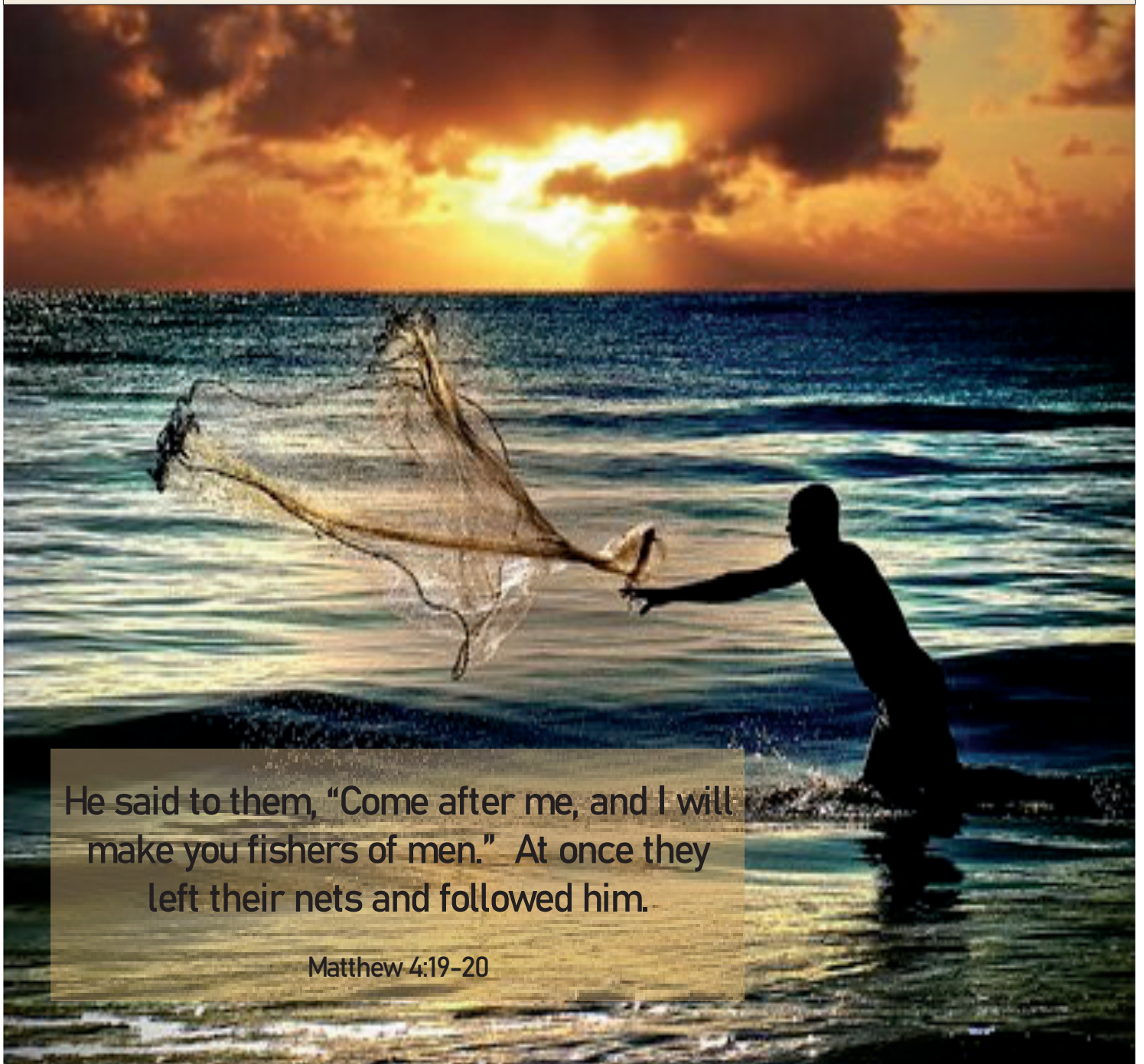


OUR LADY of MERCY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 22, 2023

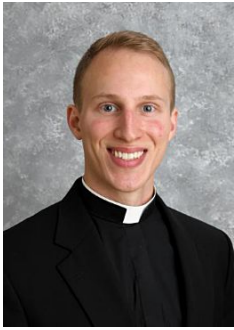
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:19-20

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



I hope you've heard of the Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz by now! It was the leading podcast for a long time and still seems to top the charts every January. There's even a Spanish version now with Fr. Sergio Serrano O.P. which is just as good! This year Ascension has also just released *The Catechism in a Year*.

