

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/In Residence

Fr. Dale Tornes, Retired

Mrs. Kristin Offenberger, Secretary

Ms. Heather Peters, PSR Coordinator

Mrs. Martha Flieman, Prayer Chain

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

**Rosary: Before each
weekend Mass**



December 10, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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.

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. Karen Pottmeyer, **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. Dec. 09	OLM Bob Peters (Marilyn & Heather Peters) St. John Rosemary Wagner (Richard & Brenda Arnold)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 10	OLM Bernard Brooker (Julia Brooker) St. John Bob Pottmeyer (Erin & Sherri Pottmeyer) St. John Gladys Schilling (Jerry & Melinda Treadway)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Dec. 11	OLM No Mass St. John Paul Schwendeman (Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tues. Dec. 12	OLM Encil & Dorothy Smith (Ron & Minnie Smith) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. Dec. 13	OLM No Mass St. John Susan Brooker (Howard Brooker) <i>School Mass</i>	No Mass 8:20 AM
Thurs. Dec. 14	OLM Harold Offenberger Jr. (Tony and Kristin Offenberger) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Fri. Dec. 15	OLM No Mass St. John Herb Mason (Parish)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Sat. Dec. 16	OLM Deanna Lang (Raymond Lang) St. John Rosemary Ellis (Charlotte Lang & Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 17	OLM Ken Stehly (Mike & Denise Stehly) St. John Deceased Members of Ralph & Pauline Zoller Family (Larry & Janet Schaad) St. John Blaine Arnold (Glen & Marcia Pawloski)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$1,897.00 (55); Offertory \$374.00; St. John School (2) \$20.00; Christmas Flowers (22) \$392.00; Immaculate Conception (1) \$25.00; Christmas Offering (1) \$25.00; Church Improvement (1) \$22.00

OLM 50/50 Winner: Wayne Isner– Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

<p>Lectors</p> <p>OLM: 12/16 (4 PM) Tony Offenberger OLM: 12/17 (9:30 AM) Susan Huck</p>	<p>Altar Servers</p> <p>OLM: 12/16 (4 PM) Tim & Emma Snyder OLM: 12/17 (9:30 AM) Margret, Clara, and Emma Morris</p>
<p>Eucharistic Ministers</p> <p>OLM: 12/16 (4 PM) Ed Schilling OLM: 12/17 (9:30 AM) Martha Flieman</p>	<p>USHERS (Month of December)</p> <p>SAT: Tim Huck, Volunteer needed SUN: Richard Tornes, Kim Schwendeman</p>

2023 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign

“The Eucharist is a Fire that Inflames Us!”

~ St. John Chrysostom

Our Lady of Mercy Goal:	\$18, 246.00
Paid to date (49)	\$35, 475.00
Pledged to date	\$36, 600.00

The 2023 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign concludes December 31, 2023.

Thank you for your generosity!



OLM CWC

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

DECEMBER COMMITTEE

*Heather Peters	Linda Strahler
Tana Huck	Kalyn Seese
Mary Hess	Toni Gober

COOKIE PLATES

The CWC will be assembling cookie plates for parishioners and community members on Sunday, December 17 after Mass in the parish hall. Each lady of the parish is asked to donate three dozen cookies for this service project. Any questions, please, contact Heather Peters at 740-350-6972.

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

The Communal Penance Services for confessions in our area this

Advent Season are as follows:

Wednesday, December 13, 7 PM,

St. Mary/Marietta

Monday, December 18, 12:30 PM,

St. John School/Churchtown

Monday, December 18, 7 PM,

St. John/Churchtown

Tuesday, December 19, 7 PM,

Our Lady of Mercy/Lowell

Thursday, December 21, 7 PM,

St. Bernard/ Beverly



5 STEPS TO A GOOD CONFESSION

- ⇒ Examine your conscience.
- ⇒ Be sincerely sorry for your sins.
- ⇒ Confess your sins.
- ⇒ Resolve to amend your life.
- ⇒ After your confession do the penance that your priest assign

Advent includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.



PREPARE A CLEAN HEART FOR THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD!

HOST: We have available at Our Lady of Mercy and St. John, a limited supply of Low-Gluten (made in accordance with Canon Law) for those with Gluten Issues. If you are in need of a Low Gluten Host, please see the priest before the Mass you attend, to arrange for this option.

