

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday July 8th
 8:30 AM Sarah Davey
 5:00 PM Anne Daly

Sunday July 9th
 8:30 AM Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Edward Tosi
 5:00 PM Richard Gunaratna

Monday July 10th
 8:30 AM Gerry & James Murphy
 12:00 PM Joan Sauro

Tuesday July 11th
 8:30 AM Geraldine Murphy
 12:00 PM George Shookster

Wednesday July 12th
 8:30 AM Joan Sauro
 12:00 PM Jillian Lambert

Thursday July 13th
 8:30 AM Jillian Lambert
 12:00 PM Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Friday July 14th
 8:30 AM Ed Chocko
 12:00 PM John & Eleanor Friel

Saturday July 15th
 8:30 AM Michael Minischetti
 5:00 PM Angela & Frank Sauro Sr.

Sunday July 16th
 8:30 AM Susan Van Remmen
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Dorothea Laten
 5:00 PM Ralph Elia



PRAY FOR THE SICK

James Leung, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Antoinette Wagner, Richard Kelly, Rose Jonsson, Evelyn McMullan, Mary Ann Matecki, Vincent Lucanie, Patrick Norton, Diane Kitson, Peggy Racanelli, Maureen Medina, Jeanne Woods, Mary Honan, Ron Areas, Bonnie Nison, 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; Capt. Paul Lentz, USAF; Sgt. Larry Saume, U.S. Army; Capt. Travis Swiatocha, USMC, Pvt. Tim Richardson, 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.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – July 9th
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY – July 10th
Weekday

TUESDAY - July 11th
Saint Benedict
 All Offices Closed

WEDNESDAY – July 12th
Weekday
 -Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am
 -Golden Age-Parish Hall at 12:30pm - **All Are Welcome**
 -Divine Mercy-Rectory at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – July 13th
Weekday

FRIDAY – July 14th
St. Kateri Tekakwitha

SATURDAY – July 15th
Saint Bonaventure

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

SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGE

Please note that there will be **NO** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on First Fridays during the Summer months.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks for this week's flower donation given in **loving memory of:**
Regina Gunaratna
 by
 Indira Richards

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.

Dear Parishioners,

A Catholic magazine once published a very interesting story where a man who, in his childhood, was suffering from curvature of the spine. The man mentions that as a small child he suffered mentally because he had a crooked back. His deformity was not so noticeable when he was dressed. But when it came time to take off his shirt, his back looked horrible. This caused him to begin to hate his disability.

In the school, which he attended, periodic medical examinations were carried out. Standing in the line to see the doctor, the boy trembled with fear and shame at the thought of the doctor seeing his deformed back. Finally, his time came to see the doctor. The boy's hands were shaking with nerves and shame as he pulled off his shirt. The doctor looked at him for a moment, then did something unusual. He stepped out from behind his desk, walked over to the shuddering boy, wrapped his hands around his face, looked him in the eye, and asked: "Son - do you believe in God?" "Yes, sir," answered the boy. "That's good," the doctor said. The more that you believe in God, the easier it will be to accept yourself.

After these words, the doctor returned to his desk, wrote a note on the boy's card, and then left his office for a moment. After leaving the doctor, the boy with his heart trembling looked at the note the doctor had just written, expecting the worst. He could not believe his eyes when he read about himself: "This boy has an extremely noble-shaped head." After a while the doctor returned, ran a few other routine tests. At the end, he said with a smile: "it's all right. You can dress up now. And send in the next boy." This short episode in the boy's life had a profound effect on his entire future. This boy never forgot the doctor's words which greatly lifted his spirit.

This story beautifully reflects the words of Christ in today's Gospel:

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves."

Gentleness, humility, love, these are not values that are too popular in the modern world. More popular today are: pride, inferiority, violence, scandal and evil. Examples of these traits are found on our streets, in newspaper columns, on the screens of our cinemas and on televisions. The more so that these traits are present, the more so that we must remember Christ's words:

"learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart;"

Our Savior not only instructed us to be gentle in dealing with people, but he himself gave us an example of understanding and gentleness. We see the example of an adulteress woman. The Pharisees brought her to the Lord Jesus so he could judge her actions. Christ showed great gentleness not only to this sinful woman, but also to those; Who accused her. He did not shout, he did not wave his hands. He just bent down and began to write in the sand.

The Lord Jesus also teaches us to be understanding and gentle towards other people in the parable of the lost sheep. In the story the Good Shepherd does not beat the lost sheep for being lost, instead he only takes her gently on his shoulders and carries her to the fold.

Christ also wants us to imitate the gentleness and goodness of the father in the parable of the prodigal son. This good father, symbolizing our Heavenly Father, does not condemn his son who has left his home and has squandered his fortune by living lavishly. He does not shout at him when he comes home, instead he only opens his arms and presses his son to his heart.

Delicacy and the ability to understand the imperfection and weakness of another person, can do real miracles and transform a human life, just as the boy's life was transformed thanks to the goodness and delicacy of a wise physician.

Let us take with us these words:

"learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart;"

let us first of all be indulgent for human misery and weakness, because we ourselves are weak and sinful. Let's help as well as we can with other people and treat them with delicacy and love.