Now, when you hear catechism you might think, *BORING!* And that's what I thought when I was first asked to read the catechism in seminary.

How wrong I was! I found the 1992 Catechism gifted to us by St. John Paul II's initiative and (then) Cardinal Ratzinger's theological leadership to be *an absolute masterpiece* that shines forth with the beauty and clarity of everything that Jesus' Church has taught and handed on throughout the centuries. It's a single book that can concisely and seriously answer just about every question phrased as: What does the Catholic Church teach about ___?

I cannot recommend enough that every Catholic read/listen through the Catechism cover to cover at least once in their lifetime, especially if it's with a guide like Fr. Mike. Why? For one because we cannot love what we do not know. For two because the more we know another (like God and His Church) the better we can love and follow them. For three because knowing Church teaching backwards and forwards is both freeing and healing. Yes. As Jesus Himself says, "The truth will set you free." (Jn 8:32)

Many people nowadays tout the importance of 'following your conscience' in order to justify all sorts of things. Part of their reasoning is true because our consciences are binding. However, most people don't realize that the word *conscience* literally means "to know-with", *conscientia*. Who are we *knowing with*? Jesus and His Church. If we thus do not inform our consciences such that they know-with Jesus' Body, the Church, then we may just be *knowing-with* 'the world, the flesh, and the devil'. (Remember Jesus' rebuke to Peter in Matt 16:23)

We are all born with the wounds of original sin, and one of them is called the 'darkness of the intellect'. If we understand this, then we know that informing our consciences isn't just obligatory, it is *healing!* Knowing with Christ's Church heals our wounded intellects that tend to under-value the things of heaven and over-value the things of this world. It heals our ability to see, discern, and know that which is the best choice in any given circumstance. It heals our worldview because it habituates our intellects to the full truth of things rather than misguided understandings. This will dispose us to living with deeper faith, hope, and charity.

Each time we sin, we do violence to our intellects by habituating them to making wrong judgements about which is the greater good that we could choose. This is why we're *so good* at self-justification, regardless of the wrongness of the act! On the other hand, when we habituate our intellects to knowing things for as they really are—like by reading the Catechism—we heal the violence previously done by our sins. This frees us to not only know what is the best choice to be made, but also to more easily choose it, difficult as it may be, because of how firmly we know it to be true! So don't wait any longer—check out *The Catechism in a Year* on all your podcasting apps!

Father James



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, January 23 - Day of Prayer for Unborn Children

- 8:00 am † Frances Gruhlke, by Ken & Therese Kulawiak
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction
- 6:30 pm † Martina Preciado, by Raul Preciado Family
(Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, January 24 - St Francis de Sales, Bishop

- 8:00 am † Paz Dagang, by Family
- 6:30 pm † Wiktoria Kowimska, by J.E. Rutka
- 7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Wednesday, January 25 - The Conversion of St Paul

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00 pm † Reynaldo Rueda, by Family
- 12:30 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Thursday, January 26 - St Timothy St Titus, Bishops

- 6:30 am † Dannette Simpson, by Adrienne Richess
- 8:00 am † Dorothy Waszak, by Carolyn Kerkla
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction

Friday, January 27 - St Angela Merici, Virgin

- 8:00 am † Ryan Steffy, by The Gaurascio Family

Saturday, January 28 - St Thomas Aquinas, Priest

- 8:30 am † Alfonso Ramirez, by Bonnie Ramirez
- 9:00am Reconciliation (Until 10:00 AM)
- 1:30 pm Reconciliation (Until 2:30 PM)
- 4:00 pm **Vigil - 4th Sunday in Ordinary time**
† Edward Nevera, by Stanley Nieweglowski
† Frank Fassl, by Willie Durante

Sunday, January 29 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family
† Dcd Members of Nemetz Family
- 10:00 am † Patricia Feeley, by Mary & Luke Kelly
(Live Streamed)
- 12:00 pm † Jim & Jane Darby, by Mary Campos
- 5:30 pm † Rosamma Joseph



Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Louise Touvell | 9. The Feldman Family |
| 2. Fr Don McLaughlin | 10. Victims of Natural Disaster |
| 3. Clergy | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Baby Riley Chick | 12. The Sick |
| 5. The Pluskota Family | 13. First Responders |
| 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra | 14. Vocations |
| 7. Baby Cerina Skye | 15. Bernice Tokarski |
| 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 28 & 29

Father Michael will preach at all Masses.

