



THE WITNESS

OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

December 26, 2021 | THE HOLY FAMILY



MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday | 5:00pm
Sunday | 8:00am, 10:00am,
12:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday through Friday | 8:30am

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Wednesday | Following Mass

EXPOSITION & ADORATION OF THE EUCHARIST

First Fridays | Following Mass
Benediction | 6:45pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:00pm-3:30pm
Or by Appointment

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm
Closed for lunch 12:00 -1:00pm

 [Facebook.com/OLQM.MI](https://www.facebook.com/OLQM.MI)

 [Twitter.com/OlqmMI](https://twitter.com/OlqmMI)

 [Instagram.com/OLQM.MI](https://www.instagram.com/OLQM.MI)



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, through its members, is called to be a sign and sacrament of salvation to the entire Catholic Community. Essential to this Mission

PARISH INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

PARISH OFFICE

32340 Pierce Street,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
248-644-8620
248-644-8623 (Fax)

SCHOOL

32460 Pierce Street,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
248-642-2616

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

32460 Pierce Street,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
248-647-6068

THIS WEEK AT OLQM

Monday, December 27
NO 8:30 am Mass

Tuesday, December 28
8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, December 29
8:30 am Mass/Perpetual Help
Devotions
7:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 30
8:30 am Mass

Friday, December 31
8:30 am Mass
5:00 pm Mass

Saturday, January 1
Mary, the Holy Mother of God
NO Confessions
NO 5:00 pm Mass
10:00 am Mass

Sunday, January 2
The Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 am Mass
10:00 am Mass
12:00 am Mass



PARISH STAFF

REV. JAMES A. SMALARZ
Pastor

MSGR. RONALD T. BROWNE
Weekend Assistant

REV. MR. CHRIS BELTOWSKI
Deacon

MR. MICHAEL HUGHES
Pastoral Associate
mhughes@olqm-parish.org

MRS. KATIE WOLFF
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Communications Coordinator
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MRS. MARY SCHELLPFEFFER
Administrative Assistant
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MRS. JILL GEDEN
Principal
jgeden@olqm-parish.org

MRS. MARY GARLOW
Faith Formation Director
mgarlow@olqm-parish.org

MR. MARTIN ZAPORSKI
Music Director

MR. ADAM MARTIN
Maintenance Supervisor
amartin@olqm-parish.org

SACRAMENT INFORMATION

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:00 to 3:30; or by appointment by contacting the Parish Office.

MATRIMONY

Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance to schedule your Holy Matrimony preparation.

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH COUNCIL

Mark Everly, Chair,
Mark Cope, Pat Costello, Mary Gilhuly,
Ed Metsker, Patty Racco, Lucia Saad,
Brad Simmons

FINANCE COUNCIL

Brad Simmons, Chair,
Jen Byrne, Joe Heikkila, Angie Janssen,
Joe Kaperzinski, Bernie Ronnish,
Dan Totonchi, Tim Weed

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Copy due by 12:00 pm on
Friday of the preceding week.

Deliver to the Parish Office
or email copy to:
satwell@olqm-parish.org



A note from the Pastor . . .

Merry Christmas!!! The beautiful season of Christmas Joy is upon us as we once again celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Son of God! What an amazing event to celebrate with our family and friends!

God, the creator of the entire universe has entered time by way of His Son Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus immersed himself in the messiness of life in order to reveal God's love for each one of us. And we all know just how messy life can be! Jesus is the greatest gift we could ever receive. By having faith in Jesus we can be hopeful that all the messiness and wrongs in our communities, schools, families, workplaces, friends, nation, and world will one day be made right. Yet so many of us struggle to find joy during the Christmas Season amidst the festive gatherings, delicious meals, exciting gifts and beautiful decorations.

