

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	January 20th
8:30 AM	Georg Jagusch
5:00 PM	Serafina Sauro
Sunday	January 21st
8:30 AM	Kathleen Armstrong
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Nicholas Juliano
5:00 PM	Margarita Hernandez
Monday	January 22nd
8:30 AM	Carolyn Ryan
12:00 PM	Robert Sitler Jr.
Tuesday	January 23rd
8:30 AM	Nicolina DeBellis (Living Intention)
12:00 PM	Anthony Massone
Wednesday	January 24th
8:30 AM	Zaida Alvarez
12:00 PM	Elizabeth Ruelius
Thursday	January 25th
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
12:00 PM	Victor Lamarque
Friday	January 26th
8:30 AM	Michael Minischetti
12:00 PM	Sam Iodice
Saturday	January 27th
8:30 AM	Caroline, Michael, & Michael Sassi Jr. and Roland Pugliese
5:00 PM	Louis A. Sauro
Sunday	January 28th
8:30 AM	Rose Bruno
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	William DeGray Simonton
5:00 PM	Giuseppe Giordano

PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Leung, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Richard Kelly, Rose Jonsson, 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, Lorraine Kohlmann, Samuel Mantilla, Marianne Albert, Caroline Pugliese, Ervin Dudas, Rev. Joseph Gurdak, OFM, Cap., Patricia Matecki, Patricia Riddick, Salvatore Tuminello, Daniella Salcau, Joe Catanzaro, Joel Rivera, James Jagiello, 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, Sgt. 1st Class James Walsh, 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

Tom DiNucci
James Conroy
Monsignor John A. Burns
Antoinette Wagner

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – January 21st**

Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

MONDAY – January 22nd

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

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

-Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - January 23rd

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – January 24th

Saint Francis de Sales

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am

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

-CCD K thru 5th Gr.-Church at 3:00pm

-Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall beginning at 4:30pm

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

THURSDAY – January 25th

The Conversion of Saint Paul

-Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall beginning at 7:30am

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm & 7:30pm

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

-RCIA-Rectory at 7:30pm

-Boy Scouts-School at 7:30pm

FRIDAY – January 26th

Saint Timothy and Saint Titus

-Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall beginning at 7:30am

SATURDAY – January 27th

Weekday

-Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall at 5:30pm

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:

Zaida Alvarez

by

Jackie Velazquez

**TABERNACLE LIGHT**

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

William H. Bedson (Birthday Remembrance)

by

Carolyn Cariello

Dear Parishioners;

In last week's Sunday Gospel, St. John the Evangelist pictures the call of the first apostles. Andrew and another unnamed disciple (perhaps John himself) are in the crowds clustered around John the Baptist at the River Jordan. The Baptist indicates Jesus to them with the words "Behold the Lamb of God". After this the two disciples are invited by Jesus to "come and see" and they spend a day with Him. Convinced that they have encountered the Messiah, Andrew brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Jesus gives Simon the nickname Cephas or in Greek, Petros, and then in English Peter. The name means a foundation stone.

In today's Gospel from St. Mark, it appears that neither Andrew nor Peter had met Jesus previously. He encounters them on the shore of the Sea of Galilee where they were plying their trade as fishermen. Jesus invites them to "Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men". Fishermen by trade; in the future they will continue to be fishermen but in a new way.

It seems unlikely that these toughened men, who plied their trade outdoors day after day would simply drop everything at the invitation of an itinerant Rabbi. It stands to reason that the four core Apostles might have met Jesus earlier but then returned to their usual occupations. This second invitation may have come later - the apostles probably had experienced Jesus and therefore were willing to follow Him. This call initiates the beginning of the proclamation of the Good News. The Kingdom of God is inaugurated; moreover, that Kingdom has an already-not-yet tension.

Jesus has come but the early Church expected His second coming momentarily. From our point of view their timing may have been inaccurate but the truth remains "the world in its present form is passing away". Paul indicates in the second reading, taken from his first letter to the Corinthians, that even the ordinary things to which people cling, even the magnificent world in which we live, give us only a glimpse and a beginning of the glory of the age to come.

The new kingdom is at hand and it will not be like the Roman Empire, under the direction of Caesar, or the local petty kings under Roman domination. When Jesus begins teaching, John the Baptist has already been executed by one of those petty kings, a son of Herod the Great.

The new kingdom is a response to God's invitation to share His life. Our response is one of repentance (in Greek, "metanoia", meaning a conversion of mind and heart) and a belief in the Gospel. Someday, veiled from our eyes, the Kingdom will come in its fullness. Now we are agents in the proclamation of that Kingdom. The readings today intimate an urgency in that Proclamation. Perhaps like Jonah in the first reading, we are reluctant prophets. We may try to run from God. But He can and does use us, as He did Jonah, to lead others to repentance. Peter, Andrew, James and John would prove to be less than perfect disciples and yet they started a world-changing movement which still continues. They responded to Jesus immediately and their lives changed radically. There is an urgency here! If God could use those Galilean fishermen and a prophet like Jonah then there is certainly room for us! But time is limited, we must be Jesus' active disciples now!

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

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 to arrange your memorial.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS COMING

It's that time of year again. We will be burning Palm from last year for the Ashes on Ash Wednesday. There will be containers in the church vestibule for you to leave your Palm, if you wish. Please bring Palm no later than **February 9th**.

**OLM CONSOLATION MINISTRY
NEEDS HELP**

At present, there are not many active members in our consolation Ministry. The "precious few" that we have, work tirelessly to make sure that no parishioner finds it necessary to deal with the loss of a loved one alone. By helping families through the difficult process of handling final arrangements for services for a deceased family member, the Consolation Minister actually makes an unpleasant experience a bit easier to bear while, at the same time, offering much needed support. Please consider joining those who are already performing this valuable ministry. Call or stop by the Rectory if you are interested in helping, or if you would like to know more about this ministry.

SAVE THE DATES

Our **Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy** will host **Open House** on January 28th, 2018 from 11:00am to 1:00pm and on February 1st, 2018 from 9:30am to 11:00am

OLM will be holding our **annual Blood Drive** on Sunday, February 25th, 2018 from 8:45am to 2:45pm.

IS IT SPRING YET?

There are approximately 70 days until Spring. Are you ready? It's time to think "**Spring Fling**"! If you are interested in being a vendor, call the Rectory at 718-268-6143 for more information.

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**

SPECIAL BALANCE & FALL PREVENTION CLASS

Gerard McNiff, the instructor of the regular Wednesday classes here at OLM, will present this special class on **January 31st, 2018 at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall**. He will be giving tips on improving your balance, mobility, and posture, and teaching ways to prevent falls as well as things to do to improve flexibility and focus. Remember! Life is all about balance.

Please leave your name at the Rectory if you would like to attend.

ST. PATRICK/ST. JOSEPH DAY PARTY

Last year was so much fun that we are doing it again. Come celebrate two great saints with food, drink, music and dancing on March 17th, from 6:00 to 10:00pm at OLM's Parish Hall. DJ Dave Brennan of Afino Entertainment will bring his magnificent sound system, light and dancing show to lead the jigs, reels, conga lines, and singalongs. Tickets are \$50/person and include Irish and Italian Cuisine, soft drinks, coffee, tea, and desert. BYOB if you desire. Ticket purchase flyers will be available in the bulletin and the Church. To make your song and dance requests or to get more information, please contact **Helen or Jimmy at 718-793-2033**.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to one and all for the support that you gave to our food pantry during the holiday season. Because of your generosity many families, less fortunate than many of us, were able to enjoy special Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Unfortunately, **hunger knows no season**, and the need continues. Due to the large number of people looking for help during the holidays, **The Pantry shelves are literally bare!**

Food items needed: cereal, cereal bars, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruits/meats/soups, tuna fish, pasta sauces, Chef Boyardee pastas, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, Parmalat/powdered milk, paper towels, bathroom tissue, toothpaste, soaps, and other personal hygiene items. **Please Help!**

**OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC ACADEMY
CHANGE DRIVE**

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy is having its annual Change Drive. There are two collection containers at the back of the church. Please consider donating some spare change. The money we collect will be added to the profits of our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair, which will be held in the Parish Hall from Wednesday, January 24th to Sunday, January 28th. It will be used to purchase resources for our Academy Library and will be matched by Scholastic, who will distribute an equivalent value of books to underprivileged children through organizations such as the *Kids In Need Foundation*, *Reader to Reader, Inc.*, and the *National Center for Families Learning*. A small donation from you can really make a huge difference in the lives of our students and children in need. Every little bit helps!

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 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.



The Bulletin Board

- **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.
- **Rachel's Helpers**, a post-abortion ministry for women, is sponsoring a program entitled **Forgiven and Set Free** for women who have had an abortion and are seeking spiritual healing. There will be sessions every Monday from 2/12/18 thru 4/23/18, from 7:30 to 9:30pm. Please call 347-702-2352 for more info. There is no fee and all calls are confidential.
- **Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette** for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2018 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes region of NH, offer 2 week overnight sessions for children ages 6-15. Round trip bus transportation is available out of Long Island. For more information, or to request a brochure, contact Brendan Stackhouse at 603-364-5851 or email brendan@bfcamp.com.
- "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God." Let us learn to comfort each other better by attending a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The next Weekends are July 14-15, 2018 in Bayside, NY and Sept. 14-16, 2018 in Huntington, NY. For more information, call Richard & Pinky Arteca at 877-697-9963 or visit at <https://bqwwme.org>.
- **Pray for me, Diocese of Brooklyn** is a new initiative where you can submit your prayer requests and pray for each others' intentions, in partnership with the Sister Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara in Borough Park, Brooklyn. To submit your prayer requests, go to www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/prayforme.

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 week, 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

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

January 24, 2018	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
January 31, 2018	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm

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

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR AT OLM

Buy great books at great prices! Please bring friends and family and support our school! All events take place in the Parish Hall as follows:

- **Wednesday, January 24th:** Open 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm - (Bedtime Stories from 6 pm-7 pm for Grades 2 and Younger)
- **Thursday, January 25th:** Open 7:30 am to 8:00 pm (Family Literacy Game Night: 6:30 pm-8 pm for Grades 3-8)
- **Friday, January 26th:** Book Fair Open 7:30 am to 4:00
- **Saturday, January 27th:** Book Fair Open 5:30 to 6:30 pm
- **Sunday, January 28th:** Book Fair Open 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Join us for **Hospitality and Bookmark-Making after the 10 am Mass** to kick off Catholic Schools Week. **Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy** will also be hosting an **Open House** in the school building from **11 am to 1:00 pm**. All are welcome!

CHOIR NEWS

Our choir season has begun and we look forward to welcoming new members, as well as our returning ones. You do not need to be able to read music and there are no formal auditions. Our choir welcomes everyone, (Adult and Youth from 7th Gr. Up). We meet in the Parish Hall on Sundays at 9:30am to warm up for the 10:00am Mass and rehearse after the Mass from 11:00am to 12:00 Noon. At this point, for your convenience, there are no evening rehearsals during the week. If you are interested in this valuable ministry, please join our choir by contacting Jane Lawson (Director of Music) at the rectory or after Mass on the weekends in Church.

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. Call the OLQM rectory at 718-268-6251 if interested in attending or more info, email ymizelle@nyc.rr.com.
- **Our Lady of Hope (Middle Village)** is beginning an outreach service called Witnesses of Mercy. It's purpose is to provide visitation and companionship to seniors living alone and homebound of all ages and faiths. If you are interested in a visit or in volunteering for this ministry, please contact Mario @347-642-3117.

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!

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