



OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF JOLIET-IN-ILLINOIS

Most Rev. R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop

701 S. EOLA ROAD † AURORA, IL 60504

WWW.OLMERCY.COM

PARISH PRIESTS

Fr. Don E. McLaughlin, Pastor
Fr. Mark J. Bernhard, Parochial Vicar

PASTORS EMERITUS

Fr. Gerald Tivy
Fr. Hugh Fullmer

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Tim Kueper
Deacon Tony Martini
Deacon Mike Plese
Deacon Phil Rehmer
Deacon Art Tionson
Deacon Bob Vavra

PARISH OFFICE

(630) 851-3444
(630) 851-3468 FAX
Monday-Thursday.....8:30am-4:30pm
Friday.....8:30am-1:00pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm
Sunday.....7:30am, 9:00am
10:45am, 12:30pm, 5:30pm
Monday-Friday8:00am
Rosary prayed after all daily Masses

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Vigil for Holy Day.....7:00pm
Holy Day.....8:00am, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:00-3:45pm
1st Fridays of the Month....8:30-9:00am
Or by Appointment

PRAYER CHAPEL

Open Daily7:00am-8:00pm
Adoration.....Monday & Thursday
8:30am-6:00pm
Benediction.....Monday, 6:00pm

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 6, 2019



*They opened their treasures
and offered him gifts of
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

Matthew 2:11



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK.....
Also Known as Chardonnay W(h)ines!

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord – the revelation that Jesus is a light to all nations. The magi are the first of many gentiles who will follow in their footsteps, including you and me. From the start of his life on earth, Jesus has come for all people but his kingdom will not be one that Herod – or anyone who covets power – will seek. The latter will only pretend to see the light, and their sight will be shadowed with fear. We have all experienced Epiphany...times when our night sky has been brightly lit, when our minds have been illumined, and when our hearts have been enlightened. When we live in the light, we are able to see that our lives, our families, our communities, no matter how humble, are glorious blessings. We respond to the light as the magi did – with gratitude, with honor, with gift. Unlike Herod who had worldly power, we are not weak with fear that we will lose our power. Because of his fear, he could only pretend to see the light that the magi were willing to share with him. We have seen the light!! Perhaps it was the day you bathed your first grandchild or the day you said “I love you” and knew that it was about more than romance and physical attraction. Perhaps it was the time you sat vigil with a dying loved one and knew that you were on holy ground. Perhaps a magnificent sunrise or sunset was an epiphany. Epiphany is also called “little Christmas” in many cultures. So we are called to pay forward this gift of light in our day-to-day experiences. Are we conscious of our responsibility to share the light? One way to share the light is to invite someone who may be experiencing darkness in their life to come to Alpha. Alpha starts January 22 & 24. Info and registration is at www.olmercy.com/alpha.

As I mentioned, Epiphany in some cultures is known as “little Christmas” and gifts are exchanged. Fr. Mark and I would like thank everyone who celebrated Christmas Mass with us at OLM. You are gift to us! We also thank those who gifted us with so many goodies and personal gifts. We truly appreciate your kindness! We also want to thank our Art & Environment Committee and the many volunteers who worked hours to decorate our church and parish grounds. I hope you enjoyed the new location of our nativity scene this year. We thank all our musicians who make our Christmas season so joyful in song. Thanks to those who served in liturgical ministries at our Christmas season Masses. We are also grateful to our maintenance staff for their efforts to keep everything clean, in order and working properly. Thanks to our Hispanic community for the beautiful celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Posadas, and to our Filipino community for the wonderful celebration of Simbang Gabi. And our children in the Religious Education program did a delightful re-enactment of the Christmas story. Thanks to all our staff for their work to make our Christmas celebrations welcoming. Our outdoor nativity has a new figure this year – the “Drummer Boy”. This is a gift by Debbie Schremp to her mother Geraldine Schremp in memory of David Schremp who died in January 2018. David is the son of Geraldine and brother of Debbie. David played the drums. Thank you to the Schremp’s for this donation.

Blessed Christmas Season!

PARISH PRIESTS

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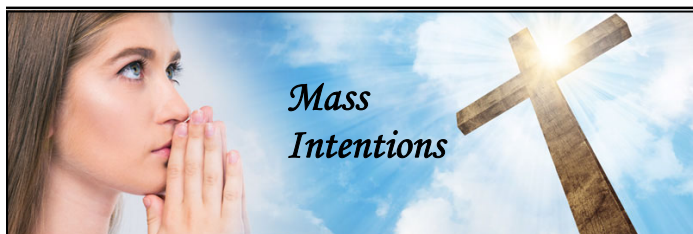
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SEMINARIAN INTERN

Senovio Sarabia, Jr.
 ssarabia@usml.edu



Mass Intentions

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday, January 7 | | |
| 8:00 AM | † Jim Restivo | Tom & Letty Nolan |
| Tuesday, January 8 | | |
| 8:00 AM | † Ferdinand Rivera | Evette Gorman |
| Wednesday, January 9 | | |
| 8:00 AM | Int Mike & Carole Brogan | Pat & Tom McHugh |
| Thursday, January 10 | | |
| 8:00 AM | † David DeLeon | Tom & Letty Nolan |
| Friday, January 11 | | |
| 8:00 AM | † Nell Daly | Mary Ann & Bill Kenney |
| Saturday, January 12 | | |
| 4:00 PM | † Louis Durante | George & Willie Durante |
| Sunday, January 13 | | |
| 7:30 AM | † Mary Ellen Feldman | Family |
| 7:30 AM | † William C. Rehmer | Tom & Letty Nolan |
| 9:00 AM | † Marian Leckey | Children |
| 10:45 AM | † Rosa Camargo | Family |
| 10:45 AM | Int Parishioners of OLM | |
| 12:30 PM | † Mary Kay Moses | The Harris Family |
| 5:30 PM | Int Edward Schmidt | Family |

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL LAMPS

Votive lamps will burn this week before the Blessed Sacrament for the following intentions:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Megan Gabaldon | 9. The Feldman Family |
| 2. Schmidt Family | 10. Joel Moen |
| 3. Ailani Banulos | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Robin T Pazos | 12. Autumn Schmitt |
| 5. Baby Tristian Pazos | 13. Amanda H |
| 6. Deacon Bob Vavra | 14. Good Health for Ricky |
| 7. Mike & Carole Brogan | 15. The Pluskota Family |
| 8. Parishioners of OLM | 16. Samantha Campion |

If you wish to have a candle burning for your intention in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, you will find envelopes on the shelf in the Narthex near the Priest's Sacristy or in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

We remember in prayer those in service to our country

- SSG Leah Harvey, USAF
- Airman Melanie Hodges, US Navy
- Nicholaus Laurie, US Marines
- SSG Sean Murphy, USMC
- Capt. Tara Trammell, US Army
- Roberto Ramos, Army
- Lt. Joshua Puscas, US Navy
- Capt. Keith Harris, USAF
- SSG Gina Maro, USAF
- Juan Gabriel Sindac, USAF
- Aaron Godinez, US Marines
- Mason Webber, Army
- LC/Cprl Ryan Ludwig, US Marines

We pray for our sick, confined and their families

Please contact the Parish Office if you or your **immediate** family member wish to be added to the Sick List.

- Mark Hoeksema
- Mel Schmudde
- Kathryn Martini
- Mary Moody
- Brady Pembroke
- Bob Holzworth
- Carole Brogan
- Wayne Draper
- Peter Krug
- Ailani Banulos
- Julia Schremp
- Billy Walowski
- Kathy Walowski
- Flo Paprzycki
- Helga Manglinong

- William Durante
- Marilyn Reich
- Michael Dandan
- Charlene Oates

Please note: Due to the government legislation regarding patient privacy, names of people to be prayed for at Mass or in the Bulletin can be listed only if that person, or in the case of their incapacitation, the person delegated to their medical care, calls to give permission.



Who is the Holy Spirit?

Who is the Holy Spirit, what does the Holy Spirit do, and how can I be filled with the Holy Spirit? When we hand our lives over to Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to live within us and is the beginning of a new life, as sons and daughters of God. If you're looking for status, there's no higher status than being a son or a daughter of God. If that's what you are looking for, consider Alpha. Connect with Zara for more information at 331-707-5381 or zara@olmercy.com. #TryAlpha.



DESDE EL ESCRITORIO DEL PASTOR.....
¡También conocido como Chardonnay W(h)ines!

Hoy celebramos la Epifanía del Señor, la revelación de que Jesús es una luz para todas las naciones. Los magos son los primeros de muchos gentiles que seguirán sus pasos, incluyéndote a ti y a mí. Desde el comienzo de su vida en la tierra, Jesús ha venido para todas las personas, pero su reino no será uno como el de Herodes, o cualquier persona que busca y codicia el poder. Este último solo fingirá ver la luz, y su vista se verá ensombrecida por el miedo. Todos hemos experimentado la Epifanía... tiempos en que nuestro cielo nocturno se ha iluminado intensamente, cuando nuestras mentes se han iluminado y cuando nuestros corazones se han alumbrado. Cuando vivimos en la luz, podemos ver que nuestras vidas, nuestras familias, nuestras comunidades, sin importar cuán humildes sean, son gloriosas bendiciones. Respondemos a la luz como lo hicieron los magos: con gratitud, con honor, con regalo. A diferencia de Herodes, que tenía el poder de este mundo, no somos débiles por el temor de perder nuestro poder. Debido a su miedo, solo podía pretender ver la luz que los magos estaban dispuestos a compartir con él. ¡Hemos visto la luz! Quizás fue el día en que bañaste a tu primer nieto o el día en que dijiste "Te amo" y supiste que se trataba de algo más que un romance y atracción física. Tal vez fue la hora en que te sentaste en la vigilia con un ser amado moribundo y supiste que estabas en un sitio santo. Tal vez un magnífico amanecer o atardecer fue una epifanía. La epifanía también se llama "pequeña Navidad" en muchas culturas. Así que estamos llamados a pagar este regalo de luz en nuestras experiencias diarias. ¿Somos conscientes de nuestra responsabilidad de compartir la luz? Una forma de compartir la luz es invitar a alguien que pueda estar experimentando oscuridad en su vida para que venga a Alpha. Alpha comienza el 22 y 24 de enero. La información y el registro se encuentran en www.olmercy.com/alpha.

Como mencioné, la epifanía en algunas culturas se conoce como "pequeña Navidad" y los regalos se intercambian. El Padre Mark y yo queremos agradecer a todos los que celebraron la Misa de Navidad con nosotros en OLM. ¡Eres un regalo para nosotros! También agradecemos a los que nos regalaron tantas golosinas y regalos personales. Realmente apreciamos su amabilidad! También queremos agradecer a nuestro Comité de Arte y Medio Ambiente y a los muchos voluntarios que trabajaron durante horas para decorar los sitios de nuestra iglesia y parroquia. Espero que hayan disfrutado la nueva ubicación de nuestra escena de la natividad este año. Agradecemos a todos nuestros músicos que hacen que nuestra temporada navideña sea tan alegre con la canción. Gracias a los que sirvieron en los ministerios litúrgicos en nuestras Misas de Navidad. También estamos agradecidos a nuestro personal de mantenimiento por sus esfuerzos para mantener todo limpio, en orden y funcionando correctamente. Gracias a nuestra comunidad hispana por la hermosa celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y las Posadas, y a nuestra comunidad Filipina por la maravillosa celebración de Simbang Gabi. Y nuestros niños en el programa de Educación Religiosa hicieron una recreación encantadora de la historia de la Navidad. Gracias a todo nuestro personal por su trabajo para hacer que nuestras celebraciones de Navidad sean acogedoras. Nuestro nacimiento al aire libre tiene una nueva figura este año: el "Niño Baterista". Este es un regalo de Debbie Schremp a su madre Geraldine Schremp en memoria de David Schremp, quien murió en enero del 2018. David es el hijo de Geraldine y hermano de Debbie. David tocaba la batería. Gracias a los Schremp por esta donación.

