



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

OUR VISION: TO OFFER EVERY PERSON A LIFE-CHANGING ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS, GROW DISCIPLES, AND SEND THEM ON MISSION.

PARISH PRIESTS

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

TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Rev. Mr. Senovio Sarabia, Jr.

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

Schedule varies. Consult the Mass Schedule in the bulletin or website.

CONFESSIONS

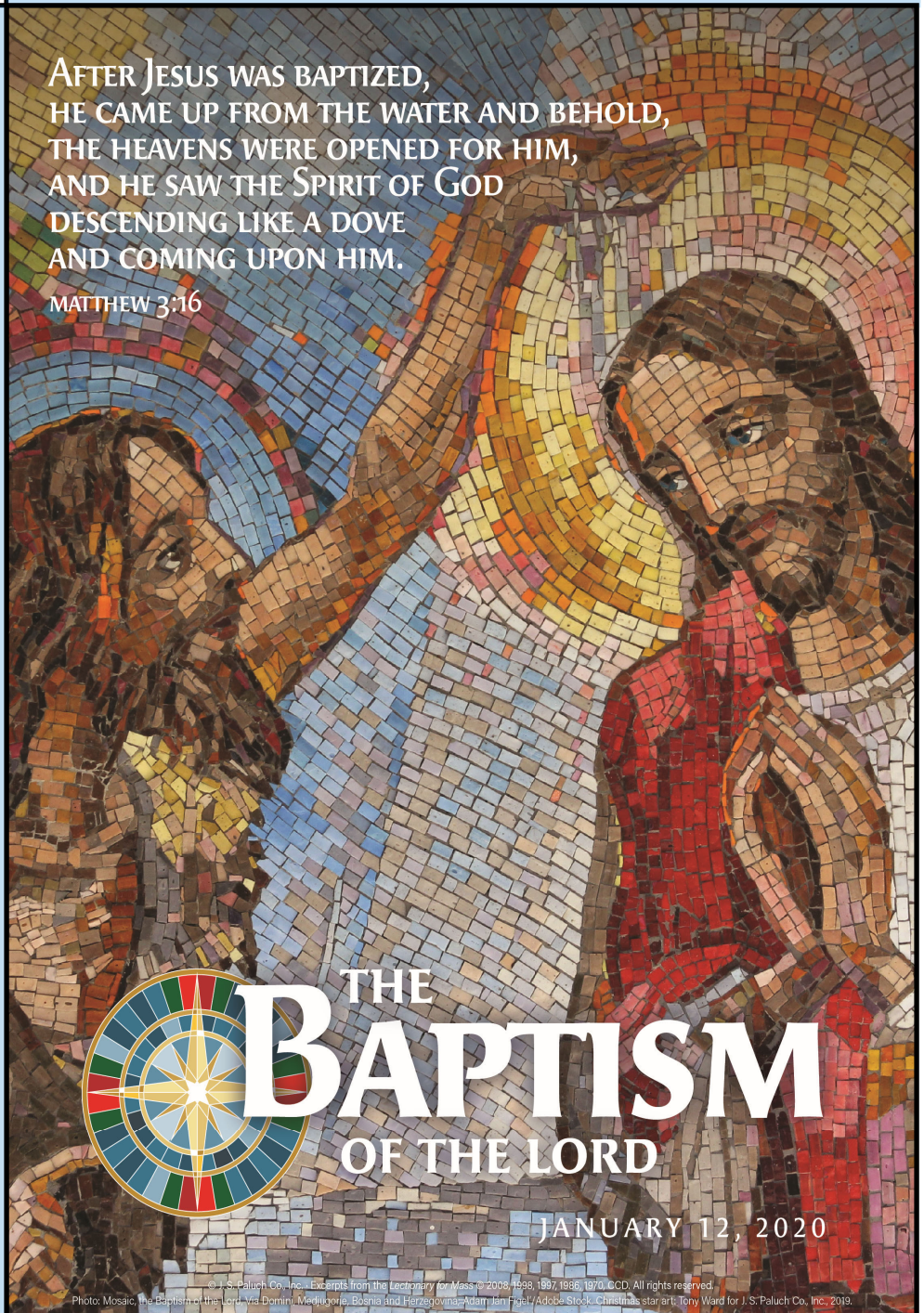
Saturday.....3:00-3:45pm
1st Fridays of the Month.....8:30-9:00am
Or by Appointment

