



Everyone
is **looking**
for you.

MARK 1:37

©JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish February 4, 2024



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. 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

Christian Copeley, Director of Music
CCopeley@olmnh.org

Mary-Elizabeth Hauver, Youth Minister
MHauver@olmnh.org

Katie Corsetti, Director of Faith Formation
KCorsetti@olmnh.org

Linda Durbin, Admin Assistant
LDurbin@olmnh.org

Karen Correia, Admin Assistant
KCorreia@olmnh.org

Parish Office Hours

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

Church Hours

The church will be locked for safety. You are welcome to spend prayer time in church 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, February 3rd
Vigil: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Thirty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

4:30PM: Rose Marie Cushing requested by Teresa &
John Cushing
Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday, February 4th
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Thirty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM: William Camirand, 6th anniversary,
requested by his wife
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Gloria Corsetti req by Karen & Bob Correia
Eucharistic Adoration

Monday, February 5th
Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Ellen "Fran" Cogavin requested by Regina
& Michael Bowser

Tuesday, February 6th
Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Betty Belle requested by Clay & Kathy Rush

Wednesday, February 7th

No Mass

Thursday, February 8th

No Mass

Friday, February 9th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Marguerite Nicolo requested by the family

Saturday, February 10th
Vigil: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Thirty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

4:30PM: Joyce & Dick Foulks requested by the family

Sunday, February 11th
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Thirty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM: Timothy Dwyer requested by the family

10:30AM: Carole Ann Brown requested by her mom,
Christine Franklin
For all parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns
from February 3rd to 9th
in memory of
William Camirand.



We Welcome our Newly Baptized!

Baptized in January:

Sloane Jean Micali
Ocean Eleanora Morales



"There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

-Ephesians 4:5

*Thank you Lord for making me
a living temple of the Holy Spirit.
Thank you for the water of my baptism
through which You have given me
new life in Christ.*

Amen!

Winter Weather Mass Cancellations



If Merrimack schools are canceled or
delayed due to weather then daily Mass will
be canceled.

Weekend Masses will follow the normal
schedule, but please use caution when
deciding about travel in bad weather.

Readings for the Week: February 4, 2024

Monday 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 and
Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11
and Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday 1 Kgs 10:1-10 Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40
and Mk 7:14-23

Thursday 1 Kgs 11:4-13 Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40
and Mk 7:24-30

Friday 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13,
14-15 and Mk 7:31-37

Saturday 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Ps 106:6-7ab,
19-20, 21-22 and Mk 8:1-10

Sunday Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11
1 Cor 10:31-11:1 and Lk 7:16



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

- Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session Wednesday, February 21 at 4:30 OR 5:45, church
- Children's Ash Wednesday Prayer Service:** Wednesday, February 14 at 4:30, church
- Youth Ministry:** Sunday, February 4 from 6:15-7:45pm, church hall; friends welcome!

A Conversation with Jesus

Time spent in Eucharistic Adoration can be a conversation with Jesus.

- Tell Jesus what you are most thankful for.
- Tell Jesus what you are most excited about.
- Tell Jesus what you are worried about.
- Tell Jesus what you are sorry for.
- Do you hear Jesus giving any advice? Chances are, that won't be in words but in a gut feeling.
- Ask Jesus for the help you need in the days ahead.
- Talk to Jesus about others who may need His help.
- Ask Jesus what He wants you to do for Him in the coming days.

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for listening to me and for speaking to my heart. I know that You are always with me. Help me to follow You more closely and to love others. Amen!

Lenten Preview



Lent is an invitation to connect deeply with Jesus Christ and all He's done for us. Here's a preview:

Ash Wednesday, February 14

Mass with distribution of Ashes at 8:30am and 7:00pm
Children's Prayer Service with the distribution of Ashes at 4:30pm; all ages welcome

Evening Mass on Thursdays starting February 15 at 6:30pm; evening prayer begins at 6:10pm

Confession available on Thursdays starting February 15 from 5:30-6:00pm

Stations of the Cross on Fridays starting February 16 at 6:30pm; soup served starting at 5:30pm

Lenten Retreat *Opening our Hearts Wide to God* led by Fr. John Fortin, OSV, offered March 11-13 after morning Mass and repeated at 6:30pm

Formed.org for reflections and inspiration for all ages

Best Lent Ever sign up at DynamicCatholic.com

Hallow app for daily reflections and more; info to come next week on setting this up

Jesus Cures Many

Mark 1:29-39

Today we continue with Mark's Gospel, learning more about the ministry of Jesus. Jesus cured Simon's mother-in-law and she immediately began to serve Jesus and His disciples. Jesus also cured many others, healing their illnesses and driving out demons. Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus did not permit the demons to speak because they knew His identity and would have revealed it to those who were present.

On the morning after this busy day, Jesus retreated in prayer but was pursued by Simon and others who brought news that many people were looking for Him. At this point in Mark's Gospel, we see a distinct role for the inner circle of Jesus's disciples: they act as intermediaries between Jesus and the people. Jesus tells His disciples that they need to leave Capernaum to preach in other places.

This Gospel completes a picture of Jesus's ministry: preaching, curing the sick, driving out demons, and moving on to continue this work elsewhere. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus did this throughout Galilee.

Jesus's compassion and healing is a sign of the Kingdom of God. The Church continues to extend Christ's healing presence in its ministry to the sick. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church prays for spiritual and physical healing, forgiveness of sins, and comfort for those who suffer from illness.



In today's Gospel we also notice the importance of prayer in Jesus's daily life. Jesus rose early in the morning, removed Himself from the crowds, and went to a deserted place to pray. We believe that in His prayers Jesus found guidance from God. We also bring our decision-making to God in prayer, asking for His guidance and direction in our own lives.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: sponsored by our Knights after the Masses on Sunday, February 4, church hall

RCIA: Sunday, February 4 at 11:30am, parish office

Youth Ministry: Sunday, February 4 at 6:15pm, hall

Prayer Group with Guided Adoration: Monday, February 5 from 4:00 to 5:30pm, church

Wednesday People: Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30pm, downstairs in the parish office building

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, February 8 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Men of St. Joseph: Saturday, February 10 at 7:00am, church hall

Meatball Subs: Saturday, February 10 **and** Sunday February 11 after the Masses, church hall

RCIA: Sunday, February 11 at 11:30am, parish office building

Eucharistic Adoration This Weekend

- Saturday, February 3 after the 4:30 Mass
- Sunday, February 4 after the 10:30 Mass

Spend some quiet, personal prayer in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.



St. Patrick's Party SAVE THE DATE:

Mark your calendar for **March 16** for the St. Patrick's Party following the 4:30pm Mass, sponsored by our Knights. Includes Irish dancers, music, and food! *St. Patrick's Day Party*

Wednesday People: Please Join Us!

This Wednesday, February 7 you are invited to explore scripture. From 6:30 to 8:00pm we will break open the readings for the following Sunday. There is no commitment to come every week. We will meet at the Religious Education Center (downstairs in the parish office building). This invitation comes with a guarantee of spiritual growth.

Widows & Widowers Support

The Widow/Widowers group meets the second Saturday of the month at 9:30am at St. John Neumann in room 3, off the church hall.

Next meeting: Saturday, February 10 at 9:30am.

Welcome

Our parish welcomes you and your family.

If you have moved to the area, please register in the parish office.

We would love the opportunity to introduce ourselves.

YOUR parish welcomes you! @JPPC

120 Club

Week 15
Heather Murphy
Ed Champagne

Week 16
Richard Vachon
Irene Sullivan

Congratulations and thank you for your support!

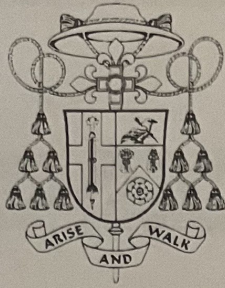
Spring 2024 Manchester Campaign

From Ash Wednesday, February 14 through Palm Sunday, March 24 every day from 7:00am to 7:00pm 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. 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 at 24 Pennacook Street in Manchester. We pray for ALL victims of abortion: unborn children, parents, families, abortion workers, legislators...because it affects everyone in our society.

