

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 22nd
8:30 AM	Paul F. Beatty
5:00 PM	Winston Sammy
Sunday	February 23rd
8:30 AM	Pia Parham
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Rick Rillen
5:00 PM	Peter Paul Giandola
Monday	February 24th
8:30 AM	Robert Skrivanek
12:00 PM	John Tronzano
Tuesday	February 25th
8:30 AM	Rod Puig
12:00 PM	James McWalters
Wednesday	February 26th
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
10:00 AM	School Mass
12:00 PM	Michael & Caroline Sassi, Michael Sassi Jr. and Roland Pugliese
3:30PM	Ash Wednesday Service
7:30PM	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday	February 27th
8:30 AM	Robert Skrivanek
12:00 PM	Charles Joseph O'Shea
Friday	February 28th
8:30 AM	Michael Colosuonno
12:00 PM	Arnold Davis
Saturday	February 29th
8:30 AM	Donald F. Manbeck
5:00 PM	Helen Enigan
Sunday	March 1st
8:30 AM	Henry Timmerman
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Antonia Genna
5:00 PM	Thomas Van Dyke

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

Richard Eisenzopf, Alice & Michael Coleman, Elaine Stump, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Robert Palermo, Cheryl Di Napoli, 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**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH****SUNDAY – February 23rd**

Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

-Blood Drive-Parish Hall from 8:45am to 2:45pm

MONDAY – February 24th

Weekday

-Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - February 25th

Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY – February 26th

Ash Wednesday

-Exercise Class-Parish Hall at 8:30

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

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

THURSDAY – February 27th

Thursday After Ash Wednesday

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm

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

-Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – February 28th

Friday After Ash Wednesday

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 4:00pm & 6:00pm

SATURDAY – February 29th

Saturday After Ash Wednesday

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

**BREAD AND WINE**

Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given:

In Thanksgiving

by

Indira Richards

**TABERNACLE LIGHT**

Many thanks for this week's donation of the Tabernacle Light given:

In Thanksgiving

by

Indira Richards

**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,

In St. Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount includes the well-known Beatitudes but it also has a large amount of additional material. In this additional material, we find Our Lord's declaration that He has not come to abolish the Law but rather to bring it to completion. By Jesus' era, the Law was considerably more than The Ten Commandments but all of it was rooted in those ten basic precepts. "I have come not to abolish but to fulfill". This fulfillment involves going much deeper than the stated rule or commandment. Jesus seeks to remove the underlying motivations that might tempt us to break the Commandments. Last Sunday He illustrated this through an examination of the Commandments that prohibited killing and adultery and the rules concerning divorce and oath taking.

In this Sunday's citation, Our Lord interprets two widespread religious traditions. The first is well-known to us. "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth". Originally this was thought to be an advance of the moral code. One had to retaliate only to the level that one had been offended. If someone knocks out your tooth, you can do the same, but nothing more. If someone gouges out your eye, you can retaliate in kind, but not further. In the Jewish community of Jesus' time there were many interpretations of this precept. Jesus now offers His own interpretation. Jesus' teaching goes beyond "getting even". He digs down deeper and demands that His disciples "walk the extra mile". His disciples must go beyond what is demanded in the tradition.

The second tradition Our Lord examines is: "you have heard said: 'you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy'". In the Old Testament there is no specific Law that says this. Our first reading is from the Old Testament Book of Leviticus (one of the first five Books of the Bible - the Pentateuch or the Torah.) Leviticus writes: "You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart...take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." By Jesus' time, this had been interpreted to mean that "love for neighbor" was only those of "our" group. Such a law united the Israelite community. But Jesus extends the notion by commanding it to God who acts on behalf of everyone. God's sun shines on, and His rains water the good and the bad, the just and the unjust. Jesus' disciples are bidden to act in a similar way. Jesus mentions that even the reviled tax collectors love those who love them. Even pagan (non-believers) greet those who greet them. There is nothing unusual about that. If we only love those who love us, there is no big deal about that. Everyone does it. The love that Jesus requires does not necessarily mean an emotional attachment, but rather it is the will to be of service to others if we are able to do so.

Jesus' disciples are asked to do the unusual - to go further. In imitating God, they become more like Him. They are achieving completeness in Him because they are becoming perfect "as your heavenly Father is perfect."

In Christ,
Monsignor John A. McGuirl



OLM BLOOD DRIVE TODAY!

Our Lady of Mercy Blood Drive is today Sunday, Feb. 23rd from 8:45 am to 2:45 pm in the Parish Hall

Unfortunately, this month the increase in Flu has had a negative effect on the New York Blood Center's blood supply. Blood drives this month have had some trouble reaching their average donation totals. Therefore, I'm reaching out to you, OLM parishioners, your family and friends to make the extra effort to donate at today's blood drive. **All types of blood are needed.** Please come down and give the gift of life and help our blood drive meet its goal once again.

On Wednesday Feb 26th Lent will begin. During the Lenten season, we consider our prayerful concern for others. What a wonderful way to get a head start on doing something good during this season by giving the gift of life to help sustain the life of another. Your donation matters.

PLEASE HELP!

Bring your donor ID card or donor ID number. A photo ID is also needed on Sunday Feb. 23rd. Walk-ins are welcome; appointments are not essential.

Before you donate: Drink plenty of fluids; don't forget to eat a good meal; don't skip breakfast.

