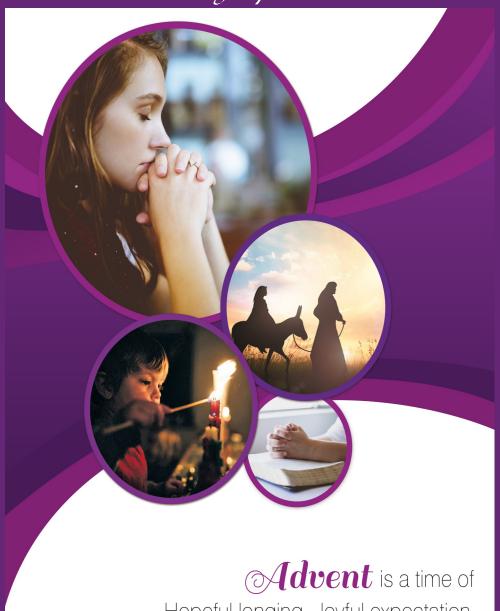
# OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

1st Sunday of Advent



Advent is a time of Hopeful longing, Joyful expectation, Prayerful penance and Spiritual

Preparation.

© Diocesar

November 27, 2022

# News from P.I.T. (Priest in Training)



Our need for the humility of Jesus—found firstly in the manger—is a great place to begin our Advent. Allow me to share with you a little excerpt from one of my favorite novelists, Michael O'Brien, in his book *Plague Journal*:

"There are ways of dealing with trouble in an affluent age. If you have enough money or influence, health and power, you can stave off trouble for a long time. You can pad

and buffer and distract yourself until the illusion of mastery is complete. The only weakness in this seemingly perfect method is that your life must then be preoccupied with padding, buffering, and distracting. Most of us do it to some degree. We can't help it really. Pain just isn't fun; helplessness is scary. But suffering finds us all sooner or later. There is no hiding place, and, when raising a family, you are especially exposed to the dangers of human existence.

I didn't know it then, but the cost of a happy family is the death of selfishness. The father must die if he is to give life to his spouse and children. Not a pleasant thought but a true one. An entire lifetime can be spent avoiding it. It's simply not enough to provide and protect. In themselves, of course, providing and protecting are good and necessary things. That is our responsibility.

But a father can provide a mountain of material goods for his family and defend it against all kinds of inconveniences, thinking he can rest easy, having done his part, and still have missed the essential point: he is called to be an image of love and truth. The house he provides, be it a cabin, a mansion, or a barge painted Christmas colors, must have at its core a heart that is willing to look at its poverty. As long as we're convinced of our own strengths, our cleverness, and our cagey ability to endure, we still think we're in charge. We construct a life-style of eliminating difficulties at any cost. It takes a lot of padding if you're to avoid the unexplainable, unjust blows of suffering. There will come a time, however, when this elaborate defense system crumbles."

If we don't see our need for Jesus, our own poverties, then Advent isn't very exciting. If, on the other hand, we know that we are nothing without Jesus, and if Jesus becomes the deepest desire of our hearts, then we won't be able to help but echo the ancient, eager cry of Advent, "Maranatha!" Come Lord Jesus! ... into my heart, into my life, into my family, into my sufferings, into my joys, and into my poverty! You alone give perfect peace. You alone give perfect joy.

**Father James** 



# Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

# Monday, November 28 - Advent Weekday

8:00 am † Dolores Christiansen, by Willie Durante

8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm Benediction

6:30 pm + Manuel Zepeda, by Family

(Spanish Mass)

