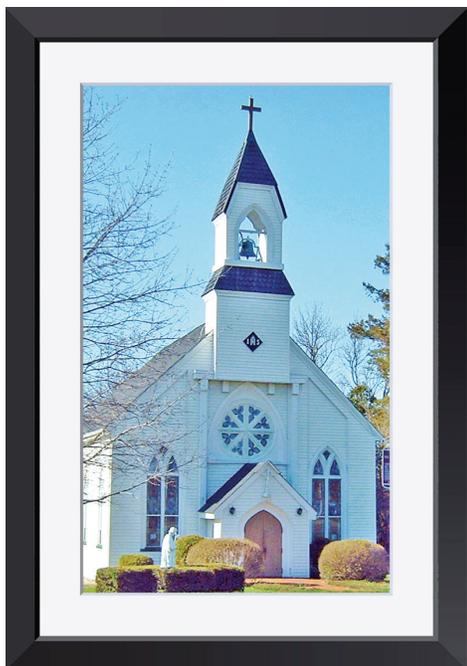


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**OUR LADY OF MERCY**

90 WHIPPANY ROAD · WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY 07981



*Served By*

**Reverend Roberto Amador, Pastor**  
olmchwhip@aol.com

**Reverend Manuel Cuellar, Parochial Vicar**  
Fr.Manuel@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Vincent LoBello, Deacon**  
DeaconVinny@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Reverend Francis Duffy, Weekend Asst.**

**Lynda Asea, Parish Secretary**  
olmchwhip@aol.com

**Edwin Peterson, Trustee**

We Invite you to  
**CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST**  
*on the Lord's Day*

**Saturday Evening** ----- 5:30 pm

**Sunday Morning**--- 7:30, 9:30 & 11:00 am

**Weekdays**----- 9:00 am

**Saturday Morning** ----- 9:00 am (*Novena*)

**Holy Day Eve** ----- 5:30 pm (*Church*)

**Rectory Office is open from...**

Monday - Friday ----- 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Phone** ----- 973-887-0050    **Fax**----- 973-887-0991

**E-Mail**----- olmchwhip@aol.com

**Web** ----- www.ourladyofmercyparish.com

*Rectory & St. Mary's  
Cemetery Office*

9 Parsippany Road

*Ministries*

**Altar Linens**

Debbie Finn, 973-464-9035  
olmAltarLinens@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Altar Servers**

Coordinator: Fr. Manuel Cuellar, 973-887-0050  
altarservers@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Extraordinary Ministers**

Coordinators: Kathy Dittrick, 973-428-4996  
& Marilyn Kuehner, 973-386-1742  
olmEM@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Health Ministry**

Coordinators: Marlene Peterson &  
Kathy Dittrick, 973-428-4996  
olmHealthMinistry@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Martha & Mary Ministry**

Patti Cobane, 973-386-1393 &  
Anne Roda-Farrell 973-884-2969  
moserking@verizon.net

**Ministers of the Word**

Coordinator: Kim Gigantino, 973-463-0327  
olmLectors@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Music Ministry**

olmMusicMinistry@ourladyofmercyparish.com

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Coordinator: Janet Dodge, 973-887-2583  
janleedod@yahoo.com

**Usher/Ministers**

Coordinator: John Guido, 973-769-2528  
olmUshers@ourladyofmercyparish.com

*Sacrament of Marriage*

Engaged couples should make arrangements with one of the priests one year in advance of the wedding date.

*Sacrament of Baptism*

The Parish Community celebrates Baptisms on all Sundays of the month at 12:00 pm. One preparation session is required for first time parents. Parents should register by calling the Parish Office after the child's birth.

*Sacrament of Reconciliation*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Forgiveness is celebrated Saturday afternoons at 5:00 pm. Other times for Reconciliation are announced in the bulletin, and by making an appointment with one of the priests.

