

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday April 14th
 8:30 AM Bolivar & Robert Almeida
 5:00 PM Rocco Ciaravolo

Sunday April 15th
 8:30 AM William Kirby & Leonard Quigley
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Vivian Corrigan
 5:00 PM Arnold Davis

Monday April 16th
 8:30 AM Margaret Fennelly
 12:00 PM Raymond Medina

Tuesday April 17th
 8:30 AM Loretta Mele
 12:00 PM Trudy Stefanelli

Wednesday April 18th
 8:30 AM Cecelia Dorgan
 12:00 PM Edgar Renovales Jr.

Thursday April 19th
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti
 12:00 PM Concetta Giurdanella

Friday April 20th
 8:30 AM Bridget Murphy
 12:00 PM Charles Stramera

Saturday April 21st
 8:30 AM Lureen Brennan (Living Intention)
 5:00 PM Peggy O'Neill Fennelly

Sunday April 22nd
 8:30 AM Ernst Walter
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Joan Sasscer
 5:00 PM John & Mary Hickey

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, 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, Joel Rivera, Felipe Vallejo, Agatha Tardi, Adam Martini, Christine Smolenski, Louis Barberi, Dcn. Ed Smolinski, Frances Galson, Mary Wiley, Norman Zuniga, Ann Fallon, Grace DiFazio, 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.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – April 15th
Third Sunday of Easter
 -Children’s Liturgy-!2:00pm Mass

MONDAY – April 16th
Easter Weekday
 -Scripture Study-Rectory Meeting Room at 7:30pm
 -Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - April 17th
Easter Weekday
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm
 -Bible Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – April 18th
Easter Weekday
 -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
 -Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – April 19th
Easter Weekday
 -Scripture Sharing & 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 – April 20th
Easter Weekday
 -Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 6:00pm

SATURDAY – April 21st
Easter Weekday
 -Baptism-Church at 1:00pm

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

Many thanks for the donation of new Church Linen given
in loving memory of:
Dorothy Palumbo
 by
 Joe & Nicole Francis

BREAD AND WINE



Many thanks for this week’s donation of Bread & Wine given
in loving memory of:
Joan Sauro
 by
 The Sauro Family

ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks for this week’s donation of Altar Flowers given
in loving memory of:
Edgar Renovales Jr.
 by
 Hilda



Dear Parishioner

At the end of the last world war, a bomb hit one of the churches in Germany. In the side altar, there was a beautiful marble statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Lord Jesus had his hands extended in a gesture of invitation: *"Come to me, all!"* Shrapnel hit ceiling. After the bombing people went to the church and found the beautiful statue lying on the floor. When they lifted up the figure, it turned out that only Christ's hands were broken off. Jesus stretched out his arm, but without the hand. After the war, Allied soldiers visited this church. One of them, a Catholic, was long pensive before the statue of Christ who stretched out his arm without a hand to the people. Then he took a piece of carton, took out a pencil, wrote something on it, and attached the cardboard to the hand of Lord Jesus. Other people would come and read the words: *"I do not have any other hands from now on, only yours"*. Those words written by the soldier on the cardboard do not differ much from the words that Christ uses in today's Gospel to his apostles and their successors, saying: *"You are witnesses of these things"*.

Appearing to the Apostles after his resurrection once again, Christ strengthens their faith first. He says to them:

"Why are you troubled?

And why do questions arise in your hearts?

Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.

Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have."

Once they confirmed availability, Jesus referred to the Scripture:

"everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled."

Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer

and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,

would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things." (Lk 24, 44, 46-48)

So we see that Christ has done everything possible for the apostles to be *"good witnesses"*. Not only because they had heard of Christ, but also seen and touched him. In addition, Jesus *"opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."* (Luke 24.45) Strengthened, the enlightened witnesses dedicated the rest of their lives to Him. Eleven of them sealed testimony with their own blood, giving their lives for Christ.

"You are witnesses of these things." These words, Christ spoke not only to the apostles, but also to us. Each of us should bear witness to Christ as best he can. We should bear witness that Christ is our God and Savior who died for our salvation on the cross and rose from the dead, yet is alive and reigns not only in heaven, but also in our hearts.

In light of the fact that Christ is our God, who has risen and lives in our hearts, we should above all provide an example in our daily lives. Christ ascended to heaven and can no longer traverse the land of Palestine, like He had done in the past. He cannot teach, heal, show love and compassion to people who need it. But we can and should do these things as His followers, His witnesses. Therefore, each of us should strive to be "an extension" of Christ living in our modern times and conditions. Each of us should be such a man, through whom Christ continues to live, as he teaches, works, sacrifices, loves and saves.

We are witnesses of Christ even when we bravely endure all the sufferings, crosses and adversities for Him and His Gospel. The following story demonstrates the fact that this way of bearing witness to Christ is very important.

An unbelieving doctor took care of an ailing cancer patient, who had only a few months left of her life. Usually the doctor tried to comfort his patient. In this case, however, it was different. The ill patient consoled the doctor. Many times the doctor visited her, and many times he felt in her some extraordinary, superhuman peace. It began to intrigue him. Therefore, once the doctor openly said: *"I admire how you eliminated the suffering and illness. I wonder, what is the source of this peace."* She pointed to the cross hanging on the wall and said: *"Christ, who died for me on the cross, is helping me come to terms with fate and endure my suffering."* The response of the faithful women made the unbelieving doctor think deeply of this. After several months, he found his way to God.

"A Christian should go where there is no light to shine alone," said Reinhold Schneider. Let's look today at our hearts and ask ourselves whether through our faith, the example of our lives and brave abolition of suffering and experience, we strive to be people with light, dissipating the darkness of non-belief and doubt?

In Christ,
Father Gregory

MASS OF INCLUSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The shrine church of St. Gerard Majella (188-16 91st Avenue, Hollis, NY 11423) will host a Mass of Inclusion for People with Disabilities on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 11:30 AM, sponsored by Catholic Charities and parish advocates. The Mass will be followed by a workshop for families with disabled children and young adults. Advocates will discuss adult guardianship; applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability (SSD); and creating health care proxies. Light refreshments will be available. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Maria Celestin (advocate for St. Gerard Majella) at (718) 454 2961.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Sunday 12noon Mass will now be the Family Mass with the return of the Children's Liturgy of the Word. Children's Liturgy is an age-appropriate liturgy for children through fourth grade, to be held in the Parish Hall, on the following Sundays:

April 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th

May 13th

June 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th

We are seeking volunteers to help bring the Word to our parish's children. Activity sheets are provided to help and no previous experience is necessary. For more details or to help, please email chrischildrensliturgy@gmail.com. Thank you!

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.

Any time that you can spare will certainly make a difference! Why not give it a try?!!

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

April 11, 2018	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
April 18, 2018	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:00pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet-7:30pm & Benediction-8:00pm	
April 25, 2017	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

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.

BIBLE PROGRAMS

EASTER SEASON BIBLE SERIES BEGINS TUESDAY APRIL 24 AND THURSDAY APRIL 26

- *Tuesday Evening Bible Study:*
FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION -
Tuesday evenings April 24 thru May 15 7:30-8:45 p.m.
Facilitator: David Powell
- *Thursday Afternoon and Thursday Evening Scripture Sharing and Prayer*
Thursdays April 26 thru May 17 at 2:30 pm - 3:45 pm and 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm
Facilitator: Carol Powell

Just come as you are - we provide Bibles and other materials for discussion. No need to sign up. Just try to make as many sessions as you can for the sake of continuity. Any questions call the Religious Ed office at 718 261-6285 or email olmercyreleg@gmail.com. ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE IN THE RECTORY.

SPRING FLING UPDATE



Despite Mother Nature's unwillingness to cooperate, we are well on our way getting ready for the Spring Fling event on the evening of May 11th and all day May 12th. As with any big event, we are in need of a few things. "PEOPLE". We still need volunteers to help with the decorating, working some of the booths, kitchen duty, putting together raffle baskets and most importantly, just having fun and friendship.

Interested? Call the rectory for more info. We're waiting for you!

CHOIR NEWS

We always look forward to welcoming new members 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.

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**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

All couples, who have celebrated their marriage in the Catholic Church, and their families are invited to the **Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration on June 9th** at 11:am at the Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston. All couples will have the opportunity to renew their wedding vows and will receive a personalized certificate signed by Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio. Special recognition will be given to couples who are celebrating their 25th, 50th, or 75th Anniversary. To register, please contact Martha Hernandez at 718-281-9540 or email mhernandez@diobrook.org.



- **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.
- The **112th Precinct Community Council** members invite you to their **April Meeting**, at the Precinct, on April 18th at 7:30pm.
- **Graduates of Dominican Commercial H.S., Jamaica NY** are welcomed to join us in a **DC Tribute** on **4/22/18**. The building is being sold and we are gathering to enjoy one last day of memories and to thank the Dominican Sisters. Please contact: cathleenquinn@optonline.net for more details, or call 516-457-6923. Kindly RSVP if you are planning on attending.
- **Molloy College** will be hosting a **Spring Open House** for prospective students and their guests on April 29th at 1:00pm, at their campus in Rockville Centre, NY.
- **The Queen of Peace Residence** for the Elderly in Queens Village has an **opening for the following positions:**
 FT - Days RN/LPN - Geriatric experience needed
 FT - Days Housekeeper
 PT - Receptionist - must be available for w/e hours
 Fax resume to 718-464-4308
 or email qphr@littlesistersofthepoor.org
- **The Diocese of Brooklyn's Assembly on Evangelization and the celebration of V Encuentro**, a spectacular two day evangelization event, will take place on April 27th and 28th at Saint John's University. For details, go to www.meetmein.church or call Clendy Calderon at 718-281-9544.

**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 \$75/\$200 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 because of the kindness of those who contributed their old car to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and mentioned our Church. Please continue to spread the word, and thank you for your support. Call the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 718-491-2525**.

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 held 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.

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!

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please remember to **write the amount of your offering in the space provided 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

