



HOW
OFTEN
MUST I
FORGIVE?

MATTHEW 18:21

©IPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish September 17, 2023



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
SNagy@olmnh.org
Michael Coughlin, Director of Faith Formation
MCoughlin@olmnh.org
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister
CCoughlin@olmnh.org
Christian Copeley, Director of Music
CCopeley@olmnh.org
Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
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.

Live streaming available at olmnh.org

The 4:30pm vigil Mass is live streamed. View by going to 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, September 16th

**Vigil: Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

4:30PM: Catherine Fitzgerald req Jane & Chris Dwyer

Sunday, September 17th

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

8:30AM: Kathy Milligan requested by the family

10:30AM: Tom Voute req Alyce & Don Bolduc
For all parishioners

Monday, September 18th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Carmelle Murch requested by her husband

Tuesday, September 19th

Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Grace Savard req by Barbara Lantiegne

Wednesday, September 20th

**Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and
Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs**

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Sharon Vanderploeg req by her mother

Thursday, September 21st

Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

No Mass

Friday, September 22nd

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Tom Hanlon, req by Joe & Bessie Belanger

Saturday, September 23rd

**Vigil: Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

4:30PM: Liz Lochman req by the Gehling family
For all parishioners

Sunday, September 24th

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

8:30AM: Carolyn Disco requested by her husband

10:30AM: Sandra Debus requested by her cousin,
Kathy Cooner

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns
September 16th – 22nd
in memory of
Sharon Vanderploeg.



40 Days For Life Fall 2023 Manchester Campaign

From Wednesday, September 27 through Sunday, November 5 every day from 7am to 7pm, you're invited to join other Christians in more than 60 countries and 600 cities around the world for 40 Days for Life – seeking an end to abortion through prayer, fasting, and outreach to offer hope and options to anyone dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. Did you know that more than 64,000,000 abortions have been performed in the USA in the past 50 years (THAT'S 3500 PER DAY)? Please join us as prayerful, peaceful, non-confrontational witnesses to the sanctity of all human life during the local 40-day vigil on the public sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 24 Pennacook Street, Manchester. We pray for ALL victims of abortion – unborn children, parents, families, abortion workers, and legislators...because it affects everyone in our society.



For more information, please visit our website at www.40daysforlife.com/manchester. You can sign up for vigil hours by creating an account or, if you prefer, contact Manchester Leader and OLM parishioner, Norm Thibault, at 603-289-0574 and he'll do the signup steps for you.

You're invited to our kickoff event at 2:00pm Sunday, September 24 on the public sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 24 Pennacook Street, Manchester.

Readings for the Week: September 17, 2023

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8; Ps 28:2, 7-9; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13; Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12; Ps 49:6-10, 17-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday: Is 55:6-9; Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Phil 1:20c-24, 27a; Mt 20:1-16a



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

- **Faith Formation Registration:** Registration remains open for the 2023-24 school year for grades 1-12!
No experience necessary! All are welcome!
- **Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session Wednesday, September 20 at 4:30 OR 5:45, church
- **Edge & Life Teen (Youth Ministry):** Sunday, September 17 from 6:15-7:45pm, church hall; friends welcome!
- **First Reconciliation:** Parent meeting on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:00pm, church hall

Anointing of the Sick



You are invited to an Anointing of the Sick prayer service led by Fr. Paul in the church next **Sunday, September 17 at 2:00pm** followed by a light reception in the church hall. All are welcome!

A sacrament is an outward sign established by Jesus Christ to confer inward grace. The Anointing of the Sick Sacrament is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness. The Sacrament celebrates our faith in the healing touch of Christ in our lives. In the Anointing of the Sick, we pray that the sick person be healed in body, soul, and spirit. The Sacrament offers forgiveness and healing.

The anointing consists of three parts:

Prayer

The prayer by which the community asks for God's help for the sick;

Touch

The laying on of hands indicates the person receiving the sacrament;

Chism Oil

The anointing with oil on the forehead and hands to signify healing, strengthening, and God's presence.

