

## 8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?" No, indeed we can't. But evidence does suggest that worrying can subtract time from our life span! Clearly, we are not meant to worry. It's not healthy and it's not useful. But for many of us, it's quite difficult not to be anxious and concerned about matters that are important to us. So what is the secret to letting go of this unnecessary anxiety?

Jesus gives us an answer in today's Gospel. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides." In other words, our focus should be on being faithful followers of God. When we put our trust in the providence of the One who "clothes the grass of the field," and stop trying to rely on our own (meager) powers, then things will be taken care of: "Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all."

Part of the secret here, of course, is coming to accept God's will for us, even when it doesn't perfectly match what we may have been envisioning. There is a kind of surrender involved that puts God's plan first. Instead of getting worked up that things aren't going our way, this kind of reliance upon God enables us to relax and accept the way things are going. The great spiritual writer, Jean-Pierre de Caussade, put it well in his work, *Abandonment to Divine Providence*, when he said, "To escape the distress caused by regret for the past or fear about the future, this is the rule to follow: leave the past to the infinite mercy of God, the future to His good Providence, give the present wholly to His love by being faithful to His grace." God takes care of the birds, the flowers, even the grass! He will also take care of us.

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### Sunday Collection

The Sunday Collection for February 18 & 19, 2017 was \$ 3,615.00

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### 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.

## 8º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Dice un refrán popular. "Cada día tiene su propio afán". Esto significa que solo debemos de preocuparnos de lo que acontece en las 24 horas que nos marca el reloj. Sin embargo la vida misma nos mueve a buscar cada día lo mejor de todo, a tener la confianza puesta en los seguros de vida y en el dinero. Las preocupaciones nos abruma, el presupuesto no nos alcanza y algunas personas hasta tienen dos trabajos. ¡La vida es dura! Y debemos de hacer decisiones correctas, pero a veces nos preocupamos de más. ¿Qué nos dicen las lecturas y el Evangelio de este domingo? ¿A qué se nos invita para vivir con menos tensión?

Hay unas palabras claves en el Evangelio que debemos de tener en cuenta cuando las preocupaciones nos abrumen. Dos amos; preocupaciones; el Padre las alimenta; Dios viste así a la hierba del campo; fe; y a cada día le bastan sus propios problemas. Son palabras que si las repetimos en nuestras preocupaciones nos ayudan a ver la vida como el Señor Jesús nos la propone. "¿Quién de ustedes, a fuerza de preocuparse, puede prolongar su vida siquiera un momento? ¿Y por qué se preocupan del vestido? (Mt 6, 27-28). Decir a las personas que no se preocupen es decirles que no sean el centro de ellas mismas. ¡Este es exactamente el punto principal del Evangelio! Si se escoge a los dos patronos, existen las preocupaciones. Pero si escogemos a Dios seremos saciados de su generosidad para siempre. Con su bondad en nuestro corazón la vida es vista de diferente forma. Todo lo que necesitamos es tener confianza.

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### Rosary Society of DMP

The next meeting of the Rosary Society will take place on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 7:30pm in the rectory basement of St. Cecilia. Please enter through the garage area on Monitor Street and down the stairs. New members are always welcome.

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### Ladies Movie Night

Join us on Sunday, March 12, at 5:30pm in the St. Francis of Paola Rectory Basement. We'll be showing the 1963 classic musical comedy "Bye Bye Birdie" starring Dick Van Dyke and Ann Margaret. Refreshments will be served and we will have a 50/50 raffle. This movie was rated G in 1963 but would likely have earned a PG rating by today's standards.

## A Message from Fr. Tom

### Lent is for Listening

Our mission as a Catholic parish is to help people encounter Christ in their lives. This is called “Evangelization.” The principal tool of evangelization is listening—not talking. Following the direction of Pope Francis, I wish to embark on a Lenten effort for Evangelization which requires your participation. This involves the whole parish. It is easier than you might think.

I am asking that you invite 5 or 6 people to your home for a one hour meeting with myself. Invite only people who you know have not gone to church in a long time, who might be confused about Church teachings, or who are generally uncomfortable with religion in their lives. No food, no drink, no coffee please—just people!

It is not my goal to convince people of anything or argue with anybody. I just want to listen. I can listen in English, Spanish, and I have a basic working knowledge of Italian. So language is not a problem. All you have to do is call the office to arrange for a visit and invite people to your house.

Needless to say, managing three churches and 13 buildings is not easy. But I believe so strongly in this that I am willing to do whatever it takes to make this work and to make myself available to YOU! Obviously, I cannot do this alone. Please call the rectory office to participate at (718) 387-0256.

God Bless you this Lent.  
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](mailto:em_stormy@yahoo.com).

Thank you!

## Lenten Regulations

The Holy Season of Lent begins this Wednesday, March 1, 2017 – the forty days of preparation before Easter Sunday. Please note the following regulations:

**Abstinence** — all the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain totally from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

**Fasting** — all the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may also be taken on two other occasions during the day.

**Almsgiving** — the bishops of the United States have recommended abstinence from meat as a penance for all Fridays of the year. Individuals may substitute for that tradition some other practice of self-denial. Acts of charity are an essential act for all Christians during the year, but most especially during Lent.

