

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	April 7th
8:30 AM	Hugh & Mary McGovern
5:00 PM	Dottie Phillips
Sunday	April 8th
8:30 AM	Joseph Corbo
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Ernst Walter
5:00 PM	James Conroy
Monday	April 9th
8:30 AM	Marie Shookster
12:00 PM	Arnold Davis
Tuesday	April 10th
8:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Szabados Family
12:00 PM	Dumitru Ardelean
Wednesday	April 11th
8:30 AM	Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
12:00 PM	Ernst Walter
Thursday	April 12th
8:30 AM	Joan Sauro
12:00 PM	Jillian Ann Lambert (First Anniversary)
Friday	April 13th
8:30 AM	_____
12:00 PM	Gerard Eckel
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

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Sr. Maria Voorneveld (Sr. Mary Timothy) I.H.M.
Frances T. Beech
Retired Fire Captain Charles Crawbuck Sr.
Anthony J. Failla

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – April 8th**

Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday

-Children's Liturgy-!2:00pm Mass

MONDAY – April 9th

The Annunciation of the Lord

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

-Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - April 10th

Easter Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

-Bible Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – April 11th

Saint Stanislaus

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

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

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

THURSDAY – April 12th

Easter Weekday

-Scripture Sharing & Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm & 7:30pm

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

-RCIA-Rectory at 7:30pm

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:30pm

FRIDAY – April 13th

Easter Weekday

SATURDAY – April 14th

Easter Weekday

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:**

Arnold Davis

by

Mary Ellen & Jim Freeley and Annette Dubiel

**TABERNACLE LIGHT**

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

Arnold Davis

by

Mary Ellen & Jim Freeley and Annette Dubiel

Divine Mercy Sunday Reflection:

Jesus, I Trust in You

Everyone wants to be happy. It is our purpose in life. Our Lord Jesus Christ knew this and left us steps to happiness. They are called the eight beatitudes. One of the steps to happiness is to be merciful. Thus, Our Blessed Lord said, 'Blessed are the merciful.' St. Thomas Aquinas says that the merciful is one who has a sorrowful heart; being affected with sorrow at the misery of another as though it were his own. Since he is affected with sorrow of the other, he would want to dispel the misery of the other, which is the effect of mercy.

When someone asks for forgiveness, we see the sorrow of the other and would forgive them. However, one cannot be merciful if he is not meek. How can one see the sorrow of another if he has pride? The only way I can see another's sorrow is if I see myself as not being greater than them. Therefore, one must be meek before one can be merciful. To be meek is just seeing one's self as he truly is. He would see himself as one who has dignity, a person who is in the image of God. He must also see the other as none greater than him. He must see that the person is in the image of God. In this way, they are equal. Both deserve mercy and love.

This is exactly how God saw man. God made man in the image of Himself. There is something in man that is so valuable that God would become man, die, and resurrect so that he can attain eternal life. In exchange for our humanity, God gives His divinity, that we may be partakers of the Divine Nature. This is what the Fathers meant when they said, "God became man that man might become God." Even though man has sinned against God, God never forgot what He made, that is, good. He made man good. He never forgot this fact. He always remembers that, even though man sinned against Him.

If God, who is infinitely greater than man, has mercy toward those who offend Him, should we not also have mercy toward those who offend us? Whenever we feel greater than the other, we must always remember Jesus humbled Himself. We must also remember the agony of Jesus in the garden. Because of His agony, He was unrecognizable. This is why He had to tell the people, "It is I you are looking for." We have to ask ourselves these questions: Would we have recognized Jesus' face? Will we always recognize Jesus' face? Will we recognize Jesus' face especially in others' faces? Will we see Him in our friends, neighbors, and even our enemies? Will we see Jesus' face when someone asks for our forgiveness?

In Christ
Deacon Dean

Pastor's Message:

My dear Parishioners,

I hope that all of you had a glorious faith-filled Easter. Easter is the primary Christian feast. It is the Sunday of Sundays. In the early Apostolic Church, the experience of the Risen Lord was so powerful that it radically transformed a small group of men and women, who up to that point might best be described as timid, not to say, cowardly. The experience of the Risen Jesus was so overwhelming that this non-descript group were transformed into a dynamic Spirit-filled force that utterly changed the world. Their message still has that transforming effect.

It is my happy duty to sincerely thank all those who attended or enhanced our Easter liturgies. Most certainly we owe a debt of gratitude to our part-time sacristans Helen Golden and Jim Mara, our Directors of Religious Education, Carol and David Powell, our directors of music, Jane Lawson, and our great choir as well as our maintenance team of Tom Lambert and Jason Beaudry. Nothing would be accomplished if not for the volunteers, who helped decorate the Church, and then our altar servers, cantors, lectors, extraordinary Eucharistic ministers and ushers. We would also like to thank so many folks for their Easter cards and remembrances.

In the spirit of Easter, I bring to your attention the *Annual Catholic Appeal*. I fully understand that many of us (myself included) are satisfying pledges made to *The Generation of Faith* Campaign. That Campaign might be considered as support for special Diocesan initiatives as well as local capital expenses. For the last two years, virtually all repairs to our buildings have been accomplished by a reliance on our share of *The Generation of Faith* funds. Because of this we have not had to dig into the patrimony of the parish.

The *Annual Catholic Appeal* helps to fund the everyday activities of the Diocese. Any amount over our Diocesan goal of \$81,320 (same at last year) is returned to the parish. Unfortunately last year (2017) we fell short of the goal by slightly over ten thousand dollars. The parish gained nothing immediately from the *Appeal* except in the general sense that the whole Diocese benefits. In fact, I was asked to make up part of that deficit to the tune of \$5,000. That amount came out of parish funds and I am loathe to do that again. Not only did the parish not benefit immediately but in fact we "lost" money.

If you have been contacted by the *Appeal* Office, I do ask you to prayerfully consider making a Pledge or gift. Shortly there will be an In-Pew Appeal for those not on the mailing lists. Every parishioner knows that at Our Lady of Mercy you are not besieged with appeals for money. In fact, fundraising is rarely, perhaps too rarely, mentioned. I consider the time we have together, especially the Sunday homily, as very precious to the development of our faith. That Faith is the reason for having a parish!

Nonetheless, I cannot afford to be a fool. Even in our regular collections, far too many folks satisfy themselves by dropping a dollar or a handful of change in the basket. This really doesn't cut it! It costs over twice that amount for one subway ride! If you purchase good bottle of scotch, you will pay, depending on the brand, over thirty dollars. If you still smoke, a carton of cigarettes will cost at least \$90. Hopefully what is offered in Church is more valuable than either liquor or nicotine!

The Church is not exempt from most of the expenses faced by Forest Hills homeowners. Our employees must be paid and the proper deductions made for taxes, social security, and insurance. We pay the water tax. The lights and utilities are not free. We pay liability insurance for our buildings. Repairs can be excessively expensive. The only tax, from which the parish (and all other non-profits) are exempt, is the real estate tax. Were we obliged to pay that, then parish ceases to exist!

I do ask you to consider prayerfully making a Pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal. How much you pledge must be left to your sense of your own financial means. The demand from St. Matthew's Gospel: "Go and teach all nations, Baptizing them in the Name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19) applies in different ways to every Catholic. Thank you for reading this and again, I know every family has different circumstances, so all I can do is ask you to do your best.

Both this week and next week, there will be a flyer included in the bulletin, which will explain the goals and purposes of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

In Christ,
Msgr. McGuirl

**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.

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.

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

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!?

BIBLE PROGRAMS

TWO PROGRAMS are conducted by David and Carol Powell respectively and meet in the Rectory Basement as follows:

- **Bible Study** -Tuesday at 7:30p.m.
- **Scripture Sharing and Prayer** -Thursday at 2:30pm & 7:30pm

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

THIS IS SPRING?????



Mother Nature is definitely confused! This is Spring!? Nevertheless, we are well under way in our endeavors for the Spring Fling on the evening of May 11th and all day May 12th. There is one hiccup that remains. It has made Grannie (or Gramps) quite nervous... We have no one to help with Grannie's Attic treasures. If no one (even a group of people) steps forward to set up and organize the treasures that come in, we may not be able to help poor Grannie or Gramps out. All those treasures will not be a part of the Spring Fling. Whatever monies comes in from the sales of these treasures is free and clear.

Keep in mind that this is the only *big* fund raiser that is held. All the monies that come in are used for our parish. As in your own household, there are bills and repairs that are always to be attended to. Our collections alone to not cover all the expenses.

Grannie's Attic is not the only place we could use help. Consider helping with decorating, do the New Gifts table or just generally helping out for a few hours. Any and all help is welcomed. Please call the rectory or email (address is on the front of the bulletin) and let us know how you are willing to help.

Where is everyone???? Come have some fun, meet new people or say hello to old friends. Many hands make light work.

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**

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

April 08, 2018	Divine Mercy Sunday	
	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	1:30pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction	3:00pm
	Refreshments following in Parish Hall	
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



- **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.
- **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.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the March Winners of the 50-50 Raffle:

1 st Prize: Maryellen & Ray Schillo	\$257.00
2 nd Prize: Joan Minischetti	\$128.00
3 rd Prize: Maria Liparulo	\$128.00
4 th Prize: Charles Haunss	\$64.00
5 th Prize: Tina Mascioli	\$64.00

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

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.

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.

