



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
Katie Corsetti, Administrative Assistant
for Faith Formation
Email: KCorsetti@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: 262-1484
Website: www.olmnh.org - see website for possible Mass schedule changes

Easter Prayer

Good and gracious God,

On this day of **Easter joy**, we remember the Lord Jesus who is risen, alive, and with us. Help us to live in the light of the **Resurrection**.

May we become a new creation, free in heart and spirit.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our risen Savior.

Amen!

*Christ
is
Risen!*

Easter Meal Blessing

Creator God and Lord of Life,

You who call forth from the darkness of death all those who love You, we rejoice, on this **Easter Sunday**, in the **Resurrection** of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Visit our home and this table with
Your bright blessing of peace and life.

Amen!

APRIL 4, 2021

EASTER
SUNDAY

Our paschal lamb,
CHRIST,
has been sacrificed.
Therefore, let us
celebrate the feast.

I CORINTHIANS 5:7-8

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Mary ran to tell Simon Peter and the other disciple that the tomb was empty. No doubt confused and concerned, Peter and the other disciple set aside whatever fear might have occurred to them and ran to see the tomb for themselves. We do not always understand God's ways. We too are confused at times; our lives are marked by moments of uncertainty, and at times we are afraid. We can learn from Mary, Simon Peter, and the other disciple and step out in faith, trusting that we will find the Lord in the midst of the circumstances of our lives. When life gets complicated, as it often does, the best thing to do is step out, perhaps even run to the Lord!

BEAR WITNESS

We may not have opportunities to address crowds of people and share the gospel with them. Still, we are called to bear witness to our faith in the ways that we

are able, in word and in deed. We cannot share what we have not fully embraced ourselves, however. The Easter season is the perfect time to reflect on Christ's Paschal Mystery, the unfathomable love of Jesus who shows and shares God's love perfectly. Our Lord gave his life so that we might have life, and have it to the full. Christ's victory over sin and death is our victory, our promise of eternal life with God in the fullness of time. See in Christ's life, passion, death, and resurrection the sign of God's mercy. Let this Easter day be a moment in which you allow yourself to be touched by Christ's incredible, undying love. Then, renewed in faith, look for ways to bear witness to the mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and love of the Lord with others.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

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FAITH FORMATION

Life Teen: will meet in person in the Church Hall on April 11 at 6:15PM. We can't wait!

Edge: will meet in person in the Church Hall on April 18 at 6:15PM. We'll be so happy to see you!

Grades 1-5: In person classes resume on April 7. We are so excited!

First Reconciliation: The First Reconciliation rehearsal is April 13 at 6:00PM with the celebration on April 20 at 6:00PM. Both will be in the Church.

Confirmation & First Communion: We are thrilled that the Rite of Confirmation and First Communion will be on Saturday, May 8 at 10:00AM! There will be a class for the candidates and a parent on Saturday, April 17 at 9:30AM in the Church. The rehearsal is Tuesday, May 4 at 6:00PM for the candidate, parent and/or sponsor. Please pray for our candidates!



The Octave of Easter

The celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection continues in the Church for eight days, called the Octave of Easter. Each day of the Octave is ranked as a Solemnity in the Church's liturgical calendar, the highest ranking of liturgical feasts. At Masses during the Octave of Easter, as on Sundays, the **Gloria**, is recited or sung. And at the end of each Mass of the Octave, the double **Alleluia** is sung at the dismissal.

The idea of an Octave of a great feast has its roots in the Old Testament. There are many Jewish feasts that lasted for eight days, for example, the feast of Passover and the feast of Tabernacles. In the Catholic Church, we celebrate eight days of Christmas as well as eight days of Easter.

The Gospel readings at Masses during the Octave of Easter include passages from the Gospels that relate various appearances of the Risen Jesus. Reflecting on these Gospel texts is a wonderful way to prolong the celebration of Easter. Each day during the Octave, we proclaim in the Gospel Acclamation: ***This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.***

The Octave of Easter ends on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Sunday of Divine Mercy.

-from Todayscatholic.org

Jesus Christ is RISEN!

