

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 19th
 8:30 AM Guta Rampone
 5:00 PM Frank, Sadie & William Elia

Sunday August 20th
 8:30 AM Marina Bottacchi
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Yael Cammie VanDyke
 5:00 PM Rosemarie Brennan (Living Intention)

Monday August 21st
 8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Boselli Family
 12:00 PM Juana Gomez

Tuesday August 22nd
 8:30 AM Louis & Pauline Pfohl
 12:00 PM Richard Catapano

Wednesday August 23rd
 8:30 AM Ezio Bottacchi
 12:00 PM Deborah Corbett

Thursday August 24th
 8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Bottacchi Family
 12:00 PM Deceased Members of the Aliperti & Fazio Families

Friday August 25th
 8:30 AM James Doran
 12:00 PM Jorge Bonilla

Saturday August 26th
 8:30 AM Gemma Tavani
 5:00 PM Helen McNulty

Sunday August 27th
 8:30 AM Bolivar & Robert Almeida
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM David Hopf & Bob DiFazio
 5:00 PM Frank Stegar



PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Leung, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Antoinette Wagner, Richard Kelly, Rose Jonsson, Evelyn McMullan, Mary Ann Matecki, Vincent Lucanie, Patrick Norton, Diane Kitson, Peggy Racanelli, Maureen Medina, Jeanne Woods, Mary Honan, Ron Areas, Bonnie Nison, Gerry Holmes, Peter Ruelius, Pat Reilly, Dottie Phillips, Marilyn Jagiello, Vera Garofalo, Carolyn Kalnberg, Frank Kalnberg, Faith Fedechko, Margaret Hefferon, Josie Bellina, and for all of our parishioners who are currently hospitalized or homebound.



PRAY FOR THE ARMED SERVICES

Capt. Peter Sulewski, U.S. Army; Lt. Col. Patrick Davis, U.S. Army (JAG); Sgt. Beau Parham, U.S. Army; Capt. Paul Lentz, USAF; Sgt. Larry Saume, U.S. Army; Capt. Travis Swiatocha, USMC, Pvt. Tim Richardson, U.S. Army, and all parishioners currently in the Military

Pray for all of our police, fire, and corrections officers, who risk their lives daily to insure our safety.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Rev. Manuel Ros
 Raffaele La Gamba
 Helen McClellan
 Karol Walter Zaloga
 Rocco Ciaravolo

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – August 20th
Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MONDAY – August 21st
Saint Pius X, Pope

TUESDAY - August 22nd
The Queenship Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

WEDNESDAY – August 23rd
Weekday
 -Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**
 -Divine Mercy-Rectory at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – August 24th
Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

FRIDAY – August 25th
Weekday

SATURDAY – August 26th
Weekday

SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGE

Please note that there will be NO Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on First Fridays during the Summer months.

If you are not yet registered in the Parish, please stop into the Rectory for a Census Form Mon. thru Sat. 9am-4pm.



BREAD AND WINE

Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in loving memory of:
Richard Hunt
 by
 Barbara Hunt



MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND

Many thanks for donations to the Parish Memorial Worship fund given in memory of:
Fran Cochran
 by
 Maria & Mike Saab & Diane & Graham McGinley

Dear Parishioners

This Sunday brings us to the story of the Canaanite women and frankly it is one of the most disturbing stories in the New Testament. Jesus is travelling in an area that would now be lower Lebanon. This is unusual for Jesus; usually His travels were confined to the Jewish homeland: Galilee and the areas near Jerusalem. The area near Tyre and Sidon was occupied by "pagans". They practiced religions other than Judaism. Despite this a local woman described as a Canaanite approaches Jesus for a favor. His reputation as a healer seems to have preceded Him. As a side note it should be mentioned that the Canaanites were the original inhabitants in the area.

The historical books of the Old Testament could lead us to think that the Canaanites had all been eliminated in the conquest of Canaan by Joshua and the Israelites after the Exodus. Those historical books were written many centuries after the events that they describe. What more likely happened is that the incoming Hebrews, who were proclaiming a God who had freed them from enslavement, attracted other folks to their ranks. The Canaanites and Hebrews had many similar linguistic and cultural similarities. The "invasion" of Canaan by the Hebrews may have been more a process of assimilation. It may not have been too different than the foundation of our own country. I can refer to George Washington as our first president or Abraham Lincoln as one of our greatest presidents. Yet my grandparents did not arrive here until after the death of both of those presidents. But my grandparents and thousands of other immigrants brought into the American narrative. Modern immigrants do much the same. The Hebrews, the followers of Yahweh, a God of freedom, offered hope to the residents already in Canaan who suffered under the yoke of many local "kings". The disaffected joined the ranks of the Hebrews. However, pockets of the "unconverted" apparently existed even as late as our Lord's time.

