

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**

January 21, 2024

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

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

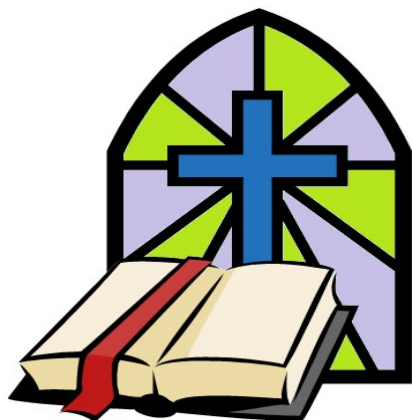
Confirmation: To be confirmed you must attend either the Parish School of Religion, Catholic School, or the RCIA.

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. Jan. 20	OLM David Heiss (Charles & Dorothy Heiss) St. John Leo & Lucy Huck Family (Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 21	OLM John Bauerbach Family (Cecil Bauerbach) St. John Herb Mason (Tim Zoller Family) St. John Sandy Vanoster (Churchtown Senior Citizens)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Jan. 22	OLM No Mass St. John Audrey Lang (Mona Barrett Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tues. Jan. 23	OLM Clarence & Gertrude Huck (Heather Peters) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. Jan. 24	OLM No Mass St. John Leora Arnold (The Vincent Huck Family)	No Mass 8:20 AM <i>School Mass</i>
Thurs. Jan. 25	OLM Deanna Lang (Raymond Lang) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Fri. Jan. 26	OLM No Mass St. John Jason Mace (STJ CWC)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Sat. Jan. 27	OLM Stephen Kuchyt (Todd & Katheryn Arnold) St. John Betty Becker (Mona Barrett Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 28	OLM James W. Healy (Jim & Peggy Huck) St. John Lorraine Henke (Mary Brooker Family) St. John Richard Pottmeyer (Don & Cheryl Miller)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$1,312.00 (54); Offertory \$211.00; Christmas Offering \$20.00 (1); Initial Offering \$20.00 (3); Solemnity of Mary \$27.00 (3); Votive Candles \$35.00

OLM 50/50 Winner: Jim Gorrell – Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

Altar Servers

OLM: 01/27 (4 PM) Shelly Medley
OLM: 01/28 (9:30 AM) Eric Flieman

OLM: 01/27 (4 PM) Emma & Tim Snyder, Jackson Long
OLM: 01/28 (9:30 AM) Caleb, Declan, Joel Schaad

Eucharistic Ministers

Ushers (Month of January)

OLM: 01/27 (4 PM) Heather Peters
OLM: 01/28 (9:30 AM) Jenna Huffman

SAT: Dan Schwendeman, Melvin Schwendeman
SUN: Jerry Hess, **Volunteer needed**

January 22 has been designated by the US Bishops as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Parishes are encouraged to invite their parishioners to attend Mass this day. Learn more at www.respectlife.org/january-22.

Diocesan Priests Retirement Fund Collection – Firstly, thank you for your generous response to last year's first annual collection for this purpose! It was a great start toward reaching a fully-funded status for the Plan. The collection, which is distinct from the collection for retired religious, from which our diocesan priests derive no benefit, will be taken up on the weekend of February 3 & 4. Your continued generosity is a blessing and much appreciated. Thank you!

OLM CWC

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

JANUARY COMMITTEE

*Rose Beebe Sandy Huck
Rhonda Huck Heather Schaad
Jennifer Anderson Kristin Offenberger

MARDI GRAS DINNER HELP WANTED

The CWC is looking for a lady or ladies to coordinate the Annual Mardi Gras Dinner to be held on Sunday, February 11. Please contact Heather Peters at 740-350-6972 for further details or to express interest by Monday, January 15.

CABIN FEVER BUSTER DINNER

A Baked Steak Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 3, from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM, at the Our Lady of Mercy Church Parish Hall (dine-in or carry-out available). **Ticket purchase needed for meal.** Please contact Kathryn Reed at 740-350-3496 by January 29 to purchase tickets or for any questions. The ticket cost is \$15.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children 10 and under.

2023 CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

If you need a copy of your church contributions for 2023, please notify Kristin at the Parish Office and we will be happy to mail them to you. Or if you would like to pick up your copy, please call ahead to (740) 896-2207 so they will be ready for you. Thank you.

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

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

Drive Thru Pickup for All To-Go Meals

— Cost \$12.00 —

No need to call ahead.

