

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	September 16th
8:30 AM	Leonard Quigley & William Kirby
5:00 PM	Angelo & Rose Mary Sauro
Sunday	September 17th
8:30 AM	William Striffler Sr.
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Maria Peiliker
5:00 PM	Silvestro Tosi (Van Nostrand)
Monday	September 18th
8:30 AM	Janet Blessing
12:00 PM	Theresa & Ignatius Sevcik
Tuesday	September 19th
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
12:00 PM	George Shookster
Wednesday	September 20th
8:30 AM	Bernadette Boyle
12:00 PM	Charles Stramera & Galogero Messina
Thursday	September 21st
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
12:00 PM	Mary Catherine Rogone
Friday	September 22nd
8:30 AM	Ryszard Jedrak
12:00 PM	Rodger & Thelma Grady
Saturday	September 23rd
8:30 AM	Vincent & Elaine Koo & Family (Living Intention)
5:00 PM	Robert John O'Sullivan (20th Anniversary)
Sunday	September 24th
8:30 AM	William & Theresa Frazer
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Cecilia Frances Dorgan
5:00 PM	Vincenzo DiGraci

**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, Ann Restaino, Maureen Kelly, Manuel Juan Perez, Dianne Nudelman, Manuel Calidonio Sr., Inez Arastia, Sofia Robello, 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

Leonor Yengle
Savina Salvo
Rev. John A Gurrieri

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – September 17th**

Twenty Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MONDAY – September 18th

Weekday

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

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

TUESDAY - September 19th

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – September 20th

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am

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

-Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – September 21st

Saint Matthew

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:30pm

FRIDAY – September 22nd

Weekday

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm

SATURDAY – September 23rd

St. Pius of Pietrelcina

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:

Elizabeth Jacques

by

Her Family

**TABERNACLE LIGHT**

Many thanks for this week's donation of the Tabernacle Light given in loving memory of:

Elizabeth Jacques

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 envelope.** Thank you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parish Pay is transitioning over to "WeShare". If you use Parish Pay presently, the transition time should be seamless. The transition will take place on October 9th. As time draws closer, we will be providing more information.

We ask for your patience during this time.

Dear Parishioners;

In our Lord's time, there were several numbers that were held in high esteem by the Jewish people. "Seven" was one of them, possibly because it cannot be evenly divided and therefore it was seen as a symbol of completeness. Peter approaches Jesus and asks "How many times must I forgive...as many as seven times". Peter is undoubtedly thinking that he is being very liberal and generous. Our Lord's answer probably bowled him over. "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." Obviously Jesus does mean that Peter should calculate an exact number of offenses but rather forgive liberally and generously. Seventy-seven, a multiple of seven by eleven makes it an even more complete number. Peter is to forgive an unlimited number of times.

In case Peter (or us) miss the point, Jesus tells a parable about a servant who owned a great amount of money to his king. The servant could not repay the money and typical of the times, he was to be thrown into debtors' prison or otherwise he and his family would be sold as slaves in order to pay the debt. At the man's agonized pleas for more time, the king is moved and forgives the entire debt.

What happens next is the point of the parable. This very man, of whom the king has forgiven much, now meets a fellow servant who owes him much less. In contrast to the king, the servant abuses the man who owes him a small debt and in fact has his fellow servant imprisoned. When the king learns of this, he is outraged. He summons the servant and rebukes him, calling him wicked for not forgiving the debt of his fellow servant as he himself was forgiven. In the end the ungrateful servant is handed over to the torturers until he pays back the entire debt that had been forgiven. All because he would not extend to his fellow servant the type of forgiveness he had received from the king.

Even a person unfamiliar with the parables of the New Testament should have no problem understanding this parable. We are the beneficiaries of God's forgiveness. He is willing to forgive us everything. Naturally enough we then are expected to do likewise with those who have offended us. In fact we pray for that, every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, the Our Father: "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". We do not ask God to forget our offenses - He is incapable of forgetting but we do ask Him to shove our offenses (debts or trespasses) aside, in other words to forgive them. We promise to do likewise. Oddly for human beings, when we do make an attempt at forgiveness, very often, even though we may remember the offense, it's impact becomes much less painful or sharp. Forgetting is not a willed action. Remembering is part of the hardwiring of our brains; however, forgiving is a willed action. And certainly we want those whom we have offended to have the same attitude of forgiveness for us. The psalm response this Sunday proclaims that: "He (God) is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in commission ... He pardons all (y)our iniquities, He heals all (y)our ills, He redeems (y)our life from destruction, He crowns you with kindness and compassion". Jesus constantly emphasizes these divine attributes and they are meant to be characteristics of the Church He founded and each and every member of that Church.

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

CENTERING PRAYER

Looking for quiet, inner peace, a deeper union with God? Centering Prayer will resume this Fall, starting Tuesday October 3, from 2:30-3:45pm in the Rectory Basement. Come and join us. All are welcome! Any questions, please call Carol Powell at 718-261-6285.

RELICS OF PADRE PIO

The reputation of the late Padre Pio is worldwide. Several years ago he was canonized primarily in recognition of his compassion in the confessional as well as his miraculous interventions on behalf of many of those who sought his intercession. In order to celebrate what would have been Padre Pio's 130th birthday and the fifteenth anniversary of his canonization, the Archdiocese of New York has arranged for the visitation of some of his relics to St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, September 17th and Monday, September 18th from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. I believe that this is the first time our City has been so honored.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs Parish and Our Lady of Mercy Parish have been involved for almost three years in a highly successful Teen Program (Mayo Teen Group). In previous years, concerned folks in both parishes have tried without much success to establish an imaginative teen program. Where others have failed, Mr. David James, the area Youth Minister, has succeeded. Part of his success rests on the dedicated services of his assistants, most of whom are college students from Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs Parish.

Nonetheless, it has become apparent that if we wish to continue a successful teen program, which combines fun and prayerful reflection, we must have the volunteer services of some adults.

Father Passenant, the administrator of Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs Parish, has requested that our parish provide at least three of four adult volunteers. Certainly this is not a large number yet only one gentleman came forward last weekend! If more than Fathers' quota volunteered then no one person would be overburdened.

The complaint is commonly made that the Church should provide more and better programs for our teenagers. In Forest Hills the Catholic parishes have responded to that challenge; however, one adult cannot safely manage a large number of teenagers. On occasion, as many as seventy-five to a hundred young people have attended the Teen Meetings. The Youth Minister, Dave James, needs our help and we cannot afford to let a successful program die for lack of adult supervision. A special challenge is issued to the parents of our teens. These are our children and they need us. Let us not fail in our commitment to them. If you are interested please call me at the rectory this week! If I am not readily available, please leave your name and a telephone number at which you can be reached.

NEW MASS BOOK FOR 2018

The new Mass book for 2018 is now open for requests. We ask that anyone requesting more than 5 Masses submit a list, including the names, dates, and Mass times you would like, to the Rectory office. We will do our best to accommodate you.

PARTY COMING SOON!

On October 7th, 2017 Our Lady of Mercy will be hosting a **White/Red Polish Party**. The party will take place in the Parish Hall and will start at 7:00pm. There will be music by the group WINDSTAR, and tickets are \$50. Tickets are available at the Rectory.

RCIA INVITATION

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

We are having an **RCIA Orientation Meeting** on Tuesday, September 26th at 7:30pm in the Rectory.

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.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

September 20, 2017	Divine Mercy Chaplet	7:00pm
	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:30pm
	& Benediction	8:00pm
September 27, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm

The Society of St. Lawrence Ruiz will celebrate the feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila on Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 5:00pm followed by a fellowship in the parish hall. All are welcome.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

- Please **do not bring clothing** to, or leave it on the steps of, the Rectory. We no longer have the space to store it or the ability to distribute it. Thank you for your understanding.
- **As you are leaving Mass**, please remember to take all of your personal belongings, to return all hymnals, bulletins and newspapers to their proper place, and to dispose of all refuse in the receptacles provided at the Church doors. Please take pride in our Church, and leave the pews clean. Thank You!

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.**

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 DATE

- 1) On Friday, October 6, 2017, at 1:00pm, Our Lady of Mercy Church and Catholic Academy will celebrate 100 Years of Fatima with a **LIVING ROSARY**. Hospitality will follow in the Parish Hall. Contact Helen Golden, 917-952-5142 to help. More details in coming weeks.
- 2) On October 21, 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!**

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

(Lectors, Choir Members, Eucharistic Ministers, Consolation Group, Ushers)

We are pleased to announce that our Diocese and our parish are inviting all Liturgical and Music Ministers to a Pastoral Convocation Day on Saturday, October 21, 2017 between 9:00 AM and 3:45 PM. This is open to all current lay ministers who serve in parishes of the Diocese. The day will include workshops and guest speakers as well as breakfast and lunch. As a special thank you for your continued service to our own parish, Our Lady of Mercy will assume the cost of the day's activities

If you did not receive an application for the convocation in the mail, they are available at the doors of the Church. Please return completed application to the Rectory by Sunday, September 24th.

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 Minsel, SVD. Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem. \$3299 from New York. Call OLA at 718-897-4444 for information
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- **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.

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.

MUSIC AT MERCY

Golden Rose Opera (OLM's resident opera company) will present "LOVE, LOST AND FOUND" - a Young Artists Opera. Concert Gala and Wine and Cheese Reception - **ALL for 20 BUCKS** right here at **Our Lady of Mercy on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 7:30PM** reservations/information : Call 718-793-2033; Email hvtgmezzo@gmail.com; Order by credit card on www.eventbrite.com [Search for Golden Rose Opera]; or use tear-off form flyers in the church and also in the upcoming Mercy Mirror October 2017 issue.



- **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1424 will be hosting a Barbecue** on September 24th, at 2:00pm, at The Continental Post (107-15 Metropolitan Avenue, Forest Hills). Unit 1424 will be marking 50 years of service to Veterans as well as Community, and would like everyone to join them in celebrating at this "End of Summer BBQ". There will be food, fun and raffles and the cost is \$15 per person. Please RSVP to the Post at 718-520-8623 or Sandy Luongo at 917-837-4743.
- **FREE RECYCLING EVENT** will be held on Sunday, September 24th, from 10:00am-2:00pm, at the George Seuffert, Sr. Bandshell Parking lot in Forest Park on Forest Park Drive (1 block west of Woodhaven Boulevard in Woodhaven). For info please call Senator Addabbo's office at 718-738-1111.
- **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.
- **Life Line Screening** (a look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up) will be at Our Lady of Mercy on October 25th. Getting Screened is Simple! It is painless, non-invasive, and you keep your clothes on. For more info and to register for a **special pricing on 5 valuable screenings** call 1-866-229-0469 or go online to www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.

