



MERCY ALIVE

JANUARY 26, 2025
III SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
VOL. 48 NO. 04



O Sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendor,
strength and honor in his holy place.

- ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY JANUARY 25

8:00 am ...Daily Mass
4:00 pm.....Daily Mass

SUNDAY JANUARY 26

7:00 am.....Mass
9:00 am.....Mass
10:30 am.....Mass
12:00 pm.....Mass
6:00 pm.....Mass
7:00 pm.....High School Youth Group

MONDAY JANUARY 27

8:00 am ...Daily Mass
12:00 pm ...Daily Mass
12:00 pm.....Catholic in Recovery-*St. Gabriel*
6:00 pm ...OCIA- *St. Ann*
6:00 pm ...KC Business Meeting- *St. Joseph*
7:00 pm ...SVDP Meeting- *St. Jerome*

TUESDAY JANUARY 28

8:30 am.....Rosary Makers-*Coffee Shop*
9:15 am.....Called By Faith-PAC
12:00 pm.....Daily Mass
3:00 pm.....Middle School Bible Study-*JPII House*
6:00 pm.....Daily Mass
7:00 pm.....Charismatic Prayer-*St. Gabriel*

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29

8:00 am ...Daily Mass
12:00 pm ...Daily Mass
6:30 pm ...Catholic in Recovery -*St. Gabriel*

THURSDAY JANUARY 30

6:30 am ...TMIY-*St. Joseph*
8:00 am ...Daily Mass
9:30 am ...Moms and Tots
12:00 pm ...Daily Mass
6:30 pm ...High School Bible Study- *JPII House*

FRIDAY JANUARY 31

8:00 am ...Daily Mass
9:00 am ...School Liturgy
12:00 pm ...Daily Mass

Prayer LINE

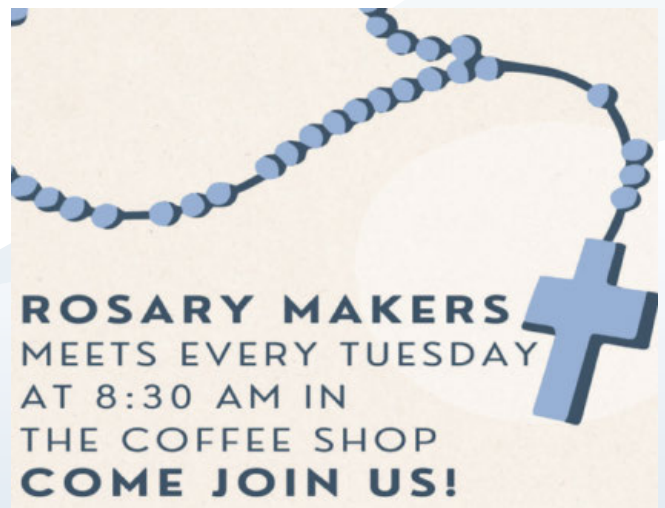
For Prayer Line requests, contact:
Ms. Genie Ogden: (225) 293-2367 or
Ms. Carroll Benedetto at wlb14@aol.com

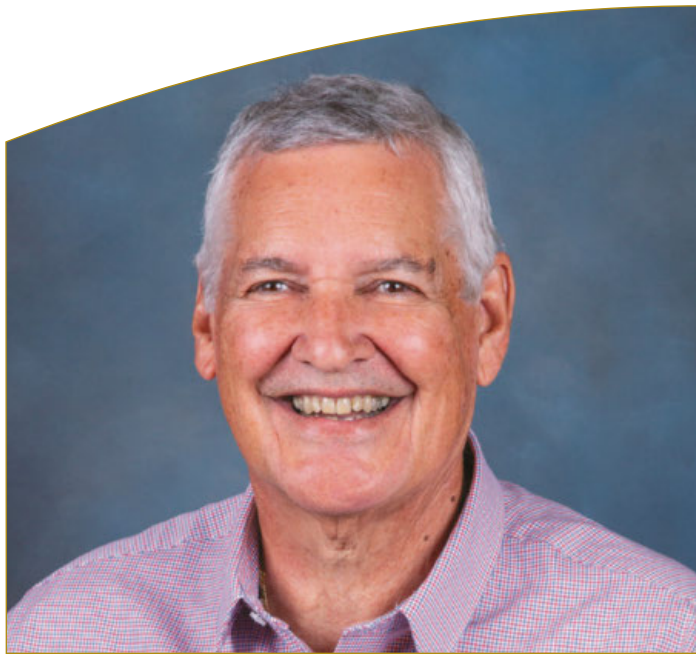
On the Cover

Kindergartener Lucy Taylor with her dad Ryan Taylor celebrating Kings Day with Dads and the Feast of the Epiphany and the arrival of the magi to offer their gifts of gold, Frankincense and myrrh to the Christ Child.