For more information, please visit our website at www.40daysforlife.com/Manchester. Sign up for vigil hours by creating an account on the site or contact Manchester leader and OLM parishioner, Norm Thibault at 603-289-0574 to do a sign-up for you.

You're invited to the kick off event at on Sunday, February 11 at 2:00pm at St. Elizabeth Seton's church hall on Meetinghouse Road in Bedford.





OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

January 25, 2024

Brothers in Christ,

I write to bring a serious matter to your attention. A bill has been introduced in the New Hampshire Legislature, HB 1283, seeking to legalize assisted suicide; you may hear assisted suicide proponents euphemistically refer to this as “medical aid in dying”. I ask for your help to prevent New Hampshire from taking any steps down the disastrous path to state-approved suicide.

Assisted suicide laws run contrary to what we know in our hearts as followers of Jesus Christ who time and again healed those who were sick and who called us to care for those who are ill. Assisted suicide laws insidiously encourage the sin of despair and are thus a serious occasion of sin against the virtue of hope in God. They are contrary to our most basic conviction that every human life has a dignity and a value. And they also put vulnerable persons at risk – the frail, the elderly, the sick, those with disabilities, those with mental illnesses, and all who are at a heightened risk for suicide.

The New Hampshire House of Representatives will vote on HB 1283 in the coming weeks. I have attached a flyer that provides more information about this bill, and you are welcome to use this document as you deem appropriate, including using it as a bulletin insert or posting it to the parish website.

Given the grave potential consequences of this bill, please ask your parishioners and friends to sign in on the legislative website in opposition to HB 1283 and to contact their state representatives to urge them to vote down HB 1283. Our focus must be on improving end-of-life care for those with terminal illnesses, and not on steering people toward suicide. The flyer provides instructions on how to contact legislators and to sign in remotely in opposition to the bill. Please feel free to contact Bob Dunn, our Director of Public Policy, if you would like further information or assistance on this bill or any other legislative issues.

Grateful for all you do to promote the dignity of human life, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester

Enclosure



Diocese of Manchester

The Catholic Church in New Hampshire

CONTACT YOUR NH REPRESENTATIVES AND OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE

Real Compassion—NOT SUICIDE—is the Answer

The New Hampshire Legislature is considering a bill (**HB 1283**) to legalize assisted suicide in this state. The public hearing is **February 7 at 10 a.m.** in the House Judiciary Committee.

We know that our priority should be **to care for the patient, not to kill the patient**. As Pope Francis has said, “We must accompany people towards death, but not provoke death or facilitate any form of suicide.” *Catechesis at General Audience*, Feb. 9, 2022.

We are working alongside the NH Coalition for Suicide Prevention, a diverse group that includes health care providers and people with disabilities and their advocates.

Among the many reasons why HB 1283 is a dangerous bill:

- **New Hampshire has a serious suicide crisis**, especially among groups including at-risk teens, veterans with traumatic brain injury and people living with disabilities. In response, the State is trying to eliminate suicide. But HB 1283 would *normalize* suicide as medical care and send a message that dangerously contradicts suicide prevention efforts.
- History shows that laws on state-approved suicide have a natural tendency to expand in scope. HB 1283 applies to people with a terminal illness with 6 months left to live. **If HB 1283 is passed, how would the law be expanded next year and in the years after that?**
- The top reasons given by people who end their lives under Oregon’s assisted suicide law include “fear of being a burden to others” and “loss of independence.” Because these are things that people with disabilities encounter every day, one prominent NH advocate has said that passage of an assisted suicide law is like saying to people with disabilities that “you are better off dead.”
- **An assisted suicide law invites coercion.** Elder abuse and exploitation are already significant problems in this state and nationwide. Assisted suicide puts a new weapon into the hands of exploiters – the opportunity to persuade someone to use the assisted suicide law.

Let us have *true* compassion and recognize and defend the inalienable dignity and value of every human being, at all stages of life and in all conditions of life.

