

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	September 14th
8:30 AM	Anna Koenig
5:00 PM	Vincenzo DiGraci
Sunday	September 15th
8:30 AM	Michael Minischetti
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Ruth Marie Perez
5:00 PM	Silvio Tosi (Van Nostrand)
Monday	September 16th
8:30 AM	Leonard Quigley & William Kirby
12:00 PM	Elizabeth Jacques (Birthday Remembrance)
Tuesday	September 17th
8:30 AM	William Striffler
12:00 PM	Noreen Abbozia
Wednesday	September 18th
8:30 AM	In Thanksgiving
12:00 PM	Mary Regina Quinn
Thursday	September 19th
8:30 AM	Mario Gunaratna (Birthday Remembrance)
12:00 PM	Peter & Ann Steidle (Living Intention-60th Wedding Anniversary)
Friday	September 20th
8:30 AM	Claire Steers
12:00 PM	Charles Stramera & Carmela Giancoaro
Saturday	September 21st
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
5:00 PM	Camillo Turriciano
Sunday	September 22nd
8:30 AM	Ryszard Jedrak
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	John Graham McGinley
5:00 PM	Terence McKinney

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Robert & Mary Tardona, Alice Coleman, Isabel Azzaro, Richard Eisenzopf, Bonnie Nisson, Rebecca Mintz, Lewis Stein, Diane McGinley, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Stan Spence, John Karkheck, Jack Fruhling, Januz Miedoej, Anthony Mendola, Peggy Racanelli, Adam Martini, Irma Early, Loretta Brogna,

Joseph Hennessy, Nicolina LoRusso, Michael Simo, James McWalters, Ann Dauria, Kathy Kudrick, Sean Tierney, Frank Santulli, Alexandra Radziwon, Don Feder, James Leung, Phil Paroff, Annette Merone, Mary Anne Whatley, Eleanor Merlino, Steve Nacincik, Michael Stasiak, Pia Parham, Beth Friedman, Anthony Mendola, Felipe Vallejo, Fr August Iantosca, John Hughes, Thomas Hughes, Robert Colonello, Elly Gilday, 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

Alfredo Varela
Rev. Joseph M. Nolan
Rev. Cyril F. Doody
Agatha Memchaj

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – September 15th**

Twenty Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MONDAY – September 16th

Saints Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

-Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - September 17th

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – September 18th

Weekday

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30am

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

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

THURSDAY – September 19th

Weekday

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

-Baptism Class-Rectory at 7:30pm

FRIDAY – September 20th

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm

SATURDAY – September 21st

Saint Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

-Baptism-Church at 1:00pm

**If you are not yet registered in the Parish,
please stop into the Rectory Office for a Census Form
Monday thru Saturday from 9am to 4pm**

**BREAD AND WINE**

Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in **loving memory of:**

Mary Regina Quinn

by

The T.J. Quinn Family

TABERNACLE LIGHT

Many thanks for this week's donation of the
Tabernacle Light given

For The Week Of September 8th

in **loving memory of:**

Thomas Quinn, Jr.

by

Ray & Mary Ellen Schillo

For The Week Of September 15th

in **loving memory of:**

Mario Gunaratna (Brother of Indira Richards)

Birthday Remembrance

by

Indira Richards



**Please do not leave bags of clothing or other items on
the steps of the Rectory.**

Dear Parishioners,

Our Lord's parables were meant to shock His listeners. In the reading for the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time, taken from Saint Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells three parables. The first two catch us by surprise. Jesus has been accused by the Pharisees: "this man welcomes sinners and eats with them". Ironically and unknowingly they have spelled out the reason for the Gospel and they view it as scandalous. Though the scribes and Pharisees have been dismissive of Jesus, He addresses them directly and invites them to see themselves as characters in the first two parables. Frankly, they would have been shocked.

