

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday March 14th
5:00 PM Allen Davis

Sunday March 15th
8:30 AM Concetta Vullo
10:00 AM Parish Mass
12:00 PM Henry Barton
6:00 PM Francis McCabe (27th Anniversary)

Monday March 16th
7:00 AM
8:30 AM Andrew Cariello
12:00 PM Gerard Vinaccio (Birthday Remembrance)

Tuesday March 17th
7:00 AM Nellie & Maurice Rooney
8:30 AM John & Anne Daly
12:00 PM Charles Bellina

Wednesday March 18th
7:00 AM
8:30 AM William J. Kirby & Leonard V. Quigley
12:00 PM Mamie Stramera

Thursday March 19th
7:00 AM
8:30 AM Francis Sweeney (40th Anniversary)
12:00 PM Joseph Bellina

Friday March 20th
7:00 AM Sergio Bas
8:30 AM Edward Brennan & Frank Rigney
12:00 PM Angel Rawdon

Saturday March 21st
8:30 AM Fred Parham
5:00 PM Mary & James Kelly

Sunday March 22nd
8:30 AM Fortunato Aliperti
10:00 AM Parish Mass
12:00 PM Katherine Currier
6:00 PM Zahide Prono

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

James Schnepf, Janis Wallenstein, Jack & Madison Lewinger, Josephine Kelly, John (Jack) Sullivan, David Glass, Maureen Crowley, Teodora Tamburelo, Bob Lancer, Thomas Kelly, The Mestrich Family, Barbara Silver, Theresa Polancic, Howard Diamond, Nicholas Gagliano, Msgr. Langelier, Gertrude Klienklau, Jane Sanders, Bill Walters, Ana Stafford, Kaitlin & Amanda Birck, Thomas J. Scaturro, John Kelly, Barbara German, Mary Jane Sotell

Please pray for those in our armed services, especially:

Edy Claudio & Robert Claudio
Stephen Deere, SPC Larry Saume
Captain Eileen Gillespie U.S. Army
Sgt. Bryan Jiencke, USMC
S/Sgt. Teague A. Liming, USAF
Staff Sgt. James McKeon, US Army
Pvt. Jonathan Mezzanello
Lt. Gregory M. Morison, U.S. Navy
Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, US Navy
Lt. Julianne LoMacchio Palumbo U.S. Navy

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Msgr. James P. Grace
Sergio Bas
William Walters

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

BANNS I: John Flynn & Christine Curcio

THIS WEEK IN THE BULLETIN**Sunday, March 15th**

-Third Sunday of Lent
-Children's Liturgy of the Word
-Little Sisters of the Poor at every Mass
-First Scrutiny -10 AM Mass Cycle A Readings
-Teen Mass-PM
-Teen Club Meeting after the PM Mass

Monday, March 16th

-No Scripture Study Group
- 10:30 AM -Fourth Grade Confessions
-Soup Supper-6:30 PM Church Hall

Tuesday, March 17th

-Cub Scouts -7 PM LCH

Wednesday, March 18th

-1:30PM -Third Grade Confessions
-Golden Age Meeting-12-4 PM-LCH
-Divine Mercy: 7:30 PM-C, 8:30 PM -9:30PM Fellowship

Thursday, March 19th

-Baptism Meeting-7:30 PM Rectory

Friday, March 20th

-Daisy/Brownies Scouts-6:30 PM to 9 PM-L.C.H.
-Supermarket Sweeps 7 PM

Saturday, March 21st

Annual Catholic Appeal in Pew Weekend #1

SCHOOL NEWS**Wednesday, March 18th**

-Registration for NEW students for 2009-2010 is taking place. Please call the school office 718 793-2086 for information.

Third Trimester begins.

RCIA – FIRST SCRUTINY

This weeks' prayers for our Elect, Angela Chu, Liana Huie, Olivia Huie and Gwendolyn Nieves will take place at the 10:00 A.M. Mass. We will pray that they will be free of any sins and receive God's grace as the Woman at the Well received her faith in Jesus. May all of us make room for God's goodness by turning from sin and seeking God's forth giving grace.



Dear Parishioners:

Last weekend the Annual Catholic Appeal was formally announced at the Sunday Masses. Many parishioners, who have contributed to the Appeal in the past, were already notified by mail. Next weekend, there will be envelopes included in the Sunday bulletin for newcomers to our parish, for visitors or others who have not been previously reached by mailed. We have delayed this "In-Pew" solicitation by one week, since the Little Sisters of the Poor are visiting us this weekend.

In our Diocese, the Little Sisters sponsor and staff Queen of Peace Residence in Queens Village, New York. They are an international order founded almost two centuries ago in France by Jeanne Jugan. Other than the senior entitlements their guests receive, the Sisters accept no government funds so the concern and generosity of our Catholic people is very important to them. The Sisters have the unique perspective of Jeanne Jugan; they consider their residents as quests with whom they share their lives.

