



OUR LADY OF MERCY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mailing Address 5001 Lowell Hill Road Lowell, Ohio 45744

Phone: 740-896-2207

Email: 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 Roman Catholic Parish of
the 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 Flichman, **PSR Coordinator**

Mrs. Martha Flichman, **Prayer Chain**

Pastoral Musicians:

Evan and Heather Schaad

Confessions: Saturdays-

3 PM to 4 PM

Rosary: Before each- Weekend Mass

Parish Council Members:

Richard Tornes, Michael Stehly,

Brian Brooker, Evan Schaad, Stephen

Huffman, Alex Bauerbach

Men's Club:

Meetings will be announced.

Catholic Women's Club:

Meetings will be held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the parish social hall. Knights of Columbus: Meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7:30 PM at the K of C Hall, Churchtown

September 13, 2026

TWENTY – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 OCIA.

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.

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, or 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 Mercy, Lowell, St. Ambrose, Little Hocking; and St. Bernard, Beverly.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat. Sept. 12	OLM	David Erb (Richard & Melissa Tornes)	4:00 PM
	St. John	Kendrick Schwendeman (Bernard & Marilyn Schilling)	6:00 PM
Sun. Sept. 13	OLM	Dan Strahler (Andrew Strahler)	9:30 AM
	St. John	Jeremy Schott (Ed & Anna Mae Brooker Family)	7:30 AM
	St. John	Richard C. Arnold (Shelba Arnold Family)	11:00 AM
Mon. Sept. 14	OLM	No Mass	No Mass
	St. John	Regis & Mary Huck (Family)	8:00 AM
Tue. Sept. 15	OLM	Elaine Fisher (Dan & Elanda Fliehman)	5:00 PM
		Frank, Stella, & Ted Leonhart (Debbie Misel)	
	St. John	No Mass	No Mass
Wed. Sept. 16	OLM	No Mass	No Mass
	St John	Hilda Gebhart (Anniv. 9/15) (Family)/ Alvin Arnold (Hugh & Kelley Arnold)	School Mass 8:30AM
Thur. Sept. 17	OLM	Donnie Heiss (Mitch & Loraine Schott)	5:00 PM
		Marie Scyphers (Ed Schilling)	
	St. John	No Mass	No Mass
Fri. Sept. 18	OLM	No Mass	No Mass
	St. John	Bryan Way (Richard & Brenda Arnold Family)/ Sally McDonie (Bob & Peggy Byers)	8:00 AM
Sat. Sept. 19	OLM	Peters Family (Marilyn & Heather Peters)	4:00 PM
	St. John	Deceased Members of Walter & Alice Klinger Family (Rick Canterbury Family)	6:00 PM
Sun. Sept. 20	OLM	Marian Staler (Peg Huck)	9:30 AM
	St. John	Larry Schaad (Dave & Veronica Bosner)	7:30 AM
	St. John	Leo Huck (Lloyd & Bonnie Flowers)	11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parish

OLM: \$1,563.00 (54); Offertory \$475.00; St John \$25.00 (1); Improvement Fund \$200.00 (1)

OLM 50/50 Winner – Brad Mason – Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors: 09/18(4 PM) Sharon Pottmeyer	Altar Servers: 09/18 (4 PM) Jackson Long, Colton Umstead
09/19 (9:30AM) Susan Huck	09/19 (9:30AM) Margret, Emma, & Zach Morris
Eucharistic Ministers: 09/18 (4 PM) David Bauerbach	USHERS (Month of September)
09/19 (9:30AM) Jenna Huffman	SAT: Rod Heiss, Volunteer needed
	SUN: Matt Huffman, Ray Strahler

CATHOLIC FAITH BY THE NUMBERS

Based on OCIA data from nearly 60 colleges and universities, Newman Centers reported an average 115% increase in OCIA participation, more than double the year before, and roughly triple the growth rate of the average diocese. Source: Hallow.com. The number of permanent deacons has grown rapidly since 1975 (the first year for which figures are available) and the 2025 figure of 18,425 now means that there is approximately 1 deacon for every 2 priests. As of 2021, only 65% of diocesan priests are active in ministry (a fall of 30% since 1965). The number of Catholics has grown by 44.3 million to 66.3 million. Other estimates give a figure of self-identified Catholics as 73.7 million with about 20% of these being foreign born. In 2025, 4.3 million persons were adult converts to the Catholic faith - an increase of nearly 50%. The number of religious brothers has declined from 12,096 to 3,290 (approx. 73%). The corresponding figures for religious sisters are 178,740 and 33,135 (approx. 80%). As of 2021, only 65% of diocesan priests are active in ministry (a fall of 30% since 1965). Source: Faith Survey. **Please Pray for Vocations!**

OLM CWC

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

Faye Heiss, Chair	Phyllis Anderson
Jamie Huck	Alberta Huck
Maureen Cunningham	Danielle Umstead
Liz Johnson	Madison Heiss

DIOCESE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Please join us for a powerful week at the Blessed Sacrament Church, Wintersville, OH for continuous Eucharistic Adoration, hourly rosaries praying for our Diocese and the needs of the world, opportunities for confession, additional 5:15 PM Masses, and Marian procession. On October 7th at 6 PM, guest speaker Matthew Leonard will give a talk entitled "Hail Mary; the Biblical Back Story of the Rosary." The week entails a sustained act of communal prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, offered for the conversion of sinners, the consecration of our nation, and the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. To sign up for a holy hour please visit <https://signup.com/go/PBPCxyV> or for questions please text 410-596-1936.

