

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 30th</b>
8:30 AM	Clarita & Mario Dordulaw
5:00 PM	Joseph Magoli
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 31st</b>
8:30 AM	Maurice Rooney
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Aliperti & Fazio Families
5:00 PM	Frank J. Carroll, Sr.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>June 1st</b>
8:30 AM	Kevin Del Rosario
12:00 PM	_____
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>June 2nd</b>
8:30 AM	William Hoogsteden
12:00 PM	Earl Duree
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>June 3rd</b>
8:30 AM	_____
12:00 PM	Rosalino & Theresa Catalano
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>June 4th</b>
8:30 AM	_____
12:00 PM	_____
<b>Friday</b>	<b>June 5th</b>
8:30 AM	_____
12:00 PM	James M. Pfohl
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>June 6th</b>
8:30 AM	_____
5:00 PM	Joseph Magoli
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>June 7th</b>
8:30 AM	Herman, Joanne, & Katherine Holzknecht
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Turciano Family
5:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Petito Family

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Patricia Beckett, Ida Ryan, Connie Bornhimer, Mary Wiley, Kathie Greulich, Joseph & Mary Augustine, Ronald Calcevano, Rose Gaynus, Eleanor Merlino, Seraphina Komlos, Mary Tardona, Dorothy Chocko, Catherine Hennessy, Richard McBride Sr., Stacey Headley, Richard Eisenzopf, Alice & Michael

Coleman, Elaine Stumpp, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Cheryl Di Napoli, Jazlyn Castro Bilog, German Diaz, Adam Sapel, Christine Bernardo, Andy Marajh, Stephen Palermo, Robert Palermo, Heather Wilcox, James Leung, Rose McArdle, Maureen Kelly, Msgr. John Tosi, 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; SPC

Benjamin Bravmann, 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**

Yolanda Rivero

***ALL SCHEDULED MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE HONORED AND CELEBRATED PRIVATELY, BY THE PRIESTS OF OUR PARISH, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY AT THE INDICATED TIME.***

**Our Parish Food Pantry** is not open in order to protect the health of our volunteers; however, we do have some Grab and Go Bags prepared for anyone in an emergency situation but you must call the rectory ahead of time as we have no staff regularly present.

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**Please note that, since all of our offices and buildings are currently closed, all regularly scheduled meetings are temporarily cancelled.**

**Our Lady Of Mercy Catholic Academy will be closed until Further Notice**

**SUNDAY – May 31st**

*Pentecost Sunday*

**MONDAY – June 1st**

*The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church*

**TUESDAY - June 2nd**

*Weekday*

**WEDNESDAY – June 3rd**

*Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs*

**THURSDAY – June 4th**

*Weekday*

**FRIDAY – June 5th**

*Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr*

**SATURDAY – June 6th**

*Weekday*

**MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND**

Many thanks for donation to the Parish Memorial Worship fund given in memory of:

**Veronica & Vincent Mauro**  
and

**Florence & John Romano**  
by

Amelia & Frank Romano

**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

Years ago in my first assignment as a new priest at Blessed Sacrament Church in Jackson Heights, I took a road trip to visit a friend, who is a Marist Brother. Brother Henry was stationed at Esopus, New York. I was the proud possessor of new car, a Chevy Nova. When I was growing up, we had no car so this was a novel and exciting acquisition. The bloom was off the rose rather quickly! While driving north I left a very crowded Tappan Zee Bridge and tried to find an alternate route on local roads. While on one of these, I discovered that I could not go into reverse but that the car would only move forward. With the help of a kind postman, I managed to maneuver the car into a Nyack, New York service station. The verdict was that the linkage between the transmission and the gear shift has snapped. It was worn away because it was rubbing against the exhaust pipe. That day I discovered that the default position in car is the forward position and any other direction definitely required an operable gear shift.

Had I ever given thought to the steering linkage? Did I even know it existed? Yet this small chain that I had never thought about had disrupted my trip. The engine was fine; the alternator was O.K.; the tires had the proper pressure; the fluids were satisfactory and the tank was filled. Who even thinks about linkage and yet it was that small thin seemingly inconsequential chain that temporarily halted my trip.

There are a lot of seemingly inconsequential things that are really quite important. Do we usually think about breathing? Do we normally give much thought to our blood pressure or heart beat? Do we give a thought to the proper absorption of oxygen by our lungs? Probably not, unless we are ill. And yet if anyone of those hidden and automatic processes fails we will be aware of it very quickly

Today the Church celebrates Pentecost. Pentecost was originally a planting festival celebrated by the Jewish community about fifty days after Passover. But on a very special Pentecost almost two thousand years ago, the apostles and about one hundred followers of Jesus including Mary were huddled together in prayer but also in fear. Jesus had risen, of that they were positive but now after a little over a month He has withdrawn to heaven - now what? He had told the apostles and others to preach His Name. He wants them to Baptize in His Name and to celebrate the Eucharist. But how can these simple, ordinary and rather fearful men do this? He wants them to witness to Him in their words and actions. What would that mean?

Jesus promises to send the Advocate or the Paraclete (avvocato - abogado) but what is this Advocate, this Holy Spirit to be? They found out! Our first reading this Pentecost Sunday is from the Acts of the Apostles, the sequel to St. Luke's Gospel. The Spirit rushed on them like a strong driving wind. What does wind do? It rearranges things; it changes things. It makes noise. It can uproot the largest trees and blow tiles and shingles off our roofs. If strong enough it can bowl us over.

