



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Website: www.olmnh.org
424-3757; 424-4477; Fax: 424-1780

Mass Schedule

Saturday - 4:30pm
Sunday - 8:30am and 10:30am
Monday, Tuesday, Wed, & Friday - 8:30am
Holy Days - 8:30am and anticipated 7:00pm

Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. Paul Bouchard, Pastor
Email: FrPaul@olmnh.org
Mr. John Castelot, Deacon
deaconjohn@olmnh.org
Mrs. Marie Dancy Pastoral Associate
Email: mdancy@olmnh.org
Mrs. Catherine Guman, Business Manager
Email: cguman@olmnh.org
Mrs. Laura Paison, Director of Parish Faith Formation Programs
Email: lpaison@olmnh.org
Ms. Mackenzie Murphy, Youth Minister
Email: mmurphy@olmnh.org
Mrs. Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant for Religious Education
Email: kjrush1@olmnh.org
Mrs. Alyce Bolduc, Receptionist/Secretary
Email: alemae@olmnh.org
Mrs. Nancy King, Director of Music
Email: nking@olmnh.org

Parish Office/Rectory: 424-3757

Religious Education Office: 424-4477

Fax: 424-1780

Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, founded in 1954, is a Roman Catholic community that shares in the life of Jesus Christ, obedient Father, and guided by the Holy Spirit. As a faith community, our mission is: to celebrate the sacraments and to proclaim the Word of God; to minister the spiritual and temporal needs of our parish through prayer, works of charity, personal witness, education, and evangelization; to welcome all people to active participation in our parish community; and to preserve the faith of the church amidst a changing world and diverse social climate. We commit ourselves to this mission, under the patronage and protection of Mary, Mother of Mercy, with faith, hope and love in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. May 1999

Welcome New Parishioners!

All new parishioners should formally register with the parish by visiting the Parish Office and filling out a registration form. If you move away, please notify the Parish Office.

Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism for infants is usually celebrated on the last Sunday of each month. All parents must attend a parent enrichment session prior to the Baptism of their child. Please contact the Pastoral Minister, Marie Dancy, at the Parish Office to sign up for the class. It is recommended that parents attend these sessions during pregnancy. Preparation of all parishioners for Confirmation and First Communion is an integral part of living the Catholic Life. Please call the Parish Office for more information and assistance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation and Confession

Parishioners are encouraged to experience sacramental forgiveness on a regular basis. Confession is available on Saturdays at 3:00pm and by appointment. If you wish to set up an appointment please call the office to speak with Father Paul. Special communal reconciliation services are celebrated during Advent and Lent.

Weddings

The policy of all Catholic parishes in the state of New Hampshire is that couples must contact their parish priest at least 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Couples should never make any final arrangements (especially for the wedding reception hall) prior to meeting with the parish priest. A Marriage Preparation Program is also required. A parish Wedding policy brochure is available upon request.

Sacrament of the Sick

If possible, please do not wait until a critical moment to call a priest for the Sacrament of the Sick. Anyone who is seriously ill may receive this sacrament of healing and hope. It is recommended that family members be present for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.

Hospital Visitation

A Catholic Chaplain is available at all our local hospitals. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish a parish priest to visit a family member of the parish who is hospitalized.

Outreach and Home Ministry

Please call the Rectory to inform us in the event you are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist or the Sacrament of the Sick or that you need other ministry.



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, September 30th

Vigil: Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Paul E. Provencher req by his sister
Pauline & her husband Roger Hebert

SUNDAY, October 1st

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: For all parishioners

10:30AM: Tom Gannon req by the Gannon family
and for all parishioners

MONDAY, October 2nd

The Holy Guardian Angels

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:10AM: Joseph Arcifa req by Don & Alyce Bolduc

TUESDAY, October 3rd

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, October 4th

NO MASS

THURSDAY, October 5th

NO MASS

FRIDAY, October 6th

NO MASS

SATURDAY, October 7th

Vigil: Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Joyce Foulks req by Dick & Pat Madden

SUNDAY, October 8th

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Robert Dwyer req by his family

10:30AM: Roberto Briones req by Maria Phillips and
for all parishioners

The Understanding Father

Jesus is saying something important in today's Gospel. He talks about tax collectors and prostitutes who repented after hearing John the Baptist preach. He must have shocked the priests and elders when he said those prostitutes would enter the kingdom of God before them. After all, his listeners had spent their whole lives being faithful to the Law. Yet Jesus was saying that sinners who repented will enter God's kingdom first. Jesus' point was not so much about final salvation as about our daily choices. Remember the parable about the two sons. The second son said what his father wanted to hear, with no intention of doing it. The first was honest about not wanting to go to the vineyard, but then decided to do it anyway. I suspect the father of those men knew what each would or would not do.

And whom do we want to imitate? The priests and elders said all the right things about obeying God's laws, but they were more interested in looking important than living a holy life. Are we like that--telling everyone I am a good Christian, going to church every Sunday (or at least on Christmas and Easter), and yet never making any effort to be loving, forgiving, patient, honest, or any of the difficult things that Jesus calls us to be?

The tax collectors and sinners knew that they were unworthy, but they listened to the call to repentance and let God make them worthy. Are we honest enough to look at our lives and repent of our hatred, our selfishness, or whatever keeps us in sin, and then to follow Jesus with our whole heart? We may not always like doing what God asks of us, but God is an understanding Father who can accept our weaknesses and forgive them when we are ready to return to him.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

120 Club Winners - Congratulations

Week #8 : Ryan Murphy & Pam Coppinger

Sanctuary Lamp



The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of September 30th through October 6th is lit in memory of **Annette Doucette**.

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Lamp lit in memory of or for the intentions of a loved one, please call the parish office at 424-3757.

Parish Stewardship

Thank you

Week of September 24th : \$4968.00

Retired Religious: \$2778.00

Thank You from the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all those who helped out at the recent Red Cross Blood Drive, especially those who donated blood. Sixty Nine units of blood were collected.

RESTORE, RENEW, PROCLAIM...**Our Diocese will be restoring the Order in which the Sacraments of Initiation are Celebrated...Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion**

Through the waters of Baptism, we are incorporated into the Body of Christ through the Spirit. We die to sin and become new creations in Christ.

Confirmation is a special outpouring and strengthening of the Holy Spirit. This Sacrament permanently seals us to Jesus Christ.

Through the sacrament of the Eucharist we receive Christ—Body, Soul and Divinity—in the bread and wine. Eucharist completes our initiation and unites us as one body in Christ.

Go to www.catholicnh.org/lifelong for more information on the sacraments of initiation.



SAVE THE DATE
PATRIOTS TAILGATE PARTY
OCTOBER 15, 2017 @ 11:30 AM
CHURCH PARKING LOT



Are you ready for some football???

"Calling all Grillers" —Our Lady of Mercy is hosting our first ever tailgate party as we watch the Patriots squash the New York Jets here in the parish. Show off your grilling talents and share your tailgate favorites with the crowd. Snacks, crock pot dishes and sides are also welcome. BYOB! Our Lady of Mercy will supply the grill, soft drinks and the Game. We will watch the Patriots on the big screen in the Church Hall. You should also bring your favorite parking lot chair or bean bag.

PRAYERS FOR THE UNBORN

Join the Knights of Columbus and other parishioners after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, October 7th. Parishioners will proceed out to the statue in front of the Rectory for a brief prayer service. Please plan to take an extra 5 minutes after Mass to join us.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4th. St Francis is known as the patron saint of animals. It is customary for Catholic churches to hold ceremonies honoring animals around his feast day.



Our Lady of Mercy as part of the Interfaith Community of Merrimack, will be hosting the Blessing of Animals on **Saturday, October 7th at 10:00 am in Watson Park, (across from the Fire Department on Route 3) Merrimack.**

This is an opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the animals in our lives, for their companionship, service and the joy they bring to us. All are invited to gather and bring their pets on leashes or in carriers to receive a blessing as we give thanks to God for "all creatures, great and small." Ribbons will be available to decorate a memorial tree in remembrance of pets that have passed. Donations of any kind to benefit the animal shelter are always greatly appreciated.

I Am A Muslim Woman

We are pleased to invite both women and men to this presentation. This event will take place on Monday, **October 23rd in our church hall beginning at 6:45 pm.** An optional tour of our Church will be offered at 6:15pm. Three Muslim women, one each from Pakistan, Turkey and Syria, will speak about Islam and living the faith as Muslim women in New Hampshire. A question and answer period will follow. Plan to join us afterward for refreshment and conversation. Please RSVP to mdancy@olmnh.org or call 424-3757.

October 1, 2017

OCTOBER BABY SHOWER



Throughout the month of October, our parish will once again remember in a special way, pregnant and parenting teens, their newborns and children in need of assistance. Donations of new, unwrapped items will be donated to Birthright and Pennacook Pregnancy Center. These agencies rely totally on private donations to provide services. Your gifts may be placed in the playpen in the back of the church beginning the weekend of September 30/October 1st through October 29th.

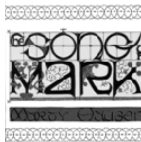
Items Needed:

Important— both Agencies are in great need of diapers of all sizes, especially sizes 2,3,4 and 5.

Other Items:

Baby wipes, sleepers, baby blankets, onesies, clothing up to 3T, infant socks, bibs, Enfamil, baby washcloths, bottles, sippy cups and sleep sacks.

SONG OF MARK



For two weeks in October on Tuesday mornings (Oct 10 & 17) after the 8:30 Mass or on Wednesday evenings (Oct 11 & 18) at 7:00 pm in the Church Hall there will be a two part presentation of the “Song of Mark”.

This Gospel is truly unique and beautiful. In part I we will explore the person of Mark, and why he wrote what he did. We will speak of why Mark’s writing provides a powerful witness. We will discuss the first half of the Gospel, and study some of its aspects. The Marty Haugen musical will highlight certain parts of the Gospel. In part 2 of this study, we will explore the second half of the Gospel. Please join us .

October—Dedicated to the Holy Rosary

October is a good time to reflect on our heavenly Father’s great gift of life, Mary’s role in our Salvation and the sanctity Jesus brought to humanity by becoming one of us. Prayer is a good way to offer spiritual support for life in all stages and in all vocations.



Each day in October has been dedicated to a specific intention. **To participate, sign your name on the day you wish to pray the Rosary.** The calendar can be found in the main entrance of the church. Each day can be chosen by more than one person.

**Upcoming Faith Formation Dates
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Meetings

Oct 18: Gr 1-6 Parent Mtg 4:30 pm PMR
Oct 18: Gr 1-6 Parent Mtg 5:45pm PC

Church Photo
Directory



PHOTO DIRECTORY

It's not too late to be included. Photographers will be here at the parish again on October 13th and 14th. If you were unable to have your photo taken last time, you may sign up online at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y1ydn03c/>.

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Our High School Youth Group (Gr 9-12) will be meeting again on Sunday evening, October 1st from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Please join us and have some fun!!! For more information or any questions, please contact Mackenzie Murphy at mmurphy@olmnh.org.

The People who gather on Wednesday are meeting this Wednesday, October 4th at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. We will discuss Isaiah 5: 1-7, Philippians 4: 6-9; and Matthew 21: 33-43. Topic: What are we doing to cultivate the reign of God in the fields where we are living and working?

YOUNG ADULT MUSIC GROUP



We're looking for some talented teens and young adult musicians (Gr 7-12 or college age) to join our Youth Music Group. If you play an instrument or like to sing, please let us know! We rehearse on Mondays from 6 to 8 pm. Our first rehearsal will be on September 11th in the Church. Please reach out to Nancy King, director of music ministry at nking@olmnh.org.

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER???

Our High School Youth Ministry is currently up and running and we are seeking energetic adults to join us on our Core Team as we are looking to expand our Youth Ministry and create a Middle School Youth Group. If interested, please contact Mackenzie Murphy at mmurphy@olmnh.org.

Information Page

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Bulletin for October 1, 2017

Kathy