PRAYER CHAPEL

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

AFTER JESUS WAS BAPTIZED,
HE CAME UP FROM THE WATER AND BEHOLD,
THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED FOR HIM,
AND HE SAW THE SPIRIT OF GOD
DESCENDING LIKE A DOVE
AND COMING UPON HIM.

MATTHEW 3:16



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 12, 2020



**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK.....
AKA Chardonnay W(hines)!**

Today's feast of the Baptism of Jesus ends the Christmas season in the church liturgical calendar. I suspect that the vast majority of you have long ago taken down Christmas decorations. If you have waited until now to take them down, good for

you! Some people leave their Christmas decorations up until February 2, which is the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. Nevertheless, back to today's feast.

Did you ever wonder why Jesus was baptized? He was sinless, so why did he submit to baptism? Matthew tells us in the gospel today that Jesus requested John to baptize him. First, unlike the baptism we received, John's baptism was a Jewish ritual to prepare for the end time, which John said was coming quickly. In addition to changing one's life in a positive way, this kind of baptism was also an entry rite for those who wanted to follow the teaching of John the Baptist. Jesus was portrayed as being attracted to John the Baptist and his message. Matthew makes it clear that the situation is awkward, which both Jesus and John recognize. But as soon as Jesus emerges from the waters of baptism, the real meaning of the event becomes clear. His identity as God's beloved Son is confirmed by the Holy Spirit and proclaimed by the voice of God, declaring that Jesus is God's beloved Son. In a real way, Jesus' baptism can be seen as inaugurating Jesus into a ministry that will begin immediately. This confirmation of Jesus' divine ministry fulfills the Old Testament prophet's proclamations. The next step for Jesus will be his confrontation with the devil in the wilderness. There, he will be challenged to prove his identity.

While Christian baptism we have received frees us from original sin, it does much more than that! Quoting from the baptismal ritual book: *"Baptism is, above all, the sacrament of that faith by which men and women, enlightened by the Spirit's grace, respond to the gospel of Christ....Further, baptism is the sacrament by which men and women are incorporated into the Church, built into a house where God lives, in the Spirit, into a holy nation and a royal priesthood."* In other words, our baptism is our entry rite for those who want to follow Jesus and his teachings. And, as Jesus commissioned his apostles to *"Go make disciples of all nations..."* at our baptism we are commissioned to do the same.

The vast majority of us were baptized as infants and likely do not realize that making disciples of Jesus isn't just the calling of priests and religious. ALL who are baptized Christian are supposed to be making disciples! The feast of The Baptism of Jesus is a wake up call for all of us to be about doing what we are commissioned to do!

PARISH PRIESTS

Fr. Don McLaughlin, Pastor
630-851-3444, Ext. 228
frdon@olmercy.com

Fr. Mark Bernhard, Parochial Vicar
630-851-3444, Ext. 226
frmark@olmercy.com

PASTORAL STAFF

Frank Sauter, Dir. of Music Ministries
331-707-5379 franks@olmercy.com

Jolene LeRoy, RN, Pastoral Care
331-707-5380 jolenel@olmercy.com

Zara Tan, Evangelization & Communications
331-707-5381 zara@olmercy.com

- Dcn Tim Kueper** tkueper5@yahoo.com
- Dcn Tony Martini** tonym@olmercy.com
- Dcn Mike Plese** deaconmikeplese@gmail.com
- Dcn Phil Rehmer** deaconphil@rehmer.com
- Dcn Art Tiongson** hope2640@yahoo.com
- Dcn Bob Vavra** rjv@att.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mary Jo Trapani, Dir. of RE (K-5) & RCIC
331-707-5378 maryjot@olmercy.com