As if that were not enough, now came tongues of fire - one of the traditional signs of God's Presence - and those tongues alighted on the apostles and their companions. And what does fire do? It also transforms things. It can be powerful and very dangerous - ask any firefighter! It respects no people or places—look at what happened fourteen months ago to Notre Dame de Paris in France. Yet it also can be life-giving and purifying.

Fire lies not only at the center of the universe but a form of fire powers the computer on which this reflection is written. Apparently a flash of fire started the whole universe and one of the descendants of that primordial explosion, our sun, lights and warms us.

After that powerful fiery burst of the Spirit on Pentecost, the Church begins to spread outward almost in imitation of the universe after the "Big Bang". That process continues today. No longer fearful, the apostles burst into speech that was understood by the diverse pilgrims in Jerusalem on that Pentecost many centuries ago. The Spirit was the Big Bang of the Church and It jolted the apostles out of their lethargy and fear. They took off, they burst outward, they transformed the world! Their message brought new hope and life. Sometimes we only give lip service to the Spirit, but like that small chain linking the transmission and the gear shift, nothing happens without the Spirit.

One of the gifts of the Spirit is "peace" - the knowledge that we are reconciled with the Creator of all things and that our destiny is joined with that of Christ; that in Jesus' Name sin which can alienate us from God can be wiped away,

Another gift associated with the Spirit is "unity". Jerusalem on that first Pentecost was like our Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens - many tongues are spoken but all hear the language of one Faith.

Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church. From the beginning this celebration has depended on ordinary people. People very much like that unseen but important gear shift linkage. We know a few of these folks from the Scriptures. They were ordinary people empowered to do great things

There's Peter, impulsive with a hot head and often little understanding - he's our first pope!

Look at James and John. Jesus called them the "sons of thunder". Why that nickname - were they bombastic? At one time, the Scriptures show them arguing about who would have the big positions in the kingdom that they wanted Jesus to found;

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

There's Nathaniel (Bartholomew), a bit of a snob, who referenced Jesus' small town origins in Nazareth by commenting: "what good can come from Nazareth?..." In time, he would be surprised!

There's Matthew, the tax collector. Who knows, maybe he was so desperate for a job that he went to work as a tax collector for the hated Romans or their Herodian accomplices? Oddly he would share company with Simon the Zealot, whose ideal was to forcibly remove the Romans and their allies!

A few of the Apostles apparently were so ordinary that they are barely quoted in Scripture and yet the whole group of them changed the world. How important the unimportant came to be!

The same is true for us. Perhaps we will never know in this world what influence we had or could have had, if we had used our many gifts guided by the Spirit. Like that little gear shift chain, what a difference we might have made! But let's ask ourselves.

What if Moses had chickened out and not confronted Pharaoh? It was difficult for him - by his own admission, he was not a gifted speaker!

What if Mary, while only a teenager had said "no" out of fear?

We are not Mary or Moses but all of us have gifts and we are chosen to use them. None of those gifts are insignificant or unimportant, any more than the linkage in my old car. Every gift is essential. Ordinary folks are the linkage, enabled by the Spirit, to change the world. The apostles and their companions, ordinary as they were, changed the world and so can we!

In Christ,  
Monsignor McGuirl

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Please be reminded that we are live-streaming Mass and other liturgical services, five times a week. Weekday Mass is at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, followed by the Novena Devotions in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Wednesday, Friday, followed by the Rosary and Saturday. Sunday Mass is at noon.

For the present, the church is open for private prayer from 11: 00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. In part to avoid confusion and also because of the Sunday Mass at 12:00 P.M. we **will not open on Saturday or Sunday.**

There is a chance that weekday Mass might resumed in mid-June and Sunday Mass later in the summer but we will keep you informed through the parish website ([www.mercyhills.org](http://www.mercyhills.org)) and in the announcements at the live-streamed Masses.

Many thanks to our great parishioners, who despite the present unique situation, are still supporting the parish by either sending their collection envelopes or leaving them in the rectory mail slot (70-01 Kessel Street) or keeping their commitments to automatic giving and to the Annual Catholic Appeal. You are outstanding in your thoughtful generosity!

God bless you and stay safe!  
Monsignor McGuirl

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**50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS**

Congratulations to the March 2020 Winners of the 50-50 Raffle:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize: Athena & Mitch Palminteri	\$265.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize: Veronica Franz	\$132.50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize: Adrienne Feller	\$132.50
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize: Chuck Haunss	\$66.25
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize: Victor & Laura Maldonado	\$66.25

## **MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY**

### **Joyful Mysteries**

- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- The Birth of Our Lord
- The Presentation
- The Finding in the Temple

### **Luminous Mysteries**

- Baptism of Jesus Christ
- Christ Reveals Himself at Cana
- Proclamation of the Kingdom and Call to Conversion
- The Transfiguration
- Institution of the Eucharist

### **Sorrowful Mysteries**

- The Agony in the Garden
- The Scourging
- The Crowning With Thorns
- The Carrying of the Cross
- The Crucifixion

### **Glorious Mysteries**

- The Resurrection
- The Ascension
- The Coming of the Holy Spirit
- The Assumption of Our Lady
- The Coronation of Our Lady

The joyful mysteries are said on Monday and Saturday; the sorrowful mysteries on Tuesday and Friday; the glorious mysteries on Wednesday and Sunday; the luminous mysteries on Thursday.

## ***PRAY THE ROSARY***



### **PRAYER FOR HEALING**

Lord we ask You to lift up those who are facing illness today. We ask You to bring Healing, Comfort and Peace to their body, mind and soul. We ask You to calm their fears and let them feel the Healing power of your Love.