

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What does it mean to be salt and light? If we listen carefully to Jesus' words, we gain some direction. To be salt means to bring taste, zest, and joy to life. We are asked to liven things up a bit by allowing the joy of our faith to spill over into the lives of others. Only a sincere and deep relationship with God can freshen up humanity and set it on proper course. To be light means that our faith must translate into action so that we can be Christ for others and extend the same arm of mercy and compassion that Christ did. Our acts of piety, then, cannot be directed solely at ourselves. Prayer is never about self-benefit but must always be directed toward union with God, deepening our relationships with one another and learning how to be effective stewards of the beautiful universe God has entrusted to our care.

The Master gives us wise direction in terms of how we can best become the salt and light he desires. Listen carefully to the Beatitudes. Think about the oppression and alienation that exists in our world, the violence and prejudice, the anger and the hatred, the fear and the shame. All of these things require action. The poor need food, housing, and clothes. Hatred must be replaced by love. Retaliation and violence by forgiveness. Our thoughts and speech can become more like Christ. We can change and continue to change. Blessed John Henry Cardinal Newman said, "To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often."

But it doesn't end with just offering the bandages needed to heal wounds. It must go deeper. We must ask ourselves what has happened that we have found ourselves in this place with these wounds and divisions. What are their causes? Together we must address these systemic problems, politically and spiritually, and face the truth. Only then will we truly be salt and light. But then again, we may not like what the light shows us.

Sunday Collection: Feb. 1/2, 2020 was \$3,263.00.

SAVE THE DATE

Mon. Feb. 17	Presidents' Day
Wed. Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday
Sun. March 8	Daylight savings time begins
Tues. March 17	St. Patrick's Day
Thurs. March 19	St. Joseph's Day
Sun. April 5	Palm Sunday
Sun. April 12	Easter Sunday

5º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Ni siquiera nos podemos imaginar el mundo sin sal y sin luz; ambos son importantes para la vida humana. La sal da sabor a la comida y la luz incrementa la visibilidad. Por esta razón, nuestro compromiso al discipulado cristiano por medio del bautismo debe de dar sabor y luz al estilo de Cristo. El discipulado siempre debe de llevar al discernimiento del cómo se relaciona la persona con Dios y con los demás. En las lecturas, especialmente el Evangelio, Jesús dice claramente que si la sal pierde su sabor no sirve para nada. Advierte claramente a sus discípulos con la siguiente catequesis: "Ustedes son la sal de la tierra. Si la sal se vuelve insípida, ¿cómo se le devolverá el sabor? Ya no sirve para nada y se tira a la calle para que la pise la gente." (Mateo 5:13). Enseguida, también dice: "Ustedes son la luz del mundo." (Mateo 13:14). ¡Vaya compromiso el que se tiene al ser discípulo de Jesús!

Ahora, la pregunta es: ¿Qué clase de sabor doy? Soy persona amargada, egoísta que donde me presento cambia el ambiente y la conversación por la negatividad que perciben los demás en mí o por el contrario, soy sal y luz en la familia, trabajo y comunidad. No se debe de olvidar que Cristo es la sal y la luz para todos. "‘Parece poca cosa’ pero el Señor ‘con pocas cosas nuestras hace milagros, hace maravillas’ por lo tanto, es necesario tener esta actitud de ‘humildad’ que consiste en buscar solamente ser sal y luz." (Papa Francisco). Pero, ojo, no se puede ser sal y luz sin relación personal con Cristo que es sal y luz en mí.

Readings for the week of February 9, 2020

Sunday:	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16
Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10

Message from Fr. Tom

The context of the Gospel today is that Jesus has just begun the Sermon on the Mount and proclaimed the conditions by which one may participate in the salvific plan of God and enter into the kingdom. These conditions proclaimed by Jesus are known as the Beatitudes. Blessed are the poor, the meek, those who mourn, and who hunger and thirst for righteousness.” Then Jesus speaks the words we hear in today’s Gospel:

“You are the salt of the earth.
You are the light of the world.”

Salt was a very valuable commodity in Jesus’ time. In some places in the world—even today—it is still used as money. The word salary comes from the word salt. Light is something fundamental to life itself. From the very start of our own universe with the ‘Big Bang’, light and energy are God’s creative tools to make life possible. Light is essential for vision and discernment of truth from falsehood.

