

*Peace*

OUR LADY *of* MERCY  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*December 4, 2022*

*2nd  
Sunday of Advent*

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



When I was growing up, my family would often host the various holiday gatherings. Inevitably, when Thanksgiving or Christmas rolled around and we were on to host, the family would go into an all-out cleanup mode. Suddenly, everyone had extra chores, and I still remember that my job was to Windex the tabletops and vacuum the carpets. The family went full court press on cleanup and our hope was to prepare a home worthy of receiving

our extended family and honored guests.

We can make the same connection with the season of Advent. This Liturgical season is meant to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus Christ on Christmas day. St. John the Baptist proclaims, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" His mission was much the same: to prepare people to receive Jesus through the gift of repentance. Hence, if we're wondering how to prepare for Christmas, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is always a beautiful way to prepare to receive Jesus.

It is important to note that, although St. John the Baptist's message was proclaimed in the desert of all places, people still traveled great distances to receive his message of repentance. I truly believe that these travels themselves were even part of the preparation of repentance—showing they were willing to go out of their way to ask God for forgiveness. Likewise, any good confession needs preparation and effort. I would suggest taking the time to read through a good examination, whether it's the ones in the narthex, on our MyParish app, online by searching for the "Knights of Columbus examination of conscience" or on our website under Sacraments and select Reconciliation (where you can find an Examination of Conscience for Children, Teens, Singles, Married and one in Spanish).

Now in all honesty, I have to acknowledge that when we had to prepare the house for our visitors, I didn't always respond in the most enthusiastic way. I sometimes would only begrudgingly finish my tasks. However, the one thing that never changed was the joy that we all had in celebrating the holidays with family and friends. This can happen with the Sacrament of Reconciliation too! It might not be an enjoyable experience to have to acknowledge our brokenness and sins, but it will allow us all the more to celebrate the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts this Christmas!

In this spirit, Fr. James and I will be offering six straight days of confession this year. Starting Monday December 12th, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, through Friday the 16th, 7-8:30 PM, followed by our normal Saturday confession times. Our hope is to give an ample amount of time for people to prepare their hearts to receive Jesus.

Father Michael



## Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

### Monday, December 5 - Advent Weekday

- 8:00 am † Joseph P Dombrowski, Jr, by Mark Dombrowski
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction
- 6:30 pm † Ashley Marie Sanchez, by Jolene LeRoy  
*(Spanish Mass)*

### Tuesday, December 6 - St Nicholas, Bishop

- 8:00 am † Lori Ziber, by Betty and Bob Duda
- 6:30 pm † Ruby Ricca, by Mila Lanuza
- 7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

### Wednesday, December 7 - St Ambrose, Bishop

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00 pm † Virginia Sillasen, by Jeff & Jolene LeRoy
- 12:30 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)
- 7:00 pm † Jim Hartnett, by Cheryl Hartnett

### Thursday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception

- 6:30 am Int Helen Joseph, by Audrey Harris
- 8:00 am † Michael Prasse, by Family
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00 pm † Lindsay Willis, by The Fernandes Family
- 6:00 pm Benediction
- 7:00 pm Int Domenica Marsala, by Rose Ann Marsala

### Friday, December 9 - St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

- 8:00 am † Andrew Repak, by Renee Guarascio

### Saturday, December 10 - Advent Weekday

- 8:30 am † Bonifacio Talaway, by Family
- 9:00am Reconciliation (Until 10:00 AM)
- 1:30 pm Reconciliation (Until 2:30 PM)
- 4:00 pm **Vigil - Third Sunday of Advent**  
† Terry Richman, by Patsy Peterson  
† George Durante, by The LaGioia Family

### Sunday, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family  
The People of Our Lady of Mercy
- 10:00 am † Rose Christine Sincora, by Family  
*(Live Streamed)*
- 12:00 pm † Colleen Bartlett, by Carolyn Kerkla
- 5:30 pm † Derryl by Family





## Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Charlie Damore            | 9. The Reid Family         |
| 2. Caron & Thompson Families | 10. Charles E Thompson     |
| 3. Whalen & Jirasek Families | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Baby Riley Chick          | 12. Elaine Nichols         |
| 5. Madeline Spradlin         | 13. Edwin Garcia           |
| 6. Aristedes Gamboa          | 14. Helen O'Brien          |
| 7. Baby Cerina Skye          | 15. Glenn L Heywood        |
| 8. Anthony M Loquercio, Jr   | 16. Elaine Nichols         |

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 10 & 11***

**Father James will preach at all Masses.**

<b>Saturday</b>	4:00 pm	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Bugsy Sindac
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 am	Fr Michael Kearney Dcn Doug McIlvaine
	10:00 am	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Art Tionsgon
	12:00 pm	Fr Michael Kearney Dcn Tony Martini
	5:30 pm	Fr James Guarascio TBD

## 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  
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  
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.*

### ***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 10 & 11. 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!

## Noticias del P.I.T. (Párroco en Formación)



Cuando era niño, mi familia a menudo organizaba las diversas reuniones festivas. Inevitablemente, cuando llegaba el Día de Acción de Gracias o Navidad y éramos los anfitriones, la familia entraba en un modo de limpieza total. De repente, todos tenían tareas adicionales, y todavía recuerdo que mi trabajo consistía en limpiar con Windex las mesas y aspirar las alfombras. La familia presionaba a todos sobre la limpieza y nuestra esperanza era preparar un hogar digno de recibir a nuestra amplia familia e invitados de honor.

Podemos hacer la misma conexión con la temporada de Adviento. Este tiempo Litúrgico está destinado a preparar nuestros corazones para recibir a Jesucristo el día de Navidad. San Juan Bautista proclama: "¡Arrepiéntanse, porque el reino de los cielos se ha acercado!" Su misión era muy parecida: preparar a las personas para recibir a Jesús a través del don del arrepentimiento. Por lo tanto, si nos preguntamos cómo prepararnos para la Navidad, el Sacramento de la Reconciliación es siempre una hermosa manera de prepararse para recibir a Jesús.

Es importante notar que, aunque el mensaje de San Juan Bautista fue proclamado en el desierto de todos los lugares, la gente todavía viajó grandes distancias para recibir su mensaje de arrepentimiento. Realmente creo que estos viajes en sí mismos fueron incluso parte de la preparación del arrepentimiento, lo que demuestra que estaban dispuestos a hacer todo lo posible para pedirle perdón a Dios. Asimismo, toda buena confesión necesita preparación y esfuerzo. Sugeriría tomarse el tiempo para leer un buen examen, ya sea los que están en el nártex, en nuestra aplicación MyParish, en línea buscando el "Examen de conciencia de los Caballeros de Colón" o en nuestro sitio web bajo Sacramentos y seleccionar Reconciliación (donde se puede encontrar un Examen de Conciencia para Niños, Adolescentes, Solteros, Casados y uno en Español).

Ahora, con toda honestidad, debo reconocer que cuando teníamos que preparar la casa para nuestros visitantes, no siempre respondía de la manera más entusiasta. A veces solo terminaba mis tareas a regañadientes. Sin embargo, lo único que nunca cambió fue la alegría que todos teníamos al celebrar las fiestas con familiares y amigos. ¡Esto también puede suceder con el Sacramento de la Reconciliación! Puede que no sea una experiencia agradable tener que reconocer nuestro quebrantamiento y nuestros pecados, ¡pero nos permitirá celebrar aún más la bienvenida de Jesús en nuestros corazones esta Navidad!

En este espíritu, el Padre James y yo ofreceremos seis días seguidos de confesión este año. A partir del lunes 12 de diciembre, fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, hasta el viernes 16, de 7:00 a 8:30 p. m., seguido de nuestro horario normal de confesión de los sábados. Nuestra esperanza es dar suficiente tiempo para que las personas preparen sus corazones para recibir a Jesús.

