



**Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.
Mark 10:51-52**



OUR LADY of MERCY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

30
ORDINARY
TIME

From The Pastor's Desk...

Also Known as Chardonnay W(h)ines!



Hope & Abortion

Early in the freshman year of college, I had a conversation with a young woman at a party about Catholicism, which turned into a conversation about abortion. "I mean, people can do whatever they want with their bodies," she argued. I suspected she was just recycling this statement, among others, which she heard either from a friend or within the culture or both. When I replied by sharing in a respectful and coherent way that abortion kills an innocent life—a child—and not a mere "clump of cells," she led me some space away from this event where she pressed her back against the wall, slid to the ground, and began to sob.

I sat beside her and listened to her story. This woman had a friend who had suffered the horrible tragedy of sexual assault, which then resulted in a pregnancy. The woman I was speaking with had counseled her friend to have an abortion. But now, hearing this biological reality, the doubt and suspicion she felt in her conscience around abortion and over telling her friend to seek one began to surface, and she became deeply afraid and saddened. "I didn't know!" she cried, "If I'd known I wouldn't have done that!"

I listened to this woman share her grief and her regret. Of course, not knowing what she had done in guiding someone to end a perfectly innocent human life diminishes some of her responsibility in the situation and I made sure she knew that. However, she, like many people who get involved with abortion nowadays can hear the many scientifically grounded arguments against abortion and yet feel compelled to reject the evidence and truth they find themselves face-to-face with, and that struggle is chiefly what I want to talk about here after briefly outlining the simple argument against abortion.

It can be broken down like this: 1. We're talking about an organism. 2. With its own *unique* human DNA. 3. *Who* is therefore a human, who, like us, has the right to life, and therefore ought *not* to be killed. Biologically, the life of any animal—human or otherwise—begins at conception, and biology is clear about that. You may hear people talk about "viability" (can he/she breathe on his own), but with honest eyes, that's really just to say, "because this child is *more* helpless against any threat (i.e., we cannot hear her cry if a doctor attacked her, or she cannot breathe without her mother's support, etc.) we have the right to end her life." Well, why? "Because she's not a human person... because she can't breathe without her mom." Hmm... One could also just as easily claim that a human being is not a person until she can walk, talk, or reason. But we know what personhood *comes* with being human, not from being acknowledged by other people as human (justifications for chattel slavery and the Holocaust). And we know this truth even more so as Christians!

But back to the issue at hand: why is it so difficult for advocates of abortion to face the reality of it—that it's the killing of an innocent and helpless child? From my experience, it's because, if they admit they did participate in killing a child (let alone their own child), they don't believe that there is hope for them after such a grave sin; it can simply seem like too much to swallow, especially in our culture where everything is permissible, and nothing is forgivable. But we as Catholics have something—*Someone*—to offer to those facing the reality of their own sin: Jesus Christ. And while I maintain that abortion is the most important civil issue in our time and I wholeheartedly encourage our culture to continue to fight against the civilly permitted horror of abortion, what I hope transpires *most* from us as Christians is the message that, regardless of what anyone has done, **JESUS CHRIST OFFERS MERCY AND NEW LIFE!** And, because of Him, there is **hope** after abortion: hope for the child, hope for the mother, and hope for everyone involved, even that young woman I met at that party.

God Bless, Deacon Tom



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, October 25 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am † Sophie Kerkla, by Carolyn Kerkla
(Live Streamed)
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction
- 6:30 pm † Alberto Norena, by The Hepburn Family
(Live Streamed • Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, October 26 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am † Bob Piwowarczyk, by Family
(Live Streamed)
- 6:30 pm † Mary Rose Stephenson, by Trish Polivka
- 7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until 8:00 PM)

Wednesday, October 27 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00 pm † Sophie Kerkla, by Carolyn Kerkla
(Live Streamed)

Thursday, October 28 - Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles

- 6:30 am † Patricia McMahon, by Chris & Mike Prokell
- 8:00 am † Oommen Koilparambil, by Family
(Live Streamed)
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction

Friday, October 29 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am † Fr. Thomas Tivy, by Ed & Ginny Maher
(Live Streamed)

Saturday, October 30 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 am Int Rubin Manzanares, by Parents
(Live Streamed)
- 9:00am Reconciliation (Until 10:00 AM)
- 1:30 pm Reconciliation (Until 2:30 PM)
- 4:00 pm **Vigil - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**
† Joyce Markus, by Family
† Dcn Bob Vavra, by Family

Sunday, October 31 - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family
† Karin Lange, by Family
- 10:00 am † Austin Chase, by The Kolb Family
(Live Streamed)
- 12:00 pm † Beda & Rosario Carreon, by Family
- 5:30 pm † Jose Soto, by Family



Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The Poor | 9. The Feldman Family |
| 2. The Sick | 10. Ann Borberg |
| 3. Ailani Banuelos | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Ashley Marie Sanchez | 12. Peace |
| 5. An End to Covid | 13. Rosalina Villarivera |
| 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra | 14. Bernice Tokarski |
| 7. Austin Chase | 15. Andrew Acuff |
| 8. The Deceased | 16. The Homeless |

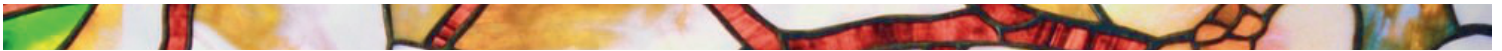
If you wish to have a candle burning for your intention in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, you will find envelopes on the shelf in the Narthex near the Priest's Sacristy or in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Our Lady of Mercy Weekend Masses

October 30 & 31

**Presider or Deacon will preach
at each Masses.**

Saturday	4:00 pm	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Tony Leazzo
Sunday	8:00 am	Fr Don McLaughlin Dcn Tim Kueper
	10:00 am	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Lupe Villarreal
	12:00 pm	Fr Don McLaughlin Dcn Tom Logue
	5:30 pm	Fr James Guarascio



We Pray

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

For our sick, confined and their families.

David Bakke
Ailani Banulos
Robert Ciulla
Michael Dandan
Wayne Draper
Mary Dunbar
Pat Dunne
Jose Ellis
William Gardaphe
Bridget Garry
Connie Hegg
Jim Hegg
Nancy Higgins
Mark Hoeksema
Eric Hoerdemann
Antoinette Humanski
Helen Joseph
Maria Luna

Kristen Manning
Susan Massett
Janice Melisi
Tony & Letty Mendez
Susan Mennenga
Bill Morse
La Moua
Charlene Oates
Flo Paprzycki
Diane Pazos
Valerie Plesha
Julia Schremp
Diane Singer
Hedy Sterling
Thomas F. Sterling
John Swanston
Kathy Walowski

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.

Please let the Parish Office know of names which may be removed from the sick list.

Those in service to our country

TSgt Leah Harvey, USAF
Airman Melanie Hodges, US Navy
Nicholaus Laurie, US Marines
SSG Sean Murphy, USMC
Capt. Tara Trammell, US Army
Roberto Ramos, US Army
Lt. Joshua Puscas, US Navy
SSG Gina Maro, USAF
Juan Gabriel Sindac, USAF
Aaron Godinez, US Marines
SPC Mason Webber, US Army
LC/Cprl Ryan Ludwig, US Marines
Capt. Brian Strohmaier, US Army
Elizabeth Pattermann, US Marine
LTJG Marion Bautista, US Navy
SSG Karla Venegas, US Army
SSG Jeremy Norris, US Army
Capt. Carmen Lockett, US Army
SN Joshua San Diego, US Navy

Desde el Excritorio Del Pastor

¡También conocido como Chardonnay W(h)ines!

Esperanza y Aborto



A principios del primer año de la universidad, tuve una conversación sobre el catolicismo con una joven en una fiesta, que se convirtió en una conversación sobre el aborto. "Quiero decir, la gente puede hacer lo que quiera con sus cuerpos", argumentó. Sospeché que solo estaba reciclando esta declaración, entre otras, que escuchó de un amigo o dentro de la cultura o ambos. Cuando respondí compartiendo de una manera respetuosa y coherente que el aborto mata una vida inocente, un niño, y no un mero "grupo de células", ella se alejó

un poco de este evento donde presionó su espalda contra la pared, se deslizó al suelo y empezó a sollozar.

