

# OUR LADY OF Mercy

March 5, 2023

94 BROAD STREET - PLAINVILLE, CT 06062-2799

*A Roman Catholic Community of Faith & Good Works*

## *The Celebration of the HOLY EUCHARIST*

Sunday Vigil (Saturday): 4:00 p.m. – Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m. (No morning Mass on Wednesdays)

## *The Sacrament of RECONCILIATION (Confession)*

Saturday: 12 Noon or by appointment

**During Lent:** Fridays at 5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Reverend Raymond Smialowski, *Pastor*

Sandra DeBlois, *Bookkeeper*

Phyllis Roche, *Administrative Assistant, Parish Office &  
St. Joseph's Cemetery*

Eric Hoffman, *Organist and Music Director*

Michelle Batista, *Faith Ministry for Young Children*

Karen Roche, *Middle School "Edge" Coordinator*

Daniel Kulas, *Maintenance*

Eva Schilling, *Custodian*

Parish and Cemetery Office: 19 South Canal Street

Telephone: 860-747-6825; Fax: 860-747-5407

**NEW Hours:** Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., *afternoon by appointments only*

Parish email: [olmct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olmct@sbcglobal.net) Parish website: [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org)

Faith Formation website: [www.OLMseek.org](http://www.OLMseek.org)

Facebook®: OurLadyOfMercyChurchCT

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

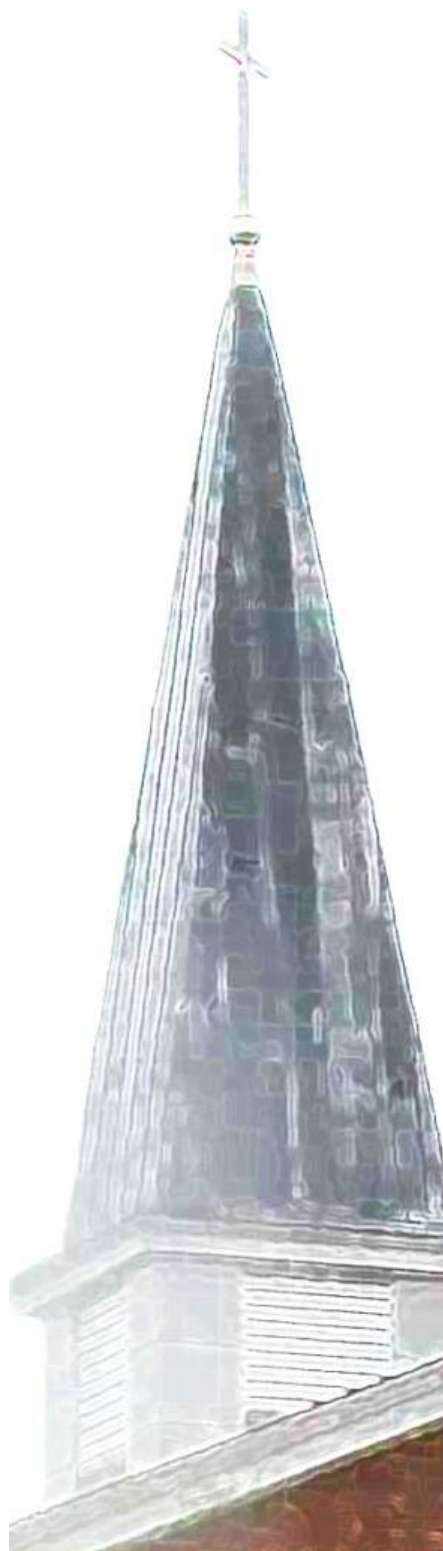
## **WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH!**

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Do whatever He tells you.”**

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



## Mass Schedule for This Week

**Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday,**

*Saint Casimir*

8:00 a.m. Astolfo "Rudy" Scardacchi, *Month's Mind*;

Isabel Posadas Cassidy req. Family;

Lucien Soucy, 6 yrs. Anniversary

Noon Confession

*Vigil of the Second Sunday of Lent*

4:00 p.m. Geraldine Palmer, 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary req.

Barbara and Michael

**Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, Second Sunday of Lent,**

8:30 a.m. For the Intentions of All Parishioners

10:30 a.m. Dennis Vidat req. Sandra and Bob

**Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Bryan Knorr req. Friends

**Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday,**

*Saint Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs*

8:00 a.m. Gratefulness to all the people of the Parish for the work they do req. Jackie Harvey

**Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday, Saint**

*John of God, Religious*

**No Mass**

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday, Saint Francis**

*of Rome, Religious*

8:00 a.m. Mary May req. Cathleen Bunaudge

**Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday,**

8:00 a.m. Francis Andros req. Vickie & Andy Andros, from Burlington

8:30 a.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Lenten Weekday,**

8:00 a.m. Steven Carter, *Month's Mind*

Noon Confession

*Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent*

4:00 p.m. Myrna Rosario & Cesar Culling req.

Cecilia Culling & Family, Rosario & Milagros

**Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Third Sunday of Lent,**

8:30 a.m. For the Intentions of All Parishioners

10:30 a.m. Kenny Parker req. Mother

## *A Thought for the Second Sunday of Lent*

Our first Reading today comes from Genesis 12: 1-4. The reading and the account of Abraham dates back almost 4,000 years. His name was Abram before God gave him a vocation and a new name. Abram came from the ancient civilization known as Sumer, a settlement near modern day Kuwait. He and his family migrated to the northern part of Syria near Turkey. After a lengthy stay there, he heard God's call to leave his kinfolk behind and move to the land of Canaan, modern day Israel. He left behind a prosperous commercial area to settle in a land that was still relatively primitive and underdeveloped. Abraham made this long and difficult journey at the tender age of 75 along with his wife Sarah, who was 10 years younger. God was telling them, not only to pack up and move to an unknown territory, but to start a family there as well. It was a pure act of faith on the part of Abraham to follow God's call and to believe in the blessings God was promising him. As we continue on our Lenten journey may we be inspired and strengthened by Abraham's example and gift of faith.

Good Bless,

*Father Ray*

## **February Food Pantry Collection:**

A total of **299 lbs.** of non-perishable food items were collected and sent to the Plainville Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity!



## **Our Lady of Mercy Church:**

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 by clicking the button **New Here?** at [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org) then click **Welcome!** Or call 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 in the Church, or by mailing it to 19 South Canal Street, Plainville



## **Weekly Offertory**

**Ash Wednesday**

**Feb. 26, 2023**

**Offertory: \$1,632**

**Weekly: \$4,519**

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

### Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2023:

In 2022, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal received pledge commitments and bequests totaling more than \$9,000,000, and I am pleased to report that we helped by contributing \$56,000 amount raised in our Parish.

Pope Francis has stated, *"Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid."* (11/24/13, no. 187 *Evangelii Gaudium*). The theme of this year's Appeal, **His Sacrifice, and ours!**, is an opportunity for us to serve people who are less fortunate than ourselves. When we strengthen our commitment to serve one another as a family of faith, we benefit from the grace that flows from our service to our fellow brothers and sisters. Through the Annual Appeal, we can provide for genuine acts of charity to help our fellow brothers and sisters of Christ.

The 2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal has begun in our Parish and throughout the Archdiocese. Last week was the Appeal Kick-off; I hope you have all received a request for support from Archbishop Blair. This year, our parish goal is \$50,000. Please be as generous as your means permit to fund the charitable works of our Archdiocese. If you did not receive the 2023 Archbishop's Annual Appeal request mailing, please contact the Parish Office to ensure our records are accurate; you can also pick up a packet at the church doors as you leave today. I am confident that together, with everyone's participation, our Parish will exceed our goal.

### Collection: Non-Perishable Food Items

Monthly collection for food items, paper goods, cleaning supplies, etc. is held all year long of the First Sunday of the month. All items collected are distributed to those in need through the Plainville Food Pantry. **During Lent, we are extending the food collection to every weekend.** Please keep this in mind. Items can be left in the Gathering Space near the main door. A basket containing some of the items donated will be brought up at each weekend Mass during Lent in the Offertory Collection.

### Parish Life Committee:

The Committee will meet this **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in Room 101.

### Only 2 Weeks Left!

#### Hunger Banquet:

There is only 2 weeks left to get your tickets for the Hunger Banquet which will be held on **Wed., March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center Gymnasium. Ticket prices are \$10 per person.

Join us for a frugal but tasty meal of homemade vegetable soup, bread, an apple and coffee while you learn more about hunger in Connecticut. Tickets are sold after all the Masses. All proceeds will go to the St. Vincent DePaul Mission in Bristol.



### Last Weekend to Purchase Tickets!

#### Our Lady Mercy: St. Patrick's Day Dinner

When: **March 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

Where: OLM Parish Hall

Dinner: Corned Beef & Cabbage

**Tickets: \$5 for Kids; \$14 for Adults**

*Also available: \$2 for Hot Dog and Chips only*

Includes: potato, vegetable, salad, soda, coffee & dessert. Also: BYOB and a 50/50 Raffle. Please join us for an evening of great food, fellowship, fun and Shamrock School of Irish Dancers.

Tickets available to purchase in the Gathering Space before and after Masses on **Mar. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**. Tickets will also be available at the Parish Center Office. *Also, if you are interested in helping out at this event, please contact Don Melanson.*



**Please Join Us:** All men who are 18 years or older are invited to join our K of C Group. Contact Don Melanson at 203-910-9624.

### Lenten Almsgiving Opportunity

Lenten Rice Bowls were made available on Ash Wednesday and there are a few of them at the entrance of the Church. You are invited to take one home and to gradually fill the bowl with Lenten monetary sacrifices.

