

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	February 13th
5:00 PM	Bill Walters
Sunday	February 14th
8:30 AM	Andrzej Witkowski
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Maria Pinzon
6:00 PM	William Walters
Monday	February 15th
7:00 AM	Catherine & James O'Sullivan
8:30 AM	Louisa Molina
12:00 PM	NO MASS
Tuesday	February 16th
7:00 AM	Nicholas Mele
8:30 AM	Claire Scott
12:00 PM	
Wednesday	February 17th
7:00 AM	Annette Taliercio
8:30 AM	Agnes C. Simon (1st Anniversary)
12:00 PM	
7:30 PM	
Thursday	February 18th
7:00 AM	Oskar Bedacht
8:30 AM	Ruelius & Albert Families
12:00 PM	Michael Minischetti
Friday	February 19th
7:00 AM	Oskar Bedacht
8:30 AM	Andrew Cariello
12:00 PM	Michael Minischetti
Saturday	February 20th
8:30 AM	Mary Baltrus
5:00 PM	Helen Speros
Sunday	February 21st
8:30 AM	Rose Luce Mondesir
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Jacqueline Romas
6:00 PM	Bill Lynam

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, Remington Stafford, Maureen Albert, Philip Califano, Grace Zerbo, Charles Sullivan, Concetta & Vittorio Alesi, Mary O'Driscoll, Frank Morison, Zoraya Esplait, Justin McAdams, Dina Fabiitti, Rose Bruno, Andy Brunetti, Joan Garone

ARMED SERVICES

Edy Claudio & Robert Claudio,
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 Kilsip Ciprian, US Army, SPC Larry Saume
The 1174th DDSB & 873rd TC DET
Captain Patrick L. Davis, U.S. Army (JAG)
Patrick Hedderman, Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, US Navy
Timothy M. Gorman, Chief Hospital Corpsman, US Navy

ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks for this week's flowers donation given for

Frank Simko
by
Eileen Simko

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 14TH**

-Sixth Sunday in ORDINARY liturgical time.

MONDAY – FEBRUARY 15TH

-Ordinary liturgical time weekday Masses.

-Presidents' Day – National Holiday.

-OML School closed this week – winter recess week.

-Parish Offices closed for the day.

-No 12:00 PM Mass today.

-No RCIA today.

-Scripture study/prayer group – Rectory – 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 16TH

-Ordinary liturgical time weekday Masses.

-No "Holy Spirit" prayer group today.

-No Cub Scouts

WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 17TH

-ASH WEDNESDAY – beginning of the holy season of Lent.

-Ash Wednesday Masses - 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM – 12 NOON & 730 PM – ashes will be distributed after the homily of each of these Masses.

-Ash Wednesday Prayer Service with the blessing and distribution of ashes at 3:00 PM. -

(Not a Mass)

-Golden Age Club meeting – Parish Hall at noon.

-No CCD classes today.

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

THURSDAY – FEBRUARY 18TH

-Lenten weekday Masses.

-Helping Hands Meeting – 10:00 AM – Rectory

-No CCD Confirmation class today.

-Parish Book Club meeting – Convent meeting room at 7:30 PM.

-Parents' meeting for this coming Saturday's baptisms. – Rectory at 7:30 PM.

FRIDAY – FEBRUARY 19TH

-Lenten weekday Masses.

-Stations of the Cross following the 8:30 AM Mass.

SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 20TH

-Lenten weekday Mass at 8:30 AM.

-Baptisms at 1:00 PM.

-Confessions – 4:00 to 4:45 PM.

-Filipino Mass and social – 6:30 PM.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Children's Liturgy of the Word will not be held on February 14th. Our program will resume on February 21st at the 10:00 A.M. Mass.

Dear Parishioners:

These messages are usually written early in the week in order to meet the mid-week publication deadline. As I sit here on Tuesday, wondering whether or not we will be deluged in snow, the thought dawned that perhaps I should use this space this week for some updating.

Recently I received the Final Report for the 2009 Annual Catholic Appeal. Despite the current economic stresses that many families are experiencing, Our Lady of Mercy Parish did very well. We are a modest sized parish and yet we accomplished a great amount of good work.

Of the 1,186 registered families, 225 made contributions to the Appeal. This is 18.97% of those registered though this number may also include a few a families who are not registered formally with the parish and yet contributed to the Appeal. Our goal set by the Diocese was \$71,021. Our parishioners pledged \$104,600! This represents 147.28% of the goal and by the end of January \$103,823 had been received, which is 146.19% of the Goal and 99.26% of the amount pledged. These funds are used by Bishop DiMarzio for crucial diocesan programs, such as the care of our elderly and retired priests, the maintenance of our seminaries, the scholarships provided for seminarians in the post-collegiate theologate, and loans to parishes that find themselves in financial difficulty.

Several of our major seminarians (post-collegiate theologians) will be speakers at all of our Masses on April 24th/25th and they will be able to express their thanks to you for your generosity and kindness in assisting them to give their lives in service to us.