Candy Rice, Middle School Youth Ministry
331-707-5376 candyr@olmercy.com

Dave Miserendino, HS & Young Adult
331-707-5371 davem@olmercy.com

Jean Marie Palasz, RE Secretary (K-5) & RCIC
331-707-5369 jeanp@olmercy.com

Jean Rehmer, RE Secretary (6-12) & RCIA
331-707-5375 jeanr@olmercy.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Bob Gancarz, Business Manager
331-707-5370 robertg@olmercy.com

Diane Reiter, Secretary/Receptionist
630-851-3444 dianer@olmercy.com

Lydia Schmitt, Business Office Assistant
331-707-5377 lydias@olmercy.com

Len Eickhoff, Buildings & Grounds
630-631-1676 lene@olmercy.com

SEMINARIAN INTERN

Rev. Mr. Senovio Sarabia, Jr.
ssarabia@usml.edu

Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, January 13 - St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor

8:00 AM † William Leroy Davis, by Jeannine Malone
 8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration to 6:00 PM
 6:00 PM Benediction

Tuesday, January 14 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM † Paul Miller, by Mark & Amy Miller

Wednesday, January 15 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Int Alphonse Rajasekhar & Family

Thursday, January 16 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Int Jonathan MacDonald
 8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration to 6:00 PM

Friday, January 17 - St Anthony, Abbot

8:00 AM † Thomas Palmer, by the Medina Family

Saturday, January 18 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

3:00-3:45 PM Reconciliation
 4:00 PM **Vigil - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 † Paz Dagang, by Children & Grandchildren
 † Mike & Carole Brogan, by Jody Brisson

Sunday, January 19 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family
 † Valerie Cassano, by the Shea Family
 9:00 AM † Wayne Miller, by Norma Srock
 † Barbara Saurer, by Roy Saurer
 10:45 AM † Jo Ann Doughty, the Aeppli/Hurtado Families
 Int Mendys Family, by Pabich Family
 12:30 PM Int Marnelli Jabonero, by Agnes Schlobohm
 5:30 PM † Paz Dagang, by Children & Grandchildren

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. The Sick | 10. Louise Touvell |
| 3. Ailani Banuelos | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Mel Schmudde | 12. Richard Ceci |
| 5. Mason's Well Being | 13. Cecilia & Monty Sharpe |
| 6. Deacon Bob Vavra | 14. Good Health for Ricky |
| 7. R.A.P. | 15. The Pluskota Family |
| 8. The Deceased | 16. The Homeless |

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.



**The next
 Charismatic Prayer &
 Healing Service
 will be
 Saturday, January 18
 at 6:30 pm.**

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
 Wayne Draper
 Ailani Banulos
 Julia Schremp
 Billy Walowski
 Kathy Walowski
 Flo Paprzycki

Helga Manglinong
 Michael Dandan
 Charlene Oates
 Maria Luna
 William Nimmow
 Jill Brisceno
 Lexi Brisceno
 Michael Butler
 Mary Ellen Reiter
 Hailey Hartnett
 Thomas F. Sterling
 Henrietta Pineda

La Moua
 Valerie Plesha
 Deacon Bob Vavra
 Hedy Sterling
 Christopher Rich
 Diane Pazos
 Diane Ramonas
 Diane Singer
 Joyce Craig
 Bob Chima Mary Ubi
 John Swanston
 Baby Otto

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.



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

Con la fiesta de hoy del Bautismo de Jesús termina la temporada de Navidad en el calendario litúrgico de la iglesia. Sospecho que la gran mayoría de ustedes ha quitado hace mucho tiempo las decoraciones de Navidad. Si haz esperado hasta ahora para quitarlos, ¡bueno para ti! Algunas personas dejan sus decoraciones de Navidad hasta el 2 de febrero, que es la fiesta de la Presentación de Jesús en el templo. Sin embargo, volvamos a la fiesta de hoy.

