

7th Sunday In Ordinary Time

This Sunday, Jesus continues his challenging Sermon on the Mount. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you ? Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back." Words like these are challenging! Many of us have grown up in a culture of independence and retaliation against those who harm us. Today's Gospel reminds us that the way of the world is not necessarily the way of the disciple.

In many spiritual texts, saints describe the first stage of the spiritual life as mercenary love of God. That is, we love Him because he "pays" us with graces and good things. Consider for a moment, why do you do the good that you do? Take volunteering, for example. How often do we talk about the good feelings service evokes and how you "get so much more than you give." This is still based on an attitude of return on our investment. Would we volunteer if we knew it was good to do, but we didn't "feel" good afterward? What if the people we helped seemed ungrateful, or if someone at the food pantry stole \$20 out of our purse? It can be difficult to love people when we think we might not get anything back. "For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?"

As Christians, we are called to imitate God. We follow a God who loves not only His closest friends, but who loves betrayers, deniers, and crucifiers. The Christian walk is one of perseverance and sacrifice. What does your love look like

Sunday Collection

Sunday's Collection for February 9/10, 2019 was \$2,943.00 and February 16/17, 2019 was \$2,979.00.

St. Cecilia's Rosary Society At Divine Mercy Parish

Chinese Festival

Saturday, March 2nd, 2019 at 6:00 pm

St. Cecilia's Auditorium, 24 N. Henry St.

Dinner, Dessert, Raffles, Door Prizes, 50/50

Cost \$25.00

Call the Parish Office for tickets or see a member of the Rosary Society.

7º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Las lecturas del domingo pasado nos hablaban de las Bienaventuranzas como una forma de vida. Ahora, la Liturgia nos pone en la difícil situación de amar a nuestros enemigos. Situación que compromete y responsabiliza ha ambas partes, el que persigue y el que perdona. En la primera lectura se puede escuchar claramente con el comportamiento de David hacia el Rey Saúl de cómo se ama al enemigo. En el Evangelio no se debe de perder de vista el fin de la enseñanza del Señor Jesús, "¿amen a sus enemigos, hagan el bien a los que los odian, bendigan a los que los maldicen, rueguen por los que los maltratan. Al que te golpea en una mejilla, preséntale también la otra. Al que te arrebató el manto, entrégale también el vestido. Da al que te pide, y al que te quita lo tuyo, no se lo reclames." (Lucas 6:27-30)

Lo que sigue del Evangelio es una perfecta catequesis de la misericordia y compasión de Dios hacia todo el que escucha su Palabra y la pone en práctica. La vida de todo bautizado debe estar colmada de esa gran bondad que Jesús mostraba a su pueblo en su tiempo y ahora en este tiempo. Compromiso de amor que implica no juzgar a la ligera a los que nos rodean; de perdonar a los que nos hacen mal en un proceso de vida. Para lograr ese proceso les invito a reflexionar en las siguientes preguntas: ¿Quiénes son hoy en día los enemigos de la familia y la sociedad? ¿Quiénes persiguen a los jóvenes en su lucha para cumplir sus sueños? ¿Quiénes promueven la justicia y la paz en la familia y la sociedad? La respuesta te implica a ti.

Readings for the week of February 24, 2019

Sunday:	1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mk 9:14-15
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [cf. 5]/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175 [165a]/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35 [35a]/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 17]/Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

A Message from Fr. Tom

From time to time we all have encountered people who have left the church because of a divorce, after an abortion or being same sex attracted. Perhaps they are members of our own family. It hurts. They tell us they are alienated from the church because of the moral stands the church takes on these issues and the fact that they feel unfairly judged by the church. Jesus speaks to us today about the love of enemies, and the necessity to be merciful and to stop judging and condemning. How do we make sense of all of this in the light of the strong moral stands the Catholic Church rightly takes on these ‘hot button’ issues? We have to make some important distinctions when we confront these issues. First, remember that Jesus is very lenient on liturgical laws and social or cultural constructs—traditions made by men. But, he is VERY critical of the hypocrisy and immorality of religious leaders and issues pertaining to personal morality. Jesus is not only firm on moral issues—but he pushes them farther even than the Mosaic Law. Examples such as divorce and remarriage or his judgement on the interior dispositions of the human heart—we commit adultery in our hearts even if we do not act upon this desire. Consider Jesus in house of Simon the Pharisee. Simon is a friend of Jesus and he invites Jesus into his home. And yet Jesus must call out Simon for his lack of charity and justice when a notorious sinner sincerely receives Jesus with great gratitude—the one who has been forgiven much—loves much—a disposition not shared by Simon. Or, the woman caught in the act of adultery is another fine example. Jesus does not condemn her. First and foremost, he calls out the lack of charity and justice in the hearts of the men who seek to kill her. But, he *also* tells her to sin no more. In my view, judgement is always in a reciprocal relationship to God’s mercy and our willingness to recognize our need for it and ask for it. Judgement is always a prelude to relationship—on any level—both human and divine. If we sincerely want a friendship with Jesus—we have to be willing to submit our lives to his gaze of love—and yes—also his judgement. Judgement becomes especially toxic in the religious context when we use the moral law as a tool to advance our own agendas. We are called to love our neighbors as ourselves. We are to desire their highest good which is to be in good relation with our God. This is a complex issue. If you—or someone you know is struggling with their alienation from the church over some of the issues expressed here—please put them in touch with one of the priests of our parish. We are happy to speak with them and guide them along the path of God’s mercy.

Pro-Life Help

Catholics and all people of good are still reeling from the extraordinary, scandalous anti-life laws passed by the governor of our state last month. We must, however, recognize the great good that is being done by so many people. Please consider supporting some of these organizations that give women real, material support as an alternative to an abortion:

1. Sisters of Life, 38 Montebello Road, Suffern, NY 10901 T. (845) 357-3547
2. Life Center of New York, 6802 Fifth Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11220, T. (718) 748-4992
3. Pregnancy Help, 229 West 14th Street, New York, NY 10011, T. (212) 243-0970
4. The Bridge to Life, 147-32 Sanford Avenue, Flushing, NY 11355, T. (718) 463-1810
5. Good Counsel Homes, 411 Clinton Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030, T. (201) 795-0637

Transfiguration Men’s Shelter February 24 to March 2, 2019

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 weeks of Feb. 24 to March 2, 2019. We are required to provide a complete meal including beverage and dessert. Whether you decide to do it personally, as a family or with a group or organization, please know that your generosity and kindness is appreciated! Anyone who is interested in providing food or helping with serving please contact Angela Scotti at 718-782-3881, or the Parish Office at 718-387-0256.

2019 – Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019

7:45am	Mass at St. Francis
8:30am	Mass at St. Cecilia (Main Church)
11:00am	Mass at St. Nicholas with QRCA
1:30pm	Service w/Ashes at Jennings Hall
3:00pm	Service w/Ashes at St. Cecilia
7:00pm	Mass w/Ashes St. Francis of Paola
7:00pm	Mass w/Ashes at St. Nicholas (Spanish)

Stations of the Cross Every Week Starting – March 7, 2019

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

7TH 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)

Please be assured that our needy neighbors appreciate the love that comes from the food that they receive through your support of our pantry. May God's love and blessings rest upon you always

Items needed this week: **Spaghetti**
Food Pantry Coordinators and volunteers

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – February 24, 2019**

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Lydia Martinez by Rocco D;Andrea

New Kawai / Baby Grand Piano

Recently, a new Kawai baby grand piano has been put on the market at half price. It is in the interest of the music ministry to purchase this piano. The cost is 18 thousand dollars.

Already, Fr Tom has received slightly more than half that amount from a donor who will remain anonymous. The piano would make an excellent addition to our parish, and expand the quality and types of concerts we can offer, these concerts and recent exhibitions in our gallery space have been extremely well received and can play a vital role in reintroducing the Christian faith to the secular community that surrounds us.

We understand that Christ is the origin and endpoint of all beauty, and encountering something truly beautiful is the beginning of an encounter with Him.

We are asking for donations towards the purchase of this piano. Please speak with our music director Justin Fields.

**Join the St. Anthony Society
For “Carnevale Dinner”
Fat Tuesday**

March 5, 2019 - 6 to 9 PM

In the St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

Tickets are \$30.00 and are available in the Rectory. Limited number of tickets available. This event will sell out again. **DON'T WAIT.** For more information please contact: Joseph Scotti (718-782-3881).