Me senté a su lado y escuché su historia. Esta mujer tenía una amiga que había sufrido la horrible tragedia de la agresión sexual, que luego resultó en un embarazo. La mujer con la que estaba hablando le había aconsejado a su amiga que se hiciera un aborto. Pero ahora, al escuchar esta realidad biológica, comenzó a aflorar la duda y la sospecha que sentía en su conciencia sobre el aborto y al decirle a su amiga que buscara uno, se sintió profundamente asustada y entristecida. "¡No lo sabía!" gritó, "¡Si hubiera sabido no habría hecho eso!"

Escuché a esta mujer compartir su dolor y su pesar. Por supuesto, no saber lo que había hecho para guiar a alguien a poner fin a una vida humana perfectamente inocente disminuye parte de su responsabilidad en la situación y me aseguré de que ella lo supiera. Sin embargo, ella, como muchas personas que se involucran con el aborto hoy en día, puede escuchar los muchos argumentos científicamente fundamentados contra el aborto y, sin embargo, sentirse obligada a rechazar la evidencia y la verdad con las que se encuentran cara a cara, y esa lucha es principalmente lo que quiero hablar aquí después de esbozar brevemente el simple argumento en contra del aborto.

Se puede desglosar de la siguiente manera: 1. Estamos hablando de un organismo. 2. Con su propio ADN humano *único*. 3. Quien es, por tanto, un ser humano, que, como nosotros, tiene derecho a la vida y, por tanto, *no* debe ser asesinado. Biológicamente, la vida de cualquier animal, humano o no, comienza en la concepción, y la biología lo tiene claro. Es posible que escuchen a la gente hablar sobre "viabilidad" (puede él/ella respirar por sí mismo), pero con ojos honestos, eso es solo para decir, "porque este niño es *más* indefenso ante cualquier amenaza (es decir, no podemos escucharla llorar si un médico la agredió, o no puede respirar sin el apoyo de su madre, etc.) tenemos derecho a acabar con su vida". ¿Bien, por qué? "Porque ella no es una persona humana... porque no puede respirar sin su mamá". Hmm... También se podría afirmar con la misma facilidad que un ser humano no es una persona hasta que pueda caminar, hablar o razonar. Pero sabemos qué condición de persona *viene* con ser humano, no con ser reconocido por otras personas como humano (justificaciones para la esclavitud abierta y el Holocausto). ¡Y conocemos esta verdad aún más como Cristianos!

Pero volviendo al tema que nos ocupa: ¿por qué es tan difícil para los defensores del aborto enfrentar la realidad de que es el asesinato de un niño inocente e indefenso? Según mi experiencia, es porque, si admiten que sí participaron en el asesinato de un niño (y mucho menos de su propio hijo), no creen que haya esperanza para ellos después de un pecado tan grave; simplemente puede parecer demasiado para tragar, especialmente en nuestra cultura donde todo está permitido y nada es perdonable. Pero nosotros, como Católicos, tenemos algo —Alguien— que ofrecer a quienes enfrentan la realidad de su propio pecado: Jesucristo. Y mientras mantengo que el aborto es el problema civil más importante de nuestro tiempo y animo de todo corazón a nuestra cultura a que continúe luchando contra el horror civilmente permitido del aborto, lo que espero que *más* nos trascienda como Cristianos es el mensaje de que, independientemente de lo que alguien haya hecho, **¡JESUCRISTO OFRECE MISERICORDIA Y NUEVA VIDA!** Y, gracias a Él, hay **esperanza** después del aborto: esperanza para el niño, esperanza para la madre y esperanza para todos los involucrados, incluso esa mujer joven que conocí en esa fiesta.

