

## 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him." Peter, Andrew, James, and John's lives would never be the same. They were going about their usual business--fishing on the Sea of Galilee--when Jesus approached them and said, "Come after me." And that's just what they did. "At once they left their nets and followed him." Such a quick response to such a radical request!

What compelled these men to leave their livelihood to follow the Lord? His promise to them was that he would make them "fishers of men." Perhaps they thought that promise sounded fabulous. But it seems more likely that it was Christ himself who drew the men. There must have been something utterly attractive about him, and completely trustworthy. Otherwise, it seems unbelievable that these men would have been so quick to respond to his call.

This compelling man is the same Christ who calls us. We hear his voice in a different way, of course, through the Church and through the Bible, through his Spirit in our hearts, but it is nonetheless the same Jesus of Nazareth who asks us to follow him. Have we allowed ourselves to be drawn by his voice? Are we open to a real encounter with the Lord who changes lives?

If our relationship with Jesus does not transform us, if it does not change us into different, better people moment by moment and day by day, then chances are that we are not truly encountering him. He is too powerful to be inconsequential. It might take some courage and commitment to come into authentic contact with the Lord, but when we do, our lives will never be the same.

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### Sunday Collection

The Sun. Collection for Jan. 14/15/2017 was \$3,773.00

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### New York City Universal Pre-K

Queens of the Rosary Catholic Academy—our affiliated school—would like to remind all members of the parish community that the application period for New York City's Universal Pre-K begins January 17.

Queen of the Rosary participates in the UPK program and invites you to select their school for your child. Please feel free to call the school for more information or to schedule a tour.

## 3er DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

El punto importante de este Evangelio es que el ministerio de Juan Bautista ha terminado. Con su arresto, la tradición de los profetas del Antiguo Testamento termina. Jesús entra, inaugurando una realidad nueva, llamando a Pedro, Andrés y más adelante a Santiago y Juan hijos de Zebedeo. Ellos no dudaron en seguirlo, se convirtieron en sus discípulos para proclamar el Reino de Dios que Jesús anunciaba ahora. La humanidad ahora se mueve de la oscuridad a una gran luz. Nuevas enseñanzas, nuevas curaciones para todas las clases de enfermedades. Llega una nueva vida con la presencia de Dios en el mundo por medio de su Hijo Jesús. ¿Qué podemos aprender nosotros de esta lectura del Evangelio? ¿A qué nos mueven las lecturas, qué sentimientos nos provocan?

Para vivir el misterio de Cristo en nuestra vida hay una clave y la podemos ver ahora. Todo encuentro con Jesucristo provoca una respuesta. El Evangelio de este domingo nos muestra la forma de cómo respondieron sus primeros discípulos. "Rápidos y decididos". Enfocados en Jesús. Si, así, lo hicieron ellos pasando por todo durante la vida pública del Maestro. Y nosotros, ¿cómo lo hacemos ahora? El Evangelista Mateo acierta el cien por ciento al decir que la gran luz brillando en la oscuridad es Jesús. Creo que todos hemos vivido los momentos de tensión a través del país por la violencia de policías contra la comunidad y viceversa. Sin embargo dentro de todo el problema siempre existen personas que nos conducen a esa luz que es Dios. Jesús hizo y hace la misma invitación. "Conviértanse, porque ya está cerca el Reino de los cielos" (Mt 4, 17).

### Readings for the Week of January 22, 2017

Sunday:	Is 8:23--9:3/Ps 27/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17
Monday:	Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday:	Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday:	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117/Mk 16:15-18
Thursday:	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96/Mk 4:21-25
Friday:	Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1/Mk 4:35-41
Next Sunday:	Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

## A Message from Fr. Tom

The topic of Baptism—so important the last two Sunday's is still with us. Today, Jesus proclaims the Kingdom and calls the twelve. Baptism leads us to discipleship. We are called to renew our Baptismal promises and be witnesses to Jesus Christ. "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." This means that we did not choose Jesus, but rather that Jesus chose us. He calls us to be here today. The Christian faith is more than a set of moral principles or a good philosophy or ethic. Christian faith is a response to an invitation.

I recall the words of Pope Francis in a conference of Catholic bishops that he led in Aparecida, Brazil shortly before his election as Pope. "When we have heard the call of God—his invitation to follow him and become his missionaries—there is only room for joy. That is a message today. Joy that God has called us. May the grace of this Mass help us to respond to that call and follow Jesus.

Fr. Tom

## Generations of Faith

It has been one year since we introduced the Generations of Faith Campaign to our parish. I am very pleased to say that we made our pledge goal of \$375,000.00, and exceeded it by about \$25,000.00. Of particular note is that at this point, thirty five percent (35%) of our pledges have been fulfilled. I am told this is a very good place to be. Of the many work projects that were mentioned as part of this pledge drive; Divine Mercy Parish has completed every one of them in all three of our churches.