Forgive Others as God Forgives Us

Matthew 18:21-35

Today's Gospel directly follows last week's in which Jesus taught the disciples how to handle disputes and conflict within the Christian community. In today's reading Peter asks Jesus how many times one should forgive another. Peter proposes a reasonable number, perhaps seven. Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal enormously; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times. The parable of the unforgiving servant is Jesus's elaboration of His initial reply to Peter. Through the parable we come to understand the depths of God's mercy toward us and the results of our acceptance of God's forgiveness.

The king in the parable decides to settle accounts with his servants. One servant in particular owes the king a large sum of money. It is unlikely that he would ever be able to repay his debt owed. The king is moved by the humility of the pleading servant and mercifully forgives the debt. Rather than display gratitude for this forgiveness, the servant confronts a fellow servant who owes him a small debt - a pittance compared with the amount he owed the king. The unmerciful servant refuses the pleas of his fellow servant and sends the servant to prison.

Other servants tell the merciful king about the actions of the unforgiving servant. The king punishes the servant for refusing to show the kind of mercy he had received. Jesus indicates that this is how it will be with God and those who refuse to forgive one another.

There is a temptation to quantify forgiveness as Peter tried to do, but Jesus's point is that forgiveness is not about quantity - the number of times we extend forgiveness. In the parable the king's forgiveness is like God's forgiveness, and it transforms us, helping us to be as forgiving as God. The lesson is clear: If we hoard

God's mercy while not extending mercy to others, we risk forfeiting the effects of God's mercy in our lives.



-edited from
Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

SOLT Mission Appeal: September 16 & 17

K of C Breakfast: Sunday, September 17 after the Masses, church hall

Life Matters Ministry: Sunday, September 17 at 9:30am, church hall

Anointing of the Sick: Sunday, September 17 at 2:00pm, church; light reception to follow

Edge & Life Teen (Youth Ministry): Sunday, September 17 at 6:15pm, church hall

Prayer Group: Monday, September 18 from 4:00-5:30pm, church

Grades 1-5 Faith Formation Parents & Children: Wednesday, September 20 at 4:30pm OR 5:45, church

Foot Clinic: Thursday, Sept 21 from 9:00am-noon, church hall; call 603-689-2899 for an appointment

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, September 21 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Women at the Well: Saturday, September 23 at 9:30am, parish meeting room

Parish Picnic: Sunday, September 24 from noon to 4:00pm, American Legion picnic grounds

2023 Annual Mission Cooperation



SOCIETY of OUR LADY
of the Most Holy Trinity

This weekend we welcome Fr. Lawrence E. Tucker from the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT). Living a joyful life, SOLT serves humanity in 12 countries throughout the world. SOLT needs your help to continue its missionary work. You are invited to join this work through your prayers, consideration of a volunteer opportunity, and financial support. Please help Fr. Larry and the SOLT family respond to the needs of the people.

God our Father,

You have created us in love; make us enlightened witnesses to the Gospel.

You have redeemed us in mercy; give us grace that our actions and our words shine with compassion.

AMEN!



Parish Picnic: Don't Miss It!

Don't miss the **PARISH PICNIC** Sunday, Sept. 24, the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy from noon to 4:00pm!

Location: American Legion picnic grounds
43 Baboosic Lake Road

Serving: Party Sandwiches, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Side Dishes, Desserts, Refreshments

Fun: Activities and Games for children and fellowship for all

Food Donations welcome - Homemade or store bought (salads, desserts). Food questions? Contact Bob Bergin at 603-494-9835 or oldbergin@gmail.com.

Food Drop Off Options - Saturday, September 23 from 3:00-6:00pm at the church hall kitchen *or* Sunday the 24th from 9:00am to noon at American Legion (purple canopy)

Please bring your own folding chairs.

For more info call Parish Office 603-424-3757.

Time for Tots: Resurrection Parish

Mothers and their children aged birth to 5 years are invited to participate in Time for TOTS every Thursday as 8:45am at the Parish of the Resurrection Hall, 449 Broad Street in Nashua. Grow in faith while enjoying fellowship. For more information contact Karis Welsh at kalcr20@gmail.com.

Parish Stewardship

Weekly Collections September 4 - 10, 2023

Offertory/Miscellaneous

Budget: \$9,231

Actual: \$12,142

Variance: \$2,911

Thank you for your generosity!



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