Deacon Tom



Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo	Jer 31, 7-9; Sal 125, 1-2ab. 2cd-3. 4-5. 6; Heb 5, 1-6; Mc 10, 46-52
Lunes	Rom 8, 12-17; Sal 67, 2 y 4. 6-7ab. 20-21; Lc 13, 10-17
Martes	Rom 8, 18-25; Sal 125, 1-2ab. 2cd-3. 4-5. 6; Lc 13, 18-21
Miércoles	Rom 8, 26-30; Sal 12, 4-5. 6; Lc 13, 22-30
Jueves	Ef 2, 19-22; Sal 18, 2-3. 4-5; Lc 6, 12-19
Viernes	Rom 9, 1-5; Sal 147, 12-13. 14-15. 19-20; Lc 14, 1-6
Sábado	Rom 11, 1-2a. 11-12. 25-29; Sal 93, 12-13a. 14-15. 17-18; Lc 14, 1. 7-11
Domingo	Dt 6, 2-6; Sal 17, 2-3a. 3bc-4. 47 y 51ab; Heb 7, 23-28; Mc 12, 28b-34



October 24, 2021

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 31:7-9 | Heb 5:1-6 | Mk 10:46-52

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

How often do we pray with abandon? Perhaps when turbulence makes us wonder if our plane's going down, when a friend or loved one faces a difficult diagnosis or life-threatening injury, when we face a setback, a major decision, or a heartbreak. On some days, though, have we been guilty of just going through the motions when we pray? Not so for Bartimaeus. "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me," he repeatedly implores, ignoring the shushing of the crowd. When Jesus asks him what he wants, the blind man doesn't beat around the bush. "I want to see." Recognizing his faith, Jesus heals him. Bartimaeus could not see, yet he had recognized Jesus as the Messiah and persisted in prayer. His example reminds us to be persistent in prayer, holding nothing back from Jesus who desires to make us whole.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

While Bartimaeus faced physical blindness, this did not prevent him from recognizing Jesus as the Son of David, the Messiah. In our modern-day world so filled with distractions, we can become blind to the face of Jesus, or simply take his abundant love for us for granted. As the psalmist reminds us, "The Lord has done great things for us. We are filled with joy." Looking back on our lives, we can probably see a few miracles - the birth of a child, the stunning beauty of a sunrise over the mountains or the arborvitae in our backyards, the friends who walk alongside us through each chapter of life. Today's readings encourage us to open our eyes to the face of Jesus in our lives, and in turn to reflect his steadfast love to those we encounter.

PRAY Read today's psalm response: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Reflect on experiences and people who have brought you closer to God - friends, family, or your parish priest. Write them a note or say a prayer of thanksgiving.

Pastoral Care

All Soul's Day Mass of Remembrance

All are invited to remember their loved one in a special way at the annual All Soul's Day Mass of Remembrance on Tuesday, November 2 at 7:00pm in the church. (There will not be a 6:30pm Mass)

The mass will be live-streamed for those unable to attend in-person.

This is an opportunity to pray for our loved ones and support one another in community. Grief support materials will be available. As part of the tradition at Our Lady of Mercy, there will be candles to take home to remember your loved one in a special way.

Open HEARTS Ministry

The next scheduled in-person gathering for Open HEARTS Ministry is Monday, November 8 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in Room 218 in the Parish Life Center. The ministry is for anyone who has an interest in increasing the awareness of mental health and mental illness and sharing resources and experiences with others. The topic of discussion will be on MERCY – God's mercy and how we are called to live a life of mercy in relationship to our faith and mental health and wellness. If you would like to learn more about the ministry, please send an email to Janice Hurtado Aeppli at olmopenhearts@yahoo.com.

Awareness Topic for October

October is *Healthy Lung Month*. Day in and day out, every moment of our life, our lungs are keeping us alive and well. We may not think about our lungs until there is something wrong that affects our breathing. The lungs are the largest internal body parts about the size of two footballs. The right lung is bigger than the left lung. It has three lobes. The left lung has two lobes, making room for the heart. We breathe about 22,000 times a day, breathing in 2,100 to 2,400 gallons of air each day.

