

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 12th</b>
5:00PM	John Vecchione, Jr.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 13th</b>
8:30AM	Saverese & O'Neill Families
10:00AM	Parish Mass
12:00PM	John Gentile
6:00PM	Fiorella Perugini
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 14th</b>
7:00 PM	
8:30AM	Bolivar Almeida
12:00PM	George Napolitano
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 15th</b>
7:00AM	Dr. Antonino Parisi (3rd Anniversary)
8:30AM	Mary Jane Karras
12:00PM	George Napolitano
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 16th</b>
7:00AM	
8:30AM	Heinz & Reilly Families
12:00PM	George Napolitano
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 17th</b>
7:00AM	
8:30AM	William Striffler, Sr.
12:00PM	Edward Costa
<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 18th</b>
7:00AM	William J. Kirby & Leonard V. Quigley
8:30AM	Maria Pinzon
12:00PM	Charles Stramera
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 19th</b>
8:30AM	August Didier
5:00PM	George Shookster
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 20th</b>
8:30AM	Albert Zaboras
10:00AM	Parish Mass
12:00PM	Silvio & Angelina Tosi
6:00PM	Fiorella Perugini

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

James Schnepf, David Glass, Jack Sullivan, Ann Sullivan, Peter French, Adam Sobel, Ann Kelly, Marie Santoro, Geraldine Murphy, John Vecchione, Revs, James Moran & Vincent J. Fullam, Anthony Bair, Dr. Otto von Habsburg, Dan Mussio, Maria Let, Thomas O'Neill, Ceil Koluch, Marian Herman, Farther Patrick Gillen, Cindy Schneider, Laurence Vono, Martin Keane, Jean Buff Norton.

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, Pvt. Ronald Palumbo  
 S/Sgt. Teague A. Liming, USAF  
 Pvt. Jonathan Mezzancello, SPC Larry Saume  
 Lt. Julianne LoMacchio Palumbo U.S. Navy  
 Lt. Gregory M. Morison, U.S. Navy  
 SFC Kilsa Ciprian, US Army  
 The 1174th DDSB & 873rd TC DET  
 Captian Patrick L. Davis, U.S. Army (JAG)  
 Patrick Hedderman, Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, USNavy  
 Timothy M. Gorman, ChiefHospitalCorpsman, USNavy

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Jack Davis  
 John P. O'Connell

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE**

Luigi Diaz  
 Ana Gernhardt - OLM

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Many thanks for this week's flowers donation given for  
 Zahide Prono  
 By  
 The Prono Family

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH****SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 13th**

- Twenty Fourth Sunday in ORDINARY liturgical time.  
 CCD Religious Instruction REGISTRATION - Convent -  
 9:30AM to 12:00 noon.

**MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 14th**

- Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.  
 - OLM School opened for N through 8th Grade students.  
 - Scripture study/prayer group - rectory at 7:30 PM.

**TUESDAY - SEPTMEBER 15TH**

- Commemoration at the Masses of Our Lady of Sorrows.  
 - "Holy Spirit" prayer group - rectory at 9:00 AM.  
 - Cub Scouts - Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

**WEDNESDAY - SEPTMEBER 16TH**

- Commemoration at the Masses of Sts. Cornelius &  
 Cyprian - Bishops & Martyrs.  
 - OLM Golden Age Club meeting - Parish Hall at noon.  
 - First class for CCD Religious Instructions - assemble in  
 church at 2:15 PM.  
 - "Divine Mercy" prayer group - church at 7:30 PM.

**THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 17th**

- Commemoration at Masses of St. Robert Bellarmine,  
 Bishop & Doctor of the Church.  
 - Orientation session for OLM School new parents - School  
 at 7:30 PM.  
 - Baptism parents meeting for this Saturday's Baptisms -  
 rectory at 7:30 PM.  
 - OLM Book Club meeting - Convent at 7:30 PM.  
 - St. Lawrence Ruiz Mass at 7:30 PM.

**FIRDAY - SEPTEMBER 18th**

- Ordinary liturgical time weekday Masses.  
 - Confirmation candidates' retreat day at St. Ignatius  
 Retreat House - Manhasset - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.  
 - St. Lawrence Ruiz Society Mass at 7:30 PM.

**SATURDAY - SEPTEMBE 19th**

- Commemoration at Masses of St. Januarius (Genaro)  
 Bishop & Martyr.  
 - Baptisms at 1;00 PM.  
 - Confessions - 4:00 to 4:45 PM.  
 - St. Lawrence Ruiz Mass at 7:30 PM.

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners;

Schools opened last week so we must welcome our boys and girls back to another year of intellectual and spiritual growth. We hope that this scholastic year will be one in which our young people, both at our Lady of Mercy School as well as the local public schools, will continue to develop their many gifts and talents under the sharp eye of our highly qualified school administrators and instructors.

School registration is never really fully complete until late September. The school year always begins with a certain amount of fluidity as last minute adjustments are made. Nonetheless, Our Lady of Mercy School will have an enrollment exceeding 385 students. This is a slight drop in recent years but it reflects the trends in almost every area of our Diocese. Unfortunately every raise in tuition makes the parochial school an impossibility for some families. Yet those raises are necessary in order to provide our overwhelmingly lay staff with a somewhat just and decent salary. We have one Religious Sister in the school and some people are still stunned at that news. If such news is still a shock, we have only to ask: "How many people in your family or among your friends have entered the convent in recent years?" If the answer to that question is "No one" then we have our reason why there are not more religious sisters. Religious do not drop from heaven fully made. Their vocations, as all religious or priestly vocations, develop and are nourished in our families.

We are extremely fortunate in the quality and dedication of our school's lay staff. All of them could be more generously remunerated in the public sector yet they choose the Catholic system because they see their commitment as not simply a job but as a vocation. They deserve our thanks and appreciation as we begin this new school year. In a practical sense, our students are able to see the Catholic Faith on exhibit through the generosity and compassion of our teachers.

We often wish that we could more for the exceptional students at either end of the spectrum but without government aid, many of those beneficial programs are well beyond our financial means. Yet despite that, our parochial school has the strongest enrollment of those in the area, so much so, that parents commonly come from other neighborhoods enquiring about the possibility of their children attending "Mercy".

Parish activities tend to run in accord with the school calendar, so not only do we welcome back our school children but we look forward to another grace-filled year during which, through the liturgy and our various social and charitable programs, the members of our parish will grow together as a community centered on the Risen Christ and His Promise of eternal salvation to those who follow in His footsteps.

Two people must be recognized because of the crucial roles they held in the life of our parish. Father Christopher Okorie ministered in this parish and at St. John's Preparatory High School for several years. We give thanks for his compassionate kindness and enlightened preaching. All of us acknowledge his concern for the people of Nigeria, which was manifested so beautifully in his development of the Water For Life Program. Quite unexpectedly and suddenly at the end of August, Father was called home to his native Nigeria. We do ask that you keep Father Chris and his ministry as well as the people of Nigeria in your hearts and prayers.

Last week, Sister Katherine (Katie) Sitja y Balbastro, I.H.M. who ministered in our parish, took her final vows as a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (I.H.M.). This solemn ceremony took place at the Sisters' Motherhouse in Scranton, Pennsylvania and our own Father John Cremins was the homilist at the Profession Mass. Sister is currently serving at *Encore*, a senior citizens program in Manhattan. We pray that sister will have many happy and joyous years serving God and His people.

In Christ,

Monsignor John A. McGuirl

## Community News

There is an Alcoholics Anonymous Group in Queens for those whose primary language is Spanish.

Te Drogas Por Que  
Tienes Problemas  
O Tienes Problemas  
Por Que Tu Bebes  
Nosotros Podemos ayudarte  
Jovenes U.S.A.

*Alcoholicos Anonimos - Servicios Gratuitos*

Para mayor informacion:  
Grupo Jovenes Queens A.A.  
102-08 Northern Boulevard, Corona  
(Entre 102 y 103 calles)  
Tel (718) 426-7467

[www.jovenesqueensaa.org](http://www.jovenesqueensaa.org)

Speech & Hearing St. John's University Speech & Hearing Center will sponsor free testing from September 1st through December 1st, 2009. Please call (718) 990-6480 for an appointment.

## High School Open Houses

**St. Vincent Ferrer High School** - 151 East 65th street, Manhattan (Girls) -

**Dominican Sisters & Lay Staff** - October 17th from noon until 3:00 P.M. (212) 535-4680

**Holy Cross High School** - 26-20 Francis Lewis Boulevard, Flushing (Boys)

**Holy Cross Brothers & Lay Staff** - October 18th, 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. Contact M. Gilvary at (718) 886-7250, Ext 525.

**St. Francis Prep.** - 6100 Francis Lewis Boulevard, Fresh Meadows (Boys & Girls)

**Franciscan Brothers of Brooklyn & Lay Staff** - October 24th 12 noon to 4:30 P.M. Tel. (718) 423-8810

**Regis High School** - 55 E. 84th Street, Manhattan (full scholarship - special examination - Boys)

**Jesuit Fathers & Lay Staff** - Columbus Day, October 12th - 1:00 to 4:00 P.m. OR the Queens Admissions Information Night, Monday, October 5th at 7:00 P.M. at Resurrection/Ascension School, 85-25 61st Road, Rego Park 11374. Tel Eric DiMichele, Director of Admission at (212) 288-1100

## 28TH ANNUAL GREAT IRISH FAIR OF NEW YORK

The 28th Annual Great Irish Fair of New York, presented by the Irish American Building Society, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 19 and 20, 2009 at KeySpan Ballpark at Coney Island. There will be live music and entertainment and family friendly attractions for children of all ages, including magic shows, face painting, balloonists and rides. Admission is \$12 per adult - free for children under 12. All proceeds benefit the Catholic Schools of Brooklyn and Queens through the Alive in Hope Foundation. For a full listing of activities, go to [www.gifnyc.com](http://www.gifnyc.com).

## Parish Book Club

The next book club choice for our Parish Book Club is *Man's Search for Meaning* by Victor Frankel. All parishioners are invited to read this classic work and join us for a discussion on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 7:30 PM in the Convent Meeting Room.



## FLOWER MEMORIALS

Thank you for your beautiful response to our weekly Flower Memorials for the Church. The following dates are available for memorials: September 20 and 27, October 11, 18 and 25, and November 8, 15, and 22. If you have a loved one you wish remembered, please contact the Rectory Office at 718-268-6143. The cost of this donation is \$150.00 for two arrangements for our altar. The name of your loved one will appear in a notice in the weekly bulletin.

## SPECIAL JOURNEYS FOR SPIRITUAL SEEKERS IN THEIR 20s AND 30s

BustedHalo.com, a young-adult ministry of the Paulist Fathers, is offering two special journeys for young adults lead by Paulist Father Larry Rice, CSP.

Wouldn't be caught dead on a religious pilgrimage? Neither would most readers of BustedHalo.com, an innovative website run by the Paulist Fathers addressing concerns and topics of interest to Catholics in their late teens to 40s. In Spring 2010, Paulist Father Larry Rice and BustedHalo.com will lead two special journeys for young adults - an "Adventure Travel" excursion to northern Spain walking the last 100 kilometers (about 65 miles) of the Camino and an "Arts and Culture" trip to Paris. For further information, please contact John Mattas at 646-861-3634 or by e-mail at [john@franciscanspiritstours.com](mailto:john@franciscanspiritstours.com).

## CONFIRMATION CLASS RETREAT

All candidates receiving Confirmation in October will attend a Retreat at St. Ignatius Retreat House in Manhasset on Friday, September 18th. The bus will leave from OLM School at 8:30 A.M. and will return at approximately 3:00 P.M.

If anyone has any questions please contact the Religious Education Office at 728-261-6285.

## THANK YOU

Please accept our deepest gratitude for the donations of school supplies. We help 140 families weekly at Faith Mission in Jamaica. Your donations will certainly help parents as their children start the school year.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Our Lady of the Angelus Church, 63-63 98th Street, Rego Park, is sponsoring an English as a Second Language course. Classes begin the week of September 14 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Beginner and Intermediate levels are available. The cost is a one-time fee of \$65.00 per person. For more information, please call 718-897-4444.

## SCORERS AND TIMERS NEEDED

The OLM Sports committee needs volunteer scorers and timers for the CYO Basketball Program. This is an excellent opportunity for students to fulfill community service requirements for School, Confirmation or Scouts. Games are played on Saturdays at P.S. 101 (Ascan Avenue and Russell Place) from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Volunteers are scheduled for 2 - 3 games per day. Experience is not necessary. The Sports Committee will provide training. Interested students (7th through 12th grades) are asked to contact Stanley Swiatocha at 718-263-8174 or [swiseven@aol.com](mailto:swiseven@aol.com).

## FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks to all who continue to contribute so generously to our parish Food Pantry. The families to whom we provide assistance are very grateful. **A Reminder: Please check the expiration dates on the cans, boxes and packages that you place in the food bins in the rear of the church to make sure that the dates are current. We cannot use or distribute any food item once the expiration date has passed.**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Registration for Religious Education Classes for the 2009/2010 school year will be held in the CONVENT as follows:

Sunday, Sept. 13th from 9:30 AM to Noon

Classes will meet as follows beginning Sept. 16th:

Grades K through 6 - Wednesdays - 2:15 PM to 3:30 PM

Grade 7 Confirmation class - Date and time to be determined

The Registration Fees are \$125.00 for one child, \$200.00 for two and \$250.00 for three or more children. There will be an additional \$10.00 fee for First Communion (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 7) Classes to cover extra books and materials.

There will be a Late Registration Fee of \$25.00 for registrations done after Sept. 13th. Parents registering children in our program for the first time must do so in person.

If your child was not Baptized at Our Lady of Mercy, you must bring his/her Baptismal Certificate with you at the time of registration.

Also, we would appreciate receiving a small photo (no larger than wallet size) of your child/children. As we only see the children once a week, we feel this will be beneficial to us.

Registering children already in our CCD program - If your child is already attending Religious Instructions on Wednesday afternoons, you can go to our website, [www.mercyhills.org](http://www.mercyhills.org), and download the registration form for this coming year. Simply fill it out and return the form and payment to the Rectory or Religious Education Office. Only new students need to be registered in person.

If there are any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 718-261-6285.

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***National Centre For Padre Pio  
2213 Old Route 100  
Barto, Pa.***

Please join us on a retreat to a place dedicated to Padre Pio....

Date: Sunday Sept. 20 - 09

Place: Bus leaves from Metropolitan avenue & 72nd (in front of theater)

Time: 8am. Please do your best to be on time.

Price: \$30 for round trip (to be paid in full)

Since food is not available at the retreat house we ask that you bring your own lunch. Balls, Frisbees, and such are also suggested for an activity after lunch.

For More information call Marie Fazio at (718) 544-8190

*"Pray, hope, and don't worry;  
trust in the infinite goodness of  
almighty God."  
-Parde Pio*