With all the good news there are some areas where we can still make progress. There are still some people that have not made any contribution to the pledge they made during last year's campaign. We have approximately 600 registered families in the parish, but only 135 have made pledges. Please do what you can in the coming days to continue to fulfill your pledge or make one if you have not already done so. It is my hope that every family or person who attends Mass here regularly would find the generosity to make a pledge. If you cannot make a pledge, I ask that you continue to pray for the success of this campaign. Blessed New Year and thank you.

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**TAKE HOME  
AND EXTRA BULLETIN  
AND GIVE IT TO A FRIEND**

## Help with Snow Removal

Our parish is looking for persons willing to be on call to help shovel snow when the emergency arises. The parish will pay for your service to the church. If interested, please call the rectory office and we will fill you in on the compensation offered. Thanks. Fr. Tom

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## Join the St. Anthony Society for "Carnevale Dinner"

Fat Tuesday, February 28, 2017 -- 6 to 9 PM

In the St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

Tickets are \$25 and will be available starting January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Rectory. Limited number of tickets available. This event will sell out again. Don't wait! For more information please contact Christina Scotti (718-782-3881).

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## Married Couples Retreat

Our parish will sponsor a retreat for married couples the last weekend of March 2017 during Lent. The dates are Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, L.I. The retreat will have two language tracks—English & Spanish led by Deacons John Warren (English) and Elkin Tamayo (Spanish). There is space for 23 couples and the cost for the entire weekend is \$110.00 per couple. Please call the rectory office to reserve your space.

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## Memorial Gifts At Divine Mercy Parish

Bread & Wine	Sanctuary Lamp
Tabernacle Candles	Altar Candles
Blessed Mother Candles	St. Joseph Candles

Memorial Gifts are a wonderful way to honor and remember your loved ones. Please come to the Rectory (or call) for information on available dates.

Also available:

Tree of Life Memorial  
The Blessed Mother Yearly Candle

For more information call 1-718-387-0256 or visit the Rectory Office at 219 Conselyea Street.

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## Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 8:00pm and Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm.

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**GIFTS OF LOVE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY AT DIVINE MERCY PARISH**

*“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome...” (Matt. 25:35-36)*

January is Poverty Awareness Month, and during this period of time we join the U.S. Bishops, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic Community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis’ challenge to live in solidarity with the poor!’

As a faith community we do so by offering a prayer for all those whose life or dignity is endangered, and by continuing to support our food pantry as well as our outreach to the Transfiguration homeless shelter.

Specific item needed this week: **Canned fruits**  
Food Pantry Coordinator & Volunteers

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**Divine Mercy Parish**

**After School Youth Program**

The Catholic Parish of Divine Mercy is offering students from fourth to twelfth grades the opportunity to participate in an after school enrichment program beginning February 3, 2017.

Each session which will meet regularly on Friday afternoon will begin with a prayer and brief reading from Sacred Scripture and the practical application of the virtues and values proclaimed as they apply to our youth. Quiet time where students will apply themselves to their studies and homework will follow. The adult moderators will assist them in fostering good study habits. Our youth will be able to ask for assistance of the moderators of this program when possible. Social activities or games will close each session.

Who: Any child in either public or parochial school grades 4 to 12/age 10 to 18

When: Friday’s when school is in session

Where: St. Francis Rectory Basement- 219 Conselyea Street/Enter on Humboldt St.

Time: 2:30pm to 6:00pm

**Program Schedule:**

- 2:30 pm Sign-in and Greeting
- 2:45pm Prayer and reflection
- 3-:500pm Study Time
- 5-:600pm Social/Board/Games/Cultural Presentation or Movie
- 6:00pm Dismissal &/or Pick-up by Parent or Guardian

**Mass Intentions for the Week  
St. Francis of Paola Church**

**Saturday, January 21, 2017**

5:00pm Anthony & Jennie Torre  
by Torre Family

**Sunday, January 22, 2017**

8:00am Gloria Sekac by Marie Carrella  
11:30am Gerard Cirone by Margaret Pizzulli

**Monday, January 23, 2017**

7:45am Gloria Sekac by Claire Gray

**Tuesday, January 24, 2017**

7:45am In Memory Lucy Laratonda by A Friend

**Wednesday, January 25, 2017**

7:45am Gloria Sekac by The Santangelo’s

**Thursday, January 26, 2017**

7:45am Philip Conforti by daughter Lucille

**Friday, January 27, 2017**

7:45am Thomas Lorenzo by Lorenzo Family

**Saturday, January 28, 2017**

7:45am R.I.P. Raphael Ho  
by sister Agnes & Joseph Sun  
5:00pm Gloria Sekac by Fr. Eugene Carrella

**Sunday, January 29, 2017**

8:00am Gaetana Sepe by Marie Sepe  
11:30am Gerard Cirone by Scotti Family

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**Masses**

The Mass Book for 2017 is opened. Call or visit our Parish office, 219 Conselyea Street to reserve a Mass.

