

October 1, 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

7 AM and 9 AM

*Thursday and Friday
9 AM*

Adoration

*Friday after the 9 am Mass
Benediction at Noon*

To Contact Us:

Parish: 781-784-2265

Website: www.olossharon.org

Parish Email:

parish@olossharon.org

Pastor:

Rev. John Chen

Believe

*When John came to you in the way of
righteousness, you did not believe him;
but tax collectors and prostitutes did.*

Righteousness

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

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

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 \$5,484 for the week ending **September 25, 2023**. Thank you.

Weekend Readings ~ #1167

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 30

Anthony Piscitello



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

Music

Mass Parts

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

Gathering ~ #5562

Come Now, Almighty King

Responsorial Psalm ~ Psalm 25 #28

"Remember your mercies, O Lord."

Offertory ~ #801

Take Up Your Cross

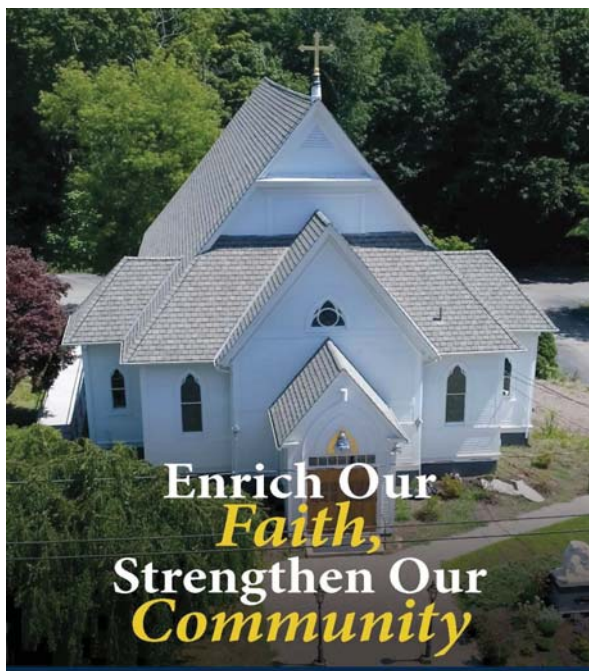
Communion ~ #642

What Wondrous Love Is This

Recessional ~ #656

Lead Me, Guide Me

"Enrich Our Faith, Strengthen Our Church" Program



Thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our "Enrich Our Faith, Strengthen Our Church" Program will continue to bring life to our community. If completing your Commitment Card was not possible at Mass, you may visit our parish website at www.olossharon.org and complete an electronic Commitment Card or you can mail your card to the church.

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



Pastor's Note

Dear parishioners and friends of Our Lady's,

This week's daily readings from the Book of Ezra have provided me with much to reflect on, including how King Cyrus of Persia was inspired by the Lord to set the Jews free to rebuild their homes. The Jews' return to their homeland was not easy. The prophet Ezra, exiled along with his fellow Jews, accurately recorded the return of God's faithful people and their efforts to rebuild Jerusalem. Again, the rebuilding of Jerusalem was difficult. Still, "Ezra had set his heart on the study and practice of the law of the LORD and on teaching statutes and ordinances in Israel" (Ezra 7:10).

Inspired by the prophet Ezra, I want to share how I personally connect with these readings. Like Ezra, with the prayers of the people, I was healed by God. The experience of being in exile, feeling abandoned by God, is simply horrible. For a stranger to tell suffering people to keep up HOPE, to PRAY always, and be GOOD to others because God is near to you is like ridicule. I heard a lot during my 18 years of pain and suffering (1992-2010). Over the years I visited many kinds of doctors in the U.S. and in Beijing. I tried all sorts of physical therapies, including different acupunctures. Not only did I ask people to pray for me (my mother prayed the rosary for me twice a day), but also I went to numerous prayer gatherings. Nothing seemed to help but ibuprofen, Tylenol and Advil.

Surprisingly, I was healed in the fall of 2010, after a few invitations and a good confession. I confessed just like Ezra confessed sin on behalf of his people, expressing his shame, grief, and repentance by saying, "O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens" (Ezra 9:6).

Friends, Isaiah's description of God's ways is indeed true: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways" (Is 55:8). To be frank, I was not a saint, but a regular person with flesh. Because of my deteriorating health, my life had become dull, my prayer had become dry, and my world had become smaller and smaller. It seemed that God had turned a deaf ear to my cries. At one point, I even begged God to take me as soon as possible, praying every night before bedtime: "Lord, take me tonight while I sleep. If I wake up tomorrow morning, I will continue to work. Help me." Faith kept reminding me to take up my cross and follow Jesus, to walk through the valley of the shadow of death and fear not (Psalm 23). Let me invite you to also put your trust in God and, in doing so, Enrich Our Faith and Strengthen Our Community.

God bless,

Fr. John Chen

**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**



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

October 1, 2023



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 www.olossharon.org.