Campus Safety

Please do not leave your purse or any valuables visible on the seats or floor of your car. Place all of your valuables in the trunk of your vehicle in order to avoid anyone who might be tempted to do something the Lord would not want them to do. It is recommended that you do not give cash to anyone soliciting money. This only encourages repeat behavior and is somewhat fearful to those in the Adoration Chapel and the elderly. If you want to support the needy, then give to the St. Vincent de Paul Society where your generosity will surely help the poor and hungry.





CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

FRED GWIN

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE

OLOM Distinguished Graduate

During this year's Catholic Schools Week, the Diocese will honor distinguished alumni from each school and recognize the outstanding individuals at a beautiful reception and awards ceremony. Our Lady of Mercy is pleased to announce its 2024 Distinguished Graduate as Mr. Fred Gwin.

Mr. Gwin, a 1964 graduate of Mercy, has a long history as a Blue Jay. Fred's children have continued on the tradition as Blue Jay legacies. Fred graduated from Catholic High in 1968. He graduated from LSU in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree. Fred worked as an engineer, then a homicide detective, then a bank auditor and security manager, and went on to retire from the Department of Justice. Fred is the Sacristan and Master of Ceremony at Our Lady of Mercy.

Fred, along with his wife, the former Susan Pellegrin, are very active parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy! He is involved in Mercy Men's Club, Member of Mercy's Security Committee, Knights of Columbus 969, and hosts various training sessions for the different grade levels. Fred says, "Christ has a plan for each of us. Catholic Education has helped me understand the plan and put it into action."

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Fred Gwin as this year's recipient of our Distinguished Graduate Award.



STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

MILES LANG (5TH) and ADELINE GUIDRY (8TH)

As National Catholic Schools Week approaches the week of January 26th - February 1st, it is our honor to highlight two of Mercy's outstanding students - Miles Lang (5th grade), son of Andrea and Michael Lang; and Adeline Guidry (8th grade), daughter of Elizabeth and Roy Guidry as our school's Students of the Year!

The Students of the Year Awards Program is designed to recognize outstanding elementary, middle/junior high, and high school students. This program is an opportunity to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellent academic achievement, leadership ability, and citizenship. The Students of the Year Awards Program is sponsored by the Louisiana State Superintendent through the State Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Every public and approved nonpublic school in the State with students enrolled in grades 5, 8, and 12 is invited to participate. Candidates for Students of the Year must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a four-point scale. Once school level candidates have been selected, the school assigns a committee to assist the candidate(s) in submitting an application portfolio. The portfolio consists of a data sheet; biographical sketch of the candidate addressing at least three or more issues that are important to them and that have had an influence on their lives; and the student's academic achievement including semester grades, report cards, and assessments; leadership activities and recognitions including service/citizenship involvement. Lastly, candidates are interviewed by a panel of Regional and State Achievement Committee judges. The interviews are structured around questions and topics appropriate to the academic level of the student.

Called to Action

PARISH LIFE

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE BLESSING OF THE THROATS

The feast day of Saint Blaise is February 3rd and one that is annually celebrated at Our Lady of Mercy with the "BLESSING OF THE THROATS."

St. Blaise was born in Armenia in the 3rd century. He was a physician and bishop and his devotion to the church and his virtuous duty to Christian values earned him acclaim among the clergy. Blaise lived during a time of cruel persecution. He was imprisoned and while there, jailers permitted him to receive visitors who were sick that requested his intercession. Many were cured. One story indicates that a mother's son was choking from a fish bone lodged in his throat. Once Blaise prayed over him, the bone was dislodged and the boy was healed. He is thus patron saint of all diseases of the throat.



Throats will be blessed at Our Lady of Mercy on Monday, February 3rd following the 8:00 am and 12:00 noon Masses.

St. Blaise, pray for us!

