

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



Growing up, my next-door neighbor and good friend had all the talents: from cool toys and a pool in the back yard to the newest gaming system. On top of that, he was the better natural athlete. I was constantly comparing myself to my friend. There was a lot of discouragement that I felt and it showed the depth and depravity of the sin of jealousy.

There are over 8 billion people in the world. Out of the 8 billion people that God created, how many are the same as you and me? Exactly no one else! It is crazy to realize that each human being is unrepeatable and beautifully made. Everyone is put on this earth by God, and given a variety of unique gifts and talents.

Yet, it's amazing how we can constantly find ourselves stuck in the cycle of comparison and jealously. The reason why jealousy is so dangerous is because it blinds us to the gifts the Lord has given each and every one of us. Catholic writer G.K. Chesterton said, "Gratitude, being nearly the greatest of human duties, is also nearly the most difficult."

In reading our Gospel, we can get caught up in comparing the number of talents the Lord has given us. In the story, the master gives talents to his servants. One was given five, another two, and finally the last servant was only given one. At the end of the story, we might ask why the servant with one talent failed to even invest it. Maybe it was because he was discouraged by jealousy, and was comparing himself with the servants who had two or five.

Yet, the importance of the Gospel is not in how many talents we are given, but in what we do with the talents! The Lord gives unique gifts to each person. And yes, some gifts are different and are given in different proportions. And that's okay! The question we need to focus on is "how can I use the gifts the Lord has given me?" At the end of the parable, the servant with five talents and the servant with two talents both received the same reward because they used their talents them wisely. Let us turn away from jealousy and comparison, and ask the Lord for the ability to see the gifts we have received and for the strength to use those gifts for his glory.

Father Michael



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, November 20 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Oppl Reformina Yap 8:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm Benediction

6:30 pm † Gertrudes & Gregoria Reyes, by Family (Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, November 21 - Presentation of Mary

8:00 am † Marian & Wayne Leckey, by Their Children 6:30 pm † Angel Jamison-Seroka by Barbara Jesse 7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Wednesday, November 22 - St Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr

8:00 am Eucharistic Adoration

12:00 pm † Joseph Cartolano, by Rich & Theresa Kobal

12:30 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day

9:00 am † Victoria Tiu Lo, by Elizabeth Lo No Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, November 24 - St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest

8:00 am † Carmencita Pesch, by Shirley Staples

Saturday, November 25 - St Catherine of Alexandria

8:30 am Int Tom Roy, by Sissy Roy

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

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

4:00 pm Vigil - Christ the King

The People of Our Lady of Mercy

† Mary Sarnecki, by Stan Nieweglowski

Sunday, November 26 - Christ the King

8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family

† Ailani Banuelos, by The LeRoy Family

10:00 am † Christopher Ianno, by Family

(Live Streamed)

12:00 pm + Sergio Noyola, by Family

5:30 pm † Jim & Jane Darby, by Mary Campos



Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- 1. George Durante
- 2. Good Health for M.M.
- 3. Lillian Weaver
- 4. Return to Good Health-L.T.
- 5. The Pluskota Family
- 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra
- 7. Baby Cerina Skye
- 8. The Deceased

- 9. Fr Don McLaughlin
- 10. Matthew C.
- 11. Special Intention-C.H.
- 12. The Sick
- 13. Michael & Jennifer Bickel
- 14. Fr Michael Kearney
- 15. Fr Frank Pusateri
- 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

November 25 & 26

Father F	rank will pr	each at all Masses.
Saturday	4:00 pm	Fr. Michael Kearney
Sunday	8:00 am	Fr. Frank Pusateri
	10:00 am	Fr. Frank Pusateri
	12:00 pm	Fr. Frank Pusateri
	5:30 pm	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 Michael Butler Alfredo Chavez Baby Riley Chick Robert Ciulla

Michael Dandan

Mary Dunbar

Anna Falcon Bridget Garry

Patricia Gebhardt

Jim Gray

David Griffins

Nancy Higgins

Eric Hoerdemann

Cera Horste

Steve Johnson Helen Joseph

Baby Penelope Keene

Nina Keehn Michelle Maeirs Susan Mennenga
Bill Morse
La Moua
Charlene Oates
Flo Paprzycki
Valerie Plesha
Jim & Carol Pluskota
Diane Reiter
Jackie Schiable
Julia Schremp
Christopher Shea
Diane Singer
Hedy Sterling

Kristen Manning

Susan Massett

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 for the
Thanksgiving
holiday on
Thursday,
November 23
and Friday,
November 24.

