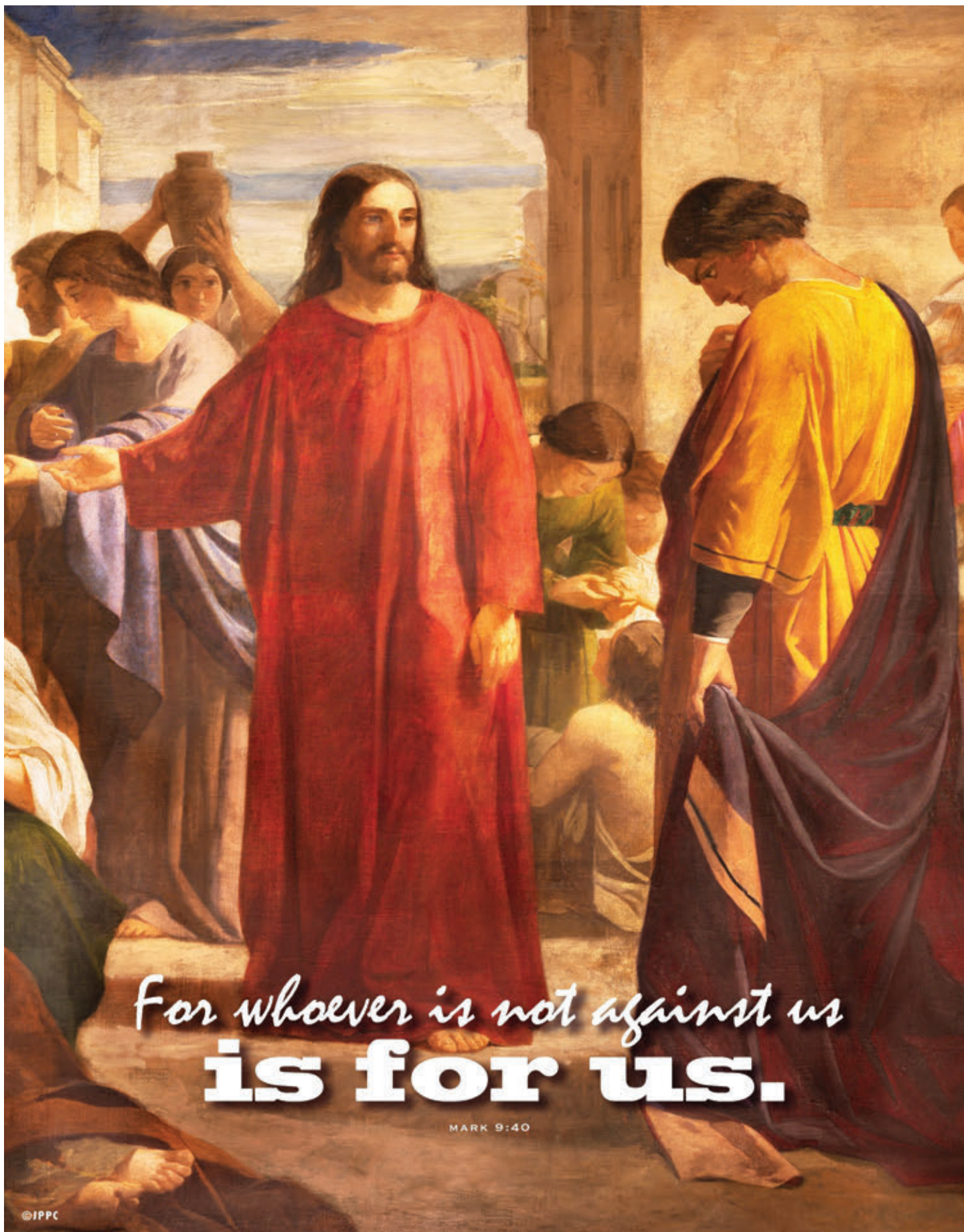




Our Lady of Mercy Parish September 26, 2021



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
MCoughlin@olmnh.org
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister
CCoughlin@olmnh.org
Christian Copeley, incoming Director of Music
CCopeley@olmnh.org
Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
Karen Correia, Secretary
KCorreia@olmnh.org
Muriel Gelinis, 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, September 25th

Vigil: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: The intentions of Gordon McRae requested by Deacon John

Sunday, September 26th

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Michael Chesna requested by Linda Bradish
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Rose & Robert Tedeschi requested by their family

Monday, September 27th

Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Pierre Provost requested by a friend

Tuesday, September 28th

Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr;

Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Leo Bouchard

Wednesday, September 29th

Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: For the intentions of Carolyn Wilson
requested by Karen & Bob Correia

Thursday, September 30th

No Mass

Friday, October 1st

**Saint Therese of the Child Jesus,
Virgin & Doctor of the Church**

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

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

Saturday, October 2nd

Vigil: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30PM: Robert & May Mayo requested by Claude
& Sandy Mayo

Sunday, October 3rd

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: For the intentions of the Noddin Family

10:30AM: Joseph Griffin req by Marie & Jim Papineau
For all parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burns the week of
September 25th - October 1st in memory of
Kay Ellen Chamberlain.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;
be our defense against the wickedness and snares of
the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you,
O prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who
prowl about the world for the ruin of souls.
Amen!



