

OUR LADY OF MERCY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Mailing Address

5001 Lowell Hill Road

Lowell, Ohio 45744

740-896-2207

olm.churchlowell@gmail.com

Website: olmlowell.com

Find us on Facebook: [olmchurch.lowell](https://www.facebook.com/olmchurch.lowell)

Office Hours: Wed. & Thur. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Social Hall and Rental: 740-896-2207

**A Parish of the Roman Catholic
Diocese of Steubenville**

Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor

Cell: 740-391-1093

Fr. Walter E. Heinz, Retired

Fr. Dale Tornes, Retired

Mrs. Kristin Offenberger, Secretary

Mr. Eric Flieman, PSR Coordinator

Mrs. Martha Flieman, Prayer Chain

Pastoral Musicians:

Evan and Heather Schaad

**Confessions: Saturdays-
3 PM to 4 PM**

**Rosary: Before each-
Weekend Mass**

Third Sunday
in
Lent

March 23, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Baptisms: Parents are to schedule the baptism of their child at least 2 weeks in advance of the desired date arrangements.

Confirmation: To be confirmed you must attend either the Parish School of Religion, Catholic School, or the RCIA.

Marriages: Couples intending to be married at OLM must contact Fr. David at least 6 months in advance of the intended wedding date.

Sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation: Must be at least 16 years old; be an active Catholic who has been confirmed, and lead a life that is in harmony with the faith. Sunday

Visitation of Sick or Homebound: Please call Father Gaydosik at 740-391-1093, or the Parish Office at 740-896-2207, when someone is hospitalized, homebound, sick.

St. John Central Elementary School - (740) 896-2697: Mrs. Rebecca Hilverding, Principal. The Central Catholic Grade School is a combination of the parishes of: St. John the Baptist, Churchtown; Our Lady of

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat. March 22	OLM	Shawn M^cCleod (Martin & Pauline Knoch) St. John Anna Mae Brooker (Tom & Tammy Brooker)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. March 23	OLM	Richard & Brian Stevens (Martha Stevens) St. John John & Mary Lou Huck (Arnold Huck Family) St. John Frank Schilling (Patty Finkel)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. March 24	OLM	No Mass St. John Chris Tesi (Debbie Huck)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tue. March 25	OLM	Tess Huck (Leroy & Sophia Rauch) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. March 26	OLM	No Mass St. John Larry Schaad (STJ CWC)	No Mass 8:20 AM
Thurs. March 27 <i>(w Stations to follow)</i>	OLM	Howard Huck (The Huck Family) St. John No Mass	*6:00 PM* No Mass
Fri. March 28 <i>(w Stations to follow)</i>	OLM	No Mass St. John Vincent Lang (Bob & Peggy Byers)	No Mass *6:00 PM*
Sat. March 29	OLM	Donnie Heiss (Mark & Paulie) St. John William Schilling (Bernard & Marilyn Schilling)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. March 30	OLM	Jeri Lang (Ken, Jan , & Michelle Long) St. John James & Magelene Arnold (Family) St. John Richard & Bertha Pottmeyer (Pottmeyer Children)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$1,542.00 (63); Offertory \$236.00; Easter Flowers \$382.00 (22); Donation \$50.00 (1)

50/50 Winner: Lisa Schwendeman—Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

OLM: 03/29 (4 PM) Sharon Pottmeyer
 OLM: 03/30 (9:30 AM) Susan Huck

Altar Servers

OLM: 03/29 (4 PM) Aaron, Emily, & Taylor Schaad
 OLM:03/30 (9:30 AM) Kate & Ashton Schultheis, Josie Anderson

Eucharistic Ministers

OLM: 03/29 (4 PM) Jenna Huffman
 OLM: 03/30 (9:30 AM) Joe Anderson

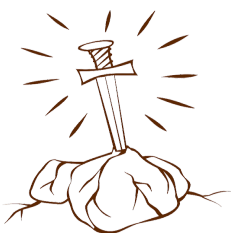
USHERS (Month of March)

