

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 4th
8:30 AM	James Russo
5:00 PM	Maja Jedrak
Sunday	February 5th
8:30 AM	Lillian Clarke
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Andrzej Woloszynowski
5:00 PM	Donald J. Heiser
Monday	February 6th
8:30 AM	Tom Gregory
12:00 PM	In Thanksgiving to Billy Gerrard
Tuesday	February 7th
8:30 AM	Mary Tykowski
12:00 PM	Henri-Robert LaMarque
Wednesday	February 8th
8:30 AM	George Watson
12:00 PM	Keith Rumm
Thursday	February 9th
8:30 AM	Catherine Reardon
12:00 PM	Pat Sorrentino
Friday	February 10th
8:30 AM	Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
12:00 PM	Robert Malm
Saturday	February 11th
8:30 AM	Gerry Murphy
5:00 PM	William Walters
Sunday	February 12th
8:30 AM	Taciana Pinerolly
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Joan Sauro
5:00 PM	Richard Genova

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Vincent Lucanie, Roberta Papagni, Bernadette Boyle, Brene Brown, James Leung, Chantel Fernandes, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Ken Kirwin, Christopher Tolve, Roseann Salerno, Bishop Cisneros, Rose Jonsson, Larry Ginsberg, Antoinette Wagner, Richard Kelly, Frank & Carolyn Kalnberg, Josie Bellina, Vera Garofalo, Gladys Sanchez, Mary J. Riley, Enrico D. Montesa, John O'Driscoll, Marilyn Jagiello, Eleanor Murray, Jean Strifler, Ava Cautin, Patrick Norton, JoAnn Gatch, Isabel Azzaro, Jim Redmond, Ann Rung, Celina Oleksie, Liane Ginsberg, Helaine Powell & Unborn Child, Claudette David, Denise Michelle, Renata Vecchione, Mary I Albert, Rosa Rivera, Tom Horgan, Chris Austin, 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); Chief Ajay James, U.S. Navy NSW; Sgt. Beau Parham, U.S. Army; Capt. Paul Lentz, USAF; Sgt. Larry Saume, U.S. Army; Capt. Travis Swiatocha, USMC, 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

Fr. Joseph Wiseman
Msgr. James Hunt

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – February 5th**

Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

-Scout Breakfast-Parish Hall after 10:00am Mass

MONDAY – February 6th

Saint Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

-Rich In Mercy Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm

-Scripture Study-Rectory Meeting Room I at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - February 7th

Weekday

-OLMCA Open House for All Grades-From 9:30am to 10:30am

-Centering Prayer-Rectory Meeting Room at 2:30pm & 6:15pm

-Cub Scouts-School at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – February 8th

Weekday

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am

-Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**

-CCD K thru 6-Church at 3:30pm

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – February 9th

Weekday

-CCD 7th Gr.-Rel. Ed. Office at 3:45pm

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – February 10th

Saint Scholastica, Virgin

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm & 6:00pm

SATURDAY – February 11th

Weekday

-Penance Workshop For First Communion Parents & Children-Church at 12:00 Noon

-Boys' Tri-M Awards Luncheon-Parish Hall at 2:00pm

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

**BAPTISMS**

We welcome into our faith community all those who were baptized in the month of January, 2017:

Tahir Ali Mohamed Saab

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.

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 front**. Thank you

Dear Parishioners;

Today's Gospel citation from St. Mark picks up immediately after Our Lord's presentation of the Beatitudes. By following the Beatitudes Jesus' followers are introduced into God's life. In a sense our lives are brought to a successful conclusion when we are filled with the life of God.

Today's Gospel fills out the consequences of the Beatitudes. To live the Beatitudes means to be "the salt of the earth". Salt gives flavor to food: the followers of Jesus gives flavor the world. If Jesus' followers fail to flavor the world then they have the same value as the damp salt that occasionally congeals in our salt cellars. Eventually it is thrown out. Similarly followers of Jesus are like a brilliantly illuminated city on a hillside. The evening skyline of Manhattan is a good illustration. The night lights of our City cannot be hidden; rather they can be seen over twenty miles away! In the same way, the follower of Jesus shines in the darkness and gives light to the world!

To make the point even clearer Jesus illustrates further. We light a lamp or nowadays turn on the electric lights to see where we are going. The follower of Christ gives light to the world through his/her words and actions. Our lives are lights that point out "where we are going". Our lights shine before others in our good deeds, which give glory to the Father because they reveal the Father's plan for all humankind.

The first reading taken from the prophet Isaiah follows much the same theme. Isaiah gives us a list of things to be done or to be avoided if our lights are to shine before others: you shall "share your bread (your food) with the hungry... shelter the oppressed and the homeless... clothe the naked when you see them... remove from your midst oppression, false accusation and malicious speech... bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted..., then the light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday."

Today's Alleluia verse is "I am the light of the world, says the Lord, whoever follows Me will have the Light of life" and through us that light of hope and joy shines forth in the darkness!

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS

There is a Lunch and Workshop taking place on Saturday, Feb. 11th from 12 noon – 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall for all First Communion students and their parents.

OLM BLOOD DRIVE

The New York Blood Center will be sponsoring a Blood Drive here at OLM Church on Sunday, February 26, 2017 from 8:45am to 2:45pm, in the Parish Hall. At this time of year, the **Blood Center's Inventory is at a critically low level**, and there is an **urgent need for donors of all blood types**. Please help to replenish the supply and give the gift of life by donating blood. Donor literature

and sign-up sheets are in the vestibule of the Church for your convenience. If you would like more information or would like to make an appointment please call the Rectory Office (718-268-6143).

To facilitate the registration process on February 26th, please bring your donor card, or ID number (if you have donated before) and a photo ID.

**WALK-IN DONORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
COME AND BRING A FRIEND!**

Donating Blood is Not The Only Way to Help! Volunteers will be needed throughout the day provide refreshments and support the donors and to help facilitate the overall process. If you are able to offer an hour or two of your time please leave your name and time available at the Rectory Office.

SAVE THE DATES FOR:**ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH PARTY****Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-Ral and Tarantellas**

Save Saturday, March 18, 2017 from 6:30 to 10:30 PM for celebrating two great saints , St. Patrick and St. Joseph – right smack between their feast days (they do not mind !) with music , food, dance and drink , in the Lower Church Hall. Music and Dance led by DJ Tim O'Brien , who swears his mother was part – Italian . All brought to you by OLM's very own Party-in-a-Bag , *MaraGold Productions* , Jim Mara and Helen Van Tine-Golden. More info and reservation fliers to follow soon. To be part of the planning fun and for additional details, please contact Jim or Helen at **718-793-2033**. It's an offer you can't refuse.

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OPERA COMES TO MERCY AGAIN!**RESERVE NOW FOR MARCH 31st & APRIL 2nd!!**

Golden Rose Opera Works, Mercy's resident opera company , proudly presents Pietro Mascagni's 70 minute glorious one – act glorious masterpiece , "Cavalleria Rusticana " right here in the church on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 2PM.

A terrific tale of a spurned pregnant lover, a reckless young man , a spoiled bored housewife and an avenging husband -AND the swift settling of fate all on Easter Sunday morning. And the audience is in the middle of all that action and glorious music.

Please see flyer in the bulletin and around the church for reservation details and tear off form for ticket purchases. General admission tickets are \$20 adults and \$15/ students and seniors. Please call Helen Van Tine –Golden at 718-793-2033 for additional information or see her after or before the 8:30 AM and 10AM Masses ! Thank you for your continued patronage.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the January Winners of the 50-50 Raffle:

1 st Prize: Henry Steincke Jr.	\$280.00
2 nd Prize: James J. Fitzgerald	\$140.00
3 rd Prize: Witold Sulewski	\$140.00
4 th Prize: Lewis Prono	\$70.00
5 th Prize: Ms. Liana Boselli	\$70.00

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry Community at Our Lady of Mercy Church is a part of our Ministry that seeks to create a hunger free community by sharing our abundant blessings with God's people that are in need. The Food Pantry Ministry operates on every Saturday from 10:00am to 11:00am. The purpose of the Food Pantry is to assist those living within the community of Forest

Hills and the surrounding areas of Queens who are in need of basic food and sanitary supplies during times of hardship. However, no one presenting a genuine need will be turned away. Since your donations help us keep the shelves stocked , we are asking for your help in dropping off food, monetary donations or gift cards. If giving a **monetary donation**, please make all checks payable to Our Lady of Mercy Church (in the memo section please state Food Pantry or Human Services) and forward all cash or checks to the Rectory, 70 01 Kessel Street.

Food Pantry Hours are:10:00am–11:00am every Saturday

We are called to action by the Holy Scriptures to feed the hungry and satisfy their thirst see (Isaiah 58:10, Matthew 25:35). But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous. (Luke 14:13-14).

The **Human Services** element of the parish pastoral care program is for those who require human services that go beyond those offered by our weekly food pantry. I, Deacon Dean Dobbins, will be available on Tuesdays evenings from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. If you require this assistance please leave your name and number at the Rectory so that an appointment may be made.

A REMINDER!

As you know, we no longer accept donations of clothing here in the Parish unless we have a truck scheduled during a specific time to accept the clothing directly. Lack of space as well as legal restrictions do not permit our storage of clothing in any of our buildings. In light of these facts, **please do not drop clothing at the Rectory or outside the door when the Rectory is closed**. We will notify everyone , in advance, when we are scheduling a truck to be here for donations. Thank you for your cooperation.

POOR BOX

We continue to receive requests for assistance so we ask you to please remember the poor and make a donation to the Poor Boxes at the entries of the Church. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

OLM MUSICAL NOTES

We are hoping to get some additional members this year to expand our choirs. We hope that you will consider joining us.

The Adult Choir will rehearse on Mondays at 7:30PM and sing at the 10AM Mass on Sundays.

The Youth Choir will rehearse in the church on Sundays at 11AM and sing at the 12 Noon Mass **The youth choir will be accepting students from third grade and up.**

If you are interested in joining either choir please contact our Music Director, Jane Lawson. You can see her in the choir loft after any Mass on Sundays, or leave a message for her at the Rectory

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.

OLMCA NEWS

OLMCA will host an Open House on February 7th from 9:30am to 10:30am for all grades

PRE-K FOR ALL!

The Pre-K application period for the 2017-18 school year will be open between January 17 and February 24, 2017. All NYC families with children born in 2013 are eligible to apply to Pre-K. Offer letters will be distributed in late April 2017.

In free, full-day, high-quality Pre-K, teachers are sparking wonder and igniting learning in our children. Pre-K for All gives children stronger math and reading skills in elementary school and a better chance at success in life. Studies show that early childhood education improves performance throughout a child's school experience.

You can apply for Pre-K For All at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy by visiting the website at: schools.nyc.gov/Applyonline. You can find more information on page 115 of the Pre-Kindergarten directory. If you are in need of an additional directory, please let us know.

The office staff is more than happy to assist you in filling out an application. Please call us at 718-793-2086 to schedule a time that is convenient for you. We look forward to the opportunity to continue to provide your child with an excellent education at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

ATTENTION YOUNG PEOPLE GRADE 3 AND UP (who have been baptized and have received First Holy Communion): Since Church Law demands that there be a server on the altar for every Mass, **Altar Service is a very important liturgical ministry**, and we need more here at OLM. There are Registration Forms in the back of the Church containing more information, and you can contact Fr. Gregory at the Rectory. Please realize that serving our parish in this ministry is a really a privilege, and consider joining the group.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

February 8, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00pm
February 15, 2017	Divine Mercy Chaplet Benediction	7:00pm 8:00pm
February 22, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00pm



- **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.
- **Ozanam Hall of Queens Nursing Home** (42-41 201st St., Bayside) is seeking part time Activity Leaders. No Experience necessary, but good verbal/writing skills as well as interpersonal skills in working with the senior population are required. If interested, please call Marilyn Gindi at 718-971-2708
- The **Church of the Resurrection** (85-09 118 St., Kew Gardens) will be holding their annual *Winter Treasure, Bake, & Book Sale* on February 4th (9:30am -3:30pm) and February 5th (11:30am-3:30pm). You will find Delicious Home Baked Goods and Bargains Galore, and lunch and refreshments will be available.
- **Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages.** This program has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing ALL TYPES of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend (2/17/17) call 800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.
- **Celtic Crossings Live in Concert** will be at the NYCB Theatre at Westbury, on March 5th at 3:00pm, to **Benefit Dominican Village**. For info call Dominican Village at 631-842-6618 or visit: www.TheTheatreAtWestbury.com

**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, the most recent being just last month, because of the kindness of those who contributed their old car to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Thank you for your participation, and **please continue to spread the word**. Call **St. Vincent de Paul** at (718) 491-2525