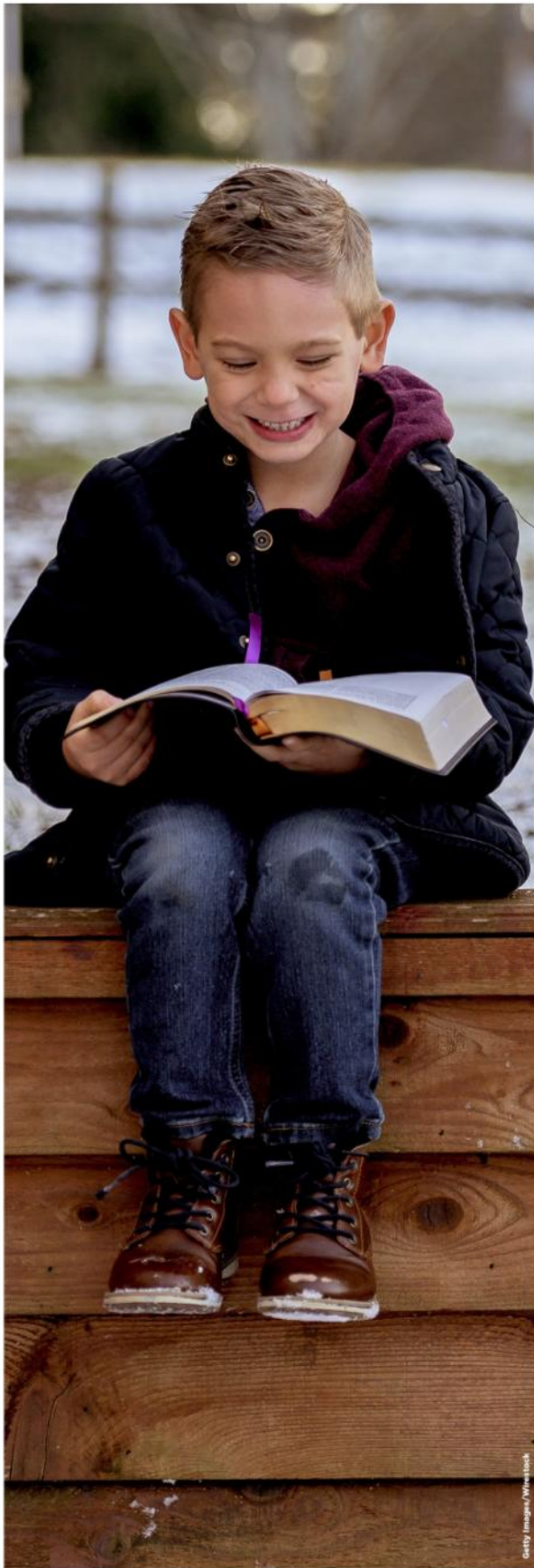
Padre Michael



## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Domingo</b>	Is 11, 1-10; Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17; Rom 15, 4-9; Mt 3, 1-12
<b>Lunes</b>	Is 35, 1-10; Sal 84, 9ab-10. 11-12. 13-14; Lc 5, 17-26
<b>Martes</b>	Is 40, 1-11; Sal 95, 1-2. 3 y 10ac. 11-12. 13; Mt 18, 12-14
<b>Miércoles</b>	Is 40, 25-31; Sal 102, 1-2. 3-4. 8 y 10; Mt 11, 28-30
<b>Jueves</b>	Gn 3, 9-15. 20; Sal 97, 1. 2-3ab. 3bc-4; Ef 1, 3-6. 11-12; Lc 1, 26-38
<b>Viernes</b>	Is 48, 17-19; Sal 1, 1-2. 3. 4 y 6; Mt 11, 16-19
<b>Sábado</b>	Ec (Sir) 48, 1-4. 9-11; Sal 79, 2ac. 3b. 15-16. 18-19; Mt 17, 10-13
<b>Domingo</b>	Is 35, 1-6a. 10; Sal 145, 7. 8-9a. 9bc-10; Sant 5, 7-10; Mt 11, 2-11