*Sacrament of the Sick*



*Religious Formation*

9 Parsippany Rd, Whippany, NJ 07981

PreK-8th Grade Coordinator-----Karen Monda, 973-887-0767  
Email: olmRF@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Assistant Coordinator -----Lynda Asea, 973-887-0050

9th & 10th Grade H.S. Confirmation

Program Coordinator-----Deacon Vincent & Majella LoBello

## Mass Calendar for the Week

January 24th, 2021

### Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup> – Saint Marianne Cope

5:30 PM Margaret Yavorski

#### Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Carmen Blandino

Robert, Steven & Patty Thompson

9:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Angela Dellapia

#### Monday January 25<sup>th</sup> – Conversion of Saint Paul

9:00 AM Deceased Members of the Parish

#### Tuesday January 26<sup>th</sup> – Saints Timothy & Titus

9:00 AM People of the Parish

#### Wednesday January 27<sup>th</sup> – Saint Angela Merici

9:00 AM Violet Patterson

Gertrude Gawronski

#### Thursday January 28<sup>th</sup> – Saint Thomas Aquinas

9:00 AM Giuseppe & Giuseppina Cirasole

#### Friday January 29<sup>th</sup> -

9:00 AM Giuseppe & Giuseppina Cirasole

#### Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup> -

9:00 AM Margaret Buce

5:30 PM William & Elinor Kuehner

Susan Renock

Barbara Storm



### Last Week's Collection 00/00-00



This Year \$0,000.00

Last Year: \$0,000.00

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### Remembering OLM

Just as we plan to ensure financial health for our families, we should plan for the health of our faith family. We have a wonderful Catholic heritage. Pass it on! There is a way to be an angel for the OLM Parish Family by including us in your Will.

*"Just for today, my Savior—  
Tomorrow is not mine,  
Just for today I ask Thee  
For light and health Divine.  
Tomorrow's care I must not bear,  
The future is all Thine."*

Knights' Master Book of New Illustrations.

## Pray for the Sick



Please remember in your prayers those in our parish and community who are ill, especially:

Giuseppa Casarrubea, Peggy Doonan, Beverly & Blaine Fresco, Arlene & Fred Gentile, Barney K., Marge Keller, Nicholas Lacitignola, Anthony LaFerrara, John Lenox, Susan Nicoll, Tony Piotrowski, Bob Roberts, Agnes Ryan, Stella, Theresa Seleski, Kathryn Ullrich, Belarmino Viegas, Chuck W.

If you wish to have a loved one who is ill placed on our prayer list please call the rectory at 973-887-0050 and provide their name and your contact information. Names will remain on the list for 3-months after which time they will be removed, unless we are notified to retain them on the list.

## March for Life 2021



Unfortunately, because of health and travel restrictions, this year the Diocese of Paterson will be joining the march virtually. We hope you can attend and show your support on Friday, January 29.

The Catholic Bishops of New Jersey, ask Catholics and people of good will to join us on Friday January 22, 2021, the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, in a Day of Prayer and Fasting to end abortion.

As we mark this tragic event in our nation's history, we remember the millions of lives lost to abortion and pray for the mothers and fathers left to suffer the tragic effects.

The Catholic Church is committed to protecting all life from conception to natural death. We will work vigorously to ensure the laws of our state and country protect and defend the intrinsic dignity of all people.

We humbly implore our Blessed Mother under her title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas and Protectress of the Unborn, to intercede on our behalf that these efforts to end abortion are guided by mercy, compassion, and above all charity.

## Thoughts from Father Manuel

My Dear Friends in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the third Sunday in Ordinary Time and are reminded once again about the total commitment of the first apostles. One phrase that always stands out for me whenever I encounter this reading is: *"They abandoned their nets and followed Him."* They walked away from a job, a livelihood. I don't think they asked Jesus about his dental or vision plan or a day off, or paid vacation; they just went.

They left what they knew, and went into what they did not know, to live differently. It is hard to imagine doing anything like that at this time, but we should. Because whether we realize it or not, that is the choice we all need to face. All of us are like those first followers of Christ. Not all of us, of course, are fishermen, but we all have nets. Sometimes, they are strong and hold us together, but sometimes, they are weak and hold us back.

Those nets are the world we know and what we are comfortable with, those things that we are used to, and that may be keeping us away from becoming true followers of Christ. They are the kinds of nets in which we, ourselves, are entangled. They can be bad habits, comfortable ways of thinking and behaving. Sin can be a net, so can laziness, or selfishness. There is the net of addiction, of anger, there is the net of pessimism, and having a hardened heart.

