



Parochial Administrator

Fr. Mark Thomas
706-820-0680, ext. 204
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Mass Times

Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m.
Thursday Novena 9:00 a.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 5:30 p.m.

**Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament**

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Staff

Angelese Mackey,
Business Coordinator
amackey@olmcc.com

Mary Voges,
Pastoral Associate
mvoges@olmcc.com

Allyson Ford,
Director of Music
aford@olmcc.com

December 20, 2020



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In the Hospital

If you or someone you know will be going in the hospital please call the office, or have a family member or hospital chaplain call for you. Federal privacy laws prevent hospitals from notifying us.

In Case of Emergency

Please call Fr. Mark's cell phone directly at 770-365-5200 in emergency situations.

24-Hour Abuse Reporting

If you or a loved one has been hurt or abused by a member of the clergy, an employee, or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, we are here to listen and take action. Please contact our Office of Child and Youth Protection during business hours at 404-920-7550 or our Archdiocesan 24-hour Abuse Reporting line at 1-888-437-0764. The silence must be broken for the healing to begin.

Centering Prayer Group Continues

Our Centering Prayer group continues to meet on Mondays at an earlier time (4:00-5:00pm) via Zoom so we can stay connected and support each other in our practice. After the initial Centering Prayer period, we are experiencing "lectio divina," a way of praying the Scriptures that lets God speak to us through God's inspired Word and then our response to the Word received. All are welcome to join us!

Please contact Susan Brace for the Zoom link: susan.r.brace@gmail.com or 423-681-8284.

Tuesday Morning Men's Discussion

Men's Bible Study will **not** meet during the month of December. Discussions will resume Tuesday, January 12, 2021 from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. in Shuler Hall.

Pope Francis' December Prayer Intention



For a Life of Prayer. We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Mass Intentions for the Week

December 19 - Kennedy Smith (D)
December 20 - People of the Parish
December 21 - Special Intention
December 24 - Dee Harris

Readings for Next Sunday, December 27th

First Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Second Reading Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family.



December 22 - Delin Brown
December 24 - Heaven Scroggins
December 25 - Hal Hill

ATTN: Schedule Changes



There will be no Saturday Morning Mass or Adoration the next three weeks (Dec. 19, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2).

Updated Holiday Schedule 2020

Please see the updated holiday schedule insert which includes the addition of a Christmas Vigil Mass and Concert.

Year-End Giving Reminder

Please remember all 2020 contributions for OLMCC need to be postmarked by **December 31, 2020**. You can also make gifts via Online Giving at olmcc.com for Offertory, Capital Campaign, Altar Flowers, Mass Intentions, and Second Collections. If you need assistance please contact apery@olmcc.com.

Liturgical Minister Schedules

Saturday, December 26th

Lector: Jimmy McGinness

Sunday, December 27th

Lector: Rich Boschi

OLMCC Food/Supply Pantry

As you know earlier this month I encouraged each family to donate one bag of groceries to the new food/ supply pantry which we are now stocking. The response has been overwhelming and I sincerely thank you for your support. Food insecurity is a growing problem in our surrounding Tri-State area. We can also help other non-profits such as shelters and pregnancy assistance centers with items such as infant formula and diapers, winter coats and blankets, and the list goes on. Donations can be dropped off in the narthex at weekend Masses or at the parish office on weekdays. If no one is in the office, leave donations inside by the Christmas tree.

God Bless all of you, Fr. Mark

Prayer List

Dottie Brock	Linda Neely
Richard Collins	Brit Oehmig
Patrick Crawley	Bob Red
Joe Endres	Jimmy Stewart
Haley Frierson	Richard Sullivan
Regina Gann	Eddie Tallent
Charlie Gilbreath	Lindsey Tinker
Vickie Gilbreath	Katherine Dann Ogden
Johnny Killebrew	Camilla Pollock-Flynn
Jeff Morgan	

Prayer List Update

If you would like to keep your prayer requests on our list, please contact Amy, aperry@olmcc.com. Thank you for your cooperation.



Advent Penance Service

Mark your calendar and join us for this opportunity during the beautiful season of Advent.

December 22 at 7:00 P.M. - Our Lady of the Mount

Christmas Eve & Christmas Second Collection



The Christmas Eve and Christmas Day second collection will benefit Catholic Charities Atlanta, a 67-year legacy in Georgia of charity for our most needy brothers and sisters and a mission inspired by our Catholic faith. Many of the clients are members of the working poor who work several jobs and long hours to support their families. Many of these individuals are also facing a life crisis, are alone and frightened. Catholic Charities Atlanta staff help to identify their problems and provide them with the resources to put them on the path to independence.

Catholic Charities services are aimed at empowering people to utilize their strengths and resources to meet their individual and family needs. Please give generously where it truly counts. Please support Catholic Charities to provide help and create hope for individuals and families facing challenges in our community, struggling on the margins of society, and living in poverty.

Dispensation Continues

Everyone is reminded not to come to any liturgy, including Christmas, if not feeling well, or if one has been around someone who is experiencing symptoms or has recently tested positive for COVID 19.

Because of the pandemic, anyone is permitted to miss the Holy Days of Obligation of Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (Jan. 1, 2021). The dispensation from Holy Days of Obligation and Sunday Mass is still in place for all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Holiday Schedule 2020

December 19

No Saturday Morning Mass or Adoration

December 22

Advent Penance Service at OLMCC 7:00 p.m.

