

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	January 26th
8:30 AM	Maria Concepcion Beaudin
5:00 PM	Delfrido P. Nonan
Sunday	January 27th
8:30 AM	Raymond Cleary
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Jean Hoffman
5:00 PM	Justin Berry (Birthday Remembrance)
Monday	January 28th
8:30 AM	Sally Conlon
12:00 PM	Eugene Caracciolo (30th Anniversary)
Tuesday	January 29th
8:30 AM	Georg Jagusch
12:00 PM	Michael & Caroline Sassi, Michael Sassi Jr. & Roland Pugliese
Wednesday	January 30th
8:30 AM	Lorraine Larsen
12:00 PM	Agatha Tardi
Thursday	January 31st
8:30 AM	Janet Blessing
12:00 PM	
Friday	February 1st
8:30 AM	Eleanor & James Mara
12:00 PM	
Saturday	February 2nd
8:30 AM	Maja Jedrak
5:00 PM	Michael Seagrave
Sunday	February 3rd
8:30 AM	Andrzej Woloszynowski
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Jean Hoffman
5:00 PM	Maria Angela Gallizzi

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Robert & Mary Tardona, Alice Coleman, Isabel Azzaro, Richard Eisenzopf, Bonnie Nisson, Rebecca Mintz, Lewis Stein, Peter Fulchiron, Diane McGinley, Graham McGinley, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Stan Spence, John Karkheck, Jack Fruhling, Margaret Rahfield, Januz Miedoej, Anthony Mendola, Peggy Racanelli, Adam Martini, Joan Minischetti, Jean Striffler, Frances Galson, Irma Early, 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

Agatha Tardi
Marie Duome

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – January 27th**

Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

-Scholastic Book Fair-Parish Hall 8:30am to 2:00pm

MONDAY – January 28th

Saint Thomas Aquinas

-Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - January 29th

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – January 30th

Weekday

-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 – January 31st

Saint John Bosco, Priest

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm

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

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – February 1st

Weekday

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm & 6:00pm

SATURDAY – February 2nd

The Presentation of the Lord

**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:**

Anne Restaino

by

Barbara Hunt & Terence Stewart

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.

Dear Parishioners;

The Gospel this Sunday is taken from St. Luke. The editors of the Lectionary (Book of Readings used at Mass) resolved to jump from the opening lines of the Gospel to the beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. The editors skip over the Infancy Account, the birth of John the Baptist, the Presentation, the finding of the Child Jesus in the temple and the genealogy of Jesus. Their reasoning undoubtedly stems from the fact that we have heard much of that material during the Christmas season.

The Gospel citation begins with a statement of purpose. It is well worth our attention. In a few lines Luke highlights what the Church teaches about the Scriptural witness. The Gospels are not on site news reports. St. Luke himself informs us that others "have undertaken to compile a narrative of events that have been fulfilled among us...". We know at least three of them: Matthew, Mark and later John. Were there others? Perhaps. Were there previous materials on which Luke relied? Undoubtedly! Most scholars hold that Mark was the first of the Gospels written, and that Luke and Matthew depended on him as well as on other sources. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the Synoptic (seen with the same eye) Gospels because they resemble one another. Other "gospels" date to the same period but the early Christian communities eventually settled on these four because they best represented the life, death, Resurrection and ministry of Jesus the Christ. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John became the "canonical" Gospels, those approved by and used in the Church. They became the Book of the Church.

Luke also states that: "just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us ...". From this we learn that the Gospel, the message of Jesus and many of the events of His life were first preached before being written in the form we now have them. Luke is telling us that while he was not one of the "eyewitnesses from the beginning" rather that he received the events as "handed down to us". He is now motivated "after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus...." Luke has done his homework. He has done research, including perhaps speaking to eyewitnesses of Jesus' ministry. Because his Gospel is so favorably inclined toward the unique role of Our Blessed Mother and other women, many hold that Luke may have interviewed Mary. Luke, perhaps the same, is mentioned as a travelling companion of several of the Apostles.

The narrative is addressed to "most excellent Theophilus". The name, "Theophilus", means in Greek, "lover of God" or "friend of God". It may refer to an individual man, perhaps the patron of the project. In ancient times, paper was an expensive commodity; therefore, many writers often required patrons. Some scholars hold that "Theophilus" might refer to anyone who loves God or who wishes to be a friend of God. Naturally enough it is for such folks that Gospels were written. Luke's purpose is "so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received." Luke takes it as a matter of fact that the Gospel has been preached to his readers. Now Luke endeavors to support that preaching with his written account.

The remainder of this Sunday's Gospel citation presents Jesus as returning to Nazareth, where He had been raised. He had been preaching elsewhere and has met with public acclaim, but now he returns home. On the Sabbath, at the synagogue service, Jesus was elected to read a section of the prophet Isaiah. Through that reading, Jesus presents Himself to His neighbors as the One, "upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests".