It makes no sense for a shepherd to abandon ninety-nine sheep to search for the lost one! While the shepherd is gone, predators may come and scatter the rest of the flock. Similarly, though on smaller scale, a woman would be unlikely to send out invitations to a party celebrating her recovery of a lost coin! Both the woman and the shepherd rejoice when the lost object is found. The lesson of the two short parables is that God would do virtually anything to reach out to those who are lost, the very people with whom Jesus eats! God would do what we would not do!

The final parable is much longer than the other two and it is the familiar story of the "Prodigal Son", perhaps better titled the "Loving Father". Again the story is shocking. The younger son asks for his inheritance immediately. This is tantamount to wishing his father dead! The younger son has shown his father great disrespect. Then as now, estates were inherited at the death of their owner. And yet the loving Father acquiesces.

Upon receiving his share of the estate, the son squanders the money. "Easy come, easy go." When his funds are exhausted, a famine strikes the land where the young son lives. Consequently he is forced to take a job minding pigs. For an orthodox Jew this would have been despicable work, since pigs and their products were and are considered unclean. Coming to his senses the young son heads home with a ready apology. Spotting him on the road, the father gives him no chance to mouth the apology but welcomes him royally. The new robe, the sandals, the ring on his finger and the celebratory banquet are all signs of the younger son's readmission into the life of the family. In the mores of the time, the reaction of the father to his prodigal son is almost beyond comprehension. For the family patriarch to abandon all dignity and run to meet his reprobate son and then shower the son with elaborate gifts was to the listeners most unlikely.

The Pharisees and scribes would be much more likely to sympathize with the older son. Like the Pharisees, the older son judges others to be unworthy and then resents what appears to be undeserved mercy. The older brother grumbles about the father's joyous reception for "your son" (he does not call him "my brother"). Then the father addresses his older son with some of the most beautiful lines in Scripture: "My son, you are here with me always, everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found."

In each parable, the main character represents God. In the first two God is pictured as doing almost anything to recover the lost object (the sinner) and then rejoices when that which was lost, is found. In the story of the prodigal Son, a third image of God emerges. God is eager to welcome back the sinner and celebrates the sinner's return. Both sons receive their father's unparalleled love. The loving father wishes both of them to share His life. God also wishes us to share His life. No matter what we have done; no matter who accuses us, whether ourselves or another, God spots us on the road and spontaneously runs to meet us. To paraphrase the Gospel: my son or my daughter, I am with you always; everything I have is yours. We must celebrate and rejoice when a brother or sister who was dead, comes to life again; when a sister or brother who was lost, is found.

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

The new Mass book for 2020 is now open for requests. Mass intentions can be for the living as well as the deceased, for a "Special Intention, or as a Mass "in thanksgiving".

We ask that anyone requesting more than 4 Masses submit a written list, including the names, dates, and Mass times you would like, to the Rectory office, either in person or via the office e-mail. We will do our best to accommodate your requests.

THE SEARCH IS ON!!!

We need your help! We are looking for three different categories of parishioner:

- 1) The oldest (chronological age) person residing in our parish.
- 2) The person who has resided in our parish for the most consecutive years.
- 3) The couple who have been married the longest and were married at Our Lady of Mercy.

If any of the above apply to you or someone that you know, please call the Rectory (718-268-6143). Thank You.

"MADAMA BUTTERFLY"

Opera Fundraiser for Our Lady of Mercy
Saturday, 9/28/19 at 7:30 PM

As part of our year long celebration of Our Lady of Mercy's 90th Anniversary, **Golden Rose Opera** presents a semi-staged concert performance, with orchestra, of Giacomo Puccini's epic and achingly beautiful "MADAMA BUTTERFLY" on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 7:30 PM right here in the sanctuary at Our Lady of Mercy Church. This is a fundraiser for Our Lady of Mercy Church. General Admission tickets are \$20. Please see ticket order flyers in the church for purchase information

OLM's 90th ANNIVERSARY MASS AND GALA
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Monsignor John McGuirl and Father Gregory Stasiak invite one and all to celebrate the joyous start of our beloved parish's 90th year of faith and love "MANTLE OF MERCY -90 YEARS WIDE" on **Sunday October 6, 2019**. The celebration starts with the **12:00 PM Commemorative Mass** with Bishop DiMarzio followed by a **Gala Dinner Dance** at the Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston from **3:00 to 8:00 PM**, with additional round trip bus service available from the church to the gala. The Gala will be an elegant cocktail hour, 5 hour open bar, sit down dinner and great music spanning all our decades. To make reservations for the gala and for round trip bus service, please contact the rectory. Invitation flyers and posters are also in the church and on our website.