MERCY ANNUAL AUCTION BLUE JAY *Bash*

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FEB 21st
7:00PM
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Men of Mercy - St. Vincent De Paul Service Day

Men of Mercy Dedicate Sunday to Serve Baton Rouge Community

In a heartfelt display of compassion and generosity, two dozen dads from the Men of Mercy dedicated their Sunday to preparing and serving a warm, comforting meal to those in need in Baton Rouge. The service day took place at St. Vincent de Paul, a hub for charitable outreach and a beacon of hope for the less fortunate in the community.

The group spent hours cooking a massive pot of jambalaya, a signature Louisiana dish known for its rich flavors and ability to bring people together. Armed with aprons, stirring paddles, and a shared sense of purpose, the Men of Mercy worked collaboratively to prepare the meal. Our efforts culminated in a hearty feast that brought smiles and full stomachs to countless individuals experiencing homelessness and economic hardship.

"It's more than just food," said one of the dads involved in the initiative. "It's about showing kindness, creating connections, and reminding everyone that they are valued members of this community."

The group's commitment to service reflects the mission of Men of Mercy, which emphasizes acts of service, compassion, and fellowship. This event is just one example of their ongoing efforts to uplift the Baton Rouge community and provide support where it is most needed.

St. Vincent de Paul, known for its vital role in addressing poverty and homelessness in the region, welcomed the support from Men of Mercy. "It's incredible to see groups like this stepping up to make a difference," said a representative from the organization. "Their generosity goes beyond just the meal—it's the kindness and dignity they bring to the people we serve that leaves a lasting impact."

The dads not only served jambalaya but also took time to engage with the guests, offering words of encouragement and listening to their stories. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and camaraderie as volunteers and recipients shared moments of connection.

This act of service serves as a reminder of the power of community and the impact of giving back. The experience was as enriching for us as it was for those we served. "It's a privilege to give our time and energy to help others," said Derek Fitch. "We hope to inspire others to join in and make a difference in their own way."

As the sun set on this meaningful Sunday, the Men of Mercy left St. Vincent de Paul with empty pots, full hearts, and the knowledge that their actions had made a real difference. Their dedication serves as a powerful testament to our faith and the importance of compassion and service in strengthening the Baton Rouge community.



MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Mercy Marriage Day

We are celebrating milestones in marriage. If you are celebrating:

25

45

30

50

35

55

40

60 or more

Join us on February 16th for Mass at noon,
and a celebration in the PAC.

