

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 19th
5:00 PM	Harry & Elizabeth Walters
Sunday	December 20th
8:30 AM	Stephen Hoffman
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	George Van Nostrand
6:00 PM	Karl & Louise Nee
Monday	December 21st
7:00 AM	Ann Vogt
8:30 AM	Holy Souls
12:00 PM	Henry Jagiello
Tuesday	December 22nd
7:00 AM	Anne V. Chiarelli
8:30 AM	Anne Daly
12:00 PM	Mary Foertsch Murphy (Living Intention) In Thanksgiving
Wednesday	December 23rd
7:00 AM	Karl Sippenauer (46th Anniversary)
8:30 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
12:00 PM	Robert Almeida
Thursday	December 24th
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Seton Fell Holt
12:00 PM	NO MASS
4:00 PM	Vigil Mass for Christmas
6:00 PM	Vigil Mass for Christmas
Friday	December 25th
12:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Christmas
10:00 AM	Masses
12:00 PM	
Saturday	December 26th
8:30 AM	Thomas Sweeney
5:00 PM	John Daly
Sunday	December 27th
8:30 AM	Thomass & Anna O'Connor
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Philomina Karcher (10th Anniversary)
6:00 PM	Goharic Prulax

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

James Schnepf, Ann Sullivan, Adam Sobel, Ann Kelly, John Vecchione, Rev. James Moran, 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, Maria Vega, Barbara Pannullo, Anna Krawczyk, Jack Henry, Remington Stafford, Maureen Albert, Philip Califano, Grace Zerbo, Rev. Charles Whelan, S.J., Concetta & Vittorio Alesi

ARMED SERVICES

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, 1st Lt. Paul Lentz, USAF
Lt. Julianne LoMacchio Palumbo U.S. Navy, Lt. Gregory M. Morison, U.S. Navy
SFC Kilsa Ciprian, US Army, SPC Larry Saume, The 1174th DDSB & 873rd TC DET
Captain Patrick L. Davis, U.S. Army (JAG)

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Isabelle Allegro
Msgr. Arthur A. Demski

BREAD AND WINE

Many thanks for this week's donation for the Bread & Wine given Lovingly in memory of

Peter French
By
Anne Restaino

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH**

-Fourth Sunday of ADVENT.
-Children's "Liturgy of the Word" 10:00 AM Mass.
-St. Vincent de Paul clothing truck in front of the church from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21st

-Advent Season weekday Masses.
-RCIA – Convent meeting room at 7:30 PM.
-Scripture study/prayer group – rectory meeting room at 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22nd

-Advent Season weekday Masses.
-"Holy Spirit" prayer group – rectory at 9:00 AM.
-Cub Scouts – Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23rd

-Advent Season weekday Masses.
-OLM School dismissal at 11:30 PM – Christmas recess begins.
-OLM Golden Age Club meeting – Parish Hall at noon.
-NO "Divine Mercy" prayer group this evening.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24th –**Christmas Eve.**

-Advent Season Liturgy at the 7:00 & 8:30 AM - Masses. There is NO 12:00 NOON MASS today.

CHRISTMAS – 2009

Christmas Masses – 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM – 12:00
Midnight – Christmas Carols at 11:30 PM.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH – Christmas Day

-Christmas Masses at 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon. There is NO EVENING MASS today.
-Second collection today is for the Brooklyn Diocesan CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26th

-Feast of St. Stephen, First Christian martyr – 8:30 AM



Dear Parishioners:

This is our last Sunday bulletin before the Feast of Christmas on Friday. Christmas celebrates the great gifts God has given to us. First there is the magnificent and awesome universe He has created. Then there is the gift of our individual and unique lives. Of all earthly creatures, we alone are able to appreciate and be awestruck by the world in which we live. Both of these gifts, tremendous as they are, would be lacking if we could not discover the meaning and purpose behind them. So then the third gift is the Gift of God Himself. We believe in a God, Who over many centuries slowly revealed Himself to the Jewish people and through His creation to all human beings. In Jesus He revealed Himself fully as the lover of the creature made in His image and likeness. So intense is this love that God wishes to share His life with us. The Second Person of the eternal and intimate Trinitarian love affair becomes one with us. The Word of God, the divine Self-Communication, becomes flesh and dwells among us.

