

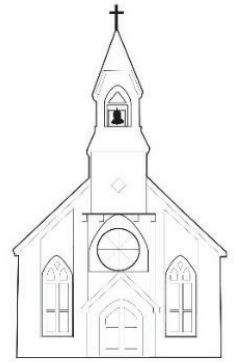
OUR LADY OF MERCY

9 Parsippany Road, Whippany, NJ 07981

Phone: 973-887-0050

E-Mail: office@ourladyofmercyparish.com, www.ourladyofmercyparish.com

Parish Office: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-3:00PM, Friday 9:00 AM-12:00PM



SERVED BY

Pastor.....Fr. Michal Rybinski
pastor@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Deacon Vincent LoBello
DeaconVinny@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Parish Secretary..... Joni Cabassa
office@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Trustee Edwin Peterson

Bookkeeper Hillary Ammerman
bookkeeper@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Youth Protection Coordinator Christine Selitto
protection@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Coordinator of Religious Education Sarah Hunter,
olmRF@ourladyofmercyparish.com, 973-887-0050,
Ext. 3.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM (Church)

Saturday Evening 5:30 PM (Church)

Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM (Church)

MINISTRIES

Altar Linens Carol Hunter
olmAltarLinens@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Altar Rosary Society Marlene Ferrence
rosary@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Altar Servers Fr. Michal Rybinski

Caring and Sharing Majella LoBello
DeaconVinny@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Cleaning Ministry Patti Cobane, Anne Roda-Farrell
cleaning@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Extraordinary Ministers Kathy Dittrick, Marilyn Kuehner, olmEM@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Food pantry Carol Hunter
olmAltarLinens@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Garden Ministry Phyllis Stec & Annette Putts
garden@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Health Ministry Marlene Peterson & Kathy Dittrick

CONFESSION

Mondays 7:00-8:00 PM (Church)

Saturdays 5:00-5:30 PM (Church)

First Fridays 8:15-8:50 AM (Chapel)
or by appointment

DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)

- Monday 7:00-8:00 PM
- Friday 9:30-10:00 AM (Divine Mercy Devotion)
- First Thursday 9:30-10:00 AM
- First Friday 9:30 AM - 12:00 noon

Rosary

- Monday-Friday 8:30 AM (Church)
- Saturday 5:10 PM (Church)
- Sunday 7:00 AM (Church)

Miraculous Medal Novena

- Wednesday after 9:00 AM Mass (Church)

Devotion to St. Joseph

- First Wednesday after the 9:00 AM (Chapel)

olmHealthMinistry@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Homebound ministry Deacon Vincent LoBello
DeaconVinny@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Hospitality Ministry Dan Mihalko
hospitality@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Ministers of the Word Kim Gigantino,
lectors@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Music Ministry
music@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Scripture Group Steve Freire
bible@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Ushers John Guido
ushers@ourladyofmercyparish.com

Walking with Moms in Need Karen Carbonello
moms@ourladyofmercyparish.com

OCTOBER 26, 2025 ❖ 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 25

5:30 PM † Michael R. Dubivsky; † Anna Marie Lento; † Marco Ramundo Sr. (12th Ann.); † Larry Washco; † George Opar

❖ 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 26

7:30 AM † Anthony Baciewicz; † Robert, Steven and Patty Thompson; living and deceased members of the Palumbo and Giblock Families

9:30 AM Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy; † Anna E. Peters; † Joan Neptun (2nd Ann.)

11:00 AM for the protection of the unborn and their Mothers; † Leonard J. Romano; † Rev. David Lawrence

Monday, October 27

9:00 AM private intention of Fr. Michal

Tuesday, October 28 *Sts. Simon and Jude*

9:00 AM Anne Nausid

Wednesday, October 29

9:00 AM † Alice Peters (2nd Ann.)

Thursday, October 30

9:00 AM private intention of Fr. Michal

Friday, October 31

9:00 AM private intention of Fr. Michal

Saturday, November 1 *All Saints*

9:00 AM Elsie Rodriguez

5:30 PM for the protection of the unborn and their mothers; † Susan DeMark; † Francisco Ibarra Cortes;

❖ Sunday, November 2 *All Souls*

7:30 AM Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy; † Margaret Schleifer; † Saturnino Vilano

9:30 AM

11:00 AM healing of Nancy Bakalis

PAYER LIST

Please pray for: Nick Agro, Nancy Bakalis, Mary Bello, Michael Bota, Giuseppa Casarrubea, Beverly & Blaine Fresco, Arlene & Fred Gentile, Generoso Giesullo, Marla Giordino, Bertha Gonzalez, Kevin Goodsir, Cristopher Gruno, Emil Herkert, Georgjean Huegler, Helen Kasiski, Anthony LaFerrara, Frank LaMura, Maureen Lenox, Victor & Ruth Madill, Ann Morpeth, Anne Marie Nappi,

John O'Connor, Michael O'Connor, John & Marie O'Mullan, Philip Patavia, Anna Quagliato, Jaxson Rivera, Bob Roberts, Agnes Ryan, Lisa R, Theresa Seleski, Judythe Swift, Janice Trocino, Belarmino Viegas, Rick Yarem.

