

OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

JANUARY 23, 2022

“Today this scripture
passage is fulfilled
in your hearing.”

Luke 4:21



From The Pastor's Desk...

Also Known as Chardonnay W(h)ines!



It's official! Bishop Hicks has given me permission to retire effective July 1, 2022. This announcement probably does not come as a surprise to most of you, as I have been talking about retiring for some time, but the Diocese wanted me to make an official announcement. I turn 70 next month and that is the

age priests in our Diocese become eligible to retire. A priest in our Diocese may choose to remain in their assignment past 70 if they so desire, but must retire at age 80. Other Dioceses may have different age requirements, but these are the policies in the Diocese of Joliet.

I choose to retire at 70, while in relatively good health and mobility, to be able to enjoy more leisure time, and no longer have administrative responsibilities for a parish. I have been a priest 40 years and 28 of those years I have been a pastor. When a priest retires, they are still a priest and still do sacramental ministry as their health permits. At the priest retirement workshop I attended this past August, it was pointed out that if you ask someone what they are going to do after they retire, and they say "go fishing" or "play golf", it means they really haven't got a clue what they are going to do! I have a plan! I want to do a couple of days of hospital chaplaincy at Northwestern Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, as well as celebrate Mass occasionally at area nursing homes. I will be available to celebrate weekday, weekend Masses, and hear confessions at parishes as needed. I plan to volunteer at Hesus House with the OLM group and do other volunteer opportunities that arise.

Additionally, I plan to take Chardonnay on longer walks, ride my bike more often, join a seniors bowling league, take a class in photography, and spend more time in prayer and reading. I also look forward to going on "bucket" list trips when the COVID situation improves.

I will be living in a dog-friendly condo in Wheaton that I am renting from some friends. Why Wheaton? I served as pastor of St. Michael in Wheaton from 2001 – 2012. Nine months after I became pastor, a fire destroyed the church. The overwhelming support I received, and friendships established during the fundraising and rebuilding, both from parishioners and the community, just made Wheaton feel like home. However, during the months of January – April, I will be living in Sonoma County, California.

OLM has been my last assignment before retirement. The five years I have been pastor here have been very enjoyable and fruitful. I never knew anything about "Amazing Parish" and moving from maintenance to mission until newly ordained Fr. Mark introduced it to me and encourage me to support this vision of parish. I never knew anything about "Unbound" ministry until newly ordained Fr. James introduced me to it. I thank them and all of you for making the last five years enriching. However, let's not say farewell just yet, I still have 159 days as your pastor!

Have a blessed week!



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, January 24 - St Francis de Sales, Bishop

8:00 am † Ruby Ricca by Kathy Allburn & Peggy Flanigan

(Live Streamed)

8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm Benediction

6:30 pm † Franco Patino, by The Hepburn Family

(Live Streamed • Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, January 25 - Conversion of St Paul, Apostle

8:00 am † Souls in Purgatory

(Live Streamed)

6:30 pm † Julius Akpokwe, by Family

7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until 8:00 PM)

Wednesday, January 26 - Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops

8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration

12:00 pm † Dorothy Waszak, by Carolyn Kerkla

(Live Streamed)

Thursday, January 27 - St Angela Merici, Virgin

6:30 am † Robert Kranz, William & Martha Black

8:00 am Int Accettura Family by Kathy Grannan

(Live Streamed)

8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm Benediction

Friday, January 28 - St Thomas Aquinas, Priest

8:00 am † Bob Piowowarczyk, by Family

(Live Streamed)

Saturday, January 29 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:30 am † Sharon Spitzer, by Tom Spitzer

(Live Streamed)

9:00am Reconciliation (Until 10:00 AM)

1:30 pm Reconciliation (Until 2:30 PM)

4:00 pm **Vigil - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Int The People of Our Lady of Mercy

† Ryan Steffy by Renee Guarascio

Sunday, January 30 - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family

Int Helen Joseph, by Audrey Harris

10:00 am † Lauren McCue, by Steve & Jennifer Earley

(Live Streamed)

12:00 pm † Ashley Marie Sanchez, by Ronnie Ramirez

5:30 pm Int Bob & Molly Peterson, by Peterson Children



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. First Responders |
| 5. The Pluskota Family | 13. Medical Personnel |
| 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra | 14. Parishioners of OLM |
| 7. Those Sick with Covid-19 | 15. Fr Don McLaughlin |
| 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

January 29 & 30

Father James will preach at all Masses.