One reason why so many of us struggle to find joy at Christmas is because we confuse joy with feeling good. Joy is not a fleeting emotion that comes when our appetites are being satisfied and then gone again when our appetites begin to crave the next latest attraction, whatever that may be. Having joy doesn't mean we will feel good all the time. Rather joy, in particular Christmas Joy, is not based on material things or comforts. The source of our joy lies in "Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." And if God who created the entire universe, the complexities of the human body with all its intricacies, and every other living creature is now with us, we have every reason to be hopeful and filled with joy! Even our worst of days should not leave us stuck in despair, because Jesus, the Son of God, has been born to rescue us from the powers of evil that create so much messiness in our world today! Having faith in Jesus gives us not only joy, but strength to walk our life's journey with confidence, because regardless of the messiness in this life, Jesus desires for us to share life in heaven with Him, along with Mary and all the angels and saints!

Our faith in Jesus gives us grace to reflect joy at Christmas and throughout the year. Pope Benedict writes "Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply: with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, forgiveness. Let us give this joy and the joy we give will certainly be returned to us...Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives." After all, everyone needs to experience the joy of knowing Jesus at Christmas and throughout the year!

May you and your family have a Blessed and Joyous Christmas Season!!!

Fr. Jim Smalarz



Christmas Liturgical Schedule

Nativity of the Lord

a holy day of obligation

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th

4:00 pm Mass *

6:00 pm Mass *

12:00 Midnight Mass *

(Choir Christmas Music @11:30)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th

8:00 am Mass *

10:00 am Mass *

12:00 pm Mass *

NO 5:00 pm Mass

*** Advance Reservations REQUIRED!**

(See Parish Website - www.olqm-parish.org)

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Not a holy day of obligation this year

Friday, December 31st

5:00 pm Mass

Saturday, January 1st

10:00 am Mass

NO 5:00 pm Mass

Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 am Mass

10:00 am Mass

12:00 pm Mass

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating - who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful - perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

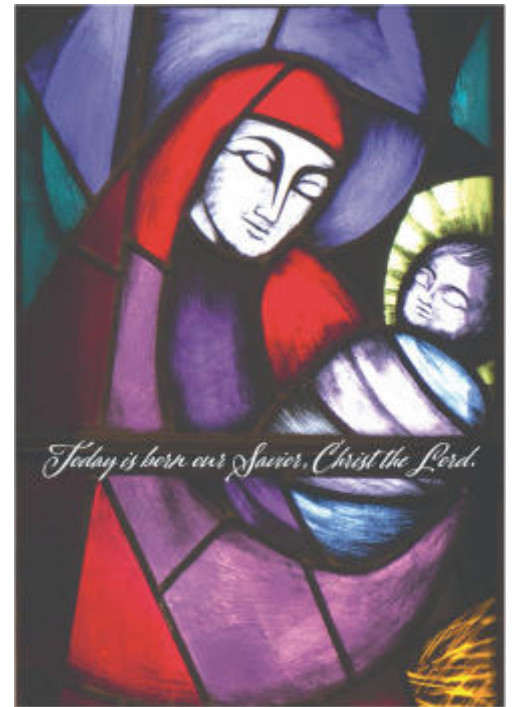
Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

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Christmas Parish Office Hours

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Monday Dec. 27 | Closed |
| Tuesday Dec. 28 | 8:30am-1:00pm |
| Wednesday Dec. 29 | 8:30am-1:00pm |
| Thursday Dec. 30 | 8:30am-1:00pm |
| Friday Dec. 31 | 8:30am-1:00pm |
| Monday Jan. 03 | Closed |



A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
Recognized and endorsed by the Holy Father in 2008

RETROUVAILLE

The Best Christmas Gift Ever!!

Presents under the Christmas tree are nice, but they can't heal a hurting marriage. Retrouvaille is for couples with marriages that are struggling, not communicating well, or those considering separation or divorce. It is also for those who are already separated or divorced that want marriage help. Some couples attend during the initial signs of a marriage problem. Other couples are in a state of despair and hopelessness when they attend the program. Some couples have been married for many years, while others have been married only a short time and encountered trouble. *This is the BEST Christmas gift you could ever give yourself, your spouse, your children, your family and your friends!!*

Do you know someone whose marriage is in trouble?
WE CAN HELP
HelpOurMarriage.com

Marriage Saving Weekend
Jan. 14-16, 2022
Metro Detroit Area

For confidential info or to register call 800-470-2230

SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."
(1 Sm 1:27-28)

Psalm:

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)

Second Reading:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)

Gospel:

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Lk 2:46)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.

