

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	March 4th
8:30 AM	Thomas Strauss
5:00 PM	Herbert Enders
Sunday	March 5th
8:30 AM	Taciana Pinero Uy
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Lynn Hoenig
5:00 PM	Michael Albert
Monday	March 6th
8:30 AM	Nathan Koo (Living Intention)
12:00 PM	Helena Skiba
Tuesday	March 7th
8:30 AM	Maureen Sheehy-Hart
12:00 PM	Maria Garrido
Wednesday	March 8th
8:30 AM	Joseph DiCapua & BiFalco & DiCapua Families
12:00 PM	Josephine Bebirian
Thursday	March 9th
8:30 AM	Sommer Family
12:00 PM	Robert Casaccio
Friday	March 10th
8:30 AM	Gerry Murphy
12:00 PM	Mamie Stramera & Mario Fragapane
Saturday	March 11th
8:30 AM	Madeline Wales & Martin Hess (Anniversary)
5:00 PM	William Walters
Sunday	March 12th
8:30 AM	Soli Gharda
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Joan Sauro & Frances & Michael Albano
5:00 PM	Raul Gonzales

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Vincent Lucanie, Roberta Papagni, Brene Brown, James Leung, Chantel Fernandes, Alice Coleman, Robert & Mary Tardona, Ken Kirwin, Christopher Tolve, Roseann Salerno, Larry Ginsberg, Antoinette Wagner, Richard Kelly, Frank & Carolyn Kalnberg, Josie Bellina, Vera Garofalo, Gladys Sanchez, Mary J. Riley, John O'Driscoll, Marilyn Jagiello, Eleanor Murray, Jean Strifler, Ava Cautin, Patrick Norton, JoAnn Gatch, Isabel Azzaro, Ann Rung, Celina Oleksie, Liane Ginsberg, Helaine Powell & Unborn Child, Claudette David, Denise Michelle, Renata Vecchione, Mary I. Albert, Rosa Rivera, Tom Horgan, Chris Austin, Connie Kwan, John Kelly, Jeanne Woods, Michael Daly, Tomo Nakaci, 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, 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

Eric Haanio
Alwyn D. Lassiter III
Henri-Robert & Victor Lamarque
Leona Zaloga
James Ryan
Deacon Manuel Barahona

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – March 5th***First Sunday Of Lent***MONDAY – March 6th***Lenten Weekday*

-Rich In Mercy Prayer Group-Church at 7:30pm

-Scripture Study-Rectory Meeting Room I at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - March 7th*Lenten Weekday*

-Centering Prayer-Rectory Meeting Room at 2:30pm & 6:15pm

-“Catholicism” Series-Parish Hall at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – March 8th*Lenten Weekday*

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 9:00am

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

-CCD K thru 6-Church at 3:30pm

-Divine Mercy-Rectory at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – March 9th*Lenten Weekday*

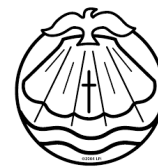
-CCD 7th Gr.-Rel. Ed. Office at 3:45pm

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – March 10th*Lenten Weekday***SATURDAY – March 11th***Lenten Weekday*

-First Penance-Church at 2:00pm

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

**BAPTISMS**

We welcome into our faith community all those who were baptized in the month of February, 2017:

Anna Catherine Jarmel
Amalia Luna Torres

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.

Dear Parishioners;

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 1st

During Lent The Station of the Cross will be celebrated twice every Friday: the first time at 9:00 A.M. and the second at 7:30 P.M. (No Evening Stations on the evening of March 31st at 7:30 P.M.)

Soup Luncheon (formerly Supper) - Sunday, March 12th at 1:00 P.M.

St. Vincent DePaul Clothing Drive - Sunday, April 2nd, from 8:00A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

Over the last few years, we have had various adult education opportunities which utilized sections of the "Catholicism" DVD Series, by Father (now Bishop) Robert Barron. Father Barron was a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Illinois but recently has been ordained an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, California. We have never viewed the series in its entirety; yet, it is the perfect way to introduce people to our Catholic Faith or to refresh our own Faith while also exploring some of the difficult questions and problems.

Every parishioner is invited to join Monsignor McGuirl on the Tuesdays of Lent at 7:30 P.M. in the Church Hall. All age groups are invited. Father Barron's majestic and scenic DVDs make our Faith available to all levels of education and to every age group. We will view the entire series during Lent. Our parishioners are invited to come for as many or as few of the segments as they wish. You may drop in or out as you see fit. We will try to take two segments each week. For your convenience they are as listed below:

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|------------|--|---|
| March 7th | <i>Amazed and Afraid</i> | The Revelation of God become Man |
| | <i>Happy are We</i> | The Teachings of Jesus |
| March 14th | <i>The Ineffable Mystery of God</i> | That Than Which Nothing Greater
Can Be Thought |
| | <i>Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast</i> | Mary, The Mother of God |
| March 21st | <i>The Indispensable Men</i> | Peter, Paul and the Missionary Adventure |
| | <i>A Body Both Suffering sand Glorious</i> | The Mystical Union of Christ
and the Church |
| March 28th | <i>Word Made Flesh, True Bread of Heaven</i> | The Mystery of the Liturgy
and the Eucharist |
| | <i>A Vast Company of Witnesses</i> | The Communion of Saints |

April 4th NO SESSION due to Forest Hills Civic Association Meeting in the Parish Hall

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|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| April 11th | <i>The Fire of His Love</i> | Prayer and the Life of the Spirit |
| | <i>World Without End</i> | The Last Things |

I hope that these Lenten opportunities will help us to explore the mysteries of our faith and profoundly enhance our personal spirituality. In addition to "giving up something" these suggestions might be, more profitably, things that "we can do".

God bless you,

Monsignor McGuirl

LENT

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, 2017. The **Lenten Regulations** are:

Fasting is required on both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (April 14th). Fasting is a serious obligation for all Catholics 18 to 59 years of age. The requirement reminds us of Our Lord's sacrificial love for us. It further reminds us of our ultimate dependence on Almighty God for everything. It also unites us even if very briefly with the vast majority of the earth's population which often lacks even the basic nutritional requirements.

Abstinence on all the Fridays of Lent is also a serious penitential practice for all Catholics of all ages. Abstinence is the avoidance of meat or meat products. Like fasting, it is a reminder of our dependence on the love of almighty God and at least a brief solidarity with the poor.

All Catholics, after having received First Communion, are bound to receive the Lord in Holy Communion at least once a year. This obligation is called the **Easter Duty**. Most practicing Catholics receive the Eucharist regularly throughout the year so this obligation is more than fulfilled. The law applies a basic minimum and refers back to a time when Holy Communion was much less frequently received. However, if the recipient of Holy Communion is in a state of serious sin then recourse to the Sacrament of Penance is necessary.



Thank you to all who participated in the NYC Blood Center's Blood Drive held here on February 26th. There were 55 registered donors and 45 pints of blood were collected. Since the Center's blood reserves usually decrease during this time of the year, your response was most certainly

appreciated. And, since one pint of blood can help three people, 135 people will benefit from the generosity of OLM Blood Drive participants. May each one of you always be blessed for this selfless gift of life that you have given to restore the health of someone in need.

Special thanks to Carol Flaherty, Jim Mara, Linda Dougherty, Kelly Casottana, and Pauline Szabados for volunteering their services in assisting the donors throughout the day.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

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

- 1st Prize: Catherine Stallhuth \$280.00
- 2nd Prize: Kathleen Murphy \$140.00
- 3rd Prize: J. & G. Caro \$140.00
- 4th Prize: Terence Stewart \$70.00
- 5th Prize: Mary Lou Steincke \$70.00

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

March 08, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00pm
March 15, 2017	Divine Mercy Chaplet Benediction	7:00pm 8:00pm
March 22, 2017	Divine Mercy Cenacle	7:00 pm
March 29, 2017	Divine Mercy Devotion	7:00 pm

ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH PARTY

Everyone is invited to celebrate these two great saints-St. Patrick and St. Joseph – in the Lower Church Hall on Saturday , March 18, 2017 from 6:30 to 10:30 PM with DJ Tim O'Brien of Good Time Party Music, pipers, dancing, superb hot buffet, coffee, tea, soft drinks, desserts, and BYOB. And Monsignor McGuirl promises his famous homemade family recipe soda bread. All for \$40 /person by March 11, 2017 with *Early Bird Special of \$35/person for monies received by February 28, 2017*. Please see fliers in the bulletin and around the church to get your ticket. For more info , please contact **MaraGold Productions:** Helen Van Tine-Golden or Jim Mara at 718-497-5705

OPERA COMES TO MERCY AGAIN!
RESERVE NOW FOR MARCH 31st & APRIL 2nd!!

Golden Rose Opera Works, Mercy's resident opera company , proudly presents Pietro Mascagni's 70 minute glorious one – act glorious masterpiece , "Cavalleria Rusticana " right here in the church on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 2PM.

A terrific tale of a spurned pregnant lover, a reckless young man , a spoiled bored housewife and an avenging husband -AND the swift settling of fate all on Easter Sunday morning. And the audience is in the middle of all that action and glorious music.

Please see flyer in the bulletin and around the church for reservation details and tear off form for ticket purchases. General admission tickets are \$20 adults and \$15/ students and seniors. Please call Helen Van Tine –Golden at 718-793-2033 for additional information or see her after or before the 8:30 AM and 10AM Masses ! Thank you for your continued patronage

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 Pantry Hours are:10:00am–11:00am every Saturday

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.

ALMSGIVING DURING LENT

Clothing Drive



What's in your closet?

Do you have lots of extra clothes in your closet at home? Feel like you need to do some spring cleaning? Bring those clothes you don't wear anymore to the St. Vincent De Paul truck that will be located in front of Our Lady of Mercy Church on Sunday, April 2nd 2017 from 8:00am to 1:30pm. Your donated clothes will go to the needy and less fortunate.

Blessing

Deacon Dean Dobbins

SPRING ALREADY?!

Although there seems to be some disagreement between Phil and Chuck as to when Spring will arrive, here at OLM, plans are being made for our Spring Fling event in early May.

If you are a vendor or know someone who would like to participate in this event, please have them call or email the Rectory for more details.

THINK SPRING!!!!

OLM MUSICAL NOTES

We are hoping to get some additional members this year to expand our choirs. We hope that you will consider joining us.

The Adult Choir will rehearse on Mondays at 7:30PM and sing at the 10AM Mass on Sundays.

The Youth Choir will rehearse in the church on Sundays at 11AM and sing at the 12 Noon Mass **The youth choir will be accepting students from third grade and up.**

If you are interested in joining either choir please contact our Music Director, Jane Lawson. You can see her in the choir loft after any Mass on Sundays, or leave a message for her at the Rectory

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 Bulletin Board

- Have you been looking for a way to be more present in our parish community? Stop by and chat with a member of the Knights of Columbus after all Masses on the weekend of March 11th.
- **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** invites everyone to their next meeting on March 15th at 7:30pm, at the Precinct House, where Capt. Ramos will discuss outstanding safety issues and concerns.
- On Saturday, April 22, 2017, a **Bishop McDonnell MHS** (260 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn) Reunion will be held from approximately noon to 5pm. For more information contact Rita Monaghan-Maloney at 718-857-2700 ext.2253 or rmaloney@blmhs.org.
- The **Forest Hills Civic Association** will meet on April 4th at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Hall at 7:30pm. **George Hu from NYC Finance will speak on the home and apartment real estate tax situation All are invited. Have your questions ready!**

THE DEANERY CORNER

- **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish**(110-06 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills) will hold its **annual early spring food festival** on March 12th, from 2:30pm to 5pm in McLaughlin Hall (the school auditorium; Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 the day of the event (includes samplings of foods and desserts from many restaurants in Forest Hills and the neighboring communities & Lucky Bingo Game to win gift cards from other food venues). We are also selling raffle tickets at \$50 each or 3/\$75 for a chance to win a top prize of \$1,000 in cash. (Donors do not have to be present at the drawing to win.) To purchase tickets or raffles, call the OLQM rectory (718-268-6251) during business hours
- There will be **Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy, Stockbridge, MA on Sunday, April 23, 2017.** Bus departs at 6:30AM (sharp) from **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church, 110-06 Queens Blvd (corner Ascan Avenue).** Cost: \$50/person. Sponsored by the Charismatic Prayer Group at OLQM. For tickets, call: Virgie Punto 917-770-0897; Nellie Milite 718-704-3862. Or visit ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/dmpilgrimage2017. Don't Miss Out! First Come, First Serve.
- **Resurrection-Ascension Church** will have it's annual **St. Patrick's Day Dance on Sunday, March 12th, from 4-8pm.** DJ playing Irish and contemporary favorites , buffet dinner, step dancers, and our first "Irish Person of the Year" presentation. Tickets are \$35 per person, children 12 & under are FREE. Call the rectory at (718) 424-5212, ext. 12, or email rarectory@aol.com for tickets or more information