

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday August 4th
 8:30 AM Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
 5:00 PM Camillo Turriciano

Sunday August 5th
 8:30 AM Anastasia & Victor Stankiewicz
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Dorothy Palumbo
 5:00 PM Louis Tosi (Van Nostrand)

Monday August 6th
 8:30 AM Claude Fresca
 12:00 PM Helen & Frank Skiba

Tuesday August 7th
 8:30 AM John Anderson
 12:00 PM Antonio Forno

Wednesday August 8th
 8:30 AM Severiano Luz
 12:00 PM Zaida Alvarez

Thursday August 9th
 8:30 AM Nicholas Mele
 12:00 PM Gregory Golaszewski

Friday August 10th
 8:30 AM Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
 12:00 PM

Saturday August 11th
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti
 5:00 PM Ann T. Kelly (3 Year Anniversary)

Sunday August 12th
 8:30 AM Joseph Mauro
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Joan Sauro & Frances & Michael Albano
 5:00 PM Louis Tosi (Van Nostrand)

PRAY FOR THE SICK



James Leung, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Richard Kelly, Rose Jonsson, Vincent Lucanie, Peggy Racanelli, Maureen Medina, Jeanne Woods, Ron Areas, Bonnie Nison, 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, Caroline Pugliese, Rev. Joseph Gurdak, OFM, Cap., Patricia Riddick, Salvatore Tuminello, Daniella Salcau, Joel Rivera, Felipe Vallejo, Agatha Tardi, Adam Martini, Christine Smolenski, Louis Barberi, Dcn. Frances Galson, Mary Wiley, Norman Zuniga, Nancy (Ann) Fallon, Grace DiFazio, John Chocko, Rose Pullano, Pia Parham, Cathie Greulich, Gabriel Manno-Providence, Ann Dauria, Jimmy Murphy, Harriet Kessel, Sr. Mary Parry, O.P., Mary Sheehan, John Murphy, Mary Albert, Ida Medearis, Maureen Remsen, 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, SCSO Ajay James, (NSW) U.S. Navy, 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

Doris Gomez de Sanchez
 Msgr. Leo Joseph White
 Corinne Bilello

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – August 5th
Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
 -Blood Drive-Parish Hall from 8:45am to 2:45pm

MONDAY – August 6th
The Transfiguration of the Lord

TUESDAY - August 7th
Weekday

WEDNESDAY – August 8th
Saint Dominic, Priest
 -Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30am(**NOTE TIME CHANGE**)
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**

THURSDAY – August 9th
Weekday

FRIDAY – August 10th
Saint Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr

SATURDAY – August 11th
Saint Claire, Virgin

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

**FIRST FRIDAY
 SUMMER SCHEDULE**

On First Fridays during July and August, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will immediately follow the 8:30am Mass and Benediction will be, before the 12:00 Noon Mass, at 11:40am.

GOING ON VACATION?

To find times of local Masses anywhere you travel go to www.MassTimes.org.

BREAD AND WINE



Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in **loving memory of:**
Msgr. Gerald J. Langelier
 and
Father John J. Cremins
 by
 Barbara Hunt & Terence Stewart

TABERNACLE LIGHT

Many thanks for this week's donation of the Tabernacle Light given in **loving memory of:**
Zaida Alvarez
(Birthday Remembrance)
 by
 Jackie Velazquez



Dear Parishioners,

When the famous nun, Mother Cabrini, arrived in America in 1900 to work among the downtrodden Italian immigrants, she was penniless. A countess came to help her and offered her a large house to be used as a convent and home for homeless children. Archbishop Corrigan of New York City did not believe in the whole idea, even though the countess had also given thousands of dollars to support it. "So what?" he skeptically asked. "How long do you think that money will last? Within a year it will all be gone. And then what?" But the countess answered, "Your Grace, when we pray, we ask for our daily bread, not bread for a year."

Anyway, Jesus, towards the end of today's gospel, said: "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

When we say "bread," it has so many implications. It symbolizes something. When we say "bread" we can mean sustenance, like when we say "put bread on the table and have in mind thereby food in general. Food is not simply functional. It is, of course, essential for life. We cannot live and we die if we do not eat food. It can also give great pleasure. It can satisfy our hunger and sustain us in our daily undertaking. More than this, eating is a very sociable activity. Many people, when they are celebrating a very important event like anniversary, fiesta, baptism, wedding and others or when they simply want to meet up together, go out for a meal or prepare a meal for those celebrating. We entertain our visitors by giving them some food to eat. The finest food does not taste good if it is eaten alone. So, food is much more than something functional which we take merely to keep us alive. It's also something which binds us together, something we share as human beings, something which can give enormous pleasure and which tells us we belong.