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PLANNED GIVING CORNER

HOW WILL YOU REMEMBER?

Creating a will is one of the most important ways to record and remember what matters to you most - personally, financially, and spiritually. It is an opportunity to make the most significant charitable gifts of your life and make a lasting impact on our parish and the future of our Catholic faith. Please consider naming the OLQM Endowment Fund in your will. For more information contact the Catholic Foundation of Michigan at 248-204-0332 or visit their website at CatholicFoundationMichigan.org.



The Catholic Foundation inspires faithful generosity and supports individuals & families in building our Catholic community through planned gifts that make a difference now and forever. Through your generosity, our endowment fund will provide financial support for the future needs of our community.

*For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.*

(Luke 2:11)



*May you be blessed with
The Spirit of Christmas which is **Peace**,
The Joy of Christmas which is **Hope**,
And the Heart of Christmas which is **Love!***

Thank you to everyone who so generously gave monetary donations and gift cards to the Giving Tree Project and Thank You to all those families who adopted families in need and provided food, gift cards and gifts, bringing the joy of Christmas to others.

May our Good and Gracious God bless you and your family abundantly!

Sr. Francesca Thérèse, OSF

Thank you for your love of Jesus and of OLQM. Thank you for all you are and all you do to make OLQM the amazing, faith-filled, loving, serving parish family that we are today! Together we are making a difference in the life and spirit of our community.



Christian Service Connection

*"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."
Hebrews 13:16*

*Christmas Poinsettia
Memorials, Tributes & Donations*

Mr. Jeffrey Haezebrouck

Jan Haezebrouck

Mr. & Mrs. James Davis

William & Mary Davis
Hugh & Mary Downie
Ken & Leola Reisinger
Aloysius Knipper

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stuckey

Helen & Matthew Mikolajczyk
Esther & Eugene Stuckey

Mr. Anthony Maria

Barbara Maria
Christopher Maria
Cataloo Maria
Carmen Maria
Charles Maria

David & Kathleen Ralston

John Rash
The Grandparents of Dave & Kathy Ralston

Mr. & Mrs. Michael McCauley

Henry & Mary Krupa
Joe & Stella Platek
Stanley & Cecilia Depowski
Ken Krupa

Ms. Elizabeth Dumouchelle

Leonard F. Charla
Walter Albers

Mrs. Margaret Chioini

John Chioini

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Davidson

Ruth & Murray Cotter

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Forster

Marcus Forster
George Duffourc

Ms. Mary Parsons

Jos Parsons
Ann R. Parsons
John J. Parsons
Michael F Parsons
Richard J. Parsons

Michelle Conway

Joe Limber

Father Jim Smalarz

Chester & Dolores Smalarz
Michael Luszczyk

Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Mansfield

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H. Mansfield
Barbara Mansfield
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Gilligan
Michael Gilligan

Mr. & Mrs. Erik Swonder

Deceased members of the Cummings
and Swonder Families

Larry O. Smith

Lucy Kirby

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Oklad

The Raymann Family
The Oklad Family

Mrs. Christine Wechsler

Barbara & Larry Carter

Miss Mary Barrett

John & Joan Barrett
Celeste Southard

The Stockel Family

Elias & Jamila Curioaca

Pat DeNio

Olga and Joseph Zafarand
Ken Zafarand

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Farrell

Mr. & Mrs. John R. Farrell

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gorney

Rosellyn Macujewski
Spencer Pletzke

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tucker

James & Anne McLaughlin
Sharyn Tucker

Beth & Richard Ricci

Kathleen McHugh
Mary Lu O'Connor

Mr. Bradley Simmons

Deceased family & friends, especially
those who died in 2021

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Ritter

Laura Ritter-Allio

*Christmas Poinsettia
Memorials, Tributes & Donations*

Mr. & Mrs. John Moore

Ruth & Gene Glynn
Ron Glynn

Mr. Roger Jankowski

Edward Jankowski
Angela Jankowski
Arlene Jankowski
Denise Hirsch

Mr. & Mrs. Jon Ruud

The Torren Family
The Ruud Family

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Moore

Ruth Darmer
Jean Phillips
Rose & Joseph Pence
Donald Moore

Mr. & Mrs. John Schaffer

Ralph Meyers
Paul Schaffer
Annette Meyers

Michela Birosak

John & Mildred Birosak Anne Birosak-Kovach
Steve & Anna Timocko Anne Marie Timocko
Gerry & Betty Kurk John & Anne Martin
Charles & Rose Samarjian Fr. Leo Baker
Victor & Sophie Angelesca Stuart Packard
Sr. Maria DeMonte, OP Sr. Mary Martin, OP

Patricia Henricks

Adelar Martini
Anna Martini

Miss Cheri Reese

Bill Reese
Fred Reese

Gabriel Palileo

Eric Beeson

Mr. & Mrs. John Hretz

John k. (Jack) Hretz
Deceased member of the Gretz, Barsanti, Hretz,
and Szenszy Families

Mrs. William Dahlin

Bill, Mark & Patrick Dahlin

Ms. Tracey Breen

John & Georgiale Breen

Frank Schmid

Jane Schmid

Mr. & Mrs. Donald McLennan

Mr. & Mrs. John Gallombardo
Mr. & Mrs. R. McLennan
Mr. & Mrs. J. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. W. Hausheer

Steve & Sue Atwell

Clarence Bentley
Tam Bentley

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Pepp

Catherine & Cynthia Pepp

Julia & Sharon Mason

Jack Mason
Rick Mason
Pam Ledgley

OLQM Knights of Columbus

Chris Mansueti
William J. Dwyer
Michael G. Adam

Margaret Nottingham

Brian Joseph Croze

The Krivda Family

The Krivda and Pasqual Families

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Walas

The Walas Family
The Bruckman Family
Jerry Pedlaw

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Artinian

Dr. Charles Gary Artinian

The Cahill Family

Kathleen Cahill

Dr. & Mrs. Charles Main

Deceased members of the
Ingram & Main families

Dr. & Mrs. Mark Frizzo

Miss Barbara Labadie

Cheryl Rogers

Michael Brennan

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Zammit

Ms. Kathleen Barrett

Ms. Kathryn Krajceck

Mr. & Mrs. William Kibbe

The Alexander Family



From the Office of Faith Formation

Sunday Family, January 9: Sunday Family session 5 will meet virtually following the Noon Mass. Children are working on chapters 11 & 12 at home. Please see your child's google classroom stream for information and to link into the virtual meet.

Monday After School session will meet January 10. This session will be virtual for all grade levels at 5pm. **Please see the google classroom streams for information and to join the meet.**



Sacrament Preparation

First Reconciliation:

To Begin Again Retreat will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 6:30-7:15 pm in the Church. All children preparing to receive the sacrament should attend with a parent.

Confirmation Preparation:

As Christians we are called to care for the poor, the weak, the suffering, the disenfranchised, the oppressed. We are called to fight for the outsider, the voiceless, those who have not been given the tools to fight for themselves.

We do this not to make ourselves feel good or because we want to get into Heaven and not because we are the Good News to them. We do this because they are the Good News to us. They reveal to us what is wrong with our systems. When we listen to the outsider, the poor, the oppressed, the suffering, the marginalized they speak to us of a problem within our society. A problem that needs correction. They are the voice of God, the sight of God, stronger than any army. When we seek to change the oppressive systems, this is Social Justice. Social Justice is something the Church has always been engaged in. In preparing to be Confirmed, the candidates commit themselves to service and learning what it means to be connected to the Church in this way. Families play an essential role in helping these young people to serve. It is in the home that it all begins. From there we grow to see the bigger picture, how we are complicit in systems of oppression and how we can fight for change.

