



OUR LADY of MERCY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

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



On Good Friday, Pontius Pilate was not the only one who had a choice to make. The very same choice was brought both to the people of the world then, as well as to the people of the world now. We may be unaware of this choice, but that's why the Church in her wisdom has us hear Pontius Pilate pose the very same question to us this weekend. He brings before us the one called Jesus of Nazareth, and the one known as Barabbas. The two seem like they couldn't be more different, until we recognize

that *Bar-abbas* literally means "son of the father". Here then is our choice and question: Which son of the father will we follow? Will we choose to follow Jesus Christ, the son of the Father of sacrificial love, or will you follow Bar-abbas, the son of the father of the passions?

Surprisingly, we participate in the Palm Sunday liturgy by crying out, "Barabbas!" It's a painful moment each year no matter how many times we've done it, because if we are honest with ourselves, we know that we all too often choose our own passions over our Lord. Like the crowds before Pilate, we too choose to act selfishly over being selfless. In a sense, whenever we choose sin, we once again choose Bar-abbas!

To admit this is hard. It's very sobering. It first of all takes a certain amount of self-awareness—and then, very quickly, *a lot* of humility. To be willing to look in the mirror and humbly submit our understanding of right vs. wrong to the God of all, rather than to what we'd like to think is right or wrong. When we put aside our attempts at justifying ourselves and our actions, the reality is clear: in our human brokenness, we don't always do what is right! St. Paul describes this experience so well: "What I do, I do not understand. For I do not do what I want, but I do what I hate." (Rom 7:15) What then do we do? Do we just surrender, give up, and resign ourselves to a life of sin? NO! "You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" (Rom 8:15) In Christ we have forgiveness; in Christ we have hope. Just look at St. Peter! He himself who was hand-picked by Jesus to be the rock upon which the Church was built denied our Lord 3 times. The head of the apostles himself had at one point 'chosen Barabbas'. Yet,

The Church is founded upon forgiveness. Peter himself is a personal embodiment of this truth! She is held together by forgiveness, and Peter is the perpetual living reminder of this reality: she is not a communion of the perfect but a communion of sinners who need and seek forgiveness. ~ Pope Benedict XVI

As we experience Palm Sunday, let us never be afraid to acknowledge our brokenness, seek forgiveness, and turn with confidence to our true Father through His one eternal Son!

Father Michael



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, April 3 - Holy Week

- 8:00 am † Charlotte McGill, by Corpus Christi Friends
- 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm Benediction
- 6:30 pm † Familia Tobar & Godinez (*Spanish Mass*)

Tuesday, April 4 - Holy Week

- 8:00 am † Ross Weiser, by Family
- 6:30 pm Int the Abel Family
- 7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Wednesday, April 5 - Holy Week

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
- 12:00 pm † Hortensia Masangcay, by Shirley Staples

Thursday, April 6 - Holy Thursday

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer
- 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 7 - Good Friday

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer
- 12:00 pm Spanish Stations of the Cross
- 3:00 pm Living Stations by the Teens
- 7:00 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 8 - Holy Saturday

- 8:00 am Morning Prayer
- No Reconciliations
- 12:00 pm Blessing of Easter Baskets
- No 4:00 pm Mass**
- 8:00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 9 - Easter Sunday

- Church - † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family
- 8:00 am The People of Our Lady of Mercy

- Church - † Nancy Bejger, by Jeff & Jolene LeRoy
- 10:00 am (*Live Streamed*)

- PLC -
- 10:00 am † Forgotten Souls

- Church -
- 12:00 pm † Paula Couch, by Family

No 5:30 pm Mass



Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Jackie Johnson | 9. The Feldman Family |
| 2. James Krcmarik | 10. Unity in Marriage |
| 3. Cheryl Hartnett | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Special Intention | 12. The Sick |
| 5. The Pluskota Family | 13. Jerry Kornusky |
| 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra | 14. Margene Meis |
| 7. Baby Cerina Skye | 15. Louise Touvell |
| 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

April 8 & 9

Presider will preach at Mass.

Saturday	4:00 pm	No Mass
	8:00 pm	Fr Michael Kearney Fr James Guarascio
Sunday	8:00 am	Fr James Guarascio
	10:00 am	
	Church - MPR -	Fr James Guarascio Fr Michael Kearney
	12:00 pm	Fr Michael Kearney
	5:30 pm	No Mass

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
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
Jackie Schiable
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.

