

OUR LADY OF *Mercy*

March 6, 2022

94 BROAD STREET - PLAINVILLE, CT 06062-2799

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

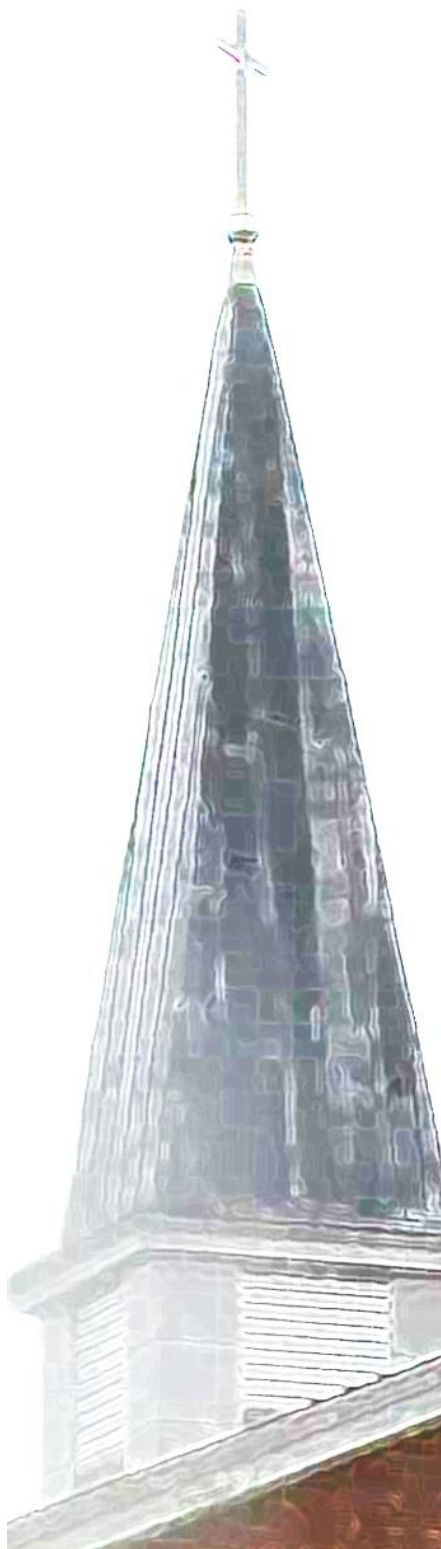
Name: _____

St. Address: _____ Phone# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

“Do whatever He tells you.”

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



First Sunday of Lent March 6th, 2022



Saturday March 5, Vigil First Sunday of Lent

4:00pm For All Priests & Consecrated Life Req. Ana

Sunday March 6, First Sunday of Lent

8:30am For the Intentions of All Parishioners of the Parish

10:30am Bryan Knorr Req. Friend

Monday March 7, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs

8:00am Jeannette Madore Req. Family

Tuesday March 8, St. John of God, Religious

8:00am Special Intention Req. Kathleen Bernavage

Wednesday March 9, St. Frances of Rome, Religious
No Mass

Thursday March 10, Lenten Weekday

8:00am Carol Heine Req. Teresa Jankoski

Friday March 11, Lenten Weekday

8:00am Aurora & Cayetano Rosario, Ceasar Culling, & Myrna & Mela Rosario Req. Cecilia Culling

8:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30p Stations of the Cross, Church

Saturday March 12, Lenten Weekday

8:00am Alfonso Asensio 1st Anniv.

Loretta Martin 1st. Anniv.

Alfred Bourque Month's Mind

Winifred Ann Maher Month's Mind

Yvette Allaire

Saturday March 12, Vigil Second Sunday of Lent

4:00pm Anna Bednarczyk Req. The Casales

Sunday March 13, Second Sunday of Lent

8:30am For the Intentions of All Parishioners of the Parish

10:30am Teen Focused Mass, Philip Plourde Req. Family



WEEKLY OFFERTORY

**\$4,077 Weekly Donation for
February 27**

*Please use the Donation
Boxes at the Entrances of the*

*Church. Thank You for Your Continuous,
Generous Support & May God Bless You!*

"Lenten fasts make me feel better,
stronger, and more active than ever."
Catherine of Genoa

A Thought for the First Sunday of Lent

Lent began this past Wednesday. Lent is a time of preparation, a time of concerted spiritual growth, repentance, and conversion. Lent is



meant to be a time of change, a time to make concerted efforts to follow Christ more fully. Many, perhaps, choose to do so by giving up their favorite treat or some vice.

