



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road Merrimack, NH 03054

**All Are  
Welcome!**

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday - 4:30 PM  
Sunday - 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM  
Mon, Tues, Wed, and Fri - 8:30 AM  
Holy Days - 8:30 AM  
and anticipated vigil - 7 PM

## Parish Staff

Rev Msgr Paul Bouchard, Pastor  
Email: FrPaul@OLMNH.org  
John Castelot, Deacon  
Email: DeaconJohn@OLMNH.org  
Marie Dancy, Pastoral Associate  
Email: MDancy@OLMNH.org  
Sharon Nagy, Business Manager  
Email: SNagy@OLMNH.org  
Laura Paison, Director of Faith Formation  
Email: LPaison@OLMNH.org  
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister  
Email: CCoughlin@OLMNH.org  
Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant  
for Faith Formation  
Email: KJRush1@OLMNH.org  
Karen Correia, Receptionist/Secretary  
Email: KCorreia@OLMNH.org  
Nancy King, Director of Music  
Email: NKing@OLMNH.org  
Muriel Gelinis, Sacristan  
Ron Ketchie, Custodian

## Reconciliation

Confessions are available on Saturdays  
at 3 PM and by appointment.

## Outreach and Home Ministry

Please contact the office with your  
needs.

## Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mercy Parish, founded in 1954, is a Roman Catholic community that shares in the life of Jesus Christ, obedient to the 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 to 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 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

## Sacraments

**Baptism** for infants is usually celebrated on the last weekend of the month.

Please contact the office for more information about baptism and the other

**Sacraments of Initiation.** For the celebration of **Marriage**, 6 months notice is necessary.

Parish Office/Rectory: 424-3757 Faith Formation Office: 424-4477

Website: [www.olmnh.org](http://www.olmnh.org)



## **MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 6th**

**Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**4:30PM:** Dick Foulks req by his family

**Sunday, April 7th**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**8:30AM:** For all parishioners

**10:30AM:** Clarina Hudon req by the Harwood family

**Monday, April 8th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** Carol Sylvia req by a friend

**Tuesday, April 9th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** For the deceased priests of the Diocese

**Wednesday, 10th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** For the intentions of the celebrant

**Thursday, April 11th**

**St Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr**

**6:10PM:** Evening Prayer

**6:30PM:** Ruth Geiszler req by Bruce & Janet Angus

**Friday, April 12th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30 AM:** For all parishioners

**Saturday, March 13th**

**VIGIL: PALM SUNDAY**

**4:30PM:** Alban & Eda Trudel req by Neal &

Ann Patnaude

**SUNDAY, March 14th**

**PALM SUNDAY**

**8:30AM:** For all parishioners

**10:30AM:** Rose Poraczky req by her daughter

## **PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**Weekend of 3/31:** \$5968.00

**Lenten almsgiving:** \$653.00

**CRS:** \$1988.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!!

### **God's Justice**

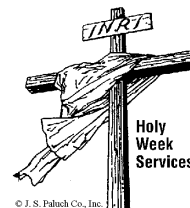
The story of Jesus and the woman caught in adultery is sometimes considered as a put-down of the scribes and Pharisees. While their motive for bringing the woman to Jesus was to test him, they were technically trying to uphold the law. But they were hoping to get Jesus to cause a scandal by refuting the law, or, if he upheld the law, the woman would be killed with Jesus' approval. Jesus had a better idea. He shows that God's justice is mercy and forgiveness. When he told them that the one without sin could be first to throw a stone, he knew that they all were sinners one way or another. And a sinner could not judge another sinner. He also knew that someone whose sins were forgiven would be willing to forgive the woman. That's what St. Paul means in the second reading when he says he did not have "any righteousness of my own based on the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ" (Philippians 3:9). He says he has given up the idea of making himself righteous (right with God) by keeping the laws of his people. Now he depends on his faith in Christ and Christ's forgiveness, which was shown in his death and resurrection. He is even willing to follow Christ in suffering and eventually death, so that he too can share the Resurrection. Why did Paul come to this kind of faith? Because he had been forgiven for persecuting Christians. And he had persecuted them, not because he was evil, but because he thought he was keeping the law.

Jesus probably surprised the woman when he let her go. He was the only one who could have judged her, but he chose to forgive. Just as the woman was changed by the mercy of Christ, Paul too was affected by being forgiven by the One whom he was persecuting (Acts 9:4).

So is keeping the law a bad thing? No, but the important thing is why we keep the law. We can do it like the Pharisees--keeping the law as a status symbol: "I'm too good (or too important) to break the law." Or we can choose to follow Jesus' way of love. Then we still keep the laws and commandments, only because they are examples of how to love God and love each other. For we too have been forgiven by Jesus on the cross. As we approach Holy Week, let us remember how much Jesus has done for us.

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

# Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum



Don't miss the best part! Don't miss the celebrations of Holy week. The Liturgical services on Passion Sunday and the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) are among the very best things we do in the Church. Holy Week is the week before Easter. During this week, the celebrations have the special purpose of helping us to prepare for the most holy day of our Church year, Easter.

**SUNDAY—April 14th: PALM SUNDAY**—On this day the Church celebrates Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish the "paschal mystery". We enter into Jerusalem with Christ; we enter into our holiest week; we enter into our final preparation for the Easter feast. During this mass, we enter into Christ's entrance into Jerusalem.

**MONDAY—April 15th : SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 11:00 am to 1:00 PM; 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM in the Church

**WEDNESDAY-April 17th : CELEBRATION OF TENEBRAE** —at 7:00 pm we will celebrate a Tenebrae Service. Tenebrae (meaning shadows) is distinctive for its gradual extinguishing of candles while a series of readings and psalms are prayed. During the service the Passion of Christ is retold, and after each psalm a candle is extinguished. At the end the book of Gospels is slammed shut, symbolizing the earthquake that followed Christ's death. When the service is complete, all rise and leave in silence and darkness.