## Tuesday, November 29 - Advent Weekday

8:00 am † Kenneth Hickey, by Karen Hickey

6:30 pm + Lydia Ver, by Family

7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

## Wednesday, November 30 - St Andrew, Apostle

8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration

12:00 pm † Andrew Acuff, by Ken & Laurence Dwyer

12:30 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

### Thursday, December 1 - Advent Weekday

6:30 am † Martin Andrew Krawiec, by Chinetti-Stokes Family

8:00 am † Jim Weber, by Bob & Valerie Webber

8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm Benediction

# Friday, December 2 - Advent Weekday

8:00 am + Daniel Cordero, by Family

12:00 pm Int Rita Wettstein, by Shirley Staples

# Saturday, December 3 - St Francis Xavier, Priest

8:30 am Int Lancy Sebastian

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

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

4:00 pm Vigil - 2nd Sunday of Advent

The People of Our Lady of Mercy † James W Ray and James W Ray, Jr

By Helean M Ray

# Sunday, December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 am + Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family

† Mary Coats Carroll, by Carroll Children

10:00 am † Donald Phalin, by Shirley Staples

(Live Streamed)

12:00 pm † Wayne Draper, by Sam & Jan DeMarco

5:30 pm + Marie Sulita, by Friends at Waterleaf



# Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- 1. Sergio Novola
- 2. Caron & Thompson Families 10. Charles E Thompson
- 3. Whalen & Jirasek Families
- 4. Baby Riley Chick
- 5. The Pluskota Family
- **Dan Todus** 6.
- 7. Baby Cerina Skye
- 8. The Deceased

- The Reid Family
- 11. Special Intention-C.H.
- 12. Matthias H. Jansen
- 13. Edwin Garcia
- 14. Helen O'Brien
- 15. Glenn L Heywood
- 16. Renato Trinadad

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

December 3 & 4

Father M	ichael will p	reach at all Masses.
Saturday	4:00 pm	Fr Michael Kearney TBD
Sunday	8:00 am	Fr James Guarascio TBD
	10:00 am	Fr Michael Kearney TBD
	12:00 pm	Fr James Guarascio TBD
	5:30 pm	Fr Michael Kearney TBD



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 Alfredo Chavez **Baby Riley Chick** Robert Ciulla Michael Dandan Mary Dunbar **Bridget Garry** Connie Hegg Jim Hegg **Nancy Higgins** Eric Hoerdemann Cera Horste Antoinette Humanski Steve Johnson Helen Joseph Baby Penelope Keene

Kristen Manning Susan Massett

Rev. Don McLaughlin

Susan Mennenga Bill Morse La Moua

**Charlene Oates** 

**Ruth Olek** 

Flo Paprzycki

Diane Pazos

Valerie Plesha Jim Pluskota

Julia Schremp

Diane Singer

**Hedy Sterling** 

Thomas F. Sterling

John Swanston

Rev. Gerald Tivy

Bernice Tokarski

Kathy Walowski

Judy Wiltgen

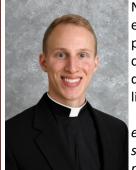
Please note: Due to the government legislation regarding patient privacy, names of people to be prayed for at Mass or in the Bulletin can be listed only if that person, or in the case of their incapacitation, the person delegated to their medical care, calls to give permission.

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 PO3 Joshua San Diego, US Navy LT Daniel Moran, US Army

# Noticias del P.I.T. (Sacerdote en formación)



Nuestra necesidad de la humildad de Jesús, que se encuentra primero en el pesebre, es un gran lugar para comenzar nuestro Adviento. Permítanme compartir con ustedes un pequeño extracto de uno de mis novelistas favoritos, Michael O'Brien, en su libro Diario de la Peste:

"Hay formas de lidiar con los problemas en una era próspera. Si tienes suficiente dinero o influencia, salud y poder, puedes evitar problemas durante mucho tiempo. Puedes rellenar, amortiguar y dis-

traerte hasta que la ilusión de dominio sea completa. La única debilidad en este método aparentemente perfecto es que tu vida debe estar preocupada por el relleno, el amortiguamiento y la distracción. La mayoría de nosotros lo hacemos hasta cierto punto. Realmente no podemos evitarlo. El dolor simplemente no es divertido; la impotencia da miedo. Pero el sufrimiento nos encuentra a todos tarde o temprano. No hay escondite y, cuando formas una familia, estás especialmente expuesto a los peligros de la existencia humana.

