



# THE WITNESS

## OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

### CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

JANUARY 1, 2023 | BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD



## 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

### Please Note:

The Parish office will be closed on  
Monday January 2

 [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)



## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

### 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 is the work of spreading Christian life and teachings.

# 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, January 2  
No Public Mass

Tuesday, January 3  
8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, January 4  
8:30 am Mass/Perpetual Help  
Devotions  
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, January 5  
8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am OLQM Women's Group

Friday, January 6  
8:30 am Mass  
9:00 am First Friday Adoration  
6:45 pm Benediction

Saturday, January 7  
7:00 OLQM Men's Bible Study  
3:00 Confessions  
5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 8  
8:00 am Mass  
10:00 am Mass  
12:00 pm Mass  
1:00 pm Sunday Family  
Faith Formation



### 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

Business Manager

kwolff@olqm-parish.org

MR. STEVE ATWELL

Communications Coordinator

satwell@olqm-parish.org

MRS. MARY SCHELLPFEFFER

Administrative Assistant

mshellpfeffer@olqm-parish.org

SR. FRANCESCA THÉRÈSE, OSF

Christian Service Director

srfrancesca@olqm-parish.org

MS. SARAH DUDEK

Music Director

sdudek@olqm-parish.org

MRS. JILL GEDEN

Principal

jgeden@olqm-parish.org

MRS. MARY GARLOW

Faith Formation Director

mgarlow@olqm-parish.org

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.

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Tim Flannery - Chair

Steve Sequin - Secretary

Tim Weed

Beth Howes

### 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 . . .***

***A Happy and Blessed New Year to you and your family!!*** Each January I like to bring out the following prayer as I open the door to the New Year in anticipation of God's goodness and love. I would like to once again share the prayer with you.

***~~Prayer for the New Year~~***

*Dear Lord, as I close the door on the old year, I ponder on the things I've done, on the things I've said, and the joys I've had, then I wonder, have I lost or won?*

*I've thought of the new friends I've made, and the old ones staunch and true, the path of the old year was made easier Lord, because I have walked it with you.*

*I think of all the many times, when my burdens were so heavy to bear and how my faith slipped away from me but you were always standing there.*

*Now as I open the door to this New Year and carefully peep inside, I wonder what it holds for me, but I'll throw the door open wide.*

*And whatever it brings to me and mine I'll meet you with a heart so true, I know that, Lord, whatever it may be, you'll be there to carry me through. (Author unknown)*

*I look forward to the year 2023 and the many blessings God has planned for OLQM Catholic Church and School.* Please know if there is anything I can do for you and/or your family, please do not hesitate to contact me at the parish office. I am here to pray with you and for you and to serve the entire OLQM parish community.

*May the Hope, Love, Joy and Peace of the Christmas Season remain with you and your family throughout 2023!*

*Fr. Jim Smalarz*





## From the School

Greetings from Room 211!

OLQM Middle School students have been busy and engaged in their Social Studies classes! We have had an exciting quarter filled with interesting topics and challenging tasks and our students have risen to the occasion!

Sixth grade World Geography students are finishing a unit on Latin America. They have spent the past several weeks learning about and analyzing various topics, such as earthquakes in the Caribbean, conflicts over land use in the Amazon Rainforest, spatial inequality in Mexico city, and how humans adapt to life in the Central Andes. They have also learned much about the physical and political geography of Latin America. They are currently wrapping up the unit by researching and presenting a slideshow about a Latin American country of their choosing. It sure has been fun! We move on to Europe in our next unit.

