

January 3, 2016



Our Lady of Mercy

94 Broad Street

Plainville, Connecticut 06062

Rev. John F. Brinsmade

Pastor

Dcn. Robert Berube

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Hung Duc Truong

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.

Sunday 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.

Atheism vs. Agnosticism

Dear Padre,

What is the difference between atheism and agnosticism?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines **atheism** as the rejection or denial of the existence of God and warns against numerous phenomena that can be categorized as atheistic, such as materialism and humanism and some movements that champion economic or social liberation (CCC 2123–2125). **Agnosticism**, somewhat conversely, makes no judgment about God's existence—instead, it says it's impossible to prove or deny. The Catechism identifies this viewpoint as expressing "indifferentism...and a sluggish moral conscience" (CCC 2128). Both viewpoints are sins against the First Commandment.

Some people believe that religious thought and practice no longer meets the needs of contemporary humanity. On the other side stand faith communities who fear modern culture and life will erode or eradicate the basics of faith and morality. Both stances are extreme and inaccurate, and striving for mutual respect and reverence seems more valid.

Vatican II's *Gaudium et Spes* (19) says, "those who willfully shut out God from their hearts and try to dodge religious questions are not following the dictates of their consciences, and hence are not free of blame; yet believers themselves frequently bear some responsibility... To the extent that they neglect their own training in the faith, or teach erroneous doctrine, or are deficient in their religious, moral or social life, they must be said to conceal rather than reveal the authentic face of God and religion."

FR. TOM SANTA, CSsR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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](https://www.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
January 3, 2016 – The Epiphany of the Lord**

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>January 4</u>
8:00AM	Sarah Pratchett Req. Family
<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>January 5</u>
8:00AM	Ann Wallace Req. Family
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>January 6</u>
8:00AM	No Mass
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>January 7</u>
8:00AM	Jackie Castonguay Req. Frank & Claludette Chasse
<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>January 8</u>
8:00AM	William, Alice & Susan Nadolny Req. Family
<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>January 9</u>
8:00	Dorothy Chambrello – 1 st Anniv. Angelina Bouchard Dalpe – 1 st Anniv.
4:00PM	Elizabeth Knorr Req. Bryan
<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>January 10 – The Baptism of the Lord</u>
8:30AM	Parishioners
10:30AM	Richard McGann Sr. Req. Family

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Regular	\$5,292.50
Monthly	1,800.00
Holy Day	18.00
Catch Up	17.00
Cathedraticum	- 392.01
SSP	- 392.01
Total	\$6,343.48

Next Sunday the Second Collection is the Monthly Collection.

EAT, DRINK and BE MERRY!... (And, donate your cans and bottles!) Our Teen Youth Group, JOLT, is hosting a redeemable can and bottle drive (including bottled water containers) to support their activities. All CT redeemable items are welcomed! You may drop them off at the Parish Center on Sat., 1/9, from 9-11 or ANYTIME in the JOLT shed behind the Parish Center building. Thank you!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 4 – 6 – 8 PM - Karate
 JANUARY 5 – 6 – 8PM – St. Anthony BB – Gym
 JANUARY 5 – 6:30 – 7:30PM – Middle School
 JANUARY 6 – 4 – 5PM – Reconciliation Class
 JANUARY 6 – 5 – 5:45PM – Older Children Class
 JANUARY 6 – 6 – 8PM – 7th Grade BB – Gym
 JANUARY 6 – 7 – 8:15PM – Confirmation Year I & II
 JANUARY 6 - 7PM – NA – Room 107
 JANUARY 7 – 1 – 2:30PM – Atrium
 JANUARY 7 – 6:30 – 9PM - Amera Group – Gym
 JANUARY 9 – 9 – 11AM – JOLT Bottle Drive – Gym
 JANUARY 9 – 9:15 – 10:15AM – K – 4 & Reconciliation Class
 JANUARY 9 – 10:15 – 11:15AM – Eucharist Class
 JANUARY 10 – 10:30AM - 12:30PM AA (Men's) – Rm. 107

Into the Heart of Mercy Retreat... There is still time to join the Holy Family Retreat Center, in West Hartford, and the Catholic Community around the world, as we celebrate the **Year of Mercy** as courageously proclaimed by Pope Francis. This retreat will examine the Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy and explore ways of cultivating mercy amid life's inevitable challenges, identifying practical ways of integrating mercy into



our daily lives. The weekend retreat includes: home-cooked meals, inspirational liturgies, uplifting music, free time, and workshops. The retreat begins with dinner at 6PM on Friday evening and concludes with Sunday brunch at Noon.

