

PEACE



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Our Lady of Mercy Parish December 8, 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

Call the office for preparation and scheduling.

Marriage

Contact the office to schedule marriage preparation.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA, formerly RCIA)

OCIA 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 contact 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, December 7th
Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent

3:00PM: Adoration

4:30PM: Bette Tylock req by Bruce & Janet Angus

Sunday, December 8th
Second Sunday of Advent

8:30AM: Jake Durkin requested by the Nagy family

10:30AM: Billy Fleming requested by the family
For all parishioners

Adoration

Monday, December 9th
The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Sister Ella Christian requested by the Grey
Nun Associates of St. Marguerite d'Youville

7:00PM: Rita Notarantonio

Tuesday, December 10th
Our Lady of Loreto

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Louis Bourgoin requested by Claire

Wednesday, December 11th
Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Joann Schuettinger requested by Bruce &
Janet Angus

Thursday, December 12th
Our Lady of Guadalupe

No Mass

Friday, December 13th
Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Carmine & Marguerite Nicolo req by family

Saturday, December 14th
Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

4:30PM: Roger Bonenfant, 10 year anniversary
requested by his wife, Helen
For all parishioners

Sunday, December 15th
Third Sunday of Advent

8:30AM: Phillip Russell Dwyer req by family

10:30AM: Carmen Canton requested by Diane Schultz
Children's Liturgy of the Word

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns from
December 7th - 13th
in memory of
Roger Bonenfant.



Please pray for our recently deceased

Michael Bowser, November 23
Timothy Burke, November 26

*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.*

We Welcome our Newly Baptized!

Baptized in November:

Dean Thomas Carrigan



"There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

-Ephesians 4:5

*Thank you Lord for making me
a living temple of the Holy Spirit.
Thank you for the water of my baptism
through which You have given me
new life in Christ. Amen!*

Readings for the Week December 8, 2024

Monday Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 and Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13
and Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 and
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Jud 13:18bcde, 19 and Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 and
Mt 11:16-19

Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19 and Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Zep 3:14-18a Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 Phil 4:4-7 and
Lk 3:10-18



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates!

- Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sunday, December 15 during the 10:30am Mass
- Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session on Thursday, December 12 at 5:00pm, church
- Youth Ministry:** Sunday, December 15 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

Second Week of Advent: Peace

At Christmas we anticipate the reign of an Anointed One, a Messiah, who will bring peace. We also recognize that Christ came to Earth to reconcile man to his Creator. Christ calls us to carry on as His peacemakers.



Lighting the peace candle on the Advent wreath reminds us that the angels declared, "Peace on earth" at the birth of Jesus. It is Jesus who offers us inner peace as well as peace with others. We can know and experience peace today through Jesus Christ.

Advent Prayer

Lord God,
May the light of this wreath
be a sign of peace for all people,
as we prepare for Your coming.
Let the truth of Your WORD
lead us all toward Your kingdom,
for which we long.
We ask this in the name of the One born
in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.
Amen!

Preach and Baptize *Luke 3:1-6*

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist follows the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel, then baptizing in order to prepare the way for God's salvation.



Only Luke's Gospel extends the connection between John the Baptist and Jesus to their birth. The first two chapters of his Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. These stories set the stage for the beginning of Jesus's public ministry in chapter 3.

Evangelist and Gospel writer Luke also wrote the *Acts of the Apostles* as a continuation of Jesus's ministry through the Church. In his writings, Luke identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. Today, we hear how John the Baptist is presented as a bridge between the time before Christ and preparing the way for Christ.

Today we also hear Luke's attention to political and historical detail. He shows that salvation is for all and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of Advent. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus's coming. We respond by repentance and reform in our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, December 8 after the Masses, church hall

Adoration: Sunday, December 8 after the 10:30 Mass

OCIA (formerly RCIA): Sunday, December 8 at 11:30am, parish office

Advent Penance Service: Sunday, December 8 at 2:00pm, St. Joseph the Worker in Nashua

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Observed Monday, December 9; Office closed; Mass at 8:30am and 7:00pm

Prayer Group with Guided Adoration: Monday, December 9 from 4:00-5:30pm, church

Foot Clinic: Thursday, December 12 from 9:00am to noon, hall; call 603-689-2899 for an appointment

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, December 12 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Grades 1-5 Family Faith Formation: Thursday, December 12 at 5:00pm, church

Men of St. Joseph: Saturday, December 14 at 7:00am, church hall

K of C Breakfast: Sunday, December 15 after the Masses, church hall

Children's Liturgy: Sunday, December 15 during the 10:30 Mass at 3:00pm

Youth Ministry: Sunday, December 15 at 6:00pm, church hall; friends welcome!

Eucharistic Adoration

- Saturday, December 7 at 3:00pm
- Sunday, Dec. 8 following the 10:30am Mass



You are invited to spend some quiet time in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Loving Master, we believe in YOU
who invite us to remain into eternal life by
partaking of YOUR own Body and Blood.
Give us devotion to YOUR Eucharistic Presence;
draw us close to YOU; and sustain us in every trial,
that we may remain close to YOUR Sacred Heart.



Weather Mass Cancellations

If Merrimack schools are canceled or delayed due to weather then daily Mass is canceled. Weekend Masses will follow the normal schedule, but use caution when deciding about travel in bad weather.

Penance: Part of Advent Preparation

As part of your Advent preparation for Jesus, you are invited to the Deanery Penance Service on the Second Sunday of Advent, December 8 at 2:00pm held at St. Joseph the Worker Parish, 777 West Hollis Street, Nashua. There will be the opportunity for individual confession. Fr. Paul will be present.

Immaculate Conception December 9, 2024

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother is December 8 and a Holy Day of Obligation. This year the 8th falls on a Sunday so the Feast Day is moved to December 9. Mass will be celebrated at 8:30am and 7:00pm on Monday, December 9.

Giving Wreath

Giving Wreath gift card requests are available. Please return your donations by December 28 as they will be distributed in the new year.



Recipients of our donations:

Parish Member Families
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St. James Food Pantry
Nashua Soup Kitchen
Nashua Community College
Marguerites Place (Nashua)
Adult Learning Center (Nashua)

Thank you for your support!

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collections week Nov. 25 - Dec. 1, 2024

Budget	\$10,340
Actual	\$11,013
Variance	673

November online: \$19,808

Thank you for your generosity!

Bethlehem's Peace Light

Each year light from a candle at the grotto in Bethlehem where Jesus was born is spread throughout the world. Carrying on the tradition of bringing the light to OLM by parishioner Anita Creager before she passed away, the Peace Light will be here! Bring your own candle when you come to Mass the next two weeks to take some of this Peace Light home with you.



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