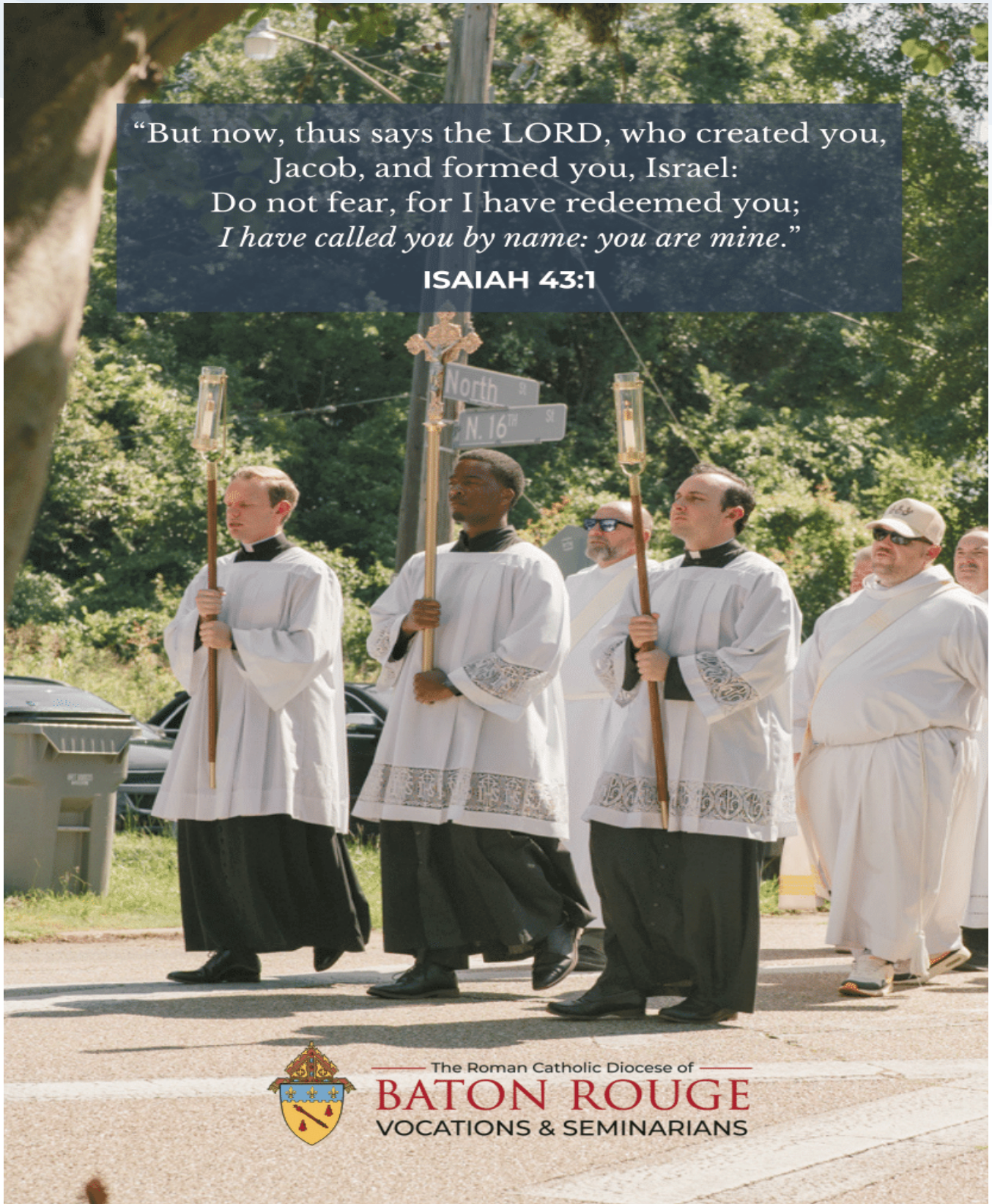
Please register by scanning the code below
or call the church office. Deadline to register
is February 7th.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

“But now, thus says the LORD, who created you,
Jacob, and formed you, Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name: you are mine.”

ISAIAH 43:1



The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE
VOCATIONS & SEMINARIANS

VOCATION ARE EVERYONES BUSINESS

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present in the Holy Eucharist, we ask You to graciously listen to our prayers of intercession. Make our hearts like Yours, so that we may respond to Your call in our lives. Draw men from our land in the Diocese of Baton Rouge to listen to Your voice and follow You in the service of the people of God as ordained priests in the Body of Christ.

Inspire our clergy, consecrated religious and laity to encourage young men to prayerfully consider the vocation to the priesthood. We give You permission, Lord, to have Your way with us in our walk toward eternity.

AMEN

Scan the QR code to submit the name of a young man you believe might be called to discern the priesthood.

Remember, there are many good prospective priests who are simply waiting to be asked.



DIOBR.ORG/CALLED

Photo: Taylor LeJeune Media

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mass Intentions

FEBRUARY 1, SATURDAY

8:00 am Marion Key / SPECIAL INTENTION: Boyd Edward Helm

4:00 pm Ishiah Garnett / The Donaldson, Giannoble, Danna, Ruhl, West, Cox, Wilcox, Wintz, Molina and Calandro Families / Alex Spano / Dominic & Rose Graphia / Mary Levatino / Gary and Kevin Keyser / Robert E. Wiemer, Sr. / Gary Alford / Nancy Valluzzo / Bill Auten / Alice Lowery / Clyde & Violet David / Eugene & Margie Andre / Anna Casso / The Poor Souls in Purgatory / Dr. Clifton T. Morris, Jr. / Fay Walker / Barbara & Carl Guidry / Nellrie Cedotal Fernandez & James B. Fernandez / Brother Eldon Crifasi / Donna Parker / Howard Kidder Jr. / Mary Lynn Rainach / Brian Ward Wampold / Lawrence Marino / Bob Ourso / Maclin James Sanders / Raul Ramon Bencomo / William Patrick Becker / Ricky Marshall / Edolia Barros / Olivia Frank Lamonica / Francis Xavier Le / Levie "Leevee" Sonnier / Mr. & Mrs. Myles Morrison / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Frances Drago / Priests, Seminarians, & Deacons / The President of the United States, his team and the American people / Taylor Kidder / Edolia Barros / Suzette Timpa / For Peace in the year 2025

