

MASS INTENTIONS

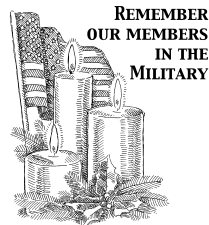
Saturday	January 3rd
5:00 PM	John Daly
Sunday	January 4th
8:30 AM	Frank P. Haunss
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Maria Merone
6:00 PM	Estelita Campomanes
Monday	January 5th
7:00 AM	Herman Holzknecht (Birthday Remembrance)
8:30 AM	Mary Jane Karras
12:00 PM	Richard Keane
Tuesday	January 6th
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Luigi & Margherita Belcastro
12:00 PM	Santo Giampaolo
Wednesday	January 7th
7:00 AM	Dennis Burke
8:30 AM	Andrzej Witkowski
12:00 PM	Kathy Favale
Thursday	January 8th
7:00 AM	Severine Reinertsen
8:30 AM	Luigi Berletti
12:00 PM	Justina C. Velasco (5th Anniversary)
Friday	January 9th
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	John Saver & John Hickey
12:00 PM	Albina Pinto
Saturday	January 10th
8:30 AM	Anna Lass
5:00 PM	Edward Klein
Sunday	January 11th
8:30 AM	Joseph Vullo, Sr.
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Joan Fisch
6:00 PM	Estelita Campomanes

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

James Schnepf, Paul Matthew Larsen, Rosemarie Regalario, DW, Sally Flaig, Joseph Radison, Julian Rys, Janis Wallenstein, Larry Kelly, Marian Burgel, Madeline Guido, Jack & Madison Lewinger, Anna Roth, Josephine Kelly, John (Jack) Sullivan, David Glass, Maureen Crowley, Teodora Tamburelo, Bob Lancer, Amy Algieri, Mary Hanley,

Please pray for those in our armed services, especially:

Edy Claudio & Robert Claudio
 Stephen Deere
 Captain Eileen Gillespie U.S. Army
 Sgt. Bryan Jiencke, USMC
 S/Sgt. Teague A. Liming, USAF
 Staff Sgt. James McKeon, US Army
 Pvt. Jonathan Mezzancello
 SPC Larry Saume,

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Rev. Michael J. Walsh
 John Martinelli
 Fortunato Aliperti

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our faith community all those who were Baptized in the month of December 2008:
 Patricia Hargadan

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to the couples married during the month of December 2008:

Michael J. DeFilippis & Natalie Noemi Vargas
 Joseph Farino & Susan F. Harmanoglu
 Omar Pinilla & Jolanta Banaszek

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY - JANUARY 4th**

-Feast of the EPIPHANY of the Lord Jesus Christ.

MONDAY - JANUARY 5th

-Commemoration at the Masses of St. John Neumann, Bishop (Canonized U.S. saint).

-OLM School - classes resume today.

TUESDAY - JANUARY 6th

-"Holy Spirit" prayer group - rectory at 9:00 AM.

-Cub Scouts - Parish Hall at 7:30 PM.

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 7th

-No CCD classes today - classes resume Wednesday, January 14th.

-"Divine Mercy" prayer group - Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

THURSDAY - JANUARY 8th

-"Helping Hands" meeting - rectory at 10:00 AM.

-CCD Confirmation Class II - rectory at 4:00 PM.

FRIDAY - JANUARY 9th

-Daisy/Brownie Girl Scouts - Parish Hall at 2:45 PM.

-Cadette Girl Scouts - Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

SATURDAY - JANUARY 10th

-Morning of Reflection/Prayer for Parish liturgical ministers - Father Frank DeSiano, CSP. - School Meeting Room - 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

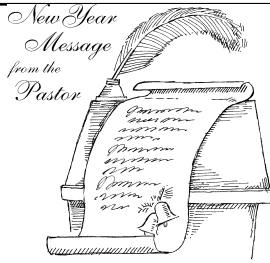
-Junior Girl Scouts - rectory meeting room - 10:30 AM.

-Confessions - 4:00 to 4:45 PM.

- Annual Parish Volunteer/Workers' APPRECIATION PARTY - Parish Hall at 6:30 PM.

POOR BOX

Calls for assistance have been increasing during this holiday season. As many of the charities we assist are in greater need, we ask you to please remember the poor by making a donation to the Poor Boxes at the entries of the Church. Your continued generosity is always greatly appreciated.



Dear Parishioners

Your entire staff at Our Lady of Mercy Parish wishes all of our parishioners and friends a very happy New Year, filled with peace and tranquility as we continue our journey of Faith together.

So much has happened in our parish in the last month that it is difficult to thank all the people who helped us to celebrate the Lord's birth and the New Year. At the beginning of December, we honored Our Lady of Guadalupe and I wish to thank the Planning Committee for a very successful and well attended bilingual Mass and reception. Some of our neighbors from Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish led by Fathers Passenant and Jan joined our celebration.

Around the same time, the Home School Association sponsored an early visit from Santa Claus. As with everything the Home School Association runs, "The Breakfast with Santa Claus" was a huge success and many of our younger parishioners were able to visit one of their favorite persons.

A special word of thanks goes to the Officers and Members of the St. Lawrence Ruiz Society for developing the traditional Filipino Simbang Gabi devotions before Christmas. Similarly the Society sponsored our New Year's Eve Dance, which also drew a good crowd.

Finally many thanks to our loyal Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, the Liturgy Committee, Lectors, Altar Servers, Ushers and Choir Members, who enhanced our liturgies during this Sacred Season of Joy and Renewal.

Everyone has commented positively on our beautifully decorated Church and we owe a word of thanks to our intrepid maintenance team, Tom and Doug, but also the Church Decoration Committee under the guidance of Sister Ann Barbara and Miss Sue Karcher.

Hundreds of people attended the Christmas liturgies and their generosity has helped our parish greatly. We were happy to be able to welcome Father Adnel Burgos of Our Lady of the Cenacle Church to concelebrate our Midnight Mass.

On December 15th, 2008, the Parish Christmas Gift Collection totaled \$24,986.00 plus Parish Pay receipts of \$10,139.22. The grand amount was \$35,125.22. Against this amount we were able to pay bills totaling \$32,057.01, leaving a remainder of \$3,068.21. Among these bills were the weekly parish share of the custodians' salaries (\$1,233.00); a portion of the Diocesan Assessment - \$10,000 (The total assessment was \$53,100 of which \$39,000 is still owed); weekly lay parish salaries and taxes - \$4,821.50; the oil company for rectory winter start-up - \$6,149.81; National Grid (church gas utility) - \$1,739.00; office supplies - \$500; monthly Religious Education assistance - \$500.00; monthly stipends for our Religious (one Dominican Sister, two Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary) - \$5,790 and many smaller bills for charities, Internet, registration renewal for the parish car and hardware supplies.

On Sunday, December 22nd, 2008, the collection amounted to \$13,334.00. From this has been subtracted the weekly lay salaries and taxes - \$4,492.10; the weekly parish share of the custodians' salaries - \$1,233.00; Remy Parish Collection Envelope Company - \$483.24; the quarterly Otis Elevator Maintenance - \$1,027, the Campaign For Human Development - \$1,631.00 and a few smaller bills, all totaling \$9,665.32. The balance for this week is \$3,668.68.

The total of both collections on Christmas Eve/Day was \$17,371.25, however \$2,356.00 of that is earmarked for Catholic Charities. The balance is \$15,015.25 against which we have not yet paid any bills.

Reading lists of numbers can be stultifying but I do think that our parishioners have a right to know how their hard-earned contributions are being utilized. Presently we are a little ahead and hopefully if we can avoid major winter related expenses we might stay in the black for awhile.

I am most grateful for the fine response of our wonderful parishioners during the Christmas season.

May God bless you in this New Year,

Monstignor John A. McGutrl

School News

Classes resume Monday, 01/05/09.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Our Wednesday classes will not be held on January 7th. We will resume classes on January 14, 2009

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word will not be held on January 4th. Our program will resume on January 11, 2009.

THE MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND
OF OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

Many thanks for donations to the Parish Memorial worship
Fund given in loving memory of:

George VanNostrand

By

Mary VanNostrand Daughter, Michele & Family Son,
Glenn & Family

Fortunato Aliperti

From

The Llamas - Malek Families

Fortunato Aliperti

From

The Preus Family

Joseph DeVoy -9th Anniversary

From

Doris, Chris, & Kathleen

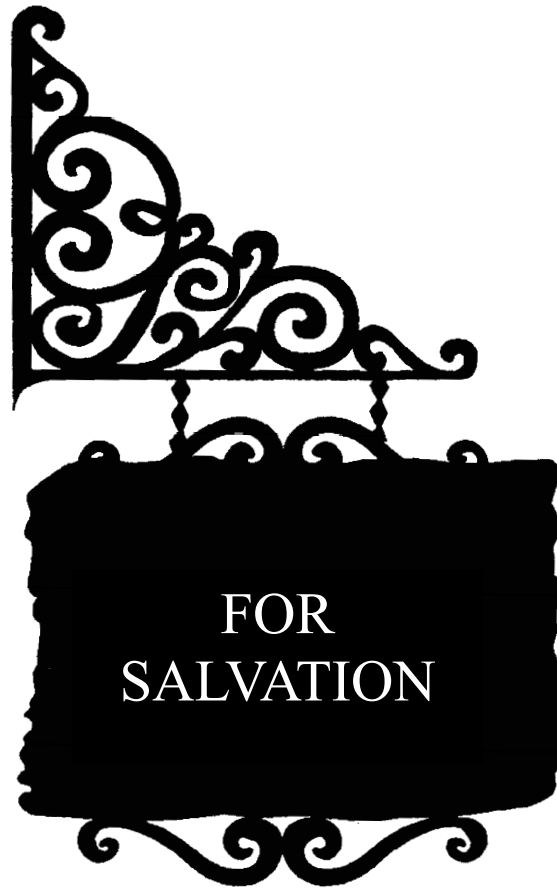


**Mark
Your
Calendar**

**Morning of Reflection
for
Liturgical Ministers
Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors & Ushers**

**Saturday, January 10, 2009
following the 8:30 AM Mass
School Basement**

**Presenter:
Father Frank Desiano**



Join us for.....

PARISH MISSION 2009

DOMINICAN PREACHERS:

Father Ron Henery, O.P.

Father Bob Vaughn, O.P.

FEBRUARY 7 - 12, 2009

Morning & Evening Presentations

Save these dates!

Watch the bulletin for further details!