

December 4, 2016



# Our Lady of Mercy

94 Broad Street

Plainville, Connecticut 06062

**Rev. John F. Brinsmade**

*Pastor*

**Dcn. Robert Berube**

*Deacon*

**Dcn. Michael Hai Van Le**

*Weekend Deacon*

**Dcn. Joseph Duy Van Tran**

*Weekend Deacon*

**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*

**Eric Hoffman**

*Organist*

#### **Parish Office/Cemetery Office Hours**

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

#### **Parish Trustees**

William Petit, Sr. 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.

**Dear Padre,**

***I have two questions about Christmas. First, why do we use red and green during the season? Second, what does the word Noël mean?***

The Church uses colors as symbols to mark the change of liturgical seasons and to remind ourselves of religious themes. White (or gold) is actually the liturgical color for the Christmas season, and violet (purple) for the weeks of Advent.

Red and green were associated with a wintertime feast that predates Christianity. However, since these colors have additional meanings for Christians that relate to this time of year, they are still in use and commonly associated with the holiday (holy) season. December 28 is the feast of the Holy Innocents, the male children of Bethlehem who were slaughtered by Herod's order. It's color is red, the color of martyrs. Poinsettia flowers and candy canes, popular Christmastime accents, also prominently feature red. Green—most visibly found in evergreen trees and wreaths—is the color of life. During Advent, it witnesses to the imminent birth of Jesus, which brings hope for new and eternal life to the world.

In response to your second question, Noël is an old French word meaning "Christmas," "the Christmas season," or "yuletide." The French word comes from the Latin for "birth" or "birthday." As we all know, Christmas is the time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus and the Incarnation of our Lord and Savior.

*From Liguorian, December 2004  
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](mailto:OLMCT@SBCGLOBAL.NET)**

**Website: [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org)**



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#### **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.*

**December 4, 2016, Second Sunday of Advent**

**MONDAY**      **December 5**  
**8:00AM**      **Cornelia LeVasseur**  
                     **Req. Family**

**TUESDAY**      **December 6**  
**8:00AM**      **Theresa Bagliore**  
                     **Req. Family**

**WEDNESDAY**      **December 7**  
**8:00AM**      **No Mass**

**THURSDAY**      **December 8 – The Immaculate**  
                             **Conception of the Blessed**  
                             **Virgin Mary**  
**8:00AM**      **Kevin Lackey**  
                     **Req. Family**  
**6:00PM**      **Richard Brinsmade**

**FRIDAY**      **December 9**  
**8:00AM**      **Angie Naples**  
                     **Req. Aunt Flo, Barbara, Paul**  
                     **& Joey**

**SATURDAY**      **December 10**  
**8:00AM**      **Douglas Rich – Month Anniv.**  
**4:00PM**      **Brian Wilson**  
                     **Req. Parents**

**SUNDAY**      **December 11 – Third Sunday**  
                             **Of Advent**  
**8:30AM**      **Parishioners**  
**10:30AM**      **William Bernie Peters**  
                     **Req. Family**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Regular	\$3,569.00
Monthly	245.00
Catch Up	80.00
Holy Day	20.00
Cathedraticum	- 215.27
SSP	- 215.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,483.46</b>

**The Second Collection Next Weekend will be for the Retirement Fund for the Religious.**



***ST. ANTHONY SOCIETY...***

is requesting that you save your coffee cans and bring them to the Church or the Parish Office to replenish those that have been

filled with cookies! Thank you.