SAT: Gary Cunningham, David Long
 SUN: Gregory Greene, Dan Flieman

LENTEN FISH FRY

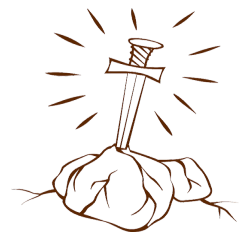
Our Lady of Mercy Church will be holding fish fries on the following Fridays from 4:30 PM until 7:30 PM:

March 28, April 11



2025 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign

“Be strong and take heart, all who hope in the Lord.”



~ Psalm 31:25

OLM CWC

All women of the parish are members of the Catholic Woman's Club.

March Committee

Denise Stehly (chair)	Debbie Misel
Linda Pottmeyer	Carol Antill
Angie (Tracy) Lang	Jenna Huffman
Jeanne Kuchyt	

CATHOLICS IN THE CAPITAL

The Catholic Conference of Ohio is providing Catholics across Ohio the opportunity to meet with elected officials and advocate for policies that respect life, focus on the poor and vulnerable, and recognize families as the central social institution of society. The event is March 25, 2025, in downtown Columbus and is free to attend. Lunch will be provided. Diocesan coordinators will help set up meetings with legislators and provide talking points. There will also be opportunities to attend Mass at the St. Joseph Cathedral – all within walking distance! To register by March 23rd, visit www.ohiocathconf.org. For questions, please contact Joseph Schmidt at 740-516-9270; or by email at jschmidt@diosteub.org.

SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the John and Blanche Mussio Scholarship are now being accepted. The scholarship is for the first year of college at any Catholic college or university currently listed in the "Newman Guide" by the Cardinal Newman Society. The eligible colleges and universities can be viewed on the society's website: <https://cardinalnewmansociety.org/college>. The scholarship was set up by Bishop John King Mussio, the Diocese of Steubenville's first bishop, in memory of his parents as a nonrenewable scholarship for graduating high school seniors who had a certain grade point average and college test score, demonstrated a financial need, received a written recommendation from a parish pastor, and were approved by a scholarship selection committee. Applicants must reside within the boundaries of the Diocese of Steubenville and be a participating member of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All required documentation must be on file within the Diocese of Steubenville Office of Christian Formation and Schools before April 11.

CONGRATULATION!

Congratulations to Makenzie Hendon, whom received her First Communion last weekend. May God bless her in her journey of faith through the Holy Eucharist.



REPENT:

TO GROW IN THE SPIRIT

In today's Gospel, Jesus concludes his call to repentance with a parable about a barren fig tree. The owner of the tree, after three years without any fruit, decides to cut it down. The gardener intervenes, however: "Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down" (Luke 13:8-9). The crowd listening to this parable likely recalled that Israel was called "the vineyard of the Lord," which "yields its fruit in season" (Isaiah 5:7; Psalm 1:3). They knew God was looking for his people to bear fruit in good deeds, but Jesus reminded them that God was also willing to show patience to sinners. In his mercy, he would "cultivate" and "nourish" them while he delayed their day of reckoning. We all know that God is patient, but we don't know when our day of reckoning will come. Look what happened to the Galilean Jews that Pilate killed (Luke 13:1-3). The people who heard of this tragedy asked Jesus what these victims had done to deserve such a fate. Were they being punished for their sin? Jesus refutes this logic and reminds his listeners that they were no greater sinners than anyone else. Instead, he warns, this tragedy should urge us *all* to repent. God calls us not only to repent, but to "produce good fruits as evidence of [our] repentance" as well (Luke 3:8). This fruitfulness lies at the heart of Lent: *Repent and be faithful to the gospel*. The good news is that we are not left to bear fruit on our own. Jesus, our faithful Gardener, is here to help us face the areas of our lives that need repentance. He will tend the soil of our hearts, prune the branches that lead us to sin, and pour out his grace to help us grow.

