OUR LADY OF Mercy

February 13, 2022

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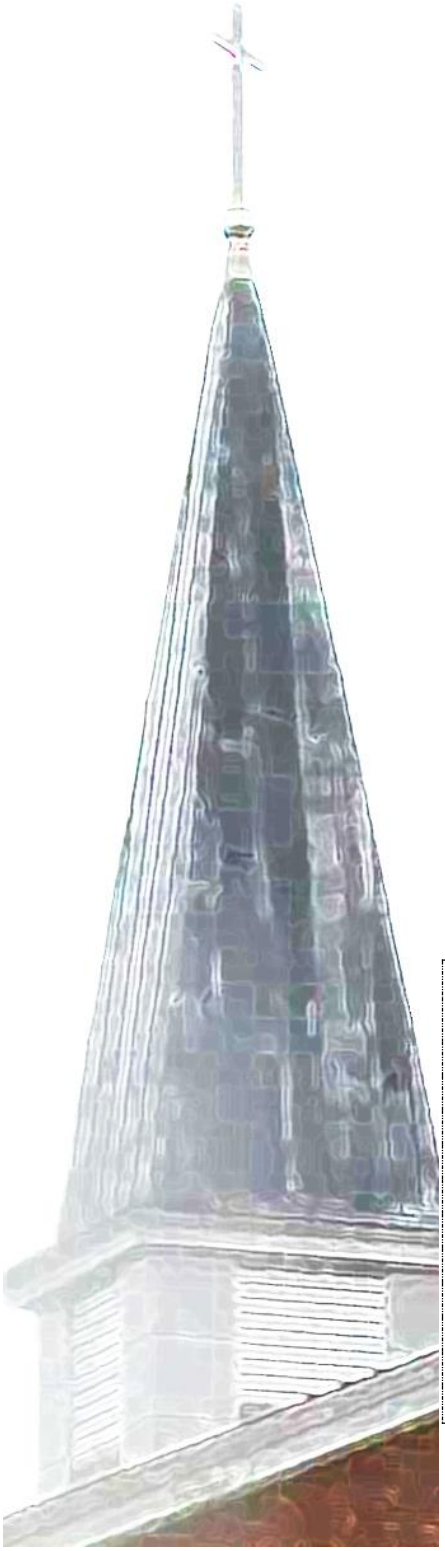
A Roman Catholic Community of Faith & Good Works



The Celebration of the HOLY EUCHARIST

Sunday Vigil (Saturday): 4:00pm – Sunday: 8:30am & 10:30am
Daily Mass: 8:00am (No morning Mass on Wednesdays)

The Sacrament of RECONCILIATION *(Confession)*

Saturday: 12 Noon or by appointment

Reverend Raymond Smialowski, *Pastor*
Deacon Robert A. Berube, *Senior Deacon*
Sandra DeBlois, *Bookkeeper*
Jo-Ann Blanchette-Silverio, *Administrative Assistant*
Michelle Batista, *Ministry for Young Children & Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*
Eric Hoffman, *Organist and Music Director*
Karen Okoski, *Youth Minister*
Daniel Kulas, *Maintenance*

Parish and Cemetery Office: 19 South Canal Street
Telephone: 860-747-6825 – Fax: 860-747-5407
Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm
Parish e-mail: olmct@sbcglobal.net – Parish website: www.olmct.org
Faith Formation website: www.OLMseek.org
Facebook®: OurLadyOfMercyChurchCT

Born as a Mission of Bristol in 1864 and Established as a Parish in 1881

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH!

If you are new to the area or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are pleased to have you share in our celebration of the Eucharist. We invite you to become part of our parish family. To register or to update your address or phone number, please complete this form and mail it to the Parish Office or place in the collection box. *Thank you.*

__ New Parishioner __ Address/Phone Number Change
Name: _____
St. Address:_____Phone#_____
City: _____ State: _____Zip: _____

"Do whatever He tells you."

