

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>July 27th</b>
8:30 AM	Mary Ann Stargiotti
5:00 PM	Marija & Branimir Babic
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July 28th</b>
8:30 AM	Gemma Tavani
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Blanca Hernandez
5:00 PM	Rosemarie (Rosemary) Brennan
<b>Monday</b>	<b>July 29th</b>
8:30 AM	Stephen Berkowitz
12:00 PM	M. Margaret & Peter McGrath
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>July 30th</b>
8:30 AM	Mary Lou Bueno
12:00 PM	James Pfohl
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>July 31st</b>
8:30 AM	Sarah Henschel & Mary Ann Toban (Living Intentions)
12:00 PM	Sheila Conlon
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>August 1st</b>
8:30 AM	Elio Cogiamanian
12:00 PM	Dominga Paragas
<b>Friday</b>	<b>August 2nd</b>
8:30 AM	Fay Foran
12:00 PM	Henri-Robert Lamarque
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 3rd</b>
8:30 AM	Pierre Aquarius
5:00 PM	Ruth Marie Perez
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 4th</b>
8:30 AM	Nicholas T Pezolano
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Angelique Campaore
5:00 PM	Bill Caruso

**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, Richard Wenzel, Annette Merone, Mary Anne Whatley, Eleanor Merlino, Steve Nacincik, Michael Stasiak, Pia Parham, Beth Friedman, Anthony Mendola, Felipe Vallejo, Fr August Iantosca, 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**

Eric John McCormack

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH****SUNDAY – July 28th***Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time***MONDAY – July 29th***Saint Martha***TUESDAY - July 30th***Weekday*

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 7:30pm

**WEDNESDAY – July 31st***Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest*

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30

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

**THURSDAY – August 1st***Saint Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop and Doctor of the Church***FRIDAY – August 2nd***Weekday***SATURDAY – August 3rd***Weekday*

**If you are not yet registered in the Parish, please stop into the Rectory Office for a Census Form Mon. thru Fri. 9am-4pm, Sat. 9am-2pm**

**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**

We still have many weekday Masses and Memorials available for your intentions between now and the end of the year. Please visit the Rectory Offices to make your requests so that we can try fill up this year before opening the 2020 book. Thank You.

**GOING ON VACATION?**

**Please do not forget to support your parish.** We are most grateful for our parishioners who “catch up” or give donations in advance to compensate for the times that they will be away. It truly does help, and we 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.

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

Many, many years ago a nursing nun calmed down a seven year old girl before surgery - *Do not be afraid! You'll get a few droplets of medication into your nose and you will fall asleep. And when you wake up, you'll be quite healthy.* - *Please sister* –responded the little girl - *at home, before bed with mommy and daddy we pray.* The girl rose on the operating table, knelt and prayed. The doctor who discreetly was monitoring the situation, had tears in his eyes. After the operation, he said that for 25 years he had never had such a successful operation. And... a non-believing doctor becomes a believer.

Dear brothers and sisters!

This heart wrenching real-life story is a good introduction to the spirit of today's readings. Because they focus on prayer. In the first reading, the sacred author presents the prayer of Abraham, championed by God for the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah. God puts a condition: *"If I find in Sodom fifty righteous, I will forgive the entire city for them."* Abraham is afraid that there will not be so many, so he gradually asks for a reduction in the number that was given by God. God hears the prayers of Abraham's patience and promises that he will not destroy the city even for the sake of ten righteous people. It is difficult to decide what to admire more: the perseverance and cleverness of Abraham, or God's submission and mercy.

Today's Gospel speaks of the praying Christ. The prayer of our Savior had to be so beautiful and moving that it raised the Apostles longing for a skill like a beautiful prayer. One of them asked with a longing words: *"Lord, teach us to pray..."*. In response to this request the Lord Jesus not only taught the Apostles the most beautiful prayer, the "Our Father", but he gave them guidance on how a prayer should feel good and real.

Dear brothers and sisters! One of the conditions for the effectiveness of our prayer is trust and entrusting to God. Jesus expresses it in these words:

*What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? ...  
If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children,  
how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?*

Just, like Christ, Abraham, and the seven-year old girl; in praying we should always remember that God is our Father. He loves us, and He always wants what is good for us. There should always be a child's conversation with the Father. A child who believes, trusts, loves and is certain that they will receive from their Father what they ask for.

Our prayer should be persistent. The man who is in need, perseveres, and even - as defined by today's Gospel - "persistently" knocks at night at the house of his friend and asks him to lend him three loaves of bread. The Lord Jesus says that even the persistently hounded man did not stand up and did not give him the three loaves because he is his friend, *"but because of his compulsion to stand up and give him what he needs"*. How, then, from the words of Christ, is it not enough one time to pray about something, but you have to pray and ask God many times and persistently.

St. Augustine said, *"That if God sometimes does not answer our prayers, it is because, we pray wrong, or we pray for bad things, or we are bad"*. Let's consider this today. Let us make sure that none of these circumstances are present when we pray.

