

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 11th</b>
8:30 AM	NO
5:00 PM	INTENTIONS
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 12th</b>
8:30 AM	Feliska Chocko
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Maja Jedrak & Sal Malenki
5:00 PM	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>April 13th</b>
8:30 AM	Guadalupe Maldonado
12:00 PM	Dimitru Ardelean
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>April 14th</b>
8:30 AM	Bernadette Bifalco
12:00 PM	Barbara Santano Cino
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>April 15th</b>
8:30 AM	
12:00 PM	Marguerite Schillo
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>April 16th</b>
8:30 AM	
12:00 PM	Leodegario Dordulaw (Living Intention)
<b>Friday</b>	<b>April 17th</b>
8:30 AM	Family Genna
12:00 PM	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 18th</b>
8:30 AM	Modesta Rodriguez
5:00 PM	Caleca Family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 19th</b>
8:30 AM	Brian Cahill
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Paula Corrales & Joseph Corrales
5:00 PM	Piera Fontana

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Patricia Becktold, 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, Jerzy Stasiak, Rev. Peter Rayder, German Diaz, Adam Sapel, Christine Bernardo, 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; SPC Benjamin Bravmann, U.S. Army; 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**

Deacon Jaime Pinzon  
 Brother Bob Andrew, F.M.S.  
 Luis Calajay  
 Peter Edel  
 Father Giocchino Basile  
 Jocelito Luxama  
 Jean Renaud Delva  
 George Stack

***ALL SCHEDULED MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE HONORED AND CELEBRATED PRIVATELY, BY THE PRIESTS OF OUR PARISH***

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

***Please note that, since all of our offices and buildings are currently closed, all regularly scheduled meetings are temporarily cancelled.***

***Our Lady Of Mercy Catholic Academy will be closed until Further Notice***

**SUNDAY – April 12th**

*Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of The Lord*

**MONDAY – April 13th**

*Monday within the Octave of Easter*

**TUESDAY - April 14th**

*Tuesday within the Octave of Easter*

**WEDNESDAY – April 15th**

*Wednesday within the Octave of Easter*

**THURSDAY – April 16th**

*Thursday within the Octave of Easter*

**FRIDAY – April 17th**

*Friday within the Octave of Easter*

**SATURDAY – April 18th**

*Saturday within the Octave of Easter*

**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.**

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**The Paschal Candle  
 burns this year  
 in Loving Memory of:**

**Helen and Frank Dubiel  
 and  
 Helen and James Freeley**

Given by  
 The Dubiel and Freeley Families

My Dear Parishioners;

This has undoubtedly been a Holy Week and Easter like no others. In my lifetime, never have all public religious services been cancelled. But in the face of this novel and previously unknown coronavirus, all public assemblies are prohibited. We are a Sacramental people, who take the Incarnation to its logical conclusion. God loves us so dearly that He became one of us so that you and I might enjoy life to the full with Him. In Jesus of Nazareth, God was incarnate; therefore the words and actions of the Lord Jesus echo the Divine Source of all things. Building on that incarnational principle, Catholics have always found that God could be glimpsed through His creation; in fact He uses some of His creation to make Himself ever present to us. Simple things such as wine, water, bread, oil, and a few prayerful words make the activity of the Lord Jesus present to us now.

We are deprived for the unforeseen future of our Sacramental celebrations most especially the family meal of the Church, the Eucharist. Perhaps this temporary deprivation may prompt in us a longing for the things that are most important. Absence makes the heart grow fonder, not only for our social and family contacts but also in our yearning for the Lord's Sacramental Presence.

The Easter Gospels narrate the apostles' complete shock that the One in Whom they had placed their hopes had suffered a brutal death at the hands of the occupying Roman forces. This most certainly was not part of their game plan. Even the apostles had misunderstood Jesus and until the very end were waiting for the re-establishment of an earthy kingdom of the type that had existed centuries before under kings David and Solomon. Naturally their expectation was that in such a kingdom they would hold the primary positions of authority and power. They danced for joy when Jesus was rapturously received into the Holy City, Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday. On Thursday, they might have been mystified when He shared His final Passover meal with them and announced that when they celebrated this meal in the future, He would be present to them under the simple appearances of two basic foodstuffs, bread and wine. On that same night, they were devastated when He was arrested by the servants of the high priest on the charge of blasphemy. The Romans would not have cared about any internecine Jewish religious squabbles, but their ears perked up when it was said that this Man was the long-awaited Messiah, a term originally meaning a divinely anointed king. No opposition to the Roman imperial system could be tolerated and thus on Friday Jesus died in a way reserved for rebels and outlaws. And where were the apostles? They had fled!

Never expecting to see him, again the apostles and their friends were practicing an early form of "social distancing". They were not trying to avoid a pandemic but rather they were fearful of meeting the same fate as Jesus. They were "social distancing" from their fellow citizens for fear of reprisals. We learn that two of His followers fled the City to the supposed safer environment of Emmaus.

What a surprise was in store for all of them! After the Sabbath break, women, who had shown more courage than them, His male followers, were on the way to the tomb to complete the usual practices for burial. They discovered that Jesus was gone. One of the distinct markers of the veracity of the Gospel is that the Evangelists recorded that women were the first to encounter the Risen Lord. At that time, the testimony of women was discounted - something very foreign to us and yet the Evangelists all give them prominence. In those days in the court of public opinion men discovering the empty tomb would have carried more weight. Yet despite the cultural prejudice, the Evangelists all record the initial testimony of the women! At first they were not believed - after all, who would believe such a story especially from these women? In the Jewish community there were many theories about what, if anything, followed earthly death. But Jesus would do more than just leave an empty tomb; He appeared to the Apostles; He encountered the women at the grave; He challenged those two on the road to Emmaus and He appeared to numerous others in Jerusalem and Galilee over the course of forty days.

This was enough to radically transform the apostles and their companions from a fearful group practicing "social distancing" to a Spirit-filled dynamic force that was to change the face of the world beginning at Jerusalem but extending to every land and nation. Their preaching and that of their successors over two thousand years has offered hope and solace even in the darkest hours of human history. It offers us hope. The most fundamental meaning of the Resurrection is that the God of life wins even against what seems to be insurmountable odds. If Our Lord's story ended on Good Friday, it would have been the tragedy of a good Man betrayed by a follower, misunderstood by even His closest friends, arrested by a fearful Sanhedrin, turned over to a callous Roman governor and suffering a particularly gruesome death. But the story does not end there; an explosion of Hope took place on Easter Sunday. The Lord has risen! The powers of darkness are sent fleeing and that story continues now in the hearts and minds of hopeful men and women.

May God bless all of you and your families and friends as we celebrate together, though at a physical distance, this most unique of Easters!

Monsignor McGuirl, Father Grzegoricz (Greg) Stasiak, Deacon Dean Dobbins,  
and entire Parish and Academy Staffs

Pastor's Message continued:

There are some news-notes: our parish live-streams Mass every day. We can be found on our website: [www.mercyhill.org](http://www.mercyhill.org), which also has links to Facebook and YouTube.

In addition Mass is being beamed on the Diocesan Station NET TV. If you have cable, it can be accessed on Spectrum (Channel#97); Optimum (Channel 30) and Fios from Verizon (Channel#48). EWTN (Mother Angelica's Station) also has a full Mass and Holy Week schedule.

The schedule for Holy Week in Our Lady of Mercy Parish will be live-streamed.

**Palm Sunday - 12:00 P.M.**

**(Please note that we may not distribute palm this year!)**

**Holy Thursday - 7:00 P.M.**

**Good Friday - 3:00 P.M.**

**Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil - 8:00P.M.**

**Easter Sunday - 10:00 A.M.**

God bless you and be safe  
Monsignor McGuirl

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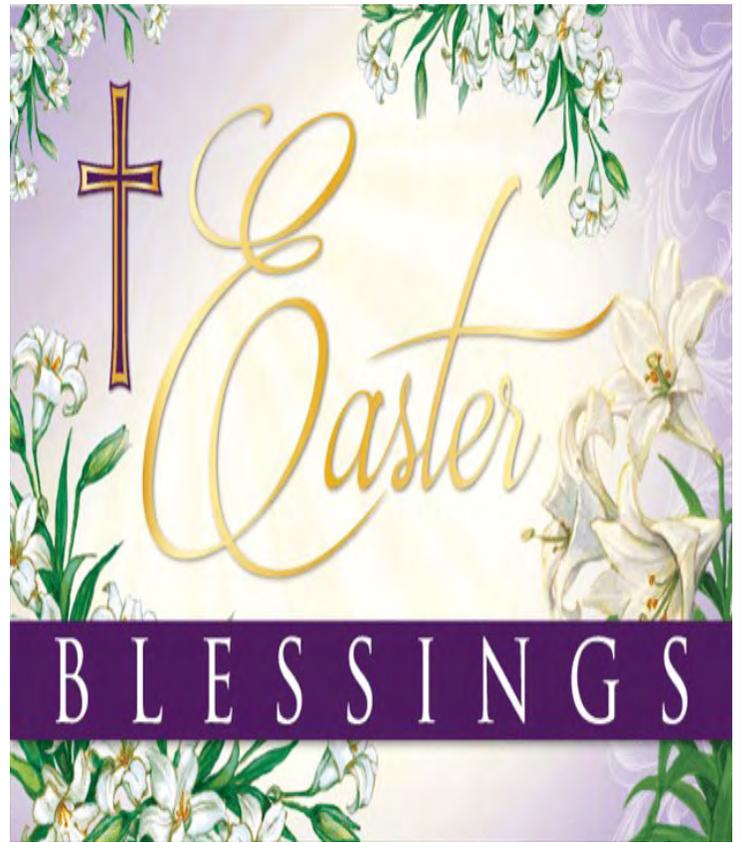
**MEMORIALIZE A LOVED ONE**

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.

**PRAYER FOR HEALING**

Lord we ask You to lift up those who are facing illness today. We ask You to bring Healing, Comfort and Peace to their body, mind and soul. We ask You to calm their fears and let them feel the Healing power of your Love.

**OUR FOOD PANTRY IS CLOSED  
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**



**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](http://svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org)

**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

- **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](http://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.

## FIGHT FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

(A message from the Vicar General's Office)

Lawmakers are poised to finalize a state budget on March 31st, which is expected to include hundreds of millions more in funding for public education. It's crucial that we add our voice to ensure that the state's Catholic schools receive their fair share of funding for critical programs that support our students and teachers. Please take action now to send a message to your elected representatives. You may communicate directly or use the following link to send your message: <https://tinyurl.com/wfbeeug>.

## *PRAY THE ROSARY*

