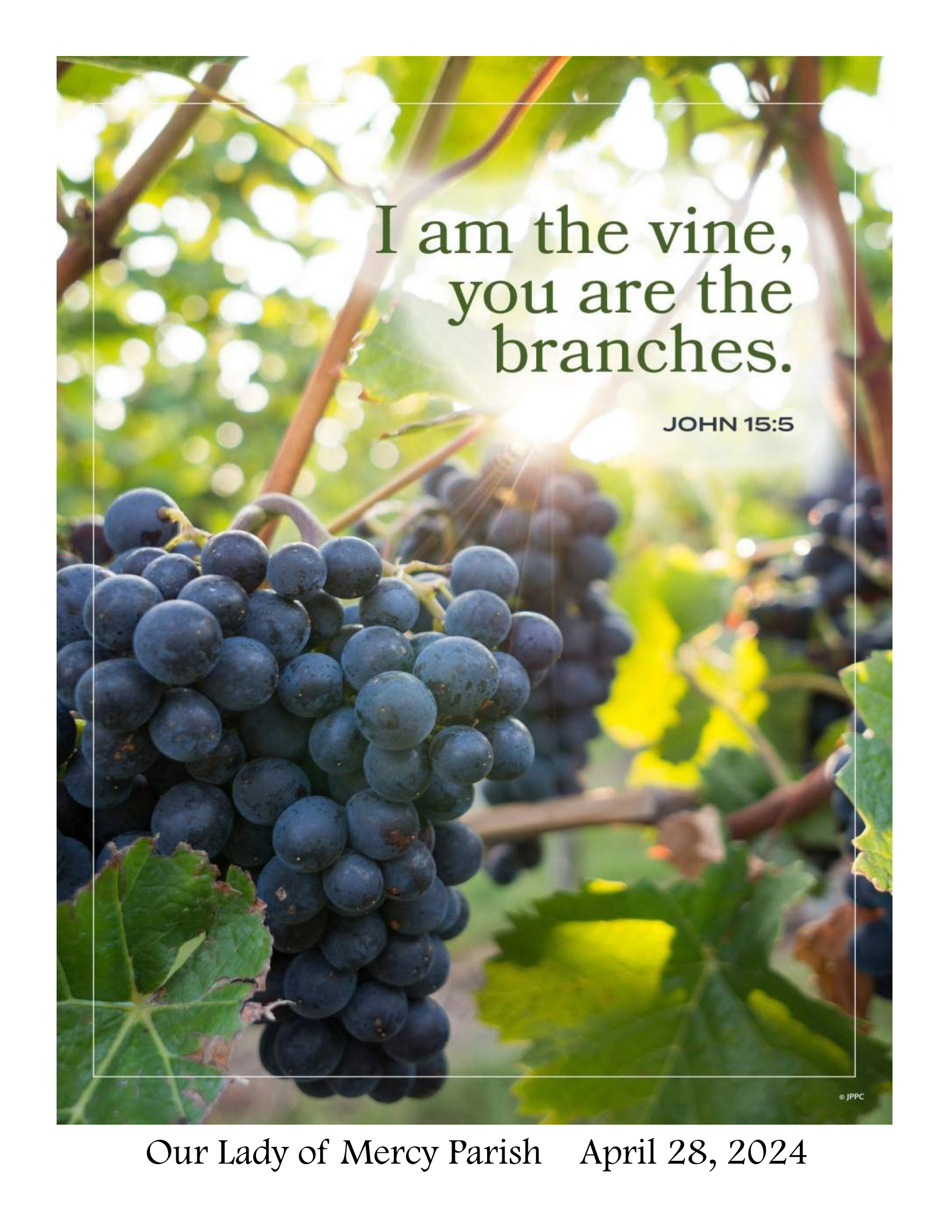




I am the vine,
you are the
branches.

JOHN 15:5

© JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish April 28, 2024



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. 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
Christian Copeley, Director of Music
CCopeley@olmnh.org
Mary-Elizabeth Hauver, Youth Minister
MHauver@olmnh.org
Katie Corsetti, Director of Faith Formation
KCorsetti@olmnh.org
Linda Durbin, Admin Assistant
LDurbin@olmnh.org
Karen Correia, Admin Assistant
KCorreia@olmnh.org

Parish Office Hours

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

Church Hours

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

Live streaming available at olmnh.org

The 4:30pm vigil Mass is live streamed. View by going to the website at 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, April 27th
Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter

4:30PM: John Vey req by Sandy & Claude Mayo

Sunday, April 28th
Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30AM: Don & Arlene Olson req by the Murphys
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Ann Descoteaux req by Diane Schultz

Monday, April 29th
Saint Catherine of Siena,
Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: John Vey requested by Bruce & Janet Angus

Tuesday, April 30th
Saint Pius V, Pope

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Paul Guay requested by his family

Wednesday, May 1st
Saint Joseph the Worker

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Frederick Savard req by Barbara Lantiegne

Thursday, May 2nd

No Mass

Friday, May 3rd
Saints Philip and James, Apostles

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Marguerite Nicolo requested by the family
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, May 4th
Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:30PM: Jill Fleming req by the family

Sunday, May 5th
Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30AM: Irene Brulotte req by the Nagy family

10:30AM: Bob Nichols req by Mary Jane Nichols
For all parishioners

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns
from April 27th to May 3rd
in memory of
Joseph Edward Scionti.



