



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

Michael Coughlin, Dir of Faith Formation

Email: MCoughlin@OLMNH.org

Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister

Email: CCoughlin@OLMNH.org

Kathleen Rush, Administrative Assistant
for Religious Education

Email: KJRush1@OLMNH.org

Karen Correia, Receptionist/Secretary

Email: KCorreia@OLMNH.org

Nancy King, Director of Music

Email: NKing@OLMNH.org

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.

Reconciliation

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

Outreach and Home Ministry

Please contact the office with your needs.

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

Website: www.olmnh.org



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 18th

Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Dorothy Lavalley req by her family

Sunday, January 19th

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: For all parishioners

10:30AM: Frank DiChiara req by Michele DiChiara
& Rick Ponti req by a friend

Monday, January 20th

NO MASS

Tuesday, January 21st

St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

8:15AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Tina Tylock req by Bruce & Janet Angus

Wednesday, January 22nd

No Morning Mass

6:00 PM: For the unborn

Thursday, January 23rd

NO MASS

Friday, January 24th

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:15AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For all parishioners

Saturday, January 25th

Vigil: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Kathryn Loretta Fleming req by Ray &
Kathy Turk

Sunday, January 26th

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Clark Swinehart req by Chris & Sharon Nagy

10:30AM: Brian Carter req by his parents and family

Behold the Lamb of God

I wonder if anyone understood John the Baptist when he called Jesus the Lamb of God. Did they associate that name with the paschal lamb whose blood protected the Israelites from the Angel of Death? After Jesus' death and resurrection, the apostles began to understand that Jesus' blood, shed on the cross, freed us all from sin and death. Yet here is the Baptizer already acting like a disciple before Jesus has gathered any disciples or even begun to preach. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist gives us some hints about discipleship.

First, John trusts God with things he does not understand. He says twice that he did not know Jesus, yet he trusts God's revelation that Jesus would "baptize with the Holy Spirit" (John 1:33). We also may not always understand where God is leading us. If you have lost a loved one, are looking for work when no one is hiring, or are dealing with serious illness, this is the time to trust that God still loves and cares for you.

John also knew that doing God's work meant that God was working through him. Originally John baptized others as sign of repentance, but he soon came to see that his real work was to make Jesus "known to Israel" (John 1:31). When we try to do what God wants, it is good to remember that God is the one in control and who decides what the result will be. What looks like failure to us can be success in God's eyes.

John's third hint teaches us that a disciple shares his or her faith in God. So John testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. While that sounds obvious to us, it took courage to say that to people who would have thought it blasphemy. Even today, when Jesus is known throughout the world, we still need to share our faith experiences so those without faith may be attracted to it, and even those with faith can be encouraged by our sharing. You may be surprised to find that your own faith deepens the more you share it with others. As we point out the Lamb of God to those who don't know him, we get to know him better ourselves.

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

Wednesday People

On the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time we hear about the call of the first Apostles and the beginning of the healing ministry of Jesus. This is the start of the most amazing narrative of the ministry of Jesus. If you would like to join with others and explore the gospel for an hour, come to the Parish Center on Wednesday, January 22 at 7 PM. All are welcome.

Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

MORNING MASS SNOW POLICY

For the safety of our parishioners and also to give our maintenance staff a chance to clear walkways and to make sure the parking lot is plowed, if Merrimack schools are closed or if there is a delayed opening, morning Mass is cancelled. We will call to reschedule the Mass intention for that day.

Mass For Life on January 22, 2020**6:00 PM****Our Lady of Mercy**

All are invited to join Fr Paul and Deacon John to celebrate the Mass for Life on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm here at Our Lady of Mercy. Please join us as we remember the 47th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation. We will also pray in a special way for all those who will be travelling to Washington, DC for the March for Life.

Presentation of Mary Academy
Ages 3 through Grade 8

The Presentation of Mary Academy, located in Hudson, NH is a vibrant, private Catholic school made up of committed parents, teachers and staff. We invite you to visit our school and experience first-hand why parents and students love the caring, safe, learning environment found at PMA. Steeped in the traditions of the Catholic Faith, PMA challenges every student to their fullest academic potential in a student centered learning environment. Private tours for new families are being scheduled now. For more information, please contact June Nolet, Admissions Director at 889-6054 option 2 or jnolet@pmaschool.org. Visit our website at www.pmaschool.org.

St. Francis Elementary School
Litchfield, NH

Our evening Open House on Wednesday, **January 22nd** offers a chance for prospective students and their families to visit our thriving school. A bonus for the evening is that our school Science Fair will be on display. You are welcome to join us at any point from 6:00 to 7:00 pm. We are one of forty six schools in the country to be named to the National Catholic Education honor roll. We provide excellence in academics and moral information. To learn more, visit stfrancisschoolnh.org or call 424-3312.