Think about the following ways to keep your lungs healthy. Do not smoke as smoking is a major cause of lung cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Avoid exposure to indoor pollutants that can damage lungs. Secondhand smoke, chemicals in the home or workplace and radon can cause or worsen lung disease. Radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. Minimize exposure to outdoor air pollution. Take measures to prevent respiratory infection especially during the pandemic and flu season. If you have breathing concerns or to keep lungs healthy, connect with your healthcare provider. Exercise on a routine basis as regular cardiovascular activity is one of the best things you can do for your lung health!

Pastoral Care

If you have physical, mental, emotional or spiritual health concerns or questions about end-of-life issues, funeral planning, journeying through grief, caregiving for a loved one or are homebound, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care for support and resources at [joleneel@olmercy.com](mailto:jolenel@olmercy.com) or 331-707-5380.

Blood Drive

Turn a new leaf
Fall into giving

**Saturday
November
13**
8:00am - 12:00pm

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #12005
COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

Located at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Catholic Church in Rooms 114 & 110, 701 S Eola Rd, Aurora

Appointments appreciated; walk-ins welcome!

To schedule, go to www.versiti.org/IL, load the Versiti Donor app, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, or scan the QR code below.

EVERY DONOR WILL SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!

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

**PHOTO ID & MASK
REQUIRED.**

Call (800) 7TO-GIVE with eligibility questions.



Dear Families,

We are excited to host our second annual Trunk & Treat with the Saints on **Saturday, October 30 from 1:30-3:45 PM, taking place in our church parking Lot.**

We decided daylight would be safer for young people to walk among our parked, "Saint-Mobiles" while our friends and guests park on the opposite side of the lot. Also, this fun-filled event ends in time for our Saturday, 4 PM Mass- an opportunity sure to be helpful to some of our families.

If it should rain, our volunteer efforts will not be in vain as we have our gym and a our PLC meeting rooms reserved in case of poor weather. **No cancelation needed-** just our usual hand sanitizers, masks, and 3 foot social distancing guidelines all in place as we proceed. Our Sainly props and decorations can easily be taken indoors and set up to be viewed and appreciated, especially with the prepackaged online or store bought treats in close proximity to our displays for our young ones... and young at heart to enjoy!

Directions to Volunteer for Trunk & Treat with the Saints...

1. Arrive by 1:00 PM to set up our Saint Displays in our parking lot or gym
 2. Decorate in a manner where the objects, signs, pictures, or famous quotes represent the life & legacy of your chosen Saint.
 3. Aim to creatively select treats to share (125 in number) that hint or relate to some special aspect of the life of your Saint. It could be an edible treat or something else that's fun and safe for kids.
- Adults, teens, tweens, and kids helping to host a trunk "Saint Mobile" may dress as their favorite Saints but this isn't required, although certainly fitting with the spirit of this event. Children participating in the Trunk and Treating may dress as their "new found favorite Saint" or wear their Halloween costume.

Examples:

- **Mary, Mother of Jesus and of the Church-** Dress as our lovely lady dressed in blue (and white), suggested handout, decade of rosary kit or a Hail Mary card.
- **Saint Francis of Assisi-** Patron Saint of Animals; Fill trunk with stuffed animals, suggested treat, package of animal crackers
- **St. Paul-** Patron Saint of writers, Decorate your trunk with map(s) of St. Paul's journey to preach and teach the Good News to the Gentiles, pass out a pencil from oriental trading with a Bible verse on it.
- **Saint Luke and Saint Catherine of Bologna** are Patron Saints of the arts/sculptors; Decorate trunk with different art easel/ supplies, dress as an artist/ painter, treat suggestions, mini playdough canisters, or small boxes of crayons from the dollar store.
- **Saint John the Baptist-** dressed in camel's hair; one could wear leather belt around fake fur coat. He was known to eat creepy crawly things- treat suggestion, package of gummy worms.
- **Saint Martha-** Patron Saint of **Cooking**, Decorate trunk with part of a siblings kitchen play set, etc., treat suggestion, prepackaged **cookie**
- **St. Joseph-** Patron Saint of carpenters, Decorate with toy carpenter's bench, paper string of tools from one side of trunk to the other, wear tool belt, etc.; treat suggestion, Small St. Joseph medal (online bulk pricing available)