In the first reading from the Book of Nehemiah, Ezra gains the attention of all the Israelites when the Law is read to them; likewise, Jesus has the full attention of His neighbors when the citation of Isaiah about God's anointed servant is read. As they lean forward in expectation, Jesus does not leave them disappointed. He announces that: "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." They are shocked to hear that this hometown Boy, their neighbor is the One Who is anointed by the Spirit to bring glad tidings to the poor (God's concern for the poor is one of the major themes of Luke's Gospel)... liberty to captives... recovery of sight to the blind ... release of the oppressed and a proclamation of a time acceptable to the Lord.

How this will be fulfilled in our hearing will be our theme during the next eight Sundays of ordinary time.

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

For prospective families and students Nursery through 8th Grade, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy will be having an Open House of Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019 from 11AM to 2 PM and on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019 from 9:30 Am to 11 PM. Please see the flyer insert for additional information or call the school at 718-793-2086 .

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR AT OLMCA

- **Sunday, January 27th:** Book Fair Open **8:30am to 2:00pm** Join us for **Hospitality and Bookmark-Making after the 10:00am 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 **11:00am to 2:00 pm**. All are welcome!

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

January 30, 2019	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
February 6, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
February 13, 2019	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
February 20, 2019	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	7:00pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet-7:30pm	Benediction-8:00pm
February 27, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm



SAVE THE DATE For OLM's Venetian Carnival Style Masquerade Ball on 3/2/2019

Tickets are \$55 and the festivities, which include dancing, dinner, and wine (you may BYOB if you wish), begin at 8:00pm. Please dress formally, with beautiful gowns for the ladies and mysterious, intriguing **masks for all**. Trying to identify the people behind the masks will add to the fun. Watch for more details in next week's bulletin.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Gospel According to Puppets! The puppets will teach the Gospel at the Children's Liturgy during the 10 AM Mass. This age-appropriate version of the readings and Gospel is geared to toward children up to fourth grade and parents are welcome. Noisy and wiggly kids particularly welcome. **Children's Liturgy is scheduled for the following dates: 2/3, & 2/10.**

BLOOD DRIVE



The New York Blood Center is sponsoring a Blood Drive at OUR LADY OF MERCY Church on February 24, 2019 from 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM in the Parish Hall. At this time of the year, the Center's inventory is at critical low levels. There is an urgent need for donors of all blood types to replenish the supply. Please help and give this vital gift of life by making a blood donation. Donor literature and signup sheets are in the vestibule of the Church for your review. To make a blood donor appointment, please call the rectory office at (718) 268-6143. To facilitate the registration process, please bring your donor card or donor ID number and a photo ID with you on February 24th .

Walk-in donors are always welcome. Come and bring a friend

Volunteers are needed throughout the day to provide refreshments and support to the donors. If you are able to offer an hour or two of your time, please leave your name and the time you are available at the rectory office.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We always need food to re-stock the shelves. Some suggestions are: tuna fish, canned stews, hash, or Spam, Chef Boyardee, powdered or Parmalat milk, jelly, rice, canned or packaged soups, packets of pasta & rice "Sides", canned fruits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, toothpaste, bathroom tissue, soaps, shampoos, and any other personal hygiene and non-perishable food items.

HEALING MASSES

On June 3, 2007 Pope Benedict XVI elevated a humble priest, a Passionist named Charles Heuben, to the status of saint.

St. Charles was one of the very few Catholic saints who performed miracles during the course of their lifetime. In fact, his miracles were so numerous that the medical doctors in his vicinity joined forces to have him transferred out of the country.

On Sunday, November 25, 2018, the Passionist priests initiated the first in a series of healing Masses at the Immaculate Conception Monastery at 86-45 Edgerton Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11432 (718-739-6502). These Masses will serve to honor St. Charles and are dedicated to those who are sick and suffering (from whom no monetary donations will be requested or accepted on those specific occasions). In the future, with the assistance and cooperation of generous third parties, we hope to offer, not only spiritual, but also financial, social, and legal aid to the sick following these Masses.

The Masses will take place at 2:15pm on the Fourth Sunday of each month and all are invited to attend. **The first Mass will be celebrated on January 27th.** St. Charles, no doubt, will confer his blessings on those present, and he may even offer a miracle or two (as he did at his shrine, for example, in Dublin, Ireland in the recent past).

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.

Community News

- **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.
- **DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE** will be given in St. Margaret Catholic Academy Library on SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND from 9:00am to 3:30pm THE COST: \$45.00 per person

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 always Monday evenings 7-9 p.m. in the rectory. Scheduled meeting dates this winter are Feb. 4 and Mar. 4 & 18. If interested in attending, please call the rectory or for questions, please email the group's facilitator, Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader Yorke Mizelle, at ymizelle@nyc.rr.com.
- **FREE Spanish Classes.** Saturdays at 3 p.m. at Resurrection Ascension Church (85-25 61 Rd, Rego Park). Call the RA rectory: 718-424-5212.

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. Classes will resume on 2/6/2019.**

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

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.

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!

ASSOCIATED VINCENTIAN CHARITIES OF BROOKLYN GIVES BACK

Our Lady of Mercy will share in the profits. For each **donated car, truck or van, running or not**, The Associated Vincentian Charities 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. Thank you for your participation, and please continue to spread the word. Call **(718) 491-2525** or svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

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

Faith
in GOD
changes
everything