

OUR LADY OF *Mercy*

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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*
Michelle Battista, *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*
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.net – Parish website: www.olmct.org
Facebook®: OurLadyOfMercyChurchCT &
OurLadyOfMercyYouthMinistry

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

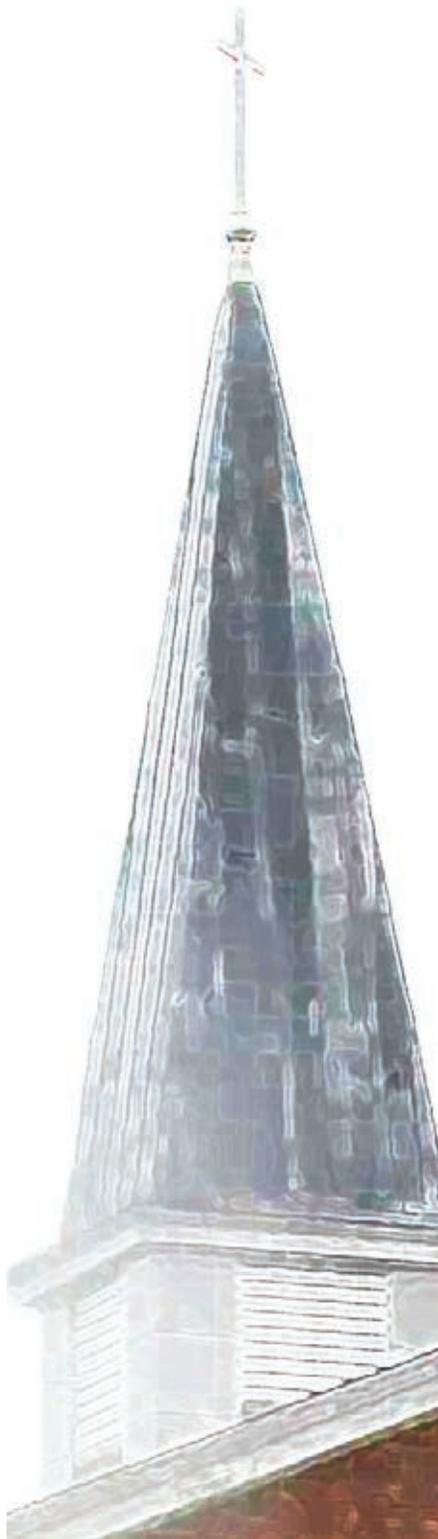
WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH!

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. *Thank you.*

New Parishioner Address/Phone Number Change
Name: _____
St. Address: _____ Phone# _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

“Do whatever He tells you.”

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



Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, June 14, 2020



Sunday June 14, Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Intentions of All Parishioners

Monday June 15, Weekday (Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time)

8am For all Deceased Members of Anna Wilczynska Family

Tuesday June 16, Weekday

8am Jane Lotko Req. Family

Wednesday June 17, Weekday

No Mass

Thursday June 18, Weekday

8am Margaret Hammer

Friday June 19, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8am For all Deceased Members of Anna Wilczynska Family

Saturday June 20, Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8am Helen Webb 1st. Anniv.

Amanda Adorano 1st. Anniv.

Alice Brousseau

Sunday June 21, Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Father's Day

Intentions of All Living and Deceased Fathers

Fr. Ray will be celebrating the Sunday Masses above privately at unannounced times

A Thought for Corpus Christi

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. Many of us know this feast by its Latin title: *Corpus Christi*.

The celebration of this feast has its origins in the year 1209.

In that year an Augustinian nun by the name of Julianna had a dream that led her to lobby the leadership of the Church for the establishment of a feast day honoring the Body and Blood of Christ. First celebrated in Belgium, where Sr. Juliana lived and within the span of 55 years, it was celebrated throughout the Church.

This feast focuses on the very center of Christian worship. The center of our worship is not the priest or deacon. It is not the altar or the pulpit.

The center of our worship is not even the community of believers, who come together to pray. The center of our worship is the Bread of Life, the Cup of Salvation. The center of our worship is Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Feast of Corpus Christi, our celebration of the Holy Eucharist, focuses us on that which is most important: Jesus offering himself to humanity. It is God who seeks communion with us and thus allowing us to seek communion with him.

May God Bless You,
Fr. Ray

Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy!



We welcome you to enjoy this online bulletin at a time when we are not able to worship on Sundays. 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 when Mass resumes on Sundays, and to register. Registration can be completed by stopping by the parish office 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 off at the Parish Office, the collection box, or mailing it to 19 S. Canal St., Plainville.

We will keep you updated and informed on our *website*, www.olmct.org, our *Facebook* page,



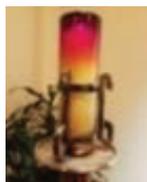
Helping Our Parish Grow WEEKLY OFFERTORY



Growth in Stewardship

We ask that you continue to support OLM with your weekly offerings by placing your donation in the mail, dropping it off at the office or placing in the donation box in the church.

Thank You for Your Continued Generous Support & May God Bless You!



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 Andrzej Predota. The Tabernacle Lamp is available as a memorial for \$5.

www.facebook.com/ourladyofmercychurchct,
and *My Parish Ap*, myparishapp.net as to
any new news connected with OLM.

Sacrament of Baptism

We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism of your child. You may begin preparation even before your child is born. To begin the process, call Sue at 860-747-5451. The date of the Baptism is scheduled after attending the Parent Preparation Program. Please note that Godparents must be confirmed and obtain a *Sponsor Certificate* from their own Catholic parish.



St. Joseph Cemetery News

In mid April we posted a notice in our parish cemetery announcing that over grown shrubs will be removed by cemetery personel beginning *June 1, 2020*. We have begun this process. Please understand that there is a great need to maintain our parish cemetery



benevolently. In addition, glass vases, containers, wire fencing around monuments are not allowed in our cemetery. Such glass objects and fencing are a potential danger to our personel, particularly when the lawn is being mowed. Wire fencing can get caught in lawn mowing machinery and cause mishaps and injuries.

These items have been placed at the back of the cemetery behind the green fence, where the shed is, for you to claim on the concrete blocks. Any broken items will be thrown away.

We ask that you *ONLY plant flowers 10" from the base of an upright monument. To ease mowing, plantings of any kind are prohibited near flat markers.* If you would like a copy of the updated cemetery rules mailed to you, please call the cemetery office at 860.747.6825. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Is a Vocation Right for You?

Jesus is teaching that his flesh is true food and his blood true drink. He alone can provide the nourishment needed to sustain the life that he is offering. To bring the Bread of Life to others as a priest or religious, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com



Vacation Bible School

Due to the coronavirus and the restrictions associated with it, the Vacation Bible School will not be held this summer. We look forward to VBS in 2021!

The Dispensation for the Sunday Obligation...

Granted by Archbishop Leonard P. Blair has been extended through Sunday, September 6, 2020. This will remain in effect even when the public celebration of Sunday Mass resumes. We do not know when that will take place. The elderly and physically compromised are encouraged to shelter at home.

Baptisms, Wedding Masses and Funeral Masses...

Have resumed as of June 8, providing all the procedures and precautions are observed such as the wearing of face masks and distancing of at least 6 feet from others in attendance.

Guidelines as Mass Resumes

All members of the congregation need to wear masks, with a few exceptions:

Children under the age of two should not wear masks

Parents should judge for children between the ages of two and five whether they should wear a mask

Any people who claim an exemption for a legitimate health reason can forego wearing a mask

- No congregational singing at all. Singing has been shown to spread the virus easily
- Congregants are asked to bring hand sanitizers with them and to use it to sanitize their hands
- No passing of offertory baskets. A collection box will be available at the church entrance

- Congregants who are not coming forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing should get out of their pews at the beginning so that no one will have to climb over anyone else
- All Communion lines should be single file with people wearing masks, approaching row by row and keeping 6 feet apart, except for family members
- Communicants will receive the consecrated host on their hand, step to the side, consume the Host, replace their mask and return to their pew
- People who insist to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to come forward only after everyone else has received
- Following Mass the congregants should file out pew by pew. Gatherings should not take place in church or in the parking lot

Sacrament of Reconciliation has Resumed

The Sacrament will take place *behind the screen* in the Reconciliation Room. Penitents must wear masks. The Sacrament is celebrated at noon on Saturdays.

