

OUR LADY OF *Mercy*

94 BROAD STREET - PLAINVILLE, CT 06062-2799

A Roman Catholic Community of Faith & Good Works

The Celebration of the HOLY EUCHARIST

Sunday Vigil (Saturday): 4:00pm – Sunday: 8:30am and 10:30am
Daily Mass: 8:00am (No morning Mass on Wednesdays)

The Sacrament of RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Saturday: 12 Noon or by appointment

Reverend Raymond Smialowski, *Pastor*
Deacon Robert A. Berube, *Senior Deacon*
Sandra DeBlois, *Bookkeeper*

Jo-Ann Blanchette-Silverio, *Administrative Assistant*
Susan Van Cott, *Coordinator for Faith Formation for Children*
Donna Marotto, *Coordinator of Faith Formation for Youth*
Eric Hoffman, *Organist and Music Director*
Robert DeBlois, *Maintenance*

Parish and Cemetery Office: 19 South Canal Street
Telephone: 860-747-6825 – Fax: 860-747-5407
Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm
Parish e-mail: olmct@sbcglobal – Parish webmail: www.olmct.org
Facebook®: OurLadyOfMercyChurchCT

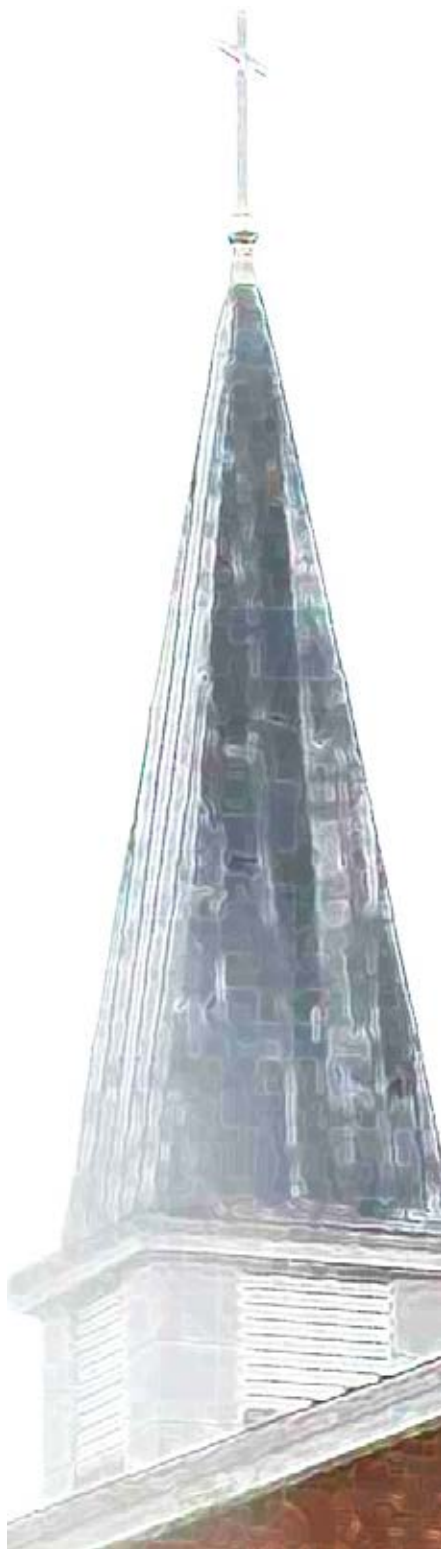
*Born as a Mission of Bristol in 1864 and
Established as an Independent Parish in 1881*

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH! If you are new to the area or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are pleased to have you share in our celebration of the Eucharist. We invite you to become part of our parish family. To register or to update your address or phone number, please complete this form and mail it to the Parish Office or place in the collection basket.

New Parishioner Address/Phone Number Change
Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

“Do whatever He tells you.”