Entonces no lo sabía, pero el costo de una familia feliz es la muerte del egoísmo. El padre debe morir para dar vida a su cónyuge e hijos. No es un pensamiento agradable, sino verdadero. Se puede pasar toda una vida evitándolo. Simplemente no es suficiente proveer y proteger. En sí mismos, por supuesto, proveer y proteger son cosas buenas y necesarias. Esa es nuestra responsabilidad.

Pero un padre puede proporcionar un montón de bienes materiales a su familia y defenderla de todo tipo de inconvenientes, pensando que puede estar tranquilo, habiendo hecho su parte, y aún así haber perdido lo esencial: está llamado a ser imagen del amor y la verdad. La casa que proporciona, ya sea una cabaña, una mansión o una barcaza pintada de colores navideños, debe tener en su centro un corazón dispuesto a mirar su pobreza. Mientras estemos convencidos de nuestras propias fortalezas, nuestra inteligencia y nuestra cautelosa capacidad para resistir, seguiremos pensando que estamos a cargo. Construimos un estilo de vida de eliminar las dificultades a toda costa. Se necesita mucho relleno para evitar los inexplicables e injustos golpes de sufrimiento. Sin embargo, llegará un momento en que este elaborado sistema de defensa se derrumbará".

Si no vemos nuestra necesidad de Jesús, nuestras propias pobrezas, entonces el Adviento no es muy emocionante. Si, por el contrario, sabemos que no somos nada sin Jesús, y si Jesús se convierte en el anhelo más profundo de nuestro corazón, entonces no podremos evitar hacer eco del antiguo y ansioso grito de Adviento: "¡Maranatha!". ¡Ven Señor Jesús! ...en mi corazón, en mi vida, en mi familia, en mis sufrimientos, en mis alegrías y en mi pobreza! Tú solo das la paz perfecta. Tú solo das la alegría perfecta.

Padre James



# Lecturas de la Semana

**Domingo** Is 2, 1-5;

Sal 121, 1-2. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9; Rom 13, 11-14a;

Mt 24, 37-44

**Lunes** Is 4, 2-6;

Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4a. (4b-5. 6-7). 8-9;

Mt 8, 5-11

**Martes** Is 11, 1-10;

Sal 71, 2. 7-8. 12-13. 17;

Lc 10, 21-24

Miércoles Rom 10, 9-18;

Sal 18, 2-3. 4-5; Mt 4, 18-22

**Jueves** Is 26, 1-6;

Sal 117, 1. 8-9. 19-21. 25-27a;

Mt 7, 21. 24-27

**Viernes** Is 29, <u>17-24;</u>

Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14;

Mt 9, 27-31

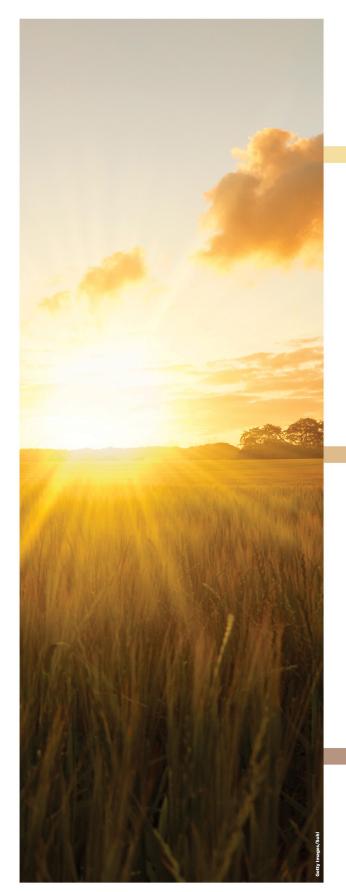
**Sábado** Is 30, 19-21. 23-26;

