

# 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: 6:30am, 8:30am & 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*

Donna Marotto, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*

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](mailto:olmct@sbcglobal.net) – Parish website: [www.olmct.org](http://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 box. *Thank you.*

New Parishioner                       Address/Phone Number Change

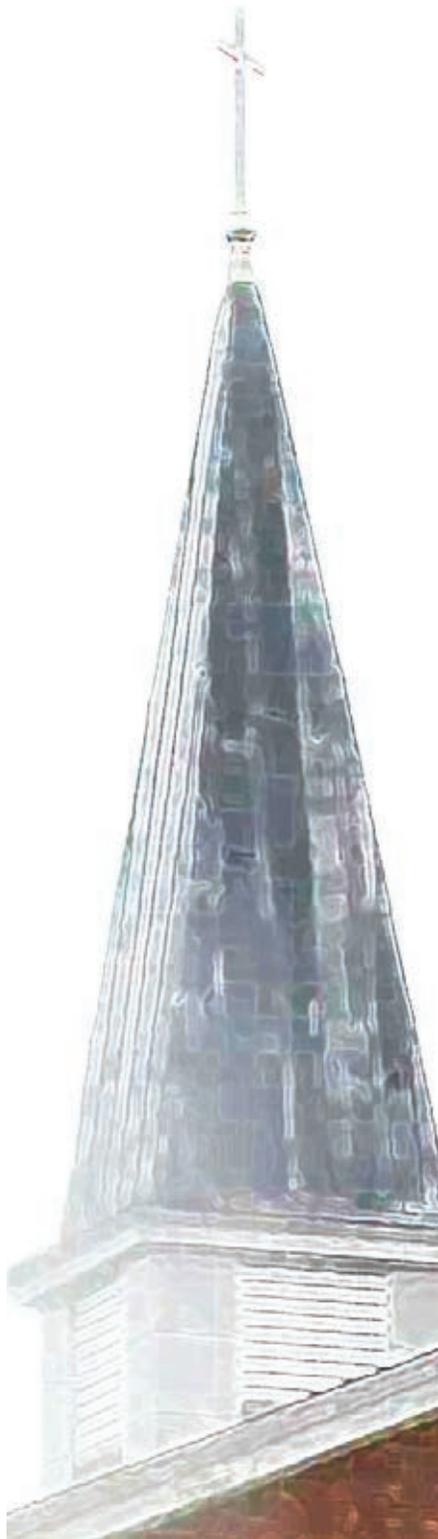
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

St. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*“Do whatever He tells you.”*

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



# Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 5, 2020



**Sunday July 5, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**6:30am** Intentions of All Parishioners

**8:30am** James & Justina Tella Req. Brenda

**10:30am** Russell Martin Req. Regina & Annmarie Tardiff

**Monday July 6, St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr**

**8am** Jeffrey Sturgeon Req. Julia Bernoski

**Tuesday July 7, Weekday**

**8am** Roger Nuzzo Req. Pauline Casey

**Wednesday July 8, Weekday**

No Mass

**Thursday July 9, St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest & Companions, Martyrs**

**8am** Claudette Chasse Req. Maria Orzol

**Friday July 10, Weekday**

**8am** Lois Bridgett Req. Barbara Wallace

**8:45am** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday July 11, St. Benedict, Abbot**

**8am** Celestina Martin 1<sup>st</sup>. Anniv.

Alexander P. Mancini 1<sup>st</sup>. Anniv.

Alice Brousseau

Walter Chaper Month's Mind

Evangeline Picard Month's Mind

Noon Confession

**Saturday July 11, Vigil Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**4:00p** Julia Casale Req. Family

**Sunday July 12, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**6:30am** Intentions of All Parishioners

**8:30am** John J. Senaldi Req. Wife Elsie & Family

**10:30am** Andrew Predota Req. Family



*Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

## Welcome! Welcome Back!

It has been 15 Sundays since our parish celebrated a public Sunday Mass. This Sunday unbelievably ends the streak. We come together as a parish around the Lord's Altar.

Of course it will not look like the last time we met on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be no hugging, or hand shaking, no passing of the offertory basket, no hymnals in the pews, no singing, etc. If you are moved by the hymns Eric is playing on the organ or piano, you can clap to the rhythm of the hymns.

There are those who choose not to attend and this is fine. We don't want anyone to feel uncomfortable or unsafe. But we do want to be open to those who desire to attend.

In our Gospel reading today Jesus says: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest." With these words Jesus is encouraging us amidst the pandemic as well as the civil unrest in our nation.

God Bless,

Fr. Ray



## Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy!

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, completing a short registration form which can be found on our home page at [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org) under the heading "New to Our Parish?", or calling the Parish Office at 860.747.6825 and we can fill it out over the phone. Please return the hard copy to the office by dropping it off at the Parish Office, the collection box, or mailing it to 19 S. Canal St., Plainville.

### Helping Our Parish Grow WEEKLY OFFERTORY



*Due to an earlier than usual deadline for this week's bulletin, the offertory will be printed July 12, 2020.*

*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 Alice Brousseau*. The Tabernacle



Lamp is available as a memorial for \$5.

### Expanded Summer Mass Schedule

As Sunday Masses resume an additional Mass has been scheduled through July and August to allow for proper distancing in church in light of the covid-19 pandemic:

### Summer Mass Schedule

**Sundays 6:30 am**

**8:30 am**

**10:30 am**

**Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 pm**

**Please be advised of the necessity of wearing a face mask.**

## Religious Education News

### Volunteers Needed - For Religious Education for all Grades



There is a possibility that we may be able to gather for CCD classes in the fall. If so, I am looking for a few people who have a love for Christ

and want to share that love with kids and teens. We will be having Edge Ministry for the middle schoolers and Purpose for the Confirmation teens. In the event, that we can't meet, programs will be moved online and still need volunteers to help. If you are interested or have questions, please call Donna at (860) 952-4005 or email at [ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com)

### Enrollment 2020/2021 Year Under Way

Mailings were sent out a few weeks ago. If you did not receive yours, please call the Parish Office at 860.747.6825.

*Please return the registration form and payment to the office by July 31st.*

**Grades 1-5** - Will be held on Monday's 4-5pm.

**Grades 6-8** - Will also be held on Monday's from 6:15-7:30pm.

**Grades 9-10** (Confirmation) - Will be held on Sunday evenings from 6-7:30pm.

Hopefully we can meet in person for classes. If not, we can still meet online using either Zoom or Google Meet platform. Any questions, please email Donna at [ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com)

## The GIFT Program will not be offered this academic year.

### 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

We continue the process of cleaning up the cemetery of any extra decorative items such as: statues of any kind that are on the ground or on the monument that are not attached, decorative plaques, glass vases, garden flags, shepherd hooks, fencing of any kind around monuments, artificial flowers, etc. Such glass objects and fencing are a potential danger to our personnel, particularly when the lawn is being mowed. Fencing of any kind can get caught in lawn mowing machinery and cause mishaps and injuries. Also small stones that are used for decoration can become projectiles by the lawnmower and hit other workers or visitors that are in close vicinity.

These items have been placed at the back of the cemetery behind the green fence, where the shed is, for you to claim. Any broken items, old weathered plastic flowers and metal grave markers that have been greatly faded, have been thrown away. Please understand that there is a great need to maintain our parish cemetery benevolently.



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.*

Mailboxes with the label "CEMETERY RULES" have been placed in the cemetery on two metal poles in sections A & B. The Rules have also be placed on our website, [www.olmct.org](http://www.olmct.org) under the button "St. Joseph Cemetery". Please call the cemetery office at

860.747.6825 with any questions. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

### Is a Vocation Right for You?

“Come to me all you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you for my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” Pray for priests, brothers, sisters, and for all who offer their lives to be a sign of Jesus’ refreshing love. If you are called to join them, call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Pastoral Center, 860-761-7456, e-mail [vocations@ahct.org](mailto:vocations@ahct.org) or visit the web at [www.hartfordpriest.com](http://www.hartfordpriest.com).

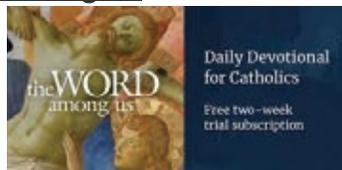


### OLM Reaches Out

During the last 2 ½ months, we called everyone in the parish to “check-in” to see how you are doing. We were unable to get a hold of many during this time and would like to stay in touch. If you didn’t receive a call it was because we were unable to reach you by phone. Can you please provide us with an updated phone number or cell number and an email address so that we may keep you updated as to what is going on at OLM. You are invited to email Donna at [ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofmercyym@gmail.com) or call the Parish Office at 860.747.6825. Once we are able to update your information, you will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$25 gift card from Saints Restaurant, Big Steve’s Grill and Mangiafico’s Bakery.

### The Word Among Us...

for July and August has been put out at the church entrances. Also, complimentary copies of the July issue



of Magnificat are also available. Both publications contain the texts of the weekday and Sunday readings. In addition, Magnificat contains the order of the Mass, including the Gloria, the Creed, etc. In preparation for the resumption of weekday and Sunday Masses, the hymnals which contained not only the hymns but also the readings, etc., needed to be removed from church due to the fact that they are handled by many people. Keeping this in mind, it might be wise to subscribe to either

Magnificat or the Word Among Us to ensure that you would have your own personal copy.

### Worship Button

We are currently working on a Worship Button that will be part of *My Parish Ap*. It will contain the readings for the Mass and many of the prayers. We ask that when you use this new button that you **silence** your phone. Stay tuned for more information about this new button!

