

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 – 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 box. *Thank you.*

New Parishioner Address/Phone Number Change

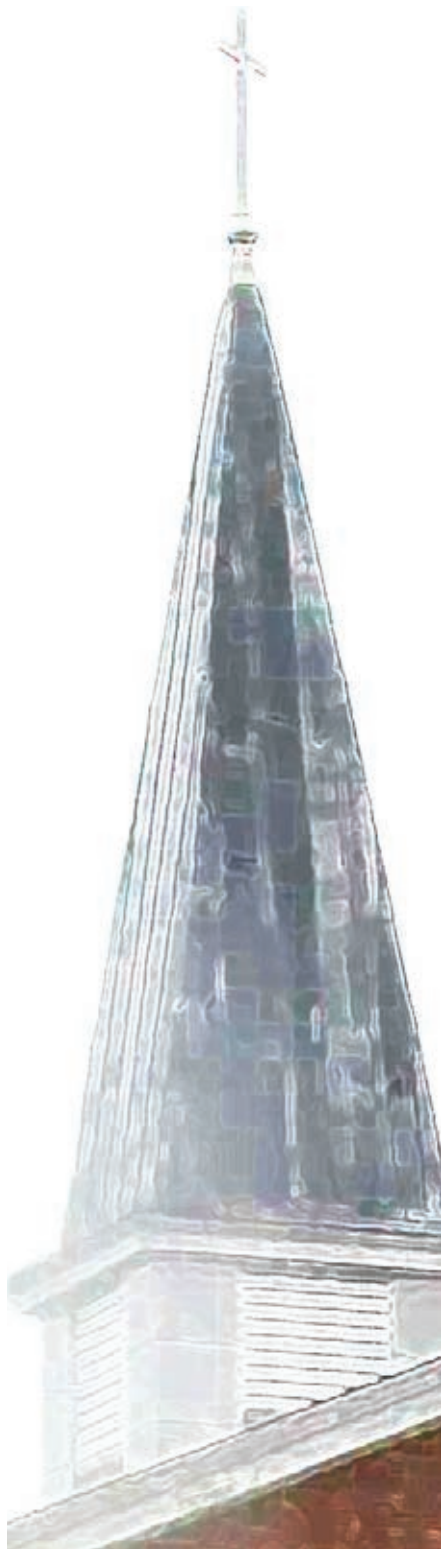
Name: _____

St. Address: _____ Phone# _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

“Do whatever He tells you.”

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



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, September 20, 2020



Saturday September 19, Vigil Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p Zbigniew, Tadeusz, & Paraskiewia Kukielka Req. Family

Sunday September 20, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Intentions of All Parishioners

10:30am James DeBlois Req. Family

Monday September 21, St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

8am John O'Hare Req. Cathy O'Hare

Tuesday September 22, Weekday

8am Antoinette Dymarczyk Req. Daughter Terry

Wednesday September 23, St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

No Mass

Thursday September 24, Celebration Feast of Our Lady Of Mercy

8am John "Jack" Cassidy Req. Albert & Diana St. Onge

Friday September 25, Weekday

8am Milton S. Burton Req. Sister

8:30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday September 26, Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs; BVM

8am Barbara Woznicki Req. Friend

Noon Confession

Saturday September 26, Vigil Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p Frank Accousti Req. Wife Carol

Sunday September 27, Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Intentions of All Parishioners

10:30am Norbert Poulin Req. Family



WEEKLY OFFERTORY



\$4,623 Weekly Envelopes for September 13

Please use the Donation Boxes at the Entrances of the Church. Thank You for Your Continued Generous Support & May God Bless You!

A Thought for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

In our second reading today from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians, Paul says: *"To live in Christ, to die is gain."* St. Paul's letter was written in the 1st century to the Christians in the city of Philippi. The letter is being written from a prison cell. Even in prison, Paul's ministry was fruitful. While in prison he was able to win converts! In writing to the Philippians, Paul wants them to know what happened to him. He knows that his situation is precarious. He knows that he could be facing martyrdom. In this situation, he ponders what this might mean. Here is his conclusion – it's a win-win situation. He sums it up by saying: *"To live in Christ, to die is gain."*

If you could sum up your purpose in life in just a few words, what might you say? What does it mean for you to live? Some might say:

To live is work.

To live is football.

To live is my iPad, Facebook, etc.

I suspect some of you might say:

To live is my family.



And certainly, our family is important. But there are many people with good jobs, nice families, and fun hobbies; who when they come to the end of the day realize that none of it is enough to satisfy their deepest hunger. Others might say that to live means: *To live a life of love following the example of Jesus Christ and in doing so giving glory to God...*

St. Paul tells us: *To live in Christ and to die is gain.*

In other words, to live for Christ gives ultimate meaning. What about that second part: *To die is gain.* That requires a greater faith. We rarely talk about the eternal dimensions of our faith yet; it is an integral part of what it means to follow Jesus.

