

“BEHOLD, YOUR REWARD WILL BE
Great in Heaven.”

LUKE 6:23



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

February 13, 2022



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054
603-424-3757
www.olmnh.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM
Sunday 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Weekdays Mon, Tues, Wed, & Fri 8:30AM
Holy Days 8:30AM and anticipated vigil 7:00PM

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00-3:45PM
By appointment: please call the office to schedule with Fr. Paul.

Baptism

Please call the office for an appointment. Baptisms are usually planned for the last weekend of the month.

Marriage

Please contact the office to schedule marriage preparation with Fr. Paul.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process for those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith with the possibility of themselves becoming a Catholic.

Funerals

The contact person for the deceased (or the funeral home) should connect with the office to schedule.

Planning ahead for funeral Mass celebrations is also available to all parishioners.

Faith Formation

We offer Faith Formation for all ages. Please see the website for current dates and programs.

Parish Staff

Rev Msgr Paul Bouchard, Pastor
FrPaul@olmnh.org
John Castelot, Deacon
DeaconJohn@olmnh.org
Sharon Nagy, Business Manager
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Christian Copeley, Director of Music
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Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
Muriel Gelinas, Sacristan
Tony Ste. Marie, Building & Grounds Facilitator

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM

Church Hours

The church will be locked for safety. You are welcome to spend time in the church for prayer during office hours! Please come into the office and someone will be happy to let you into the church.

Livestreaming available at olmnh.org

The 4:30 vigil Mass is live streamed each week to be watched live or at a later time and available on the website at www.olmnh.org.

Sanctuary Candle

Please contact the office to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of, or for the intentions of, a loved one.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 12th
Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Timothy Dwyer req by the Dwyer family

Sunday, February 13th
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Jean Lantiegne Stow requested by Barbara Lantiege
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Skip Watkins requested by his wife, Rachel & family

Saturday, February 19th
Vigil: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Frank Caron req by his favorite daughter

Sunday, February 20th
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Garrett Gregoire

10:30AM: David Woo requested by the Neary family
For all parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burns the week of
February 12th - 18th in memory of
Sean Moran.



Readings for the Week: February 13, 2022

Monday: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76;

Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19;

Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5;

Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;

Mk 8:34-9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10; Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8; Mk 9:2-13

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4,

8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

Beatitudes for Families

Blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The poor include literally poor people in need of basic necessities, and figuratively poor people who are aware of their spiritual poverty, people who acknowledge their need and utter dependence upon God. The reward is the kingdom of heaven. What do we consider to be our family's greatest riches?

Blessed are they who mourn; they will be comforted.

Those who mourn are anyone who is sad or experiencing a loss of any kind. Jesus promises comfort for those suffering. When we suffer we have a choice: to become bitter or more compassionate toward others in pain. How do we find and give comfort in our family?

Blessed are the meek; they will inherit the land.

The meek are people who are humble and patient. A person who chooses other ways to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence is meek. How do we resolve conflict in our families?

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness; they will be satisfied.

This blessing is for people who hunger for justice in our world. Children have a great capacity to see wrongs and often possess a simple view of complex issues. Perhaps our kids can use their creativity to solve some of the local injustices in schools and communities.

Blessed are the merciful; they will be shown mercy.

Mercy is a word that holds many meanings: forgiveness, kindness, compassion. It is easier to extend mercy to others when you begin with yourself. With mercy, you receive back the more you give. Instead of keeping track of mistakes within our family, how can we see God's grace within our imperfect family?

Blessed are the clean of heart; they will see God.

Who better to be clean or pure of heart than little ones? Of course they see God because there is nothing clouding their vision! The clean of heart can also be people who single-mindedly see God first in all situations and people. How can we find God in our every day lives?

Blessed are the peacemakers; they will be called children of God.

What risks do we take to make peace? Jesus asks us to be peacemakers. As God's children, we must continue to work for unity and understanding. Our families are microcosms of the world. Peace begins at home. How do we handle conflicts at home?

Continued on the Faith Formation page...



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

...Beatitudes, continued.

- Next Grades 1-5 Wednesday classes:** Wednesday, February 16, to be completed at home
- Next Edge:** Sunday, March 20 from 6:15-7:45PM
- Next Life Teen:** Sunday, March 13 from 6:15-7:45PM



Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

It can be difficult to do what is right, such as standing up to someone who is acting like a bully. But we learn from Jesus, and through practice in our family, we see that doing the right thing is what it really means to be a follower of Jesus. How can our family help each other to do the right thing?

-edited from TeachingCatholicKids.com

Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness

Luke 6:17, 20-26

Last Sunday we heard Jesus call Peter to be His disciple. Jesus then travels with Peter and the other disciples, and Luke reports acts of healing and the call of Levi, the tax collector. Jesus also replies to questions from the Pharisees regarding fasting and the observance of the Sabbath. In the verses immediately before today's Gospel, Jesus is reported to have chosen 12 men from among His disciples to be apostles. Apostle is a Greek word that means "one who is sent."

