

**“My sheep  
hear my  
voice.”**

JOHN 10:27



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

May 8, 2022



# Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road  
Merrimack, NH 03054  
603-424-3757  
[www.olmnh.org](http://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](mailto:FrPaul@olmnh.org)  
John Castelot, Deacon  
[DeaconJohn@olmnh.org](mailto:DeaconJohn@olmnh.org)  
Sharon Nagy, Business Manager  
[SNagy@olmnh.org](mailto:SNagy@olmnh.org)  
Michael Coughlin, Director of Faith Formation  
[MCoughlin@olmnh.org](mailto:MCoughlin@olmnh.org)  
Cindy Coughlin, Youth Minister  
[CCoughlin@olmnh.org](mailto:CCoughlin@olmnh.org)  
Christian Copeley, Director of Music  
[CCopeley@olmnh.org](mailto:CCopeley@olmnh.org)  
Katie Corsetti, Faith Formation Admin Assistant  
[KCorsetti@olmnh.org](mailto:KCorsetti@olmnh.org)  
Muriel Gelinas, Sacristan  
Tony Ste. Marie, 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.

## Livestreaming available at [olmnh.org](http://olmnh.org)

The 4:30 vigil Mass is live streamed each week to be watched live or at a later time and available on the website at [www.olmnh.org](http://www.olmnh.org).

## 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, May 7th**  
**Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**4:30PM:** A private intention

**Sunday, May 8th**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**8:30AM:** Donald & Arlene Olson req by the family

**10:30AM:** Linda Mawn req by the Herbek family  
For all parishioners

**Monday, May 9th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** Richard O'Brien req by Karen Correia

**Tuesday, May 10th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** Cathy Small requested by the family

**Wednesday, May 11th**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** Eleanor Coyne req by the Ladies Guild

**Thursday, May 12th**  
**Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs**  
**Saint Pancras, Martyr**

**No Mass**

**Friday, May 13th**  
**Our Lady of Fatima**

**8:10AM:** Morning Prayer

**8:30AM:** Shirley Small requested by Patricia Caufield

**Saturday, May 14th**  
**Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**4:30PM:** Daniel Vachon, 15th anniversary, requested  
by his family  
For all parishioners

**Sunday, May 15th**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**8:30AM:** Mr. & Mrs. Leo Bouchard

**10:30AM:** Teresa Fleming requested by the family

## SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burns the week  
of May 7 - May 13th in memory of  
**Nicole Ayotte.**



## Happy Mother's Day!

Mothers guide, nurture, and teach their children. The Blessed Mother guides, nurtures, and teaches us to become faithful followers of her Son, Jesus Christ. As we honor and thank our mothers today, let's also honor our Blessed Mother for her **yes** to God, and giving us our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for our mothers,  
those living and those  
deceased. May our Blessed Mother be a constant source  
of strength and love to all mothers. In Jesus name. Amen!



## Save the Date!

Our dear Fr. Paul will be 50 years ordained this summer! You are invited to celebrate his priesthood on **Sunday, June 26**. Fr. Paul will celebrate Mass at OLM at 2:00pm followed by an open reception in the hall from 3:00-5:00pm. More info to follow in the coming weeks. Please mark your calendar!

## NH Catholic Appeal



We are grateful to all who have given to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal. Our goal is \$48,038. If we exceed this goal funds will be returned to our parish this year. If you have not made your gift yet, please bring your gift envelope to Mass next weekend or make your gift online at [www.catholicnh.org/nhca](http://www.catholicnh.org/nhca). We need the support of all of our parish families to reach our parish goal. Thank you for your support of these important needs and ministries of the Church!

## Readings for the Week: May 8, 2022

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7;

Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24-13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8;

Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;

Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab;

Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Jn 15:9-17

**Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13;  
Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



## FAITH FORMATION

## Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

## Caring for the Flock

*John 10:27-30*

•**Next Edge:** Sunday, May 15 from 6:15-7:45pm

•**Next Life Teen:** Sunday, May 15 from 6:15-7:45pm

•**Confirmation & First Communion rehearsal:** Sunday, June 5 at 6:00pm in the church for candidates and/or sponsors/parents

•**Confirmation & First Communion:** Monday, June 6 at 6:00pm; candidates and sponsors please arrive by 5:30.

## It's Still ok to say "Happy Easter!"

The season of Easter continues on for a full **50 days**, up through the feast of Pentecost (which is June 5th this year). Easter is the most important feast in the liturgical calendar, and it only makes sense that the Church should celebrate not just a feast, not just an octave, but a whole *season* in honor of Our Lord's Resurrection.

Within these 50 days we celebrate some important feasts: Divine Mercy Sunday, the Feast of the Ascension, and finally, Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. So don't wind down your celebrations yet. We've got a few weeks of joy ahead of us!



