



# OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH

**Father Anthony Hewitt, JCL, Pastor**

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## Mass Schedule:

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Saturday</b>                 | 5:00 pm  |
| <b>Sunday</b>                   | 9:00 & 10:30 am  |
| <b>Mon-Fri</b>                  | 8:00 am  |
| <b>First Saturday Anointing</b> | After 5:00 pm vigil  |
| <b>Sacrament of Penance</b>     | By appointment   |
| <b>Parish website address:</b>  | <a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>         |
| <b>Online Giving:</b>           | <a href="http://ourladyofmercy.church">ourladyofmercy.church</a>         |
| <b>Father Anthony email:</b>    | <a href="mailto:anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org">anthony.hewitt@olomcc.org</a> |

## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD APRIL 5, 2026

*On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So, she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." John 20:1-2*

Have we ever misunderstood something, even when our intentions were good? We all experience moments when we act with love but still get things wrong. Even our good actions are rarely perfect.



On that first Easter morning, before the sun rise, Mary Magdalene offers an example of this. She got some things right—her love and devotion to Jesus were sincere—but she did not yet understand the full reality of what she witnessed. Though the other Gospels mention other women at the tomb, John highlights Mary. Saint Augustine suggests that this is because she was “undoubtedly the most fervent in love” with Christ.

When Mary Magdalene saw the stone moved away, her love compelled her to act immediately. Saint John Chrysostom says she “ran to the disciples with all the speed of love.” Her fervor drove her to tell Simon Peter and John what she had seen, showing us how love urges us to seek God without delay. Despite her deep love, Mary misunderstood the meaning of the empty tomb. Her emotional response— “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him” —reveals her struggle to grasp the mystery unfolding before her. Like many of us, she was driven by emotion rather than a deeper trust in God.

Jesus was certainly not displeased with her misunderstanding, as Scripture identifies her in **John 20:11-17** as the first to whom He appeared. When she encountered the risen Christ, she initially mistook Him for the gardener, indicating that her understanding of the Resurrection was still unfolding. Despite that, Jesus met her where she was and guided her toward deeper faith. This reminds us that our emotions, though good, must be purified by faith, allowing love to mature into greater trust and understanding.

Reflect today on Mary Magdalene's experience on Easter morning. Like her, we are called to seek our Lord with fervor, even when our understanding is incomplete. And like her, we can trust that Jesus will meet us where we are, gently leading us into deeper faith. As we celebrate the Resurrection, pray that our love, with all its emotions, may be more fully purified by grace, so that we, too, will encounter Christ with renewed understanding and joy. Alleluia! Alleluia!



**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
3:00-4:00 pm Adoration and Praying of the Divine Mercy  
Chaplet and Benediction



### **BBQ Parish Dinner Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Life Center**

RSVP today for the Parish BBQ Potluck Dinner on Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm in the Parish Life Center. BBQ pork and chicken will be provided by parishioners Charles and Stephanie Devlin. Please plan to attend and enjoy the fellowship and fun. Iced Tea, water, and paper products will be provided. Please call to sign up to bring needed Coleslaw, salad, side dish, baked beans, cookies or dessert. (BYOB if additional drinks are desired). Reserve a seat today by emailing Anne Scoronski at [askoronski@mac.com](mailto:askoronski@mac.com) (OLM BBQ Dinner in the subject line), Or call 847-624-4842. Please indicate the names of the attendees at your table and the item you plan to bring. If you would like to volunteer to help with the event, please indicate and a committee member will call you back.

### **Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Faith Appeal 2026**

Parish assessment this year is \$144,000.00

\$37,150.00 collected as of March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Envelopes are available at the front of the church. Please make checks payable to the *Catholic Faith Appeal* and *in the memo write Our Lady of Mercy Parish* so that we receive proper credit for your donation. Every dollar given to the CFA helps us reach our goal. May God continue to bless our generous parish. Fr. Anthony

### **Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA) Prayer**

*O Lord, Giver of Life and Source of Freedom. We know that all we have is received from your hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously with those in need. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship be a witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

We are hopeful that 100% of our Parish community will respond to the 2026 Catholic Faith Appeal to successfully meet and perhaps exceed our goal. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Annual Catholic Faith Appeal 2026,



**SCAN TO GIVE**

How to use a QR Code to Donate:

1. Open your smartphone camera and hover over the QR Code.
2. Click the pop up on your smartphone to open the giving webpage.

with a pledge or one-time gift. Thank you all for your time, talent, and treasure!