There is an issue with which our parishioners should be familiar. Assembly- person Markey who represents the Maspeth area in the State Assembly has introduced legislature that would open a one year window in the statute of limitations for people to bring up old claims of child sex abuse (A.2596). This legislature is aimed at non-profits, businesses and other non-governmental agencies. It would not apply to the public school system or municipalities. Ironically after the family, public schools account for one of the largest number of abuse cases in our society; yet, their protection remains intact, while the Church could be exposed to suits for things that may or may not have happened decades ago. As an example of this injustice, there were 485 reports of abuse in New York State public schools in the five year period from 2002 to 2006. That is almost 200 more cases than the total number of priests accused in New York since 1957! There is no way to defend against such old cases since witnesses, documents and even memories can be lost over a long period. It is the reason that there are statutes of limitations for certain crimes.

For the record, in our Diocese if a complaint against a clergyman, church employee or volunteer is made, it is received by an outside agent who refers it to the District Attorneys of either Kings or Queens County for adjudication, if such applies. It is also referred to a Diocesan Review Board. If the complaint is found credible, the clergyman in question is removed from active ministry or in the case of lay employees or volunteers they are dismissed. Automatically counseling and other services are offered to the person alleging a sexual assault. The Diocese pays for those services.

All employees or volunteers in any program sponsored by the Diocese of Brooklyn or its Churches must submit to a background criminal check, and they must take part in the Virtus Safe Environment Program. Failure to comply means dismissal or failure to be hired. Children in our Religious Education Programs and Schools participate in the Lures Program that seeks to alert children to indications of any sexual overtures.

Most of the cases in this Diocese are in the past and priests dismissed from the active ministry have rarely had either an official civil or canonical trial. With a credible complaint, they are removed from active service. In this regard our Diocese, following the Dallas Accords formulated by the Bishops of this country several year ago, has gone beyond the requirements of civil or canon law. A strict zero tolerance policy is followed. Our Diocesan Church does its utmost to assist those who make a credible allegation of abuse. While mistakes were made in the past with regard to the reassignment of abusing priests; often that was on the advice of mental health professionals.

If the statues are to be changed, then to avoid discrimination, they must be changed for everyone. If the Church is targeted, a totally urban Diocese like ours would face ruin. Not only would the programs run by the Diocese (including aid to those who were abused) be endangered, but so too would the parishes and schools assisted by the diocese. You are asked to contact your State Senator or Assemblyman to reject a discriminatory law.

I am happy to report that Father John Mendonca, the pastor of Our Lady of the Angelus Parish and I accompanied by the principals of the three cluster Catholic schools (Our Lady of Mercy, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, and Our Lady of the Angelus School), recently visited Assemblyperson Andrew Hevesi at his Austin Street Office. He was extremely courteous and after further investigation of this proposed legislature, removed his sponsorship. A compromise bill sponsored by Assemblyperson Vito Lopez would permit a longer reporting period for future abuse cases and provide the same opportunities to complainants without regard to where the alleged abuse took place. The Diocese supports this bill (A5708).

Monsignor McGutrl



The next Teen Mass will be on Sunday, March 15th at 6 PM. Teen Club will follow from 7 to 9 PM in the Parish Hall.

Also look for flyers around the Church for the upcoming Teen Trip to Aviator Sports Complex in Brooklyn during the week of Easter Break.

OLM DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITIES
03-19	7:30 PM	DM Chaplet/Cenacle (P. Hall) Fellowship follows (P. Hall)
03-25	7:30 PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet Praise and Worship Fellowship follows (P. Hall)
04-01	7:00 PM	Adoration/Holy Hour Fr. Alfred Guthrie, DM Chaplet
	8:30 PM	Benediction Fr. Alfred Guthrie
04-08	6:30 PM	Bible Study (P. Hall) Fr. Cadusale
	7:30 PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet (P. Hall) Fellowship follows (P. Hall)
04-15	7:30 PM	DM Chaplet/Cenacle (P. Hall) Fellowship follows (P. Hall)
04-22	7:30 PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet
04-29	7:30 PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet

SOUP SUPPER

Our Lenten "Soup Supper" will be held Monday, March 16th at 6:30 P.M. in the Church Hall. Together we share a simple meal, express our care for our needier brothers



and sisters and listen to the Lord's desire: "Whatsoever you do to the least amongst us, that you do unto me". Sr. Tessa Fitzgerald, CSJ will give a wonderful presentation about her ministry serving formerly incarcerated mothers and their children at "Hour Children". Through our simple sharing of

prayer, fasting and almsgiving we can make Soup Supper 2009 a living witness to our care for a larger world. When we increase love, we increase peace. All are welcome to join us. Please return the response form to the Rectory by Noon on March 16th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Matthias Church, Ridgewood

St Matthias' Choir and its Concert Choir mark the feast of the Annunciation on March 25th with a celebration of the traditional Latin Tridentine Mass at 7:00 P.M. Father Joseph Wilson of Saint Margaret's Church in Middle Village will be the celebrant and the choir will be directed by Mr. Joseph Kubler, St Matthias' Director of Music.

