

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

January 07, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

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**

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. 06	OLM Ken Stehly (1 yr. Anniv.) (Mike & Denise Stehly) St. John Clayton Harra (Sabrina Harra)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 07	OLM Tess Huck (Charlie Tornes) St. John Mary Canterbury (Gertrude Bradley) St. John Justine Tornes (Mary Brooker Family)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM
Mon. Jan. 08	OLM No Mass St. John Frank Schilling (Mary Brooker Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Tues. Jan. 09	OLM Patricia Thieman (Marilyn & Heather Peters) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Wed. Jan. 10	OLM No Mass St. John Donna Klinger (Larry & Nora Huffman)	No Mass 8:20 AM <i>School Mass</i>
Thurs. Jan. 11	OLM Donnie Heiss (Bob & Peggy Byers) St. John No Mass	5:00 PM No Mass
Fri. Jan. 12	OLM No Mass St. John Diane Arnold (Alvin Arnold Family)	No Mass 8:00 AM
Sat. Jan. 13	OLM Stephanie Jackson (Unknown) St. John Donna Sturm (Anniv.) (Mona Barrett Family)	4:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 14	OLM Frank & Helen Schwendeman (Lisa Schwendeman) St. John Jean Tewanager Gribble (Bob and Peggy Byers) St. John Roger Schaad (Mike & Marilyn Schaad Family)	9:30 AM 7:30 AM 11:00 AM

God Bless those who support our Parishes!

OLM: \$1,943.00 (59); Offertory \$536.25; Christmas Offering \$520.00 (3); Legacy Fund \$498.00 (13);
 Initial Offering \$114.00 (12); Solemnity of Mary \$690.00 (25)

OLM 50/50 Winner: Max Huck – Congratulations!

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Lectors

Altar Servers

OLM: 01/13 (4 PM) Heather Peters

OLM: 01/13 (4 PM) Tim & Emma Snyder

OLM: 01/14 (9:30 AM) Alex Bauerbach

OLM: 01/14 (9:30 AM) Brett Bauerbach, Josie Anderson

Eucharistic Ministers

Ushers (Month of January)

OLM: 01/13 (4 PM) Sharon Pottmeyer

SAT: Dan Schwendeman, Melvin Schwendeman

OLM: 01/14 (9:30 AM) Joe Anderson

SUN: Jerry Hess, **Volunteer needed**

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Epiphany (The Twelfth Night) marks a visit to the baby Jesus by the Magi (the three Kings or Wise Men). The word “Epiphany” comes from Greek and means “manifestation.” It celebrates ‘the revelation of God in his Son as human in Jesus Christ’.

According to the Gospel of Matthew, the three kings found baby Jesus by following a star across the desert to Bethlehem. The three kings—named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, followed the star of Bethlehem to meet the baby Jesus. They represented Arabia, Europe, and Africa. According to Matthew 2:11, they offered symbolic gifts of frankincense, gold, and myrrh.

The gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus’ birth, the frankincense his divine birth; gold representing his royal standing; and myrrh his mortality.

OLM CWC

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

JANUARY COMMITTEE

*Rose Beebe
Rhonda Huck
Jennifer Anderson

Sandy Huck
Heather Schaad
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 sales for dinner will begin on Saturday, January 6. 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.

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 notify the Parish Office at 740-896-2207 immediately. The parish office would also like to ask you to update your contact information, including cell phone numbers. If there are any address corrections or updates you may place a note in the collection basket or call the office. Thank you.

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.

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.

A BRILLIANT STARRY NIGHT

In your high school English class, you might have learned that an “epiphany” is the moment when a character is struck with a life-changing realization that changes the rest of the story. Every good novel has one. That’s one way to think about the feast we’re celebrating today. God revealed himself to the Gentiles, and that moment changed everything. There had been hints of God welcoming the Gentiles throughout the Old Testament. But Matthew’s Gospel shows us this pivotal moment: pagan astrologers from the East came to worship Jesus, the newborn king of the Jews (2:11). They are the first of the “nations” whom Isaiah prophesied would walk by the Lord’s light (Isaiah 60:3). They are the first of those Paul says will be “coheirs... in Christ Jesus through the gospel” (Ephesians 3:6). Why is this event so important? Because it reveals to us that God’s love is far more expansive than anyone had ever thought. We begin to see that in Christ, a loving relationship with God is open to *everyone* who comes to him, Jew or Gentile. That includes you! And your annoying cousin. And the notorious criminal on death row. And the atheist on that YouTube channel. The invitation to come to Jesus extends to everyone. Because God’s loving desire to draw all people to himself cannot be contained; no one is excluded from it. And that’s a life-changing realization! Today, as you celebrate this great feast, give thanks to God who loves so extravagantly that he opens his arms wide to welcome everyone who believes. Pray, too, that all people will come to the Lord.

~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

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

65: 1 Sm 3: 3b-10, 19 Ps 40: 2, 4, 7-10

1 Cor 6: 13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1: 35-42

A VOCATION VIEW

The Magi brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh. What gifts do you have to give? Is God calling you to be a priest, brother, or sister?

(Matthew 2: 1-12)

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>

LAMB (Lowell Area Mission Basket)

Items needed: cereal, canned tuna, canned chicken, instant potatoes, bags of noodles, gravy, and paper products. For more info you may call Judy Gilham (896-3266).

POST 750 STEAK FRY

American Legion Post 750 will hold a public steak fry on Saturday, January 20, 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

Jan. 07 Team #1 Jeff Brooker 749-3538
& Team #2 Jessica Henke 896-3705

Jan. 14 Team #3 Ryan Lauchard 614-284-4851

K OF C NEWS

K of C Novena For Life sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4617 will be held from January 16th thru January 24th to pray for a culture of life and civilization of love in our community, nation, and world. A novena is a period of sustained prayer over nine days for a particular intention. Community members and Knights, with their families, are encouraged to pray in their homes on each of the nine days of the novena. The particular intention of the novena is LIFE. We will pray along with the USCCB's 9 Days for Life. Printable/Digital prayer sheets can be found: <https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/9-days-novena-printable.pdf>.

We will also post these prayer sheets each morning on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/churchtownkofc>. More information can be found at <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>. The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Catholic Church and of the Knights of Columbus. A Novena for Life is meant to bring Knights of Columbus and parish families together in a spiritual battle to lead their communities, through both public and private acts of prayer, to ensure a culture of life in our nations. All members of the community are welcome to join us! Call/text Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 with any questions or for more information.

K of C Annual Free Throw competition is to be held Sunday, January 21 at the K of C Hall, Churchtown. Sign-up will begin at noon, shooting starts at 1:00 PM. Boys and girls ages 9-14 as of January 1, 2024, can participate. Parent or guardian must be present for sign in. You do not have to be a K of C Member to sign your child up to participate. Entry is FREE. Contact Taylor Pottmeyer @ 412-215-6470 with any questions.

K of C Scholarship Knights of Columbus Council 4617, Churchtown is accepting Scholarship Applications. Any senior who is gradating this year may apply for the Knights of Columbus Council Scholarship. One boy and one girl will be selected from the area. The scholarship recipients will receive a \$500.00 check. The application must be submitted by March 15, 2024. More information and the application link can be found on their Facebook Page: "Knights of Columbus 4617 - Churchtown, OH.". Or you may apply at <https://forms.gle/9dEuaKinPD8oSx27>. Any questions contact, Taylor Pottmeyer at 412-215-6470. Good luck to all applicants!