Our Lady of Mercy Church
Park Ridge, New Jersey  07656

March 1, 2020
First Sunday of Lent

Rev. Patrick J. Seo, Temporary Administrator
Rev. Charles P. Granstrand, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Robert T. Ulak, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Msgr. James C. Turro (Weekends)
Rev. Mr. Jae Joo, Transitional Deacon
Rev. Mr. Joseph S. Romano, Permanent Deacon

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Evening: 5:30PM
Sunday:  7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM, 12:30PM (Spanish)
Daily: 6:30AM, 8:30AM
Saturday: 8:30AM

ADORATION
Every Thursday 9AM—10AM
First Friday 8:30PM—8:15AM

BAPTISM
The Sacrament is celebrated one Sunday every month. Parents should contact the rectory or visit OLM website for dates of Baptism and Preparation Sessions.

MARRIAGE
Couples planning to be married should contact the rectory at least ONE YEAR PRIOR to the wedding date.

John Rokoszak, Pastoral Associate
Debra Wyka, Minister of Music
Evelyn Paglieri, Director of Religious Education
Jennifer Kavanagh, Youth Minister
Donna Quinn, Finance Manager
Maria Kistler, Rectory Office & Communications Mgr.
Maureen Giacco, Religious Education Office Manager

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 9-9:30AM & 1-1:30PM
Monday: 7PM

SCHOOL
Our Lady of Mercy Academy
National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
25 Fremont Avenue, Park Ridge, NJ 07656
Laraine Meehan, Principal

CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
Grades K-6: 4-5PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Grades 7-8: 3:45-5:15PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Rectory
201-391-5315
www.UROLM.org
olm.church@gmail.com
2 Fremont Ave

Catechetical Center
201-391-3590
www.OLMRE.org
urolm.religious.ed@gmail.com
50 Pascack Rd

Youth Minister
201-802-1771
www.OLMyouthministry.com
olmyouthminister@gmail.com

Music Minister
201-358-2994

School
201-391-3838
www.OLMAcademy.org
25 Fremont Ave
OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Mercy Parish is a Catholic community that worships God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, celebrating Mass, proclaiming the Gospel Message and uniting in prayer. We strive to welcome all and to educate ourselves and others in the Good News of Jesus Christ. We support one another in times of joy and sadness and attempt to serve each other by reaching out to those in need in our community and beyond. We are imperfect people on a journey. Our goal is that the life of each person leads to the Lord.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29
5:30 Howard Minnick

First Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 1
Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/ Rom 5:12-19/ Mt 4:1-11
7:30 Marie Pansini
9:30 Joseph Ackerson
11:00 Terri Nicolich-Mauer
12:30 People of the Parish

MONDAY, MARCH 2
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/ Mt 25:31-46
6:30 Gail Dedio
8:30 Jacqueline Manniello

Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

TUESDAY, MARCH 3
Is 55:10-11/ Mt 6:7-15
6:30 Dorothy Midwinter
8:30 Ann & Catherine Vaccaro

Saint Casimir

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4
Jon 3:1-10/ Lk 11:29-32
6:30 Leif Eikeseth
8:30 Jim Hall
2PM Mass at the Atrium: Francis & Mary Nativo

THURSDAY, MARCH 5
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/ Mt 7:7-12
6:30 Bill & Millie Trutt
8:30 Terri Nicolich-Mauer (30th Anniversary)

First Friday

FRIDAY, MARCH 6
Ez 18:21-28/ Mt 5:20-26
6:30 Martin Finegan
8:30 Mae O’Brien
7PM Claire Leech

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
Dt 26:16-19/ Mt 5:43-48
8:30 John Cortazzo
5:30 People of the Parish

Second Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 8
Gn 12:1-4a/ 2 Tm 1:8b-10/ Mt 17:1-9
7:30 Pat Dolan
9:30 Orazio Iacono
11:00 Elias Schmitt
12:30 David Stickney & Family

LET US PRAY

In your love and kindness please pray for the sick of our parish, especially: Linda VanSickell, Mary Jane Burns, Michael Savianeso, and for the prayer requests listed in the book of intentions in the Vestibule.

Please also remember the deceased of our parish especially: Frances VanKoolbergen, and Anne Kingston.

Please join with us in praying one OUR FATHER per day for all those who have no one to pray for them.

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS IN CHURCH burn this week in memory of Katy Textor Farmer, Nicholas Stathakis, and for a Special Intention.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP IN THE CHAPEL burns this week for a Special Intention.

If you would like more information about reserving a Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a loved one or for a Special Intention, please call the rectory office at 201-391-5315.

GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING – Tithing

February 23 collection: $ 18,760
Same time last year: $ 15,465
Second Collection: $ 3,669

Tithing is God’s plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God. We ask half of this, or 5%, for your Parish church. The other 5% goes to your favorite charities.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

“It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.”
(Matthew 4:10)

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things. Ask God how He is calling you to serve.

SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

2020 Annual Appeal
Our Goal this year is $105,130. The collection will begin the weekend of March 7/8.
A Message from Deacon Jae

Don’t say the “A-word”!

We have entered into the first week of Lent!
Chocolates are hidden, Netflix, Disney+, Hulu subscriptions are on halt, and sales of McDonald’s filet-o-fish is on the rise.

During this Season of Lent, Catholics around the world are doing various acts of charity as almsgiving, praying more fervently, and abstaining from something they are adamantly attached to as a fast. Among the many things that are being abstained in this season, all of the Catholics are abstaining from saying a certain word: “the A-word” or “the Alleluia”

You may have noticed that in today’s Mass that we did not sing “the Gloria” (Glory to God in the highest…) and “the Alleluia” which lets the congregation know that the Gospel will be proclaimed.

So why does the Catholic Church abstain from saying these two wonderful acclamations?
The first stanza(?) of the Gloria, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will,” is said by the angels as they were praising God when the shepherds were notified of the birth of their Savior, Jesus Christ (Luke 2:14). Likewise, “Alleluia” which means “Praise the Lord” was used as a chief term of praise in Heavenly worship (Revelation 19:1-10). In both cases, these two acclamations are used by those in heaven, the angels and the saints, to give highest praise to God for His awesome glory and power. And when we proclaim these acclamations in Mass, we are made known that our worship in this world is united to the worship in Heaven. Literally, what is happening in Heaven is happening in Mass! We worship together with the choir of angels and the saints, and both Heaven and earth become full of God’s glory (Holy, Holy, Holy…).

However, in the season of Lent, the focus is shifted to the spirit of exile. In the Old Testament, the Israelites were exiled several times. In book of Exodus, they were exiled out of Egypt and wandered 40 years in the desert before they entered the land promised by God. They were also exiled from Israel by the Babylonians (1Chronicles,2Chronicles). In all of the exiles, the Israelites were waiting greatly to be freed from slavery and to enter back into their homeland, because that was where the temple was, the only place for worshipping God. During the time of exile, the Israelites repented for their sinfulness, stayed faithful to the laws given to them from Moses, and patiently waited in fervent prayer. It was a time of purification and rededication to God, so when they do enter their homeland again, they can worship God again with genuine and pure heart.

The Church follows this spirit and calls all of us to enter into a time of purification and rededication. Like the Israelites, we remember that we are not at our homeland, Heaven, yet, and we are waiting patiently for our Savior Jesus Christ to bring us to our promised land. By recognizing our sinfulness, staying faithful to the Lenten regulation and fervently praying, we can begin to purify our hearts and prepare ourselves to sincerely worship God.

We abstain from saying “the A-word” not because we ceased to praise God. Rather we abstain from saying it, so when we do say it again, on Easter vigil when Jesus opens the way to heaven for us, we can sincerely with purity of heart and communion of angels and saints proclaim “Praise the Lord!”

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MSGR. TURRO HOMILY

My Dear Friends,
At whatever time and in whatever place we find ourselves in—we must take courage and feel safe for God is there with us. We have a guarantee of God’s presence to us in those powerful and reassuring words of Scripture:

- Be strong and courageous
- Don’t be afraid and don’t give up
- Hope because the Lord God is with us wherever we go. (Job)

To read more of Msgr. Turro’s homilies go to: https://urolm.org/homilies

PRAYER GROUPS

THE ROSARY SOCIETY will attend the 8:30AM Mass on the first Saturday of the month, followed by recitation of the Rosary.

THE FAMILY OF GOD meets Tuesday at 7:30PM in the Chapel to praise God and pray for special intentions.

DAUGHTERS OF MARY meets Thursday mornings at 9:30AM in the Chapel.

MOTHERS PRAYERS GROUPS meet day or evening for one hour each week. If interested in joining, please call Cathy Flynn at 201-391-1482.

THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA will be recited each Saturday in the Sacred Heart Chapel immediately following the 8:30AM Mass.
WOMEN’S CREATIVE GROUP—March 5th from 7-9PM
planned for this evening! We will be decorating glass
j2pb3@hotmail.com by March 2nd.
contact Jessica Bruno at 551-206-0201 or email at
will be provided. If you are new to this group, be sure to
through, with a max height of 9” and width of 5”. Candles
er, be high in contrast to allow candlelight to shine
em, etc… Your image should be printed by Ink Jet print-
HACKENSACK SOUP KITCHEN—
FAMILY PROMISE WALK IN DINNER PROGRAM
ner, call Dolly (201-247-8102) no later than March 10.
March 12 by 2pm. If you wish to volunteer to serve din-
needed. Please bring these to the Parish Center on
March 12. Bulletin boards will be set up in the Gather-
ning Space starting March 4th. Direct any questions or to register to Deacon Gary Tankard
201-690-6259. You can purchase the book online
and begin reading on March1st. Visit the school website to learn more and for updates on One School One Book activities. #OLMAkind
CONGRATULATIONS!
The following lucky winners can pick up their check at the school office.
Feb 17 - Kelly Donahue - $75
Feb 18 - Don Sgroi - $25
Feb 19 - Kim Seelig - $50
Feb 20 - Eileen Stevenson - $25
Feb 21 - Karina Francesco - $50
Feb 22 - Allison Migliaccio - $100
Feb 23 - Elaine Santiago - $25
Feb 29 - Myra & Ken Vanetti - $200
Mar 1 - Francoise Spano - $100
Winners are drawn once a week from Feb 1 through April 30th. Each winning ticket gets thrown back in the pot for additional chances to win! Win cash prizes of $25, $50, $100 or $200. Tickets are $10 each and can be purchased in the school office (201-391-3838) or Eileen Stevenson at ecstevenson@optonline.net.
We are very excited to embark upon a special journey as we bring the value of a shared reading experience to our community! We invite everyone to grab their copy of WONDER by RJ Placio and begin reading on March1st.

GET INVOLVED
LENT-IN-ACTON NEWS: “Embracing the Stranger”
Social Justice & Peace Ministry will be collecting needed items for the Bergen County Housing, Health and Human Services Center/Homeless Shelter in Hackensack. A flyer with the needed items can be found in the bulletin, UROLM.org, OLM Facebook page.

WHO IS JESUS? - This is the most important question that we can ask. The answer determines our response to everything that matters to us. Learn about the best biblical scholarship, theology, and biblical spirituality to answer our important question. Our selected book is “An Introduction to New Testament Christology” by Father Raymond Brown. We will meet on Wednesdays, at 7:30PM in the gathering space starting March 4th. Direct any questions or to register to Deacon Gary Tankard 201-690-6259. You can purchase the book online (Paulist Book). Show up registration is accepted.

FAMILY PROMISE WALK IN DINNER PROGRAM
HACKENSACK SOUP KITCHEN—OLM will be hosting on March 12. Bulletin boards will be set up in the Gathering Space and Church Vestibule indicating the items needed. Please bring these to the Parish Center on March 12 by 2pm. If you wish to volunteer to serve dinner, call Dolly (201-247-8102) no later than March 10.

WOMEN’S CREATIVE GROUP—March 5th from 7-9PM in the Parish Center. An exciting group craft project is planned for this evening! We will be decorating glass candle containers with printed images of your choice. Image suggestions: flower(s), animal, nature scene, poem, etc… Your image should be printed by Ink Jet printer, be high in contrast to allow candlelight to shine through, with a max height of 9” and width of 5”. Candles will be provided. If you are new to this group, be sure to contact Jessica Bruno at 551-206-0201 or email at j2pb3@hotmail.com by March 2nd.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be led by the Knights of Columbus every Friday during Lent at 7:30PM.
SPANISH STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Fridays 6-7PM.
EXTRA MASS TIME
7PM Fridays in Lent
ADORATION
March 6 at 8PM following the 7PM Mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS
ST. PATRICK’S DINNER on March 14th—The Our Lady of Fatima Council #4486 of the Knights of Columbus will be hosting our annual St. Patrick’s Dinner on Saturday, March 14th at 6:30pm in the Our Lady of Mercy Academy Auditorium. Delicious Irish fare will be served and wonderful prizes will be available to try your luck at winning. This is always a terrific event enjoyed by all who attend. The cost is $30 per person. Children 12 and under are $10. Please contact Frank Lentino 201-264-0198 for pre-paid reservation. Proceeds go to local and worthy charitable organizations. RSVPKofC4486@gmail.com

THE ACOUSTIC CAFÉ MUSIC SERIES at OLM just presented the first sold-out show of the year with Vance Gilbert! We invite you to join us for our next concert on Sunday, March 15th with Philadelphia singer/songwriter Meghan Cary and special guest Joe Iadanza. John Platt of WFUV says, “Meghan’s songs inspire us to reach our higher selves. She sings them with such infectious joy you can’t resist joining in!” Come discover critically acclaimed artists that may be new to you and help our twinning parish in Vallieres, Haiti at the same time! 4 PM in the Lower Gathering Space in the church. Doors open at 3:30 PM. Tickets $15 advance online, $20 at the door. www.cafeacoustic.org Refreshments available. Proceeds benefit St Vincent’s parish. More info - Barbara Roehrer 201-573-0718

GENERAL INFORMATION

OLM MASSBOOK for March 2021 opens March 1, 2020. If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, please stop by the Rectory Office during office hours. Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9-5, Wed 9-7, Sat 9-1, Sun 9-1:30.

Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour next weekend.

WOMEN’S RETREAT 2020 - San Alfonso Retreat House - March 20th - 22nd. Theme for 2020 is: “Choosing to Live In Peace” Cost of weekend is $240. A deposit of $50 is required and non-refundable. Last day for deposit is March 2nd. Contact: Beth Gangeri at 201-391-2569 or email bgangeri@yahoo.com.

Stay up to date with the latest upcoming events by visiting Our Lady of Mercy website. www.urolm.org
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