Please pray for our recently deceased

Margaret Carter, April 18
Norman Upson, March 27

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and the souls of
all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Prayer for the NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL

Lord God and Father, we are your people,
united in our love for you and for one another.
We thank you for the many gifts you have given to us
and we welcome your presence in our lives at all times.
We ask that you continue to draw us closer
to you and to strengthen our resolve to assist those
among us who are most in need.
Our diocese is many parts, and one body of Christ.
Through the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal:
Future of our Faith, allow us to come together to share
our time, talent and treasure with those who need our
assistance. Let us grasp more fully that the help we
extend to others is the most powerful expression
of our gratitude to you, as well as a genuine testimony
to our faith. Through your son Jesus Christ,
make our prayer to you one that brings hope and charity
to the future of our faith in New Hampshire. Amen!

Readings for the Week: April 28, 2024

Monday Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 and
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 and
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 and
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 and
Jn 15:9-11

Friday 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 and Jn 14:6-14

Saturday Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 and
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
1 Jn 4:7-10 and Jn 15:9-17



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates

- Grades 1-5:** Books are due May 15
- Youth Ministry:** Sunday, May 5 from 6:15-7:45pm, church hall; friends welcome!
- Confirmation & First Communion:** rehearsal on Monday, May 13 at 6:00pm, church; the Sacramental Celebration is Tuesday, May 14 at 6:00pm

Confirmation & First Communion
Date is Set!

Our Confirmation and First Communion will be celebrated by Bishop Christian on Tuesday, May 14 at 6:00pm. All are welcome!

Our candidates and First Communicants have been preparing and are ready and excited for this special day. Please keep them in your prayers!



O God, we come to YOU asking YOU to bless those in our community who are candidates for Confirmation as well as those preparing for First Communion. Bless them, and all those in parishes everywhere seeking YOUR grace.

O God, we ask YOU to instill in them patience and perseverance in their journey of faith.

Enlighten their minds and open their hearts to YOU. Keep those who come to YOU, O Lord, in YOUR loving care.

Watch over them as they draw closer to YOU. Surround them with people who are willing to support them in their journey of faith. We place them in the shelter of YOUR love as they prepare to meet YOU in new ways. Amen!

Jesus is the Vine
His Disciples are the Branches
John 15:1-8

Today's Gospel is part of Jesus's discourse at the Last Supper. John tells of the Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing His disciples' feet. Jesus then gives instructions. This is called the Last Supper discourse or Jesus's farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs His disciples to follow His example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world.

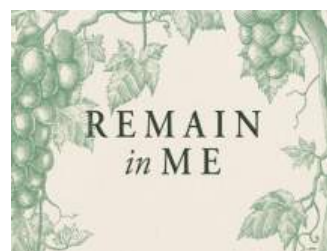
Today's Gospel is from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus's metaphor of the vine and the branches, references Hebrew Scripture where Israel is the vineyard and Yahweh tends the vineyard. A primary theme of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches His disciples that their relationship will not end after His death. This unity is the basis for the disciples' ability to continue the work that Jesus began. Similarly, Jesus's presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit allows us to continue His work of love and reconciliation today.

Jesus also teaches that we come to know Him through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our prayer life and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in His name.

Many are committed to serving their neighbors. They feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus.

Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in His name.



-edited from Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, April 28 after the Masses, sponsored by our Knights, church hall

Prayer Group with Guided Adoration: Monday, April 29 from 4:00-5:30pm, church

Wednesday People: Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30pm, downstairs in the parish office

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, May 2 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, May 3 after the 8:30am Mass, church

Rosary Cenacle: Saturday, May 4 at 8:30am, church

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, May 5 after the Masses, sponsored by our Knights, church hall

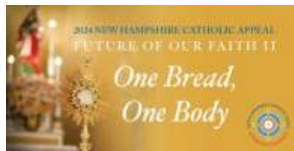
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Sunday, May 5 after the 10:30 am Mass, church

Youth Ministry: Sun., May 5 at 6:15pm, church hall

NH Catholic Appeal

We thank all who made their gift to the NH Catholic Appeal: Future of our Faith II this

weekend. Your gift will enable the Catholic Church in NH to meet the increasing needs of parishes, Catholic schools, retired clergy, seminarians, and much more! If you were not able to make your gift yet, please visit the website at www.catholicnh.org/nhca or bring your gift and drop it in the collection basket at Mass next weekend. We thank you on behalf of all who will come to know the loving hand of Christ and our Church through your generosity!



Youth Ministry: Save the Date!

Bowling night is scheduled for Friday, May 17 for our youth. Bring a friend! Bring your family! More details to come. Parish youth mark your calendars!

Healing Service

Monday, May 6 at 7:00pm St. John Neumann will host Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and a healing service led by Catholic Evangelist Alan Ames.

Office Closed

The parish office will be closed this week on Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 1 for air conditioning work. Thank you for your understanding!

Rosary for Life Calendar Intentions for May

The Blessed Virgin Mary has a unique and privileged place in salvation history and in the Church. Because she responded yes to becoming the Mother of God, she is our first model of discipleship and our best example of grace and trust in God. The month of May is traditionally dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. You are invited to pray a rosary each day in the month of May and include these special prayer intentions.

May 1 - Mother of Jesus, assist families in financial distress.

May 2 - Virgin Mary, help us imitate your virtues of humility, purity & charity.

May 3 - Queen of Heaven, let the dying depart in dignity and with love.

May 4 - Sweetest Mother, stop wrongful research on human embryos.

May 5 - Mary, Mother of God, bless all mothers.

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collection April 7 - 14

Budget:	\$9,321
Actual:	\$8,1036
Variance	(\$1,095)

Weekly collections April 15 - 21, 2024

Budget:	\$9,321
Actual:	\$10,483
Variance:	(\$1,252)

Thank you for your generosity!

Prayers for Mary's Intercession

With Mary's unique role in salvation and her special relationship to Christ and God the Father, when we pray to Mary we rely on her intercession on our behalf. The **Memorare** is a beautiful prayer that expresses our confidence in the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen!



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