

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



As a third grader I took part in a weekly Bible Camp at a local church. One of the workbook activities asked, "Who first told you about Jesus?" In my case, it was my grandparents who had told me about the faith. As a child, I enjoyed looking at the many images of Jesus and Mary in their house, and my grandma explained to me who they were. As simple as it sounds, this encounter helped prepare for me

for my further encounters with Jesus. It helped prepare me as a seven-year-old not only to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, but also to begin thinking about the priesthood. And it helped prepare me as a seminarian to receive the powerful reminder that Jesus does speak to us in prayer. But it all went back to that initial encounter.

Today's Gospel of the healing of the deaf and mute man is commemorated during the sacrament of Baptism through the Ephphatha Rite. In this Rite, the minister touches the ears and the mouth of the infant and says, "May the Lord Jesus, who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips, to the glory and praise of God the Father." Jesus' physical healing of the man in today's Gospel points to a deeper spiritual meaning, that Jesus opens our ears to receive His Word, and our lips to proclaim it.

In order to proclaim the faith, we first have to receive it with our ears. This is where it can be helpful to return to that moment when the faith was first proclaimed to us. This reminds us how God has been drawing us closer to Himself throughout our lives, but it also can reveal to us places where we need to grow. Even if we have already had a lifechanging encounter with Jesus, that encounter is only the beginning. We still need to ask Him to keep the ears of our hearts open to hear when He is speaking to us.

When we do this, we are allowing the Holy Spirit to equip us to proclaim that same Gospel to others. But the key word to remember here is the word of Jesus: "Ephphatha," which means "be opened." We need to be open to the action of the Holy Spirit, so that He can help us to know when it is the right time to share the Gospel with others, but also to realize that even though we are the ones proclaiming the Gospel, it is the Holy Spirit Who moves their hearts to encounter Him.

As we return to that moment when our ears and hearts were first opened to the love of Christ, we also ask Jesus to help us to continue to be open to Him. This openness to Christ can then allow us to be the one who first introduced another person to Jesus.

Father Frank



Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, September 9 - St. Peter Claver

8:00 am † Peggy Flanigan, by Katie & Tom Kerestes 6:30 pm † Juan Carlos Arroyo, by Mom

(Spanish Mass)

Tuesday, September 10 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Leoncio Cuartero, by Edgar & Maria Cuartero

6:30 pm Int Giana Engel, by Grandma

7:00 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Wednesday, September 11 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:00 pm + Austin Chase, by Family

12:30 pm Reconciliation (Until All Are Heard)

Thursday, September 12 - The Most Holy Name of Mary

6:30 am † Barb Mares, by Janice Hurtado

8:00 am † Jophine Rina

Friday, September 13 - St John Chrysostom

12:00 pm + Angel Balverde, by Family

Saturday, September 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:30 am † Raquel Balderas, by Judy Zeno

9:00am Reconciliation (Until 10:00 AM) 1:30 pm Reconciliation (Until 2:30 PM)

4:00 pm Vigil - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Int of the Wagner Family, by Barb Jesse

† Anthony M. Loquercio, Jr., by Family

Sunday, September 15 - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family

† Austin Chase, by The Coit Family

10:00 am † James Krcmarik, by Mary Krcmarik

(Live Streamed)

12:00 pm Int of The People of Our Lady of Mercy 5:30 pm Int of Pennamma & Ronickam Families

Silent adoration takes place in the Adoration Chapel

Monday through Friday
8:30 am to 10:00 pm.



Blessed Sacrament Chapel Lamps

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

- 1. Charlesteen Lane
- 2. Lord. Be With The Sick
- 3. Dcn Jim Perry
- 4. Expectant Parents
- 5. The Pluskota Family
- 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra
- 7. Health (Louise)
- 8. The Deceased

- 9. Fr Don McLaughlin
- 10. Educators
- 11. Special Intention-C.H.
- 12. Vocations
- 13. Special Intention-T.Z.
- 14. Anthony M. Loquercio, Jr
- 15. Frank Rostan
- 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

September 14 & 15

Dea	acon's will pre	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. Michael Kearney
	5:30 pm	Fr. Vagenas

We Pray For...

For our sick, confined and their families.

Michael Butler Linda Eickhoff Virginia Governale Helen Joseph Michael Heim Toni Humanski Kristen Manning Marichu Moralos Paula Neuman Flo Paprzycki Julia Schremp Diane Singer Hedy Sterling Thomas F. Sterling Rev. Gerald Tivy Kathy Walowski

Those in service to our country.

PO1 Brittney Cash, US Navy SPC Michael A. Curcio, Army National Guard TSgt Leah Harvey, USAF LT. Russell Joyce, US Navy PO3 Joshua San Diego, US Navy

Please Remember:

Due to 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 contact the Parish Office if you or your immediate family member wish to be added to the Sick or the Military List.