~The Word Among Us

POPE FRANCIS

Prayer Intentions for March *For Families in Crisis*

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Lent

33: Jos 5: 9a, 10-12 Ps 34: 2-7

2 Cor 5: 17-21 Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

A VOCATION VIEW

The Lord is kind and merciful, and calls us to proclaim his name. Considering a call to priesthood or religious life?
(Psalm 103)

STEBENVILLE SEMINARIANS

The following men are in formation for ordination to the sacred Priesthood for service in the Diocese of Steubenville. Please remember them in your prayers.

Studying at the Pontifical College Josephinum
(7625 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235-1499)

Maximilian Kolbe Gan, Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris, Aaron Pabin, and Caleb Baker

Studying at the Sacred Heart Major Seminary
(2701 Chicago Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48206)

Peter Stetson

Studying at the Saint Vincent Seminary
(300 Fraser Purchase Rd., Latrobe, PA 15650)

Christopher McGurn and Sam Ivkovich

On a pastoral year at Christ the Light Parish
(704 Gomber Ave, Cambridge, Ohio 43728)

Ryan Budd and John Paul Gan

Diocese of Steubenville Office of Vocations
Fr. Nicholas V. Ginnetti, Vocation Director
Vocation links: Twitter @ [dsvocations](#)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations or
Diocesan Vocation Website: <http://steubenville.vocations.com>

TELEHEALTH COUNSELING SERVICES

Catholic Charities of Southeastern Ohio is now offering Professional Counseling Services via telehealth in addition to in-person counseling to individuals and couples. Our licensed counselors provide support for those struggling with trauma, grief, anxiety, depression, and relationship challenges. Sessions are confidential and professional. Catholic Charities is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to the care they need, regardless of financial situation. To schedule an appointment or for more information, please contact Catholic Charities at 740-314-8660 or email catholiccharities@diosteub.org.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE REP. NEEDED

We are still looking for a representative from OLM to be on the Lowell Area Ecumenical Council, which helps to operate the food pantry and VBS. They meet quarterly and provide guidance to the food pantry director. Time obligation is less than an hour a month. If interested, please contact Sherry Wittekind at 740-371-4235.

LOWELL AREA ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES

Tuesday- March 25th, Highland Ridge Church; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- April 1st, Lowell United Methodist Church; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- April 8th, at the St. John Church, Lowell; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REP. NEEDED

A St. Vincent De Paul Representative from Our Lady of Mercy is still needed. This person would help individuals who contact the church for assistance; assess their needs and how we can help, and provide assistance as needed with rent, utilities, furniture, etc. The time obligation is about an hour a week. All monies given to St. Vincent De Paul Society thru our church stays local, as we operate a cooperative with St. Bernard's, St. Ambrose, and St. John to better serve the needy in our area. If interested, please contact Sherry Wittekind for more information at 740-371-4235.

CHRISM MASS ESSAY CONTEST

The Diocese of Steubenville Vocations team is sponsoring a "Chrism Mass Essay Contest." Young men 10 years of age and older can submit a one-page essay answering the question: "Why is serving Mass important for you personally and for the whole church?" The contest winners will be invited to serve the Chrism Mass for Bishop Edward M. Lohse with the seminarians on April 14th at St. Mary Basilica, Marietta. In addition, the young men will be able to join the priests and seminarians for dinner after Mass, as well as be excused from the parochial school day to experience the blessing of the sacred oils and the renewal of priestly promises. To submit your essays by email to Father Nicholas V. Ginnetti at nginnetti@diosteub.org. Also, essays can be mailed to the following address: Chrism Mass Essay Contest, 701 Gomber Ave., Cambridge, OH 43725. The essay deadline, with a letter of recommendation from a parish pastor, is due by March 31st.

"Repentance is neither the fruit of self-analysis, nor of a psychic sense of guilt, but arises entirely from an awareness of our wretchedness in the face of God's infinite love, his boundless mercy."

~Pope Francis