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



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
Ann Borberg
Robert Ciulla
Michael Dandan
Wayne Draper
Mary Dunbar
Bridget Garry
Connie Hegg
Jim Hegg
Nancy Higgins
Mark Hoeksema
Eric Hoerdemann
Antoinette Humanski
Steve Johnson
Helen Joseph
Michael Kuchinski
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
Jim Pluskota
Julia Schremp
Diane Singer
Hedy Sterling
Thomas F. Sterling
John Swanston
Rev. Gerald Tivy
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!



¡Es oficial! El obispo Hicks me ha dado permiso para jubilarme a partir del 1 de julio del 2022. Este anuncio probablemente no sea una sorpresa para la mayoría de ustedes, ya que he estado hablando de jubilarme durante algún tiempo, pero la Diócesis quería que hiciera un anuncio oficial. Cumpliré 70 años el próximo mes y 70 es la edad en que los sacerdotes de nuestra Diócesis son elegibles para jubilarse. Un sacerdote de nuestra Diócesis puede optar por permanecer en su asignación después de los 70 años si así lo desea, pero debe jubilarse a los 80 años. Otras Diócesis pueden tener requisitos de edad diferentes, pero estas son las políticas de la Diócesis de Joliet.

Elijo jubilarme a los 70 años, con una salud y una movilidad relativamente buenas, para poder disfrutar de más tiempo libre y ya no tener responsabilidades administrativas en una parroquia. He sido sacerdote 40 años y 28 de esos años he sido párroco. Cuando un sacerdote se jubila, sigue siendo sacerdote y sigue ejerciendo el ministerio sacramental según lo permita su salud. En el taller de jubilación para sacerdotes al que asistí en agosto pasado, se señaló que si le preguntas a alguien qué va a hacer después de jubilarse y dicen "ir a pescar" o "jugar al golf", significa que realmente no tienen una idea de lo que van a hacer! ¡Tengo un plan! Quiero hacer un par de días de capellanía de hospital en el Hospital Central de Northwestern DuPage en Winfield, así como celebrar Misa de vez en cuando en los hogares de ancianos del área. Estaré disponible para celebrar Misas entre semana y fines de semana y escuchar confesiones en las parroquias según sea necesario. Planeo ser voluntario en Hesed House con el grupo de OLM y hacer otras oportunidades de voluntariado que surjan.

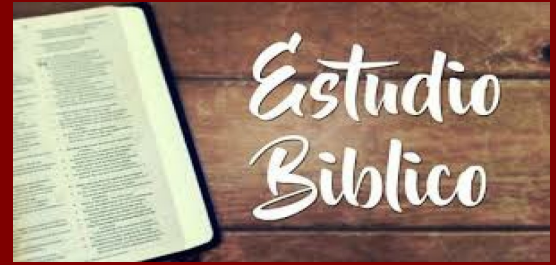
Además, planeo llevar a Chardonnay a caminatas más largas, andar en bicicleta con más frecuencia, unirme a una liga de boliche para personas mayores, tomar una clase de fotografía y pasar más tiempo orando y leyendo. También espero realizar viajes de la lista de deseos cuando mejore la situación del COVID.

Viviré en un condominio donde permiten perros en Wheaton que alquilaré a unos amigos. ¿Por qué Wheaton? Serví como párroco de St. Michael en Wheaton del 2001 al 2012. Nueve meses después de convertirme en párroco, un incendio destruyó la iglesia. El abrumador apoyo que recibí y las amistades establecidas durante la recaudación de fondos y la reconstrucción, tanto de los feligreses como de la comunidad, hicieron que Wheaton se sintiera como en casa. Mi lugar de descanso final será el Cementerio de St. Michael en Wheaton.

OLM ha sido mi última asignación antes de jubilarme. Los cinco años que he sido párroco aquí han sido muy agradables y fructíferos. Nunca supe nada sobre la "Parroquia Asombrosa" y el paso del mantenimiento a la misión hasta que el recientemente ordenado padre Mark me lo presentó y me animó a apoyar esta visión de parroquia. Nunca supe nada sobre el ministerio "Liberado" hasta que el recientemente ordenado padre James me lo presentó. Les agradezco a ellos y a todos ustedes por hacer que estos últimos cinco años sean enriquecedores. Sin embargo, no nos despedamos todavía, ¡aún tengo 159 días como su párroco!

