

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday June 24th**  
 8:30 AM Fathers' Day Novena  
 5:00 PM Angela & Frank Sauro Sr.

**Sunday June 25th**  
 8:30 AM Maurice Rooney (43rd Anniversary)  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM Jack Bernardone  
 5:00 PM Victor Lamarque

**Monday June 26th**  
 8:30 AM Mary P. Sileo  
 12:00 PM Fathers' Day Novena

**Tuesday June 27th**  
 8:30 AM Fathers' Day Novena  
 12:00 PM Michael, Caroline, Michael Sassi Jr.  
 and Roland Pugliese

**Wednesday June 28th**  
 8:30 AM Giovanna Boe  
 12:00 PM Eileen Gonzales (Living Intention)

**Thursday June 29th**  
 8:30 AM The Lambert Family (Living Intention)  
 12:00 PM Eugenia Ardeleanu

**Friday June 30th**  
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti  
 12:00 PM Millie Medina

**Saturday July 1st**  
 8:30 AM John Merone  
 5:00 PM William Elia

**Sunday July 2nd**  
 8:30 AM Susan Van Remmen  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM Maria Merone  
 5:00 PM Mary Saggio



**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 Honnan, Ron Areas, Bonnie Nison, 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**

Paul Duome  
 Frank Aguggia  
 Paul Schmitt  
 Carmine Petito

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**SUNDAY – June 25th**  
*Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
**MONDAY – June 26th**  
*Weekday*  
 -Rich In Mercy Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm  
**TUESDAY - June 27th**  
*Weekday*  
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm  
**WEDNESDAY – June 28th**  
*Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr*  
 -Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am  
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**  
 -Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm  
**THURSDAY – June 29th**  
*Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles*  
 -Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm  
**FRIDAY – June 30th**  
*Weekday*  
**SATURDAY – June 31st**  
*Weekday*

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

**SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGE**

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



**BREAD AND WINE**

Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in loving memory of:  
**Thomas Joseph Quinn, Sr.**  
 by  
 Mary Ellen & Ray Schillo



**TABERNACLE LIGHT**

Many thanks for this week's donation of the Tabernacle Light given in loving memory of:  
**Carol Pusano**  
 by  
 Eileen Simko

## Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Brooklvn  
310 Prospect Park West  
Brooklyn, New York 11215

June 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, the faithful of Brooklyn and Queens,

Our faith is centered on the Eucharist and God's Word. Vatican II reminded us that the Liturgy is the "source and summit" of the life of the Church. It is meant to start our week, sending us out on mission to the world. It is the source of our life - God's life in us. It also should be that high point or summit towards which we aim. We participate in the Liturgy to worship and to receive God's Grace, to draw close to God and join together with our brothers and sisters through the sacrament.

In our parishes today, priests often celebrate Masses each week in more than one language, often working to celebrate in a language not their own. That is a challenge especially for homilies (as it also is in one-to-one pastoral work such as counseling or Confession). We seek to welcome the immigrant and where possible, priests have learned the language needed in their specific community in order to serve the newcomers. As you know, the demographics change rather rapidly in our diocese in Brooklyn and Queens; a language Mass that might have been essential in a parish 30 years ago could be serving few attendees today.

Allow me to share with you some statistics:

- In 1995, Mass attendance in our Diocese was reported at an average of 286,000 people per weekend. In 2016, the average was reported at 220,000. That represents a decrease of nearly 23 percent in the last 21 years. This decline in Mass attendance means that in some parishes we have large capacity churches and a significantly reduced Mass size.
- At that time, there was a higher number of priests living and working in our parishes. Due to a large number of priest retirements and deaths in recent years, there are fewer priests serving per parish. This results in overextending the other responsibilities of our priests.
- Also, the reduced number of clergy with bilingual skills further complicates the ability to best serve parishes with specific language needs.

There is no simple solution to this issue. In most of our parishes it is evident that we do not need so many separate Masses to accommodate the number of parishioners in attendance at Sunday Eucharist each week. In many situations, it seems clear that a reduction in the number of weekend Masses is necessary. An adjustment in the Mass schedule can strengthen the community, increasing participation in the remaining Masses. Truly, we wish to bring our people together.

I am asking pastors and administrators throughout the diocese in Brooklyn and Queens, in consultation with their pastoral councils, to review and evaluate their Mass schedules. In most parishes, the number of Masses celebrated each weekend could be reduced by at least one or more Masses, depending on the number of people attending and the capacity of each church.

Additionally, I would ask that there be some coordination of schedules with neighboring parishes. In a special way, I ask that there be at least one Sunday evening Mass within each deanery, to accommodate those faithful who due to other obligations may not be able to attend a Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass.

I know that some parishioners will be directly affected when these changes take place in the Weekend Mass schedule. Change is never easy. But our hope is to encourage more vibrant, joyful celebrations of the Eucharist, bringing larger numbers of the faithful together to give thanks and praise to God. I ask for your patience and understanding as adjustments are made to your parish schedules. I also ask you to please make the personal sacrifices which may be required to join together with your sisters and brothers at the weekend Eucharist. We must keep in mind that everything we do as Church, we do for the praise and glory of God.

As previously mentioned, the Liturgy is the source and summit of the life of the Church. As we move forward with this initiative of examining our weekend Mass schedules, my prayer is that we may increase the involvement of our people, not only in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, but also in all other aspects of parish life

Pastors and administrators are asked to send any proposed changes directly to their Vicar and together we will evaluate all of them. My hope is to receive these proposals in the near future. I am aware that some Mass intentions are already in place.

Thanking you in advance for your understanding and with an assurance of my continued remembrance of you in prayer and in the celebration of the Eucharist, I am

Sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Ph.D., D.D.  
Bishop of Brooklyn

**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 in need of the sacraments of 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.

**YARD SALE TODAY**

FR. JOHN SHEEHAN presents THE EVERYTHING MUST GO Yard sale. Sunday, June 25 after all Masses in the yard behind the Rectory. As he prepares to return to Jordan, Fr. John needs to “lighten the load.” Opera and Broadway show scores, sheet music, antique porcelain figure, Chinese lamps, silver commemorative spoons, CD/tape/Turntable, books, neckties, items from Nigeria and Micronesia and much, much more. Cash preferred, checks accepted. Many unusual items, small and large, and GREAT bargains.

**DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE**

June 28, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
July 05, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm
July 12, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
July 19, 2017	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:00 pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction	8:00 pm
July 26, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



Our Lady of Mercy will be sponsoring a BLOOD DRIVE on **August 6th, 2017** from 8:45am to 2:45pm. During the summer months Blood Bank reserves are reduced to critically low levels as the numbers of donors lessens. Please remember those in need and consider giving them your treasured gift of life.

**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**.

**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.

**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 items needed: powdered or Parmalat milk, jelly, rice, canned or packaged soups, tuna fish, canned stews, hash, or Spam, Chef Boyardee, packets of pasta & rice "Sides", canned fruits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, toothpaste, soaps, shampoos, and any other personal hygiene and non-perishable food items.**

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



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 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.

**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.



# The Bulletin Board

- 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/](http://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.
- **Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School** is now accepting applications for their **summer camps** (Girls softball soccer, basketball & volleyball; Boys baseball, soccer & basketball). Contact Fran Rocco at 718-898-3800, ext. 3. The school is also accepting applications for the **T.A.C.H.S. preparation program** beginning in Sept., and Ms. Rocco is again the contact.
- **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.
- **Camp Veritas Play-and-Pray Sleepaways for teens** in Grades 7-12. July 16-22 at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY; July 23-29 at Summit Lake Camp, Emmitsburg, MD; August 13-19 at Camp Lakota, Wurstboro NY. \$450/camper. Spiritual program is led by priests from the Archdiocese of New York and supported by Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, Sisters of Life, online at: [www.campveritas.com](http://www.campveritas.com).
- **Summer Retreats are available** Make summertime God's time by attending programs this June and July at the St. Joseph Retreat Center, Staten Island, facilitated by the Daughters of Divine Charity. Book online at [www.SJRetreatCenter.org](http://www.SJRetreatCenter.org) or call 718-720-1097 for per-session pricing or inquire about overnight stays.
- **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.

## BABY BOTTLE RETURNS

Many thanks to those of you who took a baby bottle home, to take part in the Bridge to Life fundraiser. Your donations will help with the assistance that they give to thousands of mothers and their children each year. **If you have forgotten to return bottles today, please return them to the Rectory this week.**

## CASINO TRIP

There will be an Empire Casino trip, on June 29th. The cost is \$25 which includes \$10 play and a \$5 food voucher. The bus will leave from Our Lady Queen of Martyrs at 8:45am AND from Our Lady of Mercy at 9:00am. Call Ed at 718-849-0234.

## 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

- There will be a Diocesan Pilgrimage, August 30-September 8, to Fatima and Lourdes Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions. The Spiritual Director will be Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio. For a brochure, call The Catholic Tour, 1-855-564-1008 or email [jimadair@thecatholictour.com](mailto:jimadair@thecatholictour.com).
- 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](mailto:ymizelle@nyc.rr.com).

