

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

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**

Parish Council: Council
Meetings will be announced.

February 18, 2024

THE FIRST 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.

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.



LENT

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat. Feb. 17	OLM Martha Huck (OLM CWC) St. John Emmett Brooker (Mary Brooker Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Feb. 18	OLM Grace Huck (02/19 6 yr. Annv.) (Todd & Katheryn Arnold) St. John Shirley Stollar Oliver (Vince & Shelly Stollar Family) St. John Ralph Klemm (Mike & Marilyn Schaad)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Feb. 19	OLM No Mass St. John Francis Arnold (Schwendeman Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tues. Feb. 20	OLM Darren Cheeseman (Edwin & Grace Long) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. Feb. 21	OLM No Mass St. John Dave Pottmeyer (Eric & Marilyn Pottmeyer)	No Mass 8:20 AM
Thurs. Feb. 22 <i>(w Stations to follow)</i>	OLM Chuck & Sandy Schilling (Their Children) St. John No Mass	*6:00 PM* No Mass
Fri. Feb. 23 <i>(w Stations to follow)</i>	OLM No Mass St. John Lawrence Schaad (Parish)	No Mass 6:00 PM
Sat. Feb. 24	OLM Beth Brady (Linda Phelps) St. John Martha Huck (Brandon & Ashleigh Hendershot Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Feb. 25	OLM Clarence Zwick (Richard & Melissa Tornes) St. John Helen Miller (Mary Brooker Family) St. John Leora Arnold (Gary & Edna Arnold)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$2,284.00 (63); Offertory \$338.00; Diocese Priest Retirement \$50.00 (1); Initial Offering \$3.00 (1); European Churches \$10.00 (1); World Mission \$40.00 (2); St. John \$20.00 (1)

OLM 50/50 Winner: Megan Tornes – Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

OLM: 02/24 (4 PM) Heather Peters
OLM: 02/25 (9:30 AM) Eric Flieman

Altar Servers

OLM: 02/24 (4 PM) Tim & Emma Snyder
OLM: 02/25 (9:30 AM) Caleb, Declan, & Joel Schaad

Eucharistic Ministers

OLM: 02/24 (4 PM) Sue Huck
OLM: 02/25 (9:30 AM) Cindy Schwendeman

Ushers (Month of February)

SAT: Dale Gilham, **Volunteer needed**
SUN: Robert A. Huck, Mike Stehly



2024 Diocesan Parish Share Campaign

“One Lord, one faith, one baptism. ~ Ephesians 4:5

You may have received a letter from Bishop Bradley asking you to consider your contribution to this year's Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign. Your gifts to the DPSC brings to life all our diocesan ministries and services that go beyond what any parish can provide on its own, including care for retired priests; seminarian formation; administrative support for Catholic schools; Catholic news and evangelization (especially through the Steubenville Register); assistance for those most in need through Catholic Charities; and much more. The DPSC also provides essential support to our parish, as 100% of all funds raised above the parish goal are returned to our parish. These funds help parishes live out the mission of the Church by providing for a wide variety of needs, such as construction or renovation projects, youth ministry programs, evangelization initiatives, and outreach programs for the poor. As we continue to discern the future direction of our diocese, it is imperative that we continue to fund the essential ministries and services so that the work of the Church can continue. Please be assured that all funds received through the DPSC are donor restricted and will remain in the Diocese of Steubenville. Pledge Sunday will take place on March 3rd. Please prayerfully consider how you can participate in this year's campaign.

OLM CWC

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

FEBRUARY COMMITTEE

Nancy Schultheis (Chair)	Sandy Spindler
Paige Omspach	Jody Huck
Cathy Lawrence	Sarah Hunter
Mollie Huffman	

LENT GUIDELINES

In the Gospel on Ash Wednesday, Jesus says to us, "When you fast ..." In contrast to many of Jesus' contemporaries, who fasted for show, supplication, penance, and self-mastery, Jesus wants our fasting to be to bring into communion those parts of our life that are not yet united to him, those areas in which Jesus the Bridegroom has been "taken away" and is not yet present. Through Isaiah, God tells us that fasting is ultimately to learn to hunger for God and for what he hungers. During Lent, there is to be no meat on Fridays for all Catholics starting at age 14; and practicing Catholics between the ages of 18 to 59 should have only one full, meatless meal. Those that are excused from fasting and abstinence outside the age limits include; the physically or mentally ill, individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes, and women who are pregnant or nursing. In all cases, use common sense, no one should jeopardize their health by fasting.



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:

February 23, March 08, March 22.

February 23 – Mark Rutter	740-706-1254
March 08 – Tony Offenberger	740-525-4823
March 22 – Kim Schwendeman	740-525-2769

Help is needed for prep work on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 3 PM and Thursday Feb. 22 at 9 AM.

Adults - \$12.00, Children under 12 - \$6.00

Drive Thru Pickup for All To-Go Meals

— Cost \$12.00 —

No need to call ahead.