¡Que tengan una bendecida semana!

Padre Dan



"Descubrir el misterio de la Biblia"

8 reuniones

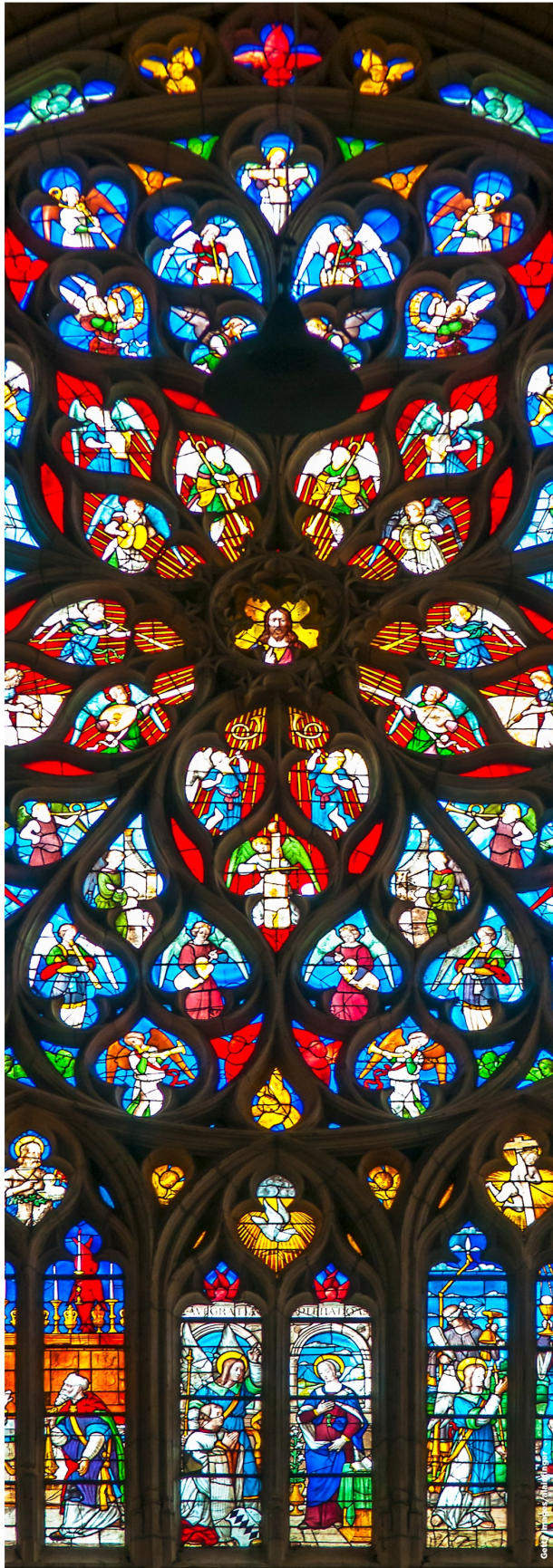
Lunes 7pm al terminar la misa de 6:30PM

En español y gratis.

Los esperamos en la sala 109 desde el 24 de enero.

Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo	Neh 8, 2-4a. 5-6. 8-10/ Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 15/ 1 Cor 12, 12-30 o 1 Cor 12, 12-14. 27/Lc 1, 1-4/ Lc 4, 14-21
Lunes	2 Sm 5, 1-7. 10/ Sal 88, 20. 21-22. 25-26/Mc 3, 22-30
Martes	Hch 22, 3-16 o Hch 9, 1-22/ Sal 116, 1bc. 2/ Mc 16, 15-18
Miércoles	2 Tm 1, 1-8 o Ti 1, 1-5/ Sal 95, 1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 10/ Mc 4, 1-20
Jueves	2 Sm 7, 18-19. 24-29/ Sal 131, 1-2. 3-5. 11. 12. 13-14/ Mc 4, 21-25
Viernes	2 Sm 11, 1-4. 5-10. 13-17/ Sal 50, 3-4. 5-6a. 6bc-7. 10-11/ Mc 4, 26-34
Sábado	2 Sm 12, 1-7. 10-17/ Sal 50, 12-13. 14-15. 16-17/ Mc 4, 35-41
Domingo	Jer 1, 4-5. 17-19/ Sal 70, 1-2. 3-4a. 5-6ab. 15ab y 17/ 1 Cor 12, 31-13, 13 o 1 Cor 13, 4-13/ Lc 4, 21-30