Saturday	4:00 pm	Fr Michael Kearney
Sunday	8:00 am	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Phil Rehmer
	10:00 am	Fr Michael Kearney Dcn Doug McIlvaine
	12:00 pm	Fr James Guarascio Dcn Art Tionson
	5:30 pm	Fr Michael Kearney

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
Michelle Maeirs
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.

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)



Espero que hasta ahora hayan oído hablar de la Biblia en un Año con el Padre Mike Schmitz! Fue el podcast líder durante mucho tiempo y todavía parece encabezar las listas cada mes de enero. Incluso hay una versión en español ahora con el Padre Sergio Serrano O.P. que es igual de buena! Este año, Ascensión también acaba de publicar *El Catecismo en un Año*.

Ahora, cuando escuchas el catecismo puedes pensar, ¡ABURRIDO! Y eso es lo que pensé cuando me pidieron por primera vez que leyera el catecismo en el seminario. ¡Qué equivocado estaba! Encontré el Catecismo de

1992 que nos fue regalado por la iniciativa de San Juan Pablo II y (entonces) el liderazgo teológico del Cardenal Ratzinger como *una obra maestra absoluta* que brilla con la belleza y la claridad de todo lo que la Iglesia de Jesús ha enseñado y transmitido a lo largo de los siglos. Es un solo libro que puede responder de manera concisa y seria casi todas las preguntas formuladas como: ¿Qué enseña la Iglesia Católica sobre ___?

No puedo recomendar lo suficiente que cada Católico lea/escuche el Catecismo de cabo a rabo al menos una vez en su vida, especialmente si es con una guía como el Padre Mike. ¿Por qué? 1) porque no podemos amar lo que no conocemos. 2) Porque cuanto más conocemos a otro (como Dios y Su Iglesia) podemos amarlo y seguirlo mejor. 3) Porque conociendo la enseñanza de la Iglesia al derecho y al revés es a la vez liberador y sanador. Sí. Como dice el mismo Jesús: “La verdad os hará libres”. (Juan 8:32)

Mucha gente hoy en día pregona la importancia de “seguir tu conciencia” para justificar todo tipo de cosas. Parte de su razonamiento es cierto porque nuestras conciencias son vinculantes. Sin embargo, la mayoría de la gente no se da cuenta de que la palabra *conciencia* significa literalmente “saber con”, conciencia. ¿Con quién estamos sabiendo? Jesús y Su Iglesia. Si no informamos a nuestras conciencias de tal manera que sepan, con el Cuerpo de Jesús, la Iglesia, entonces podemos estar simplemente sabiendo con 'el mundo, la carne y el diablo'. (Recuerden la reprensión de Jesús a Pedro en Mateo 16:23).

Todos nacemos con las heridas del pecado original, y una de ellas se llama las “tinieblas del intelecto”. Si entendemos esto, entonces sabemos que el informar a nuestras conciencias no es solo obligatorio, ¡es sanador! El conocer con la Iglesia de Cristo sana nuestros intelectos heridos que tienden a menospreciar las cosas del cielo y sobrevalorar las cosas de este mundo. Sana nuestra capacidad de ver, discernir y saber cuál es la mejor opción en cualquier circunstancia. Sana nuestra visión del mundo porque habitúa nuestro intelecto a la verdad completa de las cosas en lugar de entendimientos erróneos. Esto nos dispondrá a vivir con una fe, una esperanza y una caridad más profundas.

