

Our Lady of Mercy 94 Broad Street

Plainville, Connecticut 06062

What is las posadas?

Dear Padre.

I recently moved to a parish that includes a large Mexican community that's known for their annual *posadas* event. What is that?

Las posadas, a nine-day novena preparation for the celebration of Christmas, begins December 16 and ends Christmas Eve.

Posada is Spanish for "inn." The ceremony remembers Mary and Joseph's trip to Bethlehem and their difficulty finding a place to stay. Posadas are celebrated in many different ways, but the traditional celebration involves a group of people, the "pilgrims," going to several houses, knocking on the door, and asking for posada. The pilgrims sing the part of Joseph as he explains their situation and asks for a place to stay. The people inside sing back that they have no room and that the pilgrims should just move on.

On the last night, the people in the last house recognize that Mary is the Queen of Heaven and that the child she carries is the Savior of the World. They invite the pilgrims inside and hold a prayer service that may include a Scripture reading or the rosary. The celebration ends with food and singing.

This tradition is more than a folksy reenactment of Joseph and Mary's search for lodging—it's a solemn dramatization by women and men who believe God searches with them, a touching ceremony that can help Christians today see the real needs of those who live without the security of a home, health insurance, or steady job.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR sundaybulletin@liguori.org

Rev. John F. Brinsmade

Pastor

Dcn. Robert Berube

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Joseph VanTao Nguyen

Weekend Deacon

Nicholas Drabik

Organist

Sandra DeBlois

Bookkeeper Robert DeBlois

Maintenance

Bryan Knorr

Director of Liturgy

Jeanne Gionfriddo

Director of Religious Education & RCIA

Jo-Ann Blanchette-Silverio

Parish Administrative Assistant

Parish Office/Cemetery Office Hours

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Monday - Friday

Parish Trustees

Raymond Corsini, and Josephine Forcella

New Parishioners

Welcome! If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself after Liturgy or at the Rectory.

Liturgy Schedule

Sunday Liturgy - Church

Saturday 4:00 P.M. Sunday 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.

Weekday Liturgy

Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 8:00 A.M.

Devotions

Rosary - Monday through Saturday before Morning Mass.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples should make arrangements at least six months in advance. Dates or time can be arranged only after speaking with one of the parish clergy.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents should begin to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism for their child in advance (even before the child is born, if possible). This allows time for the required preparation. Dates can be arranged after attending the parent preparation program. For information contact Rich and Sue Dziura 860 -747-5451.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday At Noon

Sacrament of the Sick

Arrangements can be made for any sick person to be anointed. Holy Eucharist is brought to the homebound by our Eucharistic Ministers and the parish clergy.

Parish Office/Cemetery Office

19 South Canal Street, Plainville, Connecticut

Phone: (860) 747-6825 Fax: (860) 747-5407 Email: OLMCT@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Website: www.olmct.org

FACEBOOK.COM/OURLADYOFMERCYCHURCHCT

PARISH MISSION

We, the people of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Plainville, Connecticut are committed to journey together as a community of faith, hope, and love within the Catholic tradition. We are called to witness to the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives through sharing and celebration of faith and a life of Christian service.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF

DECEMBER 14, 2014 - Third Sunday of Advent

MONDAY December 15

8:00AM John Anthony Villari V

Req. Grandfather

TUESDAY December 16 8:00AM Marie Olesak

Req. Brenda Tella

WEDNESDAY December 17

8:00AM NO MASS

THURSDAY December 18 8:00AM Rilla Gessner

Req. Family

FRIDAY December 19 8:00AM Donald St. Pierre

Req. Family

SATURDAY December 20

8:00AM Kevin Lackey – 1st Anniv.

Anthony Jakubauskas – 1st Anniv.

Homer Drapeau – Month Anniv.

4:00PM Kathleen Fontaine

Req. Candice Fontaine

SUNDAY December 21 8:30AM Parishioners

10:30AM Reynold Desjardins

Req. Dorothy Pelletier

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

 Regular
 \$4778.50

 Monthly
 5.00

 Catch Up
 67.00

 Cathedraticum
 - 250.27

 SSP
 - 250.27

 Total
 \$4049.96

Second Collection next weekend is for the Monthly Collection.

PRAYER FOR ADVENT...Loving God, we seek you in both the light and the darkness, the silence and the sounds, the fullness and the emptiness of this Advent season. Fill our hearts with hope for your coming, love for those who are most in need, and faith in your promises. May this time of preparation help us

celebrate the birth of your Son with deep gratitude and abundant joy. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Light of the world. Amen.

<u>OPLATEK (CHRISTMAS WAFERS)</u>...are available in the Sacristy after Mass and in the Parish Office during the week. The offering is \$2.