January 23, 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 | 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27 | Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Do you ever find yourself feeling like you are at the cusp of something remarkable? Like you are witnessing an incredible, historic, athletic, or aeronautical feat? I wonder if that's what it was like for the followers of Jesus when he began his public ministry: "News of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all." In today's Gospel, Jesus reads the words of the prophet Isaiah that are effectively a "job description" of his mission: glad tidings to the poor, liberty of captives, sight to the blind, freedom for the oppressed. What Isaiah prophesied, Jesus claims to fulfill. He thus inaugurates his public ministry with a claim that is straightforward, bold, true, and of great consequence. Today, by virtue of our baptism, we are part of the body of Christ and share in that mission. Whatever our backgrounds, abilities, or talents, we each have something to contribute to building up one another and the Church. And with the help of the Holy Spirit, we, too, can be bold in our own proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We've heard the phrase "Don't sell yourself short." Social media aside, many of us tend to focus on our shortcomings: We may wish we could run faster, be better at our jobs, have a cleaner home, in general, "get it together!" Truth is, we're all works in progress. That's what I love about Paul's Letter to the Corinthians. He reminds us that each one of us - whatever our strengths or weaknesses - is part of the body of Christ. God loves us with our imperfections, not in spite of them. As such, each of us has indispensable value and much to contribute to the mission of the Church. As we move into the week ahead, today's readings invite us to place ourselves at the service of the Church and one another. Beyond that, we can invite others to join us by recognizing that God values the talents - and foibles - that each of us brings to his service.

PRAY Yesterday on the liturgical calendar was the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. As members of the body of Christ, let us join our voices with the universal Church and pray a Pro-Life Rosary each night this week. The USCCB Prayers and Devotions page is a good resource.

Pastoral Care

Understanding Your Grief

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and would like companionship, prayerful support and a caring presence during this time, consider attending the in-person grief support sessions that will be guided by *“Understanding Your Grief Exploring the Ten Essential Touchstones”* by Alan Wolfelt, PH.D.

It is important to know that you are not alone in your grief journey. The twelve weekly sessions will be a safe place to mourn, to reconcile losses, to find continued meaning in life and living and to know there is hope for healing. The group support will foster the experience of trusting and being trusted and provide a safe harbor.

If you would like to attend sessions during the day, sessions will be on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:30pm in the Ministry Room on January 31; February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 11, 18. If you would like to attend sessions in the evening, sessions will be on Mondays from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the Ministry Room on January 31; February 7, 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 11, 18. Health and safety guidelines for COVID-19 will be in place. If needed, sessions will be provided via ZOOM. If you have questions or would like to register for the sessions, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care at 331-707-5380 or at jolenel@olmercy.com.

Come Alive!

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, we will discover spiritual practices to strengthen our relationship with God and gain new joy filled perspectives as we weave healthy activities into the rhythm of our day. The focus is on HOW to change behaviors in the rhythm of our life for the long term, to encourage each other and to give grace when we stumble.

The group meets for 90 minutes in eight sessions. The meetings are scheduled on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30pm in Room 218 on February 2, 9, 16 and 23 and March 9, 16, 23 and 30. In-person meetings are planned with health and safety COVID-19 guidelines in place. If there is an interest, ZOOM sessions may be arranged. The program welcomes men and women, ages 18 and older. The guidebook for the program is \$15 (scholarships are available) that contains recipes, spiritual practices, scripture and nutrition information. If you have questions or would like to register, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care at 331-707-5380 or at jolenel@olmercy.com.

Open HEARTS Ministry

The mental and emotional health and wellness ministry of the parish is the Open HEARTS Ministry. It is important that our faith community be a source of support, education, and

advocacy for mental health and wellness. If you are a mental health professional or are a champion for mental health and wellness, please consider joining the ministry.

If you or someone you know is experiencing mental and emotional health concerns, there is support and resources available at Our Lady of Mercy and in the community. The next in-person gathering for the Open HEARTS Ministry is Monday, February 21 from 7:00 to 8:30pm in Room 218. The topic for discussion will be *“Finding God in the Everyday”*. If you have questions, need support or resources or would like to join the ministry, please contact Janice Hurtado Aeppli at 312-217-7872 or at olmopenhearts@yahoo.com.