December 4, 2022

## Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 | Rom 15:4-9 | Mt 3:1-12

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Harmony. It can seem so elusive in these times when our news-feeds bombard us with reminders of what's wrong with our world: war, political conflicts, hunger, injustice, violence. We may also experience discord in our homes or within our hearts. Perhaps that is why the beautiful imagery in Isaiah's prophecy, where Isaiah envisions a world transformed by the coming of the Messiah, strikes a chord as we prepare for Christ's coming: We picture the wolf lying beside the lamb, and the calf with the lion. All will be right with the world. As we reflect on the areas in our lives that lack harmony, we are reminded to focus on Jesus and the Father, the source of all good. Through prayer and reflection on our Advent readings, we can "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I have a "smart" alarm clock. To shut it off, I just have to say, "Alexa, turn off my alarm." Easy, right? Well, too easy, it turns out, because lately I've slept right through the one-sided conversation. But it's hard to miss John's wake-up call: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Perhaps, though, we've become complacent; we've heard it so often that we skip right past it. That can happen during Advent, this season of preparation and, yes, repentance. I love our family traditions - candy every day, in the morning!; our well-worn Nativity set; lighting the Advent candles; Christmas concerts and gatherings. None of those are bad, of course, but in the blur of the season we must be challenged by John the Baptist's words to prepare not only our homes but our hearts for Christ's coming. During this season, we can examine our lives to separate the wheat from the chaff, focusing on those things that bring us closer to the Lord and one another. As St. Paul encourages the Romans, "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God."

**PRAY** St. Paul's words above give us pretty clear instruction for how to live out our faith by welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us. Reflect on these words during daily Advent reflection this week: When have we welcomed others in our lives - and truly loved them? How can we do that for someone in the coming days?

## Pastoral Care

### Grief and Loss

The monthly grief support session is Monday, December 19 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 live in hope. If you have any questions or would like support, please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care at [jolene@olmercy.com](mailto:jolene@olmercy.com).


### 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 [olmopenhearts@yahoo.com](mailto:olmopenhearts@yahoo.com).

### 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 331-707-5380 or at [jolene@olmercy.com](mailto:jolene@olmercy.com). If pastoral 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!




**Do It For**

**The DONUTS**

It's Donut Sunday with Santa on December 18<sup>th</sup> after the 8 & 10am masses in the MPR. Take a picture with Santa and have a donut and coffee and stay for fellowship.

This month's Donut hosts: Fit Shepherds Ministry



OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Register now for  
**Unbound Freedom In Christ Conference**  
**DEC 9 & 10**

FATHER STEVE BORELLO  
FATHER JAMES GUARASCIO  
THE UNBOUND TEAM

Friday evening December 9 from 6:30pm to 9:15pm  
Saturday all day December 10 from 9am to 9pm

REGISTRATION & DETAILS  
[WWW.OLMERCY.COM/UNBOUND](http://WWW.OLMERCY.COM/UNBOUND)

Fee \$50 Parishioners | \$75 Non-Parishioners  
\*for catered lunch, dinner & materials

## COPING WITH GRIEF AND LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Monday, December 12 at 7:00PM in Room 218  
Tuesday, December 13 at 11:00AM in Room 218

If you are looking for support to help you cope with grief during the holiday season, this is an opportunity to join others to find ways to honor the memory of loved ones while being open to ways that may help you cope with your grief during the holidays.

Come to one of the sessions as the same information will be discussed at each session. We will pray for our loved ones in a special way and look to our faith for comfort and hope.

For more information or to register, (registration is preferred but not required) please contact Jolene LeRoy RN Parish Nurse and Director of Pastoral Care at 331-707-5380 or at [jolene@olmercy.com](mailto:jolene@olmercy.com).







Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

# DECEMBER

*Jesus, joy, and jingle bells!*

For unto us a child is born. - Isaiah 9:6

## Faith + Family Tips:

- + Advent is the 4-week period leading up to Christmas. We burn candles to remind us that we are preparing for Jesus, the light of the world. This month, intentionally light a candle while you read a story together, play a board game, say a prayer, eat dinner together, etc. As you light the candle, remind your family that Jesus is the reason for the Christmas season.
- + Celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas on December 6th. Have your children leave their shoes outside their bedroom door on the evening of the 5th. It is customary to have parents stuff them with treats: small oranges, chocolate coins, or an ornament for the tree. Share how Santa Claus can be traced back to this saint.
- + The star led the shepherds and wise men to the place where Jesus was born. Take a star and hide it each day for your children to find. On Christmas, hang it over your nativity or at the top of your tree!

## Teaching:

Wreaths were a teaching tool in the early Church. The circular shape represents the circle of life from Jesus' birth till death. Pointy holly leaves symbolize the crown of thorns and the berries signify His blood and sacrifice for us. The enduring evergreen branches tell of His victory over death and forever love for us. As you see Christmas wreaths this year, stop for a moment and share this message!

## Prayer:

Dear Jesus, this month we remember your birth in a simple stable, to a young mother, on a silent night. You came to teach us what true love is. Help us to live that Christmas love out loud! Happy Birthday, Jesus!  
Amen.

FAITH + FAMILY  
*collective*

## Best Hot Chocolate Recipe:

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 1/4 cups cocoa powder
- 1/2 - 1 1/4 teaspoon salt, to taste
- 3/4 cup hot water
- 1 gallon milk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon



In a large saucepan, combine sugar, cocoa, and salt. Slowly add in hot water, mixing well. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture boils. Boil and stir for 2 minutes. Add milk, stirring occasionally. Do not boil. Remove from heat and whisk in vanilla and cinnamon.

## Family Adventure: Christmas Cards and Caroling

Make some handmade Christmas cards, pack up the car, fill a thermos with hot chocolate, and head out to bless your family and friends. Encourage your children to ring the doorbell and start singing or humming Christmas carols. Present your loved ones with a card and wish them a Merry Christmas! Jump back in your car and do it over and over again.







# Knights News:

Knights of Columbus Council 12005 –  
Our Lady of Mercy

**Blood Drive:** We were able to collect 22 units of blood at our last drive on 11/12! Thanks to all who came and gave so others can live – you saved 62 lives! Our next drive will be Saturday January 7<sup>th</sup> from 8 – 12.

**Mobile Food Pantry:** We served 125 families at our Oct pantry and 130 families this past Wednesday (11/16). Thanks to all who volunteered. Our next pantry will be 12/21 and will start at 4:00. If you would like to help please plan to arrive by 3:30.

**Pancake Breakfast:** We were able to raise \$1,200 for Waterleaf thanks to your generous contributions and profits from the breakfast. Thank you to all who came and donated to this great cause. Our next breakfast will be Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup> with profits benefiting the summer Teen Mission Trip.

**Intellectual Disabilities Drive:** We were able to collect a total of \$2,100 during the weekend of 9/16-18. Thanks to all who donated to this worthy cause. We will be sending checks to Gigi's Playhouse, Waubonsie Best Buddies and Metea Best Buddies program (both support Special Olympics).

**Free Throw Contest:** It's that time again to sharpen up your free throw skills. We will hold our annual Free throw contest on Thursday January 15<sup>th</sup> in the PLC Gym. Registration will start at 6:45 and the contest at 7:00. This event is open to boys and girls aged 9 – 14 (prior to Jan 1, 2023). This is always a fun night with prizes for the participants. Make plans to attend!

**Thinking of becoming a Knight?** We will be holding an information meeting on Sunday 1/29 after the 10:00am Mass in room 114 to explain who the Knights of Columbus are and how to become a member. We will show a short video and provide refreshments. Interested practicing Catholic Men and their families are invited to join us. Membership is open to all practicing Catholic men aged 18 and up, it will only take 30 minutes of your time and you can become part of the largest Catholic Men's service organization in the world. We need you to help us make a difference! For information reach out to Jeff LeRoy, Grand Knight, at [jeroy53@hotmail.com](mailto:jeroy53@hotmail.com) or call 630-336-7728.

