

# *Our Lady of Mercy*

*70-01 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, NY 11375*



**Sunday January 10, 2021**

**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

*We, the Catholic faith community of Our Lady of Mercy are a welcoming parish, striving to serve the diverse peoples of Forest Hills.*

*Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we value our celebration of the Eucharist and Sacraments, our proclamation of God's Word and our loving outreach and service to others.*

*Trusting in God's love and mercy, and recognizing our need for grace, we commit ourselves to the spirit of inclusion through community service, faith sharing, education, outreach and spiritual growth.*

*We dedicate ourselves to live as a dynamic, compassionate and open faith community that inspires both present and future generations to claim the mission of Christ as their own and live it with joy and integrity.*

## PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Frank Schwarz, Pastor  
Rev. Msgr. John McGuirl, Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Mr. Dean Dobbins, Parish Deacon

## RECTORY

Tel: 718-268-6143 (Fax - 718-544-3764)  
Web Site - [www.mercyhills.org](http://www.mercyhills.org)  
E-Mail - [office@mercyhills.org](mailto:office@mercyhills.org)  
Weekend Organist: Mr. Gary DiFranco  
Administrative Assistant: Ms. Dian R. Malm  
Part-time Secretary: Ms. Sandra Luongo  
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9 A.M to 4 P.M.

### Sunday Masses

Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M., 12:00 P.M.

### Weekday Masses

Monday to Saturday: 9:00 A.M.

### Devotions

Rosary & Divine Mercy Devotions every day following  
9:00 A.M. Mass  
Miraculous Medal Novena after 9am Mass on Monday

### Holyday Masses - as announced

#### Office of Human Services & Pastoral Care

Deacon Dean Dobbins - 718-268-6143 Ex. 14

#### Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy

Ms. Dana McCann, Principal  
70-25 Kessel St. 718-793-2086  
Secretaries - Ms. Revette Hinkson  
Mrs. Donna Alleva

#### Office of Religious Education

Ana Tavares  
Director of Religious Education  
Side entrance of convent  
(Call for appointment) - 718-268-6143 Ext. 28  
Email - [olmercyreligion@gmail.com](mailto:olmercyreligion@gmail.com)

**New Parishioners** are most cordially welcomed. Please introduce yourself to one of the priests and register at the Rectory.

## SACRAMENTS

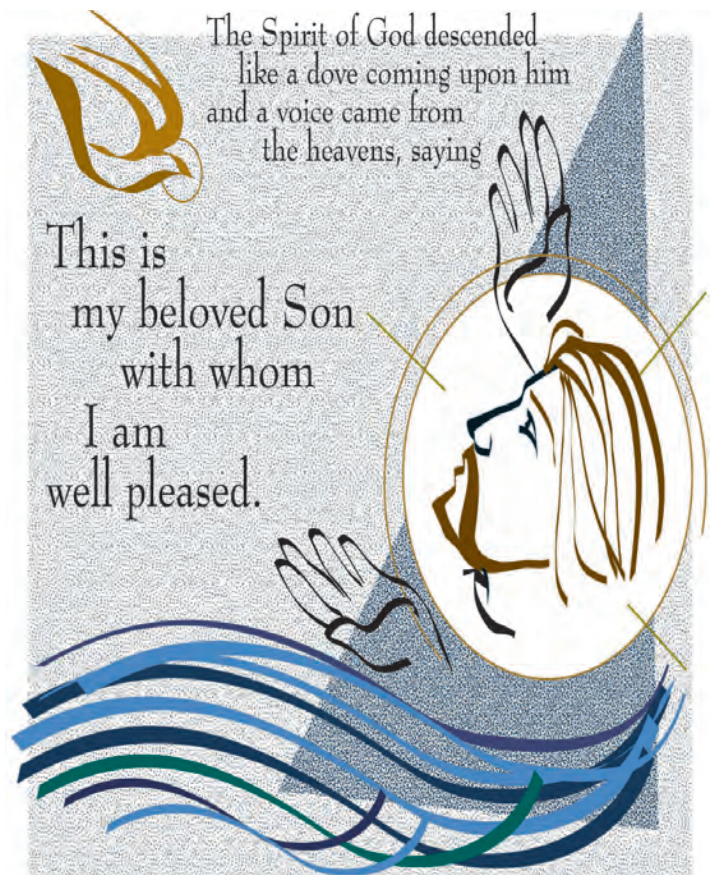
**Baptism:** Contact the rectory to make an appointment with the priest or deacon for the initial interview. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Saturday of each month. Instruction is required for the first Baptism

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:00 to 4:45 P.M.; For any other time, please call rectory.

**Holy Matrimony:** Marriage arrangements must be made at least six months prior to a wedding date. Call the rectory for an appointment with a priest or deacon.

**Anointing of the sick:** This sacrament is available for any baptized Catholic who is seriously ill or suffering from the effects of advanced age. It is also recommended for anyone who is going to undergo serious surgery. Please call the rectory to schedule an appointment for a priest to visit your home. A communal celebration of this sacrament will be scheduled twice a year.

**Communion Calls:** Please call the Rectory for a visit by a priest or the services of a Eucharistic Minister.





**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday January 9th**  
 9:00 AM 1. Henry A. Foertsch  
 2. Krystyna Kisiel  
 John Daly  
 5:00 PM  
**Sunday January 10th**  
 9:00 AM Missa Pro Populo  
 10:30 AM 1. Ed Smolinski  
 2. Ludwig Muller Sr.  
 3. Rudi & Annemarie Schwarz  
 12:00 PM Brian McCabe  
**Monday January 11th**  
 9:00 AM Joseph Francis Welsh Jr.  
**Tuesday January 12th**  
 9:00 AM Ernesto Pina  
**Wednesday January 13th**  
 9:00 AM Catherine Hepburn (Living Intention)  
**Thursday January 14th**  
 9:00 AM Mary Foertsch  
**Friday January 15th**  
 9:00 AM Helen Peth  
**Saturday January 16th**  
 9:00 AM Veronica Smith  
 Vita & Concetta Passaro  
 5:00 PM Tom Bermingham  
**Sunday January 17th**  
 9:00 AM Poldi Meditz  
 10:30 AM Deceased Members of the Schwarz Family  
 Deceased Members of the Muller Family  
 Deceased Members of the Braun Family  
 12:00 PM Missa Pro Populo

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**



Patricia Bechtold, Ida Ryan, Connie Bornhimer, Mary Wiley, Kathie Greulich, Joseph & Mary Augustine, Ronald Calcevano, Rose Gaynus, Eleanor Merlino, Seraphina Komlos, Mary Tardona, Dorothy Chocko, Richard McBride Sr., Richard Eisenzopf, Alice & Michael Coleman, Mary Albert, Maureen Medina, Cheryl Di Napoli, Jazlyn Castro Bilog, German Diaz, Adam Sapel, Christine Bernardo, Andy Marajh, Robert Palermo, Heather Wilcox, James Leung, Maureen Kelly, Paul Henry, Virginia Winberry, Dennis Roberts, Rev. Radu Titonea, Carolyn Kalnberg, Lynn Russek, Daniel Ginsberg, Barbara Carrasco, Celia Ayon, Isabel Azzaro, Chuck Haunss, Amanda (Amy) Algiere, Nilda Gonzales, Mary Ann Whatley, Felipe Vallejo, Andy Sanchez, Ethel Timmerman, John Holzknecht, Iris Torres, Elsie Petronelli, Frank Gaynor, JoAnn Stumpp, Joseph Wilfinger, Ann D'Auria, John & Mary Pham, Laura Brennan, Michael Stasiak, and for **all of our parishioners who are currently hospitalized or homebound.**

**PRAY FOR THE ARMED SERVICES**



Major Peter Sulewski, USA; Lt. Col. Patrick Davis, USA (JAG); Sgt. Beau Parham, USA; Major Paul Lentz, USAF; Sgt. Larry Saume, USA; Capt. Travis Swiatocha, USMC; Pvt. Tim Richardson, USA; SCSO Ajay James, (NSW) USN; SPC Benjamin Bravmann; USA; PO2 John Schaefer, USCG; ; Rev. Lt. Mark Bristol, USN; Rev. Col. James Krische, USA; and **all parishioners currently in the Military**

**Pray for all of our law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders, who risk their lives daily to insure our safety.**

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Anthony Belfiore  
 Joseph Labay  
 Marjorie V. Mayers

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**SUNDAY – January 10th**  
*Baptism of The Lord*  
**MONDAY – January 11th**  
*Weekday*  
**TUESDAY - January 12th**  
*Weekday*  
 -Golden Age Club-Parish Hall from 11:00am to 2:00pm  
**WEDNESDAY – January 13th**  
*Weekday*  
**THURSDAY – January 14th**  
*Weekday*  
**FRIDAY – January 15th**  
*Weekday*  
**SATURDAY – January 16th**  
*Weekday*

**If you are not yet registered in the Parish, please stop into the Rectory Office for a Census Form Monday thru Friday from 9am to 4pm.**

**BREAD AND WINE**



Many thanks for this week's donation of Bread & Wine given in **loving memory of:**

**Joan Minischetti**  
 by  
 Barbara Hunt & Terence Stewart

**MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND**

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

**Joan Minischetti**  
 by  
 Susan Karcher

And

**Mrs. Dorothy Grieco**  
 by  
 Mr. & Mrs. M. Tinnirello

**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.

# Good News!

January 10, 2021

*Baptism of the Lord (B)*

Is 55:1-11; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11

Who was not asked, at the dawn of young adulthood, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Today there are so many options for girls and boys. How does one decide? Money and security are very tempting, as are fame and reputation. And then there is the other side of the story when, in the quiet of our thoughts, we wonder if we became everything we might have been. Did we choose the right path or the easy one? Did we rise to the occasion when life challenged us, or did we stay where it was comfortable? Did we really grow up, or did we just get older?

Today we cross the threshold of Christmastime and into Ordinary Time, when the readings focus on discipleship. What kind of disciple do we want to be? Regardless of the past, today we have a chance to start anew. Today’s Gospel passage places Jesus before us as a model to follow. He is at the threshold of his ministry. Stepping out of the waters of the Jordan, he is told: “You are my beloved Son.” As Son, his role is to bring God’s goodness to the world. Through baptism and profession of faith, we too are filled with God’s spirit. We too are beloved sons and daughters of God, called to bring God’s goodness to the world. What does this mean for us? To what kind of lives does this call us? What do we want to be when we grow up?

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

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## POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION JANUARY, 2021

### **Human Fraternity**

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

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### OUR LADY OF MERCY PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Starting in January 2021, the 10:30 AM Mass on the first Sunday of each month will be set aside for Members of the Purgatorial Society. **The Purgatorial Society enrolls a deceased loved one in twelve consecutive first Sunday Masses.** To enroll a deceased loved one in the Purgatorial Society we ask that a \$25 offering be made to Our Lady of Mercy Church, and their names will be enrolled in the Purgatorial Society Book. The names of the enrolled members will be printed in the bulletin in the month they are first enrolled only. Please consider this as a way of remembering a loved one throughout the year.

Fr. Frank

### **The following individuals have been enrolled in the Purgatorial Society to date:**

- Eric J. Mc Cormack
- Francis X. Merlino
- Joseph Mangino
- Nancy Mangino
- Frances Ginty
- Hilda Moss
- Stanley Moss

### OLMCA THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy,

It is with a very full and grateful heart that I thank you for your overwhelming support for our Thanksgiving and Christmas Raffles and our Giving Tuesday campaign for Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy. Because of your generosity, we raised over \$20, 000! All of it will go to our educational development and capital building projects that had been forestalled by COVID expenses. You have been remembered in our Christmas prayers and will continue to be in the New Year, which was made brighter by your Christian charity.

Ever Under the Mantle of Our Lady of Mercy,  
Dana McCann  
Principal

**REMINDER!**

There is still time to join our **50/50 Raffle Program for 2021**. Remember, the more people who join, the bigger the prizes. Just complete the form on page 6 of this bulletin and return it to the Rectory with your check. We draw 5 winners every month!! Thank you and Good Luck to all!!

**CHRISTMAS FLORAL DECORATIONS**

This week, as we begin “Ordinary Time” in the Church, all Christmas decorations will be removed. Effective immediately, after all Masses please feel free to take any flowers located on the steps in front of the grill. Bags will be available.

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

**OUR FOOD PANTRY IS OPEN ONCE AGAIN!** The pantry will be open on Saturdays between 10:00am and 11:00am. There will be prepared bags to pick up. Masks must be worn by all. And social distancing will be observed.

**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.

**We thank you in advance for your support!**

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

The 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal campaign continues toward our goal of \$81,995. So far, \$67,138.36 has been pledged and \$66,127.36 has been received.

Please consider making a pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal, and thank you for all that you do for Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

Make your ACA pledges at the following website, if you have not received a donation request by mail: [www.annualcatholicappeal.org](http://www.annualcatholicappeal.org)

**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

**THANK YOU!!**

Your support of our Christmas Giving Tree and “Be An Angel” programs has, once again, made it possible for all of us to brighten the lives of many this Christmas Season.

The gifts collected have been given to Catholic Charities, and to Bridge To Life for distribution, and of course to many of our own parishioners who are presently homebound.

In addition, there were many happy faces in several families that had been “adopted” by some of our parishioners. These families had gifts to open on Christmas thanks to the people who adopted them.

God Bless all of you for your generosity!

**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. There is an **IRS tax deduction, and free towing**. Our Lady of Mercy Parish has received several hundred dollars this past year, thanks to your participation. 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. Please contact the Religious Education office (718-266-6143, ext.28) for more information.

**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.

**OUR LADY OF MERCY**  
**50/50/ RAFFLE PROGRAM**

Our Lady of Mercy Church

70-01 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375

December, 2020

The Christmas season has begun. Decorations are slowly appearing around the neighborhood and across the city. Our own Christmas tree will be sparkling with lights for all to see as they pass on Juno Street and 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Hopefully, it will bring a little joy and smiles to the people of our neighborhood and others during this very trying time.

It is also time again for our 50/50 Raffle Program to begin a hopefully brighter 2021 New Year. More than ever before, we are asking for your help by considering taking a membership or perhaps, giving one as a gift. The more people participating, the larger the prize.

The money that we raise will help defray the unexpected costs that we have incurred due to the pandemic as well the expenses throughout the coming new year. Please try to support this effort by returning the form below with your \$50.00 donation for half a year or \$100.00 for a full year. Returns should be made by January 15, 2021.

You can't **win it** if you're not in it!

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate your every effort and support as we being the new year together.



Fr. Frank Schwarz  
Pastor



**50/50 Raffle Returns**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_





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