

Our Lady of Mercy Parish Newsletter

Third Edition

March 2023

Pancake Breakfast—another success!! We started the new year off with yet another successful Parish Pancake Breakfast! Attendance was high and the food was GREAT!!! Many thanks to our Chief Chef, Silvana Pandolfe and her many dedicated volunteers.

Please keep in your prayers our 9th grade students along with Anna Pizzo and Lin Lin Peeler, who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 30, 2023 at 2:00 pm at St. Colman Church. Please also keep in your prayers our 3rd grade students, who will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time on May, 13, 2023 at 10:00 am at St. Colman Church.

Also Time for a RETREAT! On February 25th the 8th grade Confirmation students attended a retreat in the St. Colman church hall, where they spent the day sharing and experiencing their faith as part of their preparations for Confirmation next year.



Time for a RETREAT! On January 21, 2023 the 9th grade Confirmation students attended a retreat in the St. Colman church hall, where they shared their faith through Scripture readings and activities as they prepare themselves spiritually to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 30, 2023 at St. Colman Church.



Parish Mission Statement... The Parish, as part of the Mystical Body Of Christ, should have Christ's vision of love & should invite & assist all people to respond to God's universal call to holiness by proclaiming the Word, building His community, celebrating His liturgy & serving His people. 1

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Volunteer Service—Community Outreach!!! Our 9th grade Confirmation students have been busy putting in individual volunteer service hours as another part of their preparations for the Sacrament. On March 5th, as a class they took on a volunteer project with the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen in Middletown. They cooked and served a Ziti dinner to the patrons at St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen in Middletown. The two phases of the event consisted of cooking the sauce and preparing 20 lbs of ziti and serving additional foods prepared at home to compliment the dinner!! Many thanks to the parents and the students!! Participation in the “Almsgiving” was a true lesson of love, kindness, sacrifice and awareness of those less fortunate in the world. “I believe experience is the greatest teacher of all. Our students truly enjoyed the activity, Hopefully, it resonates with them and that it may encourage them to help others in the future.” ~ Dave Mastroianni and Katie Wiseman



HERE'S SOMETHING NEW!!!! We are thrilled to announce the start of a Youth Group! Marie Greco and Carrie Reny had an amazing turn out for the first meeting on March 10th. It was a hit!!! They plan to have their next meeting on April 21, 2023 with games, music and pizza and to elect 2 youth co-leaders. The group will meet at St. Colman church hall from 6-8 pm. All youth from our parish ages 12-18 are welcome to join! There is talk about organizing a fundraiser to have an outing of some sort. If interested in joining the Youth Group, please contact Marie Greco at (203) 895-1709 or Carrie Reny at (860) 463-8180.

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LIKE TO DANCE? On February 11, 2023 our parish had a Dinner Dance hosted by one of our fellow parish families in the St. Colman church hall. The hall was decorated in Valentine theme and you could just feel the love—of food and music!!!! So much fun was had by everyone who attended and the only request we received was...when are we having another?



Break out those dancing shoes!!!



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More Dinner Dance Photos...



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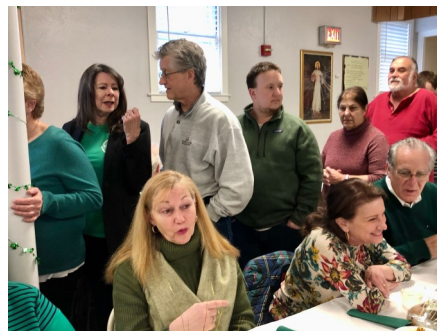
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Tea, Anyone? For the February 6th Ladies Guild meeting Tammy Pereira opened her house to all the Ladies Guild members for their meeting and a little spot of tea! Much was accomplished through their monthly Guild meeting—but the tea party was just an added element of elegance as these ladies carried out their ministry for our parish! Interested in joining the Ladies Guild, please contact Diana Cathcart at (203) 206-4949



The Ladies Guild is not the only ones hosting recently...Our Knights of Columbus have been busy cooking... Many of us came out to enjoy a St. Patrick Dinner together on March 18th in honor of St. Patrick Day. A delicious corned beef and cabbage and all the fixings too was served up to many families and friends. Many thanks to Kevin Smith and his crew for this delicious event! Interested in joining the Knights, please contact George Gorton at (860) 930-7931



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More St. Patty Day Dinner Photos...



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More St. Patty Day Dinner Photos...



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Soups On... The first Friday of Lent, February 24th our parish held a simple Lenten Meal...SOUP!! And bread!! Several volunteers from our parish under the leadership of Elaine Norowski provided a variety of soups for this delicious meal prior to Stations of the Cross in the Notre Dame church hall.



Our Lady of Mercy Parish
Notre Dame Church
272 Main St. Durham, CT
Spring Craft Fair and Bake Sale
Saturday, April 1, 2023
9 AM to 12 Noon



Spring and Easter Crafts
Plants - Dish Gardens
Hand Made Chocolates
Goat Milk Soaps
Tea Cup Candles
Beautiful Crochet and Knit Items
Wreaths
Hand Painted Note Cards
Yummy Baked Good

Mark Your Calendar...Save the Date!!

Eucharistic Adoration...each Monday at 7 pm—ND

Mass followed by Benediction and Chaplet to Divine Mercy...1st Friday of the month

Mass followed by Benediction and Rosary...1st Saturday of the month (except during the months of May-October—during these months it is the last Saturday of the month)

Parish Pancake Breakfast...1st Sunday of the month-SC (September—May)

Stations of the Cross....each Friday during Lent 7 pm-ND

Blessing of Easter Food...April 8, 2023 at 1:00 pm-SC

Divine Mercy Sunday pray the Chaplet to Divine Mercy...April 16, 2023 at 3:00 pm-ND

Parish Tag Sales...1st Saturdays of the month from May—October

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Holy Week Liturgies

Palm Sunday Vigil (April 1, 2023)

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass at Notre Dame Church

Palm Sunday (April 2, 2023)

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Colman Church

10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Colman Church

Holy Thursday (April 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Church)

Mass of the Lord's Supper with procession to place of reposition and short adoration follows

Good Friday (April 7, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Church with Veneration of the Cross) **Celebration of the Lord's Passion**

Stations of the Cross

April 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Church

Holy Saturday

Blessing of the Food (April 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Colman Church)

Easter Vigil (April 8, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Church)

Please note there is NO Mass at 4:00 p.m. – Darkness is required

Easter Sunday (April 9, 2023)

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Colman Church

10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Colman Church