Who is Jesus?

Do you know there's historical evidence outside the New Testament that Jesus existed? But more important, there's evidence inside the New Testament. But who is Jesus? What evidence is there to suggest that Jesus was more than just a religious teacher? Interested in learning more?

Connect with Zara to learn more 331-707-5381 zara@olmercy.com. #TryAlpha

SIGN UP NOW @ www.olmercy.com/alpha

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



Cuando estaba en tercer grado, participé en un campamento bíblico semanal en una iglesia local. Una de las actividades del libro de trabajo preguntaba: "¿Quién te habló por primera vez de Jesús?". En mi caso, fueron mis abuelos quienes me hablaron de la fe. De niño, disfrutaba mirando las muchas imágenes de Jesús y María que había en su casa, y mi abuela me explicó quiénes eran. Por simple que suene, este encuentro me ayudó a prepararme para mis futuros encuentros con Jesús. Me ayudó a prepararme a los siete años no solo para recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía, sino tam-

bién para comenzar a pensar en el sacerdocio. Y me ayudó a prepararme como seminarista para recibir el poderoso recordatorio de que Jesús nos habla en la oración. Pero todo se remonta a ese encuentro inicial.

El Evangelio de hoy de la curación del hombre sordomudo se conmemora durante el sacramento del Bautismo a través del Rito del Effetá. En este Rito, el ministro toca los oídos y la boca del infante y dice: "Que el Señor Jesús, que hizo oír a los sordos y hablar a los mudos, te conceda que pronto puedas recibir su palabra con tus oídos y profesar la fe con tus labios, para gloria y alabanza de Dios Padre". La curación física que Jesús hace del hombre en el Evangelio de hoy apunta a un significado espiritual más profundo: Jesús abre nuestros oídos para recibir Su Palabra y nuestros labios para proclamarla.

Para proclamar la fe, primero tenemos que recibirla con nuestros oídos. Aquí es donde puede ser útil volver a ese momento en el que la fe nos fue proclamada por primera vez. Esto nos recuerda cómo Dios nos ha estado acercando a Él a lo largo de nuestras vidas, pero también puede revelarnos lugares en los que necesitamos crecer. Incluso si ya hemos tenido un encuentro con Jesús que nos cambió la vida, ese encuentro es solo el comienzo. Todavía tenemos que pedirle que mantenga abiertos los oídos de nuestro corazón para escuchar cuando Él nos habla.

Cuando hacemos esto, estamos permitiendo que el Espíritu Santo nos capacite para proclamar ese mismo Evangelio a los demás. Pero la palabra clave que debemos recordar aquí es la palabra de Jesús: "Effetá", que significa "ábrete". Necesitamos estar abiertos a la acción del Espíritu Santo, para que Él nos ayude a saber cuándo es el momento adecuado para compartir el Evangelio con los demás, pero también para darnos cuenta de que, aunque seamos nosotros quienes proclamamos el Evangelio, es el Espíritu Santo quien mueve sus corazones para encontrarlo a Él.

Al regresar a ese momento en el que nuestros oídos y corazones se abrieron por primera vez al amor de Cristo, también le pedimos a Jesús que nos ayude a seguir abiertos a Él. Esta apertura a Cristo puede permitirnos entonces ser nosotros quienes primero presentamos a otra persona a Jesús.

Padre Frank



Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo Prv 9, 1-6;

Sal 33, 2-3. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15;

Ef 5, 15-20; Jn 6, 51-58

Lunes Ez 24, 15-24;

Dt 32, 18-19. 20. 21;

Mt 19, 16-22

Martes Ez 28, 1-10;

Dt 32, 26-27ab. 27cd-28. 30.

35cd-36ab; Mt 19, 23-30

Miércoles Ez 34, 1-11;

Sal 22, 1-3. 4. 5. 6;

Mt 20, 1-16

Jueves Ez 36, 23-28;

Sal 50, 12-13. 14-15. 18-19;

Mt 22, 1-14

Viernes Ez 37, 1-14;

Sal 106, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9;

Mt 22, 34-40

Sábado Apoc 21, 9-14;

Sal 144, 10-11. 12-13. 17-18;

Jn 1, 45-51

Domingo Jos 24, 1-2a. 15-17. 18b;

Sal 33, 2-3. 16-17. 18-19. 20-21.

