

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

December 03, 2023

FIRST 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.



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat. Dec. 02	OLM Msgr. Donal O'Carroll (Hibernian Mass) (Ed Schilling) St. John Dave Erb (Ken Gebhart Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Dec. 03	OLM Wilford & Clare Huck (Mark & Sandy Huck) St. John Alice Lang (Bob & Peggy Byers) St. John Richard Pottmeyer (Bertha Pottmeyer & Family)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Dec. 04	OLM No Mass St. John Mary Schwendeman (Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tues. Dec. 05	OLM Vivian Rinard (Larry & Linda Pottmeyer) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. Dec. 06	OLM No Mass St. John Rosemary Heiss (Bill & Alberta Wesel)	No Mass 8:20 AM
Thurs. Dec. 07	OLM Terry Arnold (Donna Wagner) St. John Edith Brooker (Gary & Edna Arnold)	6:00 PM 6:00 PM
Fri. Dec. 08 <i>Imm. Concept.</i>	OLM Linda Huck (Doug Dye) St. John Terry Arnold (Family) <i>School Mass</i> St. John Margaret Klinger (Alvin Arnold & Family)	9:00 AM 8:20 AM Noon
	OLM Living & Deceased of OLM CWC (OLM CWC) St. John Peggy Schaad (Mike & Marilyn Schaad)	6:00 PM 7:00 PM
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

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$1,218.00 (51); Offertory \$235.00; Cemetery Fund (1) \$10.00; St. John School (8) \$120.00;
 Christmas Flowers (3) \$50.00; L.A.M.B. collection \$793.11

OLM 50/50 Winner: Donn Duquette– Congratulations!

Friday, December 8 is a Holy Day on which we will celebrate the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The Masses will be celebrated as follows: the Vigil Mass on Thursday at 6 PM at OLM and St John; Friday at 9 AM and 6 PM at OLM and 8:20 AM (School Mass), Noon, and 7 PM at St. John.

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors OLM: 12/09 (4 PM) Alex Bauerbach OLM: 12/10 (9:30 AM) Sherry Wittekind	Altar Servers OLM: 12/09 (4 PM) Jackson Long, Brett Bauerbach OLM: 12/10 (9:30 AM) Caleb, Declan, & Joel Schaad
Eucharistic Ministers OLM: 12/09 (4 PM) David Bauerbach OLM: 12/10 (9:30 AM) Cindy Schwendeman	USHERS (Month of December) SAT: Tim Huck, Volunteer needed SUN: Richard Tornes, Kim Schwendeman

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



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

OLM CWC CHRISTMAS DINNER—The CWC will be holding its annual Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 5 at 6:00 PM in the parish hall. During the dinner, our Secret Pals from the past year will be revealed. And then we will be drawing Secret Pals for the new year. All women of the parish are members of the Catholic Woman's Club and welcomed to attend. A sign up sheet is available at the main entrance of church until Sunday, December 3. Please contact Heather Peters with any questions at 740-350-6972.

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. Please contact Heather Peters at 740-350-6972 with any questions.

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.

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.

NEVER BY YOURSELF

Today we begin our Advent journey and prepare for Jesus 'coming at Christmas. So you'd expect today's Gospel to refer to his birth. But Jesus isn't talking about Christmas when he says, "Be watchful! Be alert!" (Mark 13:33). He's urging his disciples to be vigilant as they wait for his return. We might wonder, *Why are we hearing about the Second Coming? Isn't Advent about Jesus' first coming?* Well, yes. But as St. Bernard of Clairvaux once said, we can ponder three "comings" of the Lord during Advent. First, there's Jesus' coming as a baby in Bethlehem. So we can enter into the Jewish people's longing for the Messiah. Next, there's his Second Coming in glory at the end of time. We can be watchful as we ready our hearts for Jesus' return. Finally, we can experience a third coming of Jesus—his coming into our hearts right now. In fact, it is this coming of Christ that undergirds all that we do during this holy season. Jesus comes to us every day. He isn't passive; he doesn't wait for us to climb some mountain to find him. He is the initiator. He actively pursues us and seeks us out. That's why he became a man; that's why he promised to be with us always (Matthew 28:20). And that's why he seeks to come into our lives this Advent. Jesus comes to remind us to pause in our busy lives. He comes to inspire us to pray or read his word. He reminds us that he is with us, even when we feel alone. He stirs our conscience so that we want to turn away from sin and toward his mercy. He comes to us in a friend or stranger in need of kindness. Jesus is constantly seeking ways to come to us. And the more alert we are to his coming now, the more ready we will be when he comes again. So be alert! The Lord who loves you is walking beside you. Will you notice him?

~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
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

5: Is 40: 1-5, 9-11 Ps 85: 9-14
2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1: 1-8

A VOCATION VIEW

At the beginning of Advent, watch and wait; be attentive to the ways in which God comes into your life. Be willing to be surprised.

(Mark 13: 33-37)

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)
**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](https://twitter.com/dsvocations)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations or
Diocesan Vocation Website: <http://steubenvillevocations.com>



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

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, please contact Sherry Wittekind at 740-885-9439. Sharing and showing the love of Jesus is what the Gospels calls us to do.



ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWS

Bingo Group Work Schedule

Dec. 03 Team #5 Robin Eichmiller 740-336-8671
Dec. 10 Team #6 Jeff Canterbury 740-984-4827

**FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS: Guiding
Your Children through Cultural Chaos**

Parenting is tough! And our culture is not making it any easier. Our children are facing challenges that many of us never dreamed about when we were younger. Please join us for a special online event designed to support parents and provide them with up to date information and resources from a Catholic perspective. The Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life and the Office of Christian Formation and Schools are partnering with Family Honor, Inc., to offer a special webinar for parents. For more than 30 years Family Honor has been devoted to assisting parents in forming their children, especially in the areas of chastity and sexual integrity, through Catholic teaching and evidence-based information. The webinar will address the following topics: The Problem with Porn; Gender Identity Disorder and SSA; and Social Media: Dangers and Safeguards. Q & A will follow the presentations. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. This event is FREE but registration is required. (A recording of the webinar will be provided for each registrant even if they miss the live broadcast.).To register, go to www.familyhonor.org/chastity-programs-near-me. Questions? Please contact Joseph Schmidt (jschmidt@diosteub.org or 740-516-9270).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

SPREAD THE LIGHT OF CHRIST–To start off the upcoming holiday season, the Knights of Columbus #4617 Churchtown will be lighting their nativity scene and building on Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM. At this time, they will also be announcing all the winners of the Keep Christ In Christmas Poster Contest. Members, parents, grandparents, and community members are all welcome to attend this family event.

MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY– K of C Annual Members Christmas party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the K of C Hall. Doors open at 6 PM.

CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY–The children's party will be held on Sunday, Dec.10. Doors will open at 12:00. 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.