

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	September 26th
5:00 PM	Anni Vecchione
Sunday	September 27th
8:30 AM	Frank Zaboras
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Vincenzo DiGraci, Sr.
6:00 PM	Fiorella Perugini
Monday	September 28th
7:00 AM	Ethel Rohr
8:30 AM	Paola DeOliveira-Pinto
12:00 PM	Thomas Randone
Tuesday	September 29th
7:00 AM	Alba Montes
8:30 AM	John O'Connell
12:00 PM	Rosemary Sauro & Mary Russomanno
Wednesday	September 30th
7:00AM	Philomina Karcher
8:30AM	Holy Souls
12:00 PM	Caterina Fossari
Thursday	October 1st
7:00 AM	Peter Feger
8:30 AM	Theresa Doremus
12:00 PM	Sr. Teresa Clare McAuliffe
Friday	October 2nd
7:00 AM	Steven Flaucher
8:30 AM	Helen & Andrew Foertsch
12:00 PM	Grace Corrado
Saturday	October 3rd
8:30 AM	Pat Paterson
5:00 PM	MaryAnn, Yolanda, & John Camporese
Sunday	October 4th
8:30 AM	Adelina Agostinelli
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Tom & Grace Grande
6:00 PM	Rita Brown

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'Niall, Ceil Koluch, Marian Herman, Cindy Schneider, Laurence Vono, Martin Keane, Jean Buff Norton, Mary Panny, Mary Aloisi, Dr. Anthony Bennardo

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
 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
 S/Sgt. Teague A. Liming, USAF
 The 1174th DDSB & 873rd TC DET
 Captain Patrick L. Davis, U.S. Army (JAG)
 Patrick Hedderman, Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, USNavy
 Timothy M. Gorman, Chief Hospital Corpsman, USNavy
 1st Lt. Paul Lentz, USAF

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Msgr. Raymond Francis Rau

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

BANNS II — Kevin O'Sullivan—OLM
 Bridget Clifford—OLM

THIS WEEK N THE PARISH**SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 27TH**

-Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary liturgical time is replaced today by observance of our parish patron, "Feast of Our Lady of Mercy"

-Father Kevin Ables, Assistant Vocation Director of the Diocese, will be speaking at all the Masses.

-"Children's Liturgy of the Word-10:00 AM Mass
 -Second collection today is for the support of the ministry of Catholic Education.

MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 28th

-Commemoration at Masses of St. Lawrence Ruiz or St. Wenceslas, both martyrs for the faith.

-OLM School Advisory Board meeting in the school library at 7:00 PM.

-RCIA meeting – Convent meeting room at 7:30 PM.
 -Scripture study group meeting – rectory at 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 29th

-Feast of Gabriel, Michael, & Raphael, Archangels.

-“Holy Spirit” prayer group at the rectory – 9:00 AM.
 -Cub Scouts Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 30th

-Commemoration at the Masses of St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church (Scripture).

-OLM Golden Age Club meeting – Parish Hall at noon.

-CCD Religious Instructions – church at 2:15 PM.

-“Divine Mercy” prayer group - church and Parish Hall beginning at 7:30 PM.

THURSDAY – OCTOBER 1st

-Commemoration at the Masses of St. Therese of Lisieux, the (“Little Flower”) Carmelite Virgin and Doctor of the Church.

-CCD Confirmation class – convent at 4:00 PM.

FRIDAY – OCTOBER 2nd

-Commemoration at the Masses of the Guardian Angels.

-“Supermarket Sweeps” – Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

SATURDAY – OCTOBER 3rd

-Ordinary liturgical time Mass at the 8:30 AM.

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

OLM DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

09-30-09	7:30PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet
	8:00 PM	Teaching by Roland Abalajon (Parish Hall)
10-07-09	7:00PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet
	7:30 PM	Adoration & Benediction Fr. Alex Ramos
10-14-09	7:30PM	Cenacle (Parish Hall) Fellowship (Parish Hall) All are Welcome
10-21-09	7:30 PM	DM Devotion/Chaplet Fellowship follows (Parish Hall)

Dear Parishioners:

In his wisdom, Bishop DiMarzio has initiated a Parish Support Program for the entire Diocese of Brooklyn & Queens. The health of the local Church depends to a great measure on the health of its individual parishes. Giving patterns are not what they were and collections have declined throughout the Diocese. This decline is further exacerbated by demographic changes and as well as the present financial turmoil of our country. The programs of the Diocese are assisted by the Annual Catholic Appeal plus a yearly assessment on each parish based on the weekly collections (i.e. ordinary income).

During the month of September our average weekly collection was \$6,500 which is somewhat lower than the usual. The usual range is from a low of \$5,500 to \$9,600. Factors such as weather, season of the year and summer vacations influence the collections. Rarely does the weekly collection exceed \$10,000. In any given week salaries and taxes are \$4,452 alone! Annually there are the variables of maintenance, repairs, utilities, supplies, contracts and other miscellaneous items. We receive nothing free. Consequently we never add to our limited parish reserves.

As of 5/31/09, the parish reserves were \$339,399.71. This is only a third of what it costs to run the parish annually. Most of this money is in the Compostella (Mutual) Fund which operates as an agent of the Diocese and its affiliates. We have been drawing from several smaller accounts when necessary, especially for repairs. These smaller accounts are close to depletion. It would be very dangerous to begin drawing against the reserves which are in Bond and Equity Accounts. If those accounts are drained, the parish would have virtually no reserves. What is true of our parish, which is located in a fairly affluent neighborhood, can be duplicated over and over again throughout the Diocese.

In our parish, we are making major cuts in staffing and all raises have been curtailed. Nonetheless, the collections need to increase. Many folks still contribute a dollar a week at a time when a dollar does not buy a subway ride to Manhattan. The dollar has the spending power of a dime fifty years ago. If this does not improve, the parish's ability to effectively serve this community will be hampered.

The Bishop has the care of the entire Diocese and he has every right to be concerned about our financial strength. On that strength rests the mission of the Church and the proclamation of the Gospel. I will be speaking about this issue on the weekend of October 17th/18th but I did wish to give our parishioners some preliminary notice.

On a positive note, this weekend we welcome to our parish Father Kevin Abels, the Associate Vocation Director. Father will be the homilist at every Mass. Appropriately this weekend marks the feast of Our Lady of Mercy. Her open generosity changed the world. Not only must we be concerned about economic realities but even more importantly we must have others who will imitate Our Blessed Mother and thus make Christ alive in our world by their dedication as priests, deacons or consecrated men and women.

In Christ,

Monsignor McGuirl

OLM Book Club Selection

For our next book club meeting on Nov. 19th, we are going to read *Say You're One of Them* by Uwem Akpan. The author is a Jesuit priest who has written a critically acclaimed short story collection. It has been called an "important and electrifying work" and is being greeted as a celebrated literary debut.

It has also been chosen as the latest Oprah book club pick so we will have lots of company as we take on this interesting collection of stories. Can be purchased at any book store or online at Amazon or Barnes and Nobles. If you have any questions, contact Sr. Ann Barbara at 718 261- 6285.

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the September Winners of the
50-50 Raffle:

1st Prize: Edmundas & Charlotte Adomaitis	\$546.88
2nd Prize: Regina McGrann	\$328.12
3rd Prize: Paul & Esperanza Srichareon	\$218.75

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.

High School Open Houses

Christ the King Regional High School, 68-02 Metropolitan Avenue, Middle Village – Sunday, October 4th from 10:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. For more Information: www.ctrhs.org or call (718) 366-7400 **Monsignor McClancy Memorial High School**, 71-06 31st Avenue, East Elmhurst, NY (boys) – Saturday, October 3rd, from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. For further information and directions, call: (718) 898-3800, ext. #11

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Virtus Training For Parish Youth Program Volunteers

If you are involved in parish youth work, which includes the Religious Education Program, the Sports' Program, the Scouting Program and the Teen Club, then the Diocese of Brooklyn mandates Virtus Training for you. If you have not attended a Virtus Training Session in the past, then you must attend a session. There are no exceptions. Attendance is taken. Make sure you that you note that you volunteer at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Forest Hills. Everyone who works with youth in our diocese (clergy, religious, deacons, coaches, catechists, troop leaders, drivers, coaches, teen chaperones) must attend a Virtus Training Session. . If you have not attended a Virtus Training Session, you will not be permitted to continue working with our parish youth.

For the convenience of those who require the information, the next most convenient earliest sessions are at

- Our Lady's Catholic Academy,
Thursday, October 1st – 6:30 A.M.
29-18 Rockaway Blvd, South Ozone Park.
 - Most Holy Trinity – St Mary's
Thursday, October 8th – 7:00 P.M.
138 Montrose Avenue, Brooklyn
 - St Margaret's – Thursday, October 8th – 7:00 P.M.
66-05 79th Place, Middle Village
 - St Adalbert's School –
Friday., October 9th, 2009 – 7:00 P.M,
52-17 83rd Street, Maspeth.
 - Immaculate Conception Center –
Wednesday, October 14th, 2009 - 8:30 A.M.
7200 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston
- For further information, please contact Sue Karcher at our rectory – (718) 268-6143

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.

Water For Life

Water for life will host a reception on Tuesday evening, October 6th from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at Alberto's Restaurant on Metropolitan Avenue near 70th Avenue. This was Father Chris Okorie's favorite project – to provide water to his home area of Nigeria so that there will be fresh, clean water.

Unexpectedly and suddenly Father Chris was called home to Nigeria during August. The timing was such that we did not have the opportunity to celebrate Father's ministry in our parish. Though he will not be here in body, he will be in here in spirit so what better way to thank him then supporting his favorite cause!

Tickets to the reception are \$75.00 each and the deadline is October 1st. Checks can be made to Water For Life c/o 61 Continental Avenue, Forest Hills, NY, 11375. Thank you!

HOLIDAY SHOPPE NEEDS

We have already begun planning for this year's Holiday Shoppe which will be held on December 3rd, 4th and 5th. You'll be hearing more about the Holiday Shoppe in the coming weeks, but right now we are highlighting some immediate needs:

We are in need of someone to chair the General Store table. If you are interested and want more information about what this table entails, please call Sue Karcher in the Rectory Office (718-268-6143) or see her in the sacristy after any Mass.

We are also in need of a group of people who would be willing to visit local merchants to solicit donations (merchandise, gift certificates, etc.) to be used for prizes for our raffles and/or to help defray some of our expenses. If you can help in this way, please contact Sue Karcher.

We will begin accepting donations for Grandma's Attic and the New Gifts tables beginning in October. New Gift and fragile items should be labeled as such and brought to the Rectory Office. Grandma's Attic items came be brought to the stage in the Lower Church Hall on Wednesday afternoons between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM.

The elevator will be open during that time. Extended hours for donations will begin in November as we get closer to the Holiday Shoppe dates

Thanks in advance for any help you can give. More to come.....

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

Jack Davis

by

Henri & Jacqueline Deltieure

SUPERMARKET SWEEPS

Our Lady of Mercy HSA invites you and guests to our first event- a night of games, prizes, groceries and fun!

Friday, October 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish hall
Doors open at 7 p.m.**

**Dinner, Dessert & Coffee
One Bingo Card \$17 admission
(more can be purchased at the event)
B.Y.O. Beverages & snacks**

Each class will donate a **RAFFLE BASKET**
And we will sell chances for **50/50**



Please contact the HSA at
olmhomeschool@gmail.com
Or call Barbara Mele (917) 903-3919 or
Nora Lew-Lee
(718) 263-9166 b/w school hours (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
to volunteer or if you have questions.

Ticket requests are due Wednesday, September 30th

Please fill out and detach the bottom for your ticket requests. Checks must be addressed to Our Lady of Mercy School.

Thank you, the OLM HSA

Name _____ Child's Grade _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Number Attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____