Candidates are working on the *Chosen to be Sent* Journals parts 3 & 4. In this section, the candidate is asked to engage in a mini Bible study on the story of creation. In chapter three of the book of Genesis we learn of a situation where suspicion is introduced to the first humans with the intent to break the trust between them and God. It worked. The suspicion yielded negative consequences and the relationships began to unravel. Part three of the journal makes the connection between what is described in Genesis 3 and the candidate's own experience with the subsequent *blame, shame and defame* game that defines much of what we experience in the world today.

After reading the description of the tale of Adam and Eve and the introduction of the world where opposites no longer exist in harmony the candidate is asked to explore his or her own experience with the tension of opposites.

In part 4, candidates reflect on the unfolding of God's plan to restore *Original Blessing* to humanity. This is a perfect section to work on during the Christmas Season as it initially focuses on the Incarnation of Jesus. The Old Testament prophets brought messages of rescue, repentance, hope and restoration from fallen human nature. Jesus is the fulfillment of those messages and we learn from Scripture that His ministry centered on *healing and restorative justice*.

Candidates will use their imaginations and reflect on their own experiences of observing and dealing with rejection and conflict. These are experiences Jesus also encountered and addressed. By studying how Jesus lived and what he taught we can learn to deal with these situations in the best possible way. These are important lessons for those seeking full initiation in the Catholic Church. They are necessary for growing as a disciple of Christ.

Mary Garlow, Director of Faith Formation
mgarlow@olqm-parish.org
248-647-6068



**PLEASE REMEMBER
IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Dennis Bachellar | Gary Mark |
| Wendy Bachellar | Audrey Markiewicz |
| Gianna Baracos | Diane Mattis |
| Charles Barron | Derek McAleer |
| Charlie Blank | Michael McCauley |
| Judy Canero | Scott McFall |
| Isabella Cichoski | Marcia Michaels |
| Janet Chrzanowski | Arlene Naas |
| Gerri Compton | Theodore Orlicki |
| Nicholas Cornfield | Carl Papa |
| Bill Donnelly | Joanne Pastula |
| Michael Drellas | Owen Peraino |
| Marion Easton | Rosa Maria Petrozzi |
| Darren Eisenberg | Dawn Pfander |
| Nancy Finnell | Richard Ricci |
| Katherine Fletcher | David Roznowski |
| Lia Geftos | Amanda Ruth |
| Carol Gilhuly | Rebecca Ruth |
| Benicio Goulding | The Sewell Family |
| Steve Gucciardo | Bill Schellpfeffer |
| Ian Haezebrouck | Hope Sovran |
| Jeff Haezebrouck | Donna Stieber |
| Brian Hall | Ann Marie Teli |
| David Harrison | Carson Toepfer |
| Richard Harrison | Msgr. Dan Trapp |
| Joel Holland | Barbara Trotta |
| Lisa Janes | Eric Vergeldt |
| Susan Karwacki | Arlene Walsh |
| Carol Keller | Tom Warner |
| William Kibbe | Michael Waterman |
| Ken Koller | Sue Weed |
| Dennis Lacelle | Christine Wing-Jaworski |
| Dolores Lowe | Charli Zafarana |
| Richard Lowe | |
| Joanne MacDonald | |
| Monica Madigan | |
| Jerry Mansfield | |

Pray for the Sick!

Prayer for Vocations

O Virgin Mary, we commend to you those who seek to follow your son as priests, brothers and sisters. You know the difficulties, struggles and obstacles they face. Assist them to utter their “yes” to the divine call as you did at the invitation of the angel. Draw them near to your heart so that they may understand the joy and beauty that awaits when the Lord calls them. Make them witness the Lord’s love. Enable them to inspire the church with their consecration. May your all powerful intercession touch the hearts of many that they may respond to the Lord’s call. Repeat to them in the depths of their hearts what you said to the waiters at Cana: “Do whatever Jesus asks.” Amen.

