

MASS INTENTIONS

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
Monday	September 25th
8:30 AM	Ruth Lena Boerner
12:00 PM	Victor Lamarque
Tuesday	September 26th
8:30 AM	Ellen Oswald
12:00 PM	Our Lady of Mercy
Wednesday	September 27th
8:30 AM	Michael, Caroline, Michael Sassi Jr. and Roland Pugliese
12:00 PM	August Didier
Thursday	September 28th
8:30 AM	Lawrence A. Gluc
12:00 PM	Irene Chellius
Friday	September 29th
8:30 AM	Eleanor & James Mara
12:00 PM	Sheena Devine
Saturday	September 30th
8:30 AM	Irena Gizinska
5:00 PM	Theresa Sevcik (5th Anniversary)
Sunday	October 1st
8:30 AM	Bernadette Boyle
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Bernadette Boyle
5:00 PM	Camillo Turriciano

**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, Ethel Timmerman, 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

Mr. George Warren

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – September 24th**

Twenty Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Feast of Our Lady of Mercy-Hospitality after 10:00am Mass-PH

MONDAY – September 25th

Weekday

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

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

TUESDAY - September 26th

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

-RCIA Orientation Meeting-Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – September 27th

Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am

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

-CCD K thru 6gr.-Church at 3:00pm

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

THURSDAY – September 28th

Weekday

-CCD 6th & 7th Gr.-School at 4:00pm

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:30pm

FRIDAY – September 29th

Saints Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael, Archangels

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

SATURDAY – September 30th

Saint Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

-5:00pm Mass–Celebrating the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz

Fellowship to follow in Parish Hall

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

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 transition.

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.

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.

Dear Parishioners;

HAPPY FEAST DAY! This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Mercy. Under that title she is the patroness of our parish. In 1930, Father Edward Costello, our first pastor, had some leeway in naming our newly established parish. Previous to that, the chapel of ease that served our people was dedicated to the Little Flower, St. Teresa of Lisieux. His reason for the change of name might have had to do with a previous assignment to Our Lady of Mercy in Brooklyn. Nonetheless, the feast has a nine hundred year history. Its origins lie with the foundation of the Mercedarian religious order by Saint Peter Nolasco in Spain around 1218 A.D. ("merced" in the Iberian languages means "mercy"). The original mission of the Mercedarians was to ransom Christian slaves captured by Moorish pirates in the Mediterranean Sea. Mary under the title of Our Lady of Mercy became the Mercedarian patroness.

One of the Gospels that can be used on our feast is John 2:1-11. In it Mary is pictured as a woman of compassion, sensitivity and kindness. She has been invited to a wedding feast. Such events in ancient times could be prolonged because visiting friends and neighbors had to be housed and fed perhaps over several days. Early in the celebrations the wine ran out. This would be akin to beer running out a Super Bowl Party. No wine meant not much of a celebration! The bride and groom and their families will be mortified at this poor planning.

Somehow Mary becomes aware of their predicament and apparently without the family's knowledge, she approaches her Son, Who is also a guest at the party. She tells Him: "They have no wine.". Jesus' response at first seems cold and unfeeling: "How is this concern of yours mine?" But more than likely He intended to have a good evening with friends and neighbors and now finds Himself put on the spot by His mother no less! Does she pay the least bit of attention to His reluctance. Not at all! She simply tells the maitre d': "Do what He tells you.". Of course we know the outcome - Jesus changes ordinary water into a really great vintage of wine. This vintage is so good that John tells us in a humorous aside that the maitre d' complained to the groom: "usually the family produces the good vintage first and then when people have had plenty to drink the lesser vintage!" The implication is that after a sufficient intake, the guests will not know what they are drinking. However, it seems that this family has done the opposite because Our Lord's vintage is so good!

"Do what He tells you" encapsulates Mary's role in the history of salvation. She always points to her Son. She is the compassionate mother given to us by that Son as He hung on His cross. (John 19:26-27). As at Cana, she is more than willing to intercede for us with her Son. She is the merciful mother, who know that the advice: "Do what He tells you." will lead to a fuller life with God. If we take Mary's advice then the ordinary vintage of our lives is transformed into a new and finer vintage. Bland purposeless and confusion are replaced by the hope and peace offered by the Gospel. Like a dutiful Son, Jesus is attentive to His mother's pleading for us just as He was for that distressed couple in Cana of Galilee.

On this day dedicated to our patroness under the title of Our Lady of Mercy, let us pray that our merciful mother brings our petitions and prayers to her Son and let us also pray that we are prepared to heed her wise advice: "Do What He tells You."

In honor of Our Lady after the 10:00 A.M Sung Mass, there will be hospitality in the Church Hall and everyone is invited, even if you attend another Mass.

God bless you,
Monsignor McGuirl

POLISH PARTY

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. You don't have to be Polish to be there and have a good time. Tickets are available at the Rectory.

OLMCA NEWS

SEATS AVAILABLE -PRE-K FOR ALL

We still have seats available for Pre-K for All. If you know a family that might be interested in our program, please contact Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy directly. If your child will be 4 years old on or before December 31, they will be eligible for our enriching and fun full day program! We are more than happy to answer or questions or schedule a tour.

GALA

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. Ticket price is \$100 per person if purchased prior to September 22nd (after that the price is \$125/person). For more info, email alums@olmercyca.com.

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.

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.

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 27, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
October 04, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
October 11, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
October 18, 2017	Divine Mercy Chaplet	7:00pm
	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	7:30pm
October 25, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	8:00pm
		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.**

PRAY THE ROSARY

On Friday, October 6, 2017, at 1:00pm, Our Lady of Mercy Church and Catholic Academy invites everyone to pray the Rosary with the 5th through 8th graders in celebration of Our Lady of Fatima's Centennial, in the Church Hospitality will follow in the Parish Hall.

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.
- Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church (110-06 Queens Blvd, Forest Hills) is having Thursday prayer nights for vocations through November 9. Each prayer night starts at 7:30 p.m., includes Benediction, and features a guest speaker sharing their faith story. Join us to pray for an increase in vocations in our diocese. All are invited: those discerning the possibility of a priestly vocation, women religious, young adults, and married couples. For more information or questions, please call the OLMQ rectory during business hours (718-268-6251) or contact Deacon Greg Kandra by email: dcngreg@gmail.com.
- The Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville will Celebrate their **Annual Gala** on October 26th, at the Crest Hollow Country Club, to benefit their ministries. For further Information, contact Mary F. Fuchs at 631-842-6000 ext. 241
- 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

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.

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.



- **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.
- **The Mary Louis Academy** (176-21 Wexford Terrace, Jamaica Estates, NY) will announce their annual **Open House**, for 7th & 8th Gr. students and their parents/guardians, on October 15th from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Please register at TMLA.ORG.
- **Xavier High School** (30 West 16th St., NYC) will be hosting an **Open House** on October 21st, from 11:30am to 4:00pm, for 6th thru 8th Gr. Boys and their families
- **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.

