occurrence in our society. The numbers are staggering, and the lifelong impact can be profound. We must do all that is possible to intervene - preventing abuse, interrupting and reporting it when it is happening, and helping heal those who have been abused. As a diocese, we do this by screening and training our clergy, volunteers, and employees, and by training our youth how to recognize and respond to risks and get help when something is wrong. We provide targeted pastoral care for those who were abused by clergy or other representatives within our church to assist them with healing. We ask everyone to join these efforts through prayer, kind and compassionate outreach to those who are impacted by abuse, and full participation in our abuse prevention efforts. To learn more about how you can help, please contact the Office of Pastoral Support and Child Protection at 617-746-5995 or go to <a href="https://www.BostonCatholic.org">www.BostonCatholic.org</a>.

The parish is looking to add four money counters to its current roster. The money counters are responsible for counting the weekly offering that is collected during each weekend Mass. Money counting takes place during the 11am Mass each Sunday and lasts a little over one hour. If you are interested, please contact Sara Barbera at <a href="mailto:smhbarbera@gmail.com">smhbarbera@gmail.com</a> or 781-201-9304. Thank you!



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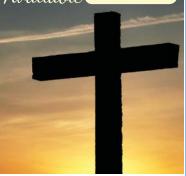


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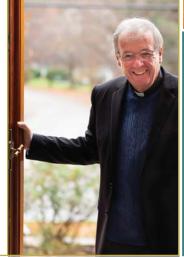
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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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