

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	November 30th
8:30 AM	In Thanksgiving
5:00 PM	Charles & Frances Sapienza
Sunday	December 1st
8:30 AM	Restituto Quiambao Luz
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Peter McGrath (62nd Anniversary)
5:00 PM	Nora Calderon
Monday	December 2nd
8:30 AM	Edward Miller
12:00 PM	Peggy Frawley
Tuesday	December 3rd
8:30 AM	Edward Miller
12:00 PM	Maureen & Joe O'Doherty (Living Intention-50th Anniversary)
Wednesday	December 4th
8:30 AM	Joseph Casaccio
12:00 PM	In Honor of the Holy Trinity & the Blessed Mother
Thursday	December 5th
8:30 AM	Nicol Mark Bieba (100th Birthday)
12:00 PM	Ed Miller
Friday	December 6th
8:30 AM	Eleanor & James Mara
12:00 PM	In Thanksgiving to Almighty God
Saturday	December 7th
8:30 AM	Camille Joan Bruno
5:00 PM	Henri-Robert Lamarque
Sunday	December 8th
8:30 AM	Mason Swearingen
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Labay Family
5:00 PM	Antonia Turriciano

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Patricia Becktold, Ida Ryan, Connie Bornhimer, Pete Rose, James McWalters, Mary Wiley, Kathie Greulich, Joseph & Mary Augustine, Jean Ammirati, Ronald Calcevano, Rose Gaynus, Eleanor Merlino, Seraphina Komlos, Mary Tardona, Dorothy Chocko, 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

Alfred Di Silvestri
Mary Ann Tobon

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – December 1st**

First Sunday of Advent

-Pancake Breakfast-Parish Hall from 8:00am to 1:00pm

MONDAY – December 2nd

Advent Weekday

-Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - December 3rd

St. Francis Xavier. Priest

-RCIA/Centering Prayer-Rectory at 7:30pm

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – December 4th

Advent Weekday

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30am

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

-CCD K thru 5th Gr.-Church at 3:15pm

-Divine Mercy-Church at 7:00pm

THURSDAY – December 5th

Advent Weekday

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm

-CCD 6th & 7th Gr.-School at 4:30pm

FRIDAY – December 6th

Advent Weekday

SATURDAY – December 7th

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

-Brunch with Santa-Parish Hall at 10:00am

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.

**MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND**

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

James M. Pfohl

by

Elizabeth Pfohl

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.

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

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend begins Advent, the period of immediate preparation for Christmas. It also begins the new liturgical year. The readings for Advent almost inevitably have the theme of watchful waiting: living in the present but looking back to the past and anticipating the future.

Remember that wait for Santa Claus when you were child? So great was the expectation that you could hardly hold it. I was often convinced that I could hear the sounds of the reindeers' hooves on our roof (It was unlikely that the roof of our house at 69-11 Manse Street could have supported a "miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer"). All children were bursting with anticipation for the present, while remembering past Christmases, and looking forward to what lay ahead.

Some of those feelings we leave behind in childhood; yet, the readings this Sunday - the first of Advent - strike the same chord. Remember in Charles Dickens's *Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge is confronted by a succession of the ghosts of Christmases past, present and future? Isaiah, Paul and Jesus set that same tone today.

Isaiah foretells the days that are coming when the Lord's promises will be fulfilled and all the nations will stream peacefully to the Lord's mountain. Many of the Old Testament prophets regularly criticized the people for their failures; yet, here Isaiah energizes the people with a vision of what could be - a future of God's making beyond human dreams. God's dream had to be expressed in poetic terms but it lay far beyond any human language. Isaiah foresees a future, which we believe was fulfilled in Jesus' birth and life among us. That life, begun against all expectation in the manger of a stable, became the touchstone of human history and destiny. Who could anticipate such a thing?

In today's lesson from St. Matthew, we find that Child born at Bethlehem at the end of His human life. Jesus is directing the attention of His Apostles to the future when He will return as cosmic Lord. The language is apocalyptic - filled with a poetic expression of what is to come.

There is certainly a tension here between the lullaby of Bethlehem and the final ending. We are in the in-between times. So indeed the readings are couched in the past and look to the future. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans assures his readers that if they have conducted themselves to please God "...by putting on the Lord Jesus..." then they are living in the present as God would want them to. "For our salvation is nearer now than we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is near at hand."

In the Gospel Jesus warns the disciples to be prepared. He uses vivid comparisons between the time of the Great Flood in the past and the time of the coming of the Son of Man in an unknown future. People were going about their business with the ordinary things of life when the Flood burst upon them. He predicts that it will be similar when the Son of Man returns. His short analogies of people engaged in ordinary activities or a house owner alert to a possible robbery emphasize the suddenness and unknown time of that startling event.

We are not to be found unprepared. Unprepared for what? Well, probably not the final reversal of the "big bang" but certainly our own encounter with the living God! Advent is the season, when as we stand in the present, we look to the past - the birth in Bethlehem, the fulfillment of the ancient prophecies, and we anticipate the future, not only the celebration of Christ's birth on Christmas but His return in glory. We must be "prepared for an hour you do not expect, (when) the Son of Man will come".