**We ask that you return the rice bowls on Palm Sunday with your enclosed donations.**



*All donations will benefit Catholic Relief Service.*





Sign-ups for the **March for Life** in Hartford on **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** will begin last weekend at the Respect for Life table at the Stewardship Fair. Free motorcoach transportation to and from Hartford will be provided. Please plan to stop by the Respect for Life table this weekend for more information and to sign-up. Visit their website for additional information at: [CTMarchforlife.org](http://CTMarchforlife.org)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:



Confessions are heard every **Saturday at 12 noon**. In addition during Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on **Fridays, March 10<sup>th</sup>** from **5:15 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

### Stations of the Cross:

Stations of the Cross are led every **Friday** during Lent at **6:30 p.m.** Meditation booklets will be provided. If you are willing to read the meditation of one of the Stations on a particular Friday, please see Father Ray.



*All men are invited:*

### Video Series "Into the Breach":



The **Knights of Columbus** produced a video series which seeks to answer the question of what it means to be a man and how to live as a man in today's world. **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

Knights of Columbus room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of OLM Parish Center.

**Topic: Suffering** is a mystery which can bring us closer to God and help us grow in holiness. The answer to suffering is Jesus Christ. Frank Ramirez shares his story of responding to intense suffering by worshiping God.

**Topic: Sacramental Life** - Christ offers his grace through the sacraments. The Eucharist and Confession need to be central to every man's life. Jared Zimmerer explores how his experience as a bodybuilder helps him understand aspects of the sacramental life.

Come and see how, joining together in brotherhood, men receive the support they need to grow in virtue and to take action to serve Christ and others. Refreshments will be served. Come and enjoy coffee, sweet snacks, and an inspiring video series.

## Religious Education

### Religious Education:

Instructions for children in grades 1-5 will resume on this **Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>** at **4:30 p.m.**

### The Edge:

The next Edge session for Middle School Students will be held on **Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **6:15 p.m.** with an open gym followed by a guided discussion. All middle school students are invited to attend.

### All Confirmation Preparation Classes:

All Confirmation Preparation Groups for Year 1 & 2 will meet on **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** at **11:45 a.m.** at the Parish Center in the St. Timothy's Room.


### Teen Night:

Teen Night is scheduled for this Saturday evening, **March 4<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** in the gym. All teens are welcome to attend. The next Teen Night will be held on Saturday, **April 1<sup>st</sup>** with the same timeframe.

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Please let us know why your child would like to attend QOTA in the note section.

## Prayers for the Deceased

Please remember the deceased of our Parish in your prayers:

Isabel Posadas Cassidy  
Salvatore J. Cristofaro  
Rosia Plourde  
Lucien Soucy



***"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O' Lord"***

### St. Anthony's Society:

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** at **6 p.m.** in Room 102. Anyone interested in joining us, please come to the meeting and speak with Elaine Osipowicz.

### Stewardship Fair:

Thank you to everyone who stopped by and visited the information tables at The Stewardship Fair. We are encouraged by your participation and interest.



We are also very grateful to the Pastoral Council for organizing the fair and to the various Parish Committees, Organizations and Ministries for preparing very interesting and inviting displays. The Stewardship Fair continues today and next weekend before and after all Masses. Next weekend, the following groups will set up information tables: The Pastoral Council, Church Linens and Things, The Legion of Human Needs and Social Justice Committee, Scripture Study, Vocations, Middle School "Edge", Ushers and Greeters, and Teen Choir. Please plan to stop by next weekend.

### Tax Letter:

If you wish to receive a tax donation letter, please call the office at 860-747-6825 or email at [olmct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olmct@sbcglobal.net). We ask for your patience as we are unable to print the letters while you wait. It can be picked up at the Parish Center Office or it will be mailed to you upon request.



## The Bulletin Board

### **Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Teen Night, Gym

### **Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Stewardship Fair,  
*Gathering Space in the Church*  
11:30 a.m. Choir Practice, *in the Church*  
2:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Curia, Room 102

### **Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Religion Classes, Gr. 1-5  
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. RCIA  
6:30 p.m. Scripture Study, *Timothy Room*

### **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. Scripture Study, *Timothy Room*  
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Basketball, Gym  
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts, *Timothy Room*

### **Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Basketball, Gym

### **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Basketball, Gym  
6:00 p.m. St. Anthony's Society, Room 102  
6:30 p.m. Parish Life Committee, Room 101

### **Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

No Activities Scheduled

### **Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Dinner, Gym  
Set up for Knights of Columbus Breakfast, Gym

### **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Knights' Breakfast, Gym  
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Stewardship Fair,  
*Gathering Space in the Church*  
11:30 a.m. Choir Practice, *in the Church*  
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. All Confirmation Preparation  
Classes will meet at this time, *Timothy Room*

### Pray Every Day This Lent:

Deepen your prayer life this Lent with Hallow. Please visit [hallow.com/pray](http://hallow.com/pray) for more information. Also, please check out the fliers on the Church bulletin board for additional details.



### Bulletin Submissions Deadline:

Deadline for submissions to the next bulletin is Monday, **March 6<sup>th</sup> by 4 p.m.** Call the office at 860-747-6825 or send an email to [olmct@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olmct@sbcglobal.net).



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