HAPPY
Thanksgivings

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



Mientras crecía, mi vecino y buen amigo tenía todos los talentos: desde juguetes geniales y una piscina en el patio trasero hasta el sistema de juego más nuevo. Además de eso, era el mejor atleta natural. Me comparaba constantemente con mi amigo. Sentí mucho desaliento y eso mostró la profundidad y la depravación del pecado de los celos.

Hay más de 8 mil millones de habitantes en el mundo. De los 8 mil millones de habitantes que Dios creó, ¿cuántas son iguales a ti y a mí? ¡Exactamente nadie más! Es una locura darse cuenta de que cada ser humano es irrepetible y está bellamente hecho. Dios puso a todos en esta tierra y les dio una variedad de dones y talentos únicos.

Sin embargo, es sorprendente cómo podemos encontrarnos constantemente involucrados en el ciclo de la comparación y los celos. La razón por la que los celos son tan peligrosos es porque nos ciegan ante los dones que el Señor nos ha dado a todos y cada uno de nosotros. El escritor Católico G.K. Chesterton dijo: "La gratitud, siendo casi el mayor de los deberes humanos, es también casi el más difícil".

Al leer nuestro Evangelio, podemos quedarnos atrapados en comparar la cantidad de talentos que el Señor nos ha dado. En la historia, el amo otorga talentos a sus servidores. A uno le dio cinco, a otro dos y finalmente al último siervo sólo le dio uno. Al final de la historia, podríamos preguntarnos por qué el siervo que tenía un talento ni siquiera lo invirtió. Tal vez fue porque los celos lo desanimaron y se comparó con los sirvientes que tenían dos o cinco.

Sin embargo, la importancia del Evangelio no está en cuántos talentos se nos dan, sino en lo que hacemos con los talentos. El Señor da dones únicos a cada persona. Y sí, algunos dones son diferentes y se dan en distintas proporciones. ¡Y eso está bien! La pregunta en la que debemos centrarnos es "¿cómo puedo utilizar los dones que el Señor me ha dado?" Al final de la parábola, el sirviente con cinco talentos y el sirviente con dos talentos recibieron la misma recompensa porque usaron sus talentos sabiamente. Alejémonos de los celos y las comparaciones, y pidamos al Señor la capacidad de ver los dones que hemos recibido y la fortaleza para usarlos para su gloria.

Padre Michael



Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo Prov 31, 10-13. 19-20. 30-31;

Sal 127, 1-2. 3. 4-5;

1 Tes 5, 1-6;

Mt 25, 14-30 o Mt 25, 14-15. 19-21

Lunes 1 Mc 1, 10-15. 41-43. 54-57. 62-64;

Sal 118, 53. 61. 134. 150. 155. 158;

Lc 18, 35-43

Martes 2 Mc 6, 18-31;

Sal 3, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7;

Lc 19, 1-10

Miércoles 2 Mc 7, 1. 20-31;

Sal 16, 1. 5-6. 8b y 15;

Lc 19, 11-28

Jueves 1 Mc 2, 15-29;

Sal 49, 1-2. 5-6. 14-15;

Lc 19, 41-44

Día de Acción de Gracias:

Sir 50, 24-26;

Sal 144, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9. 10-11; 1

Cor 1, 3-9; Lc 17, 11-19

Viernes 1 Mc 4, 36-37. 52-59;

1 Cró 29, 10. 11abc. 11d-12a. 12bcd;

Lc 19, 45-48

Sábado 1 Mc 6, 1-13;

Sal 9, 2-3. 4 y 6. 16b y 19;

Lc 20, 27-40

Domingo Ez 34, 11-12. 15-17;

Sal 22, 1-2a. 2b-3. 5-6; 1 Cor 15, 20-26. 28;