Readings for the Week: September 26, 2021

Monday: Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23;
Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7; Lk
9:51-56

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab; Ps
138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5; Jn 1:47-51

Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11;
Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69:33-35, 36-37; Mt
18:1-5, 10

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6; Heb 2:9-11;
Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12



FAITH FORMATION

It's not too late to register! See our website or call the office.

Grades 1-12 Important Upcoming Dates

- Life Teen:** Sunday, September 26 from 6:16-7:45PM, church hall
- At Home Parent Meeting:** Wednesday, September 29 at 6:00PM, church
- Grades 1-5 in person classes begin:** Wednesday, October 6 from 4:30-5:30PM OR 5:45-6:45PM, faith formation hall

Feast of the Archangels, September 29

Angels are fascinating, spiritual creatures that captivate our imaginations. The English word “angel” comes from the Latin angelus, meaning “messenger of God.”

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: With their whole beings the angels are servants and messengers of God (CCC 329). The word “angel” then simply describes what they do and not what they are. Angels are above all messengers, and as we see in Sacred Scripture, they are messengers of God’s divine plan. When it comes to the term, “archangel,” the word includes the prefix “arch” used to denote something as “chief” or “principal.” An “arch-angel” then is a “chief messenger” of God.

God has revealed only a small amount of information in the Bible about angels and archangels, and the rest is interpreted through the guidance of the Church.

Three archangels whom the Church honors by name are **St. Michael, St. Gabriel, and St. Raphael**. The Feast of all three Archangels is September 29.

Saint Michael is a spiritual warrior in the battle of good versus evil. He is considered a champion of justice, a healer, and the guardian of the Church. St. Gabriel appeared to people in both the Old and New Testament, including the Blessed Virgin Mary when he announced she would bear a Son conceived by the Holy Spirit who would be the Savior of the world. St. Raphael is mentioned in the book of Tobit. His name means “God heals.”

-edited from ewtn.com and catholic.org

**Jesus teaches whoever is
not against Him, is for Him**
Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Today we continue the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise His disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today’s Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus’s name. John’s question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark’s Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John’s question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus’s words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus’s name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for these healings was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus’s name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of the name of Jesus, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In His reply to His disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus’s healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith, but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. In vivid terms Jesus teaches His disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith.



-edited from
Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: after the Sunday Masses today, September 26 in the church hall

Life Teen: Sunday, September 26 at 6:15-7:45PM in the church hall

Prayer Group: Monday, September 27 At 4:00 in the church

At Home Program Parent Meeting: Wednesday, September 29 at 6:00PM in the church

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, September 30 from noon-2PM in the parish office

Rosary Cenacle: Saturday, October 2 8:30AM in the church

Coffee & Donuts: after the Sunday Masses on October 3 in the church hall

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Sunday, October 3 during the 10:30 Mass

Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, October 3 at 2:00 in the OLM parking lot

Edge: Sunday, October 3 at 6:15-7:45PM in the church hall

Thank you from the Knights...

We are most appreciative of donations made at our recent blood drive. The Red Cross received 44 units donated by our community! Thank you!

St. Gianna's Place

Are you looking to make a difference in this world? Are you committed to prolife? Are you interested in directly serving less advantaged women and their children? Do you have Case Management experience? If so, then St. Gianna's has the job for you. We are currently looking for a full-time Case Manager to work in our Catholic 24-hour transitional-housing home. Our Case Manager is responsible for providing case management, advocacy and support services for pregnant women fleeing homelessness, domestic violence, sexual violence, emotional abuse, and human trafficking. Responsibilities also include supporting and assisting the director in the management of residents, volunteers, and staff.

Interested Catholic women should visit our website for full details: stgiannasplace.org/employment-opportunities.



All God's Creatures...

In honor of the upcoming Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi and in carrying on his tradition of loving and caring for animals, you are invited to bring your pets for a special blessing of the animals on **Sunday, October 3 at 2:00PM** in the OLM parking lot. A light reception will follow. **Please be sure to have pets leashed or restrained.** Thank you!

Parish Stewardship

September 18 & 19: \$4099

Hurricane & Tropical storm relief: \$956

Thank you for your generosity!

Dynamic Catholic's Annual Survey: An Opportunity to Share Your Voice

A message from Dynamic Catholic:

The survey is just ten short, but crucial questions. You can take it in under a minute.

- We aren't using a sample of 200 people to make projections that speak for all 77 million Catholics in America. Every Catholic from every walk of life, at every stage of faith, is essential to the bigger picture of the Church. It's time that picture include everyone.
- Your input will be shared as loudly as it can be with the larger Catholic community.
- It's annual. We'll identify trends and changes over time by asking the same core questions every year.
- We'll send you the results. You'll get a copy of your results immediately and a copy of the entire survey results once they're compiled.

To participate in this survey, please go to:
www.AnnualCatholicSurvey.com

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