

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 28th
 8:30 AM Dora Luque
 5:00 PM Louis A. Sauro

Sunday January 29th
 8:30 AM Veronica McArdle Dolan
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Maria Lara Carlisi
 5:00 PM Of Thanksgiving by Mary R. Quinn

Monday January 30th
 8:30 AM Lorraine Larsen
 12:00 PM In Thanksgiving to the Infant of Prague

Tuesday January 31st
 8:30 AM Janet Blessing
 12:00 PM Judith Diaz

Wednesday February 1st
 8:30 AM Rev. Howard Picard
 12:00 PM James Joseph Bell

Thursday February 2nd
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti (7th Anniversary)
 12:00 PM Penny D' Antonio

Friday February 3rd
 8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Mara & Brady Families
 12:00 PM Theresa & Ignatius Sevcik

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 Woloszgnowski
 5:00 PM Donald J. Heiser



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, 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

Marianna Versichelli
 Fr. Joseph Pasciuto

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – January 29th
Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time
 -Family Mass for Catholic Schools Week Church at 10:00am
 -Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall from 9:00am to 2:00pm

MONDAY – January 30th
Weekday
 -Rich In Mercy Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm
 -Scripture Study-Rectory Meeting Room I at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - January 31st
Saint John Bosco
 -Centering Prayer-Rectory Meeting Room at 2:30pm & 6:15pm
 -Cub Scouts-School at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – February 1st
Weekday
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**
 -CCD K thru 6-Church at 3:30pm
 -Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – February 2nd
The Presentation of the Lord
 -CCD 7th Gr.-Rel. Ed. Office at 3:45pm
 -Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – February 3rd
Weekday
 -Healing Mass-Church at 7:00pm

SATURDAY – February 4th
Weekday

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



ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks for this week's flower donation given by:
 Maureen & Michael Tinnirello
 In celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary



BREAD AND WINE

Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in **loving memory of:**
 Michele Renee Tinnirello
 by
 Her Family

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;

Arguably the twelve lines from today's Gospel, taken from Saint Matthew, form the foundation stones of Christian ethics and morality. As always Matthew sets the scene carefully. Jesus goes up a mountainside. The resemblance to Moses in the Old Testament is not incidental. Moses received the Ten Commandments from God on a mountain - Mt. Sinai or Mt. Horeb. Jesus ascends this mountain, probably a mountain close to the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, and assumes the traditional teaching position. He sits and His followers, His disciples, come to Him. He begins to teach them by pronouncing the Beatitudes, which are a key part of the "Sermon on the Mount". Jesus declares several unlikely categories of people "blessed" (the original Greek "makarios" can also mean "happy", or "to be envied"). "Blessed" are "the poor in spirit"; "the mourning"; "the meek"; "those who hunger and thirst for righteousness"; "the merciful"; the clean of heart"; "the peacemakers" and "the persecuted". Jesus gives reasons for them to be blessed by God. The second part of each Beatitude reverses the fortunes of the lowly, the poor, the mourning, etc. Jesus highlights the notion of righteousness twice - righteousness meant to enjoy "right relationships" with God, with our fellow humans and with nature. If you are blessed, you have a right relationship with God, in other words, you are righteous.

Jesus lays out the plan for a happy life - a life of closeness with God, which will culminate in our union with God. Jesus expands upon the first Teacher, Moses, with a depth of meaning. The Ten Commandments are foundational but they primarily involve things that we should not do. The Beatitudes are Jesus' expansion of the Ten Commandments. They are more concerned about what we must do in order to have a right relationship with God. There is a paradox in the Beatitudes because they include things that we do not expect to hear. The last Beatitude encapsulates the others: "Blessed are you, when they insult and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad for your reward will be great in heaven". No normal person looks to be persecuted but for those who are willing to endure mistreatment because of fidelity to Jesus' teachings, they will be rewarded in God's Presence. The virtues that we embody here in this life will be brought to full blossoming in God's Presence. To be poor in spirit is to be open to God so the kingdom of heaven certainly will be theirs; we all mourn at times, at the loss of a family member or friend or in the face of human tragedy - we will have comfort when all are restored in God's Presence; the meek, who may have nothing in this world will inherit far more than they can imagine in God's Presence; those who hunger for right relationships with God, fellow humans and nature will attain those relationships to the full; those who are merciful to others will find mercy from the Just Judge; those who are clean of heart, who are honest, straight-forward and filled with integrity, will have the Beatific Vision; those who promote peace will be children of God, in a relationship with Him as if they were intimate family members!

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

Congratulations!

We would be remiss if we do not congratulate our parishioner, Mr. Joseph Hennessy, who was one of twenty-five recipients of the Queens Ambassador Awards sponsored by *The Times Ledger Community News Group*, honoring immigrants who made Queens County great.

Mr. Hennessy was born in Ireland and emigrated to the United States in 1957. He made his home, his living and raised his family in Queens County, first in Astoria and then for forty-one years here in Forest Hills. He has served on numerous boards of directors for local community organizations but perhaps he is best known for his long association with Queens County Community Board #6. For forty years a member, then twenty years of them as Chairperson he has been actively involved in the policies and decisions that may impact our community. Low-keyed but determined Joe continues to work hard for the neighborhoods of Forest Hills and Rego Park.

Joe and his wife, Catherine, make their home in Forest Hills and have been members of Our Lady of Mercy Parish for years. Hopefully Joe will enjoy many more years in which to serve our community. Congratulations from our entire parish!

Monsignor McGuirl

ATTENTION PLEASE!

If you memorialized a loved one with a mini Spruce tree this past Christmas, and have not yet picked up your tree, please stop by the Rectory as soon as possible to do so. If you cannot come in, please make arrangements to have someone pick up for you. Thank you.

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.

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.

&

OLM BLOOD DRIVE

Our Lady of Mercy will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on Sunday, February 26, 2017 from 8:45am to 2:45pm, in the Parish Hall. Please mark your calendars now, and watch the bulletin in the coming weeks for more details.

&

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.

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.

I am
the Bread
of Life
John 6:48


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).

Peace, Joy, Hope
Deacon Dean Dobbins

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. 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.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

February 1, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm
February 8, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
February 15, 2017	Divine Mercy Chaplet	7:00pm
	Benediction	8:00pm
February 22, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm

OLM MUSICAL NOTES

We are pleased to announce the **beginning of our choir season**. 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

OLMCA NEWS 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.

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

NEW AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy is really excited about our new afterschool art program. Our students in Grades 1-4 have been developing their art skills every Wednesday! **A picture is INDEED worth a thousand words.** At the Art Nest, we are certainly aspired to live up to that statement. After all, we are in the business of visual education. Our mission from day one was to devote ourselves to the purpose of making each and every one of our student the best artist she or he can become. We want to turn those casual interests and weekend doodles into amazing, unique, and inspiring artistic creations. We treat all of our students as individuals and guide them to explore their own vision and creativity.

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.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **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.
- Catholic Charities Office of **Disabilities Advocacy and Deaf Ministry** invites **all deaf parishioners** to a special **Mass in American Sign Language. The Mass will take place on 1/29/2017 at St. Mary Mother of Jesus Church** (2326 84th St., Brooklyn), at **3:00pm** with a coffee hour and social to follow. Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend! For more info, contact Fr. Raphael Munday at 718-722-6232 or e-mail RAPHAELMUNDAY@CCBQ.ORG
- **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
- **Maggie's Little Theater**, at St Margaret Parish in Middle Village, will be **auditioning** Boys for "Oliver" on February 4, at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Boys aged 10 for the roles of Oliver and the Artful Dodger ONLY.** Auditions for all other roles will be held at a later date to be announced.
- **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