Mt 25, 31-46



November 19, 2023

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 | Mt 25:14-30

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

When we think of gifts, we may picture a child eagerly ripping into wrapping paper on a birthday or at Christmas. Oh, the anticipation and the joy seen through a child's eyes! In contemplating today's Scriptures, it occurs to me that the gifts God has given to us should fill us with the same joy and sense of gratitude as that child. Although there are many facets to the parable of the talents which Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel, what stands out to me comes at the very beginning: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them." No small thing to be entrusted with the master's possessions! In the same way, God entrusts us with his gifts – they are all we have and all we are. And, like the master in the parable, God expects us to use our gifts and talents to build his kingdom here on earth – to multiply his goodness in the world.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Does the parable seem a bit harsh at the end? After all, the last servant didn't squander the money he was given, he simply gave it back in the same form in which it was given to him. But let's think about our generous God and the gifts and talents he has given us. God expects us to use these gifts, not hide them under a bushel. If we are lazy with and inattentive to our God-given gifts, they will shrink and fade away. We will be squandering our invitation to full participation in the kingdom of God. Obviously, each of God's children has unique gifts, just as the servants in the parable received different numbers of talents according to their ability. With this in mind, let us consider how we can share our singular gifts and help others do the same. No gift or talent is too small, and God has given us everything we need to use each gift wisely. Empowered by God's love and grace, let us use our blessings for his glory.

WITNESS The imagery of the "wicked, lazy" servant being punished, coupled with St. Paul's words that the Lord will come "like a thief at night," impart urgency to the task before us. In order to be prepared to give God an accounting of how we are using his gifts, let us start growing them today. Offer forgiveness, love someone whom it is hard to love, show mercy; in other words, be a blessing to others and see how that goodness multiplies.



Blanchette Catholic Center 16555 Weber Rd. Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT VORKING ON THE MARGINS

November 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Your support for this collection November 18/19 brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform their communities into reflections of the Kingdom of God. In addition to making a national impact, you empower those living in poverty in our own diocese, because one quarter of our collection stays within the Diocese of Joliet.

Local grant recipients in our diocese include emergency assistance and food pantry supplies for St. Vincent De Paul chapters, vocational job training for adults with disabilities, and community outreach programming for at-risk youth and families.

When you contribute to CCHD in your parish, not only do you help address the symptoms of poverty, but your donation also helps alleviate the root causes of poverty both globally and locally. Twenty-five percent of your donation stays in your diocese to support organizations making a difference in the lives of your neighbors.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help CCHD this year. If you would like more information about the collection and the people it supports, visit the "CCHD Collection" section on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website at uscb.org/cchd.

Thank you for joining us to work on the margins. With every good wish, may God bless you.

As I remain -

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks

+ Ronald a. Hichs

Bishop of Joliet

National Effort, Local Impact

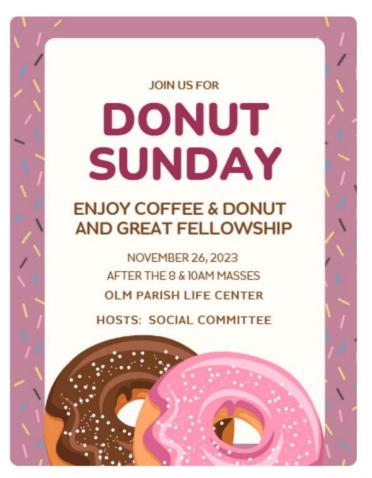
When you support CCHD, you help local communities across the country innovate and work together to solve their own unique challenges. Twenty-five percent of your contribution stays in the Diocese of Joliet to support the organizations addressing our parishioners' needs for housing, jobs, and educational opportunities-and for keeping the lights on during a storm.

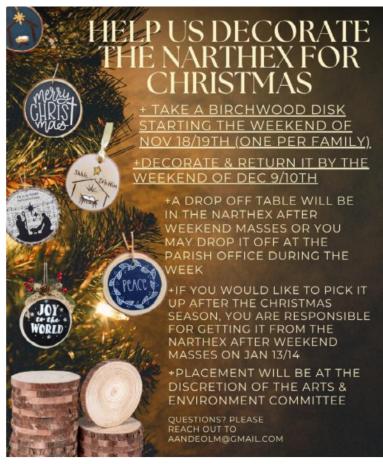
To learn more about the collection for the CCHD and the way CCHD upholds the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church, visit the "About" section at usccb.org/cchd.