¿Alguna vez te preguntaste por qué Jesús fue bautizado? No tenía pecado, entonces, ¿por qué se sometió al bautismo? Mateo nos dice hoy en el evangelio que Jesús le pidió a Juan que lo bautizara. Primero, a diferencia del bautismo que recibimos, el bautismo de Juan fue un ritual Judío para prepararse para el fin de los tiempos, que Juan dijo que vendría rápidamente. Además de cambiar la vida de uno, de una manera positiva, este tipo de bautismo también fue un rito de entrada para aquellos que querían seguir las enseñanzas de Juan el Bautista. Jesús fue descrito como atraído por Juan el Bautista y su mensaje. Mateo deja en claro que la situación es incómoda, lo que tanto Jesús como Juan reconocen. Pero tan pronto como Jesús emerge de las aguas del bautismo, el verdadero significado del evento se vuelve claro. Su identidad como el Hijo amado de Dios es confirmada por el Espíritu Santo y proclamada por la voz de Dios, declarando que Jesús es el Hijo amado de Dios. De una manera real, el bautismo de Jesús puede verse como la inauguración de Jesús en un ministerio que comenzará de inmediato. Esta confirmación del ministerio divino de Jesús cumple las proclamaciones del profeta del Antiguo Testamento. El siguiente paso para Jesús será su confrontación con el diablo en el desierto. Allí, será desafiado a probar su identidad.

Si bien el bautismo Cristiano que hemos recibido nos libera del pecado original, ¡hace mucho más que eso! Citando del libro de rituales bautismales: *El bautismo es, sobre todo, el sacramento de esa fe mediante la cual hombres y mujeres, iluminados por la gracia del Espíritu, responden al evangelio de Cristo... Además, el bautismo es el sacramento por el cual hombres y mujeres son incorporados a la Iglesia, incluidos en una casa donde Dios vive, en el Espíritu, en una nación santa y un sacerdocio real*". En otras palabras, nuestro bautismo es nuestro rito de entrada para aquellos que desean seguir a Jesús y sus enseñanzas. Y, como Jesús comisionó a sus apóstoles "Vayan a hacer discípulos a todas las naciones..." en nuestro bautismo se nos comisionó a hacer lo mismo.

La gran mayoría de nosotros fuimos bautizados de niños y probablemente no nos demos cuenta de que hacer discípulos de Jesús no es solo el llamado de sacerdotes y religiosos. ¡Se supone que TODOS los Cristianos bautizados están haciendo discípulos! ¡La fiesta del Bautismo de Jesús es un llamado de atención para que todos nosotros estemos haciendo lo que se nos ha encomendado hacer!

Padre Don

ESTE ES MI HIJO MUY AMADO

Con la celebración del Bautismo del Señor este domingo concluye el tiempo de Navidad. En las lecturas vemos más de una epifanía o manifestación del Espíritu de Dios en Jesús, sólo que esta vez ya no como niño, sino como adulto. El Bautismo de Jesús es también la inauguración de su misión profética y de la era mesiánica.

En la lectura de hoy Isaías describe al Mesías elegido por Dios sobre el cual ha puesto su Espíritu. En los Hechos de los Apóstoles Pedro dice que "Dios ungió con el poder del Espíritu Santo a Jesús de Nazaret" (Hechos 10:38). Finalmente, en la proclamación del Evangelio de Mateo el Bautismo de Jesús en el agua casi pasa desapercibido. El momento crucial ocurre cuando el Espíritu de Dios desciende sobre Jesús y una voz del cielo viene como un eco de las palabras de Isaías: "Éste es mi Hijo muy amado, en quien tengo mis complacencias" (Mateo 3:17).

