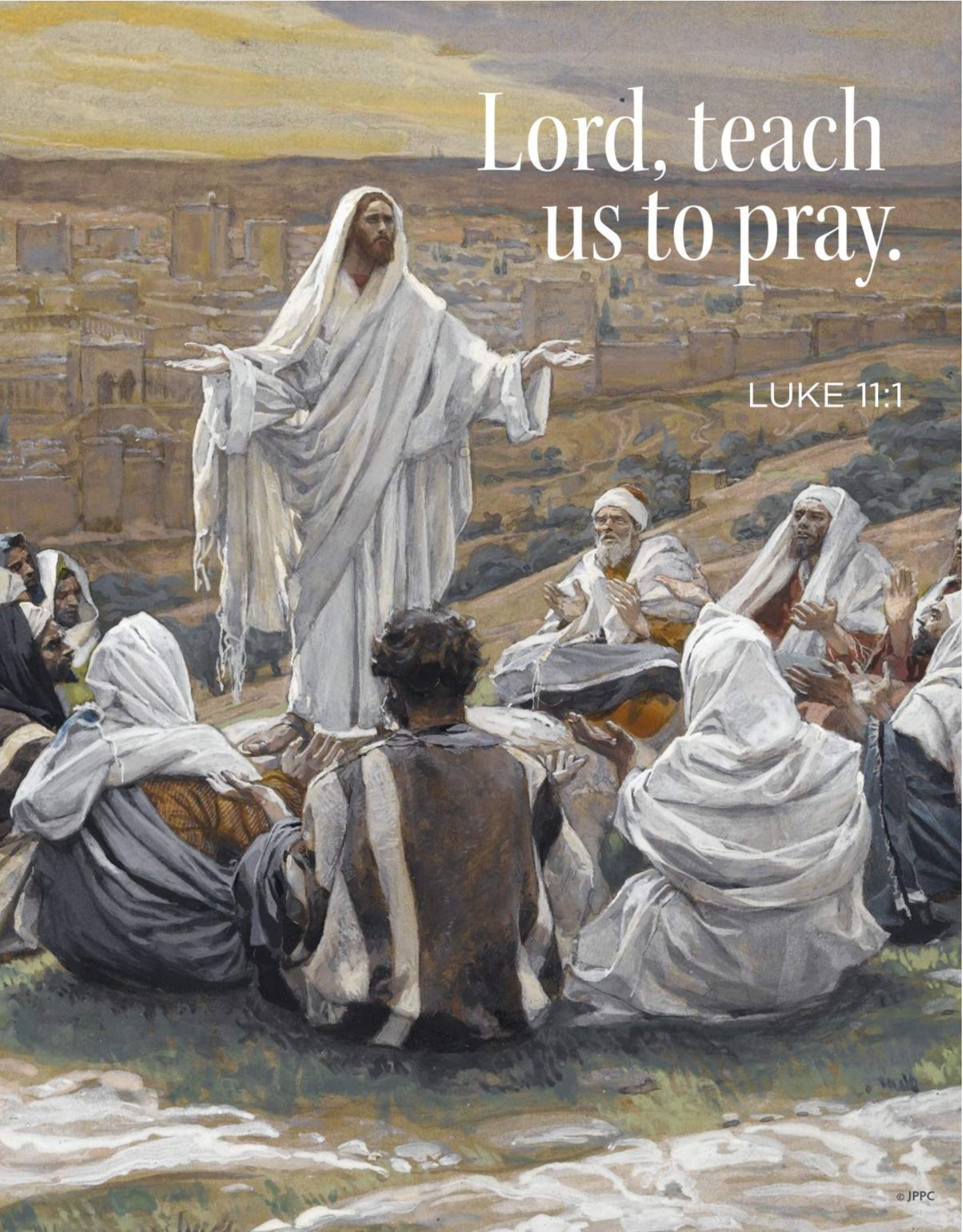




Lord, teach
us to pray.