To add or remove from the list, please email olmhealthministry@ourladyofmercyparish.com.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

For collaboration between different religious traditions: Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week:

Church: in memory of Matteo Montemarano

COLLECTION

Sunday collection (10/19).....\$5561

Thank you for your generosity!

THIS WEEK AT OLM

Sunday, October 26

- 10:00 AM: Family Faith Formation

Monday-Saturday

- 8:30 AM: Rosary (Church)

Monday, October 27

- 7:00-8:00 PM: Eucharistic Adoration (Church)

Wednesday, October 29 (Church)

- after the 9:00 AM Mass: Miraculous Medal Novena

Friday, October 31

- 9:30- 10:00 AM: Eucharistic Adoration (Church)

Weekend, November 1-2

- monthly food collection

Saturday, November 1

- 9:00 AM: additional Mass (Church)

- 9:00 AM-2:00 PM: KofC Blood Drive (Parish Center)

- 5:30 PM: Memorial Mass for deceased in the past year

Sunday, November 2

- 10:00 AM: Parent session and K-8

- 12:30 PM: prayer service at St. Mary's Cemetery

FROM FR. MICHAL

A big thank you to Walking with Moms in Need for organizing last week's beautiful **Mass dedicated to the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day**. I really appreciate the thoughtful gesture of navigating us to such a tough topic. Also, a heartfelt thank you for putting together the lovely hospitality after Mass—such a comforting way to connect!

Thank you to everyone who supported **the Scouts** last week by ordering Christmas wreaths! It's incredible how one simple action can lead to so many positive things—helping the Scouts while adding a festive touch to our homes.

I want to congratulate **the Mihalko family!** Last week, they were honored with a diocesan award from Bishop Kevin for their outstanding dedication to our parish.

Can you believe we're already nearing the end of the Rosary Month? I'm so glad we come together to pray the rosary Monday through Friday, half an hour before Mass, and also on Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 7:00 AM. I think it would be wonderful to pray **the rosary before the 9:30 and 11:00 AM Masses** as well! I know many of you already pray the rosary daily, and it would be such a lovely way to show our love for Our Lady while also preparing our hearts for Mass. If you'd like to help lead the rosary before either the 9:30 or 11:00 AM Mass, please contact me.

Just a quick reminder to **change your clocks next weekend!** Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 2. Don't forget that at 2:00 AM, we'll fall back an hour. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep! 😊

This year, since All Saints falls on a Saturday, there's no obligation to attend Mass. **Next Sunday, on the Feast of All the Faithful Departed, let's come together at 12:30 PM at our St. Mary's parish cemetery to pray for all our loved ones resting there.**

BOYSCOUTS

Thank you for supporting our Boy Scouts!



FOOD COLLECTION

Our monthly food collection will be held on the weekend of November 1-2. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Mihalko Family for receiving the Diocesan Award "Vivere Christus."



REFORMATION

October 31st is a painful day in the history of the Church, the effects of which are still felt today. On this day, in 1517, Martin Luther, in Wittenberg, Germany, drafted his 95 theses against abuses in the Church. This speech marked the beginning of the Reformation. It marked the beginning of the end of Christian unity, sparking further divisions in increasingly weaker and smaller communities. This article aims to highlight the differences that painfully divide followers of Jesus Christ. It's not true that "all faiths are the same." God is indeed one, and all faiths should lead to Him. However, they lead along different paths, often with entirely different understandings of the most fundamental doctrinal principles. They also arose in other times, circumstances, and historical contexts, which are worth understanding and recognizing. I am aware that these few words will not exhaust the entire topic, but I hope that they will contribute a little to understanding the reality around us. How do Protestants differ from Catholics? This question often arises in the context of doctrinal differences. Fundamental differences concern, among other things, the approach to salvation, the role of the Church, and the interpretation of Holy Scripture.