Men's Retreat Date: January

15 – 17, 2016.

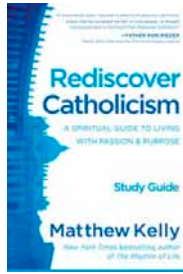
Women's Retreat Dates: January 8 – 10, 29 - 31, March 4 – 6, April 22 - 24, and June 3 – 5, 2016.

For more info call 860.760.9705 or go to www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

We all need time away to slow down and renew ourselves with our Lord.

THE NEXT PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING IS JANUARY 14th AT 7PM IN ROOM 102. ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO OBSERVE.

REDISCOVER CATHOLICISM...Tuesdays, January 19 through February 23 - Choose either 8:30-9:30AM or 6:30-7:30PM. All adults who received a copy of Rediscovering Catholicism by Matthew Kelly is invited to join a discussion group. This is a great read and we hope that you enjoy it. Groups will meet on Tuesdays beginning January 19, both morning and evening. More info to follow.



SAVE THE DATE!...J.R. Heating and Knights of Columbus Council 3544 are sponsoring a local competition as part of the International Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest on January 17th in the OLM

Gym. All boys and girls aged 9-14 are invited. Proof of age is required as well as adult permission for participation. Call Rich Dziura for more information, 860-747-5451.

HOLY FAMILY...These days everyone is thinking about resolutions for this New Year.



Here is a paraphrase of the Prayer of St. Francis that in this parish family we might grow as the instruments of the Lord's presence as part of our New Year's resolutions. Lord, make our parish the instrument of your presence. Help us to depend not on collections and

committees, but on a lively faith. Keep us open to build bridges between people, and not isolate into factions. Guide us to find words that encourage and affirm rather than criticize or belittle. Give us the sensitivity to listen to the needs and hurts of others and not to react with cynicism or selfishness. For we believe that it is ours to build community where there is isolation, to proclaim gospel wholeness where there is brokenness, and to replace the shallow promises made by our world with the promise and the presence of the Risen Lord.

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EPIPHANY... This is our feast. This is the celebration of Jesus made manifest to the Gentiles as represented by the three magi. It shows that the



Gentiles are coheirs with the Jews in God's promises. The date of the Epiphany of Our Lord used to be January 6th, but it was moved to the first Sunday after January first. In many countries this is the day on which gifts are exchanged, remembering the gifts given by the magi. Some even call it "Little Christmas," although that name refers to different days and dates in different cultures.

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MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM...



Hartford Catholic Engaged Encounter and the Office of Family Life will hold its **9th annual marriage enrichment evening on Sat., Feb. 6, 2016, from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at Mary Our Queen Church and**

Parish Center, 248 Savage St., Plantsville, CT. This year's program will begin with Mass, include dinner, prayer, reflection, and fun centered on the theme: **"A Sign for Our Times: The Witnessing Power of Sacramental Marriage."** Our keynote address will be given by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Peter A. Rosazza. The cost is **\$25.00 per couple and includes dinner.** To register or obtain more information, contact **Tom and Donna Finn at 860-302-1110, or email to dfinnmspt@sbcglobal.net.** Please R.S.V.P. by 2/2/16.

ALTAR SERVERS...Girls and boys who have made their First Holy Communion have the opportunity to assist at celebration of the Mass by serving on the Altar. We ask the parents to encourage their children to be part of this important ministry. We have found from past experience that children will only volunteer if they have the support and encouragement of their parents. We will take care of all instruction and explanations. Please call the Parish Office for more information.



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