

OUR LADY OF Mercy

March 12, 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 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*

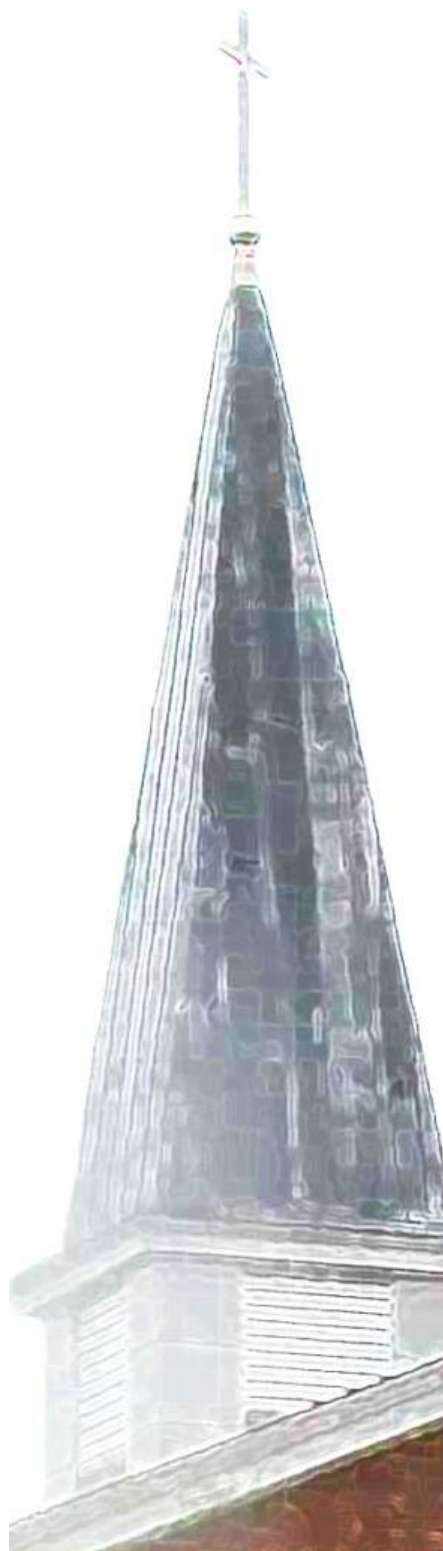
WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH!

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: _____
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 11th, *Lenten Weekday*,

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

Linda Bordeaux, *Month's Mind*

Noon Confession

Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Myrna Rosario, Cesar Culling, Aurora & Cayetano Rosario req. Cecilia Culling & Family, Rosario & Milagros

Sunday, March 12th, *Third Sunday of Lent*,

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

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

Monday, March 13th, *Lenten Weekday*

8:00 a.m. Philip Plourde req. Family

Tuesday, March 14th, *Lenten Weekday*,

8:00 a.m. Monique Beaulieu req. SR Rosaleen

Wednesday, March 15th, *Lenten Weekday*

No Mass

Thursday, March 16th, *Lenten Weekday*

8:00 a.m. Monique Beaulieu req. SR Beverly

Friday, March 17th, *Lenten Weekday*,

Saint Patrick, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving req. Greta

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

6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 18th, *Lenten Weekday, Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

8:00 a.m. Margaret Burgio, 1st Anniversary;

Maria Cutler, 1st Anniversary;

Thomas St. Onge, *Month's Mind*;

Jacqueline Watrous, *Month's Mind*

Noon Confession

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. The Kelly Family req. Vincent Family

Sunday, March 19th, *Fourth Sunday of Lent*,

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

10:30 a.m. Ray Tyminski req. wife Sandy

A Thought for the Third Sunday of Lent

Water is major theme of our Gospel reading today from John 4:5-42. In this reading Jesus asked for a drink of water and then offered the woman living water. The term was deliberately ambiguous. Ordinary people, of course, didn't have running water. That's why they all had to come to a well nearby to draw water. The woman interpreted the term, "living water" to mean a fountain or a spring. She had no idea that the living water Jesus was talking about was water that would lead to eternal life. Life, as we all know, depends on water. There is no life without water. As Christians our life of grace starts with water, the water of Baptism.