### Religious Minorities in China

*Pray for the freedom of the Church in China, and that the rights of all religious minorities would be respected.*

Under the Chinese Communist Party, Chinese citizens have limited religious freedom. Since 2013, religious persecution has intensified under a government campaign for the “sinicization” of religion – an effort to have religions conform to government sanctioned interpretations of Chinese culture.



Muslims have suffered grievous human rights abuses. Since 2017, 800,000 to possibly two million ethnic Uighur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and Hui Muslims have been arbitrarily detained in mass internment camps. Other religions are impacted by the government’s “sinicization” campaign including the estimated 12 million Catholics in China.

While the Vatican has reached a provisional agreement with China on the issue of episcopal appointments, reports of persecution by the Chinese government persist as underground churches are closed and their priests detained, crosses destroyed, bibles confiscated, and children under 18 forbidden from attending Mass and receiving religious instruction.

Ultimately time will tell if the faithful will be allowed to practice their religion independent of State control.

Solidarity with people of faith in other countries begins with learning about their struggles. Stay informed by signing up for the USCCB’s religious liberty newsletter, *First Freedom News* at

<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/free-to-serve.cfm>

### Bulletin Outreach

If you or a loved one would like to receive a bulletin every week in the mail, please call the Parish Office at 860.747.6825. We would be delighted to mail one out to you or a dear one.

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***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament***  
*Adoration will follow after the 8am Mass on Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Come Worship Our Lord!*

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### Longing for Jesus

Have you ever longed for something? Thirty-six years ago, I boarded a jumbo jet at New York's JFK Airport on my way to Rome where I would spend the next four years preparing for the priesthood. In those days, we were not permitted to come home until after our second year. I was already beginning to feel homesick as the plane made its ascent into the evening sky.

For two years I dreamed of that homecoming. I could not wait to return home and be with my family. On the day of my departure from Rome to New York, I was overflowing with anticipation. The final leg of the journey placed me in a smaller plane from New York to Pittsburgh. It was a short flight, but it seemed like an eternity. I had all these visions of what it would be like walking down the ramp to see my family. I could not wait to see them.

As it happened, I walked down the ramp and, to my surprise, only my one sister and her family were there. My parents were caught in traffic. They were actually in a fender bender on the way to the airport that caused residual delays. The moment I longed for was delayed. Later on, they arrived and there were lots of hugs and kisses. I knew I was home and all the anguish of waiting and worrying disappeared.

I thought of this moment as I prepared to celebrate one of many more-to-come first holy Communion Masses with six second graders and their families.

Because of the pandemic, the moment that these children longed for was delayed. When the moment finally arrived, it was probably not as they anticipated, inasmuch as it was not on a Sunday

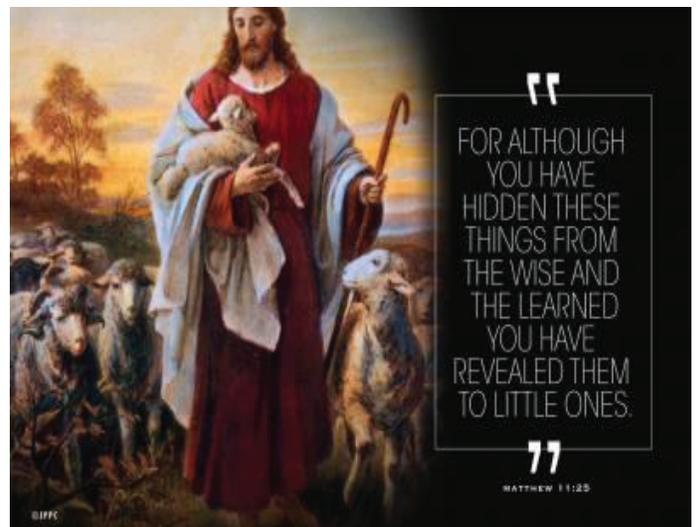
during the Easter season, nor was there any music. It was a very simple celebration with masks and social distancing.

This past weekend, I shared with the little ones that longing as we celebrated public Masses for the first time in three months. Those who attended clearly demonstrated a longing to receive Jesus. In fact, some of them had tears streaming into their masks. That is how much people long for Jesus in their lives.

Although the children's celebration did not happen in the customary way, it was still sacred and special. The children were all dressed up. They knew that they were going to meet a very special person for the first time. And their families were right there beside them sharing in the moment. At the conclusion of the Mass I blessed the religious articles they had received. Afterward, the families gathered outdoors for a host of pictures.

The pandemic has made us all see the holy Eucharist with new eyes. The absence of the Eucharist, no doubt, has intensified our longing for Jesus. The celebration of first holy Communion made that longing all the more real. These little ones took us big ones back to our own first time when we met Jesus. What a gift! This will be repeated again and again in our parish over the next few weeks. Of course, wherever or whenever Jesus is received in the Eucharist, we are always to go forth and, in the words of St. Augustine, "become what we receive" and be Christ to one another.

*FATHER DAVID J. BONNAR, editor of The Priest, is a pastor of 16 years in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, where he has served in numerous roles.*



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