Pope John Paul II

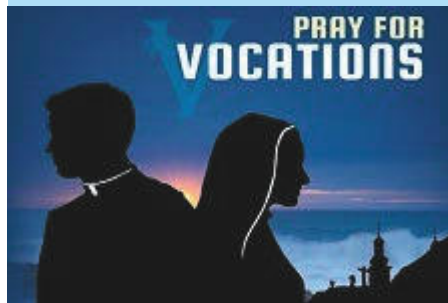
Please pray for our OLMQ parishioners who are currently in formation:

**Josh Burcroff
Archdiocese of Detroit**

**Dan Dixon
Society of Jesus**

**Sr. Solanus Mary
(Mary Margaret Payne)
Franciscan Sisters of the
Renewal**

**Kevin Zaporski
Priestly Fraternity of St.
Peter**



**St. Thomas Becket
Feast Day December 29**

Despite being good friends, King Henry II of England and Thomas Beckett (1118 — 1170) engaged in a perilous struggle to determine the line of authority between church and state. King Henry appointed Thomas as his chancellor, a position of responsibility and power second only to that of the king himself. Thomas proved to be an extraordinarily supportive and capable assistant.

King Henry want to consolidate his power by making Thomas archbishop of Canterbury. He proposed the idea to Thomas upon the death of Archbishop Theobald in 1162. Thomas hesitated, but allowed the king to carry out his plan. Thomas was ordained a priest and soon was consecrated archbishop of Canterbury in a spectacular event. Thomas took his new position seriously and began declaring independence from Henry by resigning his office of chancellor. He began to fast and pray with earnest devotion.

Systematically, and in bold and dramatic ways, Thomas began to untangle the church in England from civil authority. In 1164 Thomas openly broke with Henry. For his own safety, Thomas fled to France. In July, 1170, Henry and Thomas reconciled and Thomas return to Canterbury. The issues of church and state, however, remained unsettled. Emotions raged and tempers flared. Henry, in a fit of passion, let slip some unguarded words which, however they may have been intended, were construed as orders from the king to eliminate Thomas. Four of Henry’s knights went to Canterbury and murdered Thomas in his church, at the foot of the altar, in 1170. Within three years after his death, Thomas Becket was canonized as a martyr.



MASS INTENTIONS
for the week of
December 27 to
January 2

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

No 8:30am Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:30 am †Janice Thomas

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:30 am †Jimmy Staskowski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:30 am †Rev. Robert
Wyzgowski

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:30 am Deceased members of
the Sarafa & Saroki
Families
5:00 pm For the People of the
Parish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

10:00 am †Betty Bayona

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

8:00 am †Vincent Acciaioli
For the People of the
Parish
10:00 am †Tam Bentley
12:00 pm †Helen & Leon
Blaszczyk

MASS READINGS

for the week of
December 26 to
January 2

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

The Holy Family

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
Luke 2:22-40

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn 1:5—2:2
Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8
Mt 2:13-18

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

1 Jn 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6
Lk 2:22-35

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

1 Jn 2:12-17
Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10
Lk 2:36-40

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

St. Sylvester I, Pope

1 Jn 2:18-21
Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13
Jn 1:1-18

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

**Mary, The Holy Mother of God
World Day of Peace**

Nm 6:22-27
Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

*Marriage
& Banns*

III

Alysse Fischer

and

Zach Rentner



**In Loving
Memory**

**Our sympathy goes out
to the family of**

**Janice Kirchgessner
(Mother of Katie Meilinger)**

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

JUST FOR FUN

Question:

What does "Alleluia" mean?

Last Week's Answer:

What does RCIA stand for?

**Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults**

©LPi

December 26, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Feast of the Holy Family

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 | Lk 2:41-52

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Some of my fondest childhood memories are of my dad leading my three sisters and me in song as we made the hour-long drive to visit my grandparents every other weekend. Granted, our silly car songs don't qualify as "singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs," as Paul advised the Colossians, but I do think they reveal that my dad took to heart Paul's advice about family and faith. Paul writes that in putting on holiness, kindness, gentleness, and forgiving one another, we "put on love, that is, the bond of perfection." Whatever we do, in word or deed, we ought to do in the name of the Lord Jesus. Fathers, mothers, and children are to love one another, seeking and choosing the good for one another, and helping each other along life's journey - on long car trips as well as in a lifetime of situations. On this feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we honor their perfect holiness and love, and pray that God may continue to perfect us in holiness and love within our own families, that we may bear good fruit for the Kingdom.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Three Days? Mary and Joseph couldn't find Jesus for three days! Any parent who has had a child missing for a few seconds understands the anxiety Mary and Joseph experienced in three long days of searching for Jesus. In the end, though, all is well - they find him, and the peace of Christ casts out their fears. It is a remarkable scene: Jesus' parents are *astonished* to see him teaching in the temple, and Jesus is curious as to why they were looking for him - did they not know where he would be? This event marks a sort of milestone in their lives together, as Jesus has hinted at his future public ministry, and his parents have experienced that first bit of soul-piercing that Mary will later fully undergo. For each of them, love is what directed their actions. Joseph and Mary put aside everything to search for their son; Jesus put aside everything to serve his Father; and they joined together in humble obedience to God's will for them. The Holy Family models a way of living for us to imitate, and to witness to others in that imitation.

SERVE/STUDY Perhaps you have some down time in this coming week between Christmas and New Year's. As a family, choose an activity that allows you to think outside yourselves and serve others. Or make a plan to read the Scripture for each day of the upcoming week; everyone can choose a favorite verse to memorize each day. You may be surprised how often these verses enter your mind throughout the week.



Discovering Your Gifts Charism Workshop

Does Life Seem Overwhelming? Lacking Meaning?

Join us for Discovering Your Gifts and find ways to uncover the joy God has for you.

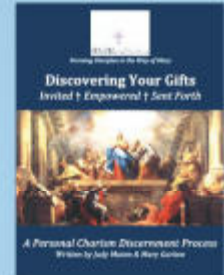
Tuesdays, January 25, February 1, 8, 15 & 22

7:00-8:30 PM

St. Mary Fellowship Center, 730 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak

This workshop is for those:

- Seeking to learn more about themselves and their relationship with God
- Considering life transitions, career moves, or ministry opportunities
- Seeking a deeper prayer life
- Desiring to know their gifts and how to find happiness through them



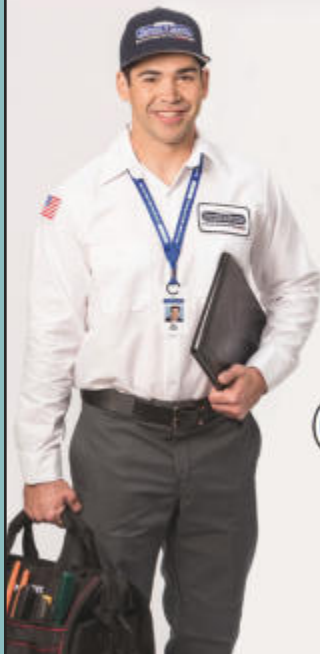
In these five sessions you will uncover how God has uniquely gifted you to find true happiness, live out your call to holiness, lead a fulfilling life, and go deeper in your relationship with Jesus. During the sessions, you will learn how both your spiritual gifts given in baptism (charisms) and natural talents are discerned, activated and exercised through ministry, career, volunteer opportunities, and relationships with others. We will also delve into learning how to pray deeply to be able discern wisely.

The workshops will be presented by Judy Maten and Mary Garlow.

OLQM members interested in attending can contact Mary at mgarlow@olqm-parish.org.

Funds are available to cover the \$25 registration and materials fee.

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