Locally several more parishioners have indicated their willingness to maintain or increase their weekly contributions to the parish. So, in addition to those thanked in previous weeks, I wish to thank:

Mrs. Ann Austin
Ms. Lynn Durante
Ms. Barbara Stock
Mr. & Mrs. John Richardson, Jr.
Mrs. Ann Spohr

Thank you all for your participation in the Increased Parish Support Program. Our weekly collections on an average have risen by over a thousand dollars. Various economies and your generosity to your Spiritual home have helped us to reduce our parish annual deficit by half. We still have some way to go but a very strong beginning has been made.

I would ask you to pay special attention to the Ash Wednesday Announcement in these pages as well as the additional Flyer that outlines our Lenten Activities during the sacred season that begins with Ash Wednesday, February 17th.

God bless you.

Monsignor John A. McGutrl

RCIA-RITE OF SENDING TO ELECTION

On February 21st at the 12:00 Noon Mass we celebrate with our Candidates as they request our prayers and ask to join us at the Easter Vigil to be fully initiated in the Catholic faith. At Mass they will sign the scrolls, which will be taken to Bishop DiMarzio that afternoon at Christ the King High School. There, at a beautiful prayer service, they will be blessed and called by name (elected) as worthy to proceed. This prayer is called the Rite of Election and we ask you to remember these good people as they use these forty days of Lent to ready their hearts to be reborn in the life of Jesus at Eastertime.

We ask your prayers for Caroline Buschmann,
Rince Calder, Carol Edwards and Jenny Lin.

ASH WEDNESDAY – HOMEBOUND

Packets of Ashes will be available on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, in the Sacristy and Rectory. Please take one if you know a homebound parishioner who would like to receive Ashes.

BEREAVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you have suffered the loss of a loved one and need support and understanding, please join one of our Bereavement Groups. We meet monthly and will be happy to journey with you during this difficult time.

Next Morning Meeting: Feb. 25th at 11:00 A.M.
in the Rectory Meeting Room.

Next Evening Meeting: Feb. 25th at 7:30 P.M.
in the Rectory Meeting Room. (Date changed due to Tuesday evening Lenten programs).

Whatever your loss, we are here for you.

LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Set aside some time this Lenten season to join us as we study and reflect upon the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus as portrayed in the Franco Zeffirelli film Jesus of Nazareth. We will be viewing the film in six segments on the Sunday afternoons of Lent – February 21 & 28 and March 7, 14, 21 & 28 – at 3:00 PM in the church. Along with the showing of the film, there will be time for prayer, personal reflection and group discussion. There is no need to register for this study opportunity – just come. All are welcome!



Next Book Club Selection

Parishioners looking for a shorter, uplifting and meaning-ful book may want to join us in reading Mitch Albom's newest book, **Have A Little Faith.**

This is a true story of friendship and self-discovery, It can be purchased at any major bookstore or on-line and it traces a relationship that helps the author redefine the place of God in his own life. It is a book about life's purpose and the many ways we can lose and find that purpose again. It is the perfect pre- Lenten read for any of us interested in dealing with the harder realities life throws at each of us. Book Club meeting date is Feb. 18th at 7:30 in the School Library (Convent).

LENTEN RETREAT

Come on a simple Lenten Retreat with Fr. Ron Rolheiser's DVD Program. Sr. Ann Barbara will lead the reflections on *The Passion and The Cross* on March 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd at 7:30 PM in the Convent Meeting Room. Registration forms are available on this week's bulletin insert.

***"Come Follow Me and
I will Make You Fishers of Men."***

Matthew 5:19

From 7:00 P.M., Friday, February 19th to noon, Sunday, February 21st, Bishop DiMarzio will conduct a retreat for men trying to discern a call to the priesthood. If you are high school senior or older you are welcome to attend. All participants are asked to have a referral from a priest or religious brother or sister. For more information, kindly contact either Rev. Kevin Sweeney, the Vocation Director at (718)-827-2454 (Email: vocations@diobrook.org) or Monsignor McGuirl at the rectory (718) 268-6143.

OLM DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

02-17-10	7:30 pm	DM Devotion
	8:00 pm	Praise and Worship
	9:00 pm	Fellowship
02-24-10	7:30 pm	Cenacle of Divine Mercy at the Parish Hall
	8:30 pm	Fellowship
03-03-10	7:00 p.m.	DM Devotion
	7:30 p.m.	Healing Mass
03-10-10	7:30 p.m.	DM Cenacle Fellowship – Parish Hall

Fordham University – Graduate School of Religion – Rose Hill (Bronx) Campus will host an Admission Information Session on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 6:30 PM for its programs in Pastoral Care/Ministry, Counseling and Religious Education. Please call 718-817-0866 to RSVP or for further questions. Visit our website www.fordham.edu/gre .

COMMUNITY NEWS

Church-in-the-Gardens (50 Ascan Avenue between Burns Street and Greenway North) will be showing "Escape from Suburbia: Beyond the American Dream", the next film in the Earth Matters: Films on the Environment film series. It will be shown on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 8:00 PM in the Lounge of the Church-in-the-Gardens' Parish House. The film series is free, informative and interesting. Brown baggers are welcome. Water and apple juice will be provided – as well as parking passes!