NEW BIRTH, NEW BEGINNINGS

Beginnings are important, and the beginning of Mark's Gospel is no exception. His very first sentence reads like a summary of the entire book: "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God" (Mark 1:1). So where does Mark start the story? He takes us to the Judean desert, where John the Baptist is preparing the way for the Christ, the Messiah. Contrary to expectations that the Messiah would bring Israel military liberation, John proclaims that Jesus will baptize his people in the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:8). He will open the way for God himself to dwell in them! That's why John offered baptism for the forgiveness of sins. He knew that Jesus had come to do something new, something astonishing. Repentance was the key that would help the Jews—and us—to receive this surprising good news. In order to be ready, we need to empty ourselves of our old ways of thinking. That's where repentance comes in. It clears out the sin that clouds our vision of God. It removes our shame and guilt and delivers us from whatever blocks God's life from taking root in us. It makes us ready to receive God's forgiveness and helps us to become more aware of his abiding presence within us. Are there ways that you need a change of attitude or a new hope this Advent? As you prepare the way for Jesus during this holy season, go back to "the beginning" and listen to John the Baptist's message. Repentance is good news because it opens your heart to Jesus. So take advantage of opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this season. Let God expand your capacity to receive him at Christmas. As Mark shows us in his Gospel, that's where it all begins.

~The Word Among Us

POPE FRANCIS

Prayer Intentions for December

For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

8: Is 61: 1–2a, 10–11 (Ps) Luke 1: 46–54
1 Thes 5: 16–24 Jn 1: 6–8, 19–28

A VOCATION VIEW

John the Baptizer appeared in the desert proclaiming the Lord. Who will proclaim him in this generation?
(Mark 13: 33-37)

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, Ohio 43235-1499)

**John Paul Gan and Jonathan Ruscoe, Riley Morris,
Aaron Pabin, and Caleb Baker**

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

**Peter Stetson, Christopher McGurn, and
Sam Ivkovich**

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



Please think of our Seminarians this holiday season. Cards may be sent to addresses listed above.

STEUBENVILLE CHRISTMAS GIFT

The Dioceses is offering a 10% discount on “Building a Eucharistic Marriage” a webinar that teaches couples seven habits to enrich your marriage through Christ the Eucharist. Please, visit www.eucharisticmarriage.org and enter the code STEUBENVILLEDIOCESE2023.

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Our ecumenical family will gather at St. Johns Church, Lowell on December 10 at 2 PM and travel through the Lowell area community to sing Christmas songs and carols. Music provided and a trailer with hay bales to ride on, you provide the singing voices and fun.

ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWS

Bingo Group Work Schedule

Dec. 10 Team #6 Jeff Canterbury 740-984-4827
Dec. 17 Team #7 Kelli Schaad 740-525-2601
& Team #8 Russ Lang 740-336-0800

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

K of C Annual Members Christmas party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the K of C Hall. Adults only evening. Doors open at 6 PM. Music by Sunset Lane at 8 PM.

CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

The children's party will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10. Doors will open at 12:00 PM. Santa will be stopping by to wish all a Merry Christmas. Discreetly bring a gift for your child to the kitchen and get reimbursed \$5.00.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is up and located at the back of the church. Gifts, wrapped and with the tag attached, need to be returned by Dec 17th. Any monetary gifts or gift cards can be returned to the decorated box beside the tree. Checks can be made out to St. Vincent De Paul Society. These gifts are used throughout the year by those who reach out for help. If you know of someone who could use some help this Christmas season, please contact Sherry Wittekind at 740-885-9439. Sharing and showing the love of Jesus is what the Gospels calls us to do.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Below are some addresses you might like to add to your Christmas card list. Fr. Walter Heinz, 5700 Bayshore Road, Lot 244, Palmetto, FL 34221; Fr. Dale Tornes, 279 Muskingum Drive Apt. 302, Marietta, OH 45750; Fr. Tim Shannon, 7 Alfred St. Wheeling, WV 26003; Fr. Bradley Greer, 425 N. Fourth Street, Steubenville, OH 43952; Fr. Victor Cinson Jr., P.O. Box 275 Minerva, OH 44657; Fr. Tim Huffman, 425 N. Fourth Street, Steubenville, OH 43952.



The family of Mildred Schwendeman have requested a Christmas card shower. Your Christmas greetings may be sent to Mildred Schwendeman, 1027 Lakeview Dr., Beverly, OH 45715.