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LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Sal 116
(115):12-19; Mc 1:14□20

Martes: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mc 1:21□28

Miércoles: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Sal 40
(39):2, 5, 7-10;
Mc 1:29□39

Jueves: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Sal 44 (43):10-11, 14-15, 24-25;
Mc 1:40□45

Viernes: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Sal 89
(88):16-19; Mc 2:1□12

Sábado: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a;
Sal 21 (20):2-7; Mc 2:13□17

Domingo: Is 49:3, 5-6; Sal 40 (39):2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**OFFERING GOD GLORY
AND THANKSGIVING**

**WEDNESDAY JAN 22ND
7PM | CHURCH**

Magnify
AN
ADORATION
PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENT


READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14□20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21□28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29□39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40□45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1□12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13□17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON

This Sunday's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord closes the Christmas season. In the scriptures we see one more epiphany, or manifestation, of the Spirit of God in Jesus—but this time it is as an adult, rather than as a child. Jesus' baptism also serves as the inauguration of his prophetic mission and the messianic age.

Today's reading from Isaiah describes God's chosen Messiah, upon whom God's spirit rests. In the Acts of the Apostles Peter says that "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power" (Acts 10:38). Finally, in the proclamation from Matthew's Gospel Jesus' baptism in water goes almost unnoticed. The crucial moment comes when the Spirit of God comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven echoes the words of Isaiah: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the LORD upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

Psalms — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).

Join the adventure

olmercy.com/alpha

Alpha

alpha soundbites


Why did Jesus die?

Most leaders who've influenced nations or even changed the world are remembered for the impact of their lives. Jesus, who more than any other person changed the face of world history, is remembered for His death even more than His life. Have you wondered why there is such a concentration on the death of Jesus? What's the difference between His death and the death of a war hero? Why did He die? What did it achieve? Why is it important? What does it mean? To discover answers to these questions try Alpha.


Connect with Zara to learn more 331-707-5381
zara@olmercy.com. #TryAlpha

SIGN UP NOW @ www.olmercy.com/alpha

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

"IDENTIFY THE THREAT, AND ACT"
father mark bernhard

JAN 24 & JAN 31 @ PLC from 6:30pm thru 8:30pm. \$30 total for both date nights!
Childcare provided. Register online WWW.OLMERCY.COM.





**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
(Grades K-5)**

*DIOCESAN CATECHIST CONFERENCE
WITH JOHN GROSSMAN
JESUS IN THE CLASSROOM*

All current catechists and all adults discerning a call to become a catechist are greatly encouraged to attend this special gathering of faith formation!!! Together, let's deepen and energize our vocation, **"To offer life-changing encounters with Jesus, grow disciples, and send them on mission."**
(Our Lady of Mercy Parish Vision Statement, 2019)

- WHERE:** *St. Petronille Parish, Glen Ellyn, IL*
DATE: *Wednesday, February 12, 2020*
TIME: *Dinner 6:00p , Presentation 7:00-8:00p*
COST: *FREE!*
Paid for by West DuPage Deanery Dues
RSVP: maryjot@plmercy.com,
Deadline: Noon, Jan. 30!

**R. E. PARENTS & CATECHISTS
PLEASE NOTE**

*Because of this special event, our Wed., Feb. 12
R.E. Sessions are cancelled!*

EDGE (Grades 6-8)

EDGE NIGHTS

- | | | |
|------------|--|--|
| January 11 | 7/8 th Grade RETREAT-9/Noon | |
| January 13 | PARENT/TEEN NIGHT | PARENET /TEEN NIGHT |
| January 27 | 6 th -The Creed Part I | 7/8 th -Self Identity & Self Esteem |

PARENT/TEEN NIGHT AT EDGE On **Monday, January 13th at 6:30/8 PM**, we are asking all parents of EDGE Teens to come with their teen that evening. Fr. Mark & a member of our Aurora Police Dept. will be presenting the topic of, *"Social Media: Looking through the Eyes of our Faith."*

EDGE PLUS

Thursday, January 23 Fleece for A.D.O.P.T.

Anyone who may have extra fleece to donate to the project, please drop off at the RE Office. It will be appreciated!

**SENIOR HIGH
YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS
(Grades 9-12)**

L.I.G.H.T. Mini-Courses for Term #1 will begin Jan. 12th! Teens NEW to L.I.G.H.T. will need to get their folder, bible and journal notebook before your session begins on Jan. 12th. Please see the table at the top of the stairs on the second floor. Registration for Term #2 and 3 remains open so please contact the office to sign-up for a course!

