

MASS INTENTIONS

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| Saturday | July 31st |
| 5:00 PM | Kay Butler (13th Anniversary) |
| Sunday | August 1st |
| 8:30 AM | Joseph Belcastro |
| 10:00 AM | Parish Mass |
| 12:00 PM | Martin W. Flynn |
| 6:00 PM | Sulewski & Corronte Families |
| Monday | August 2nd |
| 7:00 AM | Rose Baumgartner |
| 8:30 AM | Benedetta & Filippo Bartolomeo |
| 12:00 PM | Antoinette Wyszynski |
| Tuesday | August 3rd |
| 7:00 AM | John & Mary Gauss |
| 8:30 AM | Peter Sweeney |
| 12:00 PM | Marta Eborá (Birthday Remembrance) |
| Wednesday | August 4th |
| 7:00 AM | Holy Souls |
| 8:30 AM | Harry & Florence Lubeck |
| 12:00 PM | Janusz Dominik |
| Thursday | August 5th |
| 7:00 AM | Maria Krzastowski |
| 8:30 AM | Joan Smolinski |
| 12:00 PM | Jerry D'Auria |
| Friday | August 6th |
| 7:00 AM | |
| 8:30 AM | Peter Sweeney |
| 12:00 PM | Jeanne Minett |
| Saturday | August 7th |
| 8:30 AM | Peter Sweeney |
| 5:00 PM | Michael Paslavsky |
| Sunday | August 8th |
| 8:30 AM | Joan Smolinski |
| 10:00 AM | Parish Mass |
| 12:00 PM | Pauline Eppich |
| 6:00 PM | Michael Paslavsky |

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

James Schnepf, Ann Sullivan, Adam Sobel, Ann Kelly, John Vecchione, Rev. James Moran, Anthony Bair, Maria Let, Thomas O'Niall, Ceil Koluch, Marian Herman, Cindy Schneider, Laurence Vono, Jean Buff Norton, Mary Aloisi, Maria Vega, Remington Stafford, Maureen Albert, Philip Califano, Grace Zerbo, Charles Sullivan, Concetta Alesi, Rose Bruno, Andy Brunetti, Joan Garone, Michael Gaynor, III, Marco Caban, Yoshie Powell, Janis Wallenstein, Sarah Donahue, Theresa Piro Gorman, Dan Hochstadt, Michael Ackkerman, Bridget Donaghy, Tina Ambrisano, Eileen Sullivan, Larisa Matatov, Christine Alzati, Virginia Castronova, Eileen Griffin, Carl Moller, Angela Martini, Maureen Cahill, Rachael Kugel, Elvira Klein, Frances Riordan, Allan Remsen, Don Patterson, Rose D'Amico, Michael Gillen, Walter Fruth, Herbert Paulstich, Dussie Ivey, Larry Ciarelli, Sr., Sarah Ginsberg, Peter Bay

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Thomas Hyde
Frank Passenant, Sr.
Catherine McCarthy

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our faith community all those who were baptized in the month of July 2010:

Lucas Ethan Estrada
Delphine Lucia Visconti

ALTAR FLOWERS

Many thanks for this week's flower donation given in memory of

Edward Babis
(40th Anniversary Remembrance)
By
Dorothy Babis and Family

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – AUGUST 1**

-Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
-Blood Donation Drive – 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM – Parish Hall. Advance registration is not necessary – just come to the Parish Hall

MONDAY – AUGUST 2

-Ordinary Time Weekday / Optional Memorial of St. Eusebius of Vercelli or St. Peter Julian Eymard

TUESDAY – AUGUST 3

-Ordinary Time Weekday

WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 4

-Memorial of St. John Mary Vianney, Patron of Parish Priests

-Golden Age Club Meeting – Parish Hall at noon.

-Divine Mercy Prayer Group – Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:00 PM – Benediction at 8:30 PM.