LAMB (Lowell Area Mission Basket)

A donation box remains in the back of the church for your donations to those in need at our local food pantry. Items needed: juice (bottles/boxes), pickles, Saltine crackers, Pop-tarts, Spam, Vienna sausages, and canned fruits. For more information or ways to help, please contact Rose Bebee at 740-516-1561 or Mark Huck at 740- 896-2128.

SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY WALK

A Seven Sorrows of Mary Chaplet Walk, led by Father James M. Dunfee, will take place at 5 PM on September 15th, on the Seven Sorrows of Mary Walking Path at Mount Calvary Cemetery, Steubenville. The Seven Sorrows, displayed as prayer stations at the cemetery, include: The Prophecy of Simeon, The Flight into Egypt, The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple, Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary, The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus, The Body of Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross, and The Burial of Jesus.



MERCY, ESSENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

You've probably heard it said that no one on their deathbed wishes that they had spent more time at work. No, they wish for more time with their loved ones or one more chance to reconcile with an estranged friend. So considering Sirach's sobering words from today's first reading, do you think that anyone on their deathbed would wish they had held just a few more grudges? Or that they had just one more chance to prove themselves right or someone else wrong? Of course not! That's why this reading resonates with us: *remember your last days; turn from enmity, anger, and faultfinding*. Knowing that God has forgiven us should move us to be more forgiving toward one another. But when we refuse to show mercy, when we hold onto anger or vengeance, we are closing our eyes to the mercy God has shown us. The truth is, compared to the heavenly glory that God offers us, our grudges and resentments can appear as quite petty. So let's not nourish them. Let's not hang onto unforgiveness. Sirach's warning may remind you of what the master in today's Gospel parable tells his unforgiving servant: "Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" (Matthew 18:33). Jesus instructs us to mirror God's mercy and forgive one another not just seven times but "seventy-seven times" (18:22). In other words, without limit. These are strong words. But if they make you feel discouraged, know that Jesus stands ready to give you the strength to forgive. He can release you from habits of resentment. He is offering you a life free from the negativity that brings you down. So turn to him today, and ask for his grace to open your heart in compassion. Receive his mercy, and go and show it to the people around you.

~The Word Among Us

POPE INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

For the Care of Water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

133: Is 55: 6-9 Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Phil 1: 20c-24, 27a Mt 20: 1-16a

VOCATION VIEW

We neither live nor die as ruler of our own lives.
That is a scary, but freeing, thought. What does God free us from? What does God free us for?

(Romans 14:7-9)

STEUBENVILLE 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, OH 43235)

Maximilian Kolbe Gan, Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris, John Paul Gan, William Gugala, and Aaron Pabin

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

Christopher McGum and Sam Ivkovich

Keep in your prayers: Caleb Baker and Newly Ordained Priests, Father Peter Stetson and Father Ryan Budd

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>.



MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The loss of a child brings profound suffering, regardless of the child's age at the time of death. Please join us on September 19th at 9 AM at Saint Mary Basilica, Marietta in prayer for comfort, healing, and peace for those whom mourn the loss of a child or grandchild through miscarriage, stillbirth, illness, abortion, accident, or another tragedy. Light refreshments will be offered after Mass. For more information, please contact Joseph Schmidt at jschmidt@diosteub.org or 740-516-9270, or Heather Keimig at hkeimig@diosteub.org or 301-233-2210.

MARY'S HOUSE BENEFIT DINNER

Mary's House is hosting a dinner on Saturday, September 26th at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Churchtown. Doors open at 5 PM with dinner served at 6 PM. Your \$50 dinner ticket includes one chance to win our Business Raffle, with only 300 raffle tickets sold. Throughout the evening, guests will enjoy: a Live Auction, Silent Auction and Take a Chance raffle. If you would like to help with this event or purchase a ticket contact Lori Murphy at 740-624-1159, or 740-960-9944, or email maryshouseoh@gmail.com.

JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE CELEBRATION

Offering a special Mass in recognition of significant wedding anniversaries for the people of the Diocese of Steubenville. Couples celebrating their 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th and 60+ (every year thereafter) anniversaries of marriage are invited to attend. The Mass in our area will be celebrated at 12 Noon on Sunday, November 8th at St. Mary Basilica, Marietta. All couples presenting themselves for recognition at the Mass must register and be living in union with the Catholic Church, which is married in the presence of a priest. For those wishing to attend, please register by notifying Father or the parish office by October 9th.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you and your spouse all the tools for a stronger and more loving marriage. "Bust some see feel on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty-fold." Let your marriage be like the rich soil and attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on October 9th-11th. At the Procter Camp and Conference Center in London, Ohio. Get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phone and focus only on each other. To apply or check out other weekend dates available visit wwme.org. Early registration is recommended

K OF C NEWS

DUELING PIANOS – K of C 4617 will be presenting Dueling Pianos on October 17th. Doors open at 5 PM followed by dinner and the show until 11 PM. Tickets are \$50 each and include prizes, dinner, drinks, and The Piano Show. For tickets or for more information contact Jeff Brooker at 740-749-3538 or Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470.