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**Beginning Experience**

The loss of a spouse through death, divorce or separation is one of life’s most traumatic experiences; often resulting in feelings of loneliness and grief. When those feelings remain, it can be overwhelming and hard to move forward. The Beginning Experience weekend is a grace filled time to focus on you, to feel understood by peers and experience a sense of peace and a renewed hope for the future.

The next weekend is on Long Island at the Montfort Spiritual Center, Bay Shore on February 24<sup>th</sup>—26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. For information and reservations, call MARY at (516-) 413-6209 or JEAN at (631) 903-0973, JIM at (718) 474-3779 or JOHN at (516) 822-0635.

JANUARY 22, 2017

## Mass Intentions for the Week St. Nicholas Church

### Sunday, January 22, 2017

10:30am In Thanksgiving by Josephine Elizee  
12:45pm Vincent Visto by Carreiras Family

### Sunday, January 29, 2017

10:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish  
12:45pm Marie Guarino Babino  
by Mr. & Mrs. J. Baldassarro

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## Pray For the Sick

**Please remember to your prayers those who are ill**

Charline Vine, Anne Sansilippo, Arthur Weber, Rae Pacifico, Diane James, Frank Cremato, Pam Curcio, Jennifer, Craig Washack, Patricia Clarke, Elizabeth Lucivero, Wanda Zadwarny, Carmella Caiafa, Maureen Conlon, Sister Rose Ellen McCann C.S.J., Raul Carreiras, Christina Giron, Patrick Del Vicario, Dora Lo Gosso, John Porcelli, Nancy Gonzalaz, Vinny Gonzalaz, Andy Gonzalaz, Marti Latterman

## Pray for Our Recently Deceased

Alvin Cox, John Walsh, Nora Goff, Patricia Krieger, Louise M. Cyrus, Michael J. Piro, Nicholas La Veglia, Kathleen Egan

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## Silent Meditation Group

All are welcome in Divine Mercy Parish's Silent Meditation Group. Our silent prayer is based on the teaching and writing of Benedictine Monk, John Main. We will meet in St. Cecilia's Chapel on Herbert Street, every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday evening after 7:00pm Mass, from 8:00pm until 8:30pm. The next date is January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

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## Naturalization Workshop Catholic Migration Services

Saturday, January 29, 2017, 9:00am to 5:00pm  
Office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams,  
209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201  
To register, call the confidential hotline at 212-225-4400 and leave a message. A volunteer will return your call for further screening.

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**PRAY FOR AN INCREASE  
IN VOCATIONS**

## Mass Intentions for the Week St. Cecilia Church

### Sunday, January 22, 2017

9:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish  
7:00pm Open Intention

### Monday, January 23, 2017

8:30am Robert Fisher

### Tuesday, January 24, 2017

8:30am Rose De Angelis 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### Wednesday, January 25, 2017

8:30am Nicholas La Veglia

### Thursday, January 26, 2017

8:30am Carmela Tuozzo by Tuozzo Family

### Friday, January 27, 2017

8:30am Nicholas La Veglia

### Saturday, January 28, 2017

8:30am Nicholas La Veglia

### Sunday, January 29, 2017

9:30am Roger Kobel  
Delores Ross  
Raffloer Family  
7:00pm Open Intention

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## Affordable Housing

Applications are now being accepted for affordable housing at 325 Kent Apts, 325 Kent Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11249

Address to obtain paper applications:

325 Kent Apts.  
243 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Box 425  
New York, New York 10016

We encourage interested persons to apply online at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect).

Please remember that online applications must be submitted by the deadline date and that the applications received after this deadline date will not be considered. Deadline date is January 30, 2017.

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## A Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage To Catholic Cuba

Join Bishop Octavio Cisneros as Spiritual Director, March 24-31, 2017 on a Celestial Cruise, with visits to Our Lady of Cobre, Havana, Punta Frances, Cienfuegos. Call 1-800-CATHOLIC X 208 for info.

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CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

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PHONE NUMBER: **718-389-0010**

FAX NUMBER: **718-389-5090**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

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**Comments:**

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**Available On-line** You can locate Divine Mercy Parish in Brooklyn, New York on-line at [www.seekandfind.com](http://www.seekandfind.com) and sign up to receive via email notification our weekly parish bulletin. Stay up to date on all parish events and activities—even if you are away for the weekend—sign up today

### **Memorial Gifts At Divine Mercy Parish**

Bread & Wine      Sanctuary Lamp      Tabernacle Candles      Altar Candles      Blessed Mother Candles      St. Joseph Candles      Memorial Gifts are a wonderful way to honor and remember your loved ones. Please come to the Rectory (or call) for information on available dates.      Also available are Tree of Life Leaves and Blessed Mother Yearly Candles (this candle is lit for a year). All memorials can be In Honor Of or Remembrance Of a family member or friend.

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### **St. Vincent De Paul Gives Back**

The St. Vincent De Paul Society will give back to our church \$50/\$100 per vehicle for each car, truck or van, running or not that you would like to dispose of. Call 718-491-2525 for more information.