



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road Merrimack, NH 03045

**All Are
Welcome!**

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM
Sunday - 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Mon, Tues, Wed, and Fri - 8:30 AM
Holy Days - 8:30 AM
and anticipated vigil - 7 PM

Parish Staff

Rev Msgr Paul Bouchard, Pastor
Email: FrPaul@OLMNH.org
John Castelot, Deacon
Email: DeaconJohn@OLMNH.org
Marie Dancy, Pastoral Associate
Email: MDancy@OLMNH.org
Catherine Guman, Business Manager
Email: CGuman@OLMNH.org
Laura Paison, Faith Formation
Email: LPaison@OLMNH.org
Mackenzie Murphy, Youth Minister
Email: MMurphy@OLMNH.org
Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant
for Faith Formation
Email: KJRush1@OLMNH.org
Alyce Bolduc, Receptionist/Secretary
Email: Alemae@OLMNH.org
Nancy King, Director of Music
Email: NKing@OLMNH.org
Muriel Gelinis, Sacristan
Ron Ketchie, Custodian

Reconciliation

Confessions are available on Saturdays
at 3 PM and by appointment.

Outreach and Home Ministry

Please contact the office with your
needs.

Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, founded in 1954, is a Roman Catholic community that shares in the life of Jesus Christ, obedient to the 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 to 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 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

Sacraments

Baptism for infants is usually celebrated on the last weekend of the month. Please contact the office for more information about baptism and the other **Sacraments of Initiation**. For the celebration of **Marriage**, 6 months notice is necessary.

Parish Office/Rectory: 424-3757 Faith Formation Office: 424-4477 FAX: 424-1780
Website: www.olmnh.org



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, February 10th

Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Timothy Dwyer req by his family and for all parishioners

SUNDAY, February 11th

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Ruth Watkins (4th anniv) req by her friends at St. Theresa's Rehab Center

10:30AM: Joyce and Dick Foulks req by their family

MONDAY, February 12th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For the deceased priests of our Diocese

TUESDAY, February 13th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For the intentions of the celebrant

WEDNESDAY, February 14th

Ash Wednesday

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For the sick and suffering of our parish

7:00 PM: For the deceased of our parish

THURSDAY, February 8th

6:10PM: Evening Prayer

6:30PM: Skip Watkins (5th Anniv) req by his family

FRIDAY, February 15th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Rev Daniel Sinibaldi req by a friend

SATURDAY, February 16th

Vigil: First Sunday of Lent

4:30PM: Donald Rivard req by Ida Rossignoll

SUNDAY, February 17th

First Sunday of Lent

8:30AM: David Hebert (2nd anniv) req by Paul Hebert

10:30AM: Lucille Gomes req by the Bogdan family & for all parishioners

***If you have booked a Mass Intention anytime during the week of February 10th and would like for you or your family to bring up the gifts at that Mass, please let one of the ushers know before Mass begins.

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp for February 10th through February 16th is lit for the intention of the Caron family.



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

Paul the People Pleaser?

Last week we heard St. Paul saying that he was all things to all people. This week, we hear that he tried to please everyone. To modern ears, that sounds more like a used car salesman, who has just the right deal for any buyer. But that wasn't what Paul meant. The key to Paul's way of life is the last line of the second reading: "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." (1 Cor 11:1)

Remember when Paul was still Saul, the Jew who persecuted Christians? When he was struck by lightning he heard, not thunder, but the voice of Jesus, who asked why Saul was persecuting him. Paul later began to understand that all Christians make up the body of Christ. As members of that body, we can show others what Jesus is like, by our example. That seems to be a two part process.

First, to show Christ, we have to know Christ. We can do that by reading the scriptures and praying with them. We can receive the sacraments regularly, especially Reconciliation, where we experience his forgiveness and love, and the Eucharist, where Jesus unites himself with us, so that we can become more like him.

The second part is acting like Jesus. If we want people to see Christ in us, we don't dress like him, or grow a beard. We have to do things as Jesus would: Forgive people who hurt us, care for the sick, the dying, the poor. Don't be afraid to tell people what God has done for you; encourage others to be grateful for what God has done for them. Pray with people who have difficulty talking to God.

Paul obviously didn't please everyone, or he wouldn't have ended his life in prison. He was more interested in pleasing God by spreading the Good News of Jesus' resurrection. If we can imitate Paul in that way, we can't go wrong.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of February 4: \$5186.00

Catholic Schools: \$1659.00

January online donations: \$8354.50



Anticipated Income for January: \$31,200.00

Total Income for the month of January:
(online, loose and envelopes) \$31,479.50

Thank You For Your Generosity!!

**SUNDAYS AFTER THE
10:30 MASS.....**

Please join us for Bible Stories...

Children of all ages are welcome, as well as interested adults.

Learn about fascinating individuals and events in our Church's history.

Please join us for Bible Stories. Learn about fascinating individuals and events in our Church's history.

These stories will be read after the 10:30am Mass downstairs in the Church hall. Please join us!!!



Ash Wednesday—February 14, 2018



*Mass with distribution of
Ashes will be celebrated at
8:30 am and 7:00 pm.*

LIFETEEN/EDGE

The Our Lady of Mercy Youth Ministry has certainly been taking off over the last few months and we are excited to be introducing a new youth ministry program for students in grades 6-12! This weekend, our Youth Minister, Mackenzie, will be giving a brief talk about EDGE/LIFETEEN! LIFE TEEN is designed for high school (9th through 12th grade) youth and EDGE is designed for those students in grades (6-8). Lifeteen and Edge are designed to minister to teens from a Catholic perspective by providing spiritual growth, faith education and many different service, social and fun activities! Come to mass during this weekend to hear more! We will also have a booth set up after masses! We hope to see you there!