One man urged his children to give up something beyond giving up candy or chocolate...like some habit or sin that they knew was bad for them. About halfway through Lent he asked his children how they were doing with their Lenten promises.

His youngest son had promised to give up fighting with his brothers and sisters during Lent.

When his father asked him how it was going, the boy replied, "I'm doing pretty good, Dad - but boy, I can't wait until Easter."

Any of you who have tried to give up anything you really enjoy for any period of time know what he was talking about. We all know what it means to be tempted.

As we begin Lent, let us pray for the resolve and the grace to persevere in our Lenten resolutions and penance.

God Bless, Fr. Ray

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 March 6

10:30a AA, Gym

5:30 – 7:30p CHOSEN, Parish Center



Monday March 7

9:30a Legion of Mary, Room 102

4:30 – 5:30p Faith Formation Gr. 1 – 5, Parish Center

6 – 7:30p EDGE, Parish Center

6:30 – 9p Knights of Columbus, Room 101

Tuesday March 8

9a Scripture Study, Library

3:00p Knights Meeting, Room 101

3:15 – 6:15p St. Joseph Basketball, Gym

4:30 – 7p Atrium, Parish Center

Wednesday March 9

1 – 2:30p Atrium, Parish Center

3:15 – 6:15p St. Joseph Basketball, Gym

Thursday March 10

3:15 – 6:15p St. Joseph Basketball, Gym

4:30 – 7p Atrium, Parish Center

6 – 9p Third Degree Knights Meeting, Room 101

Saturday March 12

5:30 – 8p TEEN Night, Gym

Sunday March 13

8:30 – 10:30a OLM Breakfast, Gym

10:30a AA, Gym

1:00 – 3:00p Legion of Mary, Gym

Confirmation... Next Session is **THIS Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 5:30pm.** Look for opportunities to be in service in your Faith! Come to Teen Mass: **March 13** (10:30 AM Mass) Check out www.olmseek.org and email olmteens@gmail.com for questions or information!

EDGE



Next session is **THIS Monday, March 7, 6 – 7:30p in the Parish Center.** 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 NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AT 10:30AM!



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 All of the Souls in Purgatory.**

TEEN Night

Feb Teen Night had us talking Relationships....Romantic and Platonic... Next Teen Night is



NEXT Saturday, 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!

VBS Planning

Looking for adults and students to help volunteer and organize the Vacation



Bible School for grades 1-5 students for the week of July 11 – 15. All who are interested please Contact:

Michelle at Ourladyodmercyreled@gmail.com

Stewardship Fair

Thank you to everyone who stopped by the first weekend of our **Stewardship Fair.** We

Stewardship is...



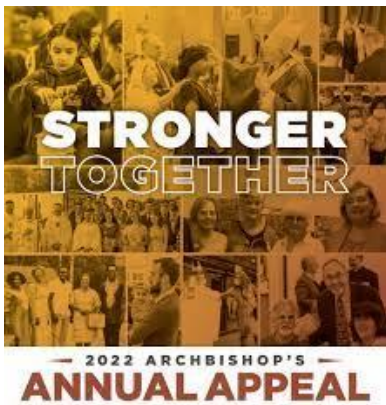
Love in Action

are grateful to the Pastoral Council and the Standing Committees of the Pastoral Council as well as our Faith Formation Team, Youth Ministry, and Music Ministry for preparing very interesting and inviting displays last weekend. The **Stewardship Fair** continues this weekend and next. The following organizations and Ministries that will be represented this weekend are: Altar Society, Church Linens and Things, Lazarus Committee, St. Anthony Society, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Knights of Columbus, and the Retreat League.

Next weekend the presenters will be: Church Ushers, Legion of Mary, Vocations, Scripture Study, Liturgy of the Word for Children, & the Bereavement Ministry.

We invite you to continue to explore the different ministries in our parish. Stop and see who we are, what we do, compliment us on something you appreciate, or find out how you can get involved!

Archbishop's Annual Appeal ...



The 2022 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Our goal is to engage our entire parish family in this year's Appeal and to pray for the success of the

Appeal, both here in our parish and across the three counties of the Archdiocese. We hope you can help us meet our parish goal of **\$50,000**. If you would like to make a gift, please mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org or call the Appeal Office at (800) 781-2550. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan. All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements. **Please respond generously.**

PLAINVILLE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY ADDED UP TO BE 242 POUNDS! THANK YOU!



Stations of the Cross will be led every Friday at 6:30pm in the church during Lent. Please join us.