Taking to heart the message of today, we are called to be for others what salt and light mean for us in daily life. By our faith and taking seriously those moments when God’s grace is offered to us—our presence will radiate the reality of Jesus whom we encounter and receive at each Mass.

Pro-Life Support

Last week saw the 47th Annual Pro-Life Rally in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of thousands participate each year during the height of winter. Predictably there was just about zero mainstream media coverage. How might we be able to help? Consider a donation to one of these grass roots, local groups that do wonderful work in giving women in crisis pregnancy options and hope instead of abortion:

The Bridge to Life, Inc.
147-32 Sanford Avenue
Flushing, N.Y. 11355
(718) 463-1810

Pregnancy Help, Inc.
229 West 14th Street
New York, N.Y. 10011
(212) 243-0970

Life Center of New York
6802 Fifth Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11220
(718) 748-4992

Good Counsel
P.O. Box 6068
Hoboken, N.J. 07030
(201) 795-0637

Helpers of God’s Precious Infants
Precious Blood Monastery
5300 Fort Hamilton Pkwy.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219
(718) 853-2789

Sisters of Life
38 Montebello Rd.
Suffern, N.Y. 11901
(845) 357-5347

Change in Distribution of the Diocesan Weekly Paper the Tablet

We are fortunate to have a very fine Diocesan Paper the Tablet. I have traveled quite a bit and have seen the media produced by other dioceses. Having seen what is produced by other dioceses, I can say objectively we have one of the best diocesan papers in the country. The cable TV and internet productions of DeSales Media stand out. A good sign of their quality is that they don’t always give the ‘cupcake’ version of current events. They have run articles keeping us informed about problems within the church. All of this costs money and the parishes have been subsidizing this publication for many years now. That is going to change. As you may have noticed, we will now be offering the weekly Diocesan Paper “The Tablet,” in a dedicated kiosk or rack. Furthermore, we encourage you to subscribe to this paper for home delivery by mail. These forms are on the vestibule tables. When you pick up a copy of the Tablet in church, please pay for your copy. Place one dollar (\$1.00) in the PAY HERE slot for each copy taken. We will no longer be handing out these papers for free. You are expected to pay for each issue.

Welcome to Brooklyn 94th Precinct Commanding Officer Kathleen Fahey!!

Recently the 94th Precinct inaugurated our new Commanding Officer, Captain Kathleen Fahey. Perhaps the first time in history this precinct has been led by a female officer. Please welcome her and keep her and *all* our police officers in your prayers. Also remember to stay active and alert to what is happening in our community. FYI, on Sunday 01/12—there was an incident of someone harassing a priest during the Mass at St. Anthony / St. Alphonsus.

Can Anybody Say Amen?

When you receive the Body of Christ from the priest at each Mass—the correct response—the ONLY response—is “Amen.” Many people in DMP are neglecting this important obligation of our worship. Often, the priests of DMP are met with either silence or “thank you.” The Eucharist is a gift of God and not from the priest who merely cooperates with God’s desire to share himself with you in this Sacrament. When you come forward to receive Jesus—please respond with a firm “Amen.” Thank you for bearing this in mind.

5TH 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)

We ask all to please consider bringing in a few grocery items each week and/or make a monetary donation (we will gladly shop for you) thus enabling our food pantry to extend a hand in kindness and Christian charity to those who need it.

Special Items needed: **Canned meats (stew, hash, etc.)**
Food Pantry Coordinator

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – February 9, 2020**

BREAD & WINE

Dominic Ciorciari by Annette Marino

SAINT JOSEPH CANDLES

Giuseppe Lanzieri by Rosa Martello

Giuseppe Lanzieri by Rosa Martello

**Portraits of Immigrants: Unknown
Faces, Untold Stories**

The Diocese of Brooklyn’s very own Green Door Gallery at St. Francis of Paola invites you to New York Artist/Writer Betsy Ashton’s powerful exhibition of portraits and stories of immigrants and refugees designed to counter fear and hate with kindness, truth and understanding.

Open Weekends Feb. 14th – March 8th

Fridays: 6 PM – 8 PM

Saturdays & Sundays: 12 PM – 5 PM

www.portraitsofimmigrants.com

Golden Age

The Golden Age meets every Monday except holidays at 12 noon in St. Francis Auditorium at 200 Woodpoint Road. Come and enjoy companionship, bingo, coffee and cake.

150th Anniversary of St. Cecilia’s

St. Cecilia’s Church will be celebrating her 150th Anniversary next year. Committees are being formed. All persons interested in participating should call the parish office and leave their contact information.

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

Saturday, February 8, 2020

5:00pm Frances Tizzio & Bobbe Angioletti by Family

Sunday, February 9, 2020

8:00am Giuseppe Lanzieri by Rosa Martello

11:30am Pasquale Franzese by James Glynn

Monday, February 10, 2020

7:45am Frances De Stefano by Marion & Theresa

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

7:45am Vilella Family by Children

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

7:45am Ethlyn Botti by Chris Botti

Thursday, February 13, 2020

7:45am Brina & Giuseppe Ruggiero by Rosa

Friday, February 14, 2020

7:45am Anastasio Vavladelis by Melissa Veronica

Saturday, February 15, 2020

7:45am Anna Maria De Sarno by Family

5:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Sunday, February 16, 2020

8:00am Claudio Facchini by Family

11:30am Salvatore Bifulco by Santina De Sarno & Family

St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please bring a Valentine themed raffle gift. New members are always welcome.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

2/16/2020 No class midwinter recess/Presidents’ week.

2/23/2020 Regular Classes & Family Day at 12:30 pm in St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Nicholas Church**

Sunday, February 9, 2020

10:30am Francisco Espinal for Good Health

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, February 16, 2020

10:30am Sr. Rose Winifred O'Neill, O.P. by
Janet Cadogan

Pray For the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to add (or remove) a name to this list...

Patricia Clarke, Trish Randall, Laura Vayda, Marie Salvato, Caroline Bark, Henrietta Craine

Pray For the Recently Deceased

Giuseppe Lanzieri, John Ciorciari, Rose De Angelis

ISC Bach Concert

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Please join us for the next concert in the DMP Concert Series. Renowned group ISC will play a program featuring two Bach cantatas and other Baroque favorites. This wonderful program is refreshing for the soul and mind. This concert is a great way to invite others into the life of our parish community. The concert will take place on Saturday, February 15th at St. Francis of Paola directly after the 5 PM Mass.

10 Seats Left

Diocesan Pilgrimage Oberammergau, The Passion Play. Visit to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Passau, Salzburg & Munich. May 12-21, 2020, Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Spiritual Director, Rev. Frank Schwarz Chaplin. For more information 516-605-1551 x 17.

Brooklyn Evening of Fraternity

February 24, 2020 - 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Saint John Paul II House of Discernment

Holy Hour / Conference / Dinner

341 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11207

Rev. Vincent Chirichella, Asst. Vocation Director

For info call 718-827-2454 or vocations@diobrook.org

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Cecilia Church**

Sunday, February 9, 2020

9:30am Josephine Beneventin

Francisco Espinal: Living Intention

7:00pm

For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Monday, February 10, 2020

8:30am Theresa Flanagan

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

8:30am Deborah Gelski

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

8:30am Rev. James Krische: Living Intention

Thursday, February 13, 2020

8:30am Antonio De Sarno by Maria Sepe

Friday, February 14, 2020

8:30am Deborah Gelski

Saturday, February 15, 2020

8:30am Open Intention

Sunday, February 16, 2020

9:30am Josephine Beneventin

Deborah Gelski

Maria Louisa Rodriguez

7:00pm

Nicholas Farina

**Entering Canaan
Day of Prayer & Healing
February 29, 2020**

For women suffering because of a past abortion.

“I could never have believed that God’s forgiveness was possible during the decades that I spent in post abortion shame and isolation. Entering Canaan was almost a miraculous experience for me.”

Brooklyn, N.Y. Director: Msgr. Andrew Vaccari

For confidential reservations call Lumina 877-586-4621 or email lumina@postabortionhelp.org.

Ministers of Welcome / Ushers

The recent issues concerning security at churches and houses of worship have underscored the need for more persons willing to serve as Ministers of Welcome or Ushers. If interested please call the parish office to leave your contact information.

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

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

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.