In Christ,
Fr. Gregory

ADVANCE NOTICE
BLOOD DRIVE



**GIVE BLOOD
SAVE LIFE**

The New York Blood Center's inventory is at a critically low level and a Blood Emergency has been declared. There is an urgent need for donors of all blood types to help replenish the supply. **Our Lady of Mercy will be sponsoring a BLOOD DRIVE on SUNDAY, August 6, 2017 from 8:45am to 2:45pm in the Parish Hall.** Please help give this vital gift of life by making a blood donation. Literature is available for your

review in the vestibule of the Church. For more information, or to make an appointment to donate, please call Carol Flaherty in the Rectory office (718-268-6143). **Remember to bring your donor card or donor number with you on August 6th.**

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

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

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

July 12, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
July 19, 2017	Healing Mass	7:30 pm
July 26, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm

***There will be no Holy Hour for the Divine Mercy for the months of July & August**

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 \$50/\$100 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**.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

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

1 st Prize: Mary Schroff	\$280.00
2 nd Prize: Indira Richards	\$140.00
3 rd Prize: Pia Parham	\$140.00
4 th Prize: Mr. & Mrs. M BiFalco	\$70.00
5 th Prize: Richard & Marianne Eisenzopf	\$70.00

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 for more info.

FOOD PANTRY



The Food Pantry Community at Our Lady of Mercy Church is a part of our Ministry that seeks to create a hunger free community by sharing our abundant blessings with God's people that are in need. The Food Pantry Ministry operates on every Saturday from 10:00am to 11:00am. The purpose of the Food Pantry is to assist those living within the community of Forest Hills and the surrounding areas of Queens who are in need of basic food and sanitary supplies during times of hardship. However, no one presenting a genuine need will be turned away. **Since** your donations help us keep the shelves stocked, we are asking for your help in dropping off food, monetary donations or gift cards. If giving a **monetary donation**, please make all checks payable to Our Lady of Mercy Church (in the memo section please state Food Pantry or Human Services) and forward all cash or checks to the Rectory, 70 01 Kessel Street.

Food items needed: powdered or Parmalat milk, jelly, rice, canned or packaged soups, tuna fish, canned stews, hash, or Spam, Chef Boyardee, packets of pasta & rice "Sides", canned fruits, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, cookies, toothpaste, soaps, shampoos, and any other personal hygiene and non-perishable food items.

Food Pantry Hours are: 10:00am-11:00am every Saturday



The Human Services element of the parish pastoral care program is for those who require human services that go beyond those offered by our weekly food pantry. I will be available on Tuesdays evenings from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. If you require this assistance please leave your name and number at the Rectory so that an appointment may be made.



The Bulletin Board

- The **Diocese of Brooklyn's own NET TV** is a cable network featuring news and information with a Catholic point of view, and is provided by most cable companies in our area. You can also watch the programming live on NET TV's website at www.netny.tv/
- **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.
- **Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School** is now accepting applications for their **summer camps** (Girls softball soccer, basketball & volleyball; Boys baseball, soccer & basketball). Contact Fran Rocco at 718-898-3800, ext. 3. The school is also accepting applications for the **T.A.C.H.S. preparation program** beginning in Sept., and Ms. Rocco is again the contact.
- **St. John's Preparatory School** is offering a **2017 TACHS Prep Course**, which will take place in September. For further information, call the admissions office -718-721-7200, ext. 699.
- **Camp Veritas Play-and-Pray Sleepaways for teens** in Grades 7-12. July 16-22 at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY; July 23-29 at Summit Lake Camp, Emmitsburg, MD; August 13-19 at Camp Lakota, Wurstboro NY. \$450/camper. Spiritual program is led by priests from the Archdiocese of New York and supported by Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, Sisters of Life, online at: www.campveritas.com.
- **Summer Retreats are available** Make summertime God's time by attending programs this June and July at the St. Joseph Retreat Center, Staten Island, facilitated by the Daughters of Divine Charity. Book online at www.SJRetreatCenter.org or call 718-720-1097 for per-session pricing or inquire about overnight stays.
- **Home-Delivered Meals** are available if you are **age 60+** and living in NE Queens. Kosher, non-Kosher, Korean and Chinese meals are offered. To see if you or someone you know might qualify, call Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services Northeast Queens at 718-357-4903. This home-delivered meals program is funded by the NYC Department of Aging.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever." Let the Lord feed and support your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME weekend in our area is September 15-17 in Huntington, New York, at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception. For more information, call Richard and Karen Roginski at 877-697-9963 or visit online at <https://bq-wwme.org>.

FEEL GREAT & LOOK GREAT

Feel and look great at our exercise class every Wednesday from 9:00 to 10:00 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.

THE DEANERY CORNER

- There will be a Diocesan Pilgrimage, August 30-September 8, to Fatima and Lourdes Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions. The Spiritual Director will be Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio. For a brochure, call The Catholic Tour, 1-855-564-1008 or email jimadair@thecatholicour.com.
- There will be a **Holy Land Pilgrimage**, November 6-15 with Our Lady of the Angelus' Fr. John Mendonca and Fr. Roberto Mirsel, SVD. Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem. \$3299 from New York. Call OLA at 718-897-4444 for information
- **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 the **first and third Mondays** of each month, from 7-9 p.m., in the rectory, and facilitated by Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader, Yorke Mizelle. Call the OLQM rectory at 718-268-6251 if interested in attending or more info, email ymizelle@nyc.rr.com.
- **Pilgrimage to the Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima** on Saturday, September 9th. The Charismatic Prayer Group of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church is sponsoring this pilgrimage for the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to the three shepherd children of Fatima. Bus leaves for Washington, NJ, for the Marian Festival Celebrating Mary's Birthday at 8 a.m. (sharp), from OLQM Church (corner Ascan Ave. and Queens Blvd) Cost: \$40/person For ticket information, please call any of these prayer group members: Cecile Mendoza: 718-674-6551 or 347-453-4147 Vergie Punto: 917-770-0897 Cely De Borja: 718-255-1654