In today's Gospel from Saint Matthew, the daughter of the Canaanite woman is possessed by a demon and this loving and determined mother knows that Jesus can help. She refuses to take "no" for an answer even though Jesus addresses her using the harsh conventional terms of the time and his apostles urge Him to send her away. Jesus implies that He was sent to His own people but even in the face of this the woman is not deterred. Jesus informs her that it is not right to "take the food of the children (of Israel) and throw it to the dogs." This is rough language though it reflected the rougher cultural mores of that time. Neither the Canaanite tongue nor Hebrew had the subtleties or nuances of many modern languages. For her daughter's sake, this mother overlooks the remark and throws it back at Jesus; "Please, Lord, even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the tables of their masters". This unnamed woman had great courage. In those days a woman would not approach a man in public. She certainly would never engage in conversation. She would not have approached a Jewish rabbi when she was a member of the population generally branded as unclean by the Jewish community. Yet for the sake of her daughter, she is willing to break all conventions!

The outcome is another surprise. Jesus recognizes her great faith and her love and He grants her request. The daughter is healed. Jesus' own disciples have shown little enough faith in contrast to this "Gentile" woman who shows great faith in her words and actions. Putting aside the rougher language of that time, the story illustrates the fact that while salvation comes from the Jewish community. Theirs were the prophets, the commandments, The Law and from them ultimately would come the fulfillment of all those things: the Messiah. Yet salvation would be extended to all, Israelite and Gentile, who have faith. Jesus is the living expression of God's compassionate love and that love has no boundaries!

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

PASTOR'S CORNER

An Additional Thanks

In last week's bulletin, Joan Minischetti penned a beautiful tribute to the parishioners who volunteered to help at our summer Blood Drive on Sunday, August 6th. Unfortunately Joan failed to mention herself and she was one of the organizers of the Drive. So thank you, Joan!

Two Special Events

- Padre Pio is highly esteemed particularly in the Italo-American community and in the Catholic areas of Europe. For the first time, some of his relics will in the United States, The arrival of the relics celebrates Padre Pio's 130th birthday and the fifteenth anniversary of his canonization by Saint Pope John Paul II. The relics will be on view for veneration at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, September 17th and Monday, September 18th. Viewing will be from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. each day. You may visit privately on these days but if any parishioners would like to form a group, the Cathedral is more than willing to accommodate us a given specific time. Viewing the relics is gratis. If interested in forming a group, please notify the rectory immediately so that the proper arrangements may be made with St. Patrick's Cathedral.
- On Saturday, September 9th, our Diocese, the Diocese of Brooklyn (and Queens) will sponsor a Catholic Day at Citifield in Flushing Meadows/ Corona Park. The day is free unless you stay for the New York Mets vs. Cincinnati Reds in the evening (Tickets \$15.00). The day begins with a concelebrated with Bishop DiMarzio at 9:45 A.M. Following Mass there will fun, food and games until about 4:00 P.M. Parking will be the standard \$25; however, if you leave during the day and wish to return for the Mets/Reds Game at 7:10 P.m., please hold on to your parking stub. All the parishes in our Diocese will receive free tickets for the Mass and entertainment (Mets' tickets will be \$15.00) so let us know at the rectory as soon as possible if you are interested in attending.

K-8 RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Registration for K-8Gr. Religious Education classes will take place on **Tuesday, Sept. 5, Wednesday Sept. 6, and Thursday Sept. 8 from 2:00pm – 6:00pm** at the Religious Ed office. The entrance is on the side of the school next to the church. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate and be prepared to make a check for the appropriate fee.

MEMORIALIZE A LOVED ONE

Consider the possibility of a donation of the **Bread & Wine, Flowers for the Altar, Tabernacle Light, or the Memorial Worship Fund** in memory of a special person. Names of all those memorialized will be published in the bulletin. Call or stop by the Rectory for more info.

RCIA INVITATION

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or desires to become a Catholic, the RCIA is a program of welcome, prayer, and reflection that can help you take the next step. This program is also for baptized Catholics who are need of the sacraments First Communion or Confirmation. It is our privilege and joy to help you be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please contact David or Carol Powell at 718-261-6285.

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL
GIVES BACK**

Our Lady of Mercy will share in the profits. For each **donated car, truck or van, running or not**, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will give back **to our parish \$50/\$100 per vehicle**. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle in their driveway that they would like to dispose of. Our Lady of Mercy Parish received several hundred dollars last year because of the kindness of those who contributed their old car to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and mentioned our Church. Please continue to spread the word, and thank you for your support. Call the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 718-491-2525**.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

August 23, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
August 30, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please remember to **mark the amount of your offering on the front of the envelope**. Since the envelopes are used **to record your offering** after the donation is removed, **it is necessary that the amount be written on the envelope**. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

On October 23, 2017, from 6-11PM, **Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy** will be having a **50th Anniversary Gala** at the West Side Tennis Club, in Forest Hills. **Watch for details in the coming weeks!**



- The **Diocese of Brooklyn's own NET TV** is a cable network featuring news and information with a Catholic point of view, and is provided by most cable companies in our area. You can also watch the programming live on NET TV's website at www.netny.tv/
- **Helpers of God's Precious Infants** at the All Women's Pavilion, 120-34 Queens Blvd., on Saturdays between 7:00 AM and 11:30 AM in a peaceful, prayerful witness to life. Lives are saved and the way to conversion is opened. Join us for any amount of time.
- **St. John's Preparatory School** is offering a **2017 TACHS Prep Course**, which will take place in September. For further information, call the admissions office -718-721-7200, ext. 699.
- **Home-Delivered Meals** are available if you are **age 60+** and living in NE Queens. Kosher, non-Kosher, Korean and Chinese meals are offered. To see if you or someone you know might qualify, call Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services Northeast Queens at 718-357-4903. This home-delivered meals program is funded by the NYC Department of Aging.
- **St. Francis Preparatory School** will offer a **TACHS test preparation course** for students sitting for the TACHS exam on November 4th. The course will consist of 5 consecutive classes on Wednesdays from 3:45-5:45pm beginning September 27th. For more info, call Mrs. Nancy Williams, 718-423-8810 ext.214 or email nwilliams@sfponline.org.
- **Pray for me, Diocese of Brooklyn** is a new initiative where you can submit your prayer requests and pray for each others' intentions, in partnership with the Sister Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara in Borough Park, Brooklyn. To submit your prayer requests, go to www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/prayforme.
- **Are you a Woman or man of prayer? Are you comfortable working with small groups?** On September 9th, the St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in New York City will host a facilitator Training Retreat for the "Lord Teach Me To Pray" prayer series. It will be conducted in a retreat setting and discernment atmosphere. Come & discern if God is calling you to become a facilitator, or simply to find out more about the prayer series. For info & registration, call Carol Weiler at 504-439-5933.

FEEL GREAT & LOOK GREAT

Feel and look great at our exercise class every Wednesday from 9:00 to 10:00 AM in the Parish Hall. The class focuses on gentle movements for your muscles and joints. There is a nominal fee of \$2 per session. Please come and enjoy the fitness fun. **All ages are welcome.**

THE DEANERY CORNER

- **Monsignor Scanlan High School Offers Courage Merit Scholarship to a Queens Resident**. The scholarship is not income based and is guaranteed for four years with a consistent academic average of 85% or above. Students who are interested in applying for the Queens Scholarship can contact Chris Florentino (718-430-0100 ext. 57). Proof of residency is required. Open Houses at Monsignor Scanlan High School are scheduled for **Saturday, October 21, 2017** from 1-4 pm. The school's address is 915 Hutchinson River Pkwy, Bronx, NY 10465.
- There will be a **Holy Land Pilgrimage**, November 6-15 with Our Lady of the Angelus' Fr. John Mendonca and Fr. Roberto Mirsel, SVD. Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem. \$3299 from New York. Call OLA at 718-897-4444 for information
- **The Bereavement Support Group at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs** offers understanding, compassion, and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. Meetings are the **first and third Mondays** of each month, from 7-9 p.m., in the rectory, and facilitated by Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader, Yorke Mizelle. Call the OLQM rectory at 718-268-6251 if interested in attending or more info, email ymizelle@nyc.rr.com.
- **BLOOD DRIVE at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs** (Forest Hills). **Sunday, August 27, from 9:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.** The Blood Drive will be held in the **New York Blood Center Mobile bus parked outside our church** at 110 -06 Queens Boulevard. There is a severe need for blood during the month of August (due to decrease in donations with summer vacations). Must be age 16 or older and weigh a minimum of 110 lbs. Please bring a photo ID. Eat well and have plenty of water the day before. For questions about eligibility, call the New York Blood Center (1-800-688-0900) or visit www.nybc.org



MEMORIAL OF THE QUEENSHIP OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY