

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Whoever loves me
will keep my word,
and my Father
will love them,
and we will come
to them and make our
dwelling with them.*

John 14:23

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May 26, 2019

***Our Lady of Mercy Parish
Merrimack, NH
424-3757***

***Pastor: Msgr Paul Bouchard
Email: FrPaul@olmnh.org***

***Deacon: John Castelot
Email: DeaconJohn@olmnh.org***

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 25th

Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:30PM: Florence Peach req by Gary & Diane Quinlan

SUNDAY, May 26th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:30AM: Roland & Lucille Delude req by their children
and for all parishioners

10:30AM: Margie King req by Ron & Ingrid Fish

Monday, May 27th

St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

8:30AM: For those who died in service to our country

Tuesday, May 28th

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: Angelina Paison req by her family

Wednesday, May 29th

Anticipated Mass for the Ascension of the Lord

NO MORNING MASS

7:00 PM: Robert Hill req by his family

Thursday, May 30th

Ascension of the Lord

8:10 AM: Morning Prayer

8:30 AM: Phyllis Staffieri req by her family

Friday, May 31st

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:10AM: Morning Prayer

8:30AM: John Collins req by his family

Saturday, June 1st

Seventh Sunday of Easter

4:30PM: Timothy Dwyer req by his family

Sunday, June 2nd

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:30AM: Robert Coyne req by his wife

10:30AM: Keith Boyer req by his family & for all
parishioners

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday—4:30 pm

Sunday—8:30 am and 10:30 am

Mon, Tues, Wed, & Friday—8:30 am

Holy Days—8:30 am and an anticipated
Vigil @ 7:00 pm

PARISH STAFF EMAILS:

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Ascension Thursday

The Solemnity of the **Ascension** commemorates Jesus' return to heaven forty days after his resurrection. Thus Ascension Day falls 40 days after Easter, on the 6th Thursday of Easter. This year the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on May 30, 2019.

Masses for the Ascension will take place on:

Wednesday, May 29th at 7:00 pm

Thursday, May 30th at 8:30 am

This is a holy day of obligation. Parish Offices will be closed.

Sanctuary Lamp



The Sanctuary Lamp for May 25th through May 31st is lit in memory of **Maureen Murray**.

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Lamp lit in memory of or for the intentions of a loved one, please call the parish office at 424-3757.



120 CLUB WINNERS

Week #16: Mary Bothey & Linda Horvath

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



*** HAPPY ***
MEMORIAL DAY
 REMEMBER AND HONOR

MEMORIAL DAY MASS

Our nation pauses each year to remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice of giving their life in service of our nation. Memorial Day is commemorated to honor those who served in the military and to remember those who died while serving.

Memorial Day Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 am on May 27th at Last Rest Cemetery, weather permitting. Please bring your own folding chairs, insect repellent and sun screen. In case of rain, Mass will be celebrated in the Church. The Knights of Columbus will be serving coffee and donuts in the church hall following Mass.

MEATBALL SUB FUNDRAISER FOR EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

On the weekend of June 15th and 16th, Deacon John along with John Hilliard will be sponsoring a Meatball Sub fundraiser. John Hilliard is a high school student and parishioner here at the parish and is working towards his Eagle Scout award. For his project he will be building a garden bench and arbor here on the property in memory of his brother Hunter who passed away this past year. Please come down to the church hall to support John in this endeavor. Meatball subs are \$5.00 each and will be sold after all the masses.

Faith Formation Registrations for 2019-2020

We are now accepting registrations for our summer and fall Faith Formation Programs. You may go to our website at www.olmnh.org and either register online or print off a registration, fill it out and return it to the parish office. You may also call the parish office to register your child(ren). Payments may be made online or mailed to the office. As always partial payments are accepted or if there is a financial need, please call the parish office at 424-3757.

If you are new to the parish or have a child entering into 1st grade in the fall, please call the parish office or go to our website for information on our programs.

Our Summer Program runs from July 15th through July 26th—Monday through Friday (Grades 1-5) from 9:30 to 11:45 am.

We are in need of teacher aides for our summer program. If you are interested or would like more information, please call the parish office at 424-3757 and speak with Kathy.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of May 19th: \$5323.00

A Humble God

The second reading from Revelation gives us a picture of the new Jerusalem as a sign of the power and majesty of God. Gleaming with precious stones, a massive high wall with twelve gates, it is illuminated not by the sun but by the glory of God. Yet the other two readings seem to describe a humble God who wishes “not to place on you any burden beyond . . . necessity” (Acts 15:28), and Jesus in the Gospel tells his disciples that “the holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name . . . will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you” (John 14:26). This gentleness reminds me of an icon by the Russian monk Andrei Rublev that depicts the Trinity as three angels bowing in deference to each other. This humility may be what moved Jesus to say that “the Father is greater than I” (John 14:28). It is certainly a unique way of understanding God.

I used to think of free will as God’s way of testing our worthiness for the kingdom of heaven. But it is more likely part of that same humility, God not being forced on us. While we are given ways to know God, especially through the scriptures and the witness of those who went before us in faith, God leaves us free to believe or not, to love God or not. When the Father sent his Son Jesus to show us his love, he sent us a tiny baby, born in a stable, not a mighty warrior leading an army. When Jesus rose from the dead on Easter, he appeared not in triumph to strike down Herod and those who had put him to death, but quietly to a handful of disciples who already believed in him.

So does this mean God leaves us on our own to get through life? No, God gives us the Holy Spirit to teach and remind us of all that Jesus said. That “reminding” is an important way the Spirit helps us today. You may have spent years in religion classes or the RCIA process. When you need an answer to life’s questions, the Spirit may remind you of something you heard from a teacher or read in the scriptures. As you pray over that question, the Spirit may help you understand how the scripture applies to you. So the more you read the Bible, the more likely that the Spirit will have something of which to remind you.

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Music Ministry Opportunity (St Joseph Parish, Nashua) ...for adult or college student. Seeking an instrumentalist, preferably keyboard/piano for a K-12 choir with an excellent leader. Involves weekly Sunday practices (8:30-9:45am) and accompanying the Youth Choir at the 10 am Mass once a month. If desired, a stipend can be negotiated. Contact Leigh Pelletier at 930-5446.



**Thursday, June 20th —11:00 am to 7:00 pm
4th Annual Hot Dogz Sale
Our Lady of Mercy Parking Lot**

Let's put our passion to good work on the Longest Day, a national event honoring those who face Alzheimer's Disease with strength, heart and endurance. We will do what we love to do in order to raise funds and awareness.

\$5.00 = 2 dogz, chips and a drink
All proceeds from team NH Hot Dogz goes to MA/NH Chapter of Alzheimer's Association

Questions may be directed to Team Captain Bob Bergin at 494-9835 or oldbergin@gmail.com, or Event Chairperson Sylvia White at 978-404-1734 or sew2447@gmail.com

MEN OF ST JOSEPH

Next Meeting: Saturday, June 1, 2019 @ 7:00 AM

Men of St Joseph is a Catholic Association dedicated to uniting men through vital relationships, encouraging their transformations as individuals, brothers, fathers, and parishioners by living according to God's Word. The Men of St. Joseph invites all Catholic men to become members and we desire that all men enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and live a life filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Please join us!

Glory & Praise Dedications

The death of a loved one leaves us with a hole in the heart. The hole remains and we get on by filling that hole with actions that bring us comfort. In the church I have had a label pasted in one of the Glory & Praise books in memory of my husband. I have placed that book in a seat where I generally sit. When I arrive at church I look for that book. I place my hand on the label and say a prayer for his eternal rest in heaven and his presence with me. All through Mass I feel him with me, and when I leave, I ask him to keep my prayers before God. This is a comfort to me. If you would also like to find comfort in this manner, come to the parish office and have a label of dedication put into a book as well.

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace. We thank those men and women who are now serving in our armed forces. We ask God to protect them as they protect us. Lord, you know where they are today and we pray that you will be there with them to guide them through whatever challenges they face.

Parish Breakfast

June 9th after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses,

a delicious breakfast will be served in the Church Hall by the Knights of Columbus.



This is the last breakfast before their summer break.

Please come down and join other members of our parish family for a great breakfast and good company.

There will be no Blood Pressure Clinic this week.

Parish Project and Building Committee

The parish facilities are in need of some upgrades and repairs. The parish is setting up a Project and Building Committee to help prioritize and accomplish these projects. We are looking for parishioners who would be willing to serve on this committee and who are experienced in any of the special trades but especially in HVAC and Thermal Insulator or Ventilation.

If you are interested in helping out, please call Sharon at the parish office at 424-3757.

Blood Drive

Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting a **Red Cross Blood Drive** here at the parish on Thursday, **June 27th** from 2 to 7 pm in the Church Hall. Appointments are encouraged. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment. Walk in are always welcome.

Parish Offices Closed



Parish Offices will be closed on Monday, **May 27th** in observance of Memorial Day.

Parish Offices will also be closed on Thursday, **May 30th** in observance of Ascension of the Lord.

Information Page

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Bulletin for May 26, 2019

Kathy