Good Bless,
Father Ray



The Tabernacle Lamp:

is lite for the Greater Glory of God and in recognition of the Real Presence of Christ. This week the candle is flickering in Memory of:

Loretta Martin



Weekly Offertory

March 5, 2023

Monthly Collection

Weekly: \$6,438

Offertory: \$1,848

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

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 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

Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2023:

In 2023, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our Parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward.

Since 1997, Archbishop's Annual Appeal Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide nearly \$20 million in funding to community-based local charities throughout Hartford, New Haven and Litchfield Counties to assist them in their important work of serving the needs of God's people. In 2022, we were able to provide nearly \$900,000 to various organizations, nominated by pastors, across the Archdiocese.

Organizations such as Plainville Food Pantry, Plainville Senior Center's Transportation Program right here in our own town received funding from the Appeal's Vicariate Outreach Program that makes a difference in serving our neighbors. *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.*

A Lenten Scripture Retreat:

A Lenten Scripture Retreat, entitled "Unlocking the Power of Praying the Psalms" will be held on **Sat., March 25th from 8:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.** The retreat is being sponsored by the Hartford Catholic Biblical School. For more information, call 860-242-5573.

Coffee and Donuts:

Coffee and Donuts will be served **next Sunday** following the **8:30 a.m. Mass** in the Gathering Space. Please plan ahead to spend a few minutes after Mass over some delicious coffee and the good company of Fellow Church Members.

**Come & Get Them: LAST CHANCE!**

This weekend is the last chance to get tickets to the **Hunger Banquet**, which will be held on **Wed. evening at 6:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center gym. **Tickets** are only **\$10**, and will be available in the Gathering Space after all the Masses and at the monthly breakfast. Enjoy a frugal but tasty meal of soup, bread, coffee and an apple while learning about hunger in Connecticut. All proceeds will support the Bristol St. Vincent DePaul Mission.

Easter Flowers:

There is no designated collection to help with the cost of Easter flowers. Please use the Easter Flower envelope to make a donation and place it in the Donation Box at the church entrance or in the offertory basket when it is passed at Mass on any weekend before Easter. If you are not using offertory envelopes, an offering for Easter flowers can be placed in a plain envelope. If you would like to make an offering of Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please indicate their names on the envelope. A listing in whose **Memory Easter Flowers** have been given will be printed for the Second Sunday of Easter on April 16th.

**Human Concerns****& Social Justice Committee:**

The Committee on Human Concerns and Social Justice will meet on **Monday, March 20th at 7 p.m.** at the **Parish Center**. The meeting will begin with a presentation by the Director of the Blessed Michael McGivney Center for Renewal. The Center works to support individuals on a journey out of poverty, teaching needed life skills.

All parishioners are welcome to attend the presentation, and are also welcome to stay for the meeting if they wish.

Knights of Columbus'**Sunday Breakfast:**

Sunday Breakfast is being prepared by the Knights of Columbus and served today from **8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** in the Parish Center Gym. The goal of our monthly breakfasts are not so much to raise funds but rather to help build a **Sense of Community in Our Parish**. Don't miss a delicious breakfast and good company all at a very modest cost.

**Lenten Rice Bowls:**

The CRS Rice Bowls continue to be available at the Church entrances. It is a Catholic Relief Service's Lenten faith-in-action program. It offers opportunities for your family to engage daily with the Spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Online at crsricebowl.org. You can obtain daily prayers, engage in stories of hope and get recipes for meatless Fridays during Lent. 25% of all donations stay within the United States to offer help locally.