Happy Easter! It is so appropriate that we take 50 days [from Easter to Pentecost] to celebrate this glorious feast, since it is the culmination of our narrative—the story that guides and gives form, shape, and direction to our lives. Easter is an “alternative ending” to a story that appears to be hopelessly and wildly progressing toward a tragic ending. The Christian narrative is the ultimate “director's cut,” since it represents how God intends the story to “end.” In very simple terms, the Christian narrative can be summed up with three R's:

Rescue—The story of Salvation history is the story of God rescuing His people from bondage, first from the bondage of slavery in Egypt and eventually from the bondage of sin through the life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Restoration—God continually restores us to right relationship with Him and with one another.

Reassurance—God's saving grace continues to be present to us through the presence of the Holy Spirit and the Church, in particular, the sacraments.

Easter is a time to recall, renew, and celebrate our Baptism. Through Baptism, we embrace the Christian narrative as our own. At Easter, we celebrate our Baptism by which we are called back to this life-giving narrative that reminds us of God's ongoing rescue, restoration, and reassurance.

-from Joe Paprocki, Loyola Press



Pentecost:

50 Days of the Easter Season

On the Feast of Pentecost, we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles (Acts, chapter 2). The feast is celebrated on the 50th and final day of the Easter season. This year Pentecost is on May 31st.

MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, April 3rd
Easter Vigil**

7:30PM: Jean Gelinas requested by Muriel

**Sunday, April 4th
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection**

8:30AM: Tad Stephanak, Sr requested by Jane Dwyer
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Frank Sylvia req by Karen & Bob Correia

**Monday, April 5th
Monday within the Octave of Easter**

NO MASS—Office closed

**Tuesday, April 6th
Tuesday within the Octave of Easter**

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Donald Lyons requested by his wife & family

**Wednesday, April 7th
Wednesday within the Octave of Easter**

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Sister Veronique Metiever requested by her
Merrimack friends

Thursday, April 8th

NO MASS

**Friday, April 9th
Friday within the Octave of Easter**

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30PM: Deceased Family & Friends of Stephen
Staffieri & Debra Stellato

**Saturday, April 10th
Vigil: Second Sunday of Easter**

4:30PM: For the intentions of Fr. Paul Bouchard
requested by the OLM staff

**Sunday, April 11th
Second Sunday of Easter**

8:30AM: Arlene Olson requested by the family

10:30AM: For all parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

If you would like to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of or for the intentions of a loved one, please contact the parish office.

2021 Wedding Anniversaries

Bishop Libasci invites couples celebrating any significant wedding anniversary during the 2021 year to pray with the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass via livestream on Sunday, April 18 at 2PM.

All registering couples will receive a certificate from the bishop recognizing their anniversaries and a link to an at-home date night kit. Registering couples may opt to attend a virtual couple's trivia night for \$10/couple. **Please register by April 11** at www.form.jotform.com/RCBM/anniversary.

Happy anniversary!

Meals on Wheels

Grab 'n Go

Meals on Wheels is partnering with Soel Sisters Catering in Nashua to provide healthy "grab and go" lunch options for adults 60 years and older at the John O'Leary Adult Community Center in Merrimack. These meals are available on Wednesdays from 12:00-1:00PM.

Please call 603-424-9967 x404 to reserve a lunch. A \$2.00 donation per meal is requested.

Ladies Guild Meeting

The Ladies Guild will meet on Tuesday, April 20 in the Church Hall at 12:30PM.

We look forward to seeing you!

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM

Church Hours

The church will be locked during the week for safety. You are welcome to spend time in the church for prayer during office hours! Just come into the office and someone will be happy to let you into the church.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of March 14: \$3484

Catholic Relief Services: \$1045

Weekend of March 21: \$3135

Almsgiving: \$2018

Thank you for your generosity!

Information Page

Acct #: 694750

Our Lady of Mercy Parish —Please drop off at the parish office (located behind the mailbox) not the church
16 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054

Thank you!

Contact Person: Katie Corsetti

Phone: (603) 424-3757

Email Address: kcorsetti@olmnh.org

Bulletin for Easter, April 4th

250 Copies of bulletin for April 4, please.

Thank you!
Katie