Mission Trip Orientation meetings will be on Jan. 12th from 12:00-12:45 pm OR Jan. 14th from 7:00-7:45 pm. in the PLC. All teens attending the mission trip (and at least one parent) are asked to attend ONE of these meetings.

Teen & Parent Night will be Sunday, January 26th from 7:30-9:00 PM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Naperville. This event features a nationally known Catholic Youth Ministry speaker, Joel Stepanek. All our teens in L.I.G.H.T. and their parents are asked to attend. Get more details on the L.I.G.H.T. webpage.



AN 8-SESSION JOURNEY TO A MORE ABUNDANT PHYSICAL & SPIRITUAL LIFE

A Well-being Encouragement Group – wouldn't that be great?

Join us for **Come Alive!**, a Christ-led small group program that **makes the connection** between our **spiritual and physical well-being**. In our time together, you'll discover spiritual practices to strengthen your relationship with God and **gain new joy filled perspectives** as you weave healthy activities into the rhythm of your day. Our focus is on **HOW** to change behaviors in the rhythm of your life for the long-term, to encourage each other, and to give grace when we stumble.

If you were not able to make the informational meetings this weekend after the 9am, 10:45am and 12:30pm Masses – it is not too late to join the Come Alive! program for men and women, 18 years and older. If you would like to participate, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Director of Pastoral Care at 331-707-5380 or at [joleneel@olmercy.com](mailto:jolenel@olmercy.com).

Open HEARTS Ministry

The ministry focuses on mental and emotional health and wellness. As one of the pastoral care ministries of the parish, the ministry offers Hope, Empathy, Awareness, Renewal, Trust and Support.

The next opportunity to come together in a safe and sacred space that honors confidentiality to support one another is Monday, January 20 at 7:00PM in Room 114 in the Parish Life Center.

If you have questions about the ministry, please contact Janice Hurtado Aeppli at 312-217-7872 or at jaeppli@gmail.com.

A Prayer for the New Year!

(Prospect Hill Co. adapted)

Come, Holy Spirit,
Spirit of God, Spirit of the Risen Christ,
Be with us today and always.
Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.
Be our Strength, our Courage,
And our Sanctifier.

May this new year be a time
Of deep spiritual growth for us,
A time for welcoming Your graces and gifts,
A time for forgiving freely and
Unconditionally,
At time for growing in virtue and goodness.

Come, Holy Spirit,
Be with us today and always. Amen.

Giving

WARMS THE HEART

DONATE BLOOD THIS WINTER

Saturday
January

18

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

Contact 800-786-4483 or visit versiti.org/IL

Knights of Columbus Council #12005
Blood Drive

Located at Our Lady of Mercy
701 S. Eola Rd. Aurora

To make an appointment to donate, please visit www.versiti.org/IL or call 800-786-4483
OR Contact Dennis Kalata at denkalata@me.com

To prepare for your donation~ Eat Well ~ Stay Hydrated~Bring Photo ID

Walk-ins Welcome and Appointments Honored

Donate in January and receive a coupon* for \$10 off your next order at Noodles and Company in honor of National Blood Donor Month!

*while supplies last



SAVE THE DATE

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) Renewal Weekend

Men's Renewal Weekend
February 29 & March 1, 2020

Women's Renewal Weekend
March 7 & 8, 2020

LENT 2020

Men's Contact | Bob Maxwell
CRHPOLM@gmail.com
630.962.8464

Women's Contact | Imelda Orig
CRHPOLM@gmail.com
312.403.1644



Women in Faith Begins

January 22nd
9:00 to 11:00pm
Room 114

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 **Saturday**, January 18, 2020, 9:00 am 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. The District competition will take place immediately after our local competition has ended.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For additional information call (630) 978-1536.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Sunday 1/5th
8am thru 12:30pm in MPR

**All profits will support
The 2020 Diocesan
March For Life Pilgrimage
to Washington, DC**

**ON THE MENU ARE pancakes, eggs,
sausage, fruit, coffee, tea & juice.
We hope to see you there!**

FREE - CHILDREN UNDER 3YRS
\$3 - CHILDREN 10YRS & UNDER
\$5 - ADULTS



Women at the Well

*Sir, give me
this water for I
get thirsty.*

Join us
for an
evening of
fellowship with
women of the parish
centered on Scripture
and living our faith

**Friday, January 17
6:30pm - 8:30pm
(PLC) Room 114**

Feel free to bring a snack to
share and your Bible or just
yourself and a friend!!