HELP TO STOP STATE-APPROVED SUICIDE

- **Before Feb. 7, sign-in online to register opposition to HB 1283 at:**
gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/remotetestimony
- **Contact your House members and respectfully ask them to reject HB 1283.**

Your representatives are listed at:
gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members

For live links and more information:
catholicnh.org/nosuicide



OUR SPONSORS & OUR COMMUNITY

Sponsors can offer promotions, discounts and/or up-to-date contact information to the **ENTIRE** community

Finding **FABER**

ANYONE in the community, not only Parishioners, can access realtime offers from their favorite sponsors to save, share & support



THE LOBSTER BOAT
RESTAURANT
453 Daniel Webster Highway
Merrimack, NH 03054
603-424-5221

Brennan & Mackay
— Since 1978 —
276 South St., Milford, NH 03055
"We service what we sell with experience personnel"
www.brennanandmackayappliance.com • 673-1177

Turning age 65 soon?
Your Medicare choices can seem overwhelming.
Let me help you find a Medicare Supplement insurance policy that fits your needs and offers you more comprehensive benefits.

Handyman Home Repair
Done right the first time!
From Small Jobs to Large Jobs
(603) 661-4516
www.HandyMan603.com
handymanhomerepair603@gmail.com

THE SPECIALISTS
AUTO - TRUCK - FLEET - PERFORMANCE
422 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack
603.365.4146 • dustin@thespecialistsauto.com

Glenn Flessas
Insurance Agent
Bankers Life
6 Loudon Rd., Ste 302 402
Concord, NH 03301
603-230-3219
glenn.flessas@bankerslife.com
Underwritten by Colonial Penn Life Insurance Company

American Red Cross

Make a Difference in Your Community
VOLUNTEER
with the American Red Cross
Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

BUCKLEY'S

BAKERY & CAFE

162025-NH **BANKERSLIFE®**

ALL PAWS & PETS CREMATORY
"Caring for your family pet like family"
Urns • Memorials • Keepsake Jewelry
10 Henry Clay Dr., Merrimack, NH
(603) 595-1889
10% OFF URNS WITH THIS AD

Chick (603) 883-5822
Beaulieu, Inc.
5½ Gaffney Street • Nashua, NH 03060
Roofing • Siding • Masonry • Decks
Gutters • Replacement Windows • Shutters
Painting • Storm Windows & Doors
www.chickbeaulieu.com

Join us for Our Daily Bread
OPEN 6 - 6 DAILY
436 DW Highway
Merrimack

Village Medical Primary Care
accepting new patients
VILLAGEMEDICAL.COM
Hooksett | Manchester | Nashua

Quality work at affordable prices - Residential Roofing Specialist
P: 603.424.8900 - C: 603.765.6868
www.merrimackroofing.com
Darrin L. Vigeant, DLVigeant@comcast.net
Merrimack Roofing
Free estimates Fully insured

Village Medical™
at *Walgreens*

*Patients always have a choice of pharmacy. Village Medical at Walgreens is operated by Village Medical Management, LLC and affiliated professional corporations that are qualified to provide medical services through their licensed healthcare professionals (referred to for these purposes as "Village Medical"). The healthcare providers at Village Medical at Walgreens are not employees, associates and/or agents of Walgreens.

catholicmatch®
New Hampshire

CatholicMatch.com/dateNH

"A Practical Approach to Assisted Living"
NOW OPEN. CALL FOR INFORMATION AND TOUR!
ROSE HAVEN 8 Jennifer Drive, Merrimack, NH 03054
AT MERRIMACK 603-913-7630
paula@rosehavenmerrimack.com

WORSHIP

WITH US

Wouldn't your business look GREAT in this spot?!

To advertise call
1.800.333.3166
ext. 161

www.jpcc.net

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I
STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

ASK
#WHATSMYNAME
BEFORE YOU GET
IN A RIDE SHARE

Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...
Don't Just Teach Kindness...
BE KINDNESS!
www.MallorysArmy.com
(973) 440-8657
info@mallorysarmy.org
It's easy to join our mailing list!
Just send your email address by text message:
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.
 Message and data rates may apply.