

I AM THE
Bread of Life
JOHN 6:48



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

August 1, 2021



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
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Nancy King, Director of Music
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Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
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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 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

Monday, August 2nd
Saint Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop;
Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Richard J. Luckay requested by Bill Ziemer

Tuesday, August 3rd

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Richard Murphy requested by Claude &
Sandy Mayo

Wednesday, August 4th
Saint John Vianney, Priest

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Bridget Lippert requested by Regina &
Mike Bowser

Thursday, August 5th

No Mass

Friday, August 6th
The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: The deceased friends & family of Stephen
Staffieri & Debra Stellato

Saturday, August 7th
Vigil: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: For all deceased parishioners of OLM
requested by Fr. Paul

Sunday, August 8th
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Vivian Burrell requested by the Nagy family
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Norman Lavigne requested by his
daughter, Jillian Corga

Please pray for our recently deceased

Susan Hoag, July 20
Funeral August 3 at 9:30am

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and
the souls of all the faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



The Transfiguration of the Lord

Feast day: August 6

In the Transfiguration Jesus revealed His divinity to His closest disciples. Some time before He died on the cross, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a mountain, probably Mount Tabor. While the apostles watched Jesus pray, Jesus's face began to shine brighter than the sun. His garments became pure white.

Moses and Elijah appeared on each side of Jesus. The three talked together briefly about Jesus's coming passion and death. Then Peter exclaimed, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" (Matthew 17:4).

(Continued on parish announcements page.)

Readings for the Week: August 1, 2021

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23; Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 4:30-5:2; Jn 6:41-51



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.**



Jesus Teaches: "I am the bread of life."

John 6:24-35

After the feeding of the multitudes, the disciples leave in a boat and Jesus follows them. The disciples are somewhat confused and shaken. Jesus reassures them and rejoins them. In today's Gospel, we learn the crowd noticed the departure of Jesus and His disciples and seeks them out in Capernaum. In the dialogue that follows between Jesus and the crowd, Jesus unfolds for us the gift of Himself that He gives to us in the Eucharist.

In today's Gospel, there are four exchanges between Jesus and the crowd. First, the crowd, having followed Jesus to Capernaum, asks a matter of fact question: "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus replies by naming their motivation in pursuing Him. They have been fed. Jesus acknowledges this, yet challenges them to see beyond the fulfillment of their material needs. The crowds have followed Jesus because they have been fed. They ought to be seeking out Jesus because He can give them eternal life.

As the second dialogue begins, it seems the crowd might be on their way to accepting Jesus and His mission. They ask: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus replies that they must have faith in the One sent from God. But in the third dialogue, the crowd reveals their inability to see Jesus's true identity. They ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. How strange this sounds since Jesus has just fed more than 5,000 people. What more is expected?

But the crowd cannot see beyond the surface of the sign. They show this in their interpretation of the sign that came from Moses. In their description, they identify Jesus with Moses, as if to say, as Moses gave the people manna in the desert, give us a sign so that we will know that You are from God. They are looking to identify a prophet without realizing that God is standing before them. Jesus corrects their misinterpretation, saying that the manna received by their ancestors came from God. As God fulfilled their ancestors' needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life. In the bread that they have received from Jesus, they have received physical nourishment and also spiritual nourishment. Jesus wants the crowd to see beyond the surface to the One who provides true nourishment.

The conclusion of the dialogue reveals the crowd's blindness. They ask for what Jesus has just told them they have found: "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus answers plainly that He Himself is the Bread of Life they seek. Jesus is the Bread of Life who will satisfy every hunger and thirst. This is the first of several such statements found in John's Gospel. We understand these better when we remember that God revealed His name to the people of Israel as "I am," as Yahweh. Jesus is now claiming this name for Himself. In the weeks ahead, we will see the offense that this gives to the people.

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Work Camp: August 1-6

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.

Parish Stewardship

July 24 & 25 Weekend Masses: \$3817

Meatball sub fundraisers for Work Camp: \$1595

Thank you for your generosity!

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.

(The Transfiguration of the Lord, continued.)

While Peter spoke, a bright cloud covered the apostles with its shadow. Then the apostles heard a voice saying, **“This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” (Matthew 17:5).** Frightened, the apostles fell to the ground. Jesus touched them and told them not to fear. When they looked up, there was no one there except Jesus, looking as He usually did to them.

As they walked down the mountain, Jesus told the three to keep the experience a secret. They were permitted to tell others after He had risen from the dead. Perhaps Jesus gave these apostles a glimpse of His divinity in order to strengthen their faith in preparation for the ordeals of His coming passion and death.

The Feast Day of the Transfiguration of the Lord is celebrated on August 6. Pope Benedict XVI taught that this Feast reminds us that Jesus is truly the light of the world, the Light in our darkness and our eternal hope!

Let's Talk About Relationships: Learning From Each Another

Join us for an overview of the dynamics of domestic violence and learn about community resources. Whether with friends, family or dating relationships, concerning behaviors can go unrecognized. We often don't have the tools to identify and navigate our interactions with others. This interactive workshop will include information and tips as well as an opportunity to share perspectives and spur life-changing conversations.

Relationships are all around us. Learn to discern what's healthy in a relationship and skills to be a better advocate and support others. In addition, learn about Bridges and the services they provide to the Greater Nashua and Milford area.

Join Amy Jo Muscott, Educational Coordinator from Bridges for a formative, fun, and engaging conversation.

When: Thursday August 12, 2021 6:30pm-8:00pm
Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall

Registration is appreciated-please call 424-3757.

Free-will donations of gift cards from local grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, Target, Walmart or a monetary donation will be appreciated.

120 Club Winners

August 1

William Ziemer

Louise Tedeschi

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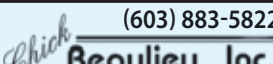
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