The gifts that we share on Friday or the cards that we are sending now are imitations of what God did for us. Much more than anything from a store, the primitive hand-drawn card of a small child goes right to the heart of parents. The constant year-long love and affirmation parents give to their children and to each other have much greater value than any purchased presents. In the same way God affirms and loves us by going right to the heart. What normal person can resist the attraction of a new-born baby? Our hope is rekindled when we imagine the potential of a new baby. The Baby of Bethlehem rekindles our hope that life is meaningful and has a unique purpose and potential. When grown, that Child will live His life the way the Father wishes and in that He will overcome the powers of darkness, including death itself. We are His followers and we share that destiny.

In the most appropriate joy and thanks of this season, Monsignor Langelier, Father Cremins, our priest in residence Father Iantosca, Deacon Ed Smolinski, Sister Ann Barbara and Sister Noemi, Mrs. Dougherty and our entire parish and school staffs join me in wishing you and your families a blessed and joyful Christmas and New Year!

Monsignor McGuttl



COMMUNITY NEWS



The Giving Tree

-Holy Name of Jesus School, Windsor terrace, Brooklyn will celebrate its 125th in January 2010. For more information about festivities please call 718-768-7629

-E-WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Participate in an environmentally responsible event that will prevent your electronic waste from entering into a landfill and polluting our environment. Recycle your unwanted electronic equipment (including computers, fax machines, scanners, laptops, monitors, typewriters, copiers, cameras, cell phones, televisions, printers, telephones, servers, PDA's, and batteries) on Saturday, January 9, 2010 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the District Office of Senator Joe Addabbo, Jr. (159-53 102 Street, Howard Beach). For more information about this event or e-waste recycling, please contact Sen. Addabbo's Office at 718-738-1111.

Our deepest gratitude to all those who donated gifts to our Giving Tree Project. The gifts have been distributed to the various charities and many will have a brighter Christmas due to your continued generosity.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE

The St. Vincent de Paul clothing truck will be in front of the Church on Sunday, December 20, 2009. Clean clothing in good condition may be brought from 8:30 A.M. to Noon. Take time to clean closets of unused or outgrown clothing and share it with the needy. Perhaps your children can help in this worthwhile service activity. Your generosity is always appreciated.

High School Honors

In recent weeks, several local Catholic High Schools have sent their first quarter honors. We congratulate the following students:

Holy Cross High School

Second Honors – Guillermo Rivas & Michael Wang

Christ The King Regional High School, Middle Village

Cindy Lozito – Principal's Honor List

Victor Jakuovic – Silver Honors

Ashley Aufiero – Bronze Honors

Archbishop Molloy High School, Briarwood

Principal's List – Kyle Mele, Nancy Strbik

Honors With Distinction – Samantha Arena, Brianna

Boller, Monika Nowak, Amanda Paljevic, Nancilee

Rifenburgh, Dillon Scibelli

Honors - James Botwina, Andrew Chena, Kayla Karsten,

Ryan Karsten, Nicole Kelly, Giancarlo Maurello,

Stephanie Mkrtychyan, Ginamaria Papia, Robert Rossi,

Daniel Wang

Jobs Available

The United States Constitution provides that there shall be a nation-wide census every ten years in order to determine representation in the House of Representatives. The next census is scheduled for 2010. The Census Bureaus needs workers, both clerical and field. Hours and location are flexible and both full-time and part-time positions are available. For more information, call 1-866-861-2010 or E-Mail: www.2010censusjobs.gov

The Beginning Experience

If you are suffering the heartache of divorce, widowhood or separation, think of weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is February 19th through the 21st, 2010. For information and reservations, please call John at (516) 822-0635 or Karen at (201) 865-6784 or Jim at (718) 474-3779

OLM Book Club

The next selection for our Book Club is *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by Muriel Barbery. Our next meeting is on January 14th at 7:30pm in the School Library (Convent). This gathering is open to adults of all ages; all you need do is read the book and come for a stimulating conversation. You can find this at any local bookstore, or purchase it on-line from Amazon or Barnes and Noble. Thank You.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Wednesday classes will not be held on December 23rd, December 30th or January 6th.

