OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

The Mother Church of Queens County

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Msgr. "John" Cuong M. Pham, *Pastor*

Rev. "Joseph" Hung Sy Tran, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Vito Jumao-as, *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Jacob Rodriguez

Celeste Stewart, *Parish Manager*
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Luis Sanchez, *Parish Secretary*
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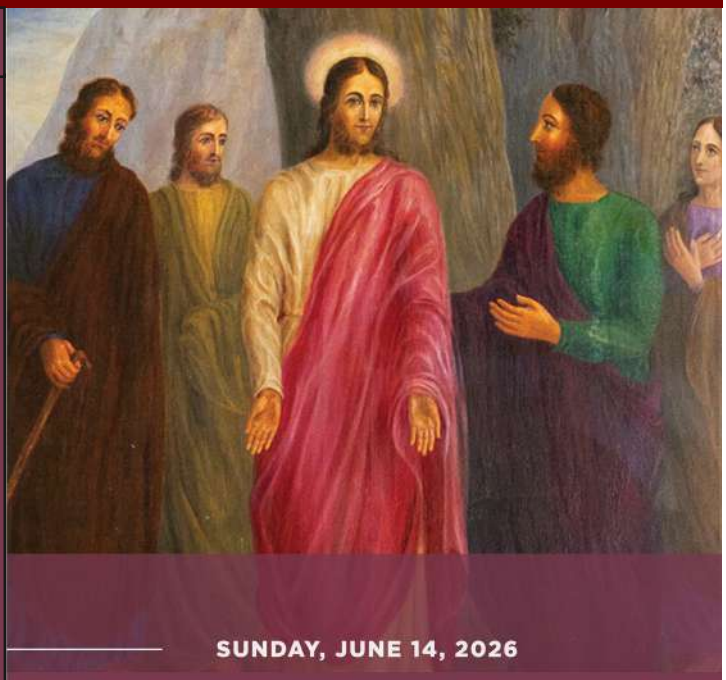
Lucille Mascia, *Music Director*

Yolanda Lazo, *Youth Minister*



SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." - Mt 10:6-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

Mass Times

Weekend: Saturday Vigil 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM *(English)*, 9:00AM *(Italian- Every 2nd & 4th Sunday in the Chapel)*, 9:30AM *(Bilingual)*, 10:30AM *(Czech-Slovak in the Chapel)*, 11:00AM *(English)*, 12:30PM *(Spanish)*, 3:00 PM *(Vietnamese)*

Weekday: 8:00AM & 12:00PM, Saturday 8:00AM

First Fridays: 7:30 PM *(Spanish)*
Holy Days: 8:00AM & 12:00PM, 7:30PM *(Bilingual)*
Holidays: 9:00AM

Office Hours

Weekday: 9:00am—8:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am—5:00pm

Infant Baptisms & Adult Sacraments: Contact Deacon Jacob Rodriguez for registration.

Confessions: Every Saturday in the Chapel from 3:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment during the week.

Weddings: Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with a priest.

Sweet Sixteen: Celebrated for parish members who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Anointing of the Sick: Available upon need. Hospital patients may ask to see the priest chaplain.

Bautismos Infantiles y Sacramentos para Adultos: Hable con el Diacono Rodríguez para registraciones.

Confesiones: Cada sábado en la capilla de 3:30pm-4:30pm o por cita durante la semana.

Bodas: Arreglos deben hacerse 6 meses en avance con un sacerdote.

Quinceaños: Solamente para miembros de la parroquia que han recibido la Confirmación.

Unción de los Enfermos: Disponible por necesidad. Pacientes de hospital pueden pedir ver el capellán.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

5:00pm Gerlando Graci, Michael Rozario *(5th Anniversary),* Marianna DiVittorio *(Months Mind)*, Januario Monteiro, Gloria Barnes, Living & Deceased Members of Junita & Robert Samuels Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 *(11th Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

8:00am Calvin de los Santos

9:00am Caterina Chiaramonte & Serafina Sacramone

9:30am Manuel Jesus Ortega & Digna Tito, Eduvijes Antonia Nuñez & Francisco Antonio Nuñez on their Birthday Memorial

11:00am Our Parish's Jornada Group

12:30pm Pedro Hernández Vázquez, Miguel Vivar & Jesús Vivar, Fabián Rojas Ramírez *(1r Aniversario)*, Antonio Toribio, Concepción García Astudillo *(6to Aniversario)*, Cosme Juan Rivera, Catalina Curiel, Timothy Rojas, Margarita Chiqui, Juanita Clemente Veloz (1r mes), Por todas las bendiciones recibidas

