

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

"Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." The prevailing theology of Jesus' time led people to believe that any kind of disability was a punishment from God. So Jesus' disciples assumed that the man born blind suffered that affliction because of someone's sin: either his parents' or his own. But Jesus sets the record straight. Not only did he reject the idea that the blindness was a punishment for sin; he also went so far as to suggest that this very trial was an opportunity for God's glory to be revealed.

And sure enough, it was. Jesus worked a miracle of healing for the man who followed his directions and "came back able to see." So it was that the "works of God" became "visible" through a man who was blind! But, ironically, not everyone had the eyes to see the miracle. The Gospel tells us that "there was a division among them" as they debated whether this remarkable healing was really an act of God.

Jesus stated that he came "so that those who do not see might see." And so, who are we? Are we blinded by our own expectations of how God is supposed to work? Are we so caught up in our own vision of what we wish would happen that we fail to appreciate what is actually unfolding before our very eyes? It is so easy to perceive trials, disabilities, sickness, and misfortune as a curse or the result of being abandoned by God. But today's Gospel suggests another reality. In the midst of these very difficulties, God wants to reveal himself, to show his love and mercy. It may not always be in the exact way we expect, but without a doubt, even in these challenging realms, God is always at work.

Sunday Collection

Sunday Collection for March 18/19, 2017: \$2,623.00.

Young Adult Events

On Monday, March 27th, Fr. Rafael will be speaking at Theology on Tap on the theme of "A Scandalous Spirituality". The venue will be at the Lot Radio Station, 17 Nassau Ave., (directly across the street from the San Damiano Mission). Talk starts at 7:30pm, doors open at 7pm.

On Friday, March 31st, Divine Mercy Parish will be having its Young Adult Holy Hour at the San Damiano Mission (21 Nassau Ave.) at 7pm. Fellowship to follow nearby. Please spread the word amongst those in their 20's - 40's.

4º DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

"Despierta, tú que duermes; levántate de entre los muertos y Cristo será tu luz" (Ef 5, 14). Buena llamada de atención nos hace Pablo en su Carta a los Efesios, para aquellos que todavía durante la Cuaresma han permanecido dormidos. Aún es tiempo, nos dice la lectura, para descubrir la luz que se avecina. Falta muy poco para llegar al Calvario y en este trozo del camino la luz de Dios es clave para ver quiénes y qué nos empuja fuera de la meta. Quizás estas preguntas sean útiles para la reflexión de este domingo ¿Qué se ha transformado en mi modo de ser en esta Cuaresma? ¿He sabido vencer las tentaciones de mi diario vivir?

El Evangelio de hoy es clave para entender aún más el misterio pascual. Porque como el ciego de nacimiento en nuestro bautismo fuimos lavados y llamados a ser nuevos. Transformados de hijos e hijas de la oscuridad en hijos e hijas de la luz. Por lo tanto, debemos de actuar de ese modo dando luz a los que nos rodean. Si nuestra fe ha aumentado aunque sea un poco en esta Cuaresma nuestro interior será inquebrantable, incondicional y fiel. Nuestro ejemplo: Jesús que vivió haciendo el bien, murió en la cruz por nosotros y resucitó para llevarnos a la eternidad. Este es el compromiso al que se nos invita hoy. Ser hombres y mujeres de luz, de esas personas que no se cansan de hacer el bien contra viento y marea. ¡Limpia mis ojos, Señor, para que te vea como el ciego y pueda exclamar de rodillas, "Creo, Señor"!

**Get Your Sombreros Out
and Get Ready to Fiesta Like
There's No Mañana!!**

The St. Theresa Guild Presents Cinco de Mayo
Saturday, May 6, 2017 – 6:15pm
St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

Featuring live performance by the Mariachi Tapatio de Alvaro Paulino of the New York City Mariachi Conservatory. Create Your Own Authentic Mexican Tacos, Rice, Beans, Guacamole, Dessert, Sangria, \$2.00 Frozen Margaritas, and More. All your favorite raffles including 50/50, gift certificates & more!

For tickets call: Rose DeMarino (718-389-4388) Marie Perrotto (718-389-1073) or email: Annette Marino (arm718@aol.com). Tickets \$35 per Person.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

A Message from Fr. Tom

Generations of Faith & Annual Catholic Appeal

This weekend we will begin to encourage your participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal for 2017. As you know, we had a special appeal last year—Generations of Faith—in place of the Annual Catholic Appeal for 2016. I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify the differences in these campaigns and answer any questions you might have about these appeals.