Jesus Christ calls us to look deeply at our own habits and at our own hearts. What are the nets in our lives that we need to leave behind? Are we willing to abandon them and follow Him?

This weekend, we continue what they began; that first call of the fishermen has echoed around the world. Believers gather, as we gather, every weekend in community to share together our love for God, our love for one another and our passion for the Gospel message. We proclaim what we believe, and we lift our eyes to a miracle: God in a piece of bread; the body of Christ is uplifted and so are we.

But the meaning of it is not the same if we then just go home and go on with our lives. Like Simon and Andrew and James and John, we are called to leave our old ways of doing things. We are called to walk away and to follow Him.

It is a call to sacrifice, to trust, to change. It is a call to do what others might consider crazy but what we know in our hearts is the healthiest choice of all. That is, the choice to follow Christ and live the Gospel. The kingdom of God is at hand, as Jesus said; it can be ours. So, drop your nets; there are mountains waiting to be climbed.

Fr. Manuel



## Activate Your Faith

For a long time, my faith was just about going through the motions: show up on Sunday, sit, kneel, sit, kneel, and then get on with the rest of my week. Repeat. Then I encountered God in adoration and experienced His love in a real and personal way. Now I began to look at God as more than just a character in a story but a real presence in my life. Suddenly I wanted to have an active faith, to see God in Mass and in my everyday life. No more going through the motions.

Psalm 27 talks about the *"land of the living."* I used to think of that as something reserved for Heaven, something that regular people couldn't attain. I was so wrong! I now decide every day to let God lead me, and when I do that, I always enjoy it -- even when the day isn't perfect. The worst days in my life are now so much better than the times before I knew God, because I know He has a plan for me.

Making a decision to activate my faith and see God in my life has brought with it a peace that guides every decision I make. Why not take some time today and think about what you can do to better enjoy God?

Anonymous

## Which Apostle are You Most Like?



Each of the Twelve had a distinct personality, and you might see yourself in one of them.

Think of the Twelve Apostles (and substitute St. Paul instead of Judas Iscariot). Which one are you most like? Which has a personality you think is most like your own?

### Strong like Peter

Peter is the “rock” on which God decided to build His Church. He’s a fisherman, with a strong build. But it’s Jesus’ grace that gives him the strength to guide the Church and face martyrdom.

### Impetuous like James

He is known as a “Son of Thunder” for his impetuous character. This passion leads James the Greater to give his life to Jesus, to the point of martyrdom.

### Practical like Matthew

He’s a tax collector, a man of action, accustomed to solving problems. He’s straight and to the point with what really counts, as seen in the Gospel he wrote.

### Rational like Thomas

Thomas is a thinker, who wants explanations and to touch things with his own hand. Faced with the Risen Jesus, he surrenders and declares a simple but profound act of love: “My Lord and my God.”

### Brave like Andrew

Peter’s older brother, he puts himself at Jesus’ service. He’s the one who steps forward in some difficult situations, allowing the Lord to work miracles.

### A True Friend like Philip

Philip is a man of friendship. When he meets Jesus, he doesn’t hesitate to share this “discovery” with his friends.

### A Rebel like Bartholomew

When provoked, Bartholomew (or Nathaniel) responds in kind. But when Jesus sees him under the fig tree, he surrenders to the truth, like all rebels who are searching with a pure heart: “You are the Son of God.”

### Passionate like John

He’s “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” to whom Jesus entrusts His Mother at the foot of the cross. In his Gospel we see the great affection Jesus had for him.

### Tender like Jude Thaddeus

“Thaddeus” means “with courageous heart.” However, Jude is also called “Lebbeus,” which means “tender-hearted.”