Thank You...

The Youth Group would like to thank all who participated in the Meatball Sub Fundraiser—both those who helped out in the kitchen and those who purchased subs. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The Knights of Columbus would also like to thank all everyone who took the time to donate blood to the American Red Cross. Because of your donations and the help of our volunteers, we were able to collect 58 pints of blood. As you know each blood donation can help save up to three lives. Your donation is truly appreciated.

**PARISH BREAKFAST AND
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC**



Bring your appetite and enjoy a relaxing breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on **Sunday, February 18th in the Church Hall.** Breakfast will be served after the 8:30 and 10:30am Masses. A Blood Pressure Clinic will be held at the same time in the Church Hall by our parish nurses.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adult Confirmation will be celebrated on April 15, 2018. Mary Jane Silvia, the Diocesan Director of Adult Faith Formation will conduct sessions for adults who would like to prepare for Confirmation. The sessions are at the diocesan administration building on: March 14, March 21, April 4 and April 11th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. People can also participate remotely. To register, please contact Marie Dancy at 424-3757.

**REGULATIONS ON FAST
AND ABSTINENCE**



Fasting is observed by all who are 18 to 58 years of age. On a day of fast, one full meal is allowed. Two lighter meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each persons needs. Nothing should be eaten between meals, but liquids such as water, milk and juices are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all who are 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence no meat is allowed unless health or ability to work would be seriously affected.

Ash Wednesday, February 14th and Good Friday, March 30th are days of Fast and Abstinence. All Fridays during Lent are days of Abstinence.

Home, Health & Hospice Foot Clinic

On **February 22nd from 8am to 1:00 pm**, Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting a Foot Care Clinic in our Church Hall. 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 and Hospice Care at 882-2941. For a full schedule visit our website at www.hhhc.org.

CRS RICE BOWLS

This is a faith-in-action program that runs during Lent. Twenty five percent of Rice Bowl funds remain here in our diocese for local assistance programs and educational opportunities. Rice Bowls should be returned the weekend of March 11th.

February 11, 2018

FAST FOR SOCIAL ACTION FOOD DRIVE

Drop off items on the weekend of February 24th & 25th at the entrances of the church

What is Fast for Social Action???

This is an activity for Catholic teens who learn about hunger by fasting for 40 hours, collect food donations and study about the causes of poverty and hunger in the world. This Fast for Social Action is held at St. John Neumann Parish the weekend of March 9th and 10th.

By participating in the food drive you...

- Help feed those in need in our community
- Help stock the Food Pantry

Suggested items:

Peanut butter, jelly, pasta and sauce, canned vegetables, instant mashed potatoes, canned meats (stews, chicken, tuna, etc), cereal, snacks for kids (popcorn, nuts, granola bars, fruit cups or canned fruit, etc), boxed mixes (cookies, brownies, muffins, etc).

SAVE THE DATE

St. Patrick's Day Parish Party



Mark your calendars for **March 17th**, St. Patrick's Day Parish Party following the 4:30 pm Mass. Soup and sandwiches and then a new show of Irish dances, Celtic music and sing-alongs.

Sisters of Holy Cross Fundraiser

The 5th annual fundraiser for Mary Gate of Heaven Orphanage in Haiti, founded by Sr. Claire Daneau, an American Sister of Holy Cross, is the weekend of February 24 and 25 in our parish. Representatives of the Sisters will have raffle calendars available after each Mass. By purchasing a raffle calendar at the cost of \$10.00 each or six for \$50.00, you are providing for the educational needs of 54 children. From April 1 through April 30, a total of \$2500.00 will be given away. Thank you for supporting Sr. Claire's Kids.



"Our lives change when our habits change. The Mass Journal is a life changing habit."

LENT...

During Lent those who are preparing to receive the Easter sacraments, Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, enter into a time of intense preparation. The rest of the Church joins them in spirit through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. During Lent we intentionally set aside time for prayer. In this way we grow closer to God. During Lent we fast; this does not necessarily mean that we don't eat chocolate. It can mean that we curb some things in our lives in order to make time for something that is lacking in our lives. For example, we could stop criticizing others and instead affirm others. In this way we strengthen our own spiritual being. The third Lenten practice is almsgiving. Almsgiving strengthens our bonds with our neighbor. Through it we share some of our resources with those in need. Live Lent!!



LIVE LENT LENTEN SERIES



On Tuesday, February 13th at 9:15, and on Thursday, Feb 15 at 7:30 in the Church Hall our Lenten series, **Live Lent**, will begin. For your convenience the Lenten sessions will be offered twice, once on Tuesday mornings, and repeated on Thursday evenings. These sessions are video assisted with videos by Bishop Robert Barron. There will be time for prayer, reflection, and discussion. The first session will be based on the lives of Sts Peter and Paul. These two men were enormously important to the Church in whose faith we live. We invite you to come and consider their graced lives and their contribution to the Church. There is no fee for these sessions - they will continue for 6 weeks.

Ladies Guild Meeting

We will be having our first monthly meeting of the year on **Tuesday, February 20th at 1:00 pm in the Church Hall**. All ladies of the parish are welcome. If you are new to the parish and want to learn more about our ministry, please contact Irene Jenness at 424-2362.

Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday during Lent at 6:30 pm in Church.

February 16...Traditional stations led by Fr. Paul

OVERNIGHT RETREAT Students in Grades 9-12

Save the date! On the evening of March 23rd, Our Lady of Mercy will be holding an overnight retreat for students in grades 9-12! More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Information Page

Acct #: 694750

Our Lady of Mercy Parish
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Merrimack, NH 03054

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Bulletin for February 11, 2018

Kathy