FEBRUARY 2, SUNDAY

7:00 am..... Kyle Cassano / Ellie Sances / Earl, Raymond, Mercedes, & Victor Millien / Marie Randolph / SPECIAL INTENTION: Sam Sances

9:00 am..... Roy Jones / Anthony "Tinker" and Rita Farris / Billy Ray Tam / Lindley Spaht Dodson / Marla Moreau Guidry / SPECIAL INTENTION: Mr. and Mrs. Steven Craig Swilley and Family

10:30 am... Percy, Ann, Paul, Chris and Susan Moise / Deacon Fallon Lorenz / Anna Casso / Betty Bonin Dugas / Beverly Corbett

12:00 pm... Donald Dawson / Dorothy Bueche Stevens / Raul Bencomo / Oliver P. Carrier, Jr. / Lance Walker / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Mark, Christine, Caitlyn, & Dagen McMorris / Luke Mumfrey & The Mumfrey Family

6:00 pm Brenda, Ellis, Enola, Luke, & Mary Fremin / Charles & Rosa Drago / Hilda LeSage Dauzat / Julia Flores De Gutierrez / Maria del Carmen Figueroa

FEBRUARY 3, MONDAY

8:00 am John McKay / Jay Siemann
12:00 pm... Francis Xavier Le / Peter Le

FEBRUARY 4, TUESDAY

12:00 pm... Madge Dawson / Don Turnley
6:00 pm Aimee Planchard / Mary Rose Planchard / Hallie Pfefferle / Lois Abadie / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Suzette Timpa

FEBRUARY 4, WEDNESDAY

8:00 am Elaine Breaux / Mary McCowan
12:00 pm... Ann Nguyen / Francis Xavier Le

FEBRUARY 5, THURSDAY

8:00 am Rose Marie Pastorek / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Fr. Al Davidson
12:00 pm... Bob Ourso / SPECIAL INTENTIONS for Peace in the year 2025

FEBRUARY 6, FRIDAY

8:00 am Harvey Nicaud Sr. / Francis Xavier Le / Hallie Pfefferle
12:00 pm... Mollie Poirson / Mervin Simon, Rose Simon, Danny Simon, Layla Simon and Tyler Clay Die / Shirley & Joseph Zito / Anthony J. Zito / Sandy Roppolo / Joseph Corsentino / J. Louis and Virginia Tonore, Sr., BeA and Marie Carbo, Sr. / Gregory E. Tonore, Jr., Julie Zambie Williams / Gregory L. Kadair, Sr., Dorothy A. Harding, Jerry Crifasi, George A. Kadair, Sr. / Evelyn Tanner / Herbert & Thelma Plauché / Denise & Wiltz Firmin / Ben F. Day / Plauché, Day, Juneau, & Dufour Families / Henry "Bubba" Weilbacher / Carl Dalbor, Jr. / John Huddleston / Lance Walker / Bob Ourso / Maclin James Sanders / Raul Ramon Bencomo / William Patrick Becker / Sisters Donna Parker and Faith Barfield / Olivia Frank Lamonica / Pat & Hallie DeLage / SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Delage, Lejuene, and Mineo Families / Fr. Cleo Milano & vocations to the priesthood / The President of the United States, his team and the American people / Jeanne Whitfield / Bill Hope / Jackie Hope

Sanctuary Light Memorials

The sanctuary light in the church burns this week in memory of

Margaret Bologna

The sanctuary light in the Adoration Chapel burns this week in memory of

Angela Tullier Haydel

In Sympathy to the Family of:

- **Pat Delage**
- **Corinne Lemoine**
- **Louis Ann Eames**
- **June De Mars**
- **John De Mars**
- **Rick Lynch**

PARISH LIFE



Saturday, February 15th
6:00 pm
Parish Activity Center

Supper & Substance

Why fight the Valentine Day hassle?
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delicious meal and an inspirational talk
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Called to Worship

MASS SCHEDULE & TIMES

WEEKDAYS

MASS TIMES:

M, W, Th, & F: 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Tues: 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

RECONCILIATION:

M - F: 45 minutes prior to Mass

SATURDAY

MASS TIME: 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION: 3:00 - 3:45 pm