Please reach out with
any questions

Joana Lopez | joana1.lopez@gmail.com
Cindy Hapke | chapke20@gmail.com



Join the Crafty Souls for a 12 Hour Craft Event!

Bring your favorite project and spend the day
crafting in the MPR of the Parish Life Center.

**Saturday, February 15
9:00 am to 9:00 pm**

\$30 registration fee (covers lunch and dinner)
due Saturday, February 1.

Contact olmcraftysouls@gmail.com for a
registration form.



Parish Sacrificial Giving

Fiscal Year-to-Date Information (as of 12/29/19)

Actual Year-to-Date Collections:	\$	823,803
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget:	\$	832,000
Amount Short of Budget:	\$	(8,197)
12/29/19 Sunday Collection:	\$	32,014
Weekly Sunday Goal:	\$	32,000
Amount in Excess of Goal:	\$	14

Thank you for your generosity!!

Parish Life Center Diocesan Loan Balance as of
December 31, 2019:
\$897,631

***Be Kind and Merciful* through the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal**

All parishioners will receive a mailing from the Diocese of Joliet this month about the 2020 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Our annual appeal is vitally important to not only the diocese, but also to our parish as well. The CMAA supports 30 ministries that benefit every parish and allow us all to *Be Kind and Merciful* to the most vulnerable in our community.

Our parish's goal for the 2020 CMAA is \$146,700 and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. This is a great opportunity for our parish!

Please review the materials and then 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



WANTED: People over 50 years old who would like to join in social interaction with fellow OLM parishioners. This is a great way to make new friends, share experiences and enjoy some delicious luncheon food.

Consider coming to join our group, GEMS, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month and see what we're all about.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held at noon on February 12 at the Parish Life Center (PLC). We will be serving PIZZA and salad. Please consider bringing a dessert to share with everybody.

Also, in true OLM fashion, please consider donating either single or double sized bed sheets for use at Hesus House.

Our GEMS advisory group meets on the first Thursday of each month to formulate plans and ideas for future GEMS activities...come join us...our next meeting will be on February 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the Ministry Room.

Critics Corner Movie Club...contact Pat at 630-585-6437 for information.

Please pray for our sick GEMS members.

2019 Tax Statements...

will be available after all masses the weekend of January 25 & 26. Please stop by the PLC Lobby desk to pick up your statement. This is being done to save on the cost of postage.



Pope St. John Paul II Catholic Academy Open House

Please join us after mass for coffee and donuts and an Open House!
Come and see student artwork and projects and get started on registration for the upcoming school year!

Let's kick off our Catholic Schools Week by showing our support for Pope St. John Paul II Catholic Academy.

North Campus South Campus

706 High Street 601 Talma Street
Aurora, IL 60505 Aurora, IL 60505

Mass: 9a.m. at St Joseph Mass: 10a.m. at OLCG

Open House: 10a.m.-11:30. Open House: 11a.m.-12:30

www.jp2aurora.org @PSJPIIAuroraIL abrummel@jp2aurora.org

Preschool • Elementary School • Middle School

Sunday, January 26th

North Campus: 10a.m.-11:30p.m.

South Campus: 11a.m.-12:30p.m.



Empower Illinois Scholarships

Want real choices for your child's education? Catholic Schools!

The Illinois Invest in Kids Act is designed to help families have a real choice for the best education possible – including scholarships to the area Catholic Schools. Empower Illinois provides full and partial scholarships for qualified families through the Invest in Kids Act.

