

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday May 27th
 8:30 AM John Mazzoccoli
 5:00 PM Steven McDonald

Sunday May 28th
 8:30 AM Andrzej Witkowski
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM William Elia
 5:00 PM Mary Brodsky

Monday May 29th
 8:30 AM John F. Murphy
 12:00 PM Anne Williams

Tuesday May 30th
 8:30 AM Elsa Gonzales (Living Intention)
 12:00 PM Filomena Ciccotelli

Wednesday June 31st
 8:30 AM Maurice Rooney
 12:00 PM Rubina Bove

Thursday June 1st
 8:30 AM Bernadette Boyle
 12:00 PM Jillian Lambert

Friday June 2nd
 8:30 AM Nellie & Maurice Rooney
 12:00 PM Deceased Members of Mara & Brady Families

Saturday June 3rd
 8:30 AM Lea Morra
 5:00 PM Steven McDonald

Sunday June 4th
 8:30 AM Herman, Joanne & Katherine Holz knecht
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM William Polis
 5:00 PM Jillian Lambert



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, 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

Edith Martinez

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – May 28th
Seventh Sunday Of Easter

MONDAY – May 29th
Easter Weekday
-Memorial Day-All Offices & Buildings Closed

TUESDAY - May 30th
Easter Weekday
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – May 31st
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 -Diocesan Oratorical Contest-Parish Hall at 1:00pm
-NO Exercise Class
-NO Golden Age-Meetings will resume June 6th
 -Divine Mercy-NO ACTIVITY

THURSDAY – June 1st
Saint Justin, Martyr
 -OLMCA Spring Concert-Parish Hall at 6:30pm
 -Boy Scouts-School Gym at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – June 2nd
Easter Weekday
 -Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 6:00pm

SATURDAY – June 3rd
Saint Charles Lwanga Companions, Martyrs
 -Concert by Forest Hills Choir-Church at 7:30pm

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

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.

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

May 31, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm
June 07, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm
June 14, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
June 21, 2017	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:00 pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction	8:00 pm
June 28, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm

Dear Parishioners;

An old legend tells of how one day a king came to a wise monk for advice. The monarch stood in awe in front of a pile of books and folios written by the scholar monk. *Father - he said - I envy you that in these works you have written so much wisdom. You're wrong - said the monk. He took the king to the stables, where he pointed out a brother meditating in prayer. Pointing to the praying brother, the scholar monk said: - From God to praying hands flows a hidden force in our world, the folded hands in prayer hold all the wisdom in the world - said the monk - not my books.*

The Council granted by the king to the wise monk seems to be valid even for us humans of the twenty-first century. Like the king, we are also fascinated by what takes place in the world. We are fascinated by progress, and by the development of science and technology. It is easy to forget at the same time, that technology is not everything. With the progress of science and technology we can change the world very much, but unfortunately, we cannot change human hearts. The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, "Gaudium et Spes of Vatican II, says:

Nevertheless, in the face of the modern development of the world, the number constantly swells of the people who raise the most basic questions or recognize them with a new sharpness: what is man? What is this sense of sorrow, of evil, of death, which continues to exist despite so much progress? What purpose have these victories purchased at so high a cost? What can man offer to society, what can he expect from it? What follows this earthly life?

The hunger of the human heart can be satisfied only through God. He alone can give us satisfactory answers to the questions that are plaguing us. Hence it is so important that in human life, we possess faith in God, and like the wise monk said: *"our hands must be folded in prayer."* Our faith is expressed through our prayers.

It is therefore during the seventh Sunday of the Easter Season, that we reflect on the role of and the need for prayer in our lives. Today especially, the liturgical readings tell us about prayer. The first reading from the Acts of the Apostles shows the Apostles praying in the Upper Room. Today's Gospel contains the beautiful prayer of Christ. In general, the Gospels in many places speak of Christ praying. All the important events in the life of Jesus were preceded by prayer. Christ prayed for 40 days and nights prior to the start of his public ministry. Our Savior spent all night in prayer, when he had to choose the 12 apostles. He prayed to His Father before the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. He prayed to his Father before the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus. He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion. He prayed on the cross for his tormentors by saying, *"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."* He cried from the cross, *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."*

When Christ prayed it was so beautiful and moving, that the Apostles longed to pray such a beautiful prayer. One of the disciples of Christ expressed this longing, saying: *"Lord, teach us to pray."*

Jesus did not only pray, but also reminded us many times in the Gospel of our obligation to pray and taught us how to pray. Additionally, Christ taught the Apostles to pray the most beautiful prayer, the "Our Father". In many parables, Christ also gave us advice about how to approach His Father when we pray. He taught us this lesson through the parable of the widow who persistently asked the help of the judge or the parable of the Pharisee and the publican at prayer.

In the story, a scholar monk told a king that knowledge came not from books, but from praying. But how do we pray? Are we convinced of the importance of prayer in our lives? What is our personal prayer? Do we pray with our families? Are we ashamed to pray in public? Do we make the sign of the cross and pray before or after every meal?

Someone once said that prayer is the greatest asset a person has to offer. Saint John Vianney said that *"with a good prayer, we can command the heavens and the earth."* Someone else said that: *when we pray, that God is weak, and we become stronger.*

As in the case of Christ, prayer preceded all the major events of his life. Our lives should be the same way. Everything we experience should be transformed by prayer and offered by God for His glory, in the words of St. Paul: *"Whether we eat, or drink, or whatsoever we do, do all to the glory of God!"*

Christ, is present with us during this Mass. Let us pray as the apostles asked: *"Lord, teach us how to pray!"*

In Christ,
Father Gregory

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS

ASCENSION-PENTECOST NOVENA

Please join the entire church from May 25th- June 2nd in this original Marian novena (nine day period of prayer). During the special time of prayer between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost in which we pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit on the entire church we ask your prayers for our Adult candidate Paulina Rys who will be confirmed at the Pentecost Vigil Mass of Saturday June 3 at 5:00pm here at Our Lady of Mercy

CCD CLASSES

Registration for new families will take place during the week of June 5th, with more specific details to follow in the Church Bulletin (available in the Church or on our Web Site).

CONCERT AT OLM

On Saturday, June 3rd at 7:30pm in the Church, we are delighted to welcome back the Forest Hills Choir to perform a program entitled Heaven and Earth, with a short reception in the Parish Hall afterwards. A chamber orchestra and professional soloists will accompany the choir in works by Bach, Haydn, Rutter and other composers. OLM parishioners may purchase tickets at the door at the reduced rate of \$15. For more info, call Graham at 347-721-7452 or visit www.fhchoir.org.

SPRING CARNIVAL IN FOREST HILLS

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy in Forest Hills is collaborating with the nearby Parents Association of PS144 to host a 2017 Spring Carnival and Yard Sale on Saturday June 3rd from 10AM through 3PM.

This community and family event offers residents an opportunity to celebrate together. Neighborhood children will enjoy games, prizes and face painting. There will be a photo booth, various concessions and clowns creating animal balloons. A surprise guest is promised to sit in the dunk tank, so locals can take their shot at dunking this mystery guest. If you like to help or volunteer please contact Alisha at dh17s2@yahoo.com

Don't miss this fun filled event!

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.

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.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE

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.



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/
- **NYC Dept. of Sanitation** will host a **SAFE Disposal Event** for Queens on Saturday, June 10th from 10am to 4pm (rain or shine), at Citi Field (Parking Lot A). Get rid of your harmful automotive and household products safely. For more info, visit nyc.gov/safedisposal or call 311.
- **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, a online at: www.campveritas.com.
- **Parkside Players at Grace Lutheran Church** (103-15 Union Tnpk., Forest Hills) will be presenting their performance of Noel Coward's *Blythe Spirit* from May 20th thru June 3rd. For info and reservations, call 718-353-7388 or 516-520-9474

THE DEANERY CORNER

- **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. Upcoming meetings during the spring are **May 15, June 5 and 19**. Call the OLQM rectory at 718-268-6251 if interested in attending or more info, email ymizelle@nyc.rr.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.

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is a solemn day of remembrance for everyone who has died serving in the American armed forces. The holiday, originally known as Decoration Day, started after the Civil War to honor the Union and Confederate that died. Let us always keep in our prayers the men and woman who continue to server in our armed forces.

Memorial Day Prayer:

Heavenly Father, today we remember and pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Services who have died in the defense of our nation; They paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we hold so dear.

In the words of Sacred Scripture, we hear, "There is no greater love than this, than to lay down one's life for a friend." It is only by your grace and the love they have for you and this nation that gave them the strength to lay down their lives.

We beseech you O Lord, to receive these servants of peace into your loving embrace and grant them the eternal peace that surpasses all understanding.

We also remember the family members of these great heroes. They too suffer a great and painful sacrifice. Bestow upon them the blessings of your consolation and peace. May you ease their sadness as they continue the road to serenity and hope.

To you we offer this prayer knowing you fulfill the heart's desire of those who seek you with noble intentions. May our prayer for true and lasting peace be answered in accordance to your will and for the good of your sons and daughters.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

