

MY KINGDOM DOES NOT BELONG TO THIS WORLD.

JOHN 18:36



© JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish November 24, 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
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, November 23rd

Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

4:30PM: Joyce Foulks requested by her family
For all parishioners

Sunday, November 24th

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8:30AM: Jennifer Polce

10:30AM: Bob Gilbert requested by Sue Gilbert

Monday, November 25th

Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Francis Martin requested by Pat Lyons and family

Tuesday, November 26th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Annette King

Wednesday, November 27th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Verna F. Harrihy requested by Pat Lyons

Thursday, November 28th

Thanksgiving Day

9:00AM: Jake Durkin requested by the Nagy family

Friday, November 29th

No Mass

Saturday, November 30th

Vigil: First Sunday of Advent

4:30PM: Dorothy Collins-Larson requested by the family

Sunday, December 1st

First Sunday of Advent

8:30AM: Don & Arlene Olson requested by the Murphy family
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Deceased members of the Dwyer & Wood families requested by the family

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns from
November 23rd - 29th
in memory of
Dureen Caron.



Thanksgiving Day Mass

Start your Thanksgiving Day with Mass celebrated at 9:00am on Thursday, November 28. You are invited to bring the bread and wine that you will be serving during your Thanksgiving meal for a special blessing.

Dear Lord,

We give You thanks for our blessings
and we pray for those in need.

We give You thanks
for our family and friends
and we pray for those who are lonely.

We give You thanks for our health
and we pray for those who suffer.
We give You thanks for our prosperity
and we pray that we are selfless
in sharing our blessings with others.

On this day of Thanksgiving,
may the love of God strengthen us,
the peace of God dwell within us,
the joy of God uplift us,
and may we bring God's
love, peace, and joy to all those we meet. Amen!



Readings for the Week November 24, 2024

Monday Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5 Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 and Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday Rv 14:14-19 Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 and Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday Rv 15:1-4 Ps 98:1, 2-3AB, 7-8, 9 and Lk 21:12-19

Thursday Sir 50:22-24 Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 1 Cor 1:3-9 and Lk 17:11-19

Friday Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2 Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6A and 8A and Lk 21:29-33

Saturday Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 and Mt 4:18-22

Sunday Jer 33:14-16 Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 1 Thes 3:12-4:2 and Lk 21:25-28, 34-36



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates!

- Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sunday, December 1 during the 10:30am Mass
- Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session on Thursday, December 12 at 5:00pm, church
- Youth Ministry:** Sunday, December 1 at 6:00pm, church hall
- First Reconciliation:** Parent/child session on Saturday, January 11 at 9:30am (snow date is January 12 at 11:30am), church hall
- Confirmation & First Communion:** Parent/child session on Saturday, April 5 at 9:30am, church hall

World Youth Day: November 24

"Those who hope in the Lord
will run and not be weary."

-Isaiah 40:31

The theme for the 2024 World Youth Day is *Rejoicing in hope*. Pope Francis' message for the 2024 World Youth Day is an invitation to walk in hope, as it is a gift from God that can overcome weariness, worry, and crisis.

Pope John Paul II instituted the annual observance of World Youth Day in 1985 as a gathering of youth and young adults for prayer, worship, and celebration of their Catholic faith. The day coincided with Palm Sunday. In 2021 Pope Francis moved World Youth Day to Christ the King Sunday, today's solemnity. Pope Francis tells us that the Solemnity of Christ the King is a reminder that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.

Prayer for World Youth Day

God of all,
We are grateful on this celebration of
World Youth Day
for youth everywhere.
Look with favor upon all young people,
bearers of hope for the Church and our world.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen!

King of the Jews

John 18:33b-37

On this last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year this Sunday provides time to reflect on this title that we have given to Jesus.

In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against Him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime that requires the punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In response to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes His kingdom from the world's political powers. *King* and *kingdom* may be appropriate terms for Jesus's mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus IS king, but not the kind of king imagined or expected. He was not the king Pilate feared He might be.

Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world. This was also mentioned earlier in John's Gospel. Today, Jesus identifies the final proof that His kingdom is not of this world: If His kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save Him. We hear echoes of John's theme: salvation comes through a cosmic battle. It is helpful to return to the first chapter of John for context of Jesus's words to Pilate. Jesus came into the world, but the world did not know Him. In John's language, the world prefers the darkness, yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness.

Truth is another important theme in John's Gospel. It is emphasized in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognize Jesus as king and know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus's kingship was hidden from many. Only those chosen, those who have eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognize Jesus as king. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognize that Jesus, through His crucifixion and death, is king and Savior of all.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, November 24 after the Masses, church hall

Baptism Parent Prep Class: Sunday, November 24 at 11:30am, church

Prayer Group with Guided Adoration: Monday, November 25 from 4:00-5:30pm, church

Thanksgiving Day: Mass Thursday, Nov. 28 at 9:00am; office closed

Advent Gift Card Drive Begins: Saturday, Nov. 30

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Sunday, December 1 during the 10:30 Mass

Youth Ministry: Sunday, December 1 at 6:00pm, start in the church hall

Lessons & Carols: Sunday, December 1 at 6:30pm, church; all are welcome!

OLM Pledge Cards

Each November, Stewardship Sunday will provide the opportunity to consider contributions of time, talent, and treasure to the parish. Last Sunday pledge cards were available for reflection. Use them to prayerfully consider how you are personally able to share your time, talent, and treasure.

Completing pledge cards will help the Finance Council plan the parish's annual budget. There are many other ways to give to the parish as well. You are encouraged to determine how you may be able to share your time and talents by serving in a parish ministry. See the pledge card for ideas. We welcome your questions about ministries, how you can serve, or where the need is greatest. Please contact the office.

Please return cards by December 1. Drop them at the office or in the Offertory basket during Mass. Thank you for supporting our parish family and beyond!



Many Thanks!

The Red Cross received 29 donations at last week's blood drive hosted by OLM. Thank you, our generous community!

OLM Councils: Parish and Finance

The Parish Council serves as an advisory group to help the pastor guide the parish towards its mission and spiritual well-being. The Finance Council helps the pastor steward parish monies and consults on the annual operating budget. Members of both councils should be registered members of Our Lady of Mercy. Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve on one of these important councils.

Staff Handyman Position Open

We're hiring! The parish is looking to fill a position for light handywork for up to 10 hours per week. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please call the office for more information or to apply.

Mark Your Calendar

Advent Begins December 1!

First Sunday of Advent: Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 1 at 6:30pm in the church

Second Sunday of Advent: Deanery Penance Service
Sunday, December 8 at 2:00pm
St. Joseph the Worker Parish
777 West Hollis Street, Nashua



The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song. Nine Scripture lessons are each followed by a carol or other music that reflects the lesson's message and a brief prayer. Mark your calendar for the first Sunday of Advent, December 1 at 6:30pm for this wonderful OLM Advent tradition!

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collections week November 4 - 17, 2024

Budget \$20,680

Actual \$20,617

Variance (\$63)

Thank you for your generosity!

Giving Wreath

Giving Wreath gift card requests will be available starting the first weekend of Advent, November 30 and December 1. Thank you for your support!





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