St. Paul couldn't lose. If he lived, he could continue sharing his faith in Christ and his life would have ultimate meaning. If he died, he knew he would be going home to be with Christ. St. Paul couldn't lose. Neither can we lose if we live for Christ here, when we die, we will be going home to be with Christ.

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 under the heading "New to Our Parish?", or calling the Parish Office at

860.747.6825 and we can fill it out with you 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.

Religious Education News

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

2020/2021 REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a unique approach to catechesis for children ages 3 – 6 and 6 - 9. CGS was developed in Rome in

1954 and uses a rich Montessori approach to engage young children in age-appropriate, **hands-on materials** based on Sacred Scripture and Liturgy. The CGS curriculum is designed to nurture a child's pre-existing relationship with God. The children learn in a specially prepared environment called the Atrium, a sacred and special space where children engage in a process of reflection and interaction. This time spent in the Atrium allows for even the youngest child to build a deep, lifelong relationship with Christ and his Church. Materials are intentionally prepared for the children to cultivate that loving relationship and further curiosity about the divine.

Parents with young children are asked to stay in the room next door to help their child with the restroom. Starting: **THIS Tuesday, September 22, 2020**

When: **Tuesdays 4:30- 6:00PM**

- Atrium I 3-6 year olds
- Atrium II 6-9 Year olds

Where: **OLM Parish Center**

Contact: **Michelle Battista:**

OurLadyofMercyAtrium@gmail.com

Or the Parish Office at 860.747.6825 for a registration form.

Want to find out more and experience the Atrium with your child? Please attend our Open House on October 18th after the 10:30am Mass in the Parish Center.

First Reconciliation

We would like to congratulate William Chase who received his First Reconciliation on September 12th. May Jesus continue to bless him and his family.



Our Catechists

We are grateful to the following persons who have volunteered to share the faith with the youth of our parish.

	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Aide</u>
Grade 1	Cheryl Kanaple	Leona Bisson
Grade 2	Janice Gauvin	Mary Jane Matt
Grade 3	Greta Moore	Carol Haddad
Grade 4	Jammie Acededo	Paula Kuehlkamp
Grade 5	Indiana Williams	Melissa Thorpe

Middle School Ministry Team

Donna Marotto, Ted Rogers, Teresa Burkard, Karen Diaz, Michelle Battista

Confirmation Preparation Ministry Team

Donna Marotto, Rich Dziura, Sue Dziura, Holly Prospero, Angelina Roche

Substitute Teacher

Tessa Sullivan

Are You Seeking More?

~ **SEEK** ~

When we plan a trip to a new locale, or find ourselves in unknown 'territory' (regarding health, relationships, and other), we look for guidance from maps, experts who have experience, and we may pray for God's protection and aide. Our most important journey is that to Heaven, which began at our baptism and continues until we die. **The steps we take on our journey to heaven is forming our faith, or faith formation; it is lifelong.**

We are happy to announce that **our life long faith formation website, SEEK, is up and running!** Created to provide **information for all**

parishioners, the very young to our seniors, it will be updated regularly with new content to assist you on your journey. **Seek, Ask, Knock! God is looking forward to spending time with you!**

<http://www.OLMseek.org>



Trying to Remember When Classes are Being Held? Go to www.olmct.org, tap on the Bulletins & Links button, and tap the Events button to bring up our OLM Google Calendar or to www.OLMseek.org. All classes are listed there.

This Week This Week This Week This Week

Sunday September 20

10:30a Men's AA Meeting, Rm 107

Monday September 21

1:00p Legion of Mary, Parish Center

6:30 – 9p Knights of Columbus, Parish Center

Wednesday September 23

7p Forward with Faith Committee Meeting, Parish Center

Thursday September 24

9a – 2p OLM Blood Drive, Parish Center

7p Pastoral Council Meeting, Parish Center

Saturday September 26

8:45a Altar Society Meeting, Church

Noon Confession, Church

7 – 8p AA Meeting, Rm 107

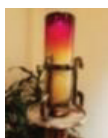
Sunday September 27

10:30a Men's AA Meeting, Rm 107

6 – 7p Confirmation Class 9th & 10th Grades, Parish Center

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.



Forward with Faith Committee...

will meet **THIS** Wednesday, Sept. 23rd at 7pm in the Parish Center.

Altar Society

The activities of our Altar Society have resumed. Each Saturday morning at 8:45am the Altar and Sanctuary are prepared for Sunday. Please share your time and talents and join us!

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.



Is a Vocation Right for You?

