

December 18, 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,**

***Why is St. Joseph called "the Worker?"  
Shouldn't he be honored primarily as the father of Jesus?***

Devotion to St. Joseph has developed along an interesting path. It was not until the eighth century that Joseph, underneath the title "Spouse of Mary," was even publicly acknowledged—except perhaps as an afterthought or silent participant in the Christmas story. The Church has always acknowledged that Joseph's relationship with Jesus was unique, but there was, and continues to be, reluctance to call him the father of Jesus. We understand the father of Jesus is not Joseph but rather God the Father.

A consensus about Joseph's role in the plan of salvation seems to be in place by the early fourteenth century. In 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Joseph the patron of the universal Church. By the early twentieth century, worldwide devotion had found a home at St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal.

The title of "the Worker" was used most often by Pope Pius XI in his references to Joseph as the patron of the Church's battle against atheistic communism. Pope Pius XII established the May 1 feast in 1955 to emphasize the Catholic teaching concerning the dignity of labor.

Saint Joseph could be summarized best as a man who did the best he could when God's will became clear. This image and model seems the best and most helpful for deepening our understanding of and devotion to him.

*From Dear Padre:*

Questions People Ask, *Liguori*, 2003  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto: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)**



**[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.*

**December 18, 2016, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>December 19</b>
8:00AM	Kazimierz Kwiatkowski Req. Family
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>December 20</b>
8:00AM	Don St. Pierre Req. Family
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>December 21</b>
8:00AM	No Mass
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>December 22</b>
8:00AM	Dominic Marotta Req. The Lorence Family
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>December 23</b>
8:00AM	George Baylock Req. Wife
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>December 24</b>
8:00AM	No Mass
4:00PM	Christmas Vigil
10:00PM	Christmas Night Mass Req. Family
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 25 – The Nativity of The Lord</b>
8:30AM	Christmas Mass
10:30AM	Christmas Mass

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Regular	\$5,567.50
Monthly	65.00
Catch Up	187.00
Holy Day	12.00
Cathedraticum	- 320.73
SSP	- 320.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,190.04</b>

**The Second Collection Next Weekend will be the Christmas Collection.**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- DECEMBER 19 – 6 – 8PM - Karate
- DECEMBER 20 – 6 – 9PM – Plv. Girls Travel Team
- DECEMBER 20 – 6:30 – 7:30PM – Middle School
- DECEMBER 21 – 6 – 9PM – Plv. Girls Travel Team
- DECEMBER 21 – 7PM – NA – Room 107
- DECEMBER 22 – 1 – 2:30PM – Atrium
- DECEMBER 22– 6 – 9PM – Amera Group – BB
- DECEMBER 22 – 7PM – Pastoral Council Meeting
- DECEMBER 23 – Parish Office Closed

**THE GIVING TREE... A HUGE**

**THANK YOU to all those who gave to the organizations that were represented on the tree. You have helped make many brothers and sisters in Christ have a blessed Christmas! If you haven't returned your gift yet, please do so at the Parish Center during office hours.**



**RETREAT THEME: THE LIGHT OF SIMPLICITY...**

Join Holy Family's retreat team for a weekend, January 20 – 22, 2017, for peace and reflection as we explore the simple and transformative message at the heart of Jesus' teaching. Discover how simplicity can shine a light on what is truly essential and important in our lives. Be renewed and inspired by the paradox of simplicity and the gift of faith. The 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. To register: [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) or call 860.760.9705 for more info.

**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.



**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!**...If your new year's resolution includes growing in your faith, here's a great way to kick off the year! We will be hosting a book study of *Rediscovering Jesus* by Matthew Kelly. Many parishioners enjoyed the informal gatherings held last year when we discussed *Rediscovering Catholicism*. All adults and teens attending Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas day will receive a copy of *Rediscovering Jesus*. We think you'll enjoy the book and, even more, the discussion with friends of the parish. The six-week book discussion will be held on **Tuesdays, beginning on January 10<sup>th</sup>**. You may attend from **9-10AM or 7- 8PM**, as both sessions will cover the same material. This is a free program and we hope that you will mark your calendar and grow closer to Jesus. There's a new year ahead, make it special!