VIGIL: 4:00 pm

SUNDAY

MASS TIMES: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am,
12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

NURSERY: 9:00 am & 10:30 am (PAC)

PRE-SCHOOL

BIBLE CLASS: 9:00 am & 10:30 am (PAC)

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY RADIO

1380 AM - WPYR

Listen daily at noon and
10:30 am on Sunday for
Mercy's Mass live broadcast

Weekend of February 1st & February 2nd

4:00 pm*	7:00 am*	9:00 am	10:30 am	12:00 pm	6:00 pm
Fr. Milano	Fr. Antony	Fr. Antony	Fr. Milano	Fr. Milano	Fr. Antony
Extraordinary Ministers					
L McCann D Lockwood C Formeller C Duvieilh L D'Armond M Porter	G Samrow P Samrow L Dawkins J Pastorek T Penouilh	B Carie L Carie A Altazan P Tullier Deacon Grant L Gemmill	P Prosser M Taylor B Bailey T Grant K Poiencot Deacon Zelden Deacon Grant J Angers	Deacon Cloutier K Kimble M Kimble M Vincent	D Smith K Walker C Roberts G Gilbert R Torry
Lectors					
D McCrary A August	S Darensbourg A Haywood A Wilson	Children Liturgy	B Haldane C Haldane	A Bargas D Dantin	E Pavlovich C Steele
Altar Servers					
M Arias (C) H Casselberry C Casselberry	G Samrow (C)	P Tullier (C) A Sanchez E Minvielle	K Poiencot (C) K Allen J Daboval	M Vincent (C) A DiVincneti M DiVincenti	K Walker (C) N Frederick L Moore

The complete Ministry Schedule is published on our website at www.olomchurch.com.

Called to serve? Contact Deacon Grant to volunteer for liturgical ministry.

*These liturgies are celebrated without incense.

The Sunday 10:30 am Holy Mass can be found on WBRZ+; olomchurch.com; and youtube.com/olombr.



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DAILY PRAYER THIS WEEK

This week is set at the beginning of Jesus' ministry and the pictures we get of how challenged and pushed he is prepare us to hear the simple parables he tells us. All of us get challenged and pushed in our daily lives. Even when we are on the right road and following a faithful path, there are forces, conflicting demands, tempting alternatives, differing values that batter us. It takes grace and courage to trust our real mission and that our Lord will be with us through it all.

Each morning this week, we can take a moment, to ask for what we desire. The entire day will be different just by spending 20 seconds sitting at the edge of the bed saying, "Lord, I want to keep my eyes open today. Whatever comes at me today, I want to stay in touch with you. Thank you." Another morning I may be aware of a big decision I have to execute that day or a conflict I am planning to face, and I might pray, "Okay, Lord, this is the day. This is how I live out my relationship with you. Be with me and give me what I need. Keep reminding me I can't do it without you."

Each day will offer a different brief moment of connection with our Lord, but each will ground the day. Then it is so very easy, while in the shower or walking down a hall, for just brief moments here and there in the background of our day, to stay in touch with our Lord. These guides can help keep us focused on the nourishing Word which interacts with our daily life. Every day can seem like a living Parable of the Sower. There is seed being scattered all around us and we can see and experience our degrees of receptivity. And while we are doing the best we can, all day, every day, in a variety of things, we can be consoled by the Lord's smile reminding us that the Kingdom is like a mustard seed. The real graces come from very small seeds, the smallest of efforts that make a big difference. Most of all, when things get rough, during any day, we can pause and take a breath and ask him to calm the wind and sea in our hearts.

Every night we can thank him for his presence and ground our growing relationship with him.

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on the Creighton University's Online Ministries website: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html> Used with permission.

Accepting New Patients

Meagan C. Blanchard, MD
 Christopher M. Funes, MD
 Jamel Martin, MD
 Murli C. Rao, MD
 Kelli Bovard, NP



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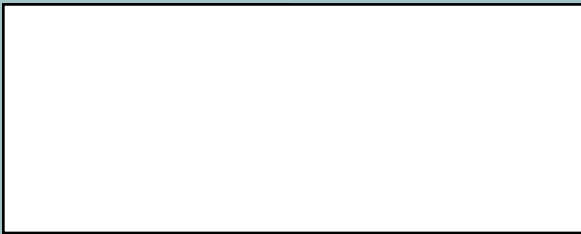
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