Cada vez que pecamos, violentamos nuestros intelectos al habituarlos a hacer juicios erróneos sobre cuál es el mejor bien que podemos elegir. ¡Es por eso que somos *tan buenos* en la autojustificación, independientemente de lo incorrecto del acto! Por otro lado, cuando habituamos nuestro intelecto a conocer las cosas tal como son en realidad, como leyendo el Catecismo, sanamos la violencia que antes causaron nuestros pecados. Esto nos libera no solo para saber cuál es la mejor elección, sino también para elegirla más fácilmente, por difícil que sea, ¡debido a la firmeza con la que sabemos que es verdad! Así que no esperen más: ¡echen un vistazo a *El Catecismo en un Año* en todas sus aplicaciones de podcasting!

Padre James



Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo	Is 8, 23b—9, 3; Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14; 1 Cor 1, 10-13. 17; Mt 4, 12-23 o Mt 4, 12-17
Lunes	Heb 9, 15. 24-28; Sal 97, 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4. 5-6; Mc 3, 22-30
Martes	Heb 10, 1-10; Sal 39, 2 y 4ab. 7-8a. 10. 11; Mc 3, 31-35
Miércoles	Hch 22, 3-16 o Hch 9, 1-22; Sal 116, 1bc. 2; Mc 16, 15-18
Jueves	2 Tm 1, 1-8 o Ti 1, 1-5; Sal 95, 1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 10; Mc 4, 21-25
Viernes	Heb 10, 32-39; Sal 36, 3-4. 5-6. 23-24. 39-40; Mc 4, 26-34
Sábado	Heb 11, 1-2. 8-19; Lc 1, 69-70. 71-72. 73-75; Mc 4, 35-41
Domingo	Sof 2, 3; 3, 12-13; Sal 145, 7. 8-9a. 9bc-10; 1 Cor 1, 26-31; Mt 5, 1-12a



January 22, 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 8:23–9:3 | 1 Cor 1:10–13, 17 | Mt 4:12–23 or Mt. 4:12–17

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Since the Fall, the world has been riddled with strife and divisiveness. From the disobedience in the Garden, to Cain and Abel, to conflicts and wars throughout the centuries, it's clear that we humans are prone to picking sides and fighting over them. We hear about this even within the early Church from St. Paul in today's second reading. There were rivalries, and Christians were saying things such as, "I belong to Paul" or "I belong to Cephas." But Paul wisely asks: "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" Clearly not. There is only one source of Truth - Jesus Christ - and Paul never hesitated to refuse credit for himself, and to instead glorify the Lord in his word and deed. This is the model set for us - to refuse to set ourselves or God-made-in-our-own-image over and against the Triune God who created us. Christ came to unite us with himself and to one another, in reconciliation with the Father. His words are now our words: Repent and believe in the Gospel. Pray for the grace to come together as the body of Christ so that we can be his hands and feet in the world and carry out the work he began.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In Jesus Christ the kingdom of God enters into human history, fulfilling God's promise of salvation for his people. Christ inaugurated the kingdom on earth, and as members of his Church we are responsible for continuing to build it - here and now. As Christ called his first disciples and made them "fishers of men," so he calls us, that we might go forth "proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people."

PRAY The Lord has commissioned us to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Where we cannot go physically or in person, we can go in prayer. Bring before the Lord all who yet need to hear his voice and repent and believe. Pray for those who are persecuted for their belief in Jesus Christ.



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7PM - DINNER

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Ars (St. John Vianney "Cure of Ars")

June 5 through 17, 2023

Great Shrines of France Pilgrimage

with *Father James Guarascio*

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS
 Sun Jan 29 @ 11:15am Mon Jan 30 @ 7:30pm

Explore France's beautiful Catholic Shrines on this cross-country Pilgrimage.

La Salette (Our Lady of La Salette) Lyon Lisieux (St. Therese the Little Flower)

hosted by the respect life ministry
for questions connect with
 Lisa San Diego 630-258-0122
sandiego_family@msn.com

A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer. —POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II, EVANGELIUM VITAE

ADORATION FOR LEGAL PROTECTION OF THE UNBORN

Sunday, Jan 22 from 7pm to 10pm

In all the Dioceses, January 22 shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

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FEBRUARY 23, 2023

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OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH



The **OLM PADS/Hesed House Board** is now on display in the Atrium (Door B Entrance). The board contains a “wish-list” of items used to prepare meals for 235 guests at the Hesed House homeless shelter, on the first Tuesday of each month. **Drop-off** for all items are **before all Masses** on the **weekend of February 4 & 5, 2023.**

Monetary donations can be made via the **OLM Online Giving Portal** (please specify donation is for Hesed House), or make checks payable to **Our Lady of Mercy Church**, and write on the memo “**Hesed House-PADS**”.