***THE GIVING TREE ... is set up in the Gathering Space. Please follow the directions on the tag and return your purchase by the proper date! Thank you!***



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DECEMBER 5 – 6 – 8PM - Karate  
 DECEMBER 6 – 6:30 – 7:30PM – Middle School Class  
 DECEMBER 7 – 4 – 5PM – Reconciliation Class  
 DECEMBER 7 – 5 – 5:45PM – Older Children  
 Sacrament Prep.  
 DECEMBER 7 – 7 – 8:15PM – Confirmation Classes I & II  
 DECEMBER 7 – 7PM – NA – Room 107  
 DECEMBER 8 – 1 – 2:30PM – Atrium  
 DECEMBER 8 – 4 – 5PM – Eucharist Class  
 DECEMBER 8 – 6 – 9PM – Amera Group – BB  
 DECEMBER 10 – 9:15 – 10:15AM – K, 1,4,5 & Reconciliation Classes  
 DECEMBER 10 - 10:15 – 11:15AM – Eucharist Class  
 DECEMBER 11 – 10:30AM – 12:30PM – Men’s AA Meeting – Room 107  
 DECEMBER 11 – 8 – 10:30AM – Breakfast with Santa – Gym

**OLM ANNUAL COLLECTION...**We are so grateful for the response shown by so many of our parishioners for our Annual Collection. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your gift card, we would be grateful that you do so as soon as possible. Every gift is welcomed and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**EVEN MORE FUN CHURCH**



**BULLETIN BLOOPERS...**

“Irving Benson & Jessie Carter were married on October 24<sup>th</sup> in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.” “Eight

new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.” “Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.” “The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.”

**YOUR DONATION WORKS FOR AGING**

**RELIGIOUS...**“I read that roughly 95% of donations to the Retirement Fund aid senior religious,” a donor wrote. “That’s wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*.” Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week’s collection for this great cause and give to those who have given a lifetime.

**BE MY LIGHT.**...Mother Teresa's Journey of Doubt and Hope, December 7, 2016, Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd., West Hartford, 860.521.0440, Advent Day Retreat: 10AM.- 2PM, Advent Evening Retreat: 6 – 9PM. Shortly after Mother Teresa died in 1997, her secret journals were published expressing a woman of intense paradox. Even as she lived out the Christian life in heroic radiance, she was accompanied by extreme doubt, struggle and dryness



in her spiritual life. In this retreat, we'll explore the biography of Mother Teresa; examine her incredible contribution to the history of spirituality and the role of doubt in the Christian life. We will discover the constructive role

doubt can play in our own Advent journey toward hope and light. The evening includes dinner, presentation, conversation, music and prayer. Offering: \$40, includes meal

**STORM CLOSING.**...Please note that if Religious Education Classes, GIFT Event or Morning Weekday Mass need to be cancelled due to weather conditions; notification will be found on Channel 3 WFSB Eyewitness News, News 8/My TV 9 and NBC 30 Storm closing systems. Also, if Plainville Schools are closed or delayed due to weather conditions, weekday Mass is also cancelled for your safety.

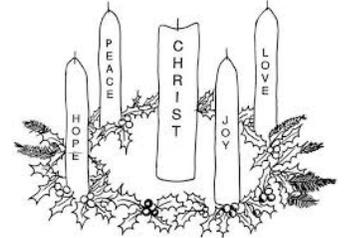


**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION...**

It's important to understand what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is and what it is not. Some people think the term refers to Christ's conception in

Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father; but that is the Virgin Birth. Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect. The Immaculate Conception means that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain—that's what "immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings. Taken from: <http://www.catholic.com/tracts/immaculate-conception-and-assumption>

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT...**As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist's call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man. And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behavior in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born



in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity. Through the Gospel, John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The 'voice' of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ. — Benedict XVI

**PLEASE HELP OLM KEEP OUR RECORDS UP TO DATE...**

If you are new to Our Lady of Mercy Parish - WELCOME! Parish registration is the official way to join the OLM community and is expected for all who come to OLM on a regular basis and consider this to be their parish. Please stop in the office and introduce yourself and complete a short registration form or print one off of our home page on [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org) under the heading "New to Our Parish?" Once you complete the form, you may place it in the collection basket. If you are currently a member of our parish and plan on moving, please call us so that we can make the changes in our data base as soon as possible. There are also many parishioners who grew up in OLM and were registered with their family at that time. If this pertains to you, and you are 18 or older, even though you still may be living at the same address, we ask that you register as a separate household. Thank you.





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**IN MEMORY  
OF**  
*Louis G. Ziccardi*  
FROM WIFE MARY  
AND DAUGHTER DONNA