¡Bendecida temporada de Navidad!

Padre Mark

RECUERDOS Y SUEÑOS

En el curso de nuestra vida mantenemos el idioma y los hábitos de nuestra región nativa y familia de origen. Cuando retornamos a nuestro hogar tras una larga ausencia, rápidamente volvemos a su manera de hablar y a sus prácticas familiares. Nuestros profundos recuerdos se reflejan en viejas historias y palabras y en modos de conversar. Esta familiaridad corre como un río subterráneo y nos acompaña a donde sea que vayamos.

No solamente recordamos, sino que somos incorporados y formamos parte de una memoria más amplia. Cuando traemos recuerdos a la mente somos a la vez reunidos y recordados.

Hoy recordamos a María, una joven frágil, que recorre zonas rurales para visitar a Isabel. Todos los grandes pronunciamientos y sueños de los profetas apuntan a este tiempo en que deben cumplirse las palabras del Señor a María. Las memorias de su pueblo están vivas en ella, y esas memorias alimentan nuestra fe viva.

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LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

- Lunes: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Lc 1:67-79
- Martes: Vigilia: Is 62:1-5; Sal 89 (88):4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Hch 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] Noche: Is 9:1-6; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 11-13; Tit 2:11-14; Lc 2:1-14 Aurora: Is 62:11-12; Sal 97 (96):1, 6, 11-12; Tit 3:4-7; Lc 2:15-20 Día: Is 52:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
- Miércoles: Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 31 (30):3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Jueves: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Viernes: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Sábado: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:22-35
- Domingo: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 o 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Sal 128:1-5 o Sal 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] o 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lc 2:41-52

FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Monday of this week is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 B.C. Julius Caesar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6. This put an end to a system in which officials called "pontiffs" were able to tweak the calendar by adding extra days in as needed. He invented two new months at that time, December and January; and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs had made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named "The Last Year of Confusion." The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar was still off by nearly twelve minutes a year, and lost a full day every 130 years.

Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years. The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia's Julian calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end! —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
 Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30; Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



"Spend as much time as possible in front of the Blessed Sacrament and He will fill you with His strength and His power." -Mother Teresa

*Take time and spend
it with the Lord.*

Eucharistic Adoration is usually on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to spend time in prayer with Jesus.

If you would like to be scheduled on a regular basis as an Adorer, please contact Jeannine Malone at jmalone110@prodigy.net.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RE (Grades K-5)

A Few Family Epiphany Traditions

1. Bless your home and household on Epiphany

It is traditional to bless your home and household on the Feast of the Epiphany, perhaps because of the biblical reference to the three kings entering the home where the Holy Family was staying in order to worship the Christ child there. You can find an **Epiphany blessing of the home** at uscgb.org

2. Send the kings on a journey through your house

Move the three kings from your manger to a different room or area of your house. Let your kids search for them and when they find them, say something like: "The wise men are searching for Jesus in ___ (the dining room, your bedroom, etc.). How can we show the magi that Jesus is present in this place?" Brainstorm examples of Christian ways of being and acting in this particular room of the house, then close with a short prayer: "O holy magi, help us to see Christ in this place, and make it holy in all we say and all we do here. Amen."

3. Eat King's Cake

A popular Epiphany tradition in many cultures, the King's Cake (or King Cake) is a sweet cake in which a small figure of the baby Jesus is hidden. Searching for the baby Jesus in the cake imitates the Magi's search for the baby Jesus. You can find great recipes for King's Cake, along with some cultural background, over at Catholic Cuisine.