The parable of the landowner's payment of wages reminds the disciples that at baptism they agreed to work in the Lord's vineyard in return for all He promises which

are divine gifts and graces. What more could anyone want? Are you being called to work in the Lord's vineyard as a priest or religious? Call Fr. Michael Casey, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Tel. 860-761-7456, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

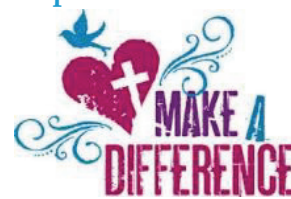
The Appeal goal for this year may be a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives, especially today, as the Coronavirus has affected so many of our neighbors. It is not too late to join your fellow parishioners with a pledge or gift to this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal! All pledges can be paid through December 31st, 2020, towards this year's Appeal. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of countless individuals.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal/>
No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.



Parish Raffle

Thank you for your generous response thus far for Our Annual Parish Raffle that will take place on October 2, 2020. There are only 2 more weeks to return your raffle tickets! If you want more raffle tickets, stop by the office or give us a call and we will send them to you.



The proceeds from the raffle will help cover ordinary parish expenses. Every registered parishioner has received one book of 25 tickets to buy or sell at \$1 each. Please support the raffle to the extent that you are able to. Your support will ensure the success of our only yearly, parish-wide fund raiser. The prizes for this year's raffle are as follows:

1. \$500 Cash
2. \$500 Gift Certificate to Gnazzo's
3. \$300 Gift Certificate for Gasoline
4. \$250 Cash
5. \$200 Gift Certificate to J. Timothy's
6. \$50 Gift Certificate to Mangiafico's Bakery



OLM Blood Drive

We invite you to donate blood **THIS** Thursday, September 24th from 9am – 2pm in the Parish Center. To speed up the process, please visit www.redcrossblood.org and sign up for a rapid pass. You can get much of the paperwork done beforehand online.

Pastoral Council Meeting

The Pastoral Council will resume meeting on Thursday, September 24th, at 7pm in the gym to allow for proper spacing. Masks are required.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

You are invited to adore our Lord on Friday, September 25th after the 8 am Mass with Benediction at 9:30 am.



September 24th is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Mercy



The **Virgin of Mercy** has been a subject in Christian art, often showing a group of people sheltering for protection under the outspread cloak, or pallium, of the Virgin Mary. It was especially popular in Italy from the 13th to 16th centuries, often as a specialized form of votive portrait, which is a portrait in a larger painting or other work showing the person who commissioned and paid for the image, or a member of his, or (much more rarely) her, family.

Usually the Virgin is standing alone. If angels are holding up her cloak, she is free to hold the infant Christ. She is typically about twice the size of the other figures. The people sheltered normally kneel, and are of necessity shown usually at a much smaller scale. These may represent all members of

Christian society, many times with royal crowns, mitres and a papal tiara in the front rows, or representing the local population of a certain area or group. The subject was often commissioned by specific groups such as families, confraternities, guilds or convents or abbeys, and then the figures represent these specific groups, as shown by their dress, or by the 15th century individual portraits. Sometimes arrows rain down from above, which the cloak prevents from reaching the people. Taken from: <https://catholicsaints.info/>

This Thursday, Sept. 24th, is the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy. We will celebrate the Feast day with Mass at 8am. Please join us.

The Knights Corner



The Knights of Columbus is a global Catholic fraternal service order. Membership is composed of practicing Catholic men. The organization was founded in 1882 by the Reverend Michael J McGivney as a mutual benefit society for working-class and immigrant Catholics in the United States. It has grown to support refugee relief, Catholic education, local parishes and dioceses, and global Catholic causes. There are nearly two million members around the world and more than 16,000 local K of C councils.

Overall, the K of C contributes significant funding and service hours to various Catholic causes. Our council, the Gerald T Corrigan council #3544, has this past year contributed over \$6,000 and nearly 6,000 service hours.

This includes food distribution services, youth scholarships, and donations for the physically and intellectually disabled. K of C is also involved in promoting Catholic views on public policy such as “40 Days for Life” campaign, and other church ministries. We hope to continue our efforts into the future and welcome practicing Catholics to join our efforts.

Fill in the blanks:

Saint Paul tries to decide if it is better to live or die!

Use the words in the list to fill in the blanks, and then put the letters from the boxes into the spaces at the bottom.



Brothers and _____⁵_____, Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and _____²_____ is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means _____⁴_____ labour for me. And I do not know which I shall _____¹_____. I am caught _____⁶_____ the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for _____³_____ benefit.

between
death
sisters
your
fruitful
choose

Like Saint Paul, we should be ready to either live or die for

1 2 3 4 5 6

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~ELAINE~
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