22-23;

Ef 5, 21-32 o Ef 5, 2a. 25-32;

Jn 6, 55. 60-69



September 8, 2024

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 35:4-7a | Jas 2:1-5 | Mk 7:31-37

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

My first thought upon reading today's Scriptures is that by healing the deaf man, Jesus is fulfilling what God had said he was going to do since the time of the prophet Isaiah: "making the eyes of the blind see and opening the ears of the deaf," as we heard in the first reading. And indeed this is what Jesus did. But when I re-read the Gospel I was intrigued by the line: "[Jesus] took him off by himself away from the crowd." Jesus had a reputation as a healer and a teacher, so it stands to reason that he healed people in front of the crowds often. Why, then, does Jesus remove the man from the crowd? In a commentary on this passage, Bishop Robert Barron suggests that Jesus removed the man from the crowd as a way of demonstrating that the loud and boisterous voices of the crowd could make it hard to hear when God is speaking to us. Even though this man was deaf and was not able to hear Jesus' words, the crowds were a distraction, and a barrier to intimacy and communion. Doesn't this same thing happen to us from time to time? The voices in our world that compete for our attention can make it difficult to hear God's word. But it can be done, and the rewards are great. God is present with us; let's make an effort this week to focus in on the things in our lives that point us toward God and ready ourselves to receive his grace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears and looked up to heaven before healing the deaf man. By this action, Jesus is doing the will of the Father, which is to bring healing. Let's consider the question about competing voices in our lives and what we can do about it. For starters, we can carve out a time every day to quiet our hearts so we can hear the "still, small voice of God." Away from the crowd, we can put our whole being into truly hearing God's voice and asking for the help we need to be in right relationship with him. He longs to give us what we need but we must be open to receiving his gifts and his peace. If we are "tuned into" God, we can hear his Word clearly and speak that Word to others with conviction.

PRAY For me, there is no better way to spend quiet time with our Lord than Eucharistic adoration. Prayer and devotion in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament transforms and heals. Give it a try.

OCIA BECOMING CATHOLIC STARTS SEPTEMBER 16TH

Are you curious about becoming Catholic? Are you Catholic but haven't received all your sacraments?

Meeting will take the for of classes on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm led by our pastor Fr. Michael Kearney and parochial vicar Fr. Frank Pusateri.

Fellowship gatherings are on Sunday mornings starting with the 10:00 am Mass.

Questions or to sign up email ocia@olmercy.com

MONDAYS MONICA and WITH AUGUSTINE

A prayer group for loved ones who have fallen away from their faith and the church that meets once a month at 7:30 pm in the church. Check out olmercy.com/mwma

September 16 / October 21 / November 18

Meet Jesus in Scripture Bible Study!

Season 4 of The CHOSEN

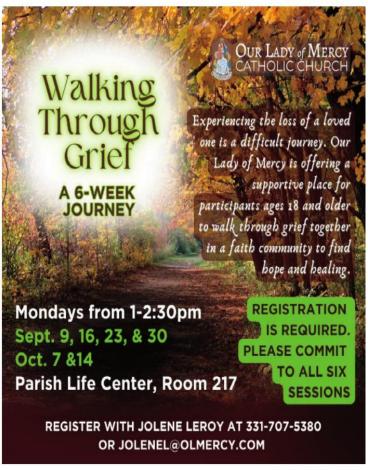
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in the MPR Starts September 24

Register Now at www.olmercy.com/biblestudy

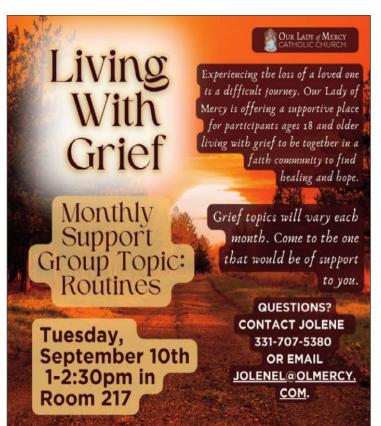


Nourish body, mind and soul at SoulCore-a prayer experience that combines the prayers of the rosary with stretching and core-strengthening. Wednesdays at 6:00 pm on 9/4, 9/11, 9/18 & 9/25. Saturdays at 9:15 am on 9/14, 9/21,& 9/28. Room 208. Bring your water, mat and rosary.





Tel: (630) 851-3444 • www.olmercy.com





AN INVITATION FROM OLM'S REACH COORDINATOR FOR SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS...

Dear Our Lady of Mercy Community,

In today's readings, the people brought to Jesus a deaf man who had a speech impediment and they begged him to lay his hand on the deaf man. Taking the man away, Jesus put his fingers in the man's ears and touched his tongue and said ""Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" Like Jesus, we are called to open the eyes and ears and mouth of the most vulnerable in our population- the deaf, the mute, the blind and all those persons in our community who live with special needs and disabilities.

Today, I'm asking you to be the friends of the deaf and mute man who brought the man to Jesus. Let us not be blind to persons with special needs, but instead let us be opened to the possibilities that Jesus can do through these individuals. Let us give them a chance to receive the love and mercy of Jesus in their lives, just as the deaf and mute man in our Gospel did today.