St. Peregrine Prayer Service

All are invited to attend the in-person St. Peregrine Prayer Service on Tuesday, February 15 in the church after 6:30pm Mass (at 7:00pm). Anyone experiencing physical, emotional, mental or spiritual health concerns would benefit from attending the prayer service. The relic of St. Peregrine will be present.

Pastoral Care

If you have physical, mental, emotional or spiritual health concerns, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care for support and resources at 331-707-5380 or jolenel@olmercy.com.



CITIZENSHIP CLASSES

Citizenship classes start on February 7th at St. Mary's Parish Center at 432 E. Downer Place, Aurora, IL. The classes will help you prepare and pass your citizenship test and interview. Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30. The Covid vaccination is required for attendance. Call 630-898-4636 to register for the class. The class is free. A \$10.00 donation is requested for study materials.

Bishop Hicks' Column



January 2022 A New Year's Resolution Re-educating ourselves on the Eucharist

In the days following Thanksgiving this year, I was with a group of friends who are my age (mid-50s). Most of them have children who recently graduated from or are still in either high school or college. Our conversation turned to the Eucharist. I was shocked that even though they are Catholic, a few of my friends and many of their children believe that the bread and wine we receive at Mass are symbols of Christ's presence. Immediately I went into my teaching mode and emphasized that the Eucharist was instituted by Jesus. With the words of consecration, under the appearance of bread and wine, the whole of Christ is truly present: body, blood, soul and divinity. Now, this was not a theological debate, and I actually did not receive much pushback from my exhortation. However, one of the college students simply responded to me without any contention or guile, "Hmmm. Is that what we really believe? I did not know that."

This encounter reflects the data and studies that show many Catholics do not believe in or fully understand the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. As we begin 2022, many of us have made a New Year's resolution. I would like to invite you to join me in a New Year's resolution to re-educate ourselves about the Eucharist. For no matter how educated or faithful we are, we are constantly being invited by our Lord to go deeper in our faith and understanding of the Eucharist.

The document "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" was developed by the Committee on Doctrine of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved by the full body of the USCCB at its November 2021 general meeting. The document highlights the importance, centrality, and gifts of the Eucharist. If you have not had the chance to read the document, I invite you to learn more about it by going to the following link on the USCCB website: www.usccb.org/resources/mystery-eucharist-life-church. You will notice that you can not only read the document, but also click on a comprehensive online course to learn more about it.

We should continuously strive to grow in our knowledge of the Eucharist and our faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. However, as we learn more, our hearts

will hopefully grow with a deep love for God and the Eucharist. Once this love becomes strong, the love of God through the Eucharist will become the central focus and priority of our lives. As St. Ignatius of Antioch said, "I have no taste for the food that perishes nor for the pleasures of this life. I want the bread of God, which is the flesh of Christ, which is love that cannot be destroyed."

Along with the document on the Eucharist, the USCCB also announced a National Eucharistic Congress that will take place in Indianapolis in 2024. Eucharistic congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and the laity to celebrate and glorify the Holy Eucharist while seeking to spread its knowledge and love throughout the world. The National Eucharistic Congress is the culmination of a three-year eucharistic revival in the Catholic Church, which begins on the feast of Corpus Christi on June 16, 2022. For more details about this revival, I invite you to go to the following site: www.eucharisticrevival.org

Hopefully, this eucharistic revival will serve as a spark for Catholics across the United States to help reignite their faith by being healed, converted, formed and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist and to be sent out in mission "for the life of the world." For as we receive Christ in the Eucharist, our desire is to be strengthened to go out into the world and to put our faith into action through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. In other words, the Eucharist nourishes us to be the face of Jesus for those who need him most. This echoes St. Teresa of Kolkata's words, "We cannot say that we love Jesus only in the Eucharist – naturally, we want to put that love into action. We cannot separate the Eucharist and the poor."

As you read this column, perhaps it will motivate you to embrace a New Year's resolution to re-educate yourself on the Eucharist. For if the Eucharist is truly the source and summit of the Christian life, then we will be eager to fully embrace the words of Jesus, who said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." (John 6:51)

Peace & Social Justice

Themes of Catholic Social Teaching - Call to Family Community & Participation

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Read more.