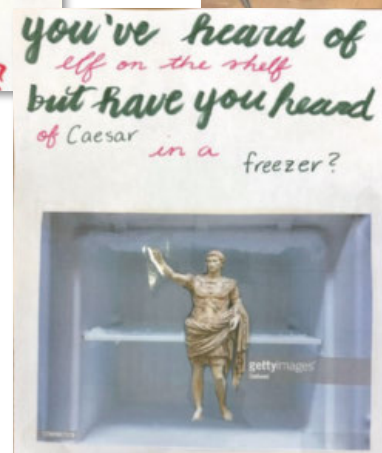
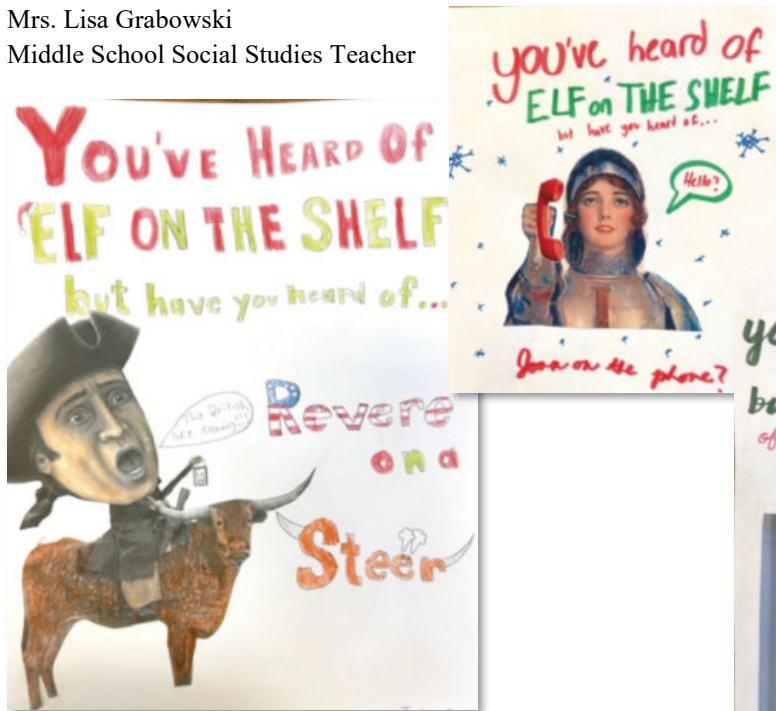
Seventh graders in World History classes have spent this quarter learning about ancient India and ancient Greece. Specifically, they have looked at how geography influenced settlement in these areas, and learned about innovations made during the Golden Ages of India and China and how these changed the world permanently. To culminate our unit on India, students made palm leaf books about the achievements of the Gupta Empire, which were colorful and informative! After Christmas break, we will continue with the Silk Road before moving on to Ancient Greece and Rome!

Eighth grade American History students have just completed a unit on the American Revolution. During this unit, students practiced thinking like historians by examining primary sources and analyzing them. They looked at bias in primary sources related to the Boston Massacre, looked for evidence of principles of the Enlightenment in the Declaration of Independence, and made a timeline of events based on primary sources related to the battles at Lexington and Concord. After break, they will be studying the Constitution, which many of our current eighth grade students saw in person during our trip to Washington, DC last spring!

As a bonus activity, many students chose to research a historical figure, write a short report on that person, and create an "Elf on the Shelf" style advertisement. The results were highly entertaining!

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a joyous 2023!

Mrs. Lisa Grabowski  
Middle School Social Studies Teacher



Deacon Chris's Corner.....



My mother (Winnie) has been with our Lord Jesus for almost 26 years. When I think back on some of her strongest characteristics as a mother, I think of courage, strength, perseverance, faith, joy, and sacrificial, unconditional love. These characteristics were constantly on display as she took

care of her 8 children in a small 1,100 square foot home in downtown Royal Oak.

When I think of my wife, Sharon, as a mother, I would use the same characteristics mentioned above and add in the virtue of patience. She can be on the phone with each one of my daughters for consecutive hours at a time listening to the challenges they face in life and offering them compassion, consolation, and guidance. And then she has time to still listen to me as her 5<sup>th</sup> child. ☺ She is a bartender, a barber, a therapist, a mediator, a doctor, always listening and attending to our needs.

I'm sure many of you can express the same sentiments toward your mothers and, husbands for their wives, as you have witnessed the great tender loving care they possess for their offspring.

Now imagine, on top of our mothers here on earth, we have a spiritual mother, the mother of God, Mary Most Holy. She was given the fullness of grace to say yes to becoming the mother of God, the mother of Jesus. She was the sacred vessel that God chose for His Son to enter this world as man. And she was given to us by Jesus at the foot of the cross ("Behold, your mother.") to be our spiritual mother, with all the characteristics I mentioned above and a whole lot more.

This is what we celebrate today: The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God. And the mother of all of us. Go to her. Tell her what you need. She is always there listening and attending to our needs through her powerful intercession.

With great gratitude to God,

Deacon Chris Beltowski

*"Brothers and sisters: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law..."*

*(Galatians 4:4-5)*

GOSPEL MEDITATION

January 1, 2023

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

We hide ourselves and our secrets from God because we are afraid. Even Mary can seem too perfect to approach. The shepherds find the strength to speak to Mary and Joseph *at the moment they see the child in the manger*. They open their hearts and share what they've experienced. Saint Luke writes of the shepherds, **"When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child."**

When I was a college student, I visited Rome. Beggars often approached and said, "*Mangia? Mangia?*" I didn't speak Italian and thought, "Why are they speaking about the Christmas nativity scene?" My friend said, "*Mangia* means eat. They're hungry." That's when I realized more deeply than ever before that Mary puts her baby in a place designed for hungry animals to eat.

See that baby in the manger in your heart. Imagine Mary kneeling nearby looking at you with love. She doesn't cling to God for herself. In that cave, from the beginning, she quietly offers her son to hungry souls. The manger means vulnerable self-offering love. That's the sign. This week that same manger opens our hearts to tell Mary about our lives, too.

— Father John Muir

©LPi



Condolences for Father Scott regarding the passing of his mother, Mrs. Janice Thibodeau, may be sent to:

Father Scott Thibodeau  
Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church  
5481 Dixie Highway  
Waterford, MI 48329.



## From the Office of Faith Formation Happy, Healthy, and Holy Kids

Upcoming **Monday** sessions are: December 12, January 9, 23, 30

### The Sunday Family Program

meets January 8, 2023 beginning with noon Mass.

Families are working at home on chapters 11 and 12 of Unit 4, Jesus Christ.

Next Session: January 8, 2023



### First Reconciliation Preparation

Children are working on lesson 4 of their Together in Jesus Packets. In this lesson they:

In the lesson your child will:

- Identify hurtful and hard to forgive actions.
- Recognize that God is forgiving
- Recognize that Jesus calls them to forgive
- Celebrate and “I Can Forgive” Prayer Ritual.

### Catechist Highlight

Mr. Mike Heiwig is in his fourth year of teaching grade five Faith Formation for our Monday after school program. He loves it and the students love him too! Mike came to OLQM after meeting Fr. Thibodeau at a golf outing several years ago. He and his wife KK have been active in the parish ever since. He works as a Real Estate Agent. Mike says he loves teaching grade five because of the “active and energetic minds” of the students. They are always so engaged and eager to learn.

Mrs. Kristin Moore has been teaching Faith Formation for 11 years. In the beginning of her tenure as a catechist she taught grade one. For the past nine years she has taught grade five with our Sunday Family program. While teaching she says she loves encouraging the kids to think about their relationship with God and why it is important. She states, “I feel like I have learned something new with every class. In preparing for the lesson, it strengthens my own relationship with God.”

Mrs. Moore and her husband, Doug, have four sons. They have been OLQM parishioners since 2009. Mrs. Moore works in Information Technology at General Motors.

We are so grateful for Mr. Heiwig and Mrs. Moore.

Mary Garlow

Director of Faith Formation

[mgarlow@olqm-parish.org](mailto:mgarlow@olqm-parish.org)

December Word of Life: Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock. (Is 26:4). Listen to four experiences of living this Gospel passage.

Be inspired by experiences of people living the Gospel in everyday life

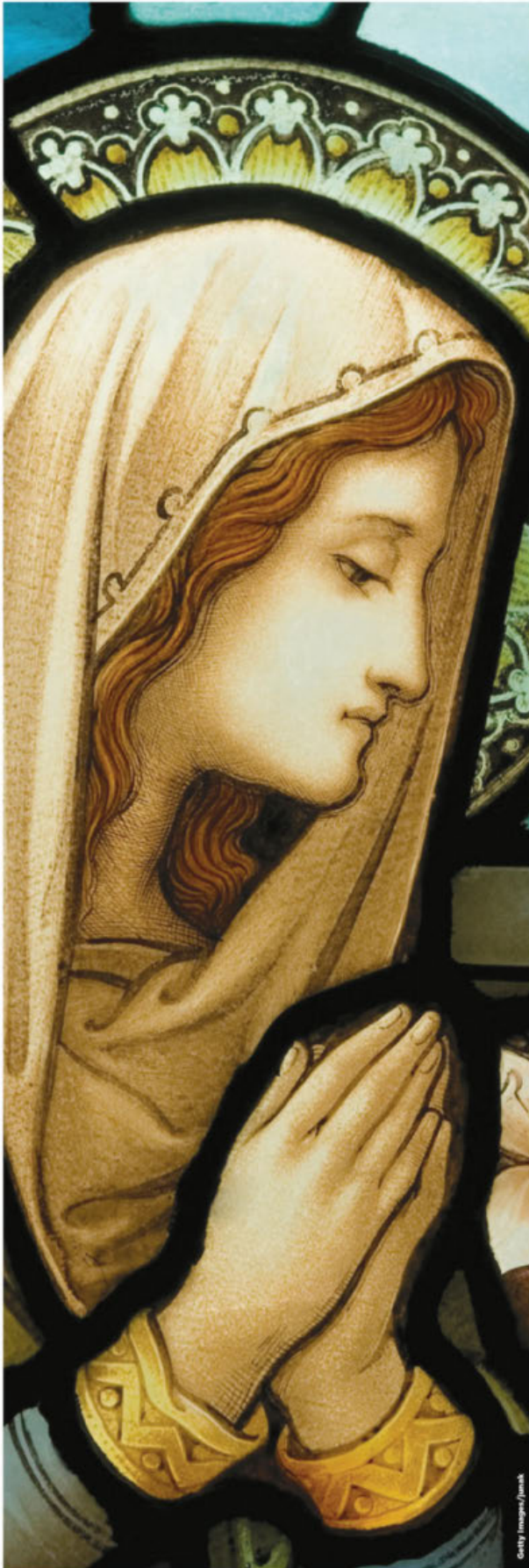


Scan the QR code to listen to the podcast



“To go to Mass is to go to Heaven”

~ Scott Hahn



January 1, 2023

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27 | Gal 4:4-7 | Lk 2:16-21

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

Today's readings remind us of the central role Mary plays in the story of Jesus and the story of our salvation. We may be tempted to place her on a pedestal – as well we should – she is the Mother of God! At the same time, today's Gospel reminds us she is not divine herself, but human – and she bore the incarnate flesh of the Son of God in his divine and human nature. She went through the sleepless nights and the uncertainties of parenting in all its stages. She learned early on what it takes many of us a lifetime to learn – often in fits and starts – absolute trust in God. As we celebrate this solemnity, we can bring our uncertainties, fears, and struggles to Mary our mother, asking for the grace to follow her faithful example.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Of course there's nothing wrong with New Year's resolutions, and I always admire people who have thought about them in advance. Me? I'm often tongue-tied on January 1 when someone asks me what my resolutions are (hmm ... maybe I should think about kicking that procrastination habit in 2023?) This is why Mary's reaction to the visit of the shepherds strikes me so profoundly. The shepherds pay homage to Jesus and spread the word that God's Son has been born. Mary, Luke writes, "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." As we move into a new year, so rich with possibility, we might follow Mary's example and reflect before jumping head-long into this or that goal or New Year's resolution. Instead, perhaps we can take the day – or a week or a month – to prayerfully reflect on how we can best put our faith in Jesus into action. How can we witness to our faith in our daily lives? What changes might help us do that? We can ask God to help us draw up a list of ways that we can be more faithful to him.

**PRAY** Pray the Hail Mary, reflecting on each line with gratitude. If you have more time, give yourself a "mini-retreat" by reading or reflecting on a book or devotional about Mary.



# 5 REASONS TO COME HOME

5. We hunger for meaning and purpose in our lives.
4. We need God's forgiveness and healing for our failings and God's mercy to help us become better people.
3. Our families need to be built on a strong foundation of faith and we need to live in community with others.
2. The Catholic Church has the Sacraments—and we especially long for the Eucharist.
1. Catholicism is TRUE!



**DARE**  
to be a *Disciple*

Christian Service at OLQM

Sr. Francesca Thérèse, OSF, Christian Service Director  
248-644-8620 . [srfrancesca@olqm-parish.org](mailto:srfrancesca@olqm-parish.org)



## Welcome Ministry - January

Looking for a simple and easy way to serve your church, get service time in, put your faith into action, get to Mass on time or simply do what Jesus asks us to do? This is the outreach for YOU and for your family! We are in need of volunteers to welcome the faithful who attend Masses on the weekend here at OLQM.

Please join us in welcoming them! Sign up online: <https://bit.ly/WelcJan23>

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of My brothers or sisters, you did it to Me."  
Mt. 25:40

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 our community!  
Peace and all Good, Sr. Francesca Thérèse, OSF  
Christian Service Director



*Christmas Poinsettia  
Memorials, Tributes & Donations*

**Dr. John Schmitt**

Mary Schmitt

**Sue Lang**

Paul & Dorothy Lang

**Steve & Sue Atwell and Pat Bentley**

+Clarence "Bud" Bentley

+Tam Bentley

**Mr. & Mrs. Brien Ralston**

+Deceased Members of the  
Ralston and Sabo Families

**Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Saco**

**Mark Barron & Sharon Kemper**

+Luc Josef Barron

**Ms. Claudia Rodgers**

+Camille & Buck Rodgers

Lottie, John & Audrey Lokanis

**Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Trotto**

**Mike & KK Heiwig**

+Bill & Bettie Sue Kidd

**Mr. John Lohr**

Joel Holland

Bill Rawley

Gerald Lohr

**Mr. & Mrs. Tony Patnugot**

Jesus, Margarita, & Flor Amor

Anotonio Sr., Trinidad, & Ben Sr. Patnugot

**David Sarris**

**Theresa Genevich**

Bruno & Cecilia Walczak

Joe & Sarah Genevich

**Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Davidson**

Ruth & Murray Cotter

**E. Samyn Haley**

+Joseph & Ann Marie Samyn

**Natalia Poniatowska**

Regina Niedzwiedzka

Roger O'Bryan

**Mr. & Mrs. William Kibbe**

The Stayner & Kibbe Families

**Bob & Molly Drake**

+The Deceased Members of the

Maher and Brinkman Families

+The Deceased Members of the

Allison and Drake Families

**Nahla Shaaya**

**Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Farrell**

Mr. & Mrs. John R. Farrell

**Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ide**

**Mrs. Arthur Hopcroft**

**Ms. Heidi Much**

**Mr. & Mrs. T. Walas**



**OUR LADY  
QUEEN OF MARTYRS  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**OPEN  
HOUSE**

Sunday, January 29, 2023

10:00am - 1:00pm

*save the date*



*TUITION ANGELS WANTED*



We are looking for "Tuition Angels" for the 2022-23 school year. As we all know, the economic situation in our community has been difficult for many of our school families. We have families who currently send their children to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School, and make financial sacrifices to continue to do so, but need a helping hand.

Can you help? Would you consider being a "Tuition Angel" this year? If so, please send your donation to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket marked "Tuition Angels." Any amount would be greatly appreciated!



*Start out the new year right with some prayer time before Jesus!*

**First Friday  
Exposition  
and  
Adoration**

**Friday, January 6  
after 8:30 a.m. Mass  
Benediction at 6:45 p.m.**

*Please sign up for prayer times in the vestibule!*

## THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 01, 2023



### God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



### How to Pray

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!



### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and OPUS DEI PREMS

### Communion to the Homebound

If you or someone you know is unable to attend Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office at 248-644-8620 to make arrangements.

### OLQM Electronic Offertory Giving



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs offers electronic offertory giving through WeShare. By scanning the QR code you can offer a one time gift or set up a recurring donation. Offertory contributions help offset costs associated with the day-to-day operations of the parish. Thank you for your continued support of OLQM parish!



**Saint John Neumann**  
**January 5**

St. John Neumann is the patron saint of educators, immigrants, and, due to the miracles that secured his canonization, sick children. This is a fitting patronage as he was a lover of education and learning from a very young age. Born in 1811 Bohemia, in what is now the Czech Republic, he attended the university in Prague preparing for ordination. In 1836 at the age of 25, he took a leap of faith and decided to just immigrate to the United States with only \$40 in his pocket. This risk paid off when he was ordained a priest in New York a month later.

Early in his priesthood he worked primarily as a missionary to German immigrants in Buffalo. His missionary work also created an opportunity for him to spend time in Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, and Ohio. When he was 29, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists), a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned. He was their first member to profess vows in the United States.