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Presented by The Rivier Prayer Community

YOU are invited to receive God's Gift of the Holy Spirit in a new way this Spring.

**WHAT:** A seven week Life in the Spirit Seminar, including a series of video presentations by well known, respected leaders in Catholic Charismatic Renewal, followed by discussion.

**WHEN:** Friday evenings, May 13 to June 24, 2022 from 7:00-9:00pm

**WHERE:** Rivier University, Memorial Hall (corner of Clement St. and So. Main St., Nashua, NH, room 104 on the left as you enter from the parking lot in the rear of the building.)

**REGISTER:** Please contact Joanne Charron at 603-889-3483 or joannecharron3@comcast.net or Pat Hurd at 603-882-1503 or phurd1503@aol.com.

There is no charge for the seminar.

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three Lectionary Cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter follows Jesus's healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus's authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge of His authority by calling Himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already they are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31 and 10:39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus's death.

Set in a moment of tension and conflict in John's Gospel, today's reading is Jesus's answer to the question, "Are you the Messiah?" Jesus responds by saying, in essence, "If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep." Then Jesus asserts His unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but He escapes arrest.

We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as His sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and His followers transcends direct experience with sheep. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep.

Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and His disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. This Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John, Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that He tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus doesn't just bring us closer to the Father; Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

## Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

**Coffee & Donuts:** after the Sunday Masses

**Prayer Group:** Monday, May 9 at 4:00pm, church

**Knitting Ministry:** Thursday, May 12 at noon, parish office building

**Men of St. Joseph:** Saturday, May 14 at 7:00am, hall

**End of Life Session 1:** Sat, May 14 at 9:00am, church

**K of C Breakfast:** Sunday, May 15 after the Masses

**Edge & Life Teen:** Sunday, May 15 at 6:15pm, hall

## End of Life Planning Sessions

Have you thought about your own end of life preparations but are not sure where to begin? Two sessions are upcoming to help.

**Saturday, May 14 from 9:00-11:00am** in the church

•Guest speakers will cover end of life care including legal considerations.

**Saturday, May 21 from 9:00-11:00am** in the church

•Fr. Paul and a representative from Rivet Funeral Home will discuss funeral preparations and what's involved in working with a funeral home.

## Simon Ministry

On **Tuesday, May 17 at 6:00pm** the Simon Ministry will host Kathy Hopkins, director of the St. John Neumann Day Away program, to discuss managing the care of family members who have Alzheimer's Disease, including considering the stress on family members and care givers. All are welcome!

## OLM Ladies Guild

The Ladies Guild meeting on **Tuesday, May 17 at 1:00pm** will be a catered luncheon by Hot Rize. This is our last meeting before fall. All ladies of the parish are welcome. RSVP by May 13 to Muriel at 603-533-6501.

## Merrimack Lions & Lioness Luncheon

On Sunday, June 12 the Merrimack Lions & Lioness Clubs will treat Merrimack seniors to an Italian feast at the John O'Leary Adult Community Center, Merrimack, from 2-4pm. Admission is open for Merrimack residents aged 65+. Pre-registration is required and will be on a first come, first served basis. Limited seats. RSVP to Alan at 603-424-7897 or [alanh@cecent.com](mailto:alanh@cecent.com).



## WorkCampNE

### "Impacting Lives for Christ"

The WorkCampNE summer youth community service is growing! OLM will be participating from **July 31–August 6**. If you would like to be part of this exciting movement to put your faith into action, please register at the WorkCampNE website: [www.workcampne.com](http://www.workcampne.com).

**Registration deadline is May 15.** NO registration fee is due at this time.

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## Life Matters Ministry

Please join us by praying the rosary during May. We can change the world with the help of Our Blessed Mother Mary. Daily intentions supporting a culture of life are on the OLM website, at the church doors, and on the calendar in the main entrance of the church.

May 8 - Dearest Mother, pray that all people see the miracle and sacredness of all human life.

May 9 - Queen of Martyrs, we pray for all who are ridiculed because they are handicapped.

May 10 - Blessed Mother, pray that mothers will follow Christ more closely in all they do.

May 11 - Queen of Heaven, support our seminarians who have accepted your Son's call.

May 12 - Our Lady of Sorrows, we pray for an end to abortion.

May 13 - Our Lady of Fatima, embrace the children who are abused and neglected.

May 14 - Loving Mother, encourage those who are dating to be patient and chaste.

## Support for St. Gianna's Place

St. Gianna's Place, a home for women in crisis pregnancies located in Hudson, NH is holding a baby bottle campaign beginning the weekend of May 21 & 22. Each family is welcome to take home a baby bottle and return it with a donation to the designated bin in the church by June 12. All proceeds will directly fund operations at St. Gianna's. Together we can change lives and help moms choose life for their babies!

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