In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl



'TIS THE SEASON

Our **Giving Tree** and ornaments will be in place in the Church vestibule this weekend for the first Sunday of Advent. This year, as in the past, we will be collecting gifts for Catholic Charities, Bridge To Life, and **our own homebound parishioners**. Please hang an ornament on the tree and drop off your gift for the charity noted on your ornament in the box provided in the vestibule or at the Rectory no later than December 13th. Your thoughtfulness always makes Christmas bright for many less fortunate than ourselves, and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

We know that it is early, but we like to be prepared to help Santa out! As usual, he will be making some "special deliveries" during the season to those who are homebound. So, we are asking for your help with gathering information. If you know of a neighbor or friend who is homebound and could use a little cheering up, please inform the Rectory office of their name and address. Thank you for your help!

A TIME FOR GIVING!



Each year, we have some local families who come to us requesting our help in providing Christmas gifts for their children. We try to support these families by providing new gifts of toys and clothing for the parents to place under the tree for their families. If you know of a family that needs help or would like to "adopt" and assist one of these needy families through our "**Be An Angel**" program, please contact **the Rectory at 718-268-6143**

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We always need food staples 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.**

Remember! The Holidays are approaching very fast!! Think "Holiday Fixins"!... Boxed stuffing, and mashed potatoes, or pasta, Jiffy muffin mix, coffee, tea, hot chocolate canned veggies, cranberry sauce, yams, soup, gravy, pineapple, apple sauce and juice, or monetary donations.

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

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Please join us for our Annual Tree Lighting ceremony on Saturday, December 14th after the 5 P.M. Mass. Join in the Blessing and sing a few carols around the tree. Afterwards, come down to the Parish Hall for refreshments, purchasing of holiday greenery, and some good old comradery. We have also gotten word that Santa himself will be joining in the festivities. Bring those wish lists!

We are seeking **help in decorating** the wreaths that will be sold, as well as our Parish Hall, for the festivities. Decorating will be on Friday, Dec. 13th, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Parish Hall.



CHRISTMAS CHURCH DÉCOR



It is always so nice to see fresh flowers on the Altar at weekend Masses as part of our memorials.

We would like to add to our **Christmas décor** by offering **the opportunity for 15 Memorials in honor of a loved one.** Each memorial will cover the expense of one fresh Christmas wreath and several poinsettias used to decorate the church. **These will remain in place for the three weeks of the Christmas season.** The cost remains \$150.00. Memorials will be published. If you would like to memorialize a loved one in this way please contact the Rectory Office at 718-268-6143 by December 13th. Once the Christmas Season ends, we will return to our weekly floral offerings.

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

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

December 04, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
December 11, 2019	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
December 18, 2019	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
December 25, 2019	No Activity	

CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The puppets are seeking teen volunteers to help them perform their weekly rendition of the Gospel. High school teens may also serve as catechists for the younger participants. Volunteers earn service hours. We also rely on adult volunteers - no previous experience required. Activity sheets and coloring sheets are provided for adults to use with the kids. VIRTUS/Protecting God's Children training is a requirement for adults. Interested volunteers should email chrischildrensliturgy@gmail.com for more details

LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS SCHOLARSHIP POSSIBILITIES

The Catholic Lawyers Guild of Queens County, Inc. makes available three scholarships, each amounting to \$3,000.00 on a financial need-basis to full time law students. To qualify the students must have GPA of at least 2.5, be practicing Roman Catholics and have verifiable membership in a Catholic Parish. The candidates also must be a resident of Queens County or attending a school in Queens County. They must be available on December 16th, 2018 to receive the scholarship at the Annual Communion Breakfast, The application must be submitted December 13th, 2019

For additional information and an application, kindly contact The Scholarship Committee, Catholic Lawyers Guild of Queens County at queenscountry@catholiclawyerguild.com or mail to P.O. Box 540862, Flushing, NY, 11354. Any questions can be addressed to the same.



- **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.
- **Home-Delivered Meals from Queens Community House.** For adults age 60+ in Forest Hills, Rego Park, Corona, Elmhurst. Kosher, vegetarian, and Asian meals can be provided. If you or a friend are in need of having a nutritious and delicious meal delivered daily to your front door, call 718-268-1412, Mon-Fri, 9am to 5 pm.
- **FREE Screenings and Hearing Aid Help** at St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center (152-11 Union Turnpike) through December 5. Call 718-990-6480 for appointment.

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. Scheduled meeting dates are November 4th & 18th, and December 9th. If you are joining for the first time, an RSVP is required. Please contact the group's facilitator, Commissioned Lay Pastoral Leader Yorke Mizelle, at ymizelle@gmail.com, or call the rectory at 718-268-6251

CONGRATULATIONS

We have been notified that the following parishioners (previous OLM students) have earned Honor Roll status for the last marking period of the current school year:

At Holy Cross High School: Samantha Miller & Justin Montalvo

At Cathedral Preparatory School and Seminary: Abraham DeMarco



OLMCA FUNDRAISER

'Tis the season!



Make your own shopping easier and get the "perfect gift" for everyone while, at the same time, supporting our Parish School and helping to keep Catholic Education alive. From November 17th, thru December 7th, after all Masses (except 5:00m on Sunday), there will be a representative from our Academy selling gift cards in the Church Vestibule. You will be able to choose from a **wide variety of cards** (Amazon, Home Depot, Kohl's, Michaels, Target Visa & American Express, to name a few), and will have **no activation fee and no expiration date**. So, please consider purchasing any gift cards that you need from OLMCA (checks and cash will gladly be accepted)

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. Please take pride in our Church, and leave the pews clean. Thank You!