When the well-known French writer Leon Bloy, died, he left his children a confession which is also a spiritual testament: *"You have to pray. Everything else is futile and foolish. You need to pray, to bear the burden of life, waiting to get strength. For a man who prays a lot, there is neither despair nor bitter sorrow. Faith, hope, love - these are like diamonds, and diamonds cost a lot. But, you can gain these three just by prayer which, in itself, is a priceless jewel"*.

Reinhold Schneider said: *"Prayer is without a doubt one of the most powerful forces of history"*.

Albert Schweitzer said: *"Prayer does not change the world, but it changes people, and people change the world"*. You should also remember the beautiful comparison, which he used to determine the necessity and importance of prayer in the life of master Eckhart: *"A pious prayer is like a golden ladder reaching to heaven, which will take you to God."*

Christ, who is present with us during Holy Mass. Let us pray in the words of the prayer:

*"Lord- I still pray in words.  
Teach me, please, pray for peace,  
and the tears of a child whose tears  
parents did not hear.  
Teach me to pray for an old man in solitude  
who is helplessly waiting in vain ...  
And the people suffering with severe pain  
awakened from sleep.  
God, teach me to pray by my actions,  
so that your son, will sanctify them.  
Amen."*

In Christ  
Fr. Grzegorz Stasiak

**PART TIME POSITION  
AVAILABLE**

We are looking for a part-time employee who would be interested in working in our Rectory office on Monday thru Friday evenings from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Anyone who is available and interested, in all or some evenings, or if you would like more information, please call the Rectory (718-268-6143) and speak to Dian Malm.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Coming soon!**

**"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 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Golden Rose Opera** presents a semi-staged concert performance (with orchestra and English subtitles) 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, and General Admission tickets are \$20. Please see ticket order flyers in the church for purchase information.

**OLM's 90th ANNIVERSARY MASS AND GALA  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2019  
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. We hope to see **EVERYONE** there

**OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC ACADEMY  
NEEDS YOUR HELP**

In just a few short weeks, students will be returning to school after the summer break. We want to ensure that all our students are armed with the tools to learn, make friends, and flourish. As we have done in the past, we are once again asking if you could please **consider donating school supplies** to our Academy to be used by all of the students.

The following is a list of items that are used in large quantities: Paper towels, tissues, baby wipes, Clorox Wipes, Sharpies, Expo Markers, construction paper, hand sanitizer, highlighters, washable paint, #2 lead pencils, masking tape, and laminating pouches. There will be a receptacle for donations in the Church Vestibule. Thank You!

**BLOOD DRIVE**

During these summer months, in order to maintain an adequate blood supply, there is an **URGENT** need for donors of all blood types. The need for blood remains constant; it never takes a vacation

Our Lady of Mercy will be sponsoring a blood drive on **Sunday August 18th from 8:45 am to 2:45 pm** in the Parish Hall.

For those of us who have walked the journey with our relatives or friends receiving chemotherapy, we have witnessed their physical response to the treatments, the periodic need for transfusions essential to replenish vital blood nutrients and to alleviate their symptoms of distress. We assume blood will always be available when needed. This can only happen when we take the time and offer the self sacrifice of helping another person, whom we will probably never know, with our blood donation. **ONE DONATION HELPS THREE PEOPLE.** Your donation matters. PLEASE HELP.

Literature is available in the vestibule of the church for your review. Donation sign-up sheets are also in the vestibule of the church.

**VOLUNTEERS are needed** throughout the day to assist with registration, 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 or on the volunteer sign-up sheets in the vestibule of the church.

Remember to bring your donor card or your donor ID number, if you have one, and a photo ID with you on August 18th. Walk-ins are most welcome. Please join us

If you need more information, please contact Carol Flaherty in the Rectory Office (718) 268-6143.

**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 2019 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!

**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.**

**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.

**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.

**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

**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. If interested in attending, or for questions, please call the rectory at 718-268-6251 or email the group's facilitator, Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader Yorke Mizelle, at ymizelle@nyc.rr.com.



**The Community Bulletin Board**

- **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.
- **St. John's Preparatory School** is offering a 2019 TACHS Prep Course, which will take place in September. Course information can be found on the application. For further information, please call the admissions office at 718-721-7200, extension 699. Register online :[www.stjohnsprepschool.org](http://www.stjohnsprepschool.org), in the Admissions link.
- **Archbishop Molloy HS** will be offering a variety of **boys and girls basketball and baseball camps this summer**, naming them "Memorial 5 Camps". Registration is now open and information is available at [www.memorial5.com](http://www.memorial5.com) or [www.molloyhs.com](http://www.molloyhs.com).
- **Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School**: is now accepting applications for the T.A.C.H.S. Preparation program to be held at the school for the first seven Saturdays of the next school year beginning on September 14th. For more information contact Ms. Fran Rocco, 718-898-3800 ext. 3.
- The **112th Precinct Community Council** and the **112th Precinct** are pleased to invite you to **The Annual Night Out Against Crime**, on August 6th from 5:30-8:30pm, in MacDonald Park (rain location: Forest Hills Jewish Center). There will be music & entertainment, free BBQ and Kosher food, safety information, and a chance to meet the officers of the 112th Precinct. Share the invite with your friends, neighbors and families.

**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](http://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.