Sal 146, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6; Mt 9, 35—10, 1. 6-8

**Domingo** Is 11, 1-10;

Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17;

Rom 15, 4-9; Mt 3, 1-12



Is 2:1-5 | Rom 13:11-14 | Mt 24:37-44

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

Don't get me wrong. I love vacations and weekends away. But the night and day before? It's always a whirlwind of laundry, packing, and shopping for groceries and essential car snacks. I knew we were going away. I could have gotten my act together earlier. Next trip, I tell myself. Then the cycle repeats itself. Advent can be that way. This year's going to be the year! No rushing around, no crazy last-minute shopping, no stress: I'm going to study the daily readings, read that Advent devotional, settle into the season of waiting. Today's readings speak not only to procrastinators like me but also to the planners: Wherever we are on that continuum, Advent gives us an opportunity to ready our souls for Jesus' coming. It's less about what we do when than about preparing our hearts. Through prayer, study and the liturgies of this season, we can ask God to help us clean house within and prepare for Jesus' coming.

# GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today is not only the first Sunday of Advent, but the first day of the liturgical year. Today's readings encourage us to prepare for Christ's coming. I love St. Paul's imagery: "Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us ... put on the Lord Jesus Christ." Just as we make resolutions for the new calendar year, Advent affords us an opportunity to start anew. However, the gift of our faith reminds us that we are not alone in this! We can seek the help of the Holy Spirit through prayer and turn to the accountability partners who sit in the pews next to us at Sunday Mass. We, in turn, can be a light to others through our words, attitudes, and actions. As we light our houses and light our Christmas trees this year, we can remember to put on the armor of light ourselves as we begin this holy season.

**ACTION** Even with the best of intentions, the holiday season can become busy. As you go about errands or prepare your home, make an effort to listen to Advent hymns or reflections.

# Pastoral Care

# **Grief and Loss**

The monthly grief support session is Monday, November 28 from 11am to 12:30pm in Room 114 in the Parish Life Center. It will be a time to share stories, share a meal and pray together – to encourage one another to move forward in hope.

There will be a grief support session scheduled in December to support those with a grieving heart during the Christmas season. If you have any questions or would like support, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Director of Pastoral Care at jolenel@olmercy.com.

# St. Peregrine Prayer Service

All are invited to attend the St. Peregrine Prayer Service on Tuesday, November 29 in the church after the 6:30pm Mass with Deacon Tony Leazzo. St. Peregrine is the patron saint of the sick, especially those experiencing cancer, serious illness or chronic illness. Anyone experiencing physical, emotional, mental or spiritual health concerns would benefit from attending the prayer service. There will be time after the service to venerate the relic of St. Peregrine and pray for your personal intentions. There will not be a prayer service in December. St. Peregrine, pray for us!

# **Healing Hearts Ministry**

The next gathering of the Healing Hearts Ministry will be on Monday, December 19 from 7pm to 8:30pm in Room 114. The ministry promotes the health of the mind, body and soul by providing a safe and sacred space to share, pray together and participate in a self-care activity. The faith community at Our Lady of Mercy works to decrease the stigma of

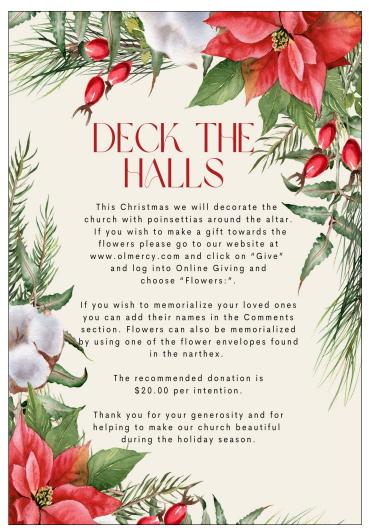
mental illness and promote mental health and wellness. For any questions about the ministry, please contact Janice Hurtado Aeppli at 312-217-7872 or at <a href="mailto:olmopenhearts@yahoo.com">olmopenhearts@yahoo.com</a>.

