

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday April 13th
 8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Szabados Family
 5:00 PM Mary Ann Oweremohle

Sunday April 14th
 8:30 AM Elzbieta Anchev
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Peggy O'Neill Fennelly
 5:00 PM Mara/Butler Families

Monday April 15th
 8:30 AM Leonard Quigley & William Kirby
 12:00 PM Raymond Medina

Tuesday April 16th
 8:30 AM Leodegario Dordulaw
 12:00 PM Casaccio, Chocko, & Holzer Families

Wednesday April 17th
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti
 12:00 PM Brian Cahill

Thursday April 18th
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 7:30 PM Solemn Liturgy
 10:00 PM Night Prayer

Friday April 19th
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 1:00 PM Stations of the Cross (Outside)
 3:00 PM Solemn Liturgy
 7:30 PM Solemn Liturgy

Saturday April 20th
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer & Food Blessing
 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

Sunday April 21st
 8:30 AM
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Robert & Mary Tardona, Alice Coleman, Isabel Azzaro, Richard Eisenzopf, Bonnie Nisson, Rebecca Mintz, Lewis Stein, Peter Fulchiron, Diane McGinley, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Stan Spence, John Karkheck, Jack Fruhling, Januz Miedoej, Anthony Mendola, Peggy Racanelli, Adam Martini, Joan Minischetti, Frances Galson, Irma Early, Loretta Brogna, Joseph Hennessy, Nicolina LoRusso, Michael Simo, Sr. Pat Jamison, CND, Carol Flaherty, James McWalters, Ann Dauria, and for **all of our parishioners who are currently hospitalized or homebound.**



PRAY FOR THE ARMED SERVICES

Major 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

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – April 14th
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

MONDAY – April 15th
Monday of Holy Week
 -Confessions-Church from 3:00pm to 8:00pm
 -Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - April 16th
Tuesday of Holy Week
 -Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – April 17th
Wednesday of Holy Week
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**
 -Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – April 18th
Holy Thursday

FRIDAY – April 19th
Good Friday

SATURDAY – April 20th
Holy Saturday

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:**

Edgar Renovales Jr.
 by
 Mom & Dad



TABERNACLE LIGHT

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

Edward W. O'Toole
 by
 Carolyn J. Cariello

Dear Parishioners,

This year St. Luke's Account of Jesus' Passion is read at Palm Sunday Masses. In February 2004, Mel Gibson released his movie: "The Passion of the Christ". It drew criticism because of its very graphic portrayal of the Passion of Jesus. That case might be made; however, do not be deceived - the Romans had developed crucifixion and its preliminary torture as a perverse art form. They were not kidding around! It was reserved for rebels and common criminals. Anyone perceived as a possible threat to the rule of the emperor in Rome, would face the cross

Today's liturgy offers us a stark contrast. We started with a Gospel reading, also from St. Luke, in which the enthusiastic crowds are welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem. They greet Him with palm branches in much the same way as we use confetti. Yet in less than a week, the crowd that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem would be replaced by a howling mob screaming for His blood. Jesus' disciples scatter; the high priests and the Sanhedrin manipulate the Roman paranoia about possible revolutions and Judas betrays Jesus though his reasons are forever lost. Was it really for thirty pieces of silver? Is it more possible that like most of the disciples Judas too expected Jesus to establish a kingdom much like that of King David of old? Was Jesus moving too slowly for him so he decided to be a provocateur and get things going? His return of the money to the temple treasury would seem to indicate that the result was not what he expected. (Matthew 27:3-8 and by implication, Acts of the Apostles 1:15-22)

Before the actual crucifixion, many prisoners were scourged with a cat-of-nine-tails. The "tails" were often embedded with shards of glass and metal. Often the prisoner did not survive the scourging. Jesus faced that and the accompanying mockery of the Roman soldiers. While on the cross, He was not spared the final indignity of the Romans placing over His head a sign in Hebrew, Greek and Latin - the famous I.N.R.I - "Jesus Nazareni, Rex Judaerourm" - "Jesus of Nazareth, king of the Jews". This was Pilate's less than subtle warning to any Jews that might have had revolutionary ideas (and many did - Barabbas was one of them!) if this is your king - look what I can do to him! Mr. Gibson's film actually may have underestimated the horror of crucifixion!

Yet the question remains: "why?" When I was young, the theory of atonement for the sins of mankind provided some answer. I never really rested easy with it since God might appear as a sadist demanding the death of His own Son. To correct that deficiency, it might be wise to examine the spelling of the word "atonement" - "at-one-ment". God has become one with us and He loves us so much that He would do anything for us. Almighty God can not die but His Incarnate Word could and did. Jesus takes on a complete human identity - He experiences what we often experience: rejection, misunderstanding, cowardice, the betrayal of a friend, the abandonment by His other friends, and subjection to an unsympathetic climate both in the Jerusalem religious establishment and among the occupying Roman forces. All of this culminating in the mockery of the bystanders including one of the prisoners condemned with Him.

Jesus demonstrates and images God's unbelievable love for us; yet at the same time indicates to us the type of life we are meant to live. The cross focuses us on what is important - to give ourselves for others. The crucifixion is God's assurance of His powerful love. The anguished cries of Jesus from the cross will be replaced by His response to the thief's plea: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." - "Amen I say to you (and to us) this day you will be with Me in paradise!"