In 1852, at the age of 41, Neumann became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia. During this time, he organized the individual parochial schools in his region into a diocesan system. This change allowed Catholic schools to quickly increase the number of pupils enrolled by almost twentyfold. Over the course of his ministry, St. John expanded the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from 2 to 100! His passion for education extended to immigrants, like himself, and his love for learning languages made it possible for him to hear confessions in English, Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, and Gaelic!

He was canonized on June 19, 1977, following three miracles, two of which regarded the healing of youth from grave illnesses. St. John Neumann was the first American man to be canonized a saint.

©LPi

In marriage, communication is more than just talking. At some point, did you or your spouse stop sharing things that were important?

Improving your marriage takes time and conscious effort. The distance between a husband and wife can sometimes feel like it is so wide it cannot be repaired... but it CAN!

Retrouvaille is designed to help married couples understand each other and reconnect.

Private. Confidential. Effective.

The next Retrouvaille Marriage Saving Weekend is January 13-15, 2023 in Farmington Hills, MI

Find out more: HelpOurMarriage.org or call 248-382-8281

HelpOurMarriage.com  
**RETROUVAILLE**  
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Help support OLQM with your Amazon purchases at no cost to you! Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate .5% of the purchase price when you register and choose OLQM.

<https://amzn.to/3FFyzqV>



**OLQM CSA UPDATE**

—2022—

Goal: \$126,793.00  
Pledged: \$129,542.66  
Overage: \$2,749.66

271 of 1,447 Families Pledged



Funds collected for the CSA benefit charitable and faith based programs throughout the Archdiocese. Any funds collected above and beyond the goal are returned to the parish. Thank you to all have who donated! Your support is appreciated!

**THANK YOU!**

**CATHOLIC TRIVIA**  
JUST FOR FUN

**Question:**

What is the only New Testament book that includes the Magi visiting Jesus?

**Last Week's Answer:**

What is the star that rose above the stable where Jesus was born traditionally called?

**The Star of Bethlehem.**

©LPi



# PRAYER AND WORSHIP



## MASS INTENTIONS for the week of January 2 - January 8

### MONDAY, JANUARY 2

8:30 am No Mass

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

8:30 am Special Intention for  
Emily Catherine Jacobs

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

8:30 am †Deceased Members of the  
Anders Family

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

8:30 am †Mary Theresa Smith

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

8:30 am Special Intention for  
Doug Voss

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

5:00 pm Special Intention for  
Barb Trotta

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

8:00 am For the People of the Parish

10:00 am †Buck Rodgers  
†Marian Day

12:00 pm †Genevieve Browne  
†Josh Nystrom

*Our Lady  
Queen of Martyrs,  
Pray for us.*

## MASS READINGS for the week of January 1 - January 8

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

Mary, The Holy Mother of God  
New Year's Day  
Day of Prayer for World Peace and Justice  
Numbers 6:22-27  
Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21

### MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Sts. Basil the Great and  
Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and  
Doctors of the Church  
1 John 2:22-28  
Psalms 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4  
John 1:19-28

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
1 John 2:29—3:6  
Psalms 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6  
John 1:29-34

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious  
1 John 3:7-10  
Psalms 98:1, 7-8, 9  
John 1:35-42

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop  
1 John 3:11-21  
Psalms 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5  
John 1:43-51

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

St. André Bessette, Religious  
1 John 5:5-13  
Psalms 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20  
Mark 1:7-11 or Luke 3:23-28

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest  
1 John 5:14-21  
Psalms 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a, and 9b  
John 2:1-11

### NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

The Epiphany of the Lord  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

## Christmas and Year End Giving

As we continue to enjoy the Christmas Season please take a moment to pray about your Christmas Offertory Gift to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish. Please prayerfully consider a financial gift of any denomination to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish made in thanksgiving to God for the grace and blessings He has so generously provided to you and your family over the past year. Your generosity enables the parish to provide for the spiritual needs of its parishioners; provide numerous ministries and services; as well as provide outreach to the local community.

Like any organization, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish has many operating expenses such as utility bills; property insurance; maintenance and repairs; employee salaries, wages and benefits such as health insurance and retirement. Weekly offertory collections in addition to parish fundraisers and your Christmas Offertory Gift are the primary means by which the parish covers its operating expenses.