For **additional information** regarding seating, etc., please contact Helen Van Tine-Golden at 718-793-2033, or the Rectory at 718-268-6143 We hope to see **EVERYONE** there

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**CLASSES BEGIN AS FOLLOWS:**

K thru Gr.5-Wednesday, September 25th from 3:15 to 4:30pm
Gr.6 & Gr.7-Thursday, September 26th from 4:30 to 5:45pm

All students should report directly to the Church for classes.

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 in need of the sacraments of 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.

ABRAHAM: WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Basic introduction to the importance of Abraham in both the old and new testaments with Mr. David Powell, co-director of adult faith formation, in the rectory basement on Tuesday evenings Sept. 17, 24 and Oct. 1 7:30 p.m. No previous background required. Come to one, two or all three sessions as you wish. We provide the bibles for in session discussion. Any questions call the religious education office (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

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, instant mashed potatoes, canned or packaged soups, packets of pasta & rice "Sides", canned fruits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, toothpaste, paper towels, bathroom tissue, soaps, shampoos, and any other personal hygiene and non-perishable food items.**

Important Notice: Since we **Cannot distribute food that has expired. Please Check the Expiration Date on the item Before You Donate It.** 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.

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

September 18, 2018	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:00 pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction - 7:30pm	
September 25, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
October 02, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
October 09, 2019	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
October 16, 2019	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	7:00pm
	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction	7:30pm
October 23, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
October 30, 2019	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.
- **The 112th Precinct Community Council and The Rego Park-Forest Hills Lions Club** are sponsoring a **Health Safety Fair on September 15th**, at Rego Center & 97th Street, from 11:00am to 4:00pm
- This month's **meeting of the 112th Precinct Community Council** will be held on September 18th at 7:30pm in the auditorium of Russel Sage Junior High School. All are welcome.
- **The Rosary for Life, Inc. Annual Mass** is scheduled for Thursday, October 3rd at Resurrection Church (2331 Gerritsen Ave., Brooklyn). The rosary begins at 7:00pm followed by the Mass at 7:30pm. Investiture in the Brown Scapular will follow the Mass.
- **The Church of The Holy Child Jesus** (111-21 86th Ave., Richmond Hill) is holding a **Blood Drive** on Sunday, September 29th, from 8:00am to 1:45pm. For information call Helen at 718-846-5971.
- **Saint Padre Pio's relics** will be available for public veneration at the St. John the Baptist Church (213 west 30th St., NYC) on September 22nd from 9:00am to 4:45pm, and on September 23rd from 9:00am to 6:00pm.
- **Xavier High School** (30 West 16th St., NYC, 212-924-7900) is hosting an **Open House** on October 19th from 11:30am to 4:00pm. This is an excellent way for parish families whose sons are in 6th to 8th grade to visit Xavier and learn about the academic, campus ministry, service, athletic, and co-curricular opportunities. Attendees will receive a tour, and be able to speak with our teachers, coaches, moderators, and administrators.

ATTENTION! PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

It is that time again! We are asking that all parish organizations that use the Parish Hall, Church, Academy Gym, or Rectory meeting rooms for regularly scheduled events and meetings please submit a "Wish List" of your proposed dates for the September through December 2019 season. Please submit your requests to the Rectory either in person or via e-mail (office @mercyhills.org.) as soon as you can. Be sure to include the name and telephone number of a reliable contact person. 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, and another donation was just received last month. Thank you for your participation, and please continue to spread the word.

Call (718) 491-2525 or svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

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 resume on 9/18

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.

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!