**Penance & Eucharist** — the faithful are encouraged to celebrate the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance frequently during the Lenten Season. Reconciliation Monday this year is on Monday, April 10. All of our Churches will be open from 3pm to 9pm offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

### 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)

### Gregorian Mass

Join us on Sunday, March 5, 2017, for our monthly Gregorian Mass at our parish Church of St. Nicholas at 12:45pm. Worship booklets will be available to help all participants.

8<sup>TH</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)*

Pope Francis has made the point that we must take our responsibility to the poor on a personal level and when we serve the poor we do so with kindness and empathy.

In the parable of the Last Judgment in Matthew 26, Jesus made it clear that we encounter the suffering Christ himself in our needy brothers and sisters. What we do or fail to do to them, we do or fail to do to Jesus.

*Lord, fill my heart with your compassion for the needy!*

Specific item needed this week: **Canned Meats**

Food Pantry Coordinator & Volunteers

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**St. Francis of Paola Church**

**Memorial Gifts – February 26, 2017**

**BREAD & WINE**

Kukura Family by Teresa Kukura

**SAINT JOSEPH CANDLES**

Nicola Presutti by Marie & Joe Bavuso

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**St. Theresa Guild**

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, March 9, 2017, at 7pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please note the earlier start time which will allow us to serve refreshments and have a brief business meeting immediately followed by the movie “**Risen**” (at approximately 7:30pm). No raffles will be sold this evening. New members are always welcome.

Please join in prayer following the 5pm Mass on Saturday, March 4, 2017, at St. Francis of Paola Church. We will assemble in the front left pews.

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**U.S. Citizenship Exam Preparation**

If you are interested in becoming a U.S. Citizen, please visit or call the Leonard Library at 81 Devoe Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211, phone# 718-486-3365 or 718-230-2406 for more information.

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

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**

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

**Monday, February 27, 2017**

7:45am Antonio & Maria Trocchio

by daughter Christina

**Tuesday, February 28, 2017**

7:45am Ann Vassallo by Ella Viola & Family

**Wednesday, March 1, 2017**

7:45am Michael & Netti Favuzza by Family

**Thursday, March 2, 2017**

7:45am Betty & Anthony Guidice by Family

**Friday, March 3, 2017**

7:45am Lillian LeDonne by Sister

**Saturday, March 4, 2017**

7:45am Rafalla DiMieri & Giano Babino

by Nicolina Babino

5:00pm For The People of Divine Mercy Parish

**Sunday, March 5, 2017**

8:00am Rocco Cimino

by Maria Cimino & Family

11:30am Charles Vecchione by daughter Diane

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**Married Couples Retreat**

Our parish will sponsor a retreat for married couples the last weekend of March 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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**Divine Mercy Parish Choir**

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

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Nicholas Church

#### Sunday, February 26, 2017

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

#### Sunday, March 5, 2017

10:30am Ramona Aridia Almonte  
Marcos Gabriel Perez  
12:45pm Antoinette Giuliano  
by Dennis Torre & Sonia Rivera

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### 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 Petruzzo, Louis Clappi, Patricia Clarke, Martha Pulgarin, Sister Helen Schmidt I.N.J., Ben Brancato, Marion & Florence De Gruccio, Wanda Zadwarny, Carmella Caiafa, Luann Rizzo

### Pray for Our Recently Deceased

Andy Gonzales, Angelina Cifaldi, Giovanna D'Onofrio, Mario Ascione, Eleanor Socci

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#### ARISE Together in Christ

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 for **Lent**:

- Wednesday Group meets 7:30 - 9:00pm
- Thursday Group meets 8:00 - 9:30pm
- Friday Group meets 7:00 - 8:30pm

Additional Spanish-speaking ARISE groups will also be available.

**ARISE** begins this week, but there's still time to sign-up! **So please sign-up today**:

- Complete the sign-up card in our parish bulletin and return it to the rectory  
OR
- Call one of our ARISE parish team coordinators:

Dennis Torre – for ARISE in English 718-644-8036

Amelia Castro – for ARISE in Spanish 347-787-4059

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

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### St. Cecilia Church

#### Sunday, February 26, 2017

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

#### Monday, February 27, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

#### Tuesday, February 28, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

#### Wednesday, March 1, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

#### Thursday, March 2, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

#### Friday, March 3, 2017 – FIRST FRIDAY

8:30am Purgatorial Society

#### Saturday, March 4, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

#### Sunday, March 5, 2017

9:30am Jo & Ed Collins  
Eamon & Ray McGinn  
Tom Sabatino  
Mary Florimonte  
Frank Florimonte Jr.  
The Rosary Society  
7:00pm Henry K. Kotlinski

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### 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.

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### Young Families – Play Dates

Tuesday & Thursday at St. Francis Auditorium - time 10am to 12pm and Wednesday at St. Cecilia's Auditorium - time 10am to 12pm. All children are welcome.

Any questions email: [youth@dmbk.org](mailto:youth@dmbk.org).

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## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

**END OF BULLETIN**  
**ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE**  
**WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **13**

FILENAME: **04-0284.53b**

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

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

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

**CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE**

**Comments:**

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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 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 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> 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](http://CampVeritas.com) via the "Camp-in-touch" portal before April 1, for the early bird rate. Any question contact Lauren at [youth@dmbk.org](mailto:youth@dmbk.org) or the Rectory at 718-387-0256.