

3rd Sunday of Lent

We give the definition of ourselves over to so many things. We allow our society, friends, family, work, social groups, ethnicity, and even institutions define, classify, and color how we perceive ourselves. When we listen predominantly to the voices of others, we lose touch with what is happening within our own inner voice. If we listen carefully within, we can easily discover that we are in want and need. We know our incompleteness and also know that loneliness, sadness, and self-images can propel us outward in attempts to fill those gaps. We can become not only victims of our own prejudices but can find ourselves overly self-indulgent in things that can only satisfy for a short time, if at all.

It is no wonder that money and power are things that are so fervently sought after. As long as we can keep a steady supply going, the illusion of fulfillment and satisfaction can falsely persuade us as craftily as a master magician's act. We live with illusions not truth. It is no wonder, then, that some of the wealthiest folks are also really the unhappiest. Whether we admit it, the lies we live and pursue will ultimately expose our superficiality. We all have to wrestle with who we are and what gives our lives purpose and meaning. Learn to listen more deeply, not to what others are saying about you, but to what God is echoing in your heart.

We can easily get confused and misunderstand, not only about who we are but who God is. Even the disciples and the Samaritan woman at the well missed the point Jesus was trying to make. There is only one Person who can satisfy the deepest yearnings and longings of our hearts — Jesus the Messiah. It is not the work of corporate America that will lead us to happiness or greatness but the work of the soul. We continue to resist acknowledging this and are happier in our world of misunderstanding and illusion. The life-giving water we truly need doesn't come from the source of a well but from the Source of Life. Only God can reveal the truth of our sinfulness, the superficiality of our pursuits, and the illusions we hold so dear. Only Jesus can save us from ourselves and give us what we really need. If only our heads can catch up with where our hearts know they need to be, then will we find real contentment and life!

Sunday Collection: March 7/8, 2020 was \$3,057.00

15 de marzo de 2020

En este tercer Domingo de Cuaresma, Jesús es el pozo de agua viva que guía a la mujer samaritana a profundizar en el Espíritu y en la verdad. También, guía a los discípulos a profundizar en su misión para recibir la cosecha que ya está lista. Alabanza, misión y creer que Cristo es el camino hacia la vida eterna. ¡Todos, este Domingo necesitamos de tomar de esa agua viva que es Cristo! “Señor, dame de esa agua, y así ya no sufriré la sed ni tendré que volver aquí a sacar agua.” (Juan 4:15)

El Papa Francisco nos ilumina con la siguiente homilía:

“Jesús, habla de un agua diversa...el agua que dona la vida eterna fue infundida en nuestros corazones en el día de nuestro bautismo, ahora Dios nos ha transformado y llenados de su gracia. Pero puede darse que hayamos olvidado este gran don, o reducido a un mero dato, y quizá vamos en busca de ‘pozos’ aunque no nos sacian la sed. [El Evangelio es para nosotros.] Jesús nos habla como a la samaritana. Ciertamente nosotros ya lo conocemos, pero quizá no lo hemos acogido personalmente, y no lo hemos todavía reconocido como nuestro Salvador. Este tiempo de Cuaresma es la ocasión buena para acercarse a él, encontrarlo en la oración en un dialogo corazón a corazón, ver su Rostro en el rostro de un hermano o de una hermana sufriente. De este modo podemos renovar en nosotros la gracia del bautismo, saciarnos en la fuente de la Palabra de Dios y de su Santo Espíritu, es así descubrir la gloria de convertirnos en artífices de reconciliación instrumentos de paz en la vida cotidiana.”

¿Qué piensas de esta homilía del Papa

Readings for the week of March 15, 2020

Sunday:	Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf. Ps 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 [12a]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 7 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

COVID 19/The Coronavirus & Divine Mercy Parish

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”

So said Benjamin Franklin, the American Statesman and signer of the Declaration of Independence. This applies well in the current environment. First, there is a great deal we still do not know about this virus. Please note the following Center for Disease Control website which will give you the most up-to-date information about this outbreak and how you can keep yourself and your household safe. www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

How are we responding in Divine Mercy Parish?

We were ahead of the curve on some things. We will continue to refrain from distributing the chalice at all Masses until this period of crisis has passed. All holy water stoups have been emptied. Consider refraining from physical touch when making the sign of the peace. What are some practical steps we all can take?

