

7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow." Today Jesus continues the powerful teaching of his Sermon on the Mount. Typical of this famous sermon, here he urges us to see things in a new way, specifically regarding situations and people who bother us. First, he tells us not to seek revenge. Instead, we are to demonstrate incredible generosity. Then, he instructs us to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

These instructions don't come naturally to most of us. We are much more inclined to want to get even with those who cause us to suffer, and to wish ill for those who have hurt us. But Jesus proposes another way.

In truth, what good does it do to seek revenge or foster hate? It only continues the cycle of evil. Jesus encourages behavior that will stop the cycle short. He gives us a model that--although it may not change the heart of our "enemies"--will nonetheless change OUR hearts for the better. When pressed into service for one mile, if we voluntarily go two, then WE are the ones whose attitude and experience is certain to change. Instead of spending the length of that one mile cursing and complaining, we spend the length of two enjoying a surprising kind of freedom: "I chose to do this," instead of "I am being forced to do this."

When we practice the generosity of giving more than we are asked, and the charity of praying for those who persecute us, we will find ourselves in a position to transcend the trouble. It sets us free to not be mastered by the evil around us. Thus, we are able to help end the cycle of evil and begin a new cycle of love and peace.

Sunday Collection

The Sunday Collection for February 11/12 was \$2,903.00

National Italian Apostolate

Lenten Day of Prayer March 18, 2017

Immaculate Conception Center, Douglaston Parkway
Presented by Father Giacomo Sgroi of the Diocese of Montreale, in Sicily. Spiritual Conferences, Mass
Lenten Devotions.

The day of prayer begins at 10am with arrival and registration at 9:30am. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes hot Lunch. Contact the Rectory if interested.

7º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

"Ustedes, pues, sean perfectos, como su Padre celestial es perfecto" (Mt 5, 48). Consiente Ud. o no, a todos nos gusta la perfección. Muy raras son las personas que no les importa el verse bien y el quedar bien con los demás. Pero, con referencia a las palabras de Jesús sobre la perfección parece que nos pide imposibles. Podemos entender su esperanza al comprender un poco el significado de la palabra. Jesús nos reta a responder a los otros sin límite. Para ampliar nuestro conocimiento aún más sobre la palabra "perfectos" veamos que nos dice el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica en el número 41: "Todas las criaturas poseen una cierta semejanza con Dios, muy especialmente el hombre creado a imagen y semejanza de Dios. Las múltiples perfecciones de las criaturas (su verdad, su bondad, su belleza) reflejan, por tanto, la perfección infinita de Dios".

¿Qué concepto tienes tú de la perfección? ¿Significa lo mismo para ti la perfección humana que la divina? La invitación es ver con lo profundo del corazón lo que es justo e injusto, el amor y el odio y luego lanzarnos a actuar sin límite por lo perfecto, por lo bueno, por lo mejor para todos. Al participar cantando en la asamblea hoy, pidamos la santidad de Dios, que es rico en compasión, misericordia y perdón. Jesús espera que seamos perfectos, él sabe que somos limitados y que fallamos. Pero ánimo, no debemos de dejar de intentar ser buenos. "Al que te pide, dale; y al que quiere que les prestes, no le vuelvas la espalda" (Mt 5, 42). ¡Más claro no se puede ver!

Readings for the Week of February 19, 2017

Sunday:	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6/Mt 16:13-19
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34-35/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-18/Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday:	Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34

A Message from Fr. Tom

Leviticus develops our understanding of the Law as received by Moses; do not hate, seek revenge or hold grudges. But in place of this we must also be ready to give correction out of love for the other.

We continue to hear Jesus' 'Sermon on the Mount.' The challenging message of today is meant for individuals and communities. The Law is not merely a line we cross over but offers us a guide—most especially for family life. The Law gives us this guide. Understood in this way, the Law is God's gift to us and not a burden. The part of our community within the context of family life that most desperately needs formation and correction are our youth. I believe, our young people want and need the limits and boundaries that Catholic moral teaching provides precisely so that they can be free. They need an alternative for the secular society that permits everything and forgives nothing—and leaves our youth isolated in their subjectivity and emotional fragility.