The Parish Offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 7th and Easter Monday, April 10th.



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



El Viernes Santo, Poncio Pilato no fue el único que tuvo que tomar una decisión. La misma elección se presentó tanto a la gente del mundo de entonces como a la gente del mundo de ahora. Puede que no estemos al tanto de esta elección, pero es por eso que la Iglesia en su sabiduría nos hace escuchar a Poncio Pilato plantearnos la misma pregunta este fin de semana. El trae ante nosotros al llamado Jesús de Nazaret, y al conocido como Barrabás. Parece que los dos no podrían ser más diferentes, hasta que reconocemos que Bar-abbas significa literalmente

"hijo del padre". Aquí entonces está nuestra elección y pregunta: ¿A qué hijo del padre seguiremos? ¿Elegiremos seguir a Jesucristo, el hijo del Padre del amor sacrificial, o seguiremos a [Bar-abbas](#), el hijo del padre de las pasiones?

Sorprendentemente, participamos en la liturgia del Domingo de Ramos gritando: "¡Barrabás!" Es un momento doloroso cada año sin importar cuántas veces lo hayamos hecho, porque si somos honestos con nosotros mismos, sabemos que con demasiada frecuencia elegimos nuestras propias pasiones sobre nuestro Señor. Al igual que las multitudes ante Pilato, nosotros también elegimos actuar de manera egoísta en lugar de ser desinteresados. En cierto sentido, cada vez que elegimos el pecado, ¡una vez más elegimos a Bar-abbas!

Admitir esto es difícil. Es muy aleccionador. En primer lugar, se necesita cierta conciencia de sí mismo, y luego, muy rápidamente, *mucha* humildad. Estar dispuesto a mirarse en el espejo y someter humildemente nuestra comprensión de lo correcto frente a lo incorrecto al Dios de todos, en lugar de lo que nos gustaría pensar que es correcto o incorrecto. Cuando dejamos de lado nuestros intentos de justificarnos a nosotros mismos y nuestras acciones, la realidad es clara: en nuestro quebrantamiento humano, ¡no siempre hacemos lo correcto! San Pablo describe muy bien esta experiencia: "Lo que hago, no lo entiendo. Porque no hago lo que quiero, sino lo que aborrezco" (Romanos 7:15). ¿Qué hacemos entonces? ¿Simplemente nos rendimos, renunciamos y nos resignamos a una vida de pecado? ¡NO! "No recibieron el espíritu de esclavitud para volver a caer en el temor, sino que han recibido el Espíritu de adopción como hijos, por el cual clamamos: "¡Abba! ¡Padre!" (Romanos 8:15). En Cristo tenemos el perdón; en Cristo tenemos esperanza. ¡Solo mira a San Pedro! Él mismo, que fue escogido por Jesús para ser la roca sobre la cual se edificaría la Iglesia, negó a nuestro Señor 3 veces. El mismo jefe de los apóstoles en un momento había "elegido a Barrabás". Sin embargo,

La Iglesia se funda en el perdón. ¡Pedro mismo es una encarnación personal de esta verdad! Ella se mantiene unida por el perdón, y Pedro es el recuerdo vivo perpetuo de esta realidad: ella no es una comunión de perfectos sino una comunión de pecadores que necesitan y buscan el perdón (Papa Benedicto XVI).

Mientras experimentamos el Domingo de Ramos, ¡nunca tengamos miedo de reconocer nuestro quebrantamiento, buscar el perdón y volvernos con confianza a nuestro verdadero Padre a través de Su único Hijo eterno!

