



"THERE IS A BOY HERE
WHO HAS FIVE BARLEY
LOAVES AND TWO FISH,
BUT WHAT GOOD ARE
THESE FOR SO MANY?"

JOHN 6:9

©JPPC



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054
603-424-3757
www.olmnh.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM
Sunday 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Weekdays Mon, Tues, Wed, & Fri 8:30AM
Holy Days 8:30AM and anticipated vigil 7:00PM

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00-3:45PM
By appointment: please call the office to schedule with Fr. Paul.

Baptism

Please call the office for an appointment. Baptisms are usually planned for the last weekend of the month.

Marriage

Please contact the office to schedule marriage preparation with Fr. Paul.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process for those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith with the possibility of themselves becoming a Catholic.

Funerals

The contact person for the deceased (or the funeral home) should connect with the office to schedule.

Planning ahead for funeral Mass celebrations is also available to all parishioners.

Faith Formation

We offer Faith Formation for all ages. Please see the website for current dates and programs.

Parish Staff

Rev Msgr Paul Bouchard, Pastor
FrPaul@olmnh.org
John Castelot, Deacon
DeaconJohn@olmnh.org
Sharon Nagy, Business Manager
SNagy@olmnh.org
Michael Coughlin, Director of Faith Formation
MCoughlin@olmnh.org
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister
CCoughlin@olmnh.org
Nancy King, Director of Music
NKing@olmnh.org
Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
Karen Correia, Secretary
KCorreia@olmnh.org
Muriel Gelinas, Sacristan
Ron Ketchie, Building & Grounds Facilitator

Parish Office Hours

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

Church Hours

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

Sanctuary Candle

Please contact the office to have the sanctuary candle lit in memory of, or for the intentions of, a loved one.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 24th
Vigil: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Colleen Armstrong requested by the OLM Ladies Guild

Sunday, July 25th
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Garrett Gregoire

10:30AM: The intentions of Gordon MacRae requested by Deacon John For all parishioners

Monday, July 26th
Saints Joachim & Anne,
Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Kenny Robinson, Jr requested by his family

Tuesday, July 27th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Pamela Jean Brown requested by Bruce & Janet Angus

Wednesday, July 28th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Carmen Canton req by Diane Schultz

Thursday, July 29th

No Mass

Friday, July 30th
Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Chris Guay love, Mom & Dad

Saturday, July 31st
Vigil: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Samuel Parente req by the Johnston Family For all parishioners

Sunday, August 1st
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Edmund Small requested by Shirley Small

10:30AM: Pauline Jenness, 4th anniversary, requested by the Jenness family

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

The first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly instituted by Pope Francis is today, July 25. Going forward, it will occur each year on the 4th Sunday in July.

This day is an opportunity to honor the experience and wisdom of the elderly and the important role of passing on the Catholic faith through generations.

The 2021 theme for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is **"I am with you always"** from the Gospel of Matthew. The theme reflects hope in a challenging year for elderly people around the world, but it applies to Catholics of all ages. The theme and the celebration are a call to grandchildren and Catholic young people to be an active part of grandparents' lives and for grandparents and older people to be evangelists and support youth in their Catholic faith.

The Patron Saints of Grandparents

It is no coincidence that the date of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly falls near the feast day of Saints Anne and Joachim, celebrated on July 26. Anne and Joachim are honored as the parents of Mary, Mother of God. When angels told them that God would bless them with a child who would be known throughout the world, Anne and Joachim placed their trust in God. As Jesus's grandparents, they are the patron saints of grandparents.



Readings for the Week: July 25, 2021

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a, 8a, 11; Jn 11:19-27

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35



FAITH FORMATION

**Faith Formation Registration
for the 2021-22 Program Year is Open
for Grades 1 - 12!**

Growing in our faith is a lifelong journey. One way to support our children's faith journey is through continuing their grade level Faith Formation. Enrollment for the new year beginning this fall is open! **Children did not have to be registered last year to participate in the 2021-22 program.**

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy

The Catholic Church teaches the importance of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. In order to spread the Gospel, we must practice both.

The corporal works of mercy identify how to serve others' physical needs; the spiritual works of mercy call us to help each other (and ourselves) in holiness. As Catholics, we are called to help one another get to heaven by living out the spiritual works of mercy in ways that are rooted in love and mercy.

The seven spiritual works of mercy:

- Counsel the doubtful
- Instruct the ignorant
- Admonish the sinner
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Forgive all injuries
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Pray for the living and the dead

If you have a friend doubting the faith or who doesn't know a lot about Catholicism, the first step is to pray for that person. Perhaps follow that with an invitation to talk more or to a Bible study or share a book.

