

31st Sunday In Ordinary Time

"You are not far from the kingdom of God." What does it mean to be close to God's kingdom? In today's Gospel, Jesus is in a dialogue with teachers of the law. They know well the Law of Moses, with its complex codes, expectations, and punishments. What will Jesus say?

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength ... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus effortlessly distills all the books of law into two commands. The simplicity of the Gospel message doesn't mean it's easy to follow. Far from it! The simplicity of the Gospel indicates its totality. Anything that requires the passions of our heart, the choice of our soul, the reason in our mind, or the strength of our body - all of this ought to be animated by love. As you can imagine, that means pretty much everything! The love of God and love of neighbor is meant to flow into our entire lives.

The Gospel can appear complicated because life is complicated. Not every outcast is easy to love. We lack the knowledge or compassion to heal everyone who suffers. Personal sacrifice is not always noticed or valued. In the face of the unknown, fear can be easier than faith. Life's circumstances can seem like obstacles to God's love, not opportunities. And yet Jesus' command still stands. As you reflect this week, examine those areas where it's easy to love. Thank God for them! But take some time to consider the people and circumstances that challenge you. Ask God to show you what it means to love there. How is He inviting you to enlarge your heart, strengthen your soul, open your mind, and persevere in your strength? How is He inviting you to love?

Sunday Collection

Sunday Collection for weekend of October 22/28, 2018 was \$3,120.00.

Town Hall Meeting

There will be a Town Hall Meeting for all Parishioners of Divine Mercy Parish, Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 1 pm in St. Francis Auditorium. Our accountant will be available to answer questions. All questions including pastoral and financial must be submitted in advance.

31er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Imagina la escena del Evangelio de este domingo. El maestro de la ley estaba observando atentamente las enseñanzas de Jesús. Escuchaba cómo Jesús daba respuestas acertadas y esto le causa admiración y se atreve a preguntar: ¿Qué mandamiento es el primero de todos? La respuesta dada abarca no solo una respuesta sino dos: amar a Dios y al vecino. "Escucha, Israel: El Señor nuestro dios es el único Señor. Amarás al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma, con toda tu inteligencia y con todas tus fuerzas." Luego, añade lo siguiente. "Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo" (Marcos 12:29-31). Ya desde los tiempos de Moisés, el pueblo de Israel vivía en comunidad, cuidándose uno al otro.

Jesús enfoca dos cosas importantes, tanto en su tiempo como ahora. Amar a Dios primero y al vecino como a uno mismo. ¡Qué difícil es esto! Dios ante todo lo que tengo y soy. ¿Cómo despojarme de lo que está lleno mi corazón? Nuestro 'vecino' no es solo la persona que vive a su lado. Dar la excusa que uno no conoce a su 'vecino' es inaceptable. Prójimo, quiere decir próximo. Su prójimo es su esposo/a, sus hijos, su comunidad. Definitivamente, la enseñanza de la Palabra de Dios no es un juego de niños. Es un proceso de crecimiento en el amor para toda la vida. Gastarse en darse, eso es amor. El Papa Francisco, nos ayuda en comprender esto: "He aquí el camino del Señor: adorar a Dios, amar a Dios por encima de todo, y amar al prójimo. Es muy sencillo, pero muy difícil. Se puede hacer sólo con la gracia. Pidamos la gracia" (Homilía 15 de octubre de 2013).

Readings for the Week of November 4, 2018

Sunday:	Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
Monday:	Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday:	Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32 [26a]/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday:	Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday:	Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [3b]/Lk 15:1-10
Friday:	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [5]/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
Saturday:	Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/Lk 16:9-15

Celebration of 100th Anniversary of St. Francis of Paola

With great joy and gratitude we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the community of St. Francis of Paola in Williamsburg. Very often, I feel as if I am the father of a family with three daughters. Each one is loved and esteemed for the unique gifts they contribute to the life of the family. St. Francis is—if you will—the youngest daughter in the Divine Mercy family. St. Francis of Paola was founded as an Italian National Parish 100 years ago to serve as a place of welcome for the many recent Italian immigrants who needed a place of worship where their culture, customs, devotional life and language could be offered. If I had to name one characteristic of this community which stands out, it would be the reaction of many people who feel so welcome and at home when they enter this church. People feel St. Francis of Paola is their home. Earlier this year we decided to keep this church open during the morning and afternoon hours Monday through Friday. What a joy it is for me to come into the church during these hours and see mothers with infants in baby carriages or young people whom I have never seen before—sitting quietly and praying to God for their needs, for their loved ones and for the needs of our troubled world. By our commitment and faith in God and Jesus Christ his Son, may we always keep St. Francis of Paola in Divine Mercy Parish active and alive as a place where the saving mysteries of the Christian faith are proclaimed with fidelity and spoken of openly.