When we say "bread," in popular speech it can also mean "money," as in "bread-winner" or "bring home the bread". When we say "bread," philosophically, it means food of the mind, profound thinking, intellectual stimulation, the appeal to knowledge and the rational support for the laws than govern social existence together in towns, in nations and in households. An example for this food for the mind could be education but it is not the "bread of life" as Jesus understands it. This "bread of life", unlike the others, is not the bread that makes us smart, superior to others, gives us the edge or the advantage over others in a competitive world, or makes us rich and famous. But, this is a bread that can give us peace, deliverance from restless hunger, concern and love for the poor and gives us eternal life. This bread is no other than Jesus Christ.

It is a fact that every time we eat food we do something which no scientist has ever been able to do: we take into ourselves something dead and we give it life. Food becomes part of our body. Many times our health depends on food. There is an old proverb that says: "You are what you eat." Eat rich food and you get fat; eat junk food and you get malnutrition. Give a patient with scabies the correct food and his skin disease clears up. Whenever we have a big job to do, we get ready by eating good food. Knowing all this, Jesus decided to hide inside of bread with all his power and become the food of the souls of his followers.

It is the Eucharist that God gives us as food which is a gesture of His love. Jesus Christ as our Eucharistic food nourishes and strengthens us.: Not by making us less human, but by making us more courageous; Not by eliminating temptation but by making us stronger to say "No" to steal, to lie, to drink and to sin; Not by making life soft but by giving us the courage to fight hard; Not by giving us a different nature but by elevating the nature which we have.

In some Middle East countries, as one priest said, where Filipino Christian Catholics work as contract workers, they secretly arrange "underground" Masses and receive Communion often at the risk of being caught and punished. Why do they do this? It could be due to the deprivation of the sacrament which makes it more desirable. But it cannot be denied that there is within each person a human craving for a deeper satisfaction, for a more lasting food. And this is the food that the Lord has been giving us in the sacrament of the Eucharist.

In the past, so many people, especially young people are going crazy with this F4 (Flower Four) Taiwanese band because of this popular television show entitled Meteor Garden by which they are the main characters. But I would rather give you another F4 which has a big connection with this bread of life which is Jesus himself. This F4 is no other than: Forget your vices and foolishness and return to God; Forgive the wrongdoings and sins of others; Forego with your holiness by your prayers and service for God and others; and For God, that is, focus and offer everything to God. May these powers of F4 be our bread of life too always.

In Christ,
Father Gregory

ATTENTION PLEASE!**Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors**

Unfortunately, we are frequently finding ourselves at Mass with a lack of Ministers, Lectors, and Servers. Since these occasions will probably be even more frequent during the summer months, we will need your help as follows:

If You Are Now Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors:

- First, please enter your name on the schedule sheets, in the vestibule of the Church, for any open dates that you can cover.
- Second, and **probably most important, whatever Mass that you attend, please stop into the Sacristy** to ask if your particular services are needed for that Mass.

If you **wish to become a Eucharistic Minister or Lector**, a training course will be given sometime in October. If interested please leave your name & telephone number at the Rectory & we will call you in September

Altar Servers:

- Whatever Mass that you attend, **ALWAYS** go to the Sacristy to serve. There is no limit on the number of altar Servers needed at a Mass.

If we all work together, there should never be a Mass lacking Ministers, Lectors, or Servers, and the celebrant won't have to search the congregation for help. Thank You!

ALTAR SERVER SPONSORSHIPS

Many thanks to all those who have given a donation to defray the cost of the altar servers trip to Rye Playland several weeks ago and the purchase of new altar servers albs (which are sorely needed). Those of you who still wish to contribute can either use the envelopes provided in the Church or your own envelope marked "Altar Server Sponsorship" and drop it in the collection basket. Again, we thank you all for your support!

REQUESTS FOR USE OF PARISH SPACE

Parish groups, who have not already done so, please submit your requests for meeting space in Parish buildings for the 2018-2019 season by August 17th.

Please be aware of the following:

- The request should specify the room that you need as well as the time you need it for, including set-up time
- All parish spaces are closed on major holidays. No events/meetings will be put on the calendar for those days.
- In the event that your group needs to cancel a meeting/event, the Rectory office must be notified.
- All requests must indicate a "contact person" with telephone number, and email.

Please email request to office@mercyhills.org or drop it off at the rectory.

We will notify you of any dates that conflict with the existing Parish schedule.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

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

1 st Prize: Ed Garrity	\$225.00
2 nd Prize: Kathy Meegan Cicerale	\$100.00
3 rd Prize: John H. Vanier	\$100.00
4 th Prize: Susan Finley	\$35.00
5 th Prize: Maria G. Gomes	\$35.00

OLM BLOOD DRIVE

**Sunday August 5th
from 8:45AM till 2:45 PM.
Our Lady of Mercy Parish will be
sponsoring the New York Center's
Blood Drive in the Parish Hall.**

During a season of vacations, relaxation, and numerous leisure time events it is difficult to consider those people who are experiencing quite a different summer. For the previous weeks our bulletin announcements offered information concerning the constant demand for blood donations. This life sustaining substance is essential to provide the necessary health restoring nutrients to those in need.

On a warm humid Sunday last August 43 of our parishioners and community members offered their time to give the gift of life to restore their neighbor's health. Since each donation serves 3 patients, 129 patients received your precious gift.

Last Sunday Mr. Faver the representative from the Blood Center spoke at the masses to convey the appreciation of the recipients to our Parish for their generosity in giving. In our past 3 drives 200 pints of blood were collected which meant 600 patients were assisted. Your sacrifice of time and self mattered.

Blood supplies during the summer months are greatly diminished. The need for blood remains constant. **PLEASE HELP BE PART OF THIS LIFE GIVING FORCE.**

Please bring a PHOTO ID and your New York Blood Center Donor ID card or number if you have one on AUGUST 5th. Appointments are not essential, WALK-INS ARE WELCOME. Remember to eat and drink before you come to donate.

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.

Since the 2019 Mass Book will not be opened for a while yet, please take advantage of the many openings for Masses as well as Memorials that remain open for 2018.

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 to help you be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Please contact David or Carol Powell at 718-261-6285.

CHOIR NEWS

Our choir welcomes everyone, (Adult and Youth from 7th Gr. Up). You do not need to be able to read music and there are no formal auditions. 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. 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 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.
- **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs:** The OLMQ Catholic School Academy will celebrate it's 90th Anniversary this Fall. Are you an alumnus/a of OLMQ Catholic School, Forest Hills? Come celebrate with us. Please fill out the alumni form at the school academy link at olmqca.org.
- **National Night Out Against Crime** is August 7th, at MacDonald Park, 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Enjoy entertainment, performances and music: zumba, hula hoops, dancing, self-defense and boxing demonstrations, juggling and more! Meet the officers of the **112th Precinct**, local elected officials, and local organizations. Kids activities. We will have BBQ and kosher food.
- **Our Lady of the Snows** (718-347-6070) in Floral Park will be celebrating the **9th annual Feast of St. Rocco, Patron of the Sick & Suffering, on August 12th.** For info call Luz Rebong -Home#-718-217-9424, Mobile#-718-598-1795

OLM/CYO SPORTS NEWS

The 2018-19 CYO sports schedule will bring a change to sports programs at Our Lady of Mercy and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. Players from both parishes will compete together as one team in girls and boys basketball, and girls soccer. The Tri-M Swim Team will remain the same. Additional information for registration will soon be posted in the bulletin.

SAVE THE DATE

Queens' Summer Sings at Our Lady of Mercy Church

The Forest Hills Choir in conjunction with the Queens Oratorio Society and Scola Sine Nomine are sponsoring two great musical events.

- 8/16 at 7:30pm-Mozart's Requiem conducted by David Close and Ben Arendsen.
- 8/23 at 7:30pm-Brahm's Requiem conducted by Ronnie Oliver Jr.

According to the conductors:

"We are hoping for a healthy mix of professional and amateur singers. Our aim is for members of the community to be part of a creative and fun endeavor together."

"The object is to have fun. This is a social night at the end of the summer for the community."

Tickets are \$15 each and are available at the doors. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome. No prior musical study is required.

FEEL GREAT & LOOK GREAT

Feel and look great at our exercise class every Wednesday from **8:30 to 9:30 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

***There will be no Divine Mercy devotions for the month of August. Devotions will be resume in September 2018.**

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**

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 **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

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