- If you feel yourself having symptoms associated with the flu stay home!
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Practice routine cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces.
- Seniors—those over the age of 65—and those with respiratory problems are at particular risk. They should exercise greater caution.

Churches Open Longer Spend an Hour with Jesus

I am pleased to announce that we have increased access to the sacred spaces of our parish:

St. Francis of Paola Church:

Open from 7:00am to 7:30pm/Monday—Friday

St. Cecilia Chapel:

Open from 8:00am to 10:00pm/Monday—Thursday

Open from 8:00am to 3:00pm/Friday

We have Exposition & Benediction at the following times:

St. Francis of Paola Church:

11:00am to 1:00pm Mondays

4:00pm to 4:50pm Saturdays

St. Cecilia:

9:00pm to 10:00pm - Monday—Thursday

9:00am to 10:00am Friday

St. Nicholas:

9:30am to 10:20am Sundays

This is a wonderful opportunity for you to make a Lenten offering by spending an hour before our Lord. Jesus's Real Presence is present in the Blessed

Sacrament which is reserved in our Tabernacles!! How powerful are our prayers when we humbly go before him in these privileged places to make prayer and reparation to God for our needs and atone for sins. The threat of the Coronavirus and many other spiritual plagues can be defeated by your prayers. To this end, I am requesting that every adult in this parish community offer one hour a week in prayer and Adoration before our Tabernacles in one of these spaces. I will be preparing cards that will help to guide you in this offering of your hour.

We urgently need to pray for religious vocations, married vocations, our youth, our parish and the protection from the ever present threat of evil in our world. Please take seriously this request of mine. I am certain your life will be enriched by the offering you make to Jesus.

RIP Carmela Vassalotti (1927—2020)

As you may know my mother—Carmela—went home to God after a long struggle for many years over numerous health issues. She died the day after Ash Wednesday and was buried on Monday, March 2nd. On behalf of my entire family, I want to thank the Parish of Divine Mercy, the many local parishes, priests and the Diocese of Brooklyn for the many words of sympathy, prayers and Masses offered for my mother. It was truly an overwhelming experience of being supported through a difficult time. Words cannot adequately express my feelings of gratitude to all of you. The best I can say is thank you and God Bless you all—I hold you in my prayers. It is my privilege to be your pastor and priest.

Fr. Thomas Vassalotti

Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM Tri - Lingual

Friday	March 20	St. Cecilia
Friday	March 27	St. Francis of Paola
Friday	April 3	St. Nicholas

Reconciliation Monday

On Monday, April 6, 2020, our Diocese will join both the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre in Celebrating Reconciliation Monday. On this special day our diocese will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3 pm to 9 pm.

THIRD 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)

“Let us be concerned for each other, to stir a response in love and good work” (Hebrews 10-24)

Special Items needed: Canned Tuna Fish
Food Pantry Coordinator

St. Francis of Paola Church Memorial Gifts – March 15, 2020

ST. JOSEPH CANDLES

Gabriele Carannante by daughter Tina

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Carmela Vassalotti by Carol Carannante

Carmela Vassalotti by Carol Carannante

Digital Keyboard

A “Williams Symphony Digital Keyboard” is being donated by Divine Mercy Parish. The pedal unit does not work, but it is otherwise in good shape. Available for pick up from 219 Conselyea St.

Contact the Parish Office if interested.

Lay Baptismal Ministry

We are looking for couples to begin a Lay Baptismal Ministry here in Divine Mercy. The couples will be trained to facilitate Pre Baptismal preparation and post baptismal encounters for families who are seeking the sacrament of baptism or have recently baptized in our parish Community. Please contact our parish office to register. The Pastor, Priests and Baptismal Ministry will work together as partners in this important endeavor.

Young Adult Lenten Bible Study

On each of the Sundays in Lent, there will be a Bible Study immediately preceding the Traditional Latin Mass at the Rectory of St. Cecilia’s (84 Herbert St.) from 5:30-6:30 pm. Those who participate are also invited to fellowship after the Mass.