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

Palm Sunday Reflection



In today's Liturgy we face quite a contrast of experiences and emotions. We begin our celebration listening to the story of Jesus being welcomed into Jerusalem with great joy and exultation! "Hosanna!" they cried out. "Hosanna in the Highest!" Jesus was treated as He should have been treated. People were excited to see Him and there was much excitement.

Let this week give you divine hope. So often we can be tempted toward discouragement and, even worse, we can be tempted toward despair. But all is not lost for us either. Nothing can ultimately steal away our joy unless we let it. No hardship, no burden and no cross can conquer us if we remain steadfast in Christ Jesus letting Him transform all we endure in life by His glorious embrace of His own Cross.

Let us reflect, today, upon the contrast of emotions from Palm Sunday through Good Friday. Ponder the fear, confusion and despair that many would have had as they saw Jesus crucified. Reflect, also, upon this being a divine act by which the Father permitted this grave suffering so as to use it for the greatest good ever known. The Lord gave His life freely and calls you to do the same. Reflect upon the cross in your life. Know that the Lord can use this for good, bringing forth an abundance of mercy through your free embrace as you offer it to Him as a willing sacrifice. Put your eyes upon the Lord's Cross as well as your own.

Lord, when I am tempted to despair, give me hope. Help me to see your presence in all things, even in those things that are most troubling to me. May this Holy Week transform my darkest moments and weakness as I surrender all to You, my God. Jesus, I trust in You.

*Blessed Holy Week
In Christ,
Deacon Dean Dobbins*

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.

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.

Please pray for Sonam Namgay and Xu Su Nu who will be Baptized at the Easter Vigil. They were presented to the parish community at the 5:00 p.m. mass Sunday, March 24th.

SAVE THE DATE

It's **not too early to make note** in your calendars of an important date coming up, **October 6th, 2019**. On that day, we at Our Lady of Mercy will kick off our 90th Anniversary Year. The day will begin with the celebration of a Solemn Anniversary Mass at 12:00pm, at which Bishop DiMarzio will be in attendance, and later there will be a Gala Dinner Dance, at the Immaculate Conception Center to officially begin our 90th Anniversary Year of festivities. Watch the bulletin for more information as the planning continues, but make sure to **save that date**.

EASTER FLOWERS

As we did at Christmas, we are providing an opportunity for families to memorialize a loved one by making a donation of \$150.00 for Easter flowers. Names of all those memorialized will be published in our Bulletin, and flowers will remain on the altar and in Church for at least 3 weeks. Each donation will help us provide flowering plants for our altar and church decor. Help make this Easter magnificent! Arrangements can be made by contacting the Rectory Office at 718-268-6143.

OLM JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

You are invited to join in our 90th Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Holy Land which will take place February 1st thru the 9th, 2020. This journey, following the footsteps of Jesus, should greatly influence the way you read the Bible, the way you live, and the way you understand the Church. Detailed fliers are available at all church entrances and at the Rectory

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.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

April 17, 2019 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 7:00pm
 Divine Mercy Chaplet-7:30pm Benediction-8:00pm
 April 24, 2019 Divine Mercy Devotion 6:30pm
 April 28, 2019 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
 Eucharistic Adoration-1:30pm Benediction 3:00pm
 Fellowship /Refreshment follows in Parish Hall

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 are April 15, May 6 & 20, June 3 & 17. 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.
- The Senior Goal Group of **Our Lady of Hope** will be sponsoring a **“Young at Heart Spring Social on May 5th** from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. Tickets are \$20 and include a hot buffet and live music. Those wishing to attend are asked to contact Diana & Robert (718-335-2999), Phyllis (718-478-4741) or Linda (718-898-3222) in advance. **Tickets will not be sold at the door.**
- **Support for Divorced and Separated at Resurrection Ascension** (85-25 61st Rd, Rego Park). Join others in Fr. Feely Hall, Wednesday, April 17, after 9 a.m. Mass and also 7 p.m. for a prayerful experience to find God's guidance, peace, and courage in dealing with divorce or separation. For more info, contact Jason Velazquez at 718-424-5212, ext 28.

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.
- Join the **Way of the Cross over the Brooklyn Bridge** on **April 19th at 10:00am**. Begins at 10am, April 19th. at St. James Cathedral-Basilica (corner of Jay & Tillary) The procession will stop on the Brooklyn Bridge, at City Hall Park, and Ground Zero; it will end at St. Peter's Church, 16 Barclay Street in Manhattan, at 1:30pm. At each Station there will be readings from the Passion, a meditation, reflection, and hymns. All are invited. For more information, call Communion and Liberation, 212-337-3580 or visit its website: www.wocbrooklynbridge.org
- Annual **Diocesan Mass of Hope and Healing** will take place on Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m. at Saint Athanasius Parish (2154 61st St., Brooklyn). Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, Bishop of Brooklyn, will be the main celebrant, with the homily preached by Very Reverend Jeffrey T. Dillon. All are invited to gather on this day to pray for healing for all those who have been impacted by childhood sexual abuse. Sponsored by the Diocesan Survivors Advisory Committee.

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

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



Palm Sunday