### Humble like Simon

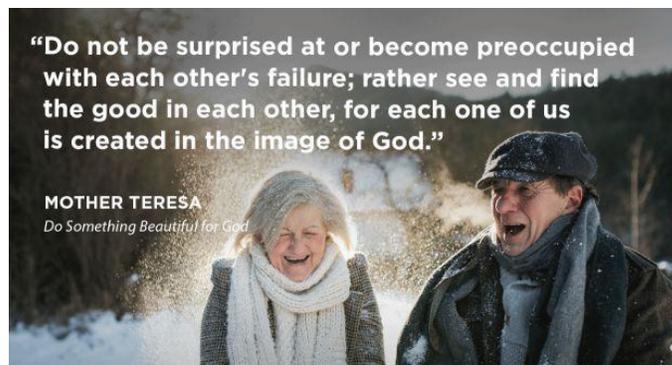
Simon “the Zealot” strictly observed Jewish law. But he is humble, and seeing that the prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus, he has a conversion and becomes an apostle.

### A Bridge-builder like James

James the Lesser is a relative of Jesus. His relationship to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Mary Cleophas, his mother, helps him build bonds among Jesus’ followers.

### Persevering like Paul

Paul wasn’t one of the 12 but he is called “the Apostle to the Gentiles.” Paul dedicates himself body and soul to sharing the Gospel. He becomes “all things to all people,” so as to win Heaven for himself and others.



## Saint Thomas Aquinas

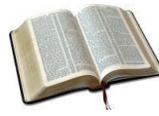


Perhaps the most well-known and highly regarded theologian and philosopher of the Catholic Church, Thomas Aquinas was born the youngest son to a Sicilian noble family in 1225. Although Aquinas was intended from a young age to become an abbot, Italian

political and papal infighting redirected him to a university in Naples, directed by members of the newly founded Dominican Order, an order of which Aquinas eventually became a member despite prolonged, powerful objections from his family.

Traveling to France in 1245, Aquinas continued his studies under fellow Dominican, Albertus Magnus, before joining the University of Paris' faculty as regent master in theology, during which time he began work on his *Summa contra Gentiles*. Upon completion of his regency in Paris, Aquinas returned to Italy in 1259, where he was eventually called to Rome, in 1265, by Pope Clement IV to serve as a papal theologian. While in Rome, Aquinas continued to teach, now at a newly established Dominican school at Santa Sabina, and began to write his most famous work, the *Summa Theologica*.

In 1268, Aquinas was called once again to serve as regent master in Paris, Upon the completion of his second regency in Paris, Aquinas returned to Naples, where he founded a new Dominican university and once again assumed the position of regent master and continued work on his *Summa Theologica*. In 1274, Pope Gregory X called the Second Council of Lyons in an attempt to repair the Great Schism that had taken place within the Church in 1054. Summoned to the council, Aquinas suffered an accident while traveling, fell ill, and died several days later on March 7, 1274. Fifty years following his death, Aquinas ascended to sainthood and, then, in 1567, was named a Doctor of the Church.



## Liturgy of the Word

Prepare for the Liturgy of the Word  
for next Sunday January 31<sup>st</sup>

### First Reading – Deuteronomy 18:15-20

In today's reading, Moses foretells the arrival of a prophet who will guide the people and deliver God's words to them. Early in the desert journey, the people had asked Moses to speak to God, since communicating directly with God was so terrifying. Moses is assuring them that they will continue to have an intermediary.

In today's passage, we hear that prophets were seen as people chosen to bring a message of hope and challenge to the people of God. A prophet was someone who stood between God and the Chosen People so they could interact with God and hear the message.

### Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Paul's advice makes clear that believers should be "free of anxieties." He knows that a good marriage requires a husband and wife to be devoted to each other, first and foremost. Spouses are anxious about how to please each other. But the unmarried are more focused on "the things of the Lord." With the Second Coming soon to arrive, Paul recommends that the unmarried stay in that state so as to live "without distraction."

### Gospel – Mark 1:21-28

This passage does not give details on what Jesus was teaching in the synagogue. But those who listened could tell that Jesus was someone "with authority." His teaching was different from what they had heard before. He confronted evil, rejected it, and proclaimed a different kind of reign from what they had heard from other religious figures. For first-century Christians, the "unclean Spirit or Demons" represented evil, mysterious powers that were hostile to God, health, and goodness. One of the interesting features of Jesus' dialogue with the demons (or as Mark terms them "Unclean Spirits") is that they know Jesus's true identity. The demons do not waiver in their understanding of Jesus, unlike the crowds and even, at times, His own disciples who fail to recognize Jesus as the Messiah.

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