THURSDAY – AUGUST 5

-Ordinary Time Weekday / Optional Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome

FRIDAY – AUGUST 6

-Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

-First Friday of the month of August – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the noon Mass – Benediction at 4:00 PM.

SATURDAY – AUGUST 7

-Ordinary Time Weekday / Optional Memorial of St. Sixtus II and Companions or St. Cajetan

-First Saturday Devotions following the 8:30 AM Mass – then breakfast and talk in the Parish Hall at 9:30 AM

-Confessions – 4:00 PM to 4:45 PM – Church

OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTIONS

The World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima invites all parishioners to the First Saturday Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima.

Date: Saturday, August 7, 2010

Time: 9:00 AM at the church after the 8:30 AM Mass.

Followed by a Breakfast Prayer at the Parish Hall.

Speaker: Fr. Daniel Keohane, Marian Priest

From the Pastor***Dear Parishioners:***

Many years ago, when I was Diocesan Vocation Director (1978-83), I assisted weekly at a nearby parish. Among the faithful women, who came to daily Mass, were several who appeared to be very poor. Judging by their winter coats, which still had the built up shoulders popular in the 1940s, you would assume that things were very tight and that they had no money for the luxury of a new coat. Surprisingly when a few of them died, it was discovered that they had left a fortune behind. They never enjoyed what they had saved but be assured, any heirs would have made the best of it! If those ladies died intestate, the government of the State of New York certainly found a way to dispose of their hard-earned and well-saved resources!

Those ladies might not have read our first Sunday lesson from the Old Testament, The Book of Ecclesiastes, nor understood this Sunday's Gospel. The first reading begins with: "Vanity of vanities" which is a Hebraic superlative meaning the "greatest of vanities" or "total purposelessness". The Gospel seems to follow up on this theme. In the Gospel a listener tries to involve Jesus in a family inheritance dispute. Wisely Jesus declines but as often happens He uses the opportunity to address the crowds. Jesus tells the parable of the rich man who has so many possessions that he determines to tear down his barns and build bigger ones in which to store his bountiful harvest. The old adage: "Man proposes, God disposes" is fitting here. The man is not criticized for being wealthy but apparently because he places his security in what he owns. He thinks that the possession of things provides him with many more years in which he can "rest, eat, drink, be merry". Unfortunately God sees it differently and demands his life that very night! To whom now will all these possessions belong? The heirs probably will make short work of it!

There is an implication that this man stored up many earthly riches but was "not rich in what matters to God". How the man did not measure up we do not know, although a hint is given in the beginning of the parable. The wealthy man constantly speaks in terms of "I shall tear down... I shall build larger...I shall store my grain...I shall say to myself, now as for you, you have many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat etc.....". Was the gentleman only concerned about himself and his pleasures? Had he ignored the demands of charity? Had he neglected the poor or had he even failed to share his good things with his family and friends? Did he think that his accumulation of "stuff" guaranteed him many more years? Doing good with what he had might have provided him with the treasure that worm, moth and decay cannot harm, in other words, the reward God reserves for the righteous.

At the least the man should have realized that we have but a short time here - a mere drop in the bucket in terms of geological time. Yet what we do in the short span of even seventy or eighty years has eternal implications, which seems to be the thrust of today's Gospel.

*In Christ,
Monsignor McGuirl*

Annual Catholic Appeal

We are doing ever better!!! This week's report indicates that now 170 (14.31%) of our registered 1,188 parish families are participating. This is the best percentage ever! This great group of people have pledged \$93,555.00 which is 131.73% of our Diocesan mandated goal of \$71,021. Of that amount these fine folks have already submitted \$82,987.50 which is 116.85% of the goal and 88.70% of the amount pledged. This is absolutely great and I deeply appreciate the generosity of these wonderful people. It is not too late to join them and your parish priests! Appeal envelopes are on the radiator covers at all the doors of the Church. No gift is too small but every gift helps since a certain percentage of the amount over goal is returned to our parish.