Tanti Auguri

Fr. Tom

A Message from Fr. Tom

This Sunday, the Letter to the Hebrews develops the doctrine of the priesthood of Jesus Christ. The origins of this priesthood are in Christ's eternal divinity. Therefore it is of eternal value, and transcends any priesthood of men. Jesus exercises an eternal mediation that opens up the possibility of access to God the Father. Yet, Jesus allows fragile earthen vessels to share in this ministry. "What sins *you* forgive are forgiven them." This theme is so important for us today, because we can see so clearly that the Catholic priesthood is in crisis at this time. What can we do? Pray!!! Seek with greater urgency a life of personal sanctity and integrity!!! Jesus is here to help. Take advantage of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance and know that our churches are now open more often for times for you to turn to Jesus and ask the

master for the help and graces you need to make it through the week.

St. Cecilia Chapel: Open 7:00am to 3:00pm
Monday—Friday

St. Cecilia Chapel: Open 9:00pm to 10:00pm
Monday—Thursday

St. Francis of Paola Church: Open 7:00am to 3:30pm
Monday—Friday

Fr. Tom

St. Michael the Archangel Prayer

On October 13th, 1884—exactly 33 years to the day prior to the final apparition of Fatima—Pope Leo XIII after celebrating private morning Mass turned pale and collapsed as if he was dead. His assistants were able to revive him. It was no illness. Pope Leo XIII had a vision. In this vision he clearly heard the voice speaking as Satan approaching the throne of God boasting, debating with Jesus that he could destroy the Catholic Church. The Lord affirmed that the church was imperishable, and asked him what he needed to accomplish this goal. Satan said grant him 100 years of power over those who give themselves to him—the Catholic priesthood. Jesus granted him this. When Pope Leo was brought back to consciousness, he went into his study and created the exorcism prayer to St. Michael the Archangel. This vision speaks of an attack coming from within and outside of the church in the 20th Century. The Pope required that this prayer would be said at every Mass. We need extra prayers and protection at this time. St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle.

Major Restoration Work in Divine Mercy Parish

As was announced by me earlier this year, Divine Mercy Parish has been granted a 3 million dollar loan to address some urgently needed deferred maintenance.

St. Nicholas—Stained Glass Repair & Façade Pointing
St. Francis—Stained Glass Repair & Ceiling and Grotto Restoration

St. Cecilia—Stained Glass Repair & Boiler Replacement

I am happy to report this work is now underway at St. Cecilia's. We can see the beautiful work Botti Studios has done resealing and painting the frames of the windows in the Cloister Walk on Herbert Street. This work will be done on ALL stained glass windows in St. Cecilia and St. Nicholas churches—quite an undertaking.

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**GIFTS OF LOVE EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY
AT DIVINE MERCY PARISH
ALL ARE WELCOME**

“You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”

Corinthians 9:11-12

Specific items needed this week **Dessert Items**
Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

St. Francis of Paola Church

Memorial Gifts – November 4, 2018

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Thank you Jesus Christ, Virgin Mary, St. Jude, Saint Anthony for Mom’s health and solving my problems requested by Rose Marie Vargas

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Mass Book 2019 / January to June only

The 2019 Mass book will open on Wednesday,
November 7, 2018 for Masses for

January through June

In order to give everyone an opportunity to book Masses, for the first week that the Mass Book is open, requests must be made in person at the Rectory, and each person is limited to 2 weekend masses and 3 weekday masses.

Mail in requests and phone in requests, are also limited to 2 weekend Masses and 3 weekday Masses, and will be entered into the Mass book after November 8th.

The stipend for Masses is:

\$20.00 for weekend Masses

\$15.00 for weekday Masses.

The 9:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Cecilia, the 10:30 am Sunday Mass at St. Nicholas and the last Sunday of the month at the 11:30 am Mass at St Francis will all be collective Masses.

Organizations and Societies are asked to contact the Rectory to request their Masses before the Mass book is opened to the parishioners of Divine Mercy Parish.

Parish Office Closed

The Rectory will be closed on Monday, November 12, 2018 in observance of Veterans Day.