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.

OLM Financial Report...

Is available at the Pastoral Council Table during the Stewardship Fair.



Thank You to Everyone...

who sent me Get Well Cards, Mass Cards, Food, Prayers, and called the Parish Office to see how I was coming along during my recovery from covid. I felt uplifted and blessed by all that you did for me. Thank you and May God Bless You and Reward You, Fr. Ray

The Pillars of Lent

As we begin our Lenten journey, reflect on how your prayers, fasting and almsgiving can guide you. As Pope Francis explains, these are "elements which, when lived sincerely, can transform life and provide a sure

foundation for dignity and fraternity." How can practicing the Lenten pillars transform your life and the lives of our sisters and brothers around



the world? Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Bury the Dead – Corporal Works of Mercy Did You Know?

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal through the Vicariate Outreach Program provides funding for grants that offer Burial Assistance. This line of assistance is available based upon the recommendation from Pastors and Administrators for parishioners experiencing extreme financial hardship when faced with burial costs. Please see Fr. Ray with any questions.

**CT
March
for Life
Will be**



Held on Wednesday, March 23rd in Hartford.

It will be the biggest pro-life advocacy event in our state's history. The March will focus on making a statement in support of life. The schedule includes a rally at the State Capital at 12 noon followed by a March for Life around Bushnell Park at 1pm. For more information and to register, please visit

<https://marchforlife.org/connecticut-march-for-life/>.



Baptism

Last Sunday, Todd William Krolikowski, the son of Todd and Kaitlyn Krolikowski was baptized. We rejoice as a parish family and pray that T. J. will gradually grow in the love of God.

Recent Deaths

Please remember the following souls in your prayers:

Edwina "Dina" Faraci

Winifred Ann Maher

Tobie Racine

Alfred Bourque

Pauline Casey

Margaret Grabeck



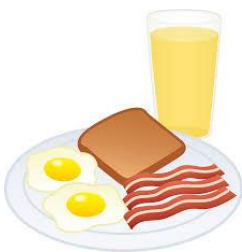
Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them O, Lord!

Scout Mass

Thank you to all the scouts, leaders, and parents who attended the special Mass last weekend. OLM feels honored to celebrate the hard work and dedication of the scouts in learning new lessons.

Thank You to the Legion of Mary...

for providing the Community of OLM with Lenten Black Books to aid in spiritual growth during this Lenten Season.



OLM Breakfast... will be served NEXT Sunday from 8:30 – 10:30am in the gym for a nominal fee. We invite you to meet new members of OLM to help build community and enjoy a yummy breakfast at the same time!

Daylight Saving Time Begins NEXT Sunday Morning at 2am. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward 1 hour! Spring forward!!



What Word Can You Not Say During Lent?

That word is "Alleluia." Christians have made a practice of omitting Alleluia from their vocabularies for more than

a millennia. Some even go so far as to literally bury the word by making a sign that says, "Alleluia" and then depositing it in the ground where it will stay until Easter morning.

If I Forget to Break Fast on Sunday, Can I Eat It on Monday Instead?

Fasting, has been prohibited on Sundays since apostolic times. So, if you give up something for Lent—chocolate or beer or donuts or television or whatever else it might be—you can indulge in it on the Sundays in Lent. (That, by the way, is why Ash Wednesday falls 46 days before Easter Sunday, even though we say that the Lenten fast is 40 days long—46 days minus the six Sundays of Lent equals 40 days.)



But what if Sunday rolls around, and you forget about that chocolate

bar you had saved up—can you eat it the next day instead? Well, yes—but perhaps not for the reason you might think. Those things that we give up for Lent—outside of what the Church requires of us regarding fasting and abstinence—are all voluntary. If you give up chocolate for Lent but go ahead and eat a candy bar anyway, you haven't committed a sin; it's not like deliberately eating a big juicy burger on Good Friday.

That said, there's a spiritual purpose to our voluntary fasting: We're giving up something good in order to concentrate on something even better—namely, our spiritual life. Making exceptions to our voluntary fast isn't a sin, but it does run contrary to the purpose of our sacrifice. So, if you really want to eat that candy bar on Monday, you can do so... but before you do, you might consider whether the fruit of your sacrifice would be greater if you did not.



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

HEBREWS 13:16, NRSV

ThoughtCo. "Surprising FAQs About Lent." *Learn Religions*, Sep. 16, 2021, learnreligions.com/lent-faqs-542502.

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new members!*

~ELAINE~

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WEBSITE AT: WWW.OLMCT.ORG

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