EDGE (Grades 6-8)

CHICAGO MARCH FOR LIFE

On **Sunday, January 13th**, the *March for Life* will be taking place in Chicago. If there are any Jr. High teens interested in participating in this march, please contact Ana Guerrero at anapaunavarro@yahoo.com for additional details.

EDGE CLASSES

EDGE will resume after Christmas break on **Monday, January 7th**.

6th GRADE RETREATS

Just a reminder that our 6th Retreat for EDGE is the Saturday following the resuming of classes in the New Year. **On Saturday, January 12th**, there will be two sessions to choose from: either-8:45/11:45 AM or 12:45/3:45 PM. **Permission forms will be mailed out to families just before the close of 2018 as well as be available online on our Jr. High web site. Additionally, a *Constant Contact* will be sent out (with a link to the form) around the same time as the mailing.**

Please remember to send a snack, to share, with your teen the day of the retreat.

CORRECTION ON DATE

The Knights of Columbus annual ***Free Throw Contest*** flyers that were sent home from EDGE had an incorrect date on them. Please know that the correct date for this event is-January 24th. All other information on the flyer is correct.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS (Grades 9-12)

Teen Sunday Nights: Any and All high school teens are invited to our Sunday Night Youth Group which starts on January 13th from 6:30-8:15 pm in the PLC. We will have food, faith and fun! Please join us and feel free to invite your friends!

Mission Trip Orientation Meeting for those teens signed up for the trip will be offered on Jan. 13th at Noon or Jan. 15th at 7pm in the PLC. This meeting is for both the teen and at least one parent to attend.

Teen Worship Band is forming. We are still in need of a guitar player. Please contact [Dave](#) if interested or have a question.

LIGHT Winter Quarter begins Feb. 3rd. Deadline to sign-up for courses and the Search Retreat is Jan. 22nd.

For more information and to sign-up for our e-newsletter, visit our website at <https://olmercy.com/formation/light/>

Have a wonderful & blessed Christmas & New Year!

Caring for the Mind, Body and Spirit

Declutter Your Diet

The new year has arrived. How are your goals and intentions to improve your health coming along? If you think you need to re-think or revise your new year's goals – consider making SMART goals.

Instead of making vague resolutions, SMART goal setting helps you create a path toward certain objectives and is one of the effective tools for achieving goals. S.M.A.R.T. goal setting stands for Specific – Measurable-Attainable-Relevant-Timely.

Decluttering your home may help you to relax while decluttering your work environment may help you to focus more and be less stressed. Have you thought about decluttering your diet so that you are more likely to eat healthier? Ways to achieve this is to get rid of distractions, tuning out bad advice and simplifying your kitchen.

Before starting a new diet or making any changes, it is advised to consult with your physician in case any medical condition you have may be affected by it. Be aware that there is conflicting nutrition advice coming from a variety of sources. Keep in mind that eating healthy is a lifestyle change. One of the best ways to consume a healthy blend of proteins, fats and carbohydrates is to remember the formula: a half plate of fruits and vegetables; a quarter plate of lean protein; a quarter plate of carbohydrates and a sprinkle of healthy fats. Try to eat this way at most of your meals.

The current recommendation for added sugar per day is 25 grams. That is about the amount in a cup of sweetened vanilla almond milk. Most people get much more than that because sugar is put into foods during processing and preparations. Start to read the ingredient list of the food items you use to see if added sugar is in the top three ingredients. There are over sixty aliases for sweeteners. Look for ingredients that end in '-ose' and ones that contain the word 'syrup' or 'juice'. The concerns of taking in too much sugar is that it harms arteries and organs, lowers the good HDL cholesterol and can promote weight gain.