We had about 18 volunteers/ trunks last year; this was a great first year effort. **I would love to see that number reach 30 this year especially with this invitation going out to our EDGE and LIGHT families too.** What an opportunity to have some fun witnessing your faith to disciples younger than you! What a chance for you to reconnect with the Saint you are choosing for Confirmation this year, or would like to consider for your Confirmation in a couple of years to come. **What an amazing faith event this will be with the positive energy and creativity of ALL ages coming together as the Lord's "Saints in the making!!!"**

Please contact Mary Jo today if you would like to sign up and volunteer for Trunk & Treat with the Saints. 331.707.5378 or maryjot@olmercy.com



A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph,
At the word of an angel,
you lovingly took Mary into your home.
As God's humble servant, you guided
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,
welcomed Jesus as your own son
in the shelter of a manger,
and fled far from your homeland
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,
you never hesitated to sacrifice
for those entrusted to you.
May your example inspire us also
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard
God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves
to the service and defense of human life
-especially where it is
vulnerable or threatened.
Obtain for us the grace
to do the will of God in all things.
Amen.

Oración a San José, Defensor de la Vida

Amadísimo San José:
Ante el pedido de un ángel,
amorosamente llevaste a María a tu hogar.
Como humilde siervo de Dios,
guiaste a la Sagrada Familia por el camino hacia Belén,
acogiste a Jesús como tu hijo
en el refugio de un pesebre,
y huiste lejos de tu patria
para la seguridad de la Madre y el Hijo.

Alabamos a Dios porque tú, siendo su fiel protector,
nunca dudaste sacrificarte
por quienes fueron encomendados a ti.
Que tu ejemplo nos inspire también
para acoger, atesorar y proteger
el más preciado don de la vida que nos regala Dios.

Ayúdanos a comprometernos con fidelidad
para servir y defender la vida humana
—en especial donde es
vulnerable o esté amenazada.
Obtennos la gracia
de hacer la voluntad de Dios en todas las cosas.
Amén.

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Around the Parish

Respect Life Ministry

The invites you to stand and silently pray in the public right-of-way across from the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Aurora on November 5, 2021. Prayer warriors are needed for one hour shifts 7 am - 4 pm. Please prayerfully consider signing up via <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054FADAC23A3FA7-olmfirst2> or please call Lisa at (630) 258-0122.

Waterleaf Baby Bottles for Life

Please return all donations in baby bottles or envelopes in the collection basket by the narthex. Donations will be collected in the narthex until October 31. Thank you for your generosity.

Charismatic Healing Mass

The next Charismatic Healing Mass will be Saturday, November 6th in the church. All are welcome.

St. Vincent DePaul Clothing Drive

The St. Vincent de Paul truck will be in our parking lot the weekend of November 6th and November 7th for our Clothing Drive!! Donation bags are in the PLC lobby. 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.

Day of the Dead Altar

Join us to pray and to remember our loved ones who have passed away. Please bring and drop off the photo of your love ones who passed and place them in a 'ziplock' bag, so they can be placed on the Altar in the Narthex from Oct 30th to Nov 02nd. Include your name and contact information (in both, the photo and the bag) for easy return after Nov 3rd. Please drop off the pictures in the basket located on the front desk in the hallway.

Altar del Día de Muertos

Acompañennos a rezar y recordar a nuestros seres queridos que han fallecido. Por favor traigan y dejen las fotos de las personas amadas que hayan fallecido y colóquelas en una bolsa de 'ziplock,' así podremos ponerlas en el Altar de Muertos desde el 30 de oct. hasta el 2 de nov. Incluya su nombre e información de contacto (en la bolsa y la foto) para poder devolverlas después del 3 de nov. Dejar las fotos en la canasta ubicada en el escritorio de la recepción del pasadizo.