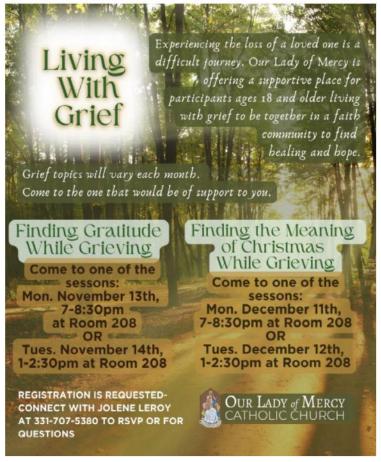
Office of the Bishop

815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org













for High School teens (Grades 9-12)
LIGHT webpage here: https://
olmercy.com/formation/light/

Chosen Confirmation Program Update

The deadline to enroll for this year's Chosen program is November 15th. Please contact Dave in the Faith Formation Office with questions.

Teen Mission Trip 2024 is to Winchester, KY on July 7-13 is FILLING FAST!. Please sign-up quick to get your spot! More information and to sign-up for the trip can be found on our website.

Teens can Sign-up for Service and Discipleship opportunities here: https://olmercy.com/formation/light/service-discipleship-projects/



for Middle School teens (Grades 6-8)

EDGE Nights meet twice a month on Monday evenings from 6:30pm-8pm.

November EDGE Nights: 11/6 & 11/20.

To register for EDGE and for more information go to https://olmercy.com/formation/edge/

Around the Parish

St. Peregrine Prayer Service

For those with cancer, serious or chronic illnesses, and their caregivers... Come to the St. Peregrine Prayer Service on Tuesday, November 21 following the 6:30pm Mass. St. Peregrine is the patron saint of the sick, especially those suffering from cancer, serious illness, or chronic illness. The prayer service is for the intention of those with cancer, serious or chronic illnesses, and their caregivers to fortify them in their current situation.

Thanksgiving Mass

Start Thanksgiving day on November 23rd by joining us in giving thanks to the Lord our God and rejoicing in the gift of His love. Mass will be at 9am.

Respect Life Ministry

The Respect Life Ministry invites you to stand and silently pray in front of Waterleaf Women's Center on December 1. Prayer warriors are needed for one hour shifts 7 am - 4 pm to change hearts and save lives. Please prayerfully consider signing up via https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054FADAC23A3FA7-olmfirst2 or please call Lisa at (630) 236-3310.

Ladies Advent Tea

Save the Date for the 14th Annual Our Lady of Mercy Ladies Advent Tea on Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm "The Gifts of Advent." Details and registration will be released in the coming days.

Weekly Adoration

COME AND ADORE OUR LORD! Eucharistic Adoration is held three times a week at OLM! So come and encounter Jesus anytime this week at Adoration on Mondays and Thursdays 8:30am to 6:30pm and Wednesdays 8am to 12pm.

Registration for 2024-2025 Now Open

All Saints is now accepting applications for new students for the 2024-2025 school year. If you missed our recent open house, **it is not too late** to inquire about enrollment or to schedule a personal tour or shadow opportunity. All the information that you need can be found at **ascacademy.org.**



Interest and enrollment at All Saints has been very strong. Whether you have a preschooler or kindergartner at the beginning of their academic journey, or a 5th grader who will be moving to a junior high next fall, we encourage you to find out more about the excellent education grounded in faith at All Saints.

Questions? Contact the school at (630) 961-6125, or fill out the inquiry form which can be found at ascacademy.org. Take the first step – we look forward to meeting you and your student.

Parish Sacrificial Giving		
Actual Year-to-Date Collections	\$	511,539
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$	558,000
Amount Short of Budget	\$	(46,461)
11/05/23 Sunday Collection	\$	35,952
Weekly Sunday Goal	\$	31,000
Amount in Excess of Goal	\$	4,952

For the Budget Year 2023/24 we have Increased the Parish Sunday goal by 1.3%, to \$31,000/week, to help expand our numerous varied Ministries.

