

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where would you go if the world was ending? What would you do? The last decade has seen a rise in doomsday prepping, the marketing of survival techniques, and a sea of products designed for you to weather the apocalypse. “The days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another that will not be thrown down,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel. On the one hand, he is referring to the literal downfall of the city of Jerusalem. Indeed, many of his prophecies here have come true over the last few millennium. Nations have indeed “rise[n] against nation[s],” kingdoms against kingdoms. Surf any world news website today alone, and you will see stories of “powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues.” Jesus’ advice to his disciples, however, isn’t to build a bunker. It’s to persevere in faith ... which won’t be easy.

“They will seize and persecute you ... you will be handed over ... you will be hated because of my name.” This warning, too, has come to pass in the Church throughout history in state-sponsored persecutions and martyrdoms. Jesus is the Messiah, but his first coming was not a coming of earthly victory. Any disciple of his can expect a challenge. The coming of Christ didn’t disrupt our free will. Evil still exists and sometimes even appears to triumph. This does not mean God has abandoned His people!

Jesus reminds the disciples — and us — of his constant presence. “I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking.” In other Gospel passages, Jesus promises and sends the Holy Spirit upon his followers. The presence of God is real in our lives, no matter what trials come our way. It’s tempting to be distracted or dismayed by natural destruction and moral evil in the world. But the Church has weathered greater storms. The sacredness of the human person endures. We can have hope! This day and every day, we can persevere in hope and trust in God.

Sun. Collection: Nov. 9/10, 2019 was \$3,005.00.

Coat Drive at St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia Church is participating in Broadway Stage’s coat drive to benefit families living in Brooklyn homeless shelters. Kindly donate new or lightly used coats for children and adults by November 24th and place the item in the collection bin located in front of the church. This is a perfect way to start the holiday season and to help our needy neighbors!

33er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Dios nunca nos abandonará si no lo abandonamos a las primeras de cambio. Las lecturas de la liturgia de hoy hablan sobre el final de los tiempos. La advertencia es no asustarse, sino prepararse para dar testimonio de fe y permanecer con el Señor pase lo que pase. En el tiempo de Jesús, así como en el nuestro, existió la división entre países, destrucción de ciudades enteras por la guerra, conflictos de inmigración y alegatos de poder de muchos de los gobernantes del mundo. “No se asusten si oyen hablar de guerras y disturbios, porque esas cosas tienen que ocurrir primero, pero el fin no llegará tan de inmediato.” (Lucas 21:9). Y en otro momento, les dice Jesús: “Los harán comparecer ante reyes y gobernadores por causa de mi nombre, y esa será para ustedes la oportunidad de dar testimonio de mi.” (Lucas 21:12-13).

¡Dar testimonio! Es lo más fácil de decir y lo más difícil de cumplir. Una vida de sacrificio nadie la quiere; todos buscan lo fácil lo agradable. Sin embargo, San Pablo nos advierte que hay que trabajar para ganarse el sustento. Entonces, ¿Qué debemos hacer? Pues, confiar y ponerse en manos de Dios en el esfuerzo de cada día. “Vive por horas sin pensar en lo que seguirá: llena la hora presente como si fuera la última para ti; con el sólo fin de agradarme”. (Diálogos de Jesús con Concepción Cabrera de Armida). ¿Cuál será tu compromiso de esfuerzo para el trabajo? Todo lo que se escoja será a base de esfuerzo; la fidelidad al Evangelio siempre dirige al cambio y a una vida llena de Dios. ¡El mundo necesita gente buena como tú!

Readings for the week of November 17, 2019

Sunday:	Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 [cf. 9]/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19
Monday:	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps. 119:53, 61, 134, 155, 158 [cf. 88]/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [6b]/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday:	1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [23b]/Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chrn 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd [13b]/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19 [cf. 16a]/Lk 20:27-40

A Message from Fr. Tom/Progress on Our Renovation Projects

Two weeks ago our 3 million dollar deferred maintenance project made some significant progress:

St. Cecilia Most of the work maintaining the frames and stained glass windows has been completed. While much work remains to be done, we have accomplished our objective of saving the windows and preserving an important part of our parish patrimony for future generations!

St. Francis We have installed the last of the reconstructed stained glass that was removed back in 1973 to add air conditioners. Along with the ceiling coffers and new fans, the church has a restored appearance that is in keeping with the 1941 design. Hopefully, we will tackle the grotto in 2020.

St. Nicholas As you can see, we continue to work on a number of fronts. The same work undertaken on the stained glass in St. Cecilia has now been started at St. Nicholas. We are nearing the completion of repointing the façade and will also replace the roof shortly. The new doors for all three of the main entrances have been fabricated, and we will wait for installation after completion of the façade work. No need to put these beautiful doors at risk of damage. I hope to open the right side entrance of SNC as a small day chapel in 2020. Stay tuned!!

Thank you for your generosity and please participate in our Generations of Faith and Annual Catholic Campaign Appeal if you have not already done so. Every little bit helps!! **Fr. Tom**

Parish Town Hall Meeting/Sunday, November 24th at 1:30 pm in St. Francis Auditorium

Please mark in your calendar this important meeting regarding the parish. It is essential that we receive your feedback. We hope to publish that weekend the summary of the parish finances as well.

No Feminine Products in our Parish Toilets

This past week we were hit with another bill—\$380.00—to unclog a toilet jammed with used feminine products. All of our bathrooms have receptacles specifically for this purpose. Please do not discard these items in our toilets. It seems every six months or so, we have this problem. It is messy and expensive and so unnecessary if only we could receive some common courtesy. Thank you!

Traditional Mass and Facing East

One of the most notable liturgical gestures which characterizes the traditional Latin mass is the physical orientation of the priest at prayer. Sometimes you may hear this being described as the priest “having his back to the people”. While that is an accurate observation from merely a factual point of view, the phrase which more fully describes this is “*ad orientem*”, which is Latin for “toward the East”. East is the direction of the rising sun, a symbol of the resurrection of our Lord. East is also the direction, according to scripture, from which the Lord will return at his Second Coming. When he does return, Jesus will initiate a new and “heavenly Jerusalem”; the city of the redeemed, in which the faithful will receive their resurrected bodies and dwell with each other and with their God for all eternity. All of time is marching toward the dawn of this new phase of existence.

As Catholics, east is more than just a cardinal direction. Facing East reorients us toward the heavenly Jerusalem which represents our spiritual destiny and hope as disciples. An analogy might help here. In war, a general properly marches forward and at the head of his troops, so that he can lead them into battle and hopefully on to victory. A priest is also like a general of an army, standing as leader and mediator of his people, but also engaged in that same spiritual battle and heading in the same direction with them toward the ultimate victory of salvation.

When the priest turns toward the altar and tabernacle during the mass, he is actually turning towards the Lord with us; we are all facing the Lord together. The priest is not “turning his back on the people,” as if they are not good enough to participate in what only he is able to do. In this way, we are invited to be united to the priest in a way that goes beyond merely seeing with the eyes. Moreover, this orientation takes the focus off the personality of the individual priest and places it firmly on Christ the High Priest, in whose very person the priest acts at every mass. The common orientation of priest and people during the mass symbolizes the Church’s conviction that the mass is an act of worship offered to the Thrice-Holy God, in which we the baptized are privileged to participate. Yes, the mass builds the Christian community and its solidarity, but that is one of its effects, not its primary purpose. Priest and people praying together “towards the Lord” can thus be a helpful antidote to the temptation to think of the mass as a ritual of communal self-affirmation, which can affect any one of us at times living amidst the “culture of me”.

**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)

We are very grateful that many of our generous parishioners demonstrate their willingness to share their time, talent and treasure with our needy neighbors.

Specific items needed this week **canned sweet potatoes, gravy, stuffing mix**
Food Pantry Coordinator and Volunteers

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – November 17, 2019**

BREAD & WINE

Annette & Vincent Puccio by Teresa Puccio & Family

ST. JOSEPH CANDLES

Saints, Angels, Sacred Heart, Virgen Maria De Carmen by Gertrudis Vidot Ginares

Saints, Angels, Sacred Heart, Virgen Maria De Carmen by Gertrudis Vidot Ginares

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Thank You Jesus Christ for healing my Mother and Virgin Mary for answering my prayer by Rosamaria Suarez Vargas

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**Celebrate Thanksgiving by Helping
Someone in Need**

On the morning of Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th, Divine Mercy Parish will make home visits to distribute meals to feed our homebound and also offer meals and winter clothing to the homeless of our neighborhood. If you are interested in helping, please call the rectory office (718-387-0256).

Religious Education Program

Sun., Nov. 24th Regular Classes
Sun., Dec. 1st NO CLASS (Thanksgiving recess)
Sat., Dec. 7th Confirmation Service Project at St. Francis Rectory
Sun., Dec. 8th Regular Classes (Feast of the Immaculate Conception)

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

Saturday, November 16, 2019

5:00pm Jean Falabella by Maria Mandarino

Sunday, November 17, 2019

8:00am Rocco & Rose Passaro by Sister

11:30am Don Bosco Columbiettes Memorial Mass

Monday, November 18, 2019

7:45am Mary & Lawrence Frasca by Family

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

7:45am Linda Anacrelico by Family

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:45am Munrzhia & Vingenzio by Rafaella Morena

Thursday, November 21, 2019

7:45am Josephine & Dominick Siano
“60” Wedding Anniversary

Friday, November 22, 2019

7:45am For All Family Members by Giuseppe Vertuccio

Saturday, November 23, 2019

7:45am Open Intention

5:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Sunday, November 24, 2019

8:00am Sarah Porcelli by Anthony Porcelli & Family

11:30am Rae & Luigi Strazzulli by Family
Joseph Rinaldi by Luigia Rozza & Family
Alan Bergamo by Mom & Family

Traditional Latin Mass

Beginning on Sunday, December 1st (the first Sunday of Advent), the 7:00 pm Mass at St. Cecilia will be offered in the Extraordinary Form (more commonly known as the Traditional Latin Mass). In order to help parishioners with this transition, Fr. Rafael will be preaching at the 7:00 pm Mass during all Sundays in November to explain what makes this Mass unique and how one can fruitfully participate in praying it. Also stay tuned for bulletin explanations this week and through November.

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, November 17, 2019

10:30am For Deceased Bishops, Priests & Deacons

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, November 24, 2019

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick: Valarie Bruno, Michael Dick, Dorothy Madigan, Joseph A. Leist

Pray For the Recently Deceased:

Lucy Blass, Norma Carlo, Con Shanahan, Salvatore Spinosa, Marie Custodio

Concert Series

“Low Art—Borderlines”

The Divine Mercy Parish Concert Series invites you to our second show “Low Art—Borderlines,” to be held in the Green Door Gallery (the corner of Humboldt and Skillman) on Sunday, November 24th, at 2:00 pm.

Justin Fields (piano) and Cody Hosza (saxophone) will present a Concert exploring the space between the finished musical product and its inception.

Featuring a program of all new music, it is not a Concert you want to miss. Admission is free and there will be a reception to follow. For more information visit lowart.eventbrite.com or take a flyer located at the entrances of the church.

Parish Mass Schedule - Thanksgiving

Vigil Mass for Thanksgiving

Wednesday, November 27, 2019

Blessing of Food & Distribution of Bread

7:00 p.m. St. Nicholas Church

Thursday, November 28, 2019

Thanksgiving Day

7:45 am – St. Francis of Paola Church

8:30 am St. Cecilia Church

Mass Book 2020 is now open
From January to June

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, November 17, 2019

9:30am Cappiello Family
John & Josephine Manzolino
For Deceased Bishops, Priests & Deacons

7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, November 18, 2019

8:30am Kenneth McEvoy

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

8:30am Living Members of DeGruccio Family

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

8:30am Open Intention

Thursday, November 21, 2019

8:30am McCauley Family

Friday, November 22, 2019

8:30am In Honor of St. Cecilia

Saturday, November 23, 2019

8:30am Frances & Donna DeGruccio

Sunday, November 24, 2019

9:30am Benefactors & Volunteers of the Food Pantry: Living Intention

7:00pm Open Intention

Transfiguration Men's Shelter

We have been assigned our 2019 Fall week for the Transfiguration Men's Shelter. The dates we will be needing assistance are:

Sunday, December 1, 2019

through Saturday, December 7, 2019

If you can help us by providing a complete hot meal for 35 men consisting of salad, entrée, dessert and beverage, or if you are unable to provide the food but would like to help by serving, we can always use a helping hand.

Please contact Angela Scotti @ 718-782-3881 or the Parish office @ 718-387-0256.

Please be assured whether you do this personally, with your family, group or organization your kindness and generosity is always greatly appreciated.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

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ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
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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

Receive Our Parish Bulletin **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.