Classes will resume on January 13, 2010.

The Thursday Confirmation Class will not be held on December 24th or December 31st.

The class will resume on January 7, 2010.

NYS Office of Mental Health

Our parish resident, Father Iantosca is one of two full-time chaplains at Creedmore Psychiatric Center at 79-25 Winchester Boulevard in the Queens Village section of Queens County. The Center's Family Care Program is looking for dedicated individuals who would be willing to assist a person recovering from mental illness. These providers would assist the individual recovering from mental illness by helping to develop life skills, encouraging and escorting residents to required appointments and programs, providing room and board and monitoring medication.

Family Care Staff works closely with these volunteer providers. If interested, please contact Father Iantosca at 718-264-4072 or Ms. Veronica Burke at 718-264-3986.

SNOW SHOVELING

Kidz Care will again be out shoveling snow. Phone Brandi at 718-986-2707 for information.

OLM DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 2009

12-23-09	7:30 PM	Meeting canceled due to Holidays
12-30-09	7:30 PM	Meeting canceled due to Holidays

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

Eleanor Shavel and George & Elizabeth Schaber

by

Howard Shavel

Bill Lynam

by

Anne Sweeney

Harry Hanley

by

Joseph & Bernadette Boyle

William Woznick

by

Christine and Mike Siniscalchi

George Spohr, Sr.

We love and miss you.

by

Ann & Children

FLOWER MEMORIALS

In Loving Memory Of

Howell Jones

Special Intention

Philomina Karcher

Dubiel & Freeley Families

Robert Malm

Kay Butler

Henry Jagiello

Eleanor Shavel and
George & Elizabeth SchaberMaria & John P. Calbo and
Leo, Lillie & Renee LobelDeceased Members of
Pawlak & Killian Families

Intentions of the Morison Family

John Sullivan

Carolyn Ryan

Nabil Kassis

In Memory of the Deceased Members
of the Gorman & Markey Families

Herman & Joanne Holz knecht

Donated By

Sarah & Lester

Mr. & Mrs. C. Facinelli

Harvey & Sue Karcher

Jim & Mary Ellen Freeley

Malm Family

Susan Butler

Marilyn & Children

Howard Shavel

Elizabeth & Arthur Lobel

John & Ilona Killian

Morison Family

Sullivan & Ceriano Families

Robert Ryan and
Sr. MaryAnn Hornick

Marie & George Kassis

Carol & Pat Gorman

Audrey Holz knecht



PAULINE BOOKS AND MEDIA

Here's where you'll find the gifts that can truly touch the hearts of those you love. Pauline Books and Media, 64 W. 38th Street, New York, NY, wants to give you a gift this Christmas Season. Pauline Books and Media is offering a discount of 15% on a purchase of \$40.00 or more between November 27 and December 31, 2009. A copy of this bulletin must be presented to receive the discount. Discount does not apply to product already discounted, or to dated material. This offer is valid only at location listed here. Limit one coupon per customer. Feel free to make copies of this coupon and give it to your friends.. For more information, call 212-754-1110.

OUR LADY OF MERCY GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Our Lady of Mercy Gift Card Program is now online! Online ordering offer:

- Convenience – order anytime from any computer
 - Access to hundreds of vendors – online ordering offers you access to a greater variety of vendors and card denominations
 - Reloadable cards – 24 different vendors have reloadable cards and the list continues to grow.
- Go to www.glscrip.com to see the list of cards available and the register online and set up a free Family Account!