Padre Michael

Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo	Procesión: Mt 21, 1-11 La Misa: Is 50, 4-7; Sal 21, 8-9. 17-18a. 19-20. 23-24; Flp 2, 6-11; Mt 26, 14—27, 66 o Mt 27, 11-54
Lunes	Is 42, 1-7; Sal 26, 1. 2. 3. 13-14; Jn 12, 1-11
Martes	Is 49, 1-6; Sal 70, 1-2. 3-4a. 5-6ab. 15 y 17; Jn 13, 21-33. 36-38
Miércoles	Is 50, 4-9; Sal 68, 8-10. 21bcd-22. 31 y 33-34; Mt 26, 14-25
Jueves	Santo Crisma: Is 61, 1-3. 6. 8-9; Sal 88, 21-22. 25 y 27; Apoc 1, 5-8; Lc 4, 16-21 Vespertina: Ex 12, 1-8. 11-14; Sal 115, 12-13. 15-16bc. 17-18; 1 Cor 11, 23-26; Jn 13, 1-15
Viernes	Is 52, 13—53, 12; Sal 30, 2 y 6. 12-13. 15-16. 17 y 25; Heb 4, 14-16; 5, 7-9; Jn 18, 1—19, 42
Sábado	Gn 1, 1—2, 2 o Gn 1, 1. 26-31a; Sal 103, 1-2a. 5-6. 10 y 12. 13-14. 24 y 35c o Sal 32, 4-5. 6-7. 12-13. 20 y 22; Gn 22, 1-18 o Gn 22, 1-2. 9a. 10-13. 15-18; Sal 15, 5 y 8. 9-10. 11; Ex 14, 15—15, 1; Ex 15, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18; Is 54, 5-14; Sal 29, 2 y 4. 5-6. 11 y 12a y 13b; Is 55, 1-11; Is 12, 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6; Bar 3, 9-15. 32—4, 4; Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 11; Ez 36, 16-17a. 18-28; Sal 41, 3. 5bcd; Sal 42, 3-4 o Is 12, 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6 o Sal 50, 12-13. 14-15. 18-19; Rom 6, 3-11; Sal 117, 1-2. 16ab-17. 22-23; Mt 28, 1-10
Domingo	Hch 10, 34a. 37-43; Sal 117, 1-2. 16ab-17. 22-23; Col 3, 1-4 o 1 Cor 5, 6b-8; Jn 20, 1-9 o Mt 28, 1-10 o Lc 24, 13-35



April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Mt 26:14—27:66

GROW AS A DISCIPLE

PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

As we begin Holy Week, we hear Matthew's account of the Passion. We see Jesus' humanity as he experiences *sorrow and distress* in the hours before his death. Three times, he asks the Father to "let this cup pass from me, yet, not as I will, but as you will." In our own human experience, I am guessing many of us have asked the Father to "let this cup pass" - for in addition to life's joys, we will all experience setbacks, struggles, and suffering. By example, Jesus shows us that we can turn to our Father, trusting in his will for us. Let this be a reminder in this holiest of weeks that we can bring our suffering and our doubts to the Father, knowing that the joy of Easter will come.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The final words of today's Gospel [shorter version] are those of the centurion and the men keeping watch over Jesus: "Truly this was the Son of God!" Let us keep in mind this central proclamation of our faith while attending Triduum services this week. On Holy Thursday, we remember the Last Supper and the institution of the Eucharist and the priesthood, celebrating Christ's outpouring of love for us. On Good Friday we venerate the cross as we solemnly recall the passion and death of Jesus. And of course at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the story of our salvation, culminating in Jesus' resurrection. As Christians, we know that the cross will give way to the empty tomb and the promise of new life in Christ. Let our voices be strong this week as we echo the centurion's words above, and may Jesus' name be praised forever!

PRAY Praying the Stations of the Cross allows us to walk with Jesus through his passion and death. Make that journey with Jesus this week.

Cathy Johnson/FaithPix

Dear Parish Family,

From time to time, you may likely receive emails from people claiming to be the priests and deacons of the parish requesting money, gift cards, and other forms of payment to support various initiatives.

These emails start innocuously enough, at first asking if you have a moment to handle a project or assignment discreetly, asking you to reply to the email with a sense of urgency. If you respond to the email, our fake counterparts will inform you of a type of emergency (*for example, our mother is in the hospital, our friend is going through cancer in the hospital, etc.*). They will then ask you for monetary assistance in the form of gift cards to email them back with a picture of each card scratching the back for the code so that *"I can easily get them sent to my friend going through cancer in the hospital."* Other versions of these fake emails may even ask you to provide bank account numbers, card numbers, passwords, social security numbers, or sensitive information. They will even promise to reimburse you back.

These emails are FAKE and are NOT from the parish clergy.

Please DO NOT respond to their requests.

This sort of scam is called "spoofing." The perpetrators have gained access to a mailing list with priest email addresses and have "spoofed" them, meaning they mimicked their appearance using fake accounts. It is similar to forging a signature on a letter or impersonating someone on the telephone. Email scams are significantly more dangerous because they are much easier to fake.