Differences in the Interpretation of Holy Scripture

Protestants recognize Holy Scripture as the sole source of faith. They emphasize that each believer can interpret it individually. This approach stems from the principle of *sola scriptura*, one of the pillars of the Reformation. Catholics, on the other hand, rely not only on Holy Scripture but also on church Tradition. Church teaching and the authority of the Pope play a key role in the interpretation of biblical texts.

Sacraments: How Protestants and Catholics Approach Faith

Differences between Protestants and Catholics are particularly evident in their approach to the sacraments. Catholics recognize seven sacraments, which are considered essential for salvation. Protestants only receive two sacraments: baptism and communion.

Baptism: Both communities recognize baptism as a sign of membership in the Church.

Communion: Catholics believe in transubstantiation, while Protestants treat it as a symbolic reminder.

Other sacraments: Catholics practice, for example, Confirmation, Marriage, and Confession, which Protestants do not recognize.

Church Structure: Hierarchy and Community

Catholicism is based on a hierarchical structure headed by the Pope. Bishops, priests, and deacons fulfill specific roles, and the Church's authority is crucial for the faithful. This structure is rooted in the apostolic Tradition. Protestants prefer more decentralized communities. Local congregations elect pastors.

Liturgical Practices: Mass and Worship Service

The Catholic Mass is filled with symbols, rituals, and prayers established by the Church. The Eucharist is the focal point, and the priest serves as an intermediary between God and the faithful. Protestant worship is simpler and focuses on the reading of Scripture and the sermon.

The Role of the Clergy: Priest and Pastor

In Catholicism, the priest is an intermediary between God and the faithful. He administers the sacraments, leads Mass, and grants absolution. His role is closely linked to the church hierarchy and Tradition. A Protestant pastor serves primarily as a teacher and spiritual guide. He does not have the authority to administer the sacraments in the same sense as a priest.

Veneration of Mary and the Saints: Differences in Approach

Catholics hold Mary and the saints in special veneration. This approach stems from church Tradition and theology. Protestants reject the cult of Mary and saints. Evangelical doctrine emphasizes a direct relationship with God, without the need for mediators.

Salvation and Grace: Different Theological Perspectives

Catholics believe that salvation is possible through faith, works, and God's grace. Sacraments such as Baptism and Confession play a key role in this process. This approach emphasizes human cooperation with God. Protestants emphasize that salvation is a gift of grace, available only through faith. Protestants are based on the principle of *sola fide*, meaning that works are not a condition for salvation. This approach stems from the belief that a person cannot earn salvation through their own efforts.

Prayer and the Spiritual Life: Individualism and Tradition

Protestants emphasize the individual spiritual life. Prayer is often spontaneous and personal, and the faithful are encouraged to read Scripture regularly. Catholics rely on Tradition and community. Prayers are often prescribed, such as the rosary or litanies. Joint participation in Masses and services is a key element of spiritual life. This approach emphasizes the unity of the Church and the community of believers.

Differences in Approaches to Marriage and Family

Catholics consider marriage an indissoluble sacrament. The Catholic Church also emphasizes the importance of the family as the fundamental unit of society. Protestants view marriage as a contract before God, but allow for divorce in exceptional cases.

HOLY ROSARY



In 2002, Pope John Paul II introduced significant changes to the Rosary through his apostolic letter titled "*On the Holy Rosary*." He emphasized the importance of this prayer and encouraged its continued practice. Notably, he added a new set of mysteries known as the Mysteries of Light, which highlight key events from Jesus' public ministry, including his baptism in the Jordan River and the institution of the Eucharist. These Mysteries of Light are positioned between the Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries, allowing those who pray the Rosary to reflect on additional Gospel events. This enhancement of the Rosary serves to deepen the meditation on Christ's mysteries. As Pope John Paul II articulated, the essence of the Rosary is "to lead the spirit to the delight of knowing Christ."

The Rosary is often perceived as primarily a prayer dedicated to the Virgin Mary; however, it fundamentally centers on Christ, who exemplifies perfect love for humanity. While praying the Rosary, believers are guided by Mary to delve into and comprehend the mysteries of God. This idea resonates with the biblical passage, "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Lk 2:19), which refers to the actions and teachings of Jesus, or *verba et gesta*, that reveal God's nature.

Through the practice of the Rosary, individuals emulate Mary, allowing the Gospel to gradually influence their minds and strengthen their faith, fostering a deeper connection with God. In this context, Mary serves as both an intercessor and an example of someone who has achieved complete unity with God. She symbolizes the fulfillment of God's promises and acts as a source of hope for believers, as they aspire to follow the path she has successfully navigated.