Making these few changes are the start to a healthier eating pattern. Use the SMART goal setting method to help you make changes and get started. Consulting with a registered dietician may give you the boost you need and help you to sort out the facts from the fiction when it comes to healthy eating. Wishing you healthy eating in 2019! (Source: Prevention January 2019)

Pastoral Care Concerns

If you or someone you know is in need of the Anointing of the Sick sacrament, would like to be put on the prayer list or would like a visit from clergy or a pastoral care minister, please contact the office at 630-851-3444.

If you or someone you know is homebound and would like Communion brought to the home or is in need of support or resources for grief, mental health challenges, health care issues or life transitions, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Director of Pastoral Care at 630-851-3444, extension 403 or at jolenel@olmercy.com.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast



Join the Knights for a delicious pancake breakfast Sunday, January 13th from 8:00am to 12:30pm in the PLC Gym.



Menu:

Pancakes

Eggs

Sausage

Fruit

Coffee, Tea & Juice

Ticket Prices (at the door – no advanced sales)

Adults: \$5.00

Children: \$3.00 (10 and under)

Children under 3 no charge

All profits will help support our Seminarians:

Parishioner, Dave Diesem and Intern, Senovio Sarabia, Jr.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE

January 19 & 20

The **St. Vincent de Paul** truck will be in our parking lot the weekend of **September 15th and September 16th** for our **Clothing Drive!!**

We will accept.....Clothing, shoes, linens and books in good or bad condition. Unusable clothing, shoes, linens and even books generate income for the needy because they are sold for rags or in bulk.

No baby equipment such as cribs, walkers, strollers, playpens, etc. **ALL BABY CLOTHES ACCEPTED!**

Small housewares and electronics – dishes, glassware, utensils, toasters, blenders, coffee makers, radios, cd players etc. **SORRY NO TELEVISIONS.**

For furniture and large item donations please call 630-231-4658 to schedule a home pickup at a later date or email us at – saintvincentdonate@gmail.com.

Your donations go to the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shops where much of your donations are given away free to needy families in the community. Some are sold at reasonable prices at the thrift shops so that needy families can shop with dignity. “Proceeds” from the thrift shops go into a general assistance fund where St. Vincent de Paul Conferences at the churches help families with rent, mortgage or utility assistance.

Thanks for your generous donations!
Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Got questions about life
try alpha

Tuesdays & Thursdays Starting Jan 22 or Jan 24

no charge free childcare bring a friend

Learn more or register at olmercy.com/alpha

alpha is GOOD FOOD TALK DISCUSSION

Connect with zara zara@olmercy.com 331-707-5381 with any inquiries

Robert H. Weaver Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

All boys and girls aged 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the Robert H. Weaver Knights of Columbus #12005 Free Throw Championship. This local event will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2019, 7:00 pm in the **Our Lady of Mercy Parish Life Center.**

Participants will compete in their respective age divisions, with the winners advancing to district, region and state competitions. All contestants at this local event will be recognized for their participation. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent For additional information call (630) 978-1536.

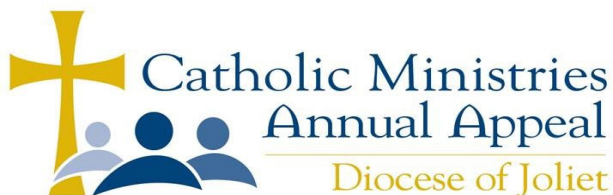
Parish Sacrificial Giving

Fiscal Year-to-Date Information (as of 12/23/18)

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Actual Year-to-Date Collections: | \$ | 821,760 |
| Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget: | \$ | 806,000 |
| Amount in Excess of Budget: | \$ | 15,760 |
| 12/23/18 Sunday Collection: | \$ | 40,653 |
| Weekly Sunday Goal: | \$ | 31,000 |
| Amount in Excess of Goal: | \$ | 9,653 |

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Parish
in your will and estate planning.

Thank you for your generosity!!



Prayerfully consider your support of the 2019 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

The Diocese of Joliet is mailing information about the 2019 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) to all registered parishioners this month. As you know, the CMAA supports 30 ministries that benefit every parish in the diocese, including ours, and are *Signs of Hope* to our brothers and sisters most in need.