Literacy Volunteers Needed:

Literacy Volunteers of Central Connecticut is looking for volunteers. An Information Session will be held on **Thursday, March 16th** at the New Britain Public Library. Please RSVP by March 14th by calling 860-229-7323.



There is still time to sign up for the **March for Life** in Hartford on **March 22nd** at this weekend's

Stewardship Fair. Free motorcoach transportation to and from Hartford will be provided. Please plan to stop by the Respect for Life table for more information and to sign-up. Visit their website for additional information at: CTMarchforlife.org

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.



Pastoral Visits:

If you would like a visit or know of someone who is homebound and would like a visit by members of The Legion of Mary or by our Pastor, Fr. Raymond Smialowski, please call the Parish Center at 860-747-6825. During this Lenten Season, Fr. Ray will be happy to visit to hear confessions and bring Holy Communion.

Stewardship Fair:

Our third Stewardship Fair sponsored by the Pastoral Council is today before and after all Masses. Please stop by and visit the displays of the various Parish Organizations, Committees, and Ministries. Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's fairs and to those who stopped by. We are encouraged by the participation of the Members of our Faith Community.



Message of Holy Father Francis for Lent 2023

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus so that we may experience his divine splendor and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

Pope Francis

(Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 January, Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul)

Spiritual Adoption of a Child:

You are encouraged to spiritually "adopt" an unborn child and to follow the child you adopt to being born. Participants are asked to pray for 9 months for a baby. During each month of the program, the **"Spiritual Parents"** are given information about their baby's development in the womb. Our program begins in March and ends at Christmas with a celebration of birth. Spiritual adoption forms are found at the Church entrances. A basket to deposit a completed form is on the table in the Gathering Space.



Religious Education

Religious Education:

Instructions for children in grades 1-5 will be held on **Monday, March 13th** at **4:30 p.m.**

The Edge:

The next Edge session for Middle School Students will be held on **Monday, March 13th** 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 12th** at **11:45 a.m.** at the Parish Center in the St. Timothy's Room.

Teen Night:

The next Teen Night is scheduled for Saturday evening, **April 1st** beginning at **6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** in the gym. All teens are welcome to attend. Mark your calendar for **May 6th** Teen Night with the same timeframe and place.

Prayers for the Deceased

Please remember the deceased of our Parish in your prayers:

Linda Bordenau, *Month's Mind*
Steven Carter, *Month's Mind*
Gary Sirois



"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O' Lord"

St. Patrick's Day:

St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday, during the **Season of Lent**, Catholics are to abstain from eating meat on Fridays as an act of penance. Archbishop Leonard Blair recently announced that he granted the dispensation from abstaining from meat for **St. Patrick's Day, March 17th**. However, Catholics who partake in the St. Patrick's Day feast are encouraged to engage in another sacrificial or charitable act that day or give up meat on another day.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who brought items for last weekend's food collection. **During Lent**, we are extending the food collection to every weekend. All items donated are distributed to those in need through the Plainville Food Pantry.



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The Bulletin Board

Saturday, March 11th

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

Sunday, March 12th

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*

Monday, March 13th

4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Religion Classes, Gr. 1-5
6:15 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. Edge, Gym & St. Tim. Room
6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. RCIA, Atrium
6:30 p.m. Scripture Study, Conference Room

Tuesday, March 14th

9:00 a.m. Scripture Study, *Timothy Room*

Wednesday, March 15th

All Day: Human Need & Social Justice Committee:
Hunger Banquet, Gym & Kitchen
6:15 p.m.- 7:15 p.m. RCIC, Atrium

Thursday, March 16th

6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. RCIC, Atrium

Friday, March 17th

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, March 18th

No Activities Scheduled

Sunday, March 19th

11:30 a.m. Choir Practice, *in the Church*

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. 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.



Bulletin Submissions Deadline:

Deadline for submissions to the next bulletin is Thursday, **March 16th by 4 p.m.** Call the office at 860-747-6825 or send an email to olmct@sbcglobal.net.

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