The offenders in this scam have not gained access to our actual email addresses. Instead, they have made very convincing-looking fake email accounts that will appear in your inbox as "Father Michael Kearney" or "Father Michael Kearney Pastor," etc. Please note that:

1. The parish priests and deacons will never request money transfers, gift cards, passwords, social security information, or other sensitive information from you over email.
2. While Father Michael and Father James do not doubt your generosity, if we are experiencing an emergency, please be assured we will not be reaching out to parishioners via email.
3. If you are still determining whether an email that appears to be from us is legitimate, you are encouraged to call the parish office and confirm it.

Please be vigilant on the internet, always be skeptical of anything out of the ordinary, and NEVER provide personal information over email.

For more information and tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud, The United States Federal Trade Commission has helpful resources at consumer.ftc.gov.

May God bless you abundantly!
Fr. Michael & Fr. James



LENTEN SCHEDULE

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday - April 6

Morning Prayer 8:00 am
Mass of Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 pm to midnight

Good Friday - April 7

Morning Prayer 8:00 am
Spanish Stations of the Cross 12:00 pm
Living Stations by Teens 3:00pm
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday - April 8

Morning Prayer 8:00 am
Blessing of Baskets 12:00 pm
No Reconciliations
No 4:00 pm Mass
Easter Vigil 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday - April 9

Mass in Church - 8:00a, 10:00am & Noon
Mass in the Multi-Purpose Room - 10:00 am
No 5:30 pm Mass



**Divine Mercy Feast Day
Sunday, April 16, 2 p.m.**



In honor of the Feast Day of Divine Mercy on Sunday, April 16, Our Lady of Mercy will hold a beautiful celebratory service in the Church at 2 p.m. New this year will be a group recitation in song of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a devotional prayer that Jesus revealed among his numerous apparitions to Saint Maria Faustina. He also promised St. Faustina:

“On that (Feast) Day, the depths of My mercy will be open to all The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.”

Our OLM observance of the Divine Mercy Feast Day will include the following:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation, 2 p.m. (Frs. Michael, James, and other priests if available)
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic Adoration starting at 2 p.m.
- Period of Silent Meditation and Prayer
- Placing of Divine Mercy Images at the steps of the altar for blessing (must be placed at the altar before 1:45 p.m.)
- Taking of Personal Intentions prior to the singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Recitation of the Chaplet in song at 3 p.m. (in remembrance of the Hour of Death)
- Blessing of participants’ Divine Mercy Images at the altar
- Benediction, closing prayers to Jesus and Mary
- Recitation of the Rosary (optional)

Pamphlets featuring the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, as well as other resources, will be available, but participants should be sure to bring their Rosary!

***Also, on Good Friday morning (April 7),** immediately after an 8 a.m. prayer service in the church, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited. It’s a great way to start your Good Friday observance and your Divine Mercy Novena, which should include your recitation of the Chaplet and a Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy through Saturday, April 15.

**Good Friday “Way of the Cross” at
Planned Parenthood Aurora**

Through His Holy Passion, Our Lord united Himself with all the victims of suffering in this life. None suffer more innocently than children in the womb whose lives are taken by abortion. None suffer more deeply than their mothers, who carry such a burden of guilt and shame.

On Good Friday we remember all the victims of abortion—the children lost, the mothers wounded, the communities blighted—in a solemn, ecumenical prayer service:

Event: Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion

When: Friday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Planned Parenthood, 3051 E New York Street in Aurora

More Info: Contact Matt Yonke at 630-896-1200 or matt@proliferaction.org

Join us as we pray for healing for the victims of abortion and for a final end to this injustice in our land.

HESED COFFEEHOUSE CHAT EVENT

Date: Thursday, April 13
Time: 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Location: Java Plus,
1677 Montgomery Rd.,
Aurora, IL 60504



Want to learn more about volunteering at Hesed House? Join Hesed House’s Volunteer Coordinator, Adam Zapfel at Java Plus, for a “Coffee House Chat” event. These are informal meetings, and you are welcome to stop by at your convenience within this timeframe, to learn more about Hesed House, and how you can help make their mission possible! New volunteers are encouraged to attend.

To RSVP email Adam directly at azapfel@hesedhouse.org or email our church Hesed House Ministry Coordinator, Maybird D’Silva at maydsilva@aol.com



Care for Creation Corner

This week we suggest creating a backyard garden or growing vegetables in pots on your patio or deck. Planting a garden is very good for many reasons. It helps you eat more fresh fruits and vegetables. You decide what kinds of fertilizers and pesticides come in contact with your food. It lets you control when to harvest your food. Vegetables that ripen in the garden have more nutrients than some store-bought vegetables that must be picked early. Start simple with one or two vegetables that are easy to grow. And then expand as you become more proficient and knowledgeable. Gardens are good for the environment and us. Gardening can build self-esteem, is good for your heart, boosts Vitamin-D, reduces stress and is a great family activity. Gardening can also be good for our spiritual wellbeing when we experience the wonders of nature God has created. We also become more aware and caring. with the following

Here are some helpful resources.