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of January 18th through January 24th is lit in memory of **Paul Brisson**.

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

Online for December: \$11,375.50
Weekend of December 12th: \$5743.00

Thank You
Rosary Calendar Sign ups

Praying the Rosary is a wonderful way to ask our Blessed Mother to bring peace in our hearts and to offer spiritual support for life at all stages and in all vocations. Through prayer you can make a difference.



Each day of January has been dedicated to a specific intention. To participate, simply sign your name on the day you wish to pray the Rosary. Each day can be chosen by more than one person.

Parents, please talk with your children about the daily intentions and say a short prayer with them each day. Pray for families, for priests, for the elderly, the unborn and our government leaders. Life is God's gift to all of us. Sign up calendar is at the main entrance and remains throughout the month.

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of **Donna St. Laurent and Martin Kelley**.



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the families of Donna & Marty. We pray that the God of compassion be with you during this time of sorrow and that He welcomes Donna & Marty into His eternal kingdom of peace.

Catholic Charities NH 75th Anniversary

Catholic Charities invites you to their 75th Anniversary gala, The Ice Ball, which will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at the Double Tree by Hilton in downtown Manchester.

The evening will celebrate our powerful past and promising future with a cocktail reception, dinner and dancing within a beautiful and festive atmosphere. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.cc-nh.org/iceball or call 669-3030.

120 CLUB

The Ladies Guild thanks you for your support of the 120 Club. The cost to join the 120 Club is \$1.00 a week for 20 weeks for a total of \$20.00 at sign up.

The next club will begin on February 2nd.

Members of the Ladies Guild will be at the church doors on the weekend of January 25 & 26th to assist in selecting your numbers. Please help support this fundraiser that benefits needs of our parish and many charities.

HOME HEALTH FOOT CLINIC JANUARY 23, 2020

On Jan 23rd from 8:30am to 1:00 pm, we will be hosting a foot care clinic operated by the nurses of Home Health and Hospice Care. **The cost is \$34.00** and is payable by cash or check at the time of the appointment.

For more information or to schedule your appointment, please call Home Health & Hospice Care at 689-2931.

SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS FUNDRAISER



The fundraiser for Mary Gate of Heaven orphanage in Haiti, founded by Sr. Claire Daneau, an American Sister of Holy Cross, is the weekend of February 15 and 16 here at the parish. Representatives of the Sisters will have raffle calendars available after each Mass. By purchasing a raffle calendar at the cost of \$10.00 each or six for \$50.00, you are providing for the educational needs of 52 children. From April 1 through April 30, a total of \$2500.00 will be given away. Thank you for supporting "Sister Claire's Kids".

Retrouvaille

This program helps couples put their broken pieces back together and rediscover their love for each other. Couples who need and want help in getting their marriages back on track often find this program helpful. It begins with a weekend which teaches couples a new form of communication and lets you know you are not alone—our presenting couples have struggled with issues of honesty, trust and forgiveness and have reawakened to love and joy in their marriage. There are weeks of post sessions and monthly small community groups.

Contact them at 508-271-7155 or go to their website at www.helpourmarriage.org for more information.

GOD'S HOUSE, OUR HOME



Within the next couple of weeks, you will be receiving a summary report detailing the results of our God's House, Our Home Initiative.

Several weeks ago, we began this program and we are beginning to see signs that our Sunday offertory collections are growing through the generosity of many, many parishioners.

Thank so very much to all of you who have chosen to participate in this very important program. Your generosity shows your willingness as stewards to be a part of the ongoing missions of Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

NINE DAYS FOR LIFE



On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops sponsors an annual, nationwide novena called "9 Days for Life," which surrounds the liturgical observance of the Day of Prayer held on January 22nd.

9 Days for Life 2020 will take place Tuesday, January 21 - Wednesday, January 29.

This is a multi-faceted novena for the respect and protection of human life. Each day, a different intention is accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information.

You may go to our website www.olmnh.org for a link to the prayers and reflections for the Novena.

Calling all Brass Players!!



We are considering starting a Brass Choir to play during Mass along with our seasonal choir, at Christmas and Easter. We are looking for trumpet, French horn, trombone and baritone instrumentalists. This is not a group for beginners, but you do not need to be professional quality either, just a dedicated amateur.

If you are interested in learning more, call the parish office with your contact information or email debra.stellato@comcast.net.

Information Page

Acct #: 694750

Our Lady of Mercy Parish
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Contact Person: Kathleen Rush

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Bulletin for January 19, 2020

Kathy