Food Pantry Donation

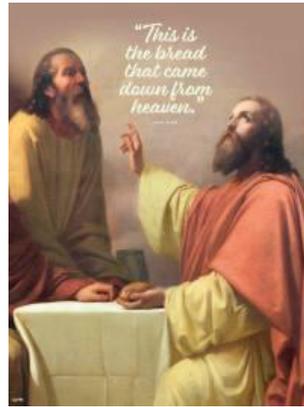
Thank you for your generous donations to the Pantry for a total amount of 68 pounds. You may leave donations to the Pantry any time you like in the Gathering Space as it is checked often for donations.

Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel is known as the "Bread of Life" discourse. In this chapter Jesus equates the eating of the "bread of life" with being nourished by His Body. As Jesus proclaims the necessity of His followers' eating His flesh and drinking His blood, many listeners turn away. They cannot "stomach" these words. Yet, Jesus does not call them back and say, "I was only speaking figuratively." He lets them

leave. He wants His followers to truly digest Him as their means of nourishment as they journey back to the house of His *Abba*-Father, Who happens to be GOD.

As I reflect on today's feast and the readings, I am reaffirmed in my belief that GOD gives us the very best nourishment for our journey to be with the LORD GOD forever. We need not only a diet which provides the staple food to give us the strength for the journey. We also need to



feed on the Bread send down from heaven – the very best that GOD can give – the Son, Jesus Christ. During the Covid-19 pandemic, we have not been able to gather as a

community and be fed by the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus. I realize how blessed we will be able to once again gather each week in the house of GOD. It is in that place where we are given not only Bread of Life, but the Word that comes from the mouth of GOD. As we gather as the Body of Christ, we are fed with GOD's Word. We then eucharistize ("give thanks") to our GOD for all we have received, especially the very best gift – the Lord Jesus. As a way of showing our thanks,

we *zikkaron* (remember and re-enact and re-live) what Jesus did on the night before He died. We take bread and wine and pronounce Jesus's words over the gifts: "This is My Body. . . This is My Blood, which is poured out for you. . . Do this in memory of me." With the proclamation of Jesus' words, He is truly present with us. We are then privileged to feast on His Body and Blood – our food for the journey.

It is our belief that the bread and wine are truly changed, not in external form, but in their very essence into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. In receiving the "blessed bread and wine" we are receiving Jesus – we are in communion ("union with") with Jesus and, through Jesus, with all others who receive Him. GOD truly provides the very best. We are nourished by the Bread come down from heaven, the Bread which gives us eternal life.

I am truly grateful for being able to be united with the Lord Jesus in this sacrament of His Body and Blood. It is what giving thanks (eucharist) is all about. Although we give thanks to GOD for



all we have received, GOD continues to unite us fully with Jesus. We are nourished with Word made

flesh. We are given what we need to travel along the Way to our heavenly **Abba**. This is what we celebrate today. Let us give thanks! Let us long for the time of our receiving the Lord Jesus' Body and Blood as we come together again as the community of faith. Taken from:

<https://reflectionsbybob.weebly.com/>

Month of the Sacred Heart

The Month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart. The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Friday following the second Sunday after Pentecost. In addition to the liturgical celebration,



many devotional exercises are connected with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Of all devotions, devotion to the Sacred Heart

was, and remains, one of the most widespread and popular in the Church.

Understood in the light of the Scriptures, the term "Sacred Heart of Jesus" denotes the entire mystery of Christ, the totality of his being, and his person considered in its most intimate essential: Son of God, uncreated wisdom; infinite charity, principal of the salvation and sanctification of mankind. The "Sacred Heart" is Christ, the Word Incarnate, Saviour, intrinsically containing, in the Spirit, an infinite divine-human love for the Father and for his brothers.

Excerpted from the *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*

Gospel Match-up

How well do you know today's Gospel story?
See if you can match up the first parts with the second parts of what Jesus told the people.




I am the living bread	A	1 food indeed,
if any one eats of this bread,	B	2 which came down from heaven;
the bread which I shall give for the life of the world	C	3 abides in me, and I in him.
Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood,	D	4 you have no life in you
For my flesh is	E	5 is drink indeed.
and my blood	F	6 he will live for ever;
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood	G	7 is my flesh.

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