– Mary to the disciples of Jesus (John 2:5)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 13th, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 12, *Vigil Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
4:00pm Rosina Mastrobattista Req. Lorraine Dube
Sunday February 13, *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:30am For the Intentions of All Parishioners of the Parish
10:30am **Teen Focused Mass – Commitment Ceremony,** Ernest Caron Req. Saucier Family
Monday February 14, *Sts. Cyril, Monk, & Methodius, Bishop*
8:00am Frank Sliwonik Req. Family
Tuesday February 15, *Weekday*
8:00am Barbara Bordeau Req. George & Simone Bouchard
Wednesday February 16, *Weekday*
No Mass
Thursday February 17, *The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order*
8:00am Alice Brousseau Reg. Family
Friday February 18, *Weekday*
8:00am For the Intentions of Sylvia, Thomas, & Ana Req. Ana
8:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday February 19, *Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00am Agatha Hall 1st Anniv.
Saturday February 19, *Vigil Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*
4:00pm Gerry Brousseau Req. Family
Sunday February 20, *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:30am For the Intentions of All Parishioners of the Parish
10:30am Kaz Laszczewski Req. Jessica Murzyn

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

$6,297 Weekly Donation for February 6

Please use the Donation Boxes at the Entrances of the Church. Thank You for Your Continuous, Generous Support & May God Bless You!

A Thought for the Week

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day. St. Valentine, the patron saint of lovers, was a Roman priest, physician and martyr who was put to death sometime around 270 A.D. A basilica was built on the spot where he was buried some years later after the emperor Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the empire.

The custom of sending a "Valentine" to a loved one stems from the medieval belief that birds choose their mates on this date. St. Valentine's Day is a reminder to us to tell those we love that we love them not only on Valentine's Day but every day.

HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY!

God Bless, Fr. Ray

The Tabernacle Lamp…
is lighted for the Greater Glory of God and in recognition of the Real Presence of Christ. This week the candle is flickering ***in Memory of Anthony J. Gajola.***

Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy!

If you are new to our parish and wish to become a member of OLM, we invite you to introduce yourself to our pastor, Fr. Raymond Smialowski, and to register. Registration can be completed by stopping by the Parish Office, completing a short registration form which can be found on our home page at www.olmct.org under the heading "New to Our Parish?", or calling the Parish Office at 860.747.6825 and we can fill it out with you over the phone. Please return the hard copy to the office by dropping it off at the Parish Office, the collection box, or mailing it to 19 S. Canal St., Plainville.

Sunday February 13
8a - 10:30a Knights of Columbus Breakfast, *Gym*
10:30a AA, *Room 106*
1 – 3p Legion of Mary, *Gym*
Monday February 14
9:30a Legion of Mary, *Room 102*
5:30 – 8:15p St. Joseph Basketball, *Gym*
6:30 – 9p Knights of Columbus, *Room 101*
Tuesday February 15
9a Scripture Study, *Library*
3:15 – 6:15p St. Joseph Basketball, *Gym*
4:30 – 7p Atrium, *Parish Center*
5p Scouts, *Library*
Wednesday February 16
1 – 2:30 Atrium, *Parish Center*
5:30 – 8:30p St. Joseph Basketball, *Gym*
Thursday February 17
4:30 – 7p Atrium, *Parish Center*
5:30 – 8:15p St. Joseph Basketball, *Gym*
6 – 9p 4th Degree Knights Meeting, *Room 101*
Saturday February 19
7p AA, *Gym*
Sunday February 20
9:30a Coffee & Donuts, *Gathering Space*
10:30a AA, *Gym*

Confirmation… Next Session is ***March 6, 2022.***
Look for opportunities to be in service in your Faith! Come to teen Mass: *March 13* (10:30 AM Mass) Check out olmseek.org and email olmteens@gmail.com for questions or information!

EDGE

Next session is *March 7, 6 – 7:30p*. See you there!!!
olmteens@gmail.com. Check out olmseek.org Grades 6-8 page!

TEEN MASS

IF YOU WANT TO JOIN THIS GROUP OR GET INVOLVED IN THE TEEN FOCUSED MASS EMAIL OLMTEENS@GMAIL.COM! GREETERS, READERS, LECTORS, ALTAR SERVERS, MUSICIANS…. COME PRAY AND WORSHIP TOGETHER! NEXT TEEN FOCUSED MASS IS SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AT 10:30AM!

TEEN Night
Feb Teen Night had us talking Relationships….Romantic and Platonic…
Next Teen Night is ***March 12, 2022 from 6-8pm*** in the Gym for Dinner, ISSUE NIGHT! daily issues…where is my faith in this? and open gym! olmteens@gmail.com
Check out olmseek.org on the teens page!

Scripture Study
Scripture Study, focusing on the following Sunday's Mass readings, continues on Tuesday mornings (9 - 10:30am) in the Parish Center. All are invited and welcome. At this point an evening time is also being considered. If you are possibly interested in being a part of an evening Bible Study, please contact Sophia at 860.583.7674 or speak with Fr. Ray.

VBS Planning
Looking for adults and students to help volunteer and organize the Vacation Bible School for grades 1-5 students this July. All who are interested please Contact: Michelle at Ourladyodmercyreled@gmail.com

Precautionary Procedures
In light of the highly contagious variant of the corona virus which is still spreading, parishioners are being asked to wear masks while attending Mass. Also, spacing should be maintained appropriately, including the Communion line. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Tax Letters
If you wish to receive a tax letter with donation information from 2021, please call the Parish Office at 860.747.6825 or email at olmct@sbcglobal.net. Please know that we cannot print the letters while you wait. Thank you.

Scout Mass
OLM will be celebrating a Scout Mass on ***Sunday, Feb. 27th*** at 10:30am for all Scouts and their families. We ask that you wear your uniform and bring a canned good item for the Plainville Food Pantry. Refreshments to follow. Please join us in honoring them.

First Reconciliation

We are preparing our Grade 2 class for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation which will take place following the 10:30am Mass on March 27th. The children will receive a special blessing during Mass. Please keep the Grade 2 students, their volunteer teachers, and parents in your prayers as we gather on Saturday, February 26th for a retreat to Center Our Hearts. "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10

First Communion

We are preparing our Grade 3 class for the Sacrament of their First Communion. The Mass of Celebration will take place on May 1st at the 10:30 Mass. Please keep the Grade 3 students, their volunteer teachers, and parents in your prayers as we gather on Saturday, March 19th for a retreat to Reflect on the Love of Christ. "Let the Children come to me, for they know the Kingdom of God."

Coffee & Donuts...

Next Sunday after the 8:30am Mass in the Gathering Space. Catch up with old friends or make some new ones!

Stewardship Fair

Our Gospel reading today is taken from Luke 6: 17, 20 – 26. It introduces us to what is commonly understood as the beatitudes or in Luke's Gospel, the Sermon on the Plain. When Jesus says, "Blessed are you…", one might easily substitute the word "happy" for "blessed." Often our lives are spent in search of the next big thrill, achievement, or accomplishment, simply because we think it will bring us happiness. But Jesus shows us that happiness is not to be realized in the mere pursuit of pleasures. Happiness is actually found in the little things of life, even when it involves suffering, if we seek first the Kingdom of God. Happiness is found in using and sharing the gifts and talents God has given us for His glory and the good of others. Our **Stewardship Fair** will be held on ***Feb. 26 & 27, March 6 – 7, & March 12 – 13.*** The **Fair** will highlight the Ministries, Committees, & Organizations for our parish. You are encouraged to stop by the Gathering Space after Mass during these weekends to become more aware of some ways you might be able to help build up God's Kingdom here at Our Lady of Mercy. A talent you might be able to share can be the source of true happiness.

Church Bells

Have you noticed that the church bells have stopped ringing? Our carillon stopped ringing nearly three weeks ago. Since then, we have looked into the possibility of repairing the system, upon inquiry, it has been determined that it cannot be repaired. Thus, we are looking into replacing the carillon with a new system. Hopefully, our church bells will be ringing again by Easter!

Palms

You are invited to bring back any old blessed palms you may have in your home. They can be deposited in the marked receptacle at the church entrance. We are planning to burn the palms to make ashes for Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on March 2nd.

