

This is my *chosen* Son



Listen to *Him*.

LUKE 9:35

© JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish March 16, 2025



Our Lady of Mercy Parish

16 Baboosic Lake Road
Merrimack, NH 03054
603-424-3757
www.olmnh.org

Parish Staff

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KCorreia@olmnh.org
Barry Miller, Facilities and IT
BMiller@olmnh.org

Council Chairs

Pastoral Council: Keith Coppinger
Finance Council: Paul Hebert

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

Church Hours

The church is locked for safety during the day, but you are welcome to spend prayer time in church during office hours! 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 on 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 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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month after the 8:30am Mass;
Saturday following the first Friday at 3:00pm; Sunday
following the first Friday after the 10:30am Mass

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.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 15th
Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

4:30PM: Sean Fagan, 1st anniversary, requested by Claude and Sandy Mayo

Sunday, March 16th
First Second of Lent

8:30AM: Gayle Bergin requested by Bob Bergin
For all parishioners

10:30AM: Frank & Dureen Caron and Michael Perrault requested by family
Children's Liturgy of the Word

Monday, March 17th
Saint Patrick, Bishop

8:10AM: Morning Prayer
8:30AM: Nicole Ayotte requested by the family

Tuesday, March 18th
Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

8:10AM: Morning Prayer
8:30AM: Ann Beaupre requested by Katie

Wednesday, March 19th
Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:10AM: Morning Prayer
8:30AM: Gary Iannacone requested by Bob Bergin

Thursday, March 20th

5:30PM: Confession
6:10PM: Evening Prayer
6:30PM: Holly Simpson req by Bruce & Janet Angus

Friday, March 21st

8:10AM: Morning Prayer
8:30AM: Gladys Krystyniak req by Joyce Campbell
6:30PM: Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 22nd
Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent

4:30PM: Allan Burns req by Bruce & Janet Angus

Sunday, March 23rd
Third Sunday of Lent

8:30AM: Brian Gagne requested by his family
10:30AM: Marie Tremblay req by Denise Gravelle
For all parishioners

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns from
March 15th - 21st
in loving memory of
William Camirand.



Please pray for our recently deceased

James Forster, February 20
Hubert Swanson, March 4

*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.*

Next Trinity House Community



God created families to reflect the Holy Trinity: a community of loving persons. Despite this, we all have times when our family may not feel very holy. Holiness may seem distant and unattainable. We are schedules and chores and responsibilities and never-ending to do lists.

Yet we are so much more! What may seem like a messy household is truly well connected to the Holy Trinity. Part of God's loving plan for you and your family is to be wrapped in the love of the Holy Trinity. We are grateful to all who joined our first Trinity House Community event.

Support your faith journey at our next Trinity House Community meeting: Saturday, March 29 following the 4:30pm Mass. All are welcome!

Readings for the Week March 16, 2025

Monday Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 and Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 and Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Thursday Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 and Lk 16:19-31

Friday Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 and Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 and Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11. 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 and Lk 13:1-9



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates!

- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sunday, March 16 during the 10:30am Mass
- **Grades 1-5:** Parent/Child session on Thursday, April 9 at 5:00pm, church hall
- **Youth Ministry:** Sunday, March 23 at 6:00pm, church hall; Friends welcome!
- **Confirmation & First Communion:** Parent/child session on Saturday, April 5 at 9:30am, church hall
Rehearsal on Thursday, June 5 at 6:00pm followed by a reception in the church hall
Celebration on Friday, June 6 at 6:00pm; all welcome!

The Transfiguration *Luke 9:28b-36*



Prayers for our Holy Father.



On this second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus's retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus's Transfiguration. The Transfiguration is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The context for Luke's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew and Mark. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus's prediction about His Passion. After the prediction there is a discussion of the cost of discipleship in each of these Gospels. The placement of the Transfiguration story close to Peter's confession and Jesus's prediction encourages us to examine the Transfiguration in the larger context of the Paschal Mystery.

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus's disciples: Peter, James, and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel. We recently heard this Gospel on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as His appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before His Passion and death.

As they wake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus's continuity with the Law and the Prophets. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, there is reference to conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus's later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as His exodus, connecting Jesus's Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

On witnessing Jesus's Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus "master" instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to Him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus's baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In His Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus's Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. Not until they also witness His Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus's Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus's Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. And now we anticipate Jesus's Resurrection even as we prepare to remember the Passion and death of Jesus.

Parish Happenings: the Week Ahead

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, March 16 after the Masses, church hall, sponsored by the Knights

Prayer Group with Guided Adoration: Monday, March 17 at 4:00, church

Building Committee: Monday, March 17 at 5:00pm, parish office

Emergency Response Committee: Monday, March 17 at 6:00pm, parish office

Pastoral Council: Monday, March 17 at 6:30pm, parish office

Folk Group: Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00pm, church

Cantor Rehearsal: Wednesday, March 19 at 6:00pm

Schola Rehearsal: Wednesday, March 19 at 7:00pm

Foot Clinic: Thursday, March 20 from 9:00am-noon, church hall; call 603-689-2899 for an appointment

Knitting Ministry: Thursday, March 20 from noon to 2:00pm, parish office

Confession: Thursday, March 20 at 5:30pm

Evening Prayer: Thursday, March 20 at 6:10pm

Mass: Thursday, March 20 at 6:30pm

Stations of the Cross: Friday, March 21 at 6:30pm

K of C Breakfast: Sunday, March 23 after the Masses, church hall, sponsored by the Knights

Baptism Prep: Sunday, March 23 at 11:30am, church

OCIA (formerly RCIA): Sunday, March 23 at 11:30am, parish office building

Youth Ministry: Sunday, March 23 at 6:00pm, hall

Deanery Penance Service

Sunday, March 23 at 2:00pm
Immaculate Conception Parish in Nashua
There will be opportunity for individual confession.

Parish Lenten Retreat

Plan on the OLM Lenten Retreat presented by Mae Edwards on Saturday, April 5 following the 4:30 Mass and Sunday, April 6 following the 10:30 Mass. More info to come including how to RSVP!

120 Club

Week 12

Sylvia Stevens

Barbara Garant

Congratulations and thank you for your support!

The Scrutinies

The Scrutinies are a series of rites for the elect: adults who wish to be baptized into the Catholic Church. The Scrutinies are celebrated on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. This period of time for the elect is a time of purification and enlightenment. The prayers of exorcism are intended to help purify the elect from sin. The overall prayers and laying on of hands are to help the elect wholeheartedly receive by the Word and grace of God.

The basic structure for the Scrutinies takes place following the homily:

- The elect (with sponsors) are invited forward
- Invitation for parishioners to silently join in prayer for the elect
- Intercessions for the elect
- Prayer of exorcism
- Laying on of hands
- Prayer over the elect
- Dismissal of the elect



For our elect, the First Scrutiny is next weekend at the vigil Mass on Saturday, March 22 at 4:30. The Second Scrutiny will be at the 8:30 Mass on Sunday, March 30. The Third Scrutiny will be at the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, April 6. Please continue to keep our elect in your prayers.

Many Thanks!



Our clothing shed received 76,514 pounds of clothing in 2024. That is enough to clothe an estimated 14,095 people around the world! From those donations our parish received \$3,061 in donations from St. Pauly Textile for hosting the shed. Thank you!!

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collections week March 3 - 9, 2025

Budget	\$10,340
Actual	\$8,463
Variance	(\$1,877)

Thank you for your generosity!

Baby Bottle Drive for St. Gianna's Place

The baby bottle drive for St. Gianna's Place continues through March 30.

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