**RECYCLE DURING THE HOLIDAYS!**

Thanks for all of the redeemable cans and bottles that you have donated to support our Youth Group JOLT. We continue to receive them at our shed at the rear of the Parish Center, Mon. – Fri., 8AM – 9PM. Thank you!



**A HUGE THANK YOU!**...For all of the items that you donated to the veterans. There were approximately 325 items given to those who have fought for our freedom!

### CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Monday, December 19, 10AM  
Tuesday, December 20, 7PM  
Wednesday, December  
21, 3:30PM  
NO CONFESSIONS ON  
SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 24

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

4PM – Christmas Vigil  
10PM – Christmas Night  
Mass  
8:30AM – Christmas Mass  
10:30AM – Christmas Mass

FOR UNTO US  
A CHILD IS BORN



### A NEW YEAR; A NEW CATHOLIC TRANSCRIPT...

Beginning late January 2017, the *Catholic Transcript* newspaper will be transformed into a full color magazine, which will be sent for free to more than 192,000 Catholic households in Hartford, New Haven and Litchfield counties. The new publication will dynamically advance the tradition of a beloved, respected, award-winning newspaper with roots dating back to 1829. In magazine format, the *Catholic Transcript* will continue to be the communications centerpiece of Catholic news and information for our archdiocesan family of faith. Its visibility and relevance will be greatly enhanced thanks to its digital presence, social media interconnectivity, evangelizing content, and distribution 10 times a year to more than double the number of Catholic households than in the recent past. The *Catholic Transcript's* transformation is in direct response to the Office of Pastoral Planning's *Your Voice Counts* survey.

OPLATEK IS FOR SALE IN THE OFFICE  
FOR \$2 PER PACKAGE.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT OLM...

Wednesday, December 28, 7:30PM. Come and renew your Christmas Spirit by listening to the New England Chamber Choir and Orchestra conducted by Richard Wm. Donohue. Music from around the world will be played and sung. A Free Will offering will be collected.

**THE PASTORAL COUNCIL WILL MEET  
THURSDAY, 12.22, ROOM 102. ALL  
PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO OBSERVE.**

### HUSBANDS, FATHERS, SONS... take note:

Please encourage the women in your lives to take some time for themselves at a weekend retreat. The peace and tranquility of a retreat experience is one of the greatest gifts you can offer to someone you love. The women's retreat begins on Friday evening, **January 20, 2017**, at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT. For information: **Our Lady of Calvary (860) 677-8519 or [www.ourladyofcalvary.net](http://www.ourladyofcalvary.net).**

CHRISTMAS DINNER... will be held at the Senior Center for members who would otherwise be alone on the holiday.

Volunteers are available to drive those who need a ride to the Center. Plainville residents who are home bound may call the Center and have the dinner delivered. To register for the dinner, volunteer at the dinner or volunteer to deliver dinners, please call the Senior Center, 860.747.5728. At the time of registration, let them know if a ride will be needed or if the dinner should be delivered. There is no charge for the dinner, but donations are greatly appreciated.



## LOVE – 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK OF ADVENT

BASKETBALL FREE THROW CONTEST...The Knights of Columbus Annual **Basketball Free Throw Contest** will be held on **Sunday, January 15, at 3PM** in the **Parish Center**. The contest is for all boys and girls aged 9 – 14 (age as of January 1, 2017) and it's fun for the whole family to come out and watch the competition. Boys and girls compete each other in respective age and gender divisions (for example, a 9 year old girl competes against other 9 year olds) and winners progress through local district, regional, and state levels. Thanks to the Knights' members and, especially sponsor **JR Heating & Cooling**, prizes will be given to each age group winner. Refreshments will be provided. **Parent permission is required for participation.** Bring proof of age. For questions, call Rich Dziura, 860.747.5451 for more information.



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