Thank you for supporting our mission of mercy.



Around the Parish

Respect Life

Join us for Adoration on Sunday January 22nd from 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM for the Legal Protection for the Unborn. The spoken Rosary for Life, Divine Mercy Chaplet and devotional prayers will be said for the respect of all life from conception to natural death. Copies of the Novena Prayers for the Legal Protection for the Unborn are on the welcome desk by the atrium. Please join us in this Novena from January 19 to 27. Let us put on the armor of God and storm heaven with our prayers as we continue this spiritual battle for life.

Altar Server Training

Training for current Altar Servers who wish to become Senior Servers will take place in the Church on Sunday, January 22 from 3:30 to 4:30. Current Altar Servers that are in 8th grade or higher are eligible to move to Senior Server.

Training for New Altar Servers will take place in the Church on Sunday, January 29 from 2:30 to 4:00 PM. Boys and girls that registered in the parish and are in 5th grade or higher are eligible to become Altar Servers.

If you have any questions, please contact Pat Heraty at pat.heraty@opcpolymers.com.

Magnify

Come offer glory to God and Thanksgiving at the next Magnify on Wednesday, January 25 at 7:00 pm. This is an adoration, praise and worship event with a scriptural reflection by Father Michael. There will also be an opportunity for reconciliation.

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 jleroy53@hotmail.com or call 630-336-7728.



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Parish Sacrificial Giving

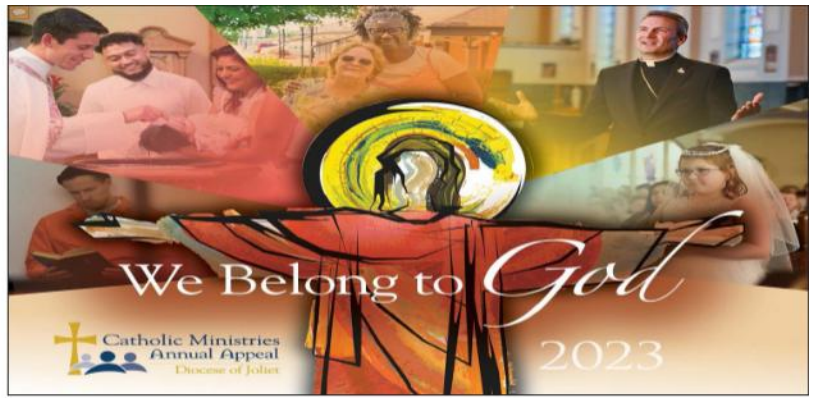
Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	798,720
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	826,200
Amount Short of Budget	\$	(27,480)
01/08/23 Sunday Collection	\$	32,522
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	30,600
Amount in Excess of Goal	\$	1,922

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.

Christmas Collection:	\$58,840
Christmas Budget:	<u>\$64,000</u>
Amount Short of Budget:	\$(5,160)

Parish Life Center (Construction Loan)

April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
November, 2022	\$	433,954
December, 2022	\$	421,834



The 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal is now underway
As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are asking all parishioners to pledge their support to this important effort for our community of faith.

This year's CMAA theme is *We Belong to God*. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we help the poor and vulnerable, increase vocations and educate people of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities in the faith. Our parish could not accomplish all of this on its own.

Our parish's goal for the 2023 CMAA is \$141,900 and 70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

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 www.olmercy.com 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.

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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. Michael Kearney
630-851-3444, Ext. 228 .. frmichael@olmercy.com

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

Permanent Deacons

Dcn Tim Kueper tkueper5@yahoo.com

Dcn Tony Leazzo tonyl@olmercy.com

Dcn Tony Martini tonym@olmercy.com

Dcn Doug McIlvaine dougm@olmercy.com

Dcn Phil Rehmer deaconphil@rehmer.com

Dcn Buggy Sindac bugsys@olmercy.com

Dcn Art Tiongson hope2640@yahoo.com

Pastoral Staff

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

Pastoral Care Jolene LeRoy
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 Karen Schwartz
331-707-5369 karen@olmercy.com

Principal 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



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