

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday February 10th**  
 8:30 AM Ronald Katsky  
 5:00 PM Angelo & Rosemary Sauro

**Sunday February 11th**  
 8:30 AM Joseph DiCapua and BiFalco & DiCapua Families  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM Lucia & Miguel Dordulaw  
 5:00 PM James Conroy

**Monday February 12th**  
 8:30 AM Elizabeth Jacques  
 12:00 PM Joan Sauro

**Tuesday February 13th**  
 8:30 AM Theresa Frazer  
 12:00 PM Robert Malm

**Wednesday February 14th**  
 8:30 AM Casaccio & Chocko Families  
 10:00 AM OLMCA Mass  
 12:00 PM Mass  
 3:00PM CCD Service  
 7:30PM Mass

**Thursday February 15th**  
 8:30 AM Francis Morison  
 12:00 PM Donato Rutigliano

**Friday February 16th**  
 8:30 AM William Kirby & Leonard Quigley  
 12:00 PM Mary Skirkanish

**Saturday February 17th**  
 8:30 AM Bolivar & Robert Almeida  
 5:00 PM William Walters

**Sunday February 18th**  
 8:30 AM Eleanor & James Mara  
 10:00 AM Parish Mass  
 12:00 PM Kathleen Palumbo  
 5:00 PM John DeBiase

**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, 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, Manuel Juan Perez, Dianne Nudelman, Inez Arastia, Sofia Robello, 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, Felipe Vallejo, Agatha Tardi, Adam Martini, Christine Smolenski, 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; Major 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**

Tommy May  
 Emma McCauley  
 Claire Dowd

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**SUNDAY – February 11th**  
*Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time*  
**MONDAY – February 12th**  
*Weekday*  
 -Scripture Study-Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30pm  
 -Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm  
**TUESDAY - February 13th**  
*Weekday*  
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm  
**WEDNESDAY – February 14th**  
*Ash Wednesday*  
 -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  
**Blessed ashes will be distributed after the homily at each Mass and at the Prayer Service at 3:00pm.**  
**THURSDAY – February 15th**  
*Thursday after Ash Wednesday*  
 -Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm & 7:30pm  
 -CCD 6th & 7th Gr.-School at 4:00pm  
 -Baptism Class-Rectory at 7:30pm  
 -RCIA-Rectory at 7:30pm  
 -Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:30pm  
**FRIDAY – February 16th**  
*Friday after Ash Wednesday*  
**SATURDAY – February 17th**  
*Saturday after Ash Wednesday*  
 -Baptism-Church at 1:00pm

**PLEASE NOTE:** Packets of Ashes will be available, on Ash Wednesday, in the Sacristy & Rectory. Please take one if you know a homebound parishioner who would like to receive Ashes.

**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 to arrange your memorial.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Parish Pay** has transitioned over to “WeShare”. If you used Parish Pay and are experiencing any problems with the transition or if you wish to **register for on line giving** you can call 800-950-9952 option 1 & then option 2 or email weshare@4lpi.com.

Dear Parishioners;

This week for your convenience, we are publishing the **Ash Wednesday and Lenten regulations**.

**The Chancery of the Diocese of Brooklyn has informed us of the following:**

**Ash Wednesday is February 14th. It is one of only two days of strict fast and abstinence (the other is Good Friday, March 30th).** For the first time since 1945, the observance of Ash Wednesday coincides with Saint Valentine's Day. The observance of Ash Wednesday is universally observed by the entire Catholic Church as the beginning of the penitential season of Lent. It serves to unite us with all of our Catholic brothers and sisters throughout the world. For this reason there will not be a dispensation from the these universal norms. It is strongly suggested that St. Valentine activities take place the previous day, which traditionally is a day of festive celebrations. Tuesday, February 13th, is Mardi Gras. That phrase in French means "Fat Tuesday". In times of much more severe Lenten practices, it was the last day on which meat could be eaten, thus the name. "Carnival" is the traditional celebration of Mardi Gras, and it comes from the Latin phrase, "Carne vale", - "Goodbye Meat"

**On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are required to fast.** This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken at two other occasions during the day.

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.** All Catholics who have reached fourteen years are required to abstain totally from meat or meat products on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

**On Ash Wednesday, February 14th, ashes will be distributed during Mass or services as follows:**  
8:30 A.M. Mass; 10:00 A.M. Academy Mass (everyone is invited if this is convenient for you); 12:00 P.M. Mass; a Religious Education Service at 3:00 P. M. (once again this is open to all parishioners, if it is more convenient) and a Mass at 7:30 P.M.

**During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross in the Church every Friday at both 12:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.** Most of us can not travel to Jerusalem to walk the actual Via Dolorosa (The Sorrowful Way) but the Stations of the Cross are a wonderful way to enter into the Passion and Death of Our Lord. We have them twice every Friday of Lent with the hope of engaging as many of our parishioners as possible. The Stations should be a part of the Lenten practices of every Catholic.

**After First Holy Communion, every Catholic has the serious obligation of receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion at least once a year.** This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season, unless for a very good reason it is fulfilled at some other time of the year. In the United States of America the time period for fulfilling this precept is **from the First Sunday of Lent, February 18th to Pentecost, May 20th, 2018.** If necessary, before Communion, recourse should be made to the Sacrament of Penance. **Penance is celebrated in Our Lady of Mercy Parish every Saturday year round from 4:00 to 4:45 P.M.**

The weekly bulletin will keep you advised of other Lenten programs as they develop.

A blessed Lent to all of our parishioners and our friends and visitors!  
 Monsignor McGuirl

**DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE**

February 14, 2018	NO ACTIVITY	
February 21, 2018	NO ACTIVITY	
February 28, 2018	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm

**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.

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**GIVE BLOOD  
SAVE LIFE**

OUR LADY OF MERCY is sponsoring the New York Blood Center's Blood Drive on **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018** in the Parish Hall from **8:45AM to 2:45PM.**

**REMEMBER! The need for blood is constant.**

One in three persons will require a transfusion at some time in their life. It may be for a surgical procedure, to replace essential blood cells depleted by a disease process, or trauma as was the experience of a young father taking his daughters to school. As he exited his car he was struck by a truck which caused irreparable damage to his legs and massive blood loss. After 11 surgical procedures and 70 transfusions he recovered. He attributed his survival to the rapid replacement of available blood donated by people who took the time to share this valued gift of life.

During this time of the year a combination of weather conditions, winter vacations, and the prevalence of the flu have diminished the Center's inventory, and at present there is an urgent need for donors.

As we begin this Lenten season, a time of reflection, prayer, and self sacrifice, please consider donating your precious gift to sustain the life of another.

Literature is available in the vestibule of the church for your review. For further information please contact Carol Flaherty in the Rectory office 718 268 6143. Walk INS are welcome, appointments are not essential. Please bring your Blood Center ID card or ID number, and a photo ID on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers are needed throughout the day to assist the donors. If you can offer an hour or two of your time please leave your name and phone number at the Rectory Office 718 268 6143.

**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

**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 a Holiday.

**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!**

**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.

**LENTEN BIBLE PROGRAMS**

- **Tuesday Evenings Beginning February 27:**  
**Bible Study** at 7:30-8:45 p.m.
- **Thursday Afternoons/Evenings Beginning March 1:**  
**Scripture Sharing and Prayer** at 2:30 – 4:00 pm  
(repeated at 7:30 -9:00 pm)

BOTH PROGRAMS MEET IN THE RECTORY BASEMENT and are conducted by David and Carol Powell respectively in the Rectory Basement.

Any questions, reach us at the Religious Ed Office at 718-261-6285 or olmercyrreligion@gmail.com



# The Bulletin Board

- **Northwell Health's Katz Institute for Women's Health** will host a **program and dinner** addressing *The Heart and Brain Connection, How to take ownership of your heart and brain health.* The program will take place at the West Side Tennis Club (Forest Hills) on February 15th at 6pm. Register online at: [kiwh-heartbrainconnection.eventbrite.com](http://kiwh-heartbrainconnection.eventbrite.com) - \$20 (\$15 when 2 or more register together)
- **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](mailto: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](http://www.dioceseofbrooklyn.org/prayforme).
- **Part-time Social Worker Position Open** for a small Long Term Care Facility (under 100 employees) in Queens Village. Geriatric experience needed. Please fax Resume to 718-464-4308 or email to [qphr@littlesistersofthepoor.org](mailto:qphr@littlesistersofthepoor.org).

## CONGRATULATIONS

St. Francis Preparatory School has notified us that our parishioners (previous OLM students), Isabella Cognata & Mark Alex Sulewski, have achieved Honor Roll status for the second quarter of the current school year. Well done!

## 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**

## 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.

## CHOIR NEWS

Our choir season has begun and we always 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. The next scheduled meetings are February 5, March 5 and March 19, 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).
- **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.
- The **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Charismatic Prayer Group** is organizing a pilgrimage to the National Shrine, Stockbridge, MA Sunday, April 8. Bus departs 6:30 a.m. (sharp) from OLQM church (corner Ascan Ave. and Queens Blvd). Cost: \$50 per person. **Wear good walking shoes!** Tickets are first come, first served, so reserve early and don't miss out! Call any of these prayer group members to request tickets: Cely De Borja: 718-255-1654 or 347-743-2304 Cecile Mendoza: 718-674-6551 or 347-453-4147 Virgie Punto: 917-770-0897 Marlyn Pagmanua: 347-791-4398 Nellie Milite: 718-704-3862

## 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