Our parish's goal for the 2019 CMAA is \$133,400. Please remember that 70 percent of any amount we raise over goal will be returned to us for our use. This is a great opportunity for our parish! Please review the materials you receive and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

If you do not receive a mailing from the diocese about the CMAA, please contact the parish office.

GEMS

HOW ABOUT STARTING OFF THE NEW YEAR BY GETTING GOOD SLEEP?

Poor sleep quality is linked to cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's. Breathing disorders, such as sleep apnea, also put older people at higher risk for memory problems and dementia. Several medical studies have found that treating sleep apnea can help delay memory problems.

January will bring in the new year, and begins with our annual Chili Cookoff on Wednesday, January 11 at noon in the PLC so this is the perfect time to prepare some of your favorite chili recipe for sharing and voting (for bragging rights as "best chili recipe").

Also, please consider bringing one non perishable food item to our next meeting in support of the Food Bank benefiting needy folks in our area.

If you haven't already paid your 2019 membership dues, please do so because your dues are used to help defray the cost of our monthly luncheon meetings.

Are you interested in the OLM Bridge club, contact Willie at 630-898-1999 for more information.

The OLM card group is seeking new participants, email Ann at ANNC1001@aol.com for more information.

Critics Corner movie club...contact Pat at 630-585-6437 for information.

If you aren't receiving reminder email messages about our monthly meetings or if you have any questions,, please contact Phyllis Anderson at phyllisanderson5027@yahoo.com.

Please pray for our sick GEMS members.



Happy New Year!

catholic values.
catholic faith.

OPEN HOUSE

WE TEACH MORE

**ALL SAINTS
CATHOLIC
ACADEMY**

Text placeholder

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• • •

**COME SEE OUR AWESOME SCHOOL &
EXPERIENCE OUR COMMUNITY AT OUR OPEN HOUSE!**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27TH FROM 1-3PM

1155 Aurora Avenue, Naperville - www.ascacademy.org

follow us

**Our Lady of Mercy
Weekend Masses
January 12 & 13**

Fr. Mark to preach at all Masses.

Saturday: 4:00p Fr Mark Bernhard

Sunday: 7:30a Fr Don McLaughlin/ Dcn Tony Martini

9:00a Fr. Mark Bernhard/Dcn Art Tiongson

10:45a Fr Don McLaughlin/Dcn Mike Plese

12:30p Fr Don McLaughlin/Dcn Phil Rehmer

5:30p Fr Mark Bernhard/Dcn Tim Kueper

**AURORA CENTRAL CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**

1255 N. Edgelawn Drive • Aurora, IL
60506

(630) 907-0095 • fax (630) 907-1076

www.auroracentral.com

Placement Exam
On Saturday, January 12, 2019

All 8th grade students are invited to take the Placement Exam at Aurora Central Catholic High School. Students are asked to arrive at 7:45 a.m. The exam will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. and will conclude at approximately 12:00 p.m. You may sign-up online at www.auroracentral.com/placementexam

Exam fee: \$30.00

A Tradition of Catholic Educational Excellence Since 1926
Madonna • Aurora Central Catholic • Roncalli

Parish Activities for the Week

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| SUNDAY | January 6 | |
| 7:30-10:30a | CRHP Men's Formation | Rm 114 |
| 9:00 & 10:45a | Nursery | Rm 108 |
| 6:00-9:00p | CRHP | Rm 114 |
| 6:30-8:30p | Young Adult Fellowship | Rm 211 |
| 7:00-9:00p | Adult Men's Basketball | MPR |
| MONDAY | January 7 | |
| 8:30-6:00p | Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel |
| 4:30-5:45p | RE Class | PLC |
| 6:00-6:30p | Benediction | Church |
| 6:30-8:00p | Edge | PLC |
| TUESDAY | January 8 | |
| 8:30-9:00a | Coffee And... | Ministry Rm |
| 9:00-4:00p | Art & Environment | Narthex/Church |
| 4:30-5:45p | RE Class | PLC |
| 7:00-9:00p | Parish Leaders Mtg | Church/Ministry Rm |
| 7:00-9:00p | Adult Alpha Small Grp Trng | Rm 114 |
| WEDNESDAY | January 9 | |
| 9:00-4:00p | Art & Environment | Church/Narthex |
| 12:00-3:00p | Gems Mtg | MPR |
| 4:30-5:45p | RE Class | PLC |
| 6:30-7:45p | RE Class | PLC |
| THURSDAY | January 10 | |
| 8:30-6:00p | Eucharistic Adoration | Chapel |
| 6:30-9:30p | Alpha Team Trng | Rm 208 |
| 7:00-8:30p | RCIA | Rm 217 |
| 7:30-9:00p | Knights of Columbus Mtg | Rm 114 |
| FRIDAY | January 11 | |
| 12:00-2:00p | Spanish Ministry | Ministry Rm |
| 6:00-10:00p | Crafty Souls | Rm 124 |
| SATURDAY | January 12 | |
| 7:00-8:00a | Fit Shepherds | Parish Grounds |
| 8:15-10:15a | Mary's Squad | Rm 208 |
| 8:45-11:45a | 6th Grade Retreat | MPR |
| 12:45-3:45p | 6th Grade Retreat | MPR |
| 3:00-4:00p | Respect Life Mtg | Rm 110 |
| 3:00-3:50p | Reconciliation | Narthex |
| SUNDAY | January 13 | |
| 8:00-12:30p | K of C Pancake Breakfast | MPR |
| 8:00-10:30a | Summoned Men of Faith | Rm 114 |
| 9:00 & 10:45a | Nursery | Rm 108 |
| 10:30-11:30a | Peer Ministry Team Mtg | Rm 211 |
| 12:00-1:00p | Mission Trip Orientation | Rm 217 |
| 6:30-8:30p | Teen Sunday | MPR |

grow
YOUR ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS
VIA THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE KIOSK

Choose from books, pamphlets, CDs and booklets. Suggested free will donations listed below may be placed in the payment slot.

Suggested donations
CDs: \$4 or 3 CDs for \$11 • Booklets: \$3
Books: \$5 or as marked • Pamphlets: 50¢ [Please Donate Here](#)

**CDs \$4
Booklets \$3
Books \$5
Pamphlets \$.50**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm; Reconciliation services held seasonally.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Contact the Parish Office so we may help you in any way possible.

HOSPITALIZATION: If you anticipate a hospitalization or are admitted to an area hospital and would like a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister, please notify the parish office.

BAPTISMS: Registered parishioners wishing their child baptized must attend a parent meeting held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Baptisms are held at 12 noon the first Saturday of the month and at 2:00 p.m. the second Sundays of the month. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent.

WEDDINGS: The bride, groom or either set of parents must be registered members of the parish for at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding. Weddings may be scheduled no less than six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. Contact Diane Reiter, ext. 221.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome you! Please register by attending our “New Parishioner Registration/Welcoming” meeting the last Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. For more info call: 851-3444, ext. 221.

HOSPITALITY: “Hospitality” weekend is held in the Parish Life Center Multi Purpose Room after all Saturday/Sunday Masses on the last full weekend of each month (excluding December).

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Voicemail-ext. 400

CHURCH NAME AND NUMBER—

The Church of Our Lady of Mercy #512124

ADDRESS—

701 S. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60504

PHONE—

630-851-3444

CONTACT PERSON—

Diane - Ext. 221

SOFTWARE—

Microsoft Publisher 2002

PRINTER—

Acrobat 6.0

TRANSMISSION—

Via Email
Day: Tuesday

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT—

1 through 11

SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN—

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS—

Fed Ex: Deliver inside Door B
on the North side of Church