3:00pm For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, JUNE 15

8:00am Giuseppe & Bernarda DiLorenzo

12:00pm Alfred Magistrado, Sr.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

8:00am Nicole Spadavecchia & Family (Living)

12:00pm Ida Albanese

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

8:00am Banaz Mahmod, Shafica Ahmed & Samuel Davis

12:00pm Caridi Family

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

8:00am Ameenar Sarah Sayid & Ann Dawson

12:00pm Mosler Family

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 *(Juneteenth)*

9:00am Grescila D. Castroverde

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 *(12th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Father's Day)*

8:00am Luigi & Calogera Carlino

5:00pm Mercedes Beck, Robert Russo, Jr., Lewis Charles, Yolanda Bailey, Jarvier Hinds, Daniel Enrique Muñoz Vallejos, Mary Holland, Mary Athridge, Mario R. Nacinovich *(Living—Birthday)*

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

Last Week: $5,390 Last Year: $5,630

Faith Direct May 2026: $5,140
ParishSoft May 2026: $5,661

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We ask everyone to prayerfully consider making a donation to the 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal. As of June 7, 2026 we have 108 donors who have pledged $48,240, from which $37,660 have been received.

CAMPAÑA CATOLICA ANUAL

Les pedimos a todos, por favor considerar hacer una promesa a la campaña Católica Anual del 2026. A partir del 7 de junio, tenemos a 108 donantes, quienes han prometido $48,240 de cuales $37,660 han sido recibidos.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

We will have second collections taken after communion on the following dates. Thank you for your generosity.

June: Fathers' Day Envelopes
June 14: Parish School Children in need.

SEGUNDA COLECTA

Tendremos una segunda colecta después de la comunión en las siguientes fechas. Gracias por su generosidad.

Junio: Sobres del Día del Padre
14 de Junio: Niños en necesidad en escuelas parroquiales

OFFICE CLOSINGS

The parish office will be closed on Friday, June 19, 2026 for the Juneteenth Holiday. There will be only one English Mass at 9:00am in the main Church. The office will reopen on Saturday at 9:00am resuming regular office & Mass times.

The parish office will also be closed on Saturday, July 4th in Honor of our country's Day of Independence. The office will remain opened on Friday, July 3rd, and there will be a regular schedule for Masses throughout the weekend.

GROUP AND SOCIETY MEETINGS IN OUR PARISH INSTITUTE

Sunday, June 14

8:00am—11:30am	Italian Community	Lourdes A/B
9:30am—10:30am	Grupo de Amistad #14	Nazareth
9:30am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #5	*Assumption*
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #9	*Ascension*
10:00am—12:30pm	Cursillo	*Guadalupe A*
10:00am—1:00pm	Czech Mass	*Guadalupe B*

Monday, June 15

7:00am—5:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
5:00pm—9:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
7:00pm—9:00pm	Coro Guadalupano	*Lourdes A/B*

Tuesday, June 16

7:00am—4:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
5:00pm—10:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
5:30pm—7:00pm	Mariachi Practice	*Balcony*
6:00pm—9:00pm	Marriage Encounter	*Guadalupe A/B+ Fatima*
7:00pm—9:00pm	Coro #1	*Nazareth*

Wednesday, June 17

7:00am—4:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
5:00pm—10:00pm	CYO	*Gym*

Thursday, June 18

7:00am—5:00pm	TYWLS	Gym
10:00am—11:30am	Legion of Mary	*Guadalupe A/B*
7:30pm—9:30pm	OLMC Jornada Group	*Guadalupe A/B*

Friday, June 19

JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY– NO MEETINGS

Saturday, June 20

9:00am—3:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
9:00am—1:00pm	AA Meeting	*Guadalupe A/B*
9:00am—11:00am	Reunion de Amistad #15	*Fatima*
10:00am—12:00pm	Coro de Niños	*Assumption*
4:00pm—10:00pm	Adult Sewing Group	Lourdes A/B
5:00pm—7:00pm	Ministerio de Consolacion	*Fatima*
5:00pm—7:00pm	Bilingual Choir Practice	*Nazareth*