How do I apply for this scholarship? The application is a two-step process. Click on the Empower Illinois website (www.EmpowerIllinois.org) and complete a brief reservation form on **Wednesday, January 15th beginning at 6:30pm.** The completed form must then be submitted on **Wednesday, January 15th beginning at 7:00pm.** An e-mail will be sent to those who complete the online application process.

Additional information may be found at Empower Illinois (www.EmpowerIllinois.org).

Our Lady of Mercy Weekend Masses January 18 & 19

Fr Don will preach at all Masses.

Saturday:	4:00p	Fr Mark Bernhard/Dcn Phil Rehmer
Sunday:	7:30a	Fr Mark Bernhard/Dcn Tony Martini
	9:00a	Fr Don McLaughlin/Dcn Art Tionson
	10:45a	Fr Mark Bernhard/Dcn Mike Plese
	12:30p	Fr Don McLaughlin/Dcn Tim Kueper
	5:30p	Fr Don McLaughlin/Tony Leazzo (A)

Parish Activities for the Week

SUNDAY	January 12	
7:00-10:30a	Summoned Men of Faith	Rm 204
8:00-10:30a	CRHP Men's Formation	Rm 114
8:00-11:00a	RE Class K-1	PLC
9:00-1:30p	Come Alive! Information Mtg	Ministry Rm
9:00-3:00p	Faith Conversations	Rm 211/213
9:00-1:30p	Light Class	PLC
10:05-11:15a	RCIC Class	PLC
10:30-11:30a	Mission Trip Orientation Mtg	Rm 211
1:30-4:00p	Lector Mtg	Rm 114
1:50-3:00p	Altar Server Trng	Church
7:00-9:00p	Adult Men's Basketball	MPR
MONDAY	January 13	
8:30-6:00p	Art & Environment	Narthex
4:30-5:45p	RE Class	PLC
6:30-8:00p	EDGE	PLC
7:00-9:00p	Boy Scouts	Rm 124
TUESDAY	January 14	
8:30-9:00a	Coffee And...	Ministry Rm
9:00-4:00p	Art & Environment	Church
10:00-4:00p	Loving Hands	Ministry Rm
4:45-6:00p	RE Class	PLC
7:00-8:00p	Mission Trip Orientation	Rm 217
7:00-9:00p	Adult Bible Study	Rm 208
WEDNESDAY	January 15	
4:45-6:00p	RE Class	PLC
6:30-7:45p	RE Class	PLC
7:00-9:00p	St Vincent DePaul Mtg	Rm 114
7:00-8:00p	Baptismal Class	Church
7:00-8:30p	Mary's Squad	Rm 208
7:00-9:00p	Faith Conversations	Rm 211
7:30-9:00p	Finance Council Mtg	Ministry Mtg
THURSDAY	January 16	
10:00-11:00a	Mom's and Tot's	Rm 124
6:30-8:00p	Walking w/Purpose Bible Study	Rm 216
7:00-8:30p	RCIA	Rm 217
7:00-9:00p	Adult Alpha	MPR
FRIDAY	January 17	
6:00-10:00p	Craft Souls	Rm 124
6:30-8:30p	Simbang Gabi Mtg	Rm 217
6:30-9:00p	Women at the Well	Rm 114
SATURDAY	January 18	
7:00-8:00a	Fit Shepherds	Parish Grounds
8:00-12:00p	K of C Blood Drive	Rm 114
8:15-10:15a	Mary's Squad	Rm 208
9:00-12:00p	K of C Free Throw Contest	MPR
6:30-10:00p	Charismatic Prayer Mtg	Church/MPR
SUNDAY	January 19	
8:00-11:00a	RE Class K-1	PLC
10:05-11:15a	RCIC Class	PLC
6:00-9:30p	CRHP Women's Formation	Rm 114
7:00-9:00p	Adult Men's Basketball	MPR

Update Membership Information

Does our Church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?

If you have not already informed the Church Office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the Guide Book & Directory is correct. Please email the change to parishoffice@olmercy.com

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—

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS—

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