ASSIST FAMILIES IN NEED


# Angel Giving Program


THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM BENEFITS THOSE INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED BY SVDP, HESED HOUSE & AURORA INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

HOW CAN YOU ASSIST FAMILIES IN NEED OVER THE HOLIDAYS?

*Option 1*  
Monetary donations can be made under the Angel Giving Fund via our online giving portal or via check made payable to Our Lady of Mercy with "Angel Giving" in the memo for tax purposes. Accepted thru 12/31.

*Option 2*  
Pick-up a stocking after any of the masses the weekend of November 26/27. Fill your stocking with stuffers & return it to the bin by the Welcome Desk or to the Main Office by Sunday 12/11! Benefits kids @ Aurora Food Pantry.





**OUR LADY of MERCY**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

[Lydias@olmercy.com](mailto:Lydias@olmercy.com) with Questions



## DECK THE HALLS

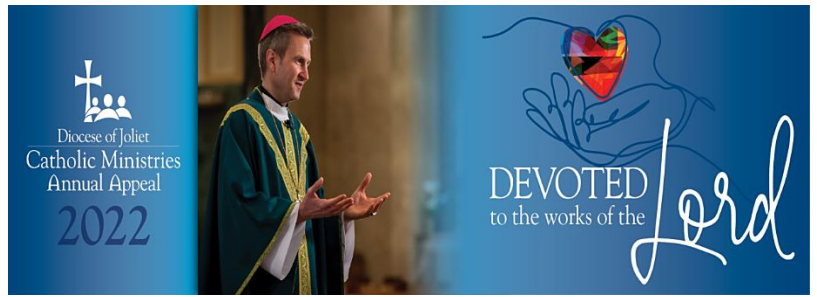
This Christmas we will decorate the church with poinsettias around the altar. If you wish to make a gift towards the flowers please go to our website at [www.olmercy.com](http://www.olmercy.com) and click on "Give" and log into Online Giving and choose "Flowers:".

If you wish to memorialize your loved ones you can add their names in the Comments section. Flowers can also be memorialized by using one of the flower envelopes found in the narthex.

The recommended donation is \$20.00 per intention.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping to make our church beautiful during the holiday season.

Parish Sacrificial Giving		
Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	575,611
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	612,000
<b>Amount in Excess of Budget</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(36,389)</b>
11/20/22 Sunday Collection	\$	29,833
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	30,600
<b>Amount Short of Goal</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(767)</b>
<i>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.</i>		
<i>Thank you for your generosity!!</i>		
<i>Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Parish in your will and estate planning.</i>		



## 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	\$ 174,561
Amount Paid	\$ 162,465
Remaining Balance	\$ 12,096
Rebate Amount	\$ 7,326
# of Families Pledged	517

Parish Life Center (Construction Loan)		
April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
October, 2022	\$	445,665
November, 2022	\$	433,954

Diocese of Joliet



Blanchette Catholic Center  
1655 Weber Rd.  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403  
[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis often highlights the value of older adults and the role they play in conveying the faith from one generation to the next. In his message this year for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, he noted, "A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance."

As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection on the weekend of December 10-11 — an appeal that benefits some 25,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States — I am reminded that senior religious never retire from their vows.

Instead, the prayer and ministry of older religious are an ongoing witness to the Gospel. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations by embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Please support the retirement needs of our senior religious. And please join me in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Paz y bien,  
**Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks**  
Bishop of Joliet

# 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](http://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. Michael Kearney  
630-851-3444, Ext. 228 .. [frmichael@olmercy.com](mailto:frmichael@olmercy.com)

**Parochial Vicar** ..... Fr. James Guarascio  
630-851-3444, Ext. 226 ..... [frjames@olmercy.com](mailto:frjames@olmercy.com)

## Permanent Deacons

Dcn Tim Kueper ..... [tkueper5@yahoo.com](mailto:tkueper5@yahoo.com)

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