– Mary to the disciples of Jesus
(John 2:5)





Third Sunday of Advent, December 15, 2019



Sunday December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

8:30a For the Intentions of all Parishioners
 10:30a Joseph Wichrowski Req. Son

Monday December 16, Advent Weekday

8:00a John A. Kelly Req. Wife

Tuesday December 17, Late Advent Weekday

8:00a Rilla Gessner Req. Family

Wednesday December 18, Late Advent Weekday

8:00a No Mass

Thursday December 19, Late Advent Weekday

8:00a Martin Family Req. Loretta & Sons

Friday December 20, Late Advent Weekday

8:00a Thomas Robinson Req. Reno Levesque & Family

8:30a Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday December 21, St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00a Frances J. Paradis 1st Anniv.
 Joan St. Pierre 1st Anniv.

Saturday December 21, Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00p Brian Wilson Req. Mom & Dad

Sunday December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30a For the Intentions of all Parishioners
 10:30a Robert Bonola Req. Rita Dagata & Family



We welcome all who gather here to worship with us. You are most welcome if you are visiting with us today.

If you are new to our parish and wish to become a member of OLM, we invite you to introduce yourself to our pastor, Fr. Raymond Smialowski, and to register. Registration can be completed by stopping by the parish office, filling out the short form on the front page of our bulletin, or completing a short registration form which can be found on our home page at www.olmct.org under the heading "New to Our Parish?"

Please return the form to the office by dropping it in the collection basket or mailing it to 19 S. Canal St., Plainville.



This Week This Week This Week This Week

Sunday December 15

9 – 10:15a Religious Education, *Parish Center*
 10:30a Men's AA Meeting, *Rm 107*
 4:30p Christmas Carol Sing & Reception, *Church & Parish Center*

Monday December 16

9:30a Legion of Mary, *Library*
 4:45 – 6p Valley United Basketball, *Gym*
 6 – 8:45p Farmington Boys Basketball, *Gym*

Tuesday December 17

6 – 8:30p Valley United Basketball, *Gym*
 7p NA Meeting, *Rm 106*

Wednesday December 18

6 – 8p Talented Basketball, *Gym*
 7p Men's NA Meeting, *Rm 107*

Thursday December 19

4:45 - 6p Valley United Basketball, *Gym*
 5p Rehearsal for Christmas Morning Pageant, *Church*

6 – 8:45p Farmington Boys Basketball, *Gym*

Friday December 20

6 – 8p Talented Basketball, *Gym*

Saturday December 21

8:30 – 10a Talented Basketball, *Gym*
 Noon Confession, *Church*
 7p AA Meeting, *Rm 107*

Sunday December 22

10:30a Men's AA Meeting, *Rm 107*
 11:30a Christmas Drama, *Church*

Advent Thought for the Third Week

Do something special with your children or grandchildren this week or reach out to a lonely relative or neighbor.



Church Support

\$4,553.60 Weekly Envelopes for 12.7 & 12.8
-\$336.95 Cathedraticum to the Archdiocese
\$4,216.65 Amount for OLM use

*

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

The Tabernacle Lamp...

is lighted for the Greater Glory of God and in recognition of the Real Presence of Christ. This week the candle is flickering *in memory of Bertin & Carmelle Gauvin, Muriel, Samuel, & Darlene Perniciaro, &*



Gilda Ruest. The Tabernacle Lamp is available as a memorial for a \$5 donation per week. Consider having the lamp burn in memory of or the intentions of a loved one. Please call the office to schedule at 860.747.6825.

Religious Education News

Christmas Day Nativity Presentation

A living presentation of the Nativity will take place as the Gospel is proclaimed during the 10am Mass. The rehearsal is **THIS** Thursday, Dec. 19th at 5pm in the church. It is not too late for children to sign up to participate.

Please speak with Fr. Ray.



The CHRISTMAS PAGEANT...

will be performed on Dec 22nd, after the 10:30am Mass. The next rehearsal for the pageant is **THIS** Sunday, December 15th, right after the 10:30am Mass. There are still spots available for speaking and non-speaking roles. **Your child is able to be in both the Children's Choir and the Pageant.** If you have questions, please contact Susan Van Cott at susan.fairformation@yahoo.com.

Family Discussion

This Sunday is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice."

But experiencing joy requires more than simply telling ourselves and others to be happy. Sometimes things can separate us from God's love, and that can get in the way of us fully "rejoicing" as a member of the Body of Christ.