December 24 - 25

Offices Closed

December 24

Christmas Concert at OLMCC 1:00 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass at OLMCC 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Concert at OLMCC 4:30 p.m.

Christmas Vigil Mass at OLMCC 5:30 p.m.

December 25

Christmas Day Mass at OLMCC 9:00 a.m.

Christmas Day Mass at SKD 11:30 a.m.

December 26

No Saturday Morning Mass or Adoration

December 28 - January 1

Normal Mass Schedule except January 1

Offices Closed

January 1

Mary Mother of God Mass at OLMCC 9:00 a.m.

Mary Mother of God Mass at SKD 11:30 a.m.

January 2

No Saturday Morning Mass or Adoration

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Waiting

God of wisdom and strength,
we await you.

Like David, we await your prophetic guidance
and the peace you promise.

Like Mary, we await the liberation
of all people

and the fullness of your kingdom.

Do not keep us waiting.

Deliver us from hatred, ignorance,
and apathy.

Bring us your justice and your healing.

Give us your wisdom, compassion,
and courage.

Show us your light.

We await you, for you alone can save us.

Come quickly, Lord! Do not delay.

We await you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 20, 2020

Favored Ones



Today's Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27, 29; Romans 16:25–27; Luke 1:26–38. God chose David, the youngest son in his family and a mere shepherd, to be king. David was a skilled and competent leader, but he was also devout. As he acknowledges all that God has done for him, he expresses his wish to do something for God, namely, to build God a temple. God replies that he needs no such favors from David. God then elevates the king still further by promising that David's descendants would rule over Israel forever.

Mary, an insignificant woman from a Galilean village, would never have imagined how much God would favor her. She does not think there is anything important she could do

for God, but the angel assures her that there is. Though startled and hesitant, Mary accepts God's will. She is ultimately elevated even above King David. She both bears God's Son and becomes part of the new era that this long-awaited descendant of David brings about.

We are God's favored ones, too. God strengthens us to live devoutly. He speaks to us in the law and the prophets and now also in the letters of the Apostles and in the Gospels. He sent his Son to reveal his extraordinary love. The love of God is a mystery that broadens and deepens the more we enter into it. We are surrounded and uplifted by this endless love. God invites us to bear that love in the world so that all will know his grace and favor.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 21

Leaping for Joy

Today's readings urge us to rejoice, even to leap for joy. Such joy is not a mere emotion but a state of being. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, we simultaneously look further ahead to his return in glory. God came into our world, and we know that God will come again. Even now, God is with us. God will never leave us. Play music such as Handel's "Messiah" and sing or dance for joy. *Today's Readings: Song of Songs 2:8–14 or Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Psalm 33:2–3, 11–12, 20–21; Luke 1:39–45.*

Tuesday, December 22

Reversals

Hannah at last bears a child through the power of God. In thanksgiving, she dedicates her son for service to the Lord. Having just had her own experience of reversal, Hannah then prophesies about the changes of fortune that await Israel. Centuries later, Mary echoes Hannah's words as she voices her prophetic hymn. Use Hannah's song or Mary's Magnificat to pray for all those who need God to lift them up. *Today's Readings: 1 Samuel 1:24–28; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4–5, 6–7, 8abcd; Luke 1:46–56.*

Wednesday, December 23

Purification

Like other prophets, Elijah helped cleanse God's people by stopping their worship of foreign gods. In the First Reading, we hear that Elijah will return to purify another generation of God's people. John the Baptist was Elijah for the people of his day. In every age, we need prophets to help us purify our hearts and prepare for the fullness of God's presence. Pray with an image of John the Baptist. In what ways should you purify yourself to prepare for the day of the Lord? *Today's Readings: Malachi 3:1–4, 23–24; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 8–9, 10 and 14; Luke 1:57–66.*

Thursday, December 24

Rest from Our Enemies

God has granted King David and all Israel safety from their enemies. This time of peace was a glimpse of the peace that God would one day bring to the whole world. Zechariah prophesies that this new era is about to begin. God will vanquish violence, pain, greed, hatred, injustice—all of the evil that endangers us. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, pray for those people and places that especially need God's peace. *Today's Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Luke 1:67–79.*

Friday, December 25

Among Shepherds

We don't know what Mary expected when she became the mother of God's Son. Probably, she didn't expect to lay this divine child in a feeding trough nor to be visited by shepherds. She must have been baffled, but she calmly accepted and reflected on all of it. The surprising way in which God chose to free us from evil and death is something for us to ponder, too. In the midst of what might be a full and busy day, take some time to sit before a nativity scene and reflect on its meaning. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 62:11–12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11–12; Titus 3:4–7; Luke 2:15–20.*

Saturday, December 26

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

The harrowing story of the stoning of Stephen is an abrupt change from the joy and peace of Christmas day. St. Stephen's witness, however, is not one of fear and pain but of devotion to Christ. St. Stephen not only fulfills Jesus' words about persecution, he also dies like Jesus: he entrusts himself to God and forgives his persecutors. Is there someone you should forgive this Christmas season? *Today's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 6:8–10; 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Matthew 10:17–22.*