Volunteers are also needed throughout the day to assist the donors. If you could offer an hour or two of your time, please leave your name and telephone number at the Rectory or on the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule.

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.**

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

DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

February 26, 2020	No Activity	
March 04, 2020	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
March 11, 2020	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm
March 18, 2020	Divine Mercy Devotion	6:30pm
March 25, 2020	Divine Mercy Cenacle	6:30pm

ASH WEDNESDAY



Please be reminded that Ash Wednesday will be on February 26th. Ashes will be distributed at the following times on that day:

8:30am, 10:00am, & 12:00pm Masses
3:30pm & 7:30pm Prayer Service

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 1st at 1:00pm in the Parish Hall there will be "Coffee and Conversation" with Sr. Lucille Souza, MSC. The subject will be ***Getting to Know Mother Cabrini***. Come and learn about this extraordinary Saint.

OLM MINISTRY FAIR

The OLM Parish Council invites you to the Ministry Fair on March 7th and 8th after all Masses!

There are many groups that work to make our parish the wonderful community that it is. The Ministry Fair is your opportunity to join a ministry and expand your involvement in the parish. Come down and see what groups are here after any Mass on March 7th and 8th. In a group already? Talk to Pete Mele (petermele@gmail.com or 646-251-3198) to ensure your ministry is represented at the fair.

ST. PATRICK / ST. JOSEPH DAY

PUB PARTY

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020, 7-11 PM

Come one and all to our annual St. Patrick and St. Joseph Day Party - this time pub style with live music of the renowned Tommy Clyne and Rumor Has It. Hot Irish and Italian cuisine, wine, dessert, etc plus Monsignor McGuirl's Famous Irish Soda Bread. Meat dispensation for this special event. \$50 per person. Reservations by March 9th. Look for reservation flyer in bulletins and around church. For additional info or to volunteer, contact Helen at 718-793-2033/ hvtgmezzo@gmail.com. God love you

SOUP LUNCHEON

Our Lady of Mercy's annual **Lenten Soup Luncheon** this year will take place on **3/22 at 1:00pm in the Parish Hall**, and will benefit our own Human Services Department. The guest speaker that day will be Deacon Dean Dobbins.

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. Our sessions are on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:45pm which we combine with bible discussion for other interested adults so please feel free to sit in and join us any Tuesday evening in the Rectory basement.. Please contact David or Carol Powell at 718-261-6285.



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.
- **Camp Veritas 2020:** Camp Veritas is a one week play and pray sleep away summer camp for teens going into 7th to 12th grades. It will be held in five locations in 2020; June 29-July 4 at Clongowes Wood College in Ireland; July 19-25 at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY; July 26-Aug.1 in Emmitsburg MD; Aug 2-7 in Lake Placid, FL and Aug.16-22 at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. Enrollment opens 1/1/20 and enrollment price for each week is only \$400 per camper. More details can be found at www.campveritas.com.
- **Census 2020. Please do not ignore the questionnaire.** Catholic Charities Brooklyn Queens is partnering with NYC Census to make sure that everyone is represented so that Brooklyn and Queens can receive the political and financial benefits that we truly deserve. Correct census results allow our communities to receive funds that shape our local healthcare, housing, education, transportation, employment, and public policy. All people are urged to be counted in the census, regardless of their citizenship.
- **Catholic Charities Mobile Outreach Team** serves our Queens neighborhoods and offers supportive services in the privacy of your home. These services include counseling, connecting you to community-based home care, and legal and mental health services for individuals age 5 and older. Call 718-456-7001.

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

FEEL GREAT & LOOK GREAT

Regularly scheduled exercise classes are back!

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.**

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

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 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
- **Our Lady Queen of Martyrs (OLQM) Parish** in Forest Hills will hold its 9th annual pre-spring **food festival and restaurant showcase**, "Taste of the World," on **Sunday, 3/8/20 from 2:30pm to 5pm**. Admission price: **\$35** (\$5 discount if you purchase a ticket before March 8) and \$10 for children. Event will be held in McLaughlin Hall (the OLQM Academy building auditorium; entrance at back of parking lot on 72nd Road off Austin Street). To purchase advance tickets, call the OLQM rectory (718-268-6251) during business hours (9-8 M-Th, 9-5 F, 10-2 Sat). Admission includes samplings of foods and desserts from many of the most popular restaurants in Forest Hills and the neighboring communities. Raffle tickets for prizes are also available, so please inquire if interested.
- The Senior Goal Group of **Our Lady of Hope** (61-27 71st Street, Middle Village, 718-429-5438) will be sponsoring a special **Anointing of the Sick Mass on March 14th at 1:00pm**. The Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the School Cafeteria.
- There will be a **Divine Mercy Bus Pilgrimage with the OLQM Charismatic Prayer Group** to the **National Shrine of the Divine Mercy** in Stockbridge, Massachusetts on **April 19th**. The bus will **depart 7AM (sharp)** from in front of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church (110-06 Queens Blvd at corner of Ascan Ave.). **Cost: \$50 per person**. Tickets are first come, first serve. Reserve your seat now, invite a friend along, and wear good walking shoes. For tickets or questions, please contact: Cely De Borja 347-743-2304

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. Thank you for your participation, and please continue to spread the word. Call **(718) 491-2525** or 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, and can therefore NOT take it in. Thank you for your understanding.