At Our Lady of Mercy, we offer faith formation to students with special needs grades K-6, as well as sacramental preparation for those students with special needs who are over the age of 7. If you know of a student with special needs in our community whose eyes and ears need to be opened so that they may receive the love and mercy of Jesus in their lives, then please invite them to enroll in our programs! Or, if you or someone you know is interested in helping as a catechist or volunteer, then please contact me for more information!

May the Lord open our eyes to see those in need and may He open our mouths to invite the most vulnerable into an encounter with Jesus. God Bless!

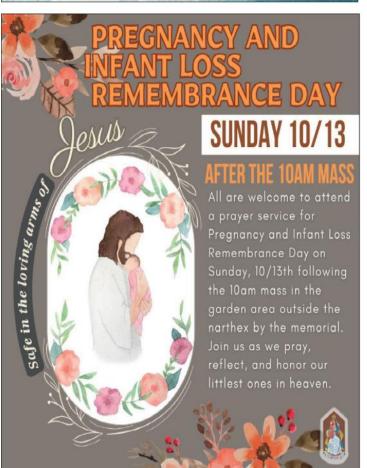
Lvdia Schmitt

VISIT OLMERCY.COM/REACH

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: LYDIA SCHMITT, COORDINATOR
331-707-5377 OR LYDIAS@OLMERCY.COM









At Catholic Charities, we have found that low-income families and seniors living on poverty-level incomes do not spend money on underwear that they desperately need.

Collection Boxes will be placed in the Narthex for NEW underwear, undershirts, socks and diapers the weekend of October 19-20.

You can also purchase items to donate through the Undy Sunday Amazon Wish List by scanning the QR code above.



Parish Sacrificial Giving Actual Year-to-Date Collections \$ 249,786 Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget \$ 256,000 Amount Short of Budget \$ (6,214) 08/25/24 Sunday Collection \$ 29,401

For the Budget Year 2024/25 we have increased the Weekly Sunday Goal by 3.2%, to \$32,000/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.

Donating Made Easy! Just scan this QR code.

Weekly Sunday Goal

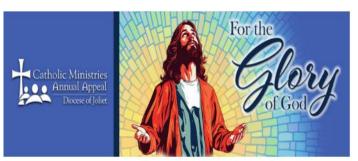
Amount Short of Goal





\$

\$



CMAA Pledge Report for Our Lady of Mercy

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	\$ 140,500
Amount Pledged	\$ 167,792
Amount Paid	\$ 144,562
Remaining Balance	\$ 23,230
Rebate Amount	\$ 2,843
# of Families Pledged	510





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-Thursday8:30am-4:00pm Friday......8:30am-1:00pm

Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Thurso	day 8:00am
Monday (Spanish Mass)	6:30pm
Tuesday	8:00am, 6:30pm
Wednesday, Friday	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	7:00pm until all are heard
Wednesday	After Noon Mass until all are heard
Thursday	After 6:30am Mass until all are heard
Friday	After Noon Mass until all are heard
Saturday	9:00-10:00am, 1:30-2:30pm
Magnify	7:30-8:20pm
Or by Appointment	

Adoration

Monday - Friday8:30am-10:00pm Silent adoration takes place during non-mass times.

New Parishioners

We welcome you! Please register by visiting our website at their child baptized must 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 may be scheduled no less than 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 complete a parent workshop. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent. Contact Lydia Schmitt at 331-707-5377.

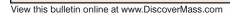
Weddings

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 six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. Contact Theresa Czaplewski at 331-707-5374.

Parish Directory

Parish Priests

Parish Priests
<i>Pastor</i> Fr. Michael Kearney
630-851-3444, Ext. 228frmichael@olmercy.com
Parochial Vicar Fr. Frank Pusateri
630-851-3444, Ext. 226 frfrank@olmercy.com
Priest In ResidenceFr. Vagenas
frvagenas@olmercy.com
Permanent Deacons
Dcn Tim Kueper tkueper5@yahoo.com
Dcn Tony Leazzotonyl@olmercy.com
Dcn Tony Martini tonym@olmercy.com
Dcn Doug McIlvainedougm@olmercy.com
Dcn Phil Rehmer deaconphil@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
331 707 3373Turks@omicrey.com
Asst. to Pastor & CommTheresa Czaplewski
331-707-5374theresac@olmercy.com
Dir. of Evangelization & CommunicationsZara Tan
331-707-5381zara@olmercy.com
331 707 3301 mmmmm Larae omicroyidam
Family Faith Formation
Family Faith Formation Director (Pre K-5) & OCIC Mary Io Transpir
Director (Pre K-5) & OCIC Mary Jo Trapani
Director (Pre K-5) & OCICMary Jo Trapani 331-707-5378maryjot@olmercy.com
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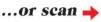


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