

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday March 2nd
 8:30 AM Louis & Pauline Pfohl
 12:00 PM Rose & Ralph Illuminato

Tuesday March 3rd
 8:30 AM Robert Skrivaneck
 12:00 PM John Stanick

Wednesday March 4th
 8:30 AM Gaetanina Masone
 12:00 PM Harry Schillo

Thursday March 5th
 8:30 AM Thanksgiving to The Virgin Mary, Holy Trinity,
 and St. Anthony
 12:00 PM James M. Pfohl

Friday March 6th
 8:30 AM Kevin Fleming
 12:00 PM Clemansa Ardelean

Saturday March 7th
 8:30 AM Luis & Remedios Del Mundo
 5:00 PM Edward Miller

Sunday March 8th
 8:30 AM Henry Timmerman
 10:00 AM Parish Mass
 12:00 PM Faro Sottile
 5:00 PM George Van Nostrand, Sr.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Jane Hannett

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

SUNDAY – March 1st

First Sunday of Lent

-Children’s Liturgy-10:00am Mass
 -Mother Cabrini Presentation-Parish Hall at 1:00pm

MONDAY – March 2nd

Lenten Weekday

-Scripture Study-Rectory at 7:30pm

TUESDAY - March 3rd

Lenten Weekday

-Cub Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm
 -Lenten Bible Discussion-Rectory at 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY – March 4th

Lenten Weekday

-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
 -Divine Mercy-Rectory at 6:30pm

THURSDAY – March 5th

Lenten Weekday

-Centering Prayer-Rectory at 2:30pm
 -CCD 6th & 7th Gr.-School at 4:30pm
 -Boy Scouts-Parish Hall at 7:00pm

FRIDAY – March 6th

Lenten Weekday

-Girl Scouts-Parish Hall at 6:00pm

SATURDAY – March 7th

Lenten Weekday

-1st Penance-Church at 2:00pm
 -Ministry Fair-Parish Hall after 5:00pm Mass

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.

PRAY FOR THE SICK



Patricia Bechtold, 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, Jazlyn Castro Bilog, and for **all of our parishioners who are currently hospitalized or homebound.**

TABERNACLE LIGHT



Many thanks for this week’s donation of the Tabernacle Light given in **loving memory of:**
Rose Jonsson
 by
 The McGinley Family

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our faith community all those who were baptized in the month of February, 2020:
 Raymond Michael Moreno
 Riley Dordulaw Cerezo



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.

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;

Except for the 5:00 P.M. Sunday Mass last week, Father Christopher Bethage, the associate Vocation Director of our Diocese, was the guest homilist. Father addressed the crucial need for an increase in religious and priestly vocations in our Diocese. The shortage of priestly vocations has led directly to the amalgamation or suppression of parishes. In almost every parish the number of priests serving the people has been unavoidably but radically reduced. Well before our parish had a parochial school, there were always three priests assigned here. Now we have two and there is every good chance that, as time goes on, we could be reduced to one.

Father Chris' homily was most timely and in it he mentioned that the Lord calls all of us to a vocation in life. In Jesus' eyes we are all important for the building up of the Kingdom of God on earth. Each of our lives is beyond value. Since Jesus' two fundamental Commandments are to love God and our neighbors as ourselves, He calls all of us to answer those Commands.

This weekend we begin the Annual Catholic Appeal. The purpose of the Annual Catholic Appeal is to assist us in fulfilling those two basic Commandments. The Appeal seeks to raise \$8,000,000 to provide programs and ministries throughout the Diocese and also support local parishes like Our Lady of Mercy. The Diocese has set our goal again as \$81,995. If we exceed the goal, we will directly receive back 100% of all funds raised above this figure.

The Annual Appeal helps us to answer the call of the Gospel to: feed the hungry, support youth ministry, welcome the stranger, visit the sick and the imprisoned, honor our elders, and educate our youth. The funds collected cannot be used in the settlement of alleged abuse cases or for anything other than their intended purpose.

Among the beneficiaries are the Mugavero Residence, which houses many infirm and elderly priests - those who served us for most of their lives and now are in the final stage of that life; the Migration Office, which helps fulfill the mandate of welcoming the stranger; Catholic Charities for programs such as housing and long term assistance (food trucks etc...), which lie beyond the capacity of the individual parishes; the Catholic Youth Initiative (which provides a youth minister shared between Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs and Our Lady of Mercy); The Office of Faith Formation: the Futures in Education Scholarship Program; Hospital, College and Prison Chaplains, the Vocation Office now managed by Father Sean Sukiel and Father Christopher Bethage (Father Sukiel is also the pastor of Holy Family Parish in Flushing - Father Bethage will assume the full direction of the office in the near future.) and scholarships for our college-age and post-college seminarians (the priests who will hopefully serve us in the future.). Please remember our parish is assisted directly because any amount over the stated goal is returned to Our Lady of Mercy.

Many times during Lent we search for something to "give-up" but more important is something we "can do". Something we "can do" is to help the Annual Catholic Appeal, which in turn helps our parish. Some families in the Court of Honor have already been contacted but in the coming weeks, every family will be invited to participate in this Appeal and prayerfully consider a pledge.

Our regular parishioners know that I do not nag you about these Appeals but in return I hope that everyone will appreciate the needs of our Church, especially the need for increased numbers of worthy and devout vocations to the priesthood. If we recognize these needs, then the response must be your generosity - something we "can do" during Lent.

In the next few weeks, all of us will be hearing more about the Annual Appeal. Now let us pray for its success since the health of our Diocese (and our parish) depends on the Annual Appeal.

Yours in Christ,
Monsignor John A. McGuirl



THANK YOU

Many thank yous to all that helped make Our Lady of Mercy winter Blood Drive a success. Thank you to the **61 people** that gave up their time on a beautiful winter Sunday to respond to the need for blood. **The New York Blood Center**

was able to collect 51 units of blood, potentially helping 153 people in need. A special thanks to the **8 donors** who spent the extra time to **give double units of red cells.**

Thank you to the first-time donors who came out, hopefully to become regular donors for us.

Thank you to the volunteers that helped at the blood drive: Joan Minischetti, Arthur Boduroglu, and Fred Pagan. Thank you to the behind-the-scenes support from Dian Malm, Sandy Luongo, Carol Flaherty and our custodial staff.

A special thanks to Msgr. McGuirl for making the Parish Hall available to the New York Blood Center throughout the years.

Thank you again to everyone that made it a very well-run and efficient blood drive. Mark your calendars for Our Lady of Mercy's summer Blood Drive scheduled for August 16, 2020.

Mike Mangino
Blood Drive Chairman

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

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

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the February 2020 Winners of the 50-50 Raffle:

1 st Prize: Catherine Stalhuth	\$265.00
2 nd Prize: John & Gladys McCormack	\$132.50
3 rd Prize: Eileen Simko	\$132.50
4 th Prize: Joe & Judy Zalner	\$66.25
5 th Prize: Caroline & Ernie Walter	\$66.25

GET TO KNOW MOTHER CABRINI

Today, Sunday, March 1st at 1:00pm in Our Lady of Mercy Parish Hall, join us for a presentation about this amazing Saint who worked in NYC. A 60 minute film will follow the presentation. Hospitality will be provided.

LENTEN BIBLE DISCUSSION

There will be Lenten bible discussion on Tuesdays, March 3rd, 10th, and 17th, from 7:30pm to 8:45pm, in the Rectory basement. We will discuss the readings for the Lenten Sunday Masses. All are welcome. No previous background required. Bibles will be provided for discussion purposes. Any questions call the Religious Education Office at 718 261 6285

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

We have been notified that the following parishioner (previous OLM student) has earned Honor Roll status for the last marking period of the current school year-at **Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School**- Stephen Heerey.



- **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.**

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

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