St. Margaret Church (66-05 79 Place, Middle Village) is sponsoring "The Journey, Cross and Crucifixion", a contemporary expression of the Stations of the Cross. The service is being offered by Creative Ministries, a troupe of Christian actors, musicians and dancers. All are invited to re-live and reflect upon the Passion of our Lord. The service will be on March 14, 2010 at 3:00 PM. We hope you will be able to join us for this live dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross. It is for people of all ages.

COMING IN LENT

AWAKEN YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Sometimes important things get away from us—
Things like faith.

Is this you or someone you know?
Too busy?

Not been to church in awhile or not attending regularly?
Children asking questions about faith that you're not sure
how to answer?

Looking for an opportunity to explore, deepen or
reconnect with your faith?

Awakening Faith may be just right for you. This six-session series includes topics such as "Spirituality: What's the Buzz?" "Can I Accept God's Mercy?" "Can the Mass Make My Life Meaningful?" and "The Church and Me." You can learn and ask questions...all in a friendly and confidential setting with other Catholics. Join us on the six Tuesdays of Lent – Feb 23, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 – at 7:30 PM in the Rectory Meeting Room. Registration forms are available in the Mercy Mirror and at the church entrances. All are welcome! For more information, call Sue at the Rectory Office (718-268-6143).

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

Lorraine Evans
by
Bernadette Boyle



Blood Drive

Our Lady of Mercy has sponsored several very successful Blood Donation Drives in the past. There is still a CRITICAL BLOOD SHORTAGE and the New York Blood Center is asking again for our help. Our Lady of Mercy will be sponsoring a BLOOD DRIVE on Sunday, February 28, 2010 from 8:45 AM until 2:45 PM in the Lower Church Hall. Please consider giving the gift of life by making a blood donation. For more information and/or to make a blood donation appointment, please call Sue Karcher at the Rectory Office (268-6143).

ADVANCE NOTICE BLOOD DRIVE MARK YOUR CALENDAR



ADVANCE NOTICE ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Training Sessions for boys and girls in grades 4 and up who wish to become ALTAR SERVERS for Our Lady of Mercy Parish will begin on February 23. We seek candidates – from OLM School and CCD – who are willing to make a commitment to the parish to become faithful and competent ALTAR SERVERS at our parish Masses and various liturgical services.

Our Orientation Session – the first in a series of after-school training sessions – will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 3:00 PM in the Church. All those wishing to train and become OLM ALTAR SERVERS are invited to attend this first session.

Save the Date

St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 13, 2010

7:30 PM – Midnight

LIVE BAND The Rock Club

Dinner, Beer and Wine will be served

Please contact the following to
make your reservation:

Gerry Whelan – 917-568-9318, Breda Buckley –
718-607-2182 or
Sinead Whelan – 917-749-1513

ATTENTION

COOKS – BAKERS – CHEFS

If you are interested in working on the second edition of the **OUR LADY OF MERCY COOKBOOK**, please leave your name and phone number at the Rectory. Thank You!

SNOW SHOVELING

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

Save Money For Our School

As with Target, you can allot a portion of your purchases at Shop & Stop to Our Lady of Mercy School It's simple, quick and easy.

Go to stopandshop.com

Click on "our stores"

Click on "A + Rewards"

Register your S&S card, (which is free and gives frequent discounts on groceries.)

i. Enter the first three letters of your last name

ii. Enter the 13 numbers on the back of your card

iii Enter our school code: 08718

It can take up to seven days for your registration to become active, and the program ends on March 26th, so please be sure to register your cards a.s.a.p. THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING! - The Home School Association

OUR LADY OF MERCY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

FOR THE 2010 – 2011 SCHOOL YEAR

Our Lady of Mercy School has space available in some grades. Please call the school office (718-793-2086) for information and an appointment. The following items are needed for registration: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization record, and recent report card (for students applying for grades 1-8). Diocesan Financial Aid is available for those who qualify (forms are available from the school office). We also offer Early Drop Off and After School Care.

Our Lady of Mercy School has excellent Pre-School Programs available for 3 & 4 year olds. Half day sessions (Monday through Friday from 8:15 AM to 11:00 AM) or full day sessions (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8:15 AM to 2:30 PM and Wednesday from 8:15 AM to 1:00 PM) are available. Classes Kindergarten through Grade 8 meet Monday through Friday from 8:15 AM to 2:30 PM except for Wednesday dismissal at 1:00 PM.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Congratulations if you are celebrating your 25th, 30th, 40th or 50th (or above!) wedding anniversary. You are invited to celebrate your great day with Bishop DiMarzio at a special Mass scheduled for April 24th, 2010 at 11:00 A.M. at Our Lady of the Angels Church, 7320 Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, 11209. Per-registration is necessary by March 31st, 2010. Please call the rectory office to register. (718)268-6143. Congratulations to all those wonderful couples.