PRE-CANNA

For those planning a wedding any time within the next year, a Pre-Canna has been scheduled at St. Mary Basilica, in Marietta, on Saturday, March 09. Pre-Canna is a class and consultation requirement for those planning to enter the sacrament of marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville. To register, contact St. Mary's Basilica's office at 740-373-3643.

THE FINAL WORD, WITH NEW BEGININGS

Can you imagine the excitement that Jesus must have generated as he began healing people, performing works of wonder, and preaching the good news of the kingdom? Can you picture the hope and expectation evident in the faces of the people who flocked to him? Maybe the time really had been "fulfilled." Maybe the kingdom really was "at hand" (Mark 1:15). It certainly was a dramatic way for Jesus to begin his ministry. But today, on the First Sunday of Lent, the Lord reminds us that this exciting new beginning came at the end of something not quite so exciting. Just before he burst on the scene, Jesus had endured a grueling forty-day fast and a host of demonic temptations. This sequence of events wasn't just a coincidence. It was that very fast that helped launch the new kingdom Jesus was announcing. By staying faithful to his Father throughout this ordeal, Jesus began his work of disarming the devil. As the first man who didn't bend to temptation, he reversed the sin of Adam and opened a path for us to follow. Beginning with his time in the wilderness, Jesus demonstrated that his kingdom was indeed at hand—and that the devil's reign was coming to a decisive end. As your own Lenten journey unfolds this year, keep the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness close to your heart. Especially when life gets hard or temptations arise, remind yourself that every desert experience can result in new life as you try your best to stay faithful to the Lord. Even if you fall, remember that you can stand up again and keep moving forward because of Jesus' triumph over the devil. Sin no longer has the final word in your life; Jesus, your Redeemer, does!

~ The Word Among Us

POPE FRANCIS

Prayer Intentions for February:

For the Terminally Ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Second Sunday of Lent

26 Gn 22: 1–2, 9a, 10–18 Ps 116: 10, 15–19

Rom 8: 31b–34 Mk 9: 2–10

A VOCATION VIEW

This is a time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand. Let us reform our lives and believe in the Good News. (Mark 1: 12-15)

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 or
Diocesan Vocation Website: <http://steubenvillevocations.com>

MARY'S HOUSE BAG BINGO

Mary's House Bag and Basket Bingo on Sunday, February 24, at St. Bernard Catholic Church Social Hall, Beverly. Doors open at 1 PM. Bingo is at 2 PM. 20 Games for \$20.00. Tickets sold at door only. There will also be a 50/50 drawing, raffle, and a concession stand.

POST 750 STEAK FRY



Looking for a good steak dinner for date night? Come to the American Legion Post 750 public steak fry on Saturday, February 17, from 5 to 8 PM at the Post in Lowell. Costs are: grilled steak - \$15.00, baked steak - \$10.00, grilled

chicken - \$10.00, and no meat - \$5.00. Dinners include meat, baked potato, salad, and a roll. For take-out orders, please call 740-896-3326. Come support your local American Legion.

ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWS

Bingo Group Work Schedule

Feb. 18	Team #8	Russ Lang	740-336-0800
Feb. 25	Team #1	Jeff Brooker	740-749-3538

LOWELL AREA ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES

Tuesday- February 20, St. John Church, Lowell with Pastor Don Archer; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- February 27, at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church with Fr. Dave Gaydosik; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- March 05, at the Highland Ridge Church with Pastor Travis Chrisman; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- March 12, at the Lowell United Methodist Church with Dan Beals; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

Tuesday- March 19, at the St. John Church, Lowell with Kevin Lauer; Supper at 6 PM, Service at 7 PM

ST. AMBROSE SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Ambrose Catholic Church, Little Hocking is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, February 18 from 11 AM to 2 PM. Meal tickets: Adults-\$13, Children (6-10) - \$8, Children (5 and under) - free.

ST. JOHN CWC BREAKFAST

A Dine in / Drive-thru breakfast will be held at the K of C Hall, Churchtown on Sunday, February 25 from 8 AM to 10 AM. An adult meal of eggs, bacon, home fries, biscuit/sausage gravy, and a drink is \$10. A kids meal of pancakes, bacon, eggs and a drink is \$5. There will also be a bake sale sponsored by the Churchtown Busy Bunch 4-H Club. All are welcome to attend.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The Annual Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal at St. Stephen Church, Caldwell is on Saturday, March 09 with guest speaker Dr. Alan Schreck. This years theme "Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit." Registration starts at 8 AM. Forms for registration at back of church or you may register online at <https://athenscatholic.org/steubenville-mens-day>. Please mark your calendars.

WOMENS' SPIRITUALITY DAY

DCCW Lenten day of Spirituality for ALL Women of the Diocese of Steubenville on Saturday, March 16 at the Basilica of St. Mary Catholic Church, Marietta. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. For OLM ladies interested in attending, please contact Heather Peters at 740-350-6972, or DeDe Kidder at 740-632-3018 by March 04 to make a \$25.00 reservation.

OLM OFFICE

The parish office will be open on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next week: February 19, 20, and 21 for those who may need to contact the parish secretary.