Your Christmas Offertory Gift to the parish will not incur the usual 7.0% archdiocesan assessment. So, 100% of your Christmas Offertory Gift remains with Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish. When giving, please be sure to use your Christmas Offertory Envelope or write Christmas Offertory Gift on an envelope and place in the offertory collection basket any time from now until January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Once again, thank you for the continued support and prayers for your parish!



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

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Dennis Bachellar   | Gary Mark            |
| Wendy Bachellar    | Audrey Markiewicz    |
| Charles Barron     | Diane Mattis         |
| Morna Bowen        | Derek McAleer        |
| Janet Chrzanowski  | Sally McCann         |
| Gerri Compton      | Michael McCauley     |
| Katie Conner       | Scott McFall         |
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| Darren Eisenberg   | Owen Peraino         |
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| Jane King          | Elizabeth Walkowiak  |
| Ken Koller         | Tom Warner           |
| Dennis Lacelle     | Sue Weed             |
| Dolores Lowe       | Christine Wing-      |
| Richard Lowe       | Jaworski             |
| Joanne MacDonald   |                      |
| Monica Madigan     |                      |

*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*

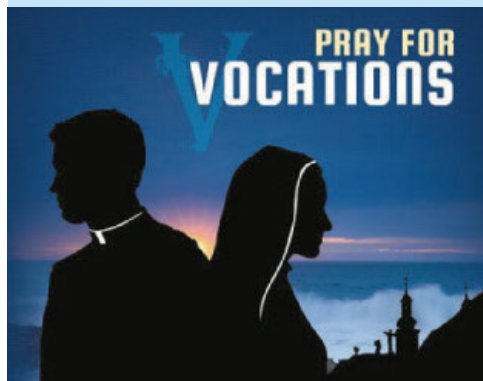
***Please pray for our OLQM parishioners who are currently in formation:***

***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***



**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC  
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR  
ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**She Kept All These Things  
in Her Heart**

“What was my first word? Who was there when I was born? When did I start to walk? Which toys did I play with? What made me cry when I was a baby?”

My oldest has reached the age where she has started to ask questions like this. As she grows up, she is realizing that, in order to understand the world around her, she must first understand herself. This makes her insatiably curious about her own identity, her history — her “origin story,” as they say in the movies.

I’ve got most of it documented either in writing or in photos, but even if it’s a detail that wasn’t scribbled in a baby book or saved to my digital cloud, it’s a memory that I can quickly summon and make real for her as we snuggle and talk about who she was, who she is, and who she may become.

I’m the mom. I have kept all of these things in my heart.

The Blessed Mother knew more about God before opening a book than most of us could discover after a lifetime of study and prayer. There is no one whose knowledge of Christ was so intimate, so deep, so simultaneously ordinary and extraordinary, as the human woman who bore him, birthed him, nursed him, raised him and eventually gave him up.

In the way that I can tell my daughter everything there is to know about the part of her life she cannot recall, Mary can tell us everything we need to know about Christ. All we have to do is ask.

*Mary kept all of these things in her heart. — Luke 2:19*

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# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### First Reading:

“So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them (Nm 6:27)

### Psalm:

May God bless us in his mercy. (Ps 67)

### Second Reading:

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman. (Gal 4:4)

### Gospel:

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. (Lk 2:16)

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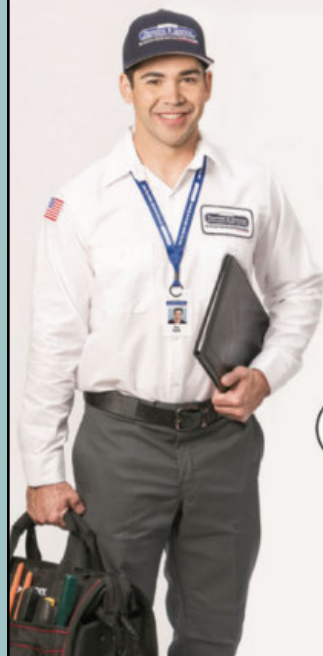
## LIVE THE LITURGY

The shepherds returned from Bethlehem “glorifying and praising God.” They were affected deeply by the sight of the infant Messiah and the message of the angels. What would the world look like, if we allowed ourselves to be likewise impacted by the word of God?

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