Generations of Faith is a special campaign—one that seems to come along in our diocese every 20 years or so. The aims of this campaign are three fold: (1) help parishes in financial need; (2) aid to retired priests; (3) foster youth ministry in the diocese. These are special needs that demanded attention and are being addressed in the ‘Generations’ campaign. The time frame for this campaign is five (5) years. And so, we can fulfill our pledges to this campaign over the next four years as this GOF campaign began officially in January of 2016.

The Annual Catholic Appeal is—as its title indicates—something that happens every year. This addresses the on-going needs of the diocese that require special support and funding every year; such as support for Catholic Charities, the Catholic Migration Office, Seminary Formation and our Catholic School and Academies.

What we have to balance at this moment is our need to continue to support both campaigns at the same time. For example, I made a pledge to Generations of Faith last year. This year I hope to contribute \$2,000.00 toward the pledge that I made in December of 2015. Last month I made my pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal for 2017. Already I fulfilled a substantial part of my \$1,430.00 pledge for this calendar year.

Only you know what you can afford, and so I ask you to be as generous as possible to both campaigns. If you were unable to contribute to the Generations of Faith Campaign last year—consider making a pledge to the ACA this year.

As in past years, it is my hope that everyone in the parish will contribute something to these campaigns—even a small amount can go a long way if everyone in our parish decides to give something. Look at all the work that has been done in our three parish churches in the last year. Do your best to participate. If you cannot participate, then please pray for the success of these campaigns. Thank you in advance for your response and please know that I hold you in my prayers every day. **Fr. Tom**

Ladies Movie Night

Sunday, April 2, at 5:30pm

in the St. Francis of Paola Rectory Basement, we'll be showing “Big Night” the story of two Italian immigrant brothers struggling to make it in the restaurant business in the 1950's. Before giving up, they will prepare a lavish meal for a “big night” where Louis Prima will come and hopefully generate buzz for the restaurant to survive. The movie for food lovers stars Stanley Tucci, Tony Shalhoub, Isabella Rossellini and Minnie Driver. Refreshments will be served and there will be a 50/50 raffle.

Divine Mercy Parish Holy Week Schedule

On **Holy Thursday, April 13, at 7:30pm**

we will celebrate our parish **Mass of the Lord's Supper** at St. Nicholas Church.

On **Good Friday, April 14 at 1:00pm**

We will conduct the Stations of the Cross throughout the streets of our parish, beginning at St. Nicholas Church to St. Francis of Paola Church and ending at St. Cecilia Church.

After the **Stations of the Cross, at 3:00pm**

we will have the **Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion** in English at St. Cecilia Church.

On **Good Friday, at 7:00pm**

The **Service of the Lord's Passion in Spanish** will be held at St. Nicholas Church.

On **Holy Saturday, April 15 at 8:00pm**

The **Easter Vigil Mass**

will be celebrated at St. Francis of Paola Church

Divine Mercy Parish Patronal Feast Celebration

On Sunday, April 23, 2017 there will be a special celebration following the Divine Mercy Mass at St. Nicholas Church at 3:00pm. A full catered hot luncheon will follow in the Vetro Center at St. Nicholas. Tickets are \$15.00 each and are available at the parish office. *Please purchase your tickets in advance as food arrangements have to be made. Deadline for tickets is April 17.*

Generations of Faith Up-date of 3/15/2017

<i>GOAL</i>	\$375,000.00
<i>Pledged</i>	\$400,471.00
<i>Paid to Date</i>	\$176,434.00

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**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)

Holy God, Heavenly Father, this Lent we pray for our brothers and sisters most in need, as we offer our sacrifices to help continue Your saving work in our community and around the world. Amen.

Specific items needed: **Hot beverages**
Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – March 26, 2017**

BREAD & WINE

Patsy & Margaret Rocco by Teresa Puccio & Family

Pray For the Sick

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill
Rae Pacifico, David Pelletier, Richard Schloop, Frank Cremato, Nicolet Latore, Maddox Moises, Louis Clappi, Patricia Clarke, Martha Pulgarin, Sister Helen Schmidt I.N.J., Ben Brancato, Marion & Florence De Gruccio, Wanda Zadwarny, Carmella Caiafa, Luann Rizzo, Margaret Cosentino, Rosa Ramos, Maureen Conlon, Patrick Del Vicario, Fred Schwally, Ralph Varano, Ed Scala, Al Pettenato

Pray for the Recently Deceased

Msgr. Fursey O'Toole, Rosemarie Pawlikowski, Stefano DeSena, Sister Rose Ellen McCann, C.S.J., Matthew Mancini, Ralph Panarese

Youth After School Program

The After School program meets in St. Francis Rectory Basement (219 Conselyea St.) from 3:00-6:00pm. All young people in grades 4-12 (ages 10-18) are welcome to participate!