Two $1,000 Scholarships Available

The New Britain Council of Catholic Women is pleased to offer two, $1,000 scholarships to either 8thgraders planning to attend a Catholic High School or high school seniors planning to attend college. Digital applications can be obtained by emailing a request to nbcouncilcatholicwomen@gmail.com or a hard copy application can be picked up at your parish office. The deadline for applications has been set for May 1st.

Looking for something different to read during these cold winter months AND learn about our Catholic Faith? Check out our library underneath the choir loft!

St. Anthony Society

The Society will have a special meeting on Feb. 24th at 1:30pm in the Library of the Parish Center. Members and non-members are invited to help plan the Spring Tea.

Holiday Raffle Baskets

Congratulations to the winners of the Holiday Raffle Baskets, Carol Haddad & Jo-Ann Blanchette-Silverio. St. Anthony Society wishes to thank all who purchased tickets toward the raffle.

Rosary

Please join in praying the rosary this Saturday, Feb. 19th at 2pm in the church. The rosary will be led by members of the Legion of Mary.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

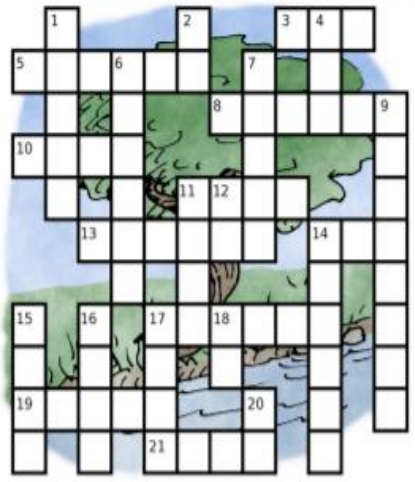
Why do Catholics call St. James the "brother of the Lord?" St. Mark's Gospel names St. James as one of Jesus' "brothers" (6:3). In the original languages of the Bible, "brother" included other male relatives. Additionally, tradition holds that Cleopas was St. Joseph's brother and James was his son, making him Jesus' cousin. Either way, the Church has always taught Mary's perpetual virginity, meaning Jesus (who was miraculously conceived) was her only child. This explains why Jesus entrusted Mary to St. John and not a sibling He didn't have (John 19:26-27).

Find Peace in Difficult Times

If you follow news about national or world events, the reporting can rob you of peace. With stories of financial insecurity, unemployment, disease, depression, and division, how can we find peace? **Talk it out.** Bringing worries into the light and confiding them to someone we trust can cut them down to size. **Even better** – talk about worries with God. Prayer has the added advantage of surrendering your problems into powerful hands. "Jesus, I trust in You!" Focus on what you can do, not what you can't. Stress results from feeling powerless. Focusing on what we can't do can "paralyze" our problem-solving abilities. Start making a list of steps you can take toward solving your problem. Whatever is beyond your control, leave to God. Immerse yourself in God's all-powerful love. Whether we feel it or not, whether we believe it or not, we are God's precious children. He watches over us very closely. He knows what we can handle and is more than ready to help us with all the rest.

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." St. Teresa of Calcutta

Trust in the Lord Cross-Word



beings	it
distress	tree
stream	is
human	but
trusts	who
cursed	he
beside	in
roots	his
barren	bush
green	Lord
heat	that
year	from

Here is today's first reading, from Jeremiah. Fill in the blanks using the words from the list and fit them into the puzzle.

Thus says the Lord:
8a is the one who trusts in 7d 17a,
3a seeks 4d strength 18d flesh,
whose heart turns away 16d the Lord.
12d is like a 13a 17d in the desert
11a enjoys no change of season,
14a stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth.
Blessed is the one who 5a in the Lord,
whose hope is the 15d.
He 2d like a 11d planted 14d the waters that
stretches out its 19a to the 6d:
it fears not the 21a when 20d comes; its leaves stay 1d;
in the 10a of drought it shows no 9d,
but stll bears fruit.

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Welcome
to Our Church!

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~Elaine~
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WE ARE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT: WWW.OLMCT.ORG

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