## **Pastoral Care Needs**

If you are homebound and unable to come to Mass and would like Holy Communion brought to you by trained Ministers of Care or if you need resources and support during a time of transition, loss or challenges, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care at j331-707-5380 or jolenel@olmercy.com. If care is needed in an emergency after office hours, please call 630-851-3444 to connect with the emergency line and talk with the priest on call. God bless you and keep you in His care!









# Welcome to America Family Packs

Thank you to all who signed up to purchase new items for the Welcome to America Family Packs which will provide newcomers (refugees) to the US in Chicagoland with the basics to begin anew.

Many have had to flee their homes due to war or persecution, etc. Some have spent years in refugee camps. We are blessed to reach out to them.

Reminder: the items should be brought to the OLM lobby on Dec. 3 or 4 before or after Mass.

Questions? Contact Chris at 631-561-9722 or chrisharveyny@gmail.com or Ida at idamphillips122@gmail.com

Thank you for caring and sharing.

# Free Throw Contest

You are invited to participate in the 2023 Robert H. Weaver Knight of Columbus #12005 Free-Throw Contest.

- ◆This free event is open to all girls and boys aged 9
  − 14 years old, prior to January 1, 2023
- •Winners will earn the opportunity to advance to a District Level competition
- •All you need to bring is proof of age and a parent or guardian to sign a consent form

Location: OLM Multi Purpose Room
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2023

Time: 7:00 P.M.

(runs about 1-2 hours)

6:45 P.M. Registration Opens

For additional information call (630) 957-7559.

# Around the Parish

### **Art & Environment**

At this time of Thanks and Giving, the Arts & Environment Committee at OLM would like to heartfully thank all who have offered their time and talent during the past liturgical year, to help make our worship space more inviting and welcoming. Not to mention any names, with fear of forgetting some, be assured you are remembered for your help.

As we begin a new liturgical year, and anticipate the birth of Jesus, we will, again, be decorating for 'the holidays'. Trees need to be set up, lights strung, wreaths decorated, plants set up and watered during the season, figurines moved, floral arrangements designed and the list goes on knowing we decorate not only the worship space, but the total environment as well! If you can spare a morning, or an hour in the afternoon, please reach out to the core committee at <a href="mailto:aandeolm@gmail.com">aandeolm@gmail.com</a> and we'll welcome your time and your talent. All are welcome, all ideas are welcomed. A heartfelt 'thanks' cannot be said enough!

# Magnify

It's an Advent-themed Magnify! There will be an additional priest for Confessions. Advent often comes and goes in a blur. The rush of preparing for Christmas, for bringing the calendar year to an end as a new liturgical year starts, can often eclipse the reason we set aside 4 weeks to prep our hearts and our homes. Let us start our first week of Advent of stepping back and prepping our hearts at Magnify on 11/30th @ 7pm.

# **Interfaith Food Pantry**

Please consider donating nonperishable items to the food pantry. The collection is the first weekend of the month. Our next collection is December 9 & 10. The collection bin will be located in the Atrium (Door B Entrance). This collection is separate from the collection for PADS that supports Hesed House Homeless Shelter. Thank you!

# Simbang Gabi

Saturday, December 17 Mass starts promptly at 6:00 pm and will be followed immediately by a ticketed reception in the Multi Purpose Room. Please visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/sgsaolm for information on tickets and volunteer opportunities or email sgcommittee16@gmail.com or text 331-588-5556. Come and join the Filipino community at the Simbang Gabi Mass which invites all of us to nurture the spirit of Advent not only as individual preparation but to prepare as a community, a family of God united in worship and in prayer.

### Parish Sacrificial Giving **Actual Year-to-Date Collections** 545,778 \$ Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget 581,400 \$ **Amount Short of Budget** (35,622)\$ 28,216 11/13/22 Sunday Collection \$ Weekly Sunday Goal 30,600 \$ **Amount Short of Goal** (2,384)

For the Budget Year 2022/23 we have Increased the Parish Sunday goal by 2%, to \$30,600/week, to help expand our various Ministries.

Thank you for your generosity!!

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

Parish Life Center (Const	ruct	tion Loan)
April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
September, 2022	\$	456,948
October, 2022	\$	445,665



# CMAA Pledge Report

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	\$ 152,000
Amount Pledged	\$ 172,856
Amount Paid	\$ 159,825
Remaining Balance	\$ 13,031
Rebate Amount	\$ 5,478
# of Families Pledged	512



# Online Giving

Online Giving is a great way to help your parish staff while supporting Our Lady of Mercy. Signing up is easy! Just go to our church website at <a href="www.olmercy.com">www.olmercy.com</a> and click "Give" located in the menu at the top of the page, then look for the Online Giving logo to get started. If you need assistance, directions can be found on the parish website listed under the Online Giving Link. There is also a help video located on the Online Giving website. It can be found at the top of each page.

Note: If you are giving online and would no longer like to receive envelopes in the mail, please inform the parish office.

Look for this icon



# Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

701 S. Eola Road † Aurora, IL 60504 www.olmercy.com

# **Parish Office**

Tel: (630) 851-3444 • FAX: (630) 851-34	68
Monday-Thursday	8:30am-4:00pm
Friday	8:30am-1:00pm

# **Mass Schedule**

Monday, Tuesday, Thurs	day, Friday8:00am
Monday (Spanish Mass)	6:30pm
Tuesday	8:00am, 6:30pm
Wednesday	12:00pm
Thursday	6:30am, 8:00am
Saturday	8:30am
Saturday (Anticipated fo	r 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**

O	/S	7.00 0.00
Linen Weekday	/C	/'Illiam-x'Illinm

# **Adoration**

Monday & Thursday	8:30am-6:00pm
Wednesdays	8:00am-12:00pm
First Friday of the Month	12:00pm

# **Benediction**

Monday & Thursday	6:00pm
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### **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.

scheduled no less than six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirement Contact Diane Reiter, ext. 221.

### 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	Pa	rish	Pri	ests
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Parish Priests
PastorFr. Michael Kearney
630-851-3444, Ext. 228 frmichael@olmercy.com
Parochial Vicar Fr. James Guarascio
630-851-3444, Ext. 226 frjames@olmercy.com
oso osi siri, exa ero iliriyamese olileroyicom
Permanent Deacons
Dcn Tim Kuepertkueper5@yahoo.com
Dcn Tony Leazzotonyl@olmercy.com
Dcn Tony Martinitonym@olmercy.com
Dcn Doug McIlvainedougm@olmercy.com
Dcn Phil Rehmer deaconphil@rehmer.com
Dcn Bugsy Sindacbugsys@olmercy.com
Dcn Art Tiongson hope2640@yahoo.com
2017 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110
Pastoral Staff
Director of Music Ministries Frank Sauter
331-707-5379 franks@olmercy.com
Parish Nurse/Pastoral Care Jolene LeRoy, RN
331-707-5380jolenel@olmercy.com
331-707-3380 Joienel@oimercy.com
Evangelization & Communications Zara Tan
331-707-5381zara@olmercy.com
·
Family Evangelization & Catechesis
Director (Pre K-5) & RCIC Mary Jo Trapani
331-707-5378maryjot@olmercy.com
Director (6-12) Dave Miserendino
331-707-5371 davem@olmercy.com
DE Constant
RE Secretary Karen Schwartz
331-707-5369karens@olmercy.com
Principal of All Saints Catholic Academy
630-961-6125Margie Marshall
Administrative Staff
Business ManagerBob Gancarz
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Parish SecretaryDiane Reiter
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-
St. Vincent de Paul Society
630-851-3444Voicemail-ext. 400