Mass Intentions for the Week St. Francis of Paola Church

Saturday, March 14, 2020

5:00pm Ralph Panarese by Wife & Family

Sunday, March 15, 2020

8:00am Giuseppe, Raffaella & Salvatore
Tulumello by Son & Family

11:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Monday, March 16, 2020

7:45am Ersilia & Giose Falce by Family

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

7:45am Gabriele Carannante by Family

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

7:45am Carl Battista

Thursday, March 19, 2020

7:45am Giuseppe Ruggiero by Rosa

Friday, March 20, 2020

7:45am Stella Nicodemo by Carlotta Giglio

Saturday, March 21, 2020

7:45am Carmela Vassalotti

5:00pm Anthony, Jennie & Frank Torre by
Torre Family

Sunday, March 22, 2020

8:00am Louis Anolfo by Wife & Children

11:30am Joseph Rinaldi by Wife Josephine

Sisters of St. Dominic

Did you receive a gift that you can’t use?

Did you receive an item that you already have?

Did you receive a present that you could give away?

If you answered “YES” to any of the above questions. The Dominican Sisters of Amityville invite you to donate your items for their Annual Beauty of the Spirit Luncheon. All items must be NEW. Call 631-842-6000 ext 238 for more information.

Surviving Divorce: A 3 Day Retreat

Helping you find peace, power and passion after your divorce. Sessions start at 9 am and conclude at 1 pm. Entire retreat costs \$20 and this includes the cost of a personal guidebook, refreshments and light lunch. St. Patrick’s Church, 95-11 4th Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11209. For info 718-281-9540. **Dates** Saturday April 4, May 9, and June 6, 2020.

MARCH 15, 2020

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

Sunday, March 15, 2020

10:30am Marisa Munoz by Dennis Torre & Sonia Rivera

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, March 22, 2020

10:30am Iris Bonet: for Prayers by Ada Lopez
Carmela Vassalotti by Sonia Rivers
Marisa Munoz: 40 days passed by Family

Pray For the Sick

Henrietta Craine, Ralph Pastena, Connie Liest, Patrick Hogan, Charlotte Heslin, Thomas Elsasser, James Long, Felicia Tulumello, Jesni Kampil, Virginia Castro

Pray For the Recently Deceased

Patricia Gray, Carmela Vassalotti, Joan Burton, Patricia Clarke

Mark your Calendar

**The next meeting for the Committees of the
150th Anniversary of St. Cecilia's
Has been changed**

New Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2020
at 7:00 pm in St. Cecilia's Auditorium.

Also: Committees are being formed. All persons interested in participating should call the parish office and leave their contact information.

CCD News

Tuesday, March 17, 2020: First Communion Parent's Meeting, 7 pm St. Francis of Paola Basement

Saturday, March 21, 2020: Mandatory Confirmation Retreat at ICC Douglaston, departing from St. Francis of Paola Parish at 8:15 am and arriving to St. Francis of Paola Parish -3:30 pm

Saturday, April 4th, 2020: Confirmation Workshop at St. Francis of Paola Basement from 3pm - 5pm.

Saturday, April 18, 2020: First Holy Communion Retreat at St. Nicholas VETRO HALL 8:30 am—12 noon

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

Sunday, March 15, 2020

9:30am Connie & Pat Lomuto
Christine Pizzo
Frank & Tessie Ricci
Michael & Anna San Pietro
Frank & Maria Christine San Pietro
Barney & Angie Cavallo
Mela Pugliese: Living Intention 90th Birthday
7:00pm Carmela Hawkins: Good Health

Monday, March 16, 2020

8:30am Maureen Pastina

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

8:30am Carmela Vassalotti

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

8:30am Eleanor Mongonia

Thursday, March 19, 2020

8:30am Joseph Scott, Sr.

Friday, March 20, 2020

8:30am Laura Vayda

Saturday, March 21, 2020

8:30am Deborah Gelski

Sunday, March 22, 2020

9:30am Agnes Sullivan
Deborah Gelski
Zerilli Family
Ed & Jo Collins
Eamon & Ray McGinn
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

The 2020 Census

Every 10 years the U.S. Census Bureau conducts a count of every person living the United States. The 2020 Census helps determine how many representatives each state has in Congress. Responses are used only to produce statistics. Your information is protected and never shared with law enforcement or any other agency, including ICE.

The Census is short and easy to complete. Do not miss out on resources for yourselves and your community. Be counted! For more information, contact John Gonzalez John.gonzalez@ccbq.org

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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:

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.