Today's Gospel reading is the beginning of what is often called the Sermon on the Plain. We find a parallel to this passage in Matthew 5:1-7,11 that is often called the Sermon on the Mount. As these titles suggest, there are differences and similarities between these Gospel readings.

When spoken from the mountaintop in Matthew's Gospel, we can't miss the impression that Jesus is speaking with the authority and voice of God. The mountaintop is a symbol of closeness to God. Those who ascend the mountain see God and speak for God; recall the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments. As Luke introduces the location of Jesus's teaching, Jesus teaches on level ground, alongside the disciples and the crowd. Luke presents Jesus's authority in a different light. Jesus is God among us.

Another distinction found in Luke's version is the audience. Luke's Sermon on the Plain is addressed to Jesus's disciples, although in the presence of the crowd; Matthew's Sermon on the Mount is addressed to the crowd. In keeping with this style, the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel sound more personal than those in Matthew's Gospel: Luke uses the article "you" whereas Matthew uses "they" or "those." There is also a difference in number. Matthew describes eight beatitudes; Luke presents four, each of which has a parallel warning.

The form of the Beatitudes found in Luke's and Matthew's Gospel is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, such as in the Psalms and in the Book of Wisdom. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God. The word "blessed" in this context might be translated as happy, fortunate, or favored.

As we listen to this Gospel, the Beatitudes jar our sensibilities. Those who are poor, hungry, weeping, or persecuted are called blessed. This is, indeed, a Gospel of reversals. Those often thought to have been forgotten by God are called blessed. In the list of "woes," those whom we might ordinarily describe as blessed by God are warned about their peril. Riches, possessions, laughter, reputation . . . these are not things that we can depend upon as sources of eternal happiness. They not only fail to deliver on their promise; our misplaced trust in them will lead to our demise. The ultimate peril is in misidentifying the source of our eternal happiness.

The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. We are challenged to examine our present situation in the context of our ultimate horizon, the Kingdom of God.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Meatball Subs: available after all the Masses this weekend in the church hall

Life Matters Ministry: Sunday, February 13 at 9:30AM in the church hall

Prayer Group: Monday, February 14 from 4:00-5:30PM in the church

Ladies Guild: Tuesday, February 15 at 1:00 in the church hall

Women at the Well: Saturday, February 19 at 9:30AM in the parish office

Dealing with Dementia Support Group

Do you have a family member or friend struggling with memory loss? You are not alone, and Catholic Charities NH is here to support you. Its newest online support group, "How to Deal with Dementia," is a five-week program starting on February 24, providing an understanding of dementia, its impact on those affected and resources you can use to best support your loved one.

To register, visit www.cc-nh.org/dementia. You may also call 603-752-1325 or email efrenette@nh-cc.org. There is no cost to participate.

NH Catholic Charities Fundraiser

Virtual Mardi Gras Celebration March 1, 2022 at 4:00PM

The 16th Annual (Virtual) Mardi Gras, benefiting Catholic Charities NH, takes place on Tuesday, March 1 (Fat Tuesday) at 4 pm live on cc-nh.org. But you don't have to wait till then.

- Enter the Zwazo Boné raffle with a gift of \$50 or more to support Catholic Charities NH's Mardi Gras today!
- Become a Krewe Champion!
- Take part in the "viewer only" raffles for a chance to win some amazing prizes!
- Check out the Mardi Gras virtual game book available on February 17!

Go to www.cc-nh.org for more details and to sign up.

Thank you Fr. Paul Montminy for being with us while our Fr. Paul is away. You are a blessing! ♥

World Marriage Day: February 13, 2022

World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily married life.

The theme for World Marriage Day has been permanently adopted as "Love One Another." This phrase is the commandment given us by Jesus (John 15:12). It speaks to us in a simple but challenging way of how our Father wishes us to live. Loving one another is a daily decision. May God bless you!



Prayer to St. Valentine

Dear saint and glorious martyr,
Teach us to love unselfishly and
to find great joy in giving.
Enable all true lovers to bring
out the best in each other.
Let them love each other in God,
and in God in each other. Amen!

Parish Stewardship

February 5 & 6: \$3,192

Catholic School: \$895

Thank you for your generosity!

120 Club Winners

February 13

Pam Coppinger

Theresa Yasevich

Thank you for your continued support!

Meatball Subs for This Weekend

Deacon John's famous meatball subs packed with Italian meatballs, marinara sauce and cheese available after all the Masses on February 12 & 13. Subs cost \$5.00 each. Preordering is not required. Proceeds go to youth activities. Thank you for your support!

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