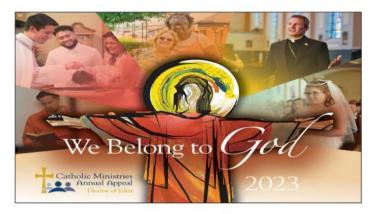
Thank you for your generosity!!

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



Why and How Should I Tell Others?

Do you know people who are struggling to find meaning and purpose in their lives? Do you know people struggling with guilt, fear, sadness, and hopelessness? If we were in the desert and we came across water, wouldn't it be selfish not to share the news? Wouldn't we want to tell other people about it? Come and learn why we should tell others about Jesus. Connect with Zara 331-707-5381 or zara@olmercy.com. #TryAlpha.



CMAA Pledge Report

Monthly pledge payments for CMAA pledges should be made in the next few days. 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 amount over goal will be returned to our parish for our needs.

Parish Goal	\$ 141,900	
Amount Pledged	\$ 176,052	
Amount Paid	\$ 169,077	
Remaining Balance	\$ 6,975	
Rebate Amount	\$ 19,024	
# of Families Pledged	487	

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH PADS/HESED HOUSE MINISTRY



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 "wishlist" of items used to prepare meals for 250 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 December 2nd and 3rd, 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.

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

day, Friday8:00am
6:30pm
8:00am, 6:30pm
12:00pm
6:30am, 8:00am
8:30am
Sunday) 4:00pm
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 Friday of the Month	8:30-9:15am
Last Wednesday of the Month at Ma	agnify7:30-8:20pm
Or by Appointment	

Prayer Chapel

Adoration

Monday & Thursday	8:30am-6:00pm
Wednesdays	8:00am-12:00pm
1st Friday of the Month	12:00pm
Last Wednesday of the Month at Magnify	7:00-8:30nm

Benediction

Monday & Th	nursday	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.

Baptisms

Registered parishioners wishing their child baptized must complete a parent workshop. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent. Contact Lydia Schmitt at 331-707-5377.

Weddings

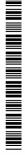
The bride, groom or either set of parents must be registered members of the parish for at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding. Weddings may be scheduled no less than six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. Contact Theresa Simeo at 331-707-5374.

Parish Directory

Parish Priests

Pastor Fr. Michael Kearney
630-851-3444, Ext. 228frmichael@olmercy.com
Parochial Vicar Fr. Frank Pusateri
630-851-3444, Ext. 226frfrank@olmercy.com
Permanent Deacons
Dcn Tim Kuepertkueper5@yahoo.com
Dcn Tony Leazzotonyl@olmercy.com
Dcn Tony Martinitonym@olmercy.com
Dcn Doug McIlvaine dougm@olmercy.com
Dcn Phil Rehmerdeaconphil@rehmer.com
Dcn Bugsy Sindacbugsys@olmercy.com
Dcn Art Tiongsonhope2640@yahoo.com
Pastoral Staff
Director of Music Ministries Frank Sauter
331-707-5379 franks@olmercy.com
Asst. to Pastor & CommunicationsTheresa Simeo
331-707-5374theresas@olmercy.com
Dir. of Evangelization & Communications Zara Tan
331-707-5381 zara@olmercy.com
Family Faith Formation
Director (Pre K-5) & OCIC Mary Jo Trapani
331-707-5378 maryjot@olmercy.com
Director (6-12) Dave Miserendino
331-707-5371 davem@olmercy.com
FFF Secretary Karen Schwartz
331-707-5369 karens@olmercy.com
Principal of All Saints Catholic Academy
630-961-6125Margie Marshall
Administrative Staff
Business Manager Bob Gancarz
331-707-5370robertg@olmercy.com
Parish Secretary Diane Reiter
630-851-3444 dianer@olmercy.com
Business Office AssistantLydia Schmitt
331-707-5377lydias@olmercy.com
Buildings & Grounds Phil Zwick
312-339-6943 philz@olmercy.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society

630-851-3444 Voicemail-ext. 400







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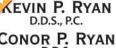


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