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

Saturday, February 23, 2019

5:00pm for the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Sunday, February 24, 2019

8:00am Aniello De Sarno by Gelsomina Acierno

11:30am Dominic Ciorciari by Scotti Family

Monday, February 25, 2019

7:45am Aniello De sarno

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

7:45am Frank Lacorte by Scotti Family

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

7:45am Antonio & Maria Trocchia by daughter
Christina

Thursday, February 28, 2019

7:45am Domenica Del Priore by Mr. & Mrs.
Cono Mazza & Family

Friday, March 1, 2019

7:45am Linda Anacrelico by Santaromita Family

Saturday, March 2, 2019

7:45am Curzio Raffalla by Morena Raffalla

5:00pm Priscilla (Pat) Lorenzo, by Lorenzo
Family

Sunday, March 3, 2019

8:00am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

11:30am Rocco Cimino by Wife & Children

Catholic Migration Service

A representative from Catholic Migration Services, a legal organization affiliated with the Diocese of Brooklyn, will be at St. Nicholas Parish on March 3 after the 10:30 Mass to give information about the services that they provide. If you have a question or problem with an immigration matter, with your wages at your job or you want to know more about the services that this office provides to immigrants in Brooklyn and how you can make an appointment with an immigration lawyer or counselor, come to the basement of the church after Mass.

UPDATE

Scaffolding will be going up at St. Francis for ceiling replacement, in the Church. Please bear with us as sections of the Church will be corded off.

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, February 24, 2019

10:30am Rosa Sanchez (1st Anniversary) by
Ramon Sanchez
Paulino Vidal by Guadalupe Vidal

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, March 3, 2019

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick: Umberto Caleotafiore, Frank Morena, Clara Chang, Joe Bavuso, Anthony Porcelli, Wanda Sadwarny, Carmine Giglio, Cathy Chang, Eleanor Heck, Angela Mauceri, Janet Gonzalez, Rae Pacifico

Pray For the Recently Deceased: Rachel Episopo, Marie Bavuso, John Porcelli, Theresa Ronzo, John Pelletier, Diane Sadowski, Bud Madden, Giovanni Guadagno, Aida Luz Lopez

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students from our parish have merited recognition for commendable academic performance during the second quarter of the current school year at St. Francis Preparatory School.

Amy Paredesgonzales
Khloe Romero

Servicios Católicos de Migración,

Una representante de los Servicios Católicos de Migración, una organización legal afiliada con el Diócesis de Brooklyn, estará presente en la parroquia de San Nicolás el 3 de marzo después de las misa a las 10:30 para dar información sobre los servicios que provee. Si Usted tiene una pregunta o duda acerca de un asunto de inmigración, de un problema que tiene con sus sueldos en su trabajo o quiere saber más sobre los servicios que esta oficina provee a los inmigrantes de Brooklyn y como puede hacer una cita con un abogado o consejera de inmigración, venga al sótano de la iglesia después de la misa.

Bible Study: All are invited to join us for Bible Study, every Wednesday evening at 7 to 8 pm in St. Francis Rectory Dining Room.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, February 24, 2019

9:30am Kathleen Sullivan
7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, February 25, 2019

8:30am McCauley Family

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

8:30am Open Intention

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

8:30am Faye Allocca

Thursday, February 28, 2019

8:30am Susan Gernert

Friday, March 1, 2019 - FIRST FRIDAY

8:30am Purgatorial Society

Saturday, March 2, 2019

8:30am Arthur Knapp, Sr.

Sunday, March 3, 2019

9:30am Rosary Society
Ed & Jo Collins
Eamon & Ray McGinn
Thomas Petrowski
Dan Deppa
Mary, Frank & Frank Jr. Florimonti
7:00pm Open Intention

St. Nicks Alliance Affordable Housing

Applications are now being accepted for affordable housing at OTTO Greenpoint, located at 211 McGuinness Blvd., Bklyn., N. Y. 11222, Address to obtain paper applications: Otto Greenpoint, 260 Powers St., Bklyn, N.Y. 11211. Completed paper applications must be sent to the Post Office Box address indicated on the application, postmarked by the application deadline date. Online applications: www.nyc.gov/housingconnect must be submitted by March 6, 2019.

Nocturnal Adoration

Join us for Nocturnal Adoration, Saturday, March 2, 2019, in St. Cecilia's Chapel, 84 Herbert Street, at 8:00 pm.

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CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

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

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE

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

CTKK Summer Camp

CK Kids is proud to announce their partnership with Queen of the Rosary to offer a convenient summer camp opportunity! Christ the King has over 25 years of summer camp experience and is now offering transportation from the Queen of the Rosary campus.

July 5th August 12th, for Boys and Girls, ages 5 to 14. \$300 per week. Transportation to and from Queen of the Rosary and lunch are included.

For more information: WWW.CTKNT.ORG, or 718-366-7454 68-02 Metropolitan Ave., Middle Village NY., 11379