Classes Begin This Sunday, October 1st

PreK-5 Orientation for Parents - Sunday, Oct. 1 from 9:45-10:45 am in the CSS cafeteria

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:

Tuesday, October 10 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Saturday, October 14 from 1-4 pm

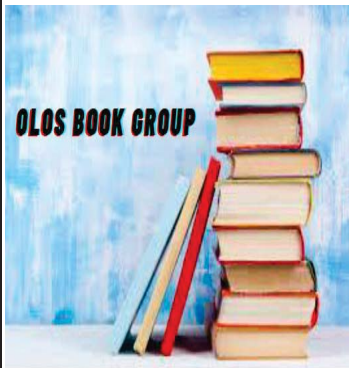
Sunday, November 19 from 1-4 pm



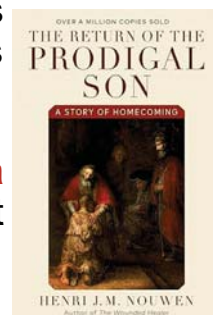
You need to attend only one of the sessions being offered. To register scan this QR code.

For more information or for assistance determining if this requirement applies to you, please contact Lynn Jacobs at the parish office, ljacobs@olossharon.org.

The next meeting of the OLOS Book Group is scheduled for Sunday, October 22 from 2-3 pm via Zoom. We will discuss [*The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming*](#) by Henri Nouwen. The Book Group meets one Sunday afternoon a month to discuss books that broadly deal with spiritual or religious themes.



For our October meeting, we will meet via Zoom. Please contact Monica LaFond at mlafond@olossharon.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, October 30th or before noon on Tuesday, October 31st**. Please visit the parish website to sign up.

Start your day with God...

We've heard your requests for an early weekday Mass! Beginning Wednesday, October 4th, OLOS will offer an additional weekday Mass on Wednesdays at 7 am. Stop by on your way to work, school, or wherever else the day will take you!

Early Daily Mass

Wednesdays @ 7:00 am



We hope this time will provide additional members of the community an opportunity to attend a weekday mass.

PLEASE JOIN US!



SAVE THE DATE!

Youth Mission Opportunity Nov. 10



Church in Action is hosting a one day mission on November 10th in Hopkinton, MA. This is open to all middle school students.

Church in Action was founded by a group of five adults who are passionate about youth ministry. Former Just5Days and Young Neighbors in Action* leaders, these adults have put together a program combining Service, Catholic Social Teaching, and Fun!

More information will follow in the coming weeks!

*These are programs OLOS participated in for over a decade. Unfortunately, they dissolved during the pandemic.

If interested, contact
Tzipora Stessman/
tstessman@ollossharon.org

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with the faith formation program!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We still are in need of volunteer catechists, assistants, and substitutes. If you have any questions, please contact Tzipora Stessman at (781) 784-2265 or tstessman@oloss Sharon.org

Calling all parents, grandparents and caregivers of little children ages 0-3 years!

I am a caregiver of a young child looking for playdates or park meet-ups. I would love to host or coordinate. Is there anyone interested in some old-fashioned socialization?

Please contact me!

Tzipora at tzipora.stessman@gmail.com



OLOS MIDDLE SCHOOL

YOUTH NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCT. 27, 2023

7:00 - 9:30 PM

FREE

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

FUN

Grades 6-8 WELCOME!



October:
Pumpkin Carving!

BRING A
FRIEND

Middle School Socials take place in O'Connell Hall with adult supervision. Two adult chaperones are needed. To volunteer, please contact Tzipora Stessman at tstessman@oloss Sharon.org

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 or contact Tzipora Stessman (781-784-2265 or tstessman@olossharon.org) for more information.



YOUTH COMMISSION

HALLOWEEN PARTY

OCTOBER 22ND

7-8:30 PM

O'CONNELL HALL

**GRADES 9-12 WELCOME
COME IN COSTUME!**



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ilse Marks Food Pantry “Wish List”

Updated September 17, 2023

Frequently requested **FOOD** items:

- canned veggies
- cereals & oatmeal
- crackers
- granola bars
- jams or jellies
- mayonnaise
- soups (all kinds; canned)
- instant mashed potatoes and side dishes
- ready-to-eat canned meals e.g. chili, beef stew, tunafish, pasta mixes, etc



Any **baking supplies** including:



- baking powder, flour, sugar, baking soda
- cooking oils
- “birthday cake kit” (i.e. cake mix, frosting & candles)

Laundry & cleaning supplies are always needed!



Any and all items are deeply appreciated.

THANK YOU!

The Christian Services Commission
Contact Ginny Devlin at rnginny63@gmail.com

October 1, 2023

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 mlafond@olossoharon.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>



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 to learn more about other success stories.



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"God is Love" 1 John 4:8

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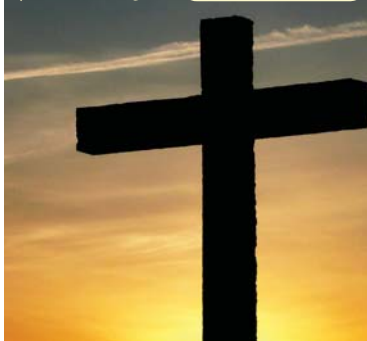
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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor
at the Collaborative Parishes of
Resurrection and Saint Paul in
Hingham for the past ten years, and
previously served at St. Eulalia's in
Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard
graduate and native of West Roxbury,
Fr.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

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