Do not judge the sinner, but be supportive in helping others find their way and correct mistakes. Together we can learn to walk more closely to Christ.

Comfort the sorrowful by being present to those suffering, bringing someone a homemade meal, sending a card, or listening.

Forgiving others and bearing wrongs patiently are essential to our salvation. In the Our Father, we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others. To keep our hearts open to God's grace, we must let go of grudges against one another and avoid bitterness.

-edited from catholiccompany.com/getfed

**Jesus feeds the crowd
John 6:1-15**

Over the past two Sundays, we heard how Jesus sent His disciples to share His mission. If we were to continue Mark's Gospel, we would hear his report of how Jesus feeds the crowds in the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Our Lectionary however, leaves Mark's Gospel for the next several weeks and presents this from the John's Gospel. John depicts Jesus's multiplication of the loaves and fishes as a sign of His authority and divinity.

The Gospel of John uses this miracle to teach about the Eucharist. Like the Last Supper, this miracle is said to have occurred near the Jewish feast of Passover. Jesus's language is similar to the language He used at the Last Supper. John's description of this event also anticipates the Messianic banquet of heaven, as the crowd reclines and all hungers are satisfied with abundance. This connection is further amplified by the response of the crowd, who wants to make Jesus a king. John is teaching us that each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven.

It is in the Eucharist that we are fed by Jesus, and then sent to serve others. John's Gospel notes the detail that the bread blessed and shared with the crowd are barley loaves. This is the food of the poor. It reminds us that God feeds and nourishes us, fulfilling our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. In the Eucharist, we are sent to serve the poorest among us.



In the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes, Jesus transforms a boy's offering of five barley loaves and two fishes. In the offertory at Mass, we present the fruits of our labors, represented by bread and wine. These gifts, given by God as grain and fruit, are returned to God in our offering of thanks. God in turn transforms our gifts, making this bread and wine the very Body and Blood of Jesus. We also offer ourselves in this exchange, and we, too, are transformed by the Eucharist.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

Upcoming Meetings

The Sanctuary Course: Tuesday, July 27 at 6:00PM in the church hall. This is the final class.

Life Matters Ministry

SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, Aug. 12 6:30-8PM

Join us for an informational session on domestic violence presented by Amy Muscott educator from *Bridges domestic and sexual violence support* in Nashua and Milford.

Bridges is an organization established in 1977, offering services to victims of domestic and sexual violence such as court advocacy, support groups, a 24 hour support line, medical and police accompaniment, and education.

School Supplies Drive to Support Local Nashua Community

You are welcome to drop traditional school supplies in the labeled bin near the main entrance to the church building. On August 1 they will be delivered to the Nashua Soup Kitchen for distribution to those in need.

Please direct any questions to parishioner Andrea Vegliante at vegliantes@comcast.net. Thank you for the support!

Community Arts Ministry at St. James UMC

You are invited to an open house to introduce the Community Arts Ministry at St. James UMC in Merrimack. Inspired by connecting with God through creativity, the ministry will offer classes and workshops in a variety of creative arts including painting, puppet making, journaling, cookie decorating, and more.

**Learn more at our open house:
Sunday, July 25 from 11AM to 1PM
St. James United Methodist Church
646 Daniel Webster Highway**

The Ministry will start in September. All are welcome.

Questions? Call 603-424-7459 or email communityartsministry@gmail.com

New: OLM Media Ministry

Are you looking for a way to serve the parish?

Live streaming Mass on the weekend has been a gift to many parishioners near and far. We are looking to begin a ministry team to help manage our weekly live streams. This is not a big commitment but it is an important contribution to our parish. Helping out only requires one Saturday a month to stream the 4:30PM Mass. No past experience or skills are necessary. This is easy to learn and to do. All are welcome! Please call the office with questions or to sign up.

120 Club Winners

July 25
Virginia Prive
Greg Durbin

Congratulations & thank you for your support!

Online Donations Update

Our Online Giving is getting an upgrade to a newer, easier-to-use platform. If you currently give online, you should have received an email with instructions on how to log into the new system. Your past payment and donation information should be shown in your account. Please let us know in the office if you have any questions or need help with this.

Parish Stewardship

July 17 & 18 Weekend Masses: \$3590

Parish to Parish Diocesan Missions: \$1263

Thank you for your generosity!

Attention Eucharistic Ministers

We are planning for a return to the homebound ministry, which involves bringing Communion to people in their homes. Please contact the office if you are interested in being a part of this ministry by calling or emailing Katie (kcorsetti@olmnh.org). Thank you!

Attention all parishioners: Do you know someone who is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion? Please let us know and we can schedule a visit.

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