The Rosary serves as a structured prayer, consisting of two layers that facilitate contemplation. This prayer technique emphasizes the repetition of specific phrases, which helps prepare both the mind and heart to reflect on significant events in the lives of Christ and His Mother. These events are central to the narrative of our salvation. The rhythmic and melodic qualities of the Rosary's words foster a continual connection with God, enabling focused meditation on the mysteries and nurturing a desire for a deeper faith while inviting God's grace. In his letter "*On the Holy Rosary*," John Paul II emphasized that this prayer is part of a rich and time-honored tradition of Christian contemplation.

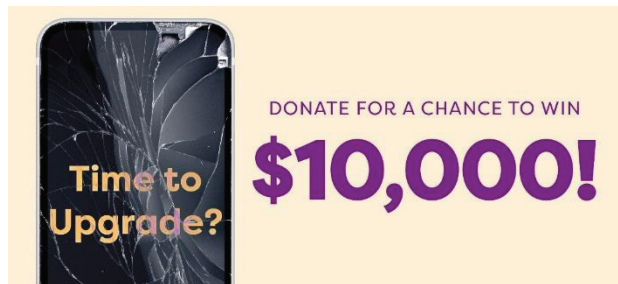
SAINT OF THE WEEK

October 28 ▶ Saints Simon and Jude Thaddeus are among the Twelve Apostles of Jesus Christ. They are considered patrons in difficult and hopeless cases, and their lives and martyrdom are models of devotion and dedication to the proclamation of the Gospel. St. Simon is believed to have originated from Cana in Galilee and was the man engaged to marry at the wedding attended by Jesus and Mary. According to legend, the miracle of turning water into wine was the reason he followed Christ with his betrothed's permission. His great zeal in proclaiming the Gospel and working for the salvation of souls earned him the name "Zealot," meaning "the Zealot." Simon preached the Gospel in Egypt and later joined Jude Thaddeus in Persia, where he suffered martyrdom, which, according to legend, was by being sawn in half. St. Simon is depicted with short or long hair and a beard. His attributes include a book, an anchor, a palm tree, and a saw. He is the patron saint of potters, grave diggers, dyers, and welders. St. Jude – to distinguish him from Judas Iscariot – was called "Thaddeus" and "Lebæus," meaning "the Brave." He was the son of Clopas, the brother of St. Joseph and Mary – and therefore a relative of Jesus. Some accounts mention him as the brother of St. James the Younger. After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, Jude undertook evangelizing missions, preaching the Gospel in Palestine, Syria, and Mesopotamia. He later met St. Simon in Persia, where together they successfully preached the Gospel. St. Jude is often depicted with the image of Christ on his chest or with a club – the instrument of martyrdom. He is the patron saint of difficult and hopeless cases. The advance of Christianity, the destruction of pagan temples or their conversion into churches, drove the pagan priests into despair. They began to incite the people and so infuriated them that Simon and Jude were arrested in the city of Suanira. They were brought before the statues of the sun and moon, where they were demanded to offer sacrifice and deny Christ. But when, as a result of the prayers of the two Apostles, the idols fell from the altars and shattered into small pieces, the people became enraged and demanded their immediate death. Legend has it that after long suffering, St. Simon was sawn in half, while Jude was executed by the sword. Saints Simon and Jude Thaddeus enjoy special veneration as patrons of those in difficult circumstances. Their relics are located in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and in Toulouse. Their lives and martyrdom are a testament to their deep faith and devotion to Christ and the mission of the Church. The faithful especially turn to them in prayers for help in hopeless cases, and prayers to Jude Thaddeus are known for numerous graces and miraculous interventions.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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Make an appointment at vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL Use blood drive code: XGAMBD

Gerard A. Martino Blood Drive Sponsored by: K. of C. #6904

Our Lady of Mercy Church- Parish Center, 90 Whippany Road, Whippany, NJ 07981

Saturday, November 1, 2025, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Appointments strongly recommended

Please bring a Driver's License for proof of age, Eat a meal before donation, Drink plenty of water before and after donation.

*Terms and condition apply; see vitalant.org/TechGiveaway.

PARISH TRIP

Sight & Sound is a large-scale performing arts theatre in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, that produces live, biblical stories on a massive stage with elaborate sets, live animals, and special effects. It is one of the largest faith-based theatre companies in the United States and a major tourist attraction, bringing Bible stories to life through high-production value shows. The theater is known for bringing stories from the Bible to life on stage through a 2,000-seat theater with a 300-foot wraparound stage. Shows feature sets up to 40 feet high, professional actors, elaborate costumes, and live animals.



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