In connection with this freedom we hear the second reading. Paul urges us to regard our bodies as temples—that is literally—dwelling places of God. Therefore, we have a serious obligation to form our youth in the sanctity of their bodies as well. This extends beyond the obvious and easier message of getting a good night's sleep, eating well and knowing how to go without things like food or luxuries. The more challenging and urgent message is in the area of human sexuality. May the grace of our celebration help us to be credible witnesses to a deeper reception of God's Law and sanctity of life.

Fr. Tom

Music Director in Search of Apartment

Justin Fields, the Director of Music, and his fiancé are looking for an affordable apartment to rent after they are married this summer. His fiancé works at a local high school in the neighborhood. They are grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve the Williamsburg/Greenpoint community, and wish to be close to their work.

If you have any information or suggestions regarding available housing, please contact Justin through the rectory office or e-mail his fiancé, Emily, at em_stormy@yahoo.com.

Thank you!

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 24th—26th, 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.

Married Couples Retreat

Our parish will sponsor a retreat for married couples the last weekend of March during Lent. The dates are Friday, March 24th to Sunday, March 26th 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.

2017 – Lent

Ash Wednesday / March 1

7:45 am	Mass St. Francis
8:30 am	Mass St. Cecilia
11:00 am	Mass St. Nicholas with QRCA
1:30 pm	Service Jennings Hall
3:00 pm	Service St. Francis
7:00 pm	Mass St. Cecilia
7:30 pm	Mass St. Nicholas (Spanish)

Stations of the Cross Every Week

Starting March 2

Thursday's	St. Cecilia	12:30pm
Friday's	St. Francis	7pm (Italian/English)
Friday's	St. Nicholas	7pm (Spanish)

Pre-Lenten Concert

A concert of classical music by the Canite String Quartet will follow the conclusion of the 5pm Mass in St. Francis of Paola Church on Saturday, February 25th, 2017. Admission is free.

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16

When we serve the poor, we love God. When we use the time, talent and treasure that is given to us by God to help those less fortunate, we become the hands and feet of God in our world. Service to the needy – almsgiving – is an essential part of our Catholic tradition.

Specific item needed this week: **Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate**

Food Pantry Coordinator & Volunteers

St. Francis of Paola Church

Memorial Gifts – February 19, 2017

BREAD & WINE

Florence & Anthony Giglio by daughter Carlotta

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Herbert A. Lopez, Jr. by Lu Ann & Rose Ann Fortunato

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Senior Housing Opportunity

Progress of Peoples Management Corp. - an affiliate of Catholic Charities Brooklyn & Queens – is pleased to announce the opening of the waitlist for the Mt. Carmel Apartments, located at 745 Saint Johns Place, Bklyn., N.Y. 11216. The building includes handicap accessible units, is for elderly residents and couples where the head of household or spouse is 62 years or older. Income restrictions apply based on Section 8 guidelines.

Applications are available until Friday, March 3, 2017. Applications must be mailed to the P.O. Box listed on the application and must be postmarked by Saturday, March 4, 2017.

Application In Person: Catholic Charities Walk-in Center 191 Joralemon St, 1st Floor, BKlyn., N.Y. 11201 time 9am - 5pm Mon. to Fri. (Feb.13 thru Mar. 3), OR at Mt. Carmel Apartments (745 Saint Johns Place, Bklyn., N.Y., 11216) 2pm - 4pm Mon. thru Fri. (Feb. 13 thru Mar. 3)

By mail written application: Mt. Carmel Apartments, c/o POP Management Corp., 191 Joralemon St., 8th Floor, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201. Written application requests must be received by Fri., February 24, 2017.

(See flyer in back of Church for more information).

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

Saturday, February 18, 2017

5:00pm Pasqual Medici by Medici Family

Sunday, February 19, 2017

8:00am Sr. Agnes Shen
by Niece Agnes & Joseph Sun
11:30am Thanksgiving to my Parents
by Carlotta Giglio

Monday, February 20, 2017

7:45am Domenico Quijada
by Leo & Queenie Fiorica

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

7:45am Vilella Family by Children

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

7:45am Salvatore Avalone by Anthony Porcelli

Thursday, February 23, 2017

7:45am Marty Pizzariello by Paula Santaromita

Friday, February 24, 2017

7:45am Rosina & Francesco Falce
by Igino & Giovanna Falce

Saturday, February 25, 2017

7:45am Patricia Krieger by Dennis Torre
5:00pm Angelina Santoro by Phyllis Salvato

Sunday, February 26, 2017

8:00am Agostino Tulumello
by Brother & Family
11:30am Gerard Cirone by Janet Schnorr

Congratulations

We congratulate the following students from our parish who have received academic achievements (90% or above to achieve Honor Roll Status) at St. Francis Preparatory School for the 2nd quarter of the 2016-2017 school year.