LUKE 11:1

© JPPC

Our Lady of Mercy Parish July 27, 2025



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

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 them-
selves 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
Dawn Poulson, Youth Minister
DPoulson@olmnh.org
Karen Correia, Admin Assistant
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 Intentions

Saturday, July 26th

Vigil: Seventeenth Sunday in ordinary Time

4:30PM: Pamela Jean Brown requested by Bruce & Janet Angus

Sunday, July 27th

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Lori-Ellen Camirand, 13th anniversary, requested by Mom

10:30AM: John Cox requested by the Lamb family
For all parishioners

Saturday, August 2nd

Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday in ordinary Time

3:00PM: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

4:30PM: Tom Hanlon requested by his wife, Anna
For all parishioners

Sunday, August 3rd

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM: Michael Fleming req by the Fleming family

10:30AM: Rose & George Samson
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

God bless you Fr. Paul while you take some well-earned, much deserved time off! We'll miss you and keep you in our prayers!

While Fr. Paul is away, there will not be daily Mass.

Next weekend, August 2 and 3 we welcome Fr. Tony DeRusso who will be here to hear confessions on Saturday, August 2 starting at 3:00pm and to celebrate all weekend Masses.

Adoration Schedule Next Weekend

- Saturday, August 2 at 3:00pm
- Sunday, August 3 following 10:30am Mass

You are invited to spend some quiet time in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Sit in silence in the Real Presence of Jesus. Pray a rosary in the Real Presence of Jesus. Read a devotional such as *Word Among Us* in the Real Presence of Jesus. Pray from your heart in the Real Presence of Jesus.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

The sanctuary candle burns from
July 25th to August 1st
in loving memory of
Lori-Ellen Camirand.



The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

was celebrated between

Anna Correia and Nicholas Napoli

married here on July 20, 2025.

Please keep them and all married couples in prayer.



Banns of Marriage

O God,

Who in creating the human race
willed that husband and wife should be one,
keep in a bond of inseparable love
those who are united in the covenant of Marriage,
so that by Your grace, they may become
witnesses to charity itself.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen!

Readings for the Week July 27, 2025

Monday Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23
and Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-7, 8-9,
10-11, 12-13 and Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday Ex 34:29-35 Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9 and
Mt 13:44-46

Thursday Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a,
11 and Mt 13:47-53

Friday Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Ps 81:3-4, 5-6,
10-11ab and Mt 13:54-58

Saturday Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 and
Mt 14:1-12

Sunday Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23 Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and
17 Col 3:1-5, 9-11 and Lk 12:13-21



FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-12 Upcoming Dates!

- Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Starts Sept 14!
- Grades 1-5:** Registration for 2025-26 is open!
- Youth Ministry:** Registration 2025-26 is open!
- Sacramental Preparation:** First Reconciliation is typically received in second grade and Confirmation and First Holy Communion are received together in third grade. For older students, please contact the office to get started with sacramental preparation!

Parent meeting for First Reconciliation:

Monday, October 20 at 6:30pm, church hall

Parent meeting for Confirmation & First Holy Communion:

Monday, November 17 at 6:30pm, church hall

Faith Formation Registration is Open!
Programs are offered for grades 1-12

As Catholics, our relationship with God unfolds throughout life. As we grow to know, to love, and to serve God, receiving grace in the sacraments within the community of the Church helps us to respond to God's call to become who we were created to be: beloved sons and daughters of God.

Our Lady of Mercy offers a range of Faith Formation for children, youth, adults, and families. Our programs help children and youth learn about our Catholic faith and support them to live the Faith. This is an ongoing process, so programs are offered for those in Grades 1 through 12. Throughout the Liturgical year, Faith Formation opportunities for adults are also available.

Registration is currently open for all children in grades 1-12 for programs that run September through May. Please visit our website to learn more and to register. Registration may also be made in person at the office.

Mark your calendar:

- Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sunday, September 14 during the 10:30 Mass
- Youth Ministry Parent Meeting:** Sunday, September 14 at 6:00pm, church hall
- Trinity House:** Saturday, September 20 following the 4:30pm Mass, church hall
- Grades 1-5 Family Session:** Sunday, October 5 at 9:30am, church hall
- Youth Ministry (grades 6-12):** Sunday, October 5 at 6:00pm, church hall

Jesus Teaches How to Pray

Luke 11:1-13

Luke gives more attention to Jesus's teachings on prayer than any other Gospel writer. He also mentions Jesus at prayer more than the others. In today's Gospel, Luke presents the core of Jesus's teaching on prayer. It consists of Jesus teaching a prayer to His disciples, a parable on the persistent neighbor, and assurances that God hears our prayers.

The disciples notice Jesus praying. They ask Him to teach them to pray. Jesus teaches them a simple version of the most famous Christian prayer, the "Our Father." Luke's version seems simple and direct. We pray that God's name will be recognized as holy and that His rule over all will be established. This is followed by petitions for our needs for bread, for forgiveness, and for deliverance. Luke uses the more theological language of "sins" rather than "debts," which is used in Matthew's version.

Having taught His disciples a simple, daily prayer, Jesus reassures them that God answers prayers. He tells a parable about a persistent neighbor who asks a friend for bread at midnight. The friend is in bed and has no desire to disturb his family by opening the door. But because the neighbor is persistent, the sleeping man gets up and gives him what he needs. If a neighbor is willing to help us if we are persistent enough, how could God not respond to our requests?

This teaching concludes with the reminder that if we seek, we will get a response. If a human father, with all his faults, gives good gifts to his children, how much more will our heavenly Father give us? Instead of good gifts however, Luke substitutes the word *Holy Spirit*. This foreshadows the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is central to Luke's theology and who plays an important role in the growth of the early Church after Pentecost.



The parable and the concluding teaching in this section should not lead us to think of prayer as a series of requests presented to God. Rather, as Jesus teaches, prayer consists in recognizing God's holiness and His rule over all things.

-edited from Loyolapress.com

July is Devoted to the Precious Blood of Jesus



Dedicating July to the Precious Blood provides a specific period to deepen devotion to Jesus' sacrifice and to reflect on the salvific power of His Blood. It is the ultimate expression of God's love and mercy, as it was freely given for the forgiveness of sins and the salvation of souls.

Precious Blood, ocean of divine mercy:
Flow upon us!
Precious Blood, most pure offering:
Procure us every grace!
Precious Blood, hope and refuge of sinners:
Atone for us!
Precious Blood, delight of holy souls:
Draw us!
Amen.

Parish Stewardship

Weekly collections week July 14 - 20, 2025

Budget	\$10,585
Actual	\$9,852
Variance	(\$733)

Thank you for your generosity!



But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

-Lamentations 3: 21-23



Tips for Personal Prayer

As we heard in today's Gospel, Jesus taught His disciples how to pray the *Our Father*, showing them - and all of us - that God is a loving, caring father waiting open arms. Sometimes prayer comes easily. Sometimes it doesn't. Prayer allows us to personally connect with God and is important for building that very special, unique relationship.

Start with Humility and Awareness

Approach prayer with a sense of humility, recognizing God's greatness and your dependence on Him.

Acknowledge His presence, no matter where you are or what you are doing.

Formal Prayers

Praying formal prayers like the *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Apostles' Creed*, can help us to focus our prayer time.

Spontaneous Prayer

Speak to God in your own words, sharing your joys, sorrows, and concerns. Imagine yourself talking with a close friend.

Finding a Quiet Space

Seek out a peaceful and distraction-free place to deepen your experience. This could be a corner at home, in church, or a peaceful outdoor space.

Setting Aside Time

Make prayer a regular part of your day, even if it's just for a few minutes. Morning and evening prayers, grace before meals, or short prayers throughout the day can help incorporate prayer throughout your day.

Listening to God

Prayer is not just about speaking; it's also about listening. Be open to hearing God's voice, which may come through scripture, reflection, or a deeper awareness of God's presence.

Using Scripture

Incorporate scripture readings into your prayer. Reflect on the passages, allowing them to speak to your heart and guide your prayer.

The Rosary

The Rosary is a powerful prayer that combines vocal prayers with meditation on the mysteries of the Christian faith.

Persistence

Don't be discouraged if you find it difficult to pray at times. Prayer is a skill that develops. Keep practicing and God will meet you where you are!



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