Help is needed for each fish fry from prep time to clean up. If you would like to help, please contact the Fry Boss listed below:

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

Drop the Nets

What did Jesus actually say to James and John when he “called them” (Mark 1:20)? Did he just approach them, as he did with Simon and Andrew, and say, “Come after me” (1:17)? Or was there a longer, more involved conversation? Whatever happened, we know that this encounter had a powerful effect on these two fishermen. They “left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him” (1:20). How did Jesus call you? It doesn’t matter whether it happened at a specific point in time or over many years. What matters is that like these first disciples, Jesus called you, and you chose to follow him. The first call we hear is Jesus calling us to himself. He is the One who shows us the way to the Father and who fills our hearts with his love, mercy, and grace. As it did for these disciples, our relationship with our Lord becomes the foundation for our life and for everything else we do. Jesus also calls us to mission. Whether we are called to marriage and family, to the priesthood, or to the religious or single life, we are all given a mission, a specific way he wants us to serve him. He may even call us to be missionaries like the first disciples. But we can also receive multiple callings in our lives, and our calling can change or expand over time. Maybe in one season of life, we are called to focus mainly on the needs of our family. In another, God might be asking us to spend more time meeting the needs of our brothers and sisters, perhaps by teaching the faith or caring for the poor. Spend some time at Mass today thanking Jesus for the ways he has called you. It’s not always easy to say yes—we know that following Jesus will inevitably involve hardships as well as joys. But there’s no greater honor or privilege we could ever hope to have!

~The Word Among Us

POPE FRANCIS

Prayer Intentions for January:

For the gift of diversity in the Church

During the month of January, Pope Francis has asked the faithful to pray for the gift of diversity in the Church. He emphasized recognizing “the gift of different charisms within the Christian community.”

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

71: Dt 18: 15–20 Ps 95: 1–2, 6–9

1 Cor 7: 32–35 Mk 1: 21–28

A VOCATION VIEW

Come after Me. Jesus called Andrew, Peter, James, and John. He calls still in our day. Are you willing to drop your nets and follow?

(Mark 1: 14-20)

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

GAMING FOR GOD

St. Bernard Youth Group is hosting a kid -friendly event on January 21 from 6 to 8:30 PM in the St. Bernard Parish Hall, Beverly, for children in grades 5-12. All are invited to enjoy this fun, faithful, and food -filled event.

THANK YOU

Betty Strahler would like to say thank you to Fr. David, Fr. Dale, and to her parish family for their prayers and well wishes during her recent illness and hospitalization.



ST. JOHN'S CENTRAL SCHOOL NEWS

Bingo Group Work Schedule

Jan. 21 Team #4 Dereck Pottmeyer 740-885-9251

Jan. 28 Team #5 Robin Eichmiller 740-336-8671

SUB SALE

St. John Central School Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sale – February 10 & 11 after Saturday and Sunday Masses. Cost is \$4.75 per sub. All proceeds from the sub sales will go towards St. John Central School field trips. Subs will be available to purchase after all Masses (or until sold out). To ensure you get subs at your requested Mass, it is recommended that you preorder by calling the school at (740) 896-2697. Thank you for your support.

PRE-CANNA

For those planning a wedding any time within the next year, a pre-Cana has been scheduled at St. Mary Basilica, in Marietta, on Saturday, March 09, 2024. Pre-Cana 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.

“Love that leads to marriage is a gift from God and a great act of faith toward other human beings.”

K OF C #4617 NEWS

K of C Annual Free Throw Competition is this Sunday, January 21 at the K of C Hall, Churchtown. Sign-up will begin at noon, shooting starts at 1:00 PM. Entry is FREE. Contact Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470 with any questions.

K of C Novena For Life continues thru January 24th to pray for a culture of life and civilization of love in our community, nation, and the world. All members of the community are welcome to join us! Call/text Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470 with any questions or for more information.

K of C Winter Cash Drawing will be held on Saturday, February 10 at the K of C Hall, Churchtown. Tickets are \$50.00 each. Tickets include: Cocktails 5:00-6:00, Dinner 6:00-7:30, Drawing 7:30-9:00, Band 9:00-12:00. The GRAND PRIZE is \$4,000. For tickets contact Dean Brooker at 740-629-4884.

K of C Scholarship is accepting applications. Any area high school senior who is graduating this year may apply. The scholarship recipients will receive a \$500.00 check. The application must be submitted by March 15. Any questions contact, Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470. Good luck to all applicants!

January 16, 2024



The Diocese of Columbus

197 E Gay St,
Columbus, OH 43215

•
Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus



The Diocese of Steubenville

422 Washington Street
Steubenville, OH 43952

•
Most Reverend Paul J. Bradley
Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville

Diocesan Leadership Teams Gather For Second Meeting

On January 11, 2024, leadership teams from the dioceses of Columbus and Steubenville met for the second time to discuss how both dioceses could be affected by a potential merger.

Previously, the Apostolic Nunciature asked the bishops and their leadership teams to work together to consider how different dimensions of the dioceses might be affected by such a proposal.

The second meeting focused on financial implications, personnel matters, and structures. This information has provided clarification equipping diocesan leadership to present a thorough report to Archbishop Dennis Schnurr in March 2024.

It is important to remember that no decision regarding a merger has been made. The final decision will be made by the Holy Father, Pope Francis. This process of discernment is distinct from the process of implementation should a merger occur.

Bishop Paul J. Bradley, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Steubenville, and Bishop Earl K. Fernandes of the Diocese of Columbus continue to ask for the prayers of the clergy and laity.

+ *Earl K. Fernandes*

Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus

+ *Paul J. Bradley*

Paul J. Bradley
*Apostolic Administrator of the
Diocese of Steubenville*