This Mass, dating in many of its details to the sixth and seventh centuries, was the universal liturgy of Roman or Western Rite of the Catholic Church. In 1970 Pope Paul VI issued a revised form of the Mass, versions of which replaced the old rite almost everywhere. The new rite could be celebrated in Latin or any of the modern vernacular languages (on New Year's Eve., Msgr. McGuirl celebrated the new rite in Latin at Our Lady of Mercy Church). Pope Benedict XVI has directed that the traditional Tridentine Latin Mass be made available wherever priests and people desire it, thereby making it again a normal part of the liturgical life of the Church.

The musical setting of the Tridentine Mass at St. Matthias will be the *Missa Aeterna Munera* by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, a famed Roman composer and choirmaster of the sixteenth century.

Monsignor Edward B. Scharfenberger is the pastor of St. Matthias, which this year celebrates its one hundredth anniversary. The Church is located on Catalpa Avenue between Forest and Onderdonk Avenues in the Ridgewood section of Queens. For more information, please call 718-821-6447.

St Luke's Episcopal Church

St Luke's Episcopal Church at 85 Greenway North, Forest Hills Gardens will sponsor *The Gingerbread Players* in their original production of **Ragtag**. For a list of dates or to make reservations please call 718-268-7772.

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 heaven's splendid light to

Edna Martin

by

Our Lady of Mercy School Faculty & Staff

by

Dennis & Mary Murphy

by

The Kehoe Family

by

Annette Dubiel

Special Announcement:

All couples celebrating their 25th & 30th, 40th, and 50th anniversary are invited to attend with their families the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration at Immaculate Conception Church located at 86-45 Edgerton Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432. The Wedding Anniversary Mass will begin at 1100 AM.

You must register in the Rectory by March 28, 2009.

50th Reunion - Bishop McDonnell Memorial HS
Class of 1959 - Sunday - June 7, 2009

At 1p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Center
7200 Douglaston Parkway Douglaston, Queens, NY
Further information please contact Dolores Howell Bittel
At 718-497-3931 or Jimdeebit@aol.com

St. John's UNIVERSITY

ST. John's University's Community Centers will be hosting an Informational Open House on Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at our 152-11 Union Turnpike, Queens location.

Visit us on the web at

<http://www.stjohns.edu/communityservices> or call the:

- **Reading and Writing Education Center** (serving children Grades 1 - 12) at 718 990 6358,
- **Center for Psychological Services** at 718 990 1900, or
- **Center for Speech and Hearing** at 718 990 6480.

WAY OF THE CROSS**OVER THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE:**

On Good Friday, April 10, 2009, Communion and Liberation will sponsor the Way of the Cross over the Brooklyn Bridge. Participants will congregate for the first station at St. James Cathedral at 10:00 a.m. After a station on the Brooklyn Bridge, the procession will follow the cross to a third station at City Hall Park in Manhattan, and a fourth station near Ground Zero. The final station will be at St. Peter's Church on Barclay Street, finishing at 1:30 p.m. At each station, there will be readings from the Passion, a meditation, a reflection, and hymns. All are invited. For more information, please call Communion and Liberation at (212) 337-3580 or visit its website at www.wocbrooklynbridge.com.

The **Sisters of Charity NY Region Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** invites you to join us on **Sunday March 29 from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.** for a program: **STOP THE DEMAND FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING!** AT St. Gregory the Great Parish (church basement: Oak Room), 242-20 88th Ave, Bellerose (southbound service road of Cross Island Pkwy past Hillside Ave. RSVP: **Carol (718) 779 -8075 or Email: clsifeway@yahoo.com**. See flyer for details.

Catholic Charities Brooklyn & Queens North Catholic Community Center has many job opportunities. Please call Josefa Castro at 718-726-9790.

Lent 2009

at Our Lady of Mercy

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday in Lent immediately following the 8:30 AM Mass

Parish Soup Supper

Monday, March 16 - 6:30 PM - Lower Church Hall

Presenter: Sr. Tessa Fitzgerald, CSJ, from Hour Children

Journey, Cross & Crucifixion Theater Production

Sunday, March 22 - 3:00 PM - Church

Parish Penance Service

Monday, April 6 - 7:30 PM - Church

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**Holy Thursday**

Simple Mass - 8:30 AM

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 PM

Night Prayer - 10:00 PM

Good Friday

Morning Prayer - 9:00 AM

Stations of the Cross - 1:00 PM

Communion Services - 3:00 PM and 7:30 PM

Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer and Blessing of Food - 10:00 AM

Confessions - 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Easter Vigil - 8:00 PM

Reception Follows Vigil - Lower Church Hall

THERE IS NO 5:00 PM MASS.

Easter Sunday

Masses at 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM

THERE IS NO 6:00 PM MASS.