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/call-to-family-community-and-participation>

As Catholics, we are called to address issues that are impacting families in our society, such as:

*Access to quality, affordable childcare and healthcare for families

*Work/life balance issues, which prevent families from sharing quality time together

*Breaking the cycle of poverty and helping the “working poor,” who can’t afford to make ends meet

Check out this short YouTube video.

<https://youtu.be/giQgWakrgQs>

Around the Parish

Synod

Pope Francis invites the world – believers, non-believers, the marginalized, the poor, the disenfranchised - to participate and talk about how the Church is living out its communion, participation, and mission. The aim of the Synod is to discern how we are “living the faith” and how, we as a Church, are achieving this together.

Please visit <https://olmercy.com/synod/> for more information.

Christ Renews His Parish

Christ Renews His Parish, or CRHP is a break from your busy schedule of personal, business and family obligations so that you can refresh yourself spiritually and renew your heart. You will be meeting with and listening to the experiences of other men or women from our Parish in an informal and relaxed environment of reflection, fellowship and fun. The day on Saturday starts at 7:30am and goes through the evening at 8:30pm. We return the next day at the same time 7:30am ending at 3pm. For additional information go to <https://www.crhpatolm.com/>

Respect Life

The Respect Life Ministry invites you to stand and silently pray in the public right-of-way across from the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Aurora on Friday, February 4, 2022. Prayer warriors are needed for one hour shifts 7 am - 4 pm to change hearts and save lives. Please prayerfully consider signing up via <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054FADAC23A3FA7-olmfirst2> or please call Lisa at (630) 236-3310.

Alpha—New Start Date

Are you longing for more presence and real connection? Consider coming to Alpha that meets on Thursdays at 6:30 pm beginning March 3 in the MPR. Take time away from the noise, away from the echo chambers of the bubbles we’ve built around ourselves.

A Mother’s Heart

You’re invited to participate in a group for Catholic mothers with children ages 0-11 who are seeking to journey with other like-minded women of faith. Book chats, crafts, podcast discussions, “Moms Night Out”, play groups, prayer and so much more. Visit www.olmercy.com/amothersheart for more information.

Salt & Light

Transformation and intentional community on Wednesdays from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm is coming starting in January. Details and registration can be found at olmercy.com/saltandlight



Parish Sacrificial Giving		
Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	801,337
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	780,000
Amount in Excess of Budget	\$	21,337
01/02/22 Sunday Collection	\$	45,196
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	30,000
Amount in Excess of Goal	\$	15,196
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.		

Christmas Collections:	\$ 53,663
Christmas Budget:	<u>\$ 66,000</u>
Amount Short of Budget:	\$ (12,337)

Parish Goal	\$ 154,400
Amount Pledged	\$ 173,516
Amount Paid	\$ 172,349
Remaining Balance	\$ 1,168
Rebate Amount	\$ 12,564
# of Families Pledged	536

Parish Life Center (Construction Loan)		
April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
November, 2021	\$	621,273
December, 2021	\$	610,239

Seniors Invited to Defer Property Taxes

Qualified senior citizens, aged 65 years and older are invited to apply for the Senior Citizen Real Estate Tax Deferral Program. The program allows participants to defer property tax payment until the property is sold. The deferral is treated as a loan and accrues 6 percent simple interest until paid. To qualify, the applicant's household income cannot exceed \$55,000. Additionally, the property must be used exclusively for residential purposes.

The application period closes March 1, 2022. For more information, contact the DuPage County Treasurer's Office at 630-407-5900 or www.dupageco.org/treasurer. Gwen Henry, Treasurer.

Support the works of the Lord through the 2022 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

The 2022 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA) is now underway, and we are asking everyone to pledge their support to this important effort for our diocese, and our parish.

This year's CMAA theme, *Devoted to the Works of the Lord*, illustrates how the many ministries our annual appeal supports allow us to join together to do God's work throughout our diocese. From helping the poor and vulnerable to forming future priests and educating people of all ages in the faith, the ministries funded through your gifts are far more extensive than our parish could provide on its own.

Our parish's goal for the 2022 CMAA is \$152,000 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 prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

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

Principle of All Saints Catholic Academy

630-961-6125 Margie Marshall

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