**God bless you,
Monsignor McGuirl .**

ARMED SERVICES

Edy Claudio & Robert Claudio, 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, Sgt. Larry Saume, The 1174th DDSB
& 873rd TC DET, Major Patrick L. Davis, U.S. Army (JAG), Patrick Hedderman,
Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, U.S. Navy, Capt. Peter Sulewski, U.S. Army, S/Sgt. Harry Cruz, 82nd Army
Airborne, William Kasten, U.S. Navy, Vincent Adamovich, U.S. Navy, Cory Eisler, U.S. Navy,
Major Andrew L. Mattson, USAF-USCENTCOM



Community News

-Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services WIC Program offers food vouchers, nutrition and health education, counseling and referrals for medical and dental care to low income families. Call 718-657-2580 or e-mail rkaiser@ccbq.org for more information.

-St. Agnes Academic High School, College Point, Home of the 2010 CHSAA Cheerleading Champions, will hold a **Summer Cheerleading Clinic** for 7th and 8th grade girls from Monday, August 9 through Friday, August 13. The clinic will be held from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon each day. The cost is \$75.00. For more information, contact Mrs. Susan Nicoletti at 718-353-6276 Ext. 12.

-The Beginning Experience provides help for the heartache of divorce, separation and widowhood – a weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is August 20 – 22, 2010. For information and reservations, call John at (516) 822-0635, Karen at (201) 736-8200 or Jim at (718) 474-3779.

-The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be sponsoring free Speech and Hearing screenings from June 21, 2010 through August 9, 2010. During the same time period, the Center will also be offering free Hearing Aid Help for anyone who has a hearing aid and may be experiencing some difficulty caring for it or using it. Please call (718) 990-6480 to schedule an appointment and to get directions. The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY.

-The Parents Association of St. Agnes Academic High School in College Point is sponsoring a "Crafts Fair" on Saturday, November 13, 2010. Craft vendors take note – don't be left out – reserve your space now! For information, call Lori at 718-353-1337.

-Catholic Charities Community Center (23-40 Astoria Blvd, Astoria) is hosting a **Kid's Fun Day** on Wednesday, August 11, 2010 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Free activities include clown and balloon creations, safety kits and fingerprinting, fire safety education, crafts, games, raffle prizes, giveaways, face painting and much more. For more information, call 718-726-9790.

-The former students and staff of Dominican Commercial High School are invited to attend a special **Tea with Spirit** celebration at the Queen of the Rosary Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Dominic at 555 Albany Avenue, Amityville, on Sunday afternoon, October 3, 2010. Please call Benincasa Family Services at 631-842-6000 Ext. 351 or email dcgrads@yahoo.com if you would like to receive an invitation.

-The American Cancer Society invites you to learn more about this year's **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer** program at a kickoff breakfast to be held on Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 7:30 AM. If you are interested in attending the breakfast, please contact Bianca Garcia at 718-261-1092 Ext. 5502.

-The 112th Precinct Community Council and the 112th Precinct invite you to **Night Out Against Crime** on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at MacDonald Park (rain location at Forest Hills Jewish Center). There will be raffles, safety information, free food and free music. All are invited!

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WASHINGTON, DC OCTOBER 29 – 30, 2010

Our Lady of Mercy, along with the parishes of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Our Lady of the Angelus and Ascension in Elmhurst, will be participating in the **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION in Washington, DC**. This is an overnight trip – we will be leaving on Friday morning, October 29 and returning on Saturday evening, October 30. The price of the trip includes: transportation via motor coach, hotel accommodations at the Hilton Garden Arlington, dinner on Friday evening, full breakfast at the hotel on Saturday morning, a four hour guided tour of Washington or leisure time at the Smithsonian Museums, visit to the Franciscan Monastery and Gardens or the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, and Mass on Saturday at the Shrine with Bishop DiMarzio. The price for the trip, per person, is: Single - \$315.00, Double - \$249.00, Triple - \$219.00, Quad - \$199.00. Reservation flyers are available at the church entrances. If you have any questions or need more information, please call Sue Karcher at (718) 268-6143. Give yourself a spiritual mini-vacation – those who came on the trip in 2008 had a great time. Consider joining us – you'll be glad you did!

50-50 RAFFLE WINNERS

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

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|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 1 st Prize: | A. Xuereb & E. Velazquez | \$483.34 |
| 2 nd Prize: | Karlton Nee | \$290.00 |
| 3 rd Prize: | George & Tracey O'Malley | \$193.33 |

2011 MASS BOOK

The 2011 Mass Book is now open. If you would like to arrange for 5 or more Masses in 2011, you can submit your request in writing to the Rectory Office.

FLOWER MEMORIALS

Thank you for your beautiful response to our weekly Flower Memorials for the Church. There are many dates available during the Summer months.

If you have a loved one you wish remembered please contact the Rectory 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.

POOR BOX

Calls for assistance will continue during the summer months. Please remember the poor and make a donation to the Poor Boxes at the entries of the Church. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

BLOOD DRIVE

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 is sponsoring a **BLOOD DRIVE TODAY Sunday, August 1, 2010** from 8:45 AM until 2:45 PM in the Lower Church Hall. Walk-ins are welcome so even if you didn't make an appointment, please consider giving the gift of life by making a blood donation.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Registration for Religious Education Classes for the 2010/2011 school year will be held in the CONVENT as follows:

Wednesday – Sept. 8th from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Sunday – Sept. 12th from 9:30 A.M. to Noon

Classes will meet as follows beginning Sept. 15th
 Grades K-6 – Wednesdays – 2:15 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.
 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.12th. 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. If there are any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 718-261-6285.

Registering CCD Children Already in Program

If your child is already attending Religious Instructions on Wednesday afternoons, you can go to our web site, 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.

DOMINICAN VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE

Dominican Village, a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, **Independent and Assisted Living Residence Rental Retirement Community**, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Dominic, is holding an Open House from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on August 7 & 12. For more information, contact Emily in the Community Relations Office at 631-842-6618

SAVE THE DATE

Father Anthony Fernando, who assisted us here at Our Lady of Mercy for many Summers while he was studying in Rome and continues to do so now since his return to India, celebrated his 25th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on May 15, 2010. Join us on Sunday, August 15, 2010 after the 12:00 Noon Mass for a Coffee Hour in the Lower Church Hall to honor Father Anthony on the occasion of his special anniversary. All are invited!

Interested in Being a Catechist?

We have a small, friendly group of children from the local Public Schools who come for Religious Education on Wednesdays from 2:15 to 3:30pm. We are always looking for teachers who would be willing to work with our children at this time. We will help you prepare to do this with special materials that support learning.

If you are free and interested in teaching a small class of children, please fill out the information below and Sr. Ann Barbara will contact you. Thank You.

Check the task you are willing to do:

Yes, I am willing to teach _____

I am willing to substitute _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please return to Rectory or Convent as soon as possible.
 Thank You...Sr. Ann Barbara

RCIA INVITATION

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or desires to become a Catholic, the RCIA is a program of welcome, prayer and reflection that can help you take the next step. This program is also available for baptized Catholics who may have never received First Communion or Confirmation. It is our joy to help you be fully initiated into the Catholic faith. Please contact Sr. Ann Barbara at 718-268-6285 to learn more.

FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

Professional therapy, provided by NYS licensed therapists, is available to our parish and 102 other parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani, has been conducted in the Diocese for the past 36 years for the convenience of parishioners. Services are provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, a proprietary professional corporation, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or Diocese. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. Confidential information and appointments are available by calling Dr. Giuliani at 631-243-2503 or go to our website at <http://thecatholiccounselingcenter.com>.