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

Prayer is one of the most powerful tools we have. It's a way for us to communicate with God and obtain His divine intervention. It can help sick people get well again and also gives us the strength in our own weakness and suffering. To add names to our Prayer List, please contact the parish office. There is no cost for enrolling people onto this list. We are currently praying for **Barbara Tummolo & Theresa Petrone.**

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

We remember our deceased loved ones by having them prayed for at Mass on every first Friday of the month (the day traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus) as a meaningful way to express our love. Enrollment is $20 per name. Those enrolled the Purgatorial Society will be remembered for a whole year. We have currently enrolled: **Marianna DiVittorio, & John Christopher Immordino.**

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Spiritual writers speak of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as "the Mass held in contemplation." Devotion to the Eucharist will take place on **Friday, July 3, 2026**. Exposition and Adoration will take place right after the 8:00am Mass and will conclude with Solemn Benediction before the start of the 12 Noon Mass.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus have established a council in our parish. They are looking for men to join the Order. You must be a man, at least eighteen years old and be in union with the Catholic Church. If you are interested go to KofC.org/JoinUs or contact Peter Perroni at **peterperroni040@gmail.com.** The Knights meet in the parish institute at 8:00pm every second Wednesday of the month.

INFANT BAPTISM/ BAUTISMOS

Preparation Meeting: Tuesdays 6:00pm-Institute
Baptism Ceremony: Saturdays 12:00pm-Main Church

Reunion de Preparacion: Martes-6:00pm-Instituto
Ceremonia de Bautismo: Sabados 12:00pm-Iglesia

June 23, 2026	June 27, 2026	7 de julio 2026	11 de julio 2026
July 21, 2026	July 25, 2026	4 de agosto 2026	8 de agosto 2026
August 18, 2026	August 22, 2026	8 de septiembre	12 de septiembre
September 22, 2026	September 26, 2026	6 de octubre	10 de octubre
October 20	October 24	10 de noviembre	14 de noviembre
November 24	November 28	8 de diciembre	12 de diciembre

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

June 7, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am writing to you from Saigon, Vietnam.

This past Monday, June 8, I had the privilege of celebrating a Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of my priesthood in the parish where I was born and raised, the very church where I first learned to pray, served at the altar, and first began to wonder if God might be calling me to become a priest. The experience was deeply moving.

After the wonderful jubilee celebrations we shared together at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, I arrived in Vietnam with barely enough time to catch my breath. Yet somehow, word spread quickly. Nearly one hundred priests, three bishops, hundreds of faithful, family members, and friends gathered together to give thanks to God.

As I stood before them, I found myself overwhelmed with gratitude. Not because of the attention shown to me, but because of what it revealed about the beauty of the priesthood and the love that God's people have for their priests.

Standing once again in the church where I first served at the altar as a young boy was a deeply humbling experience. So much has happened in the years since then. God has allowed me to serve His people in New York, Rome, Washington, and many other places. Yet returning home reminded me that every vocation begins somewhere. Mine began in that simple parish church, among faithful people who loved the Lord and passed on their faith to the next generation.

One of the most moving moments of this trip was visiting my childhood pastor, now in his late eighties and living in the residence for retired priests. Long before there was a vocation in me, there was a priest before me. As a young boy, I watched him celebrate Mass, preach, pray, and dedicate himself completely to his people. His example first attracted me to the priesthood.

Although age has weakened his body, his spirit remains strong. He has no complaints, only gratitude and a deep trust in God. Sitting with him reminded me that the true measure of a priest is not found in titles or accomplishments, but in a life faithfully given to God and His people.

This Sunday's Gospel tells us that Jesus looked upon the crowds with compassion because they were "like sheep without a shepherd" (Mt 9:36). The priesthood exists because Christ continues to love His people and desires to remain close to them. Through the ministry of priests, He continues to teach, forgive, heal, and nourish His flock.

Another blessing of this trip has been witnessing the vitality of the Church in Vietnam. Everywhere I go, churches are filled, even on weekdays. It is not unusual to hear church bells ringing before dawn and see people gathering for Mass before beginning their day. Seminaries and religious communities continue to attract many young people who are generously responding to God's call. Last Friday, I had the honor of vesting a newly ordained priest in a moving Ordination Mass in Saigon, a young man who credited his vocation to my invitation when I first met him twelve years ago. He was ordained together with eighteen others. In a world that often focuses on challenges facing the Church, it is encouraging to see such visible signs of faith and hope.

As I continue to give thanks for twenty-five years of priesthood, I am reminded that no vocation is ever the work of one person alone. Every priest is the fruit of countless prayers, sacrifices, and examples offered by others. For that reason, my gratitude today is directed not toward myself, but toward God and toward all those who helped me become the priest I am today.

Please know that I carry all of you in my prayers during this pilgrimage home. This journey has been a beautiful time of grace, gratitude, and renewal. I look forward to returning to Astoria renewed in hope and ever more grateful for the privilege of serving you as your pastor.

Yours in Christ,

Msgr. "John" Cuong M. Pham

DEL CORAZON DEL PASTOR

7 de junio, 2026

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

Les escribo esta semana desde Saigón, Vietnam.

El pasado lunes 8 de junio tuve el privilegio de celebrar una Misa Solemne de Acción de Gracias por el vigésimo quinto aniversario de mi sacerdocio en la parroquia donde nací y crecí, la misma iglesia donde aprendí a rezar, serví como monaguillo y comencé a descubrir la llamada de Dios. Fue una experiencia profundamente conmovedora.

Después de las hermosas celebraciones jubilares que compartimos en Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo, llegué a Vietnam con apenas tiempo para descansar. Sin embargo, cerca de cien sacerdotes, tres obispos, centenares de fieles, familiares y amigos se reunieron para dar gracias a Dios. Al ver a tanta gente reunida en oración, me sentí profundamente agradecido. No por mí, sino por lo que aquello reflejaba: el amor que el Pueblo de Dios sigue teniendo por el sacerdocio y por quienes dedican su vida al servicio de la Iglesia.

Uno de los momentos más significativos de este viaje fue visitar a mi párroco de la infancia, hoy ya en sus ochenta años. Mucho antes de que hubiera una vocación en mí, hubo un sacerdote delante de mí. Cuando era niño lo veía celebrar la Misa, predicar, rezar y entregarse por completo a su gente. Su ejemplo fue lo que primero despertó en mi corazón el deseo de ser sacerdote.

Aunque los años han debilitado su cuerpo, su espíritu permanece fuerte. No se queja. Habla de Dios con paz y del futuro con confianza. Al verlo, recordé que la verdadera grandeza de un sacerdote no está en los títulos o reconocimientos, sino en una vida entregada fielmente al Señor y a Su pueblo.

El Evangelio de este domingo nos dice que Jesús miró a la multitud con compasión porque estaban “como ovejas sin pastor” (Mt 9:36). El sacerdocio existe precisamente por esa compasión de Cristo. Él sigue amando a Su pueblo, sigue llamando pastores y sigue cuidando de Su rebaño.

Otra gran bendición de este viaje ha sido contemplar la vitalidad de la Iglesia en Vietnam. Las iglesias están llenas, incluso durante la semana. Los seminarios siguen atrayendo a muchos jóvenes que responden generosamente a la llamada de Dios. Otro momento muy especial de este viaje tuvo lugar el pasado viernes, cuando asistí a una Ordenación Sacerdotal en la Catedral Basílica de Notre Dame de Saigón. Tuve el privilegio de revestir al nuevo sacerdote, a quien conocí hace doce años durante una visita a Vietnam. Al ver en él cualidades humanas y espirituales muy prometedoras, lo animé a considerar una posible vocación. Después de años de discernimiento y formación, fue ordenado sacerdote.

Fue una experiencia profundamente emotiva. Ver a un joven responder generosamente a la llamada del Señor me recordó que Dios sigue llamando obreros a su mies. Como sacerdote, pocas alegrías son tan grandes como ver que una semilla sembrada hace muchos años, con la gracia de Dios, ha dado fruto para el bien de la Iglesia.

Al dar gracias por estos veinticinco años de sacerdocio, recuerdo que ninguna vocación nace sola. Detrás de cada sacerdote hay innumerables oraciones, sacrificios y ejemplos de fe. Por eso mi gratitud hoy se dirige ante todo a Dios y a todas las personas que Él puso en mi camino para ayudarme a llegar hasta aquí.

Mientras continúo esta peregrinación por mi tierra natal, quiero que sepan que los llevo a todos ustedes en mis oraciones. Este viaje ha sido para mí un tiempo de gracia, gratitud y renovación. Espero regresar pronto a Astoria con el corazón lleno de alegría y aún más agradecido por el privilegio de servirles como su párroco.

Con afecto en Cristo,

Mons. “