Parish Sacrificial Giving

Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	415,592
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	420,000
Amount Short of Budget	\$	(4,408)
10/03/21 Sunday Collection	\$	35,047
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	30,000
Amount in Excess of Goal	\$	5,047
Thank you for your generosity!!		
For the Budget Year 2021/22 we have increased the Parish Sunday goal by 10%, to \$30,000/week, due to the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.		

Parish Life Center (Construction Loan)

April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
August, 2021	\$	655,952
September, 2021	\$	643,911



It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will reach our goal. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use.

Parish Goal	\$	154,400
Amount Pledged	\$	161,176
Amount Paid	\$	151,941
Remaining Balance	\$	9,236
Rebate Amount	\$	0
# of Families Pledged		514



Why & how do I pray?

What is Christian prayer and why is it the most important activity of our lives? How do we gain access to God? Do you know how to pray? Does God always answer prayer? What are the rewards of prayer? These are just a few questions that can be answered if you try Alpha. For more information....

Connect with Zara to learn more 331-707-5381

zara@olmercy.com. #TryAlpha

SIGN UP NOW @ www.olmercy.com/alpha

Tree of Light Blessing (Online Video)

**REGISTER BY:
OCTOBER 26, 2021**



This special Tree Blessing Ceremony remembers infants lost through miscarriage, stillbirth, other pregnancy losses, and infant or early childhood death.

In order to help all families through the grieving process, The Office of Family Ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Joliet is offering a Tree of Light Blessing (Online Video) to honor all infants in lieu of an in-person mass this year.

In the pre-recorded video, each baby will be acknowledged giving each family the opportunity to have their loss acknowledged.

Please register to receive the video online link by email familiministry@dioceseofjoliet.org or online at <https://bit.ly/2zWNhtY>

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

701 S. Eola Road † Aurora, IL 60504

www.olmercy.com

Parish Office

Tel: (630) 851-3444 • FAX: (630) 851-3468

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm

Friday 8:30am-1:00pm

Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00am

Monday (Spanish Mass) 6:30pm

Tuesday 8:00am, 6:30pm

Wednesday 12:00pm

Thursday 6:30am, 8:00am

Saturday 8:30am

Saturday (Anticipated for Sunday) 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, and 5:30pm

Holy Days of Obligations

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

Confessions

Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm

Saturday 9:00-10:00am, 1:30-2:30pm

1st Fridays of the Month 8:30-9:15am

Or by Appointment

Prayer Chapel

Open weekdays 7:00am-8:00pm

Adoration

Monday & Thursday 8:30am-6:00pm

Wednesdays 8:00am-12:00pm

First Friday of the Month 12:00pm

Benediction

Monday & Thursday 6:00pm

New Parishioners

We welcome you! Please register by visiting our website at www.olmercy.com. Click on "New Here" and choose "Join OLM" to fill out the online registration form.

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 complete a parent workshop. 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.

Parish Directory

Parish Priests

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

Parochial Vicar Fr. James Guarascio
630-851-3444, Ext. 226 frjames@olmercy.com

Transitional Deacon

Rev. Mr. Tom Logue tlogue@rcdoj.org

Permanent Deacons

Dcn Tim Kueper tkueper5@yahoo.com

Dcn Tony Leazzo tonyl@olmercy.com

Dcn Tony Martini tonym@olmercy.com

Dcn Phil Rehmer deaconphil@rehmer.com

Dcn Art Tiongson hope2640@yahoo.com

Dcn Lupe Villarreal lupev@olmercy.com

Pastoral Staff

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

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

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

Family Evangelization & Catechesis

Director (Pre K-5) & RCIC Mary Jo Trapani
331-707-5378 maryjot@olmercy.com

Director (6-12) Dave Miserendino
331-707-5371 davem@olmercy.com

RE Secretary Jean Palasz
331-707-5369 jeanp@olmercy.com

Administrative Staff

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

Parish Secretary Diane Reiter
630-851-3444 dianer@olmercy.com

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

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

St. Vincent de Paul Society

630-851-3444 Voicemail-ext. 400

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