New Kosciuszko Bridge Construction

Please join us to discuss upcoming utility work in your community **Tuesday, March 28, at 6:00pm** at the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union, 100 McGuinness Blvd. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to Christine Holowacz, Community Liaison at 347-988-4412 by Thursday March 23rd.

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

Saturday, March 25, 2017

5:00pm Deceased Members of the Annunciation Society

Sunday, March 26, 2017

8:00am Giuseppe, Raffaella, Salvatore
Tulumello by Son & Family
11:30am Rosa Fiore by Children

Monday, March 27, 2017

7:45am James Rubino
by Iginio & Giovanna Falce

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

7:45am Eleanor Socci by Carlotta & Gennaro

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

7:45am Anthony Giglio by daughter Carlotta

Thursday, March 30, 2017

7:45am Stella Nicodemo by Breakfast Club

Friday, March 31, 2017

7:45am Immaculate Conception by Marie Colas

Saturday, April 1, 2017

7:45am Saverio DeStefano by Wife & Children
5:00pm Mary & Lawrence Frasca by Family

Sunday, April 2, 2017

8:00am Terry, Dinny & Ruby Paul
by Paul Family
11:30am St. Francis of Paola

St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at 7:30pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please bring an "Easter" themed raffle gift. And please remember that all educational grant forms must be returned by the April meeting in order to be eligible for the drawing in May.

Please join in prayer following the 5pm Mass on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at St. Francis of Paola Church. We will assemble in the front left pews. New members are always welcome.

Divine Mercy Parish Choir

The Parish Choir will be meeting regularly in the St. Francis of Paola Choir Loft after the Sat. 5:00pm Mass.

MARCH 26, 2017

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, March 26, 2017

10:30am For The People of Divine Mercy Parish
12:45pm Louise Ciliotta
Giovanna Morelli

Sunday, April 2, 2017

10:30am Open Intention
12:45pm Bettina Giudice by her Children

Youth and Family Life

Summer opportunity:

Any interested family that could not attend the Camp Veritas meeting should contact Lauren to receive information. Additional details about this summer camp can be found at campveritas.org.

Save the Date! Friday March 31 - Sunday April 2.

“Fearless” a retreat by Youth 2000.

YOUTH 2000 NY is pleased to present, “Fearless,” an experience for students in grades 9-12. Join us at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Poughkeepsie, NY. Featuring talks, music by Jess Nayden, and Mass with a Bishop. For more information, visit www.youth2000ny.org or call 845.663.1689.

To register for this retreat please email youth@dmbk.org or call Lauren in the rectory. There is a \$45.00 registration fee. As always, please do not let financial stresses prevent you from attending. We can always work something out!

If you have any prayer intentions you would like me to offer up or questions about anything, please email Lauren at youth@dmbk.org.

St. Anthony News

Palm Crosses will be available for purchase after the Masses during the weekend of April 1st & 2nd at ALL Churches for personal use at the price of \$10.00 per cross. Crosses will also be available for purchase at the Parish Rectory through Wednesday, April 5th, 2017.

Life Line Screening Community HealthCare

Will be at St. Cecilia Auditorium/Gymnasium

24 North Henry Street Friday, May 5, 2017

5 Important Screenings: Carotid Artery (Plaque), Heart Rhythm (Atrial Fibrillation), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, Peripheral Arterial Disease, and Osteoporosis Risk Assessment. Call 1-888-653-6450 to register for screening. For more information see flyer in back of Church.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, March 26, 2017

9:30am Stephanie Frick
Lisa Gandino
Raffloer Family
Junior Nieves
Rosann Grieme
Thomas Petrowski
Peggy Dawson
7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, March 27, 2017

8:30am Msgr. Patrick “Furse” O’Toole

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

8:30am Carolyn Sekac Sices by Laune Farrell

Thursday, March 30, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Friday, March 31, 2017

8:30am Mary Cappiello

Saturday, April 1, 2017

8:30am Open Intention

Sunday, April 2, 2017

9:30am Rosary Society
Rosann Grieme
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

St. Cecilia Church

Memorial Gifts – March 26, 2017

Bread & Wine

Tom Sabatino by Marianne & Garcia Family

Praying the Rosary

On April 2, the First Sunday of the month, the Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before the Sunday morning 9:30am Mass at our Parish Church of St. Cecilia.

The Rosary Society of DMP Presents

Spaghetti Dinner & Penny Social

May 13, 2017 St. Cecilia’s Auditorium

Time 6:00pm Tickets \$20.00

Dinner, 50/50, Prizes, Raffles

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ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
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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:

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.