DECEMBER 15 – 3:30 – 5:30PM – St. Anthony Boys – Gym

DECEMBER 15 - 6 - 8PM - Karate

DECEMBER 15 – 6 – 8:30PM – St. Joseph Girls BB - Gym

DECEMBER 16 - 3 - 5:30PM – St. Joseph – Gym

DECEMBER 16 - 5:45 - 7:45PM - St. Anthony Girls - Gym

DECEMBER 16 – 6:30 – 7:30PM – Middle School

DECEMBER 17 – 3:30 – 5:30PM – St. Anthony Boys – Gym

DECEMBER 17 – 5:45 – 7:45PM – St. Anthony Girls - Gym

DECEMBER 17 – 7PM – NA- Room 107

DECEMBER 18 - 1 - 2:30PM - Atrium

DECEMBER 18 – 3 – 5:30PM – St. Joseph BB - Gym

DECEMBER 18 – 7PM – Pastoral Council Meeting – Rm 102

DECEMBER 19 - 6 - 8:30PM - GIFT - Gym

DECEMBER 20 - 9:15 - 10:15AM - K - 4 - Rel. Ed.

DECEMBER 21 - 9:30AM - Noon - GIFT - Gym

DECEMBER 21 – 10:30AM – 12:30PM - Men's AA Meeting – Room 107

<u>OLM HAS A NEW WEBSITE!!!!</u>...We have gone online! Go to www.olmct.org to find out



information of what events are taking place at our church. Also find out what programs there are available to get involved with, the latest Tweet the Pope has posted or read a homily. The

website will constantly be updated with events, the Christmas Mass and Confession schedule is posted and information of what is happening around Our Lady of Mercy Church! Right now we have on the front page a new reflection every day for Advent. Please visit us online!!

MASS STORM POLICY...

Daily Mass will be cancelled when Plainville Schools are cancelled.



"WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT"...in order to continue to have our Bulletins printed we need advertisers. 1. To

memorialize a family member or friend, or to sponsor a short message, such as, "Thank you God for Watching over my family." Jane Doe, please call Mary Ziccardi for details as to cost and etc. at 860.747.5040. 2. For commercial ads, contact Helen Bergenty at 860.747.3905 for information. Thank you for your consideration.

THERE ARE NEW BROCHURES TO EXPLAIN HOW TO ORDER A LEAF OR OTHER ITEM ON THE TREE OF LIFE THAT IS ON THE WALL IN THE GATHERING SPACE. PLEASE FIND THE BROCHURES ON THE WALL TO THE RIGHT OF THE TREE!

PARISH GIVING TREE...is set up in our Gathering Space during Advent. We invite you to select a paper ornament from the tree, buy the indicated gift, tape the ornament on the gift and return it to the tree by the given date. The agencies and organizations that we will be serving this year are the following: Plainville Senior Center, St. Agnes Home for young mothers and their babies, Apple Valley Rehab



Center, Rocky Hill Veteran's Home, St. Philip's House who help clients and their families combat HIV or AIDS, Catholic Worker who work with the poor of Hartford and the children of St. Mary's Church in New Britain.

SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY FUN DURING THE TIME OF THE WINTER DULDRUMS...on

Saturday, February 21st, at 7PM, OLM is organizing a fun night out at the XL Center to see the HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS. Tickets will be discounted to \$20 from \$28 per person. For more info on the team,



please visit their website at www.harlemglobetrotters.com. There are flyers/order forms for tickets at both major entrances to the church and in the Parish Office. You may order tickets by mailing in or

dropping the flyer and payment off at the Office. You may also drop your order and payment in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Globetrotters." Or you can print the form from our website under the events tab, double-click on Globetrotters and then click on the red address and the flyer will print. OLM is not providing transportation or parking for this event. If you know another family that is attending the game, please consider carpooling. What a great Christmas present for the whole family!!!!

THANK YOU!

Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it.

Please cut out this "Thank you ad" and present it the next time you patronize one of our advertisers. JUSTICE CHALLENGE:... December 18 is
International Migrants Day. Migrant workers are
often denied basic human rights – the right to a
just wage or to safe working
conditions or to benefits. They
often have no voice in the
decisions which affect their lives.
Your challenge this week is to

learn more about the work of the Catholic Church of the US with Migrants and Refugees. Go online at www.usccb.org/mrs. Read some of the information provided by the Bishops' Conference about the issue of migrants and refugees and how it connects to our Catholic faith. Then click on "How to Help" and choose one action on behalf of migrants which you as a family would like to do. Perhaps you want to read a statement by our US Catholic Bishops or do advocacy on behalf of migrants and refugees. You may want to volunteer or get your parish mobilized to help. It doesn't matter what you choose to do; stand in solidarity with your brothers and sisters who move from farm to farm, from place to place, to find work just so they can feed their families and live in hope.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING...is Thursday, December 18th at 7PM in Rm. 102. All parishioners are invited to attend and observe.

IF YOU ARE 18 OR OVER...and you are living

with your parents, we ask that you please register yourself separately from your parents. You may use the form below to do so and we will send you a registration form or you may download and print a form from the front page of our website. Thank you. CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE #?

MOVING? NEW PARISHIONER? Kindly fill out the new information below and return it to the Parish Office by mail, in person or place in the collection basket. This info will help us keep our records up to date and to welcome new parishioners. Thank you.

NAME	 	
ADDRESS	 	
TOWN &		
ZIP	 	
PHONE	 	