

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	March 6th
5:00 PM	Vicki & Lew Kohlwey
Sunday	March 7th
8:30 AM	George Van Nostrand, Sr.
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Rose & Ralph Illuminato
6:00 PM	Maria Garrido
Monday	March 8th
7:00 AM	Ellen Kaestel
8:30 AM	Michael Minischetti
12:00 PM	Catherine Hines Lockfort
Tuesday	March 9th
7:00 AM	Sommerero Family
8:30 AM	Francis Morison
12:00 PM	Eleanor Shavel and George & Elizabeth Schaber
Wednesday	March 10th
7:00 AM	Michael Minischetti
8:30 AM	Bill Walters (1st Anniversary)
12:00 PM	
Thursday	March 11th
7:00 AM	Madeleine Dowling
8:30 AM	Joseph DiCapua
12:00 PM	
Friday	March 12th
7:00 AM	Anne Vogt
8:30 AM	Judith Diaz
12:00 PM	Frank P. Haunss
Saturday	March 13th
8:30 AM	Helen Speros (1st Anniversary)
5:00 PM	Bill Walters
Sunday	March 14th
8:30 AM	Giovanna Chechotka
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Mario Milevoi
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, Jean Buff Norton, Mary Panny, Mary Aloisi, Dr. Anthony Bennardo, Maria Vega, Anna Krawczyk, Remington Stafford, Maureen Albert, Philip Califano, Grace Zerbo, Charles Sullivan, Concetta & Vittorio Alesi, Mary O’Driscoll, Zoraya Esplait, Dina Fabiitti, Rose Bruno, Andy Brunetti, Joan Garone, Michael Gaynor, III

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

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Rev. Alfred Guthrie

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – MARCH 7th**

-Third Sunday of LENT.
-RCIA First Scrutiny at the 12:00 PM Mass
-Second collection – Catholic Relief Services.
-“Jesus of Nazareth” Film and Discussion – 3:00 PM – Church

MONDAY – MARCH 8th

-Lenten weekday Masses.
-RCIA – Convent meeting room – 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY – MARCH 9th

-Lenten weekday Masses.
-“Holy Spirit” prayer group – rectory at 9:00 AM.
-Altar Server training session – church at 3:00 PM.
-“Awakening Faith” program – session 3 – rectory meeting room at 7:30 PM.
-Lenten Evening of Reflection – convent meeting room at 7:30 PM.

-Cub Scouts – Parish Hall at 7:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY – MARCH 10th

-Lenten weekday Masses.
-OLM Golden Age Club meeting – Parish Hall at noon.
-CCD Religious Instructions – in church at 2:15 PM.
-“Divine Mercy” prayer group – church at 7:30 PM.

THURSDAY – MARCH 11th

-Lenten weekday Masses.
-Helping Hands Meeting – 10:00 AM – Rectory -CCD
Confirmation class – rectory at 4:00 PM.

FRIDAY – MARCH 12th

-Lenten weekday Masses.
-Stations of the Cross following the 8:30 AM Mass.
-OLM School Stations of the Cross – church at 1:30 PM.

SATURDAY – MARCH 13th

-Lenten weekday Mass at 8:30 AM.
-Confessions – 4:00 to 4:45 PM.
-St. Patrick’s Dinner Dance – Parish Hall 7:30 PM to Midnight.

SOUP SUPPER

Our Lenten “Soup Supper” will be held Monday, March 15th at 6:30 P.M. in the Church Hall. Together we share a simple meal, express our care for our needier brothers and sisters and listen to the Lord’s desire:

“Whatsoever you do to the least amongst us,
that you do unto me”.

Sr. Eileen Coleman, IHM, will be the presenter. Proceeds from the Soup Supper will benefit the Haitian Earthquake recovery. Through our simple sharing of prayer, fasting and almsgiving we can make Soup Supper 2010 a living witness to our care for a larger world. When we increase love, we increase peace. All are welcome to join us. Please return the response form to the Rectory by Noon on March 11th

Dear Parishioners;

The 2010 Annual Catholic Appeal began last Sunday. More than ever, our Diocese faces a financial fall-out. The economic turndown, continuous demographic changes plus aging personnel and infrastructures are factors in this economic reversal. In the past the Diocese of Brooklyn directly subsidized some parishes in order to maintain a Catholic presence in certain areas. Other parishes existed on partial subsidies. Areas once Catholic are no longer so. Yet the Diocesan Church, which includes all Catholics within the boundaries of Brooklyn (Kings) and Queens Counties, must proclaim the Gospel message in good times and in bad. We are reminded of this in the theme of the 2010 Appeal which is *God's love shines through us....We are Priestly People*.

The ministerial priesthood is unique in the Catholic community. Under the guidance of the chief priest of the Diocese, our Bishop, the priests have a role of leadership, of Sacramental celebration, and proclamation of the Gospel. These roles exist to support and strengthen the People of God. Yet by Baptism and Confirmation every Catholic has the vocation of making Christ known in the world. Jesus Himself was the human Presence of God. Each of us is called to incarnate Christ again in our Forest Hills, Rego Park, Richmond Hill, Kew Gardens, or Glendale, neighborhoods. Others should encounter Christ when they experience our words, our actions, and our generosity.

The funds raised through Annual Catholic Appeal are dedicated funds and may not be used for any but the programs indicated. Those programs are:

Catholic Charities – addiction services; Center for Pregnant Women; Child Care Services; Parish & Community Services; Prison Ministries and Services for the Elderly.

Catholic Migration Services – assisting new-comers with legal, educational and pastoral services.

Catholic Education – Over 49,000 children are enrolled in our Diocesan Catholic grade schools. For some this is a major financial difficulty – funds are made available for needs-based scholarships

Faith Formation and Pastoral Life – Catechist Training; Diaconal Formation; evangelization programs; Lay Leadership Formation; Pre-Cana Marriage Programs; Office of the Sick; Pastoral Planning; Respect Life Education; Adult Faith Formation and the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO).

Chaplaincies – in our high schools and hospitals (For an example: a full –time chaplain is desperately needed at nearby Northshore/LIJ Hospital on 66th Road in north Forest Hills. Presently incomplete coverage for the Anointing of the Sick is rendered by the priests in the three parishes of our cluster and Holy Communion is brought by lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. But no priest is presently assigned full-time to walk the journey of suffering with those in that Hospital.) Chaplains are a desperately needed.

Finally an area that is fundamental to the life of our Church: **Vocations, vocations, vocations!!!!** To be blunt – no priests, no Church! Funds from this Appeal are utilized for scholarships for our major (post-college) seminarians; for the Cathedral Seminary Residence (College Age Seminarians) at Douglaston; the Vocation Office (Your pastor held the position of Vocation Director from 1978 to 1983.); assistance to Cathedral Preparatory High School in Elmhurst; and support of the John Paul II House of Discernment for men in college or at work, who are trying to discern the Lord's plan for them.

Our goal is the same as last year - \$71,021. If we exceed that amount, the balance over that amount will be returned to the Parish. This year we exceeded the goal by \$30,000, which in fact made the Diocesan Appeal our most successful parish fund raiser!

Everyone's circumstances are different so I simply ask you to do your best. Each year, Msgr. Langelier, Fr. Cremins and I make sacrificial contributions to this Appeal. We are agreed that we will not ask you to do something unless we do it also. Join us again this year.

Thank you,

Monsignor John A. McGuirl

Congratulations 2nd Graders

At a lovely prayer service on this Saturday, 62 of our children from Public and Catholic School received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are so proud of them as they ready their hearts for Communion soon. May we who are adults see the wisdom of turning to God for mercy as a way of preparing our own selves for the sacraments of Easter! Our parish Penance service for Lent is on March 29th at 7:30 pm here in the church.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE

The St. Vincent de Paul clothing truck will be in front of the Church on Sunday, March 14th.

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.

March 19- Movie Night

Join us in the Church Hall on March 19th- Friday, at 6:30pm for our premiere showing of "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" from the Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis. Join these four children who accidentally unlock a closet door that leads to a new and wonderful world. They discover this world is ruled by the cruel White Witch and that they have a special role in setting everyone free! Adults as well as children will find this a special and delightful film.

Cost: \$10- includes drink, popcorn and candy.

Book Club for Lent

Our next book club selection for Lent is *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. Explore the meaning of temptation as letters are exchanged between two demonic forces, Screwtape and his nephew, Wormwood. Through sharp insight and humor, Lewis helps us understand the dynamics of temptation, and how to recognize and dispel the tempter. Please join us in reading this spiritual classic!

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 9th, 16th, and 23rd at 7:30 PM in the Convent Meeting Room. Registration forms are available at the doors of the church.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Requests for help with food continue and our supplies are low. Our needs are: soups, rice, pasta, cereal, canned meats or fish, canned fruits and vegetables, coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Please drop off one or more items in the boxes in the rear of the Church.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Each year we provide an opportunity for adults who, for whatever reason, were never Confirmed. Any adult who is interested in being prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation is urged to contact Sr. Ann Barbara at 718-261-6285. Classes will be held in the Convent and conclude with the reception of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2010. If you or someone you know can benefit from this opportunity, please contact Sister as soon as possible.

RCIA – 1ST SCRUTINY

This weeks' prayers for our Elect, Angela Chu, Liana Huie, Olivia Huie and Gwendolyn Nieves will take place at the 10:00 A.M. Mass. We will pray that they will be free of any sin and receive God's grace as the Woman at the Well received her faith in Jesus. May all of us make room for God's goodness by turning from sin and seeking God's forgiving grace.

OLM DIVINE MERCY SCHEDULE

03-10-10	7:30 p.m.	DM Cenacle Fellowship – Parish Hall
03-17-10	7:30 p.m.	DM Devotion and Chaplet Praise and Worship Fellowship – Parish Hall
03-24-10	7:30 p.m.	DM Cenacle Fellowship – Parish Hall

BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

MANY THANKS from the New York Blood Center to all who responded to the request for much needed blood donations. Last Sunday's Blood Drive here at Our Lady of Mercy was a BIG SUCCESS! We are happy to report that 46 units of blood were collected. Very special thanks go to Joan Minischetti for service above and beyond the call of duty in making the donation process run so smoothly throughout the day.

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 are viewing the film on the remaining Sundays of Lent – 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!

CHRISTOPHER LEADERSHIP COURSE

An 8-week Leadership Course for Adults is being offered by **The Christophers** on Wednesday nights from April 21 through June 9 in the Wall Street area. Climb out of the winter doldrums! For more information or to register, call toll-free (888) 298-4050, Ext. 249, log on to the website www.christophers.org/leadership or e-mail leadership@christophers.org.

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?

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 four Tuesdays of Lent – Mar 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).

COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs will begin a St. Padre Pio Prayer Group on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at the 12:05 PM Mass. All are welcome.

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>.

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 March 13, 18 & 27 and April 8, 17, 22 & 29. For more information, contact Emily in the Community Relations Office at 631-842-6618



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

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.

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.

SNOW SHOVELING

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