**THURSDAY, April 18th @ 7:00 pm: First Day of the Triduum-The day Christ gave himself up to death: Holy Thursday**

Holy Thursday evening is the beginning of the Holy Triduum. The Church celebrates Christ sharing His Last Supper with the disciples and Jesus' institution of the Eucharist. We pray that God sends the Holy Spirit upon the community gathered so that all of us who are gathered and are nourished by the Eucharist will become one body in Christ. The priest follows Christ's example of humility when he washes the feet of the parishioners.



**FRIDAY, April 19th @ 3:00 PM—Stations of the Cross which will take place at Last Rest Cemetery weather permitting.**

**@ 7:00 pm: Second Day of the Triduum-Jesus Dies on the Cross: Good Friday**

Good Friday commemorates the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a sober celebration. We simply come together to pray the paradox of the cross. Through Christ's suffering on the cross, Christ is gloriously raised to life and we receive salvation. It is truly impossible to explain the mystery of the cross in a few words, but we can experience it on Good Friday. We pray with Jesus on the cross and venerate the cross. It is with eyes of faith that we see and understand the glory of the cross.



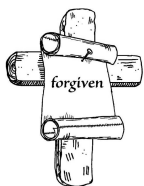
**SATURDAY, April 20th @ 7:30 pm :Third Day of the Triduum-Jesus is raised from the dead: Easter**

The celebration of Easter begins with the Easter Vigil, a time of purposeful waiting and watching. We are not waiting alone, but with generations of those before us who waited for Christ to come from the Tomb. During the Easter Vigil, we tell our story of salvation and listen to the gospel proclaim the resurrection. Christ is Risen!! On Easter Day, Christians everywhere celebrate that Christ rose from the dead. Alleluia is sung throughout the day, proclaiming that Christ is risen!!

**SUNDAY, April 21st: Easter Sunday Masses at 8:30 am and 10:30 am**

### **Deanery Reconciliation Service**

A Deanery Wide Lenten Penance service will take place on Sunday, **April 7th** at 2:00 pm at Immaculate Conception Parish in Nashua. As we prepare for Easter, come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of His forgiveness! Many priests will be available for your convenience.



Reconciliation is available here at Our Lady of Mercy Parish at 3:00 pm each Saturday, 5:30 to 6:00 pm on Thursday evenings (Lent only) and on Monday, April 15th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

### ***Palm Sunday Brunch & Blood Pressure Clinic***

Join us on Sunday, April 14th for our annual Palm Sunday Brunch sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in our Church hall.



Breakfast will be served after the 8:30 and 11:30 am Masses. Come and enjoy the food, fun and fellowship. Build some new relationships over good food. Hope to see you there.

A Blood Pressure Clinic will be held at the same time by our Parish Nurses.

### **VIDEOS & DISCUSSIONS DURING LENT**

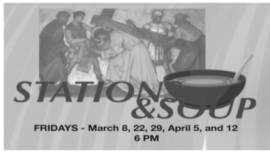
**On Tuesday, April 9th at 9:15 am** in the church hall we will watch Part II of a short video on the Mystery of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. Among other things we will discuss how our crosses lead us to discover sacrificial love, which is the greatest way to love another person, and leads us to Christ and eternal happiness. This will be repeated on Tuesday, April 9th at 9:15 am.

**Thursday evening, April 11th at 7:15 pm** in the Church Hall we will take a look behind the scenes of the movie "Unplanned." As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, Abby Johnson fought to enact legislation for the cause she so deeply believed in. Then came the day she saw something that changed everything, leading Abby to join her former enemies at 40 Days For Life, and become one of the most ardent pro-life speakers in America.

### **Wednesday People**

On Wednesday, April 10 at 7 PM in the Parish Center you are invited to break open the scripture concerning the Passion of the Lord as it recorded in the Gospel of Luke.





Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday evening of Lent (April 12th) at 6:00 pm in Church.

Immediately after the Friday evening stations, please join us down in the Church Hall to gather with friends for some homemade soup and conversation.

**April 19th : Good Friday Stations of the Cross** will take place at 3:00 pm at Last Rest Cemetery weather permitting. In case of bad weather, stations will take place in the Church.

### **A gift for the parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church**

Check it out! There is no charge!

Go to **OLMNH.formed.org** and log in: choose your password. Once you are on the formed site, at the top of the page click on "On Demand" then click on Season of Lent. There you will find:

- Lenten Reflection, A Lent to Remember
- Lectio – prayer, Into the Desert – a Lenten study on prayer
- Forgiven – the transforming power of confession
- Lenten Reflections – experience the Catholic faith in a whole new way
- A Lent to Remember – a Lenten encounter with mercy

Try any of these! You will find something of worth!

### **Good Friday Collection**

The "Collection for the Holy Land" originates from the desire of Popes to maintain strong links between all Christians around the world and the Holy Places. It traditionally takes place on Good Friday and is the main source of support for life in these places.

The Custody, through the Collection, is able to carry out its mission of conserving the holy places, the stones of memory, and of encouraging the Christian presence, the living stones of the Holy Land, through numerous activities of solidarity such as the maintenance of pastoral, educational, aid, healthcare and social structures.



## **120 CLUB WINNERS**

**Week #9: Lorraine Bellemore & Edith Ryan**

Congratulations!!

## Information Page

Acct #: 694750

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Merrimack, NH 03054

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*Bulletin for April 7, 2019*

**Kathy**