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

Saturday, November 3, 2018

5:00PM Anthony & Jennie Torre by Torre Family

Sunday, November 4, 2018

8:00am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish
11:30am San Sabino Deceased Members
12:45pm 100th Anniversary Mass St. Francis of Paola

Monday, November 5, 2018

7:45am Paul & Mary Guidice by Barbara Guidice

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

7:45am Michael Pasquarillo by sister Ada

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

7:45am Alfred Ihne by daughter Diana Altadonna

Thursday, November 8, 2018

7:45am Pacifico Family by Children

Friday, November 9, 2018

7:45am Anthony Del Sole by Theresa Favuzza

Saturday, November 10, 2018

7:45am Vito Gallo by Wife & Daughter
5:00pm Deceased Members of the Don Bosco Columbiettes

Sunday, November 11, 2018

8:00am For the Recovery of Agnes He by Joseph Sun
11:30am Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Snow Society

St. Theresa Meeting

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, November 8, 2018, at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please bring a “Thanksgiving” themed raffle gift. New members are always welcome.

Parish Council

Inserted in his week’s bulletin are the Parish Council Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2018.

NOVEMBER 4, 2018

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, November 4, 2018

10:30am Marie Baruso Mechaluk by Dennis Torre and Sonia Rivera

Wednesday, 7, 2018

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, November 11, 2018

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick: Maryann Pecora, Wanda Zadworny, Nancy Gonzalez, Vincent Gonzalez, Jackie Elsasser, Christopher Floria, Paula Scala, John Colasanti, Lucy Corbisiero, Eliot Roldan, Rae Pacifico, Dolores Mulcahey, Jamie Castro, Cathy Leonick, Susan Gernert, Theresa Scala, Eleanor Heck, John Porcelli

Pray For the Recently Deceased: Barbara Sieburt, Anthony Biondo, Fred DeLuca, Robert Schmitt

Transfiguration Men's Shelter

We are once again asking for volunteers to provide a hot meal for the men of the Transfiguration men's shelter, our Parish will be serving the week of

November 11th to November 17th, 2018
December 9th to December 15th, 2018

For more information or if you are interested in providing food or helping with serving please contact Angela Scotti at 718-782-3881 or the Parish Office at 718-387-0256.

Faith "Tune Up" With Fr. Tom

Monday November 5, 2018

Do you want to brush up on the basics of your Catholic faith? Join Father Tom on the first Monday of each month, 7:30-8:30 pm in St. Francis Rectory basement to learn or re-learn about what we believe as Catholics

Seven Days of Prayer

Bishop DiMarzio and bishops nationwide are joining in seven days of prayer and fasting prior to their general assembly in November, where they will make critical decisions regarding the tragedy of clergy abuse. A letter with more information from Bishop DiMarzio is available on the parish website and in this bulletin.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, November 4, 2018

9:30am Flo & Rick Delaney
Rosary Society
Jo & Ed Collins
Eamon & Ray McGinn
Trinity James
Marion Priboy
7:00pm No Mass this Day

Monday, November 5, 2018

8:30am Gianpiero Bartolotta Birthday in Heaven
By Mom and Family

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

8:30am Theresa Viscardi

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

8:30am Fred De Luca

Thursday, November 8, 2018

8:30am Alejo Burgos

Friday, November 9, 2018

8:30am Purgatorial Intentions

Saturday, November 10, 2018

8:30am Rosario Reyes

Sunday, November 11, 2018

9:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish
7:00pm Paul J. Capobianco, Sr.

NOTICE: LACK OF HEAT IN ST. CECILIA'S—over the next few weeks the Church of St. Cecilia will be without heat. We are sorry for this inconvenience. The resolution of many code violations took longer than expected. We will keep you informed when the more precise dates of the outages is known. Bring an extra sweater to Mass. **REMEMBER**—you are part of a community with three churches. You have the option of worshipping in not one but TWO church which do have heat and are a short walk away. If you are sensitive to the cold, please consider attending Mass at St. Francis or St. Nicholas. **Fr. Tom**

Rosary Society News

The next meeting of the Rosary Society is Nov. 7th, at 7:00 pm in the St. Cecilia's Auditorium. **Tickets** are on sale for the Rosary Society's Christmas Extravaganza, date Dec. 1st, 6:30 pm St. Cecilia's Auditorium, \$25.00.

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EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

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Comments:

RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94th Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

Andrea.Haro@nypd.org

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm