

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

Fr. Dale Tornes, Retired

Mrs. Kristin Offenberger, Secretary

Mr. Eric Fliehman, PSR Coordinator

Mrs. Martha Fliehman, Prayer Chain

Pastoral Musicians:

Evan and Heather Schaad

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

**Rosary: Before each-
Weekend Mass**

January 04, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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. Sunday

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. 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.

Wise Men
Seek Him Still



Mass Schedule and Intentions

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Sat. Jan. 03 | OLM Chuck & Sandy Schilling (Their Children) St. John Jay Pottmeyer (Mike & Marilyn Schaad) | 4:00 PM 6:00 PM |
| Sun. Jan. 04 | OLM Kenneth Stehly (3 yr. Anniv. On 01/06) (Mike & Denise Stehly) St. John Edith Brooker (Ferris & Susan Arnold) St. John Richard & Bertha Pottmeyer (Pottmeyer Children) | 9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM |
| Mon. Jan. 05 | OLM No Mass St. John Barbara Wallis (Steve & Pam Brooker) | No Mass 8:00 AM |
| Tue. Jan. 06 | OLM Kendrick Schwendeman (Lisa Schwendeman) St. John No Mass | 5:00PM No Mass |
| Wed. Jan. 07 | OLM No Mass St. John Herb Mason (Marilyn Kern Family) | No Mass 8:30 AM |
| Thurs. Jan. 08 | OLM L & D of Clemence & Eulia Huck Family (Ellen Huck) St. John No Mass | 5:00 PM No Mass |
| Fri. Jan. 09 | OLM No Mass St. John Mary E. Huck (Dave & Barbra Huck) | No Mass 8:00 AM |
| Sat. Jan. 10 | OLM Jim Huck (Charlie Huck) St. John Helen Miller (Patricia Henke Family) | 4:00 PM 6:00 PM |
| Sun. Jan. 11 | OLM Jeri Lang (Bernard & Marilyn Schilling) St. John Anna Mae Brooker (Charlie Tornes) St. John L & D of Lawrence & Margret Schaad Family (Mike & Marilyn Schaad) | 9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM |

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$2,110.00 (59); Offertory \$719.35; Imm. Conception \$15.00 (1); Christmas Offering \$245.00 (5); Legacy Fund \$347.00 (9); Solemnity of Mary \$500.00 (28); Initial Offering \$220.00 (14); Ave Maria Cemetery \$25.00 (1); Votive Candles \$41.00

OLM 50/50 Winner: Garrett Lehman- Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

OLM: 01/10 (4 PM) Heather Peters
OLM: 01/11 (9:30 AM) Dan Fliehman

Altar Servers

OLM: 01/10 (4 PM) Aaron, Emily, Taylor Schaad, Alexa Hunter
OLM: 01/11 (9:30 AM) Kate & Ashton Schultheis, Lydia Fliehman

Eucharistic Ministers

OLM: 01/10 (4 PM) David Bauerbach
OLM: 01/04 (9:30 AM) Ron Miller

USHERS (Month of January)

SAT: Dan Schwendeman, Melvin Schwendeman
SUN: Volunteers needed



THE QUEST OF THE MAGI

The song "**We Three Kings**" details the gifts of the Magi, but do you know what you're singing? "Born a king on Bethlehem's plan, gold I bring to crown Him again." This one is the most straightforward - gold symbolizes the Kingship of Christ. "Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom." Myrrh is an embalming spice. Already at Christ's birth, we have the symbolic reminder of his death. "Frankincense to offer have I. Incense owns a deity nigh." In many religious traditions, incense symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. In some pagan traditions, it is thought to help "call down" the deity. The gift of frankincense symbolizes Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, sanctifying the world through his sacrifice.



OLM CWC

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

JANUARY COMMITTEE

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Rose Beebe (Chair) | Sandy Huck |
| Rhonda Huck | Heather Schaad |
| Jennifer Anderson | Kristin Offenberger |



PSR IS BACK IN SESSION

SUPPORT ENVELOPES

Support envelopes are available for pick up in the back of the church. Please check and make sure everything is correct. If corrections are needed, please immediately notify the Parish Office at 740-896-2207.

2025 CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

If you need a copy of your church contributions for 2025, 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.

MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The 2026 Diocesan Men's Day of Renewal will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at St. Stephen Catholic Church, Caldwell. This Lenten retreat invites men of the Diocese of Steubenville to reflect on the ongoing call to conversion and spiritual growth in our journey with Christ. The day will feature personal testimonies from Fr. Bradley Greer and Fr. Tim Shannon, who will share how the Eucharist has been central to their own conversions and priestly lives, offering practical insights for living and spreading the Faith in our families, parishes, workplaces, and communities.



Epiphany Blessing: Dear God, It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community. Amen. ©LPi

Dear Parishioners, As we begin this New Year, I wish each of you and your families God's abundant blessings, good health, and deep peace. The turning of the calendar invites us not only to make resolutions, but more importantly, to renew our trust in God who journeys with us each day. The Church, in her wisdom, invites us to celebrate the Solemnity of Epiphany at the beginning of the year reminding us that our lives are held in God's loving hands. Whatever joys or challenges await us in the months ahead, we do not walk alone. The Lord goes before us, strengthens us in times of difficulty, and rejoices with us in moments of grace. Each new day is a gift and an opportunity to grow in faith, hope, and love. The month of January is also a time to recommit ourselves to prayer and to the life of our parish community. Participation in the Eucharist, time spent with Sacred Scripture, and acts of charity—especially toward those most in need—help anchor our lives in Christ. Small, faithful steps taken consistently can bear great spiritual fruit. As we move forward into 2026, I encourage you to place your plans, concerns, and hopes before the Lord. Ask Him to guide your decisions, heal what is wounded, and deepen your relationship with Him. May our parish continue to be a place where faith is nourished, love is shared, and Christ is made present to all. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. Let us continue to walk together in faith, confident that "the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord let His face shine upon you." May God bless you abundantly in this New Year.

~ Fr David Gaydosik

POPE INTENTIONS

Prayer Intentions for January

For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

21 Is 42: 1-7 Ps 29: 1-4, 9-10

Acts 10: 34-38 Mt 3: 13-17

A VOCATION VIEW

The astrologers brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh. What treasures do I have to give the Lord? Is he calling me to be a priest, brother, or sister?

(Matthew 2: 1-12)

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)

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 McGurn and Sam Ivkovich

Keep in your prayers:

Deacon Peter Stetson, Deacon Ryan Budd, and Caleb Baker

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>.

Epiphany traditions vary widely: In the United States, Catholic families may celebrate with [Epiphany chalk blessings](#), marking their homes with a special blessing. Using blessed chalk to inscribe their home's front door with the year and the letters **20 + C + M + B + 26** (for the current year) to invoke Christ's blessing and protection, symbolizing the Magi (Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar) and the Latin phrase "*Christus Mansionem Benedicat*" ("May Christ bless this house").

MARCH OF LIFE

The March for Life continues to be the largest pro-life rally in the world. It's an opportunity to give public testimony to the value of every human life, and to be inspired by the dedication of the thousands of people who participate in the capital. The March For Life will take place in Washington, DC, on Friday, January 23, 2026. To learn more, visit www.marchforlife.org.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL HELP

Turn your Taxes into Tuition—Make a charitable donation to Christ the Teacher Diocesan Scholarship Fund and turn your tax dollars into tuition. Now is the time to donate, before filing your 2025 Ohio tax return and you can receive a dollar-for-dollar Ohio income tax credit of up to \$750 for an individual (or \$1500 if married—filing jointly). Donations via credit card are now available. Designate your gift to help provide financial assistance to any diocesan Catholic School of your choice! For more information or to make a donation, go to: www.diosteub.org/ctdsf.

FORGIVENESS AND HOPE

Did fear and shame lead you or someone you know to have an abortion? Or you felt as if you had no other choice? Are you seeking comfort from welcoming, non-judgmental people to help you through your sadness and guilt? We invite you to make a confidential call to Project Rachel Ministry where you can connect with others who understand and can help. You're not alone anymore. Peace starts here at Project Rachel Ministry. Call 740-275-7038 or visit www.diosteub.org/project-rachel.



POST 750 STEAK FRY

American Legion Post 750 will hold a public steak fry on Saturday, January 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.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Your gift of time and blood is a selfless act of caring. Help to assure that life-giving blood will be available when needed. The next area Blood Drive will be held at St. Bernard Catholic Church Parish Hall, Beverly on Thursday, January 29, from noon to 6 PM. Please sign up online at www.RedCrossBlood.org to set up an appointment time for your donation.