Jessica Marie Keeney
Jailine Paredes

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

FEBRUARY 19, 2017

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, February 19, 2017

10:30am Dolores Almonte
Huascar Pabon
Dagoberto Hernandez
12:45pm Marie Guarino Babino
by Mr. & Mrs. D. Sciangula & Family

Sunday, February 26, 2017

10:30am Paulino Vidal by Vidal Almazo Family
12:45pm Angelina & Michael D'Annunzio
by Grandchildren

Pray For the Sick

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill
Sister Rose Ellen McCann C.S.J., Raul Carreiras,
Christina Giron, Patrick Del Vicario, Dora Lo Gosso,
John Porcelli, Nancy & Vinny Gonzalas, Marti
Latterman, Rae Pacifico, David Pelletier, Richard
Schloop, Frank Cremato, Nicolet Latore, Maddox
Moises, Bob Petrullo, Louis Clappi, Patricia Clarke,
Martha Pulgarin, Sister Helen Schmidt, I.N.J. Ben
Brancato, Marion & Florence De Gruccio, Wanda
Zadwarny, Carmella Caiafa

Pray for Our Recently Deceased

Andy Gonzales, Angelina Cifaldi, Giovanna D'Onofrio

Divine Mercy Parish Choir

The Parish Choir will be meeting regularly in the St. Francis of Paola Choir Loft after the Saturday 5PM Mass.

Youth After School Program

Our Parish's After School Program has started. All young people in grades 4-12 (ages 10-18) are welcome to participate! The program will meet in the St. Francis Rectory Basement (219 Conselyea St.) from 2:30-6:00pm for a brief time of prayer and reflection, followed by focused study time, and lastly time for socializing.

Young Families – Play Dates

Tuesday & Thursday at St. Francis auditorium time 10 am to 12 pm and Wednesday St. Cecilia's auditorium time 10am to 12pm. All young kids are welcome.

Any questions email youth@dmbk.org.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, February 19, 2017

9:30am John Walsh
James Wade
Raffloer Family
Ben Brancato Speedy Recovery
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Monday, February 20, 2017

8:30am Annette De Florio

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

8:30am Nicholas La Veglia

Thursday, February 23, 2017

8:30am Mary Kinsella

Friday, February 24, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Saturday, February 25, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Sunday, February 26, 2017

9:30am Robert Kobel
Billy Brudecki
7:00pm Maria & Carmine Carannante

ARISE Together in Christ this coming Lenten season!

Interested in sharing how God is working in your life within the context of everyday experiences, Scripture & Catholic Tradition?

Then join one of our **ARISE** faith-sharing groups this coming **Lent**:

our Wednesday Group will be meeting 7:30 - 9:00pm
our Thursday Group will be meeting 8:00 – 9:30pm
and our Friday Group will be meeting 7:00 – 8:30pm

(Additional Spanish-speaking ARISE groups will also be available).

ARISE begins the week of February 27, and the theme this Lenten season is “Change our Hearts”!

So please join one of our ARISE groups by filling-out the Sign-Up card located in this week's parish bulletin. Completed Sign-Up cards can be returned in next week's collection basket, or dropped-off at the rectory, and a member of the Divine Mercy ARISE team will contact you.

Please pray for spiritual renewal and the success of **ARISE!**

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WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

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

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

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE

Comments:

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.

Registration for Camp Veritas

Camp Veritas Mount Saint Mary's College
Newburg, New York, July 16 – 22, 2017
Camp Veritas Camp Lakota, Wurtsboro, New York
August 13 – 19, 2017

Camp Veritas is a one week sleep away pilgrimage experience for teens going into the 7th grade through 12th grade. The schedule is play-and-pray with a full immersion in the Catholic Faith through sacraments and activities. Come get to know other kids your age and experience a week of sports, activities, prayer, and fun! This week of faith and fun is probably the most beneficial gift you could give your teen. Register at CampVeritas.com via the "Camp-in-touch" portal before April 1, for the early bird rate. Any question contact Lauren at youth@dmbk.org or the Rectory at 718-387-0256.