- <https://www.bhg.com/garden-care>
- <https://www.masterclass.com/articles/how-to-start-a-backyard-garden>

SAVE THE DATE:

The Justice & Peace Ministry will host a Green Fair on April 29. More details to follow. If you wish to volunteer to help contact Chris Harvey 631-561-9722 or Ida at 630-000-0111. And if you can help with the following please contact Deacon Tim at 815-603-4089.

Wanted: Electric car owners, and electric cars

For: Green Fair

When: Saturday, April 29, 9:30am to 3:30pm for 1 or 2 hours

Where: OLM Parking Lot

What: Explain why you like having an electric car and answer questions car owners may have.

Thank you !

Around the Parish

Blessing of Easter Baskets

You and your family are invited to bring your family Easter basket to church on Holy Saturday, April 8 at 12:00 pm in the Church for a brief service.

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 First Friday, April 7, 2023. Sadly, abortions continue even on Good Friday. Prayer warriors are needed for one hour shifts 7 am - 4 pm to change hearts and save lives. Our peaceful prayerful public witness is needed now more than ever with the influx of abortion bound women coming from out of state into Illinois as the abortion capital of the Midwest. Please prayerfully consider signing up via <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054FADAC23A3FA7-olmfirst2> or please call Lisa at (630) 236-3310.

Knights of Columbus Scholarship Opportunity

Applications for the 2023 Robert H Weaver Knights of Columbus College Scholarship program are now being accepted through Saturday, 6/17/23. A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to students graduating from High School in 2023 and attending a 2 or 4 year University program starting in the fall of 2023. Applications can be found by visiting our link on the Parish Website. Awards will be made in July. Good luck to all applicants. Questions, please reach out to Jeff LeRoy, Grand Knight at jleroy53@hotmail.com.

Pilgrimage

Father James will be leading a Great Shrines of France Pilgrimage June 5-17, 2023 with Father James Join him as he leads pilgrims and explores France's beautiful Catholic Shrines on this cross-country Pilgrimage. From small villages in the South of France to Paris, one of the greatest cities in the world, France is sure to take your breath away. On this Pilgrimage, you will see magnificent Shrines and Churches and learn of the lives of; St. Bernadette, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Veronica and Zaccheus, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Catherine Labourne. Don't miss this incredible tour highlighting the Best Shrines in France. Father James is looking forward to answering any questions you may have email him at frjames@olmercy.com



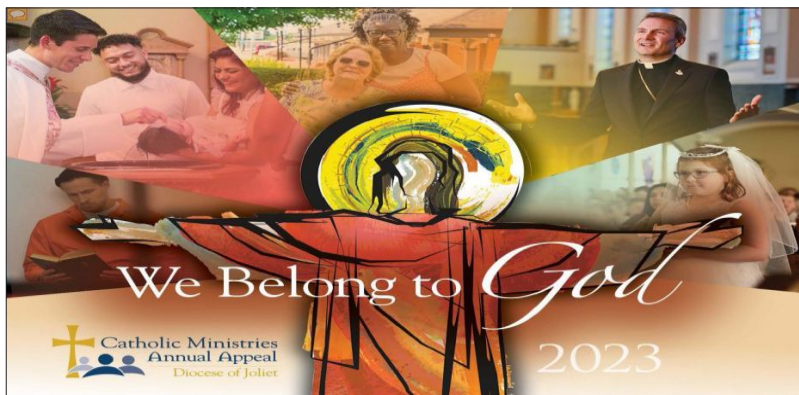
Parish Sacrificial Giving

Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	2,121,779
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	1,132,200
Amount Short of Budget	\$	(10,421)
03/19/23 Sunday Collection	\$	28,743
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	30,600
Amount Short of Goal	\$	(1,857)

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.



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.

Parish Life Center (Construction Loan)

April, 2009	\$	1,950,000
February, 2023	\$	400,049
March, 2023	\$	388,140



Pontifical Good Friday Collection 2023

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few. The pandemic hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. In these times, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.custodia.org and www.myfranciscan.org.

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

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