Last week we talked about recognizing our sins and asking for forgiveness in a family setting. This week, as a family, commit to attending a formal Sacrament of Reconciliation. If members of your family have not yet been through their first Reconciliation, this

would be a wonderful time to show them that you are committed to living the Sacraments of our faith. Talk to your children about the importance of asking for

forgiveness and the joy that can come from having been forgiven. Discuss also how sin can stand in the way of having a joyful relationship with Jesus.

(Confessions are heard Saturdays at noon, and an additional Advent opportunity has been scheduled for Friday Dec 20th at 6pm. You can also schedule a time with Father Ray, directly.)



Help Decorate the Church

You are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 21st and Monday, Dec. 23rd at 9am.

Christmas Flowers

Donations to help defray the costs of Christmas flowers are gratefully accepted.

Please use the flower envelope found in your envelope donation packet. If you do not use parish envelopes, flower donations can be placed in a plain envelope then placed in the offertory basket. If you wish to make a flower donation in memory of loved ones, please indicate their names on the envelope.

A listing of those in whose memory Christmas flowers have been donated will be printed.



Christmas Carol-Sing Tonight!

You are invited to attend the Carol-Sing this evening at 4:30pm in the church. The Children's and Parish Choirs will be singing Advent & Christmas carols along with organ and piano accompaniment.

Come Away and Rest Awhile

The men of our parish are invited to attend retreat at Holy Family in West Hartford, Jan. 17 - 19, 2020. We spend our time and energy on the necessities of everyday life, which hold so many things that are beyond our control. But what is it that we are longing

for in the deepest way? What is our passion in life? This year at Holy Family, we will explore that deep longing planted in our hearts by God - a longing for peace, for wholeness, and for relationships that give us joy and lift us up. Come away and rest awhile to find and pursue your deepest longing, and by doing so, may you experience how God is longing so deeply

for you, too. Plan ahead to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, laughter, inspiring liturgies, home-cooked meals and more. Our parish Men's Retreat

Coordinator is Bill Fasciano. Please call Bill (860.919.3950) with any questions and information about registration. For those attending retreat for the first time, a scholarship is available. What a wonderful gift this would make for a husband or father that is so hard to buy for!

A women's retreat will be held with the same theme on January 10 - 12, 2020. All women of the parish are invited. Please visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org more information.



Christmas Wafers

(Oplatek) are available on weekends on the table behind the Lectern. A free-will donation to help defray the costs can be left in the designated basket. Many families with roots in Poland or other Central and Eastern European countries take a few minutes before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner to break and share the unleavened Christmas Wafer with wishes of a long life, good health, joy and happiness; not only for the Christmas Season but for the coming year and for many years to come.



Is a Vocation Right for You?

John had described the one coming after him as a severe judge and others thought the messiah to be a political or military leader. Jesus describes John as a desert prophet. Even though you may feel insignificant when compared to John you can be great in the kingdom of heaven. To serve as a priest or religious, call **Fr. Michael**



Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org, or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

ALTAR SOCIETY

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH WHO, ON A ROTATING BASIS, FAITHFULLY PREPARE THE ALTAR AND CHURCH IN ANTICIPATION OF THE CELEBRATION OF SUNDAY MASS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE YOUR TIME AND TALENTS IN THIS WAY, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 860.747.6825.



Storm Closing

Please note that if Religious Education classes or a GIFT EVENT need to be cancelled due to weather conditions, notification will be found on Channel 3 WFSB Eyewitness News, News 8/My TV9, and NBC 30 Storm closing systems.

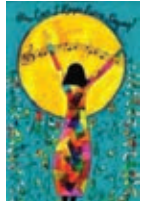


March for Life 2020

Your seat on the bus is ready for the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to Washington DC – Thursday, Jan. 23 – Friday, Jan. 24. The theme of the 2020 March for Life is; Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman. To sign up or info: www.prolifeministry.org or call 203.639.0833.

Women's Retreat at Our Lady of Calvary, January 17-19, 2020

On the weekend of January 17-19, 2020, the women of our parish are invited to Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT. Experience a weekend filled with rest, relaxation and spiritual renewal. You'll have the opportunity to participate in the sacraments, to hear conference talks, to share with other women and to reflect on this year's theme. The theme for our 2019-2020 retreat season is inspired by an old American hymn: *How Can I Keep from Singing?* This hymn and our retreat are all about perspective. The invitation is to first hear the song and then like a little bird that somehow senses the dawn, carefully start to sing while it is still dark. Our song, born of faith, hope, and love can heal us, our families and our wounded world. For more information about our Women's Retreat and to register call Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center at (860) 677-8519 or visit our website at www.ourladyofcalvary.net.



Prayer for Lighting the Rose Advent Candle for the Third Week



Dear Jesus, help us focus on You during

this busy season. May we stay aware of the Joy You bring into our lives. We want to find You in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

Books and Gifts for Christmas

Help is needed to tie ribbons on books that will be offered to those attending Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas. Also, help is needed to wrap some presents that will be given to the children attending Christmas Mass. Those willing to help are asked to call the parish office at 860.747.6825.

Thank you for your generous donations for the Plainville Community Food Pantry; 291 pounds were collected for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Attending the Christmas Pageant

We invite you to enjoy the Christmas Pageant, which will be presented by the children *NEXT* Sunday, Dec. 22nd, in the church following the 10:30am Mass.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Religious give thanks. "Thank you" hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us," says a Catholic sister of the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week's second collection.

Confession Schedule for Christmas

Tuesday Dec. 17th after the 8am Mass
Thursday Dec. 19th after the 8am Mass
Saturday Dec. 21st Noon



Thank You...

- To everyone who supported and helped with the Breakfast last Sunday. It was a big success. A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring and preparing the breakfast and to those who appeared as Santa and Mrs. Claus. The next breakfast is Sunday, January 12th.
- To everyone who supported the mini-Christmas Boutique last Sunday which was sponsored by the St. Anthony Society.
- To the St. Anthony Society for their very generous donation to the parish in the amount of \$1,500. It was given as a gift to the parish during their annual Christmas party last Thursday.
- To everyone who brought gifts in response to the Advent Giving Tree Project. What you contributed will bring much joy at Christmas. A special thanks to Deanna Gelt and everyone who helped with the Giving Tree.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

4pm Music Prelude 3:30pm, Carol-Sing with the Children's Choir
10pm Music Prelude 9:30pm, Carol-Sing with the Parish Choir

Dec. 25 Christmas Day

10am Music Prelude 9:50am, Children's Living Nativity presented during the reading of the Gospel



The blessing of the children will take place at the end of each Christmas Mass. Each child will also receive a symbolic Christmas gift.

The Social Justice Committee...

will meet *THIS* Monday, Dec. 16th, at 7pm in the Parish Center. Please join us.

Volunteers Needed

People are needed to hand out the Dynamic Catholic Books after all of the Christmas Masses. Please call Bonnie at 860.351.5589 if you are interested in helping out.

Thank You to D'Amico Construction Company

We'd like to thank D'Amico Construction for donating their assistance in straightening the leaning light pole in the S. Canal St. parking lot. It took 4 workers and several pieces of equipment to do the job; it should stand tall for a while longer.

My little Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You for this Advent season. Please help me to understand all that

You have done for me. Your loving mother held You in her heart and brought You into this world. Help me to do the same.



Plainville's Oldest Funeral Home
Serving All Faiths in the Community for **Over 130 Years**



Traditional Funeral, Cremation & Memorial Services

Bailey Funeral Home
48 Broad Street, Plainville, CT 06062
860-747-2295 www.BAILEY-FUNERALHOME.com
Blaire L. Bouchard, Funeral Director
Medicaid/Title 19 Assistance Life Planning Consultant On Staff

MIKE'S AUTO SERVICE
320 Farmington Ave. (Rt. 10) - Plainville, CT 06062
860-793-2811
Good Old Fashion Service - Stop By & Visit!
Friendly service you can **TRUST. TRUST.**
We will work hard to earn your **TRUST. TRUST.**
MikesAutoPlainville.com



Catering Available *The ST. PIERRE Family*
Saint's
RESTAURANT & CATERING
HOME OF THE FAMOUS CHILI DOG
747-0566
1248 Queen Street - Southington

Residential - Commercial - Industrial - Municipal
Shopping Malls - Hospitals - Housing Complexes - Restaurants
Waste Removal & Recycling Services
Hartford County 860-747-1335
New London County 860-447-1473
25 Norton Place, Plainville
Rubbish - Recycling - Construction - Demolition - Bulky Waste
High-Grade Paper - Wood Waste - Metal & Electronics Recycling
Stump Disposal - Single Stream Recycling



PETIT family FOUNDATION
Paid for by PETIT PROPERTIES




ST. ANTHONY SOCIETY
We are hoping to get new members!
~ELAINE~
860-747-2528
WE ARE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE AT: WWW.OLMCT.ORG

COSTELLO LANDSCAPING
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
ESTABLISHED 1990
www.costellolandscaping.com/860-747-1771
Property Maintenance
Commercial Snow Removal
Litter & Sand Sweeping
Dumpsters & Estate Clean-outs

St. Lucian's Residence
Senior Living with Assistance
860-223-2123 • stluciansresidence.com
Private Furnished Rooms • Meals • Security
Supervised Medication & Bathing
Social Activities • Daily Mass
Gardens & Grounds • Air Conditioned • Laundry

Mallory's Army Foundation
United Together In The Fight Against Bullying... Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!
www.MallorysArmy.com
(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org
It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message: Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.
 Message and data rates may apply.

JR HEATING & COOLING
Lic. #303285
Call today to Schedule & Save!
860-793-2686
Servicing all major brands of central heating sys., boilers, central a/c systems & window units!
www.jrheatandcool.com

Volunteers Needed to Teach English as a Second Language
One hour sessions each week, one to one classes with an Adult Learner
No experience necessary, all books and training are provided
Contact Nancy Rodriguez
860-348-0622
29 Edson St., New Britain, CT
www.SienaLearningCenter.org
Siena Learning Center
A Ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Peace



TONY'S OIL COMPANY
860-747-5412
5¢ Senior Discount



AUTUMN LAKE HEALTHCARE
at Bucks Hill
24/7 Skilled Nursing Care
Short & Long Term Care
World Class Therapy
860.224.3111
AutumnLakeNewBritain.com
Good care. Good times.



If You LIVE ALONE You Need MDMedAlert!
24 Hour Protection at **HOME & AWAY!**
✓ Family ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Fire
AS LOW AS **\$19.95** A Month*
GPS + Fall Alert* + APP Tracking
24/7-365 - USA Based Monitoring
No Contract
FREE SHIPPING
CALL NOW! 800-866-2180



catholicmatch
Connecticut
CatholicMatch.com/dateCT



Paul A. Shaker
Funeral Home LLC
"Creator of Meaningful Memories"
764 Farmington Ave., New Britain, CT 06053
Family owned since 1993
860.229.9006
Sì, Parla Italiano
ShakerFuneralHome.com

NUCHIE'S RESTAURANT
Nuchie's Unique Menu Planning
Featuring Italian Specialty Table
Celebrating 44 Years
164 Central St., Bristol, CT 06010
860-582-1108



Plainville's ONLY Family Owned and Operated Funeral Home

PLAINVILLE FUNERAL HOME

- FAMILY OWNED, FAMILY FOCUSED -
Andrea Wasley, CFSP • Owner, Funeral Director
81 Broad Street - Plainville, CT 06062 860.747.8100
www.PlainvilleFuneralHome.com



Roger B. **MICHELE'S BARBER**/styling
DISCOUNTS
Seniors - Children
13 Jerome Ave., Bristol
860-582-5087
Tu-F: 7a-6p; Sa: 7a-5p; Su: 8a-12n



Become A Philanthropist In Your Community
Donor Advised Funds Can Be Established With Only **\$5,000** and Scholarships Begin at **\$25,000**
Community Foundation of Greater New Britain
860.229.6018 | www.cfgnb.org
Where Good Begins in Berlin, New Britain, Plainville & Southington



HOLCOMB TREE INCORPORATED
• Pruning
• Cabling
• Tree Removal
Plainville, CT 06062
Timothy Holcomb
Office: 860-747-2805
Cell: 860-416-0668
Licensed Arborist S-4442 • Est. 1940
Full Insured • holcombtree@yahoo.com



Rosaries From Flowers
"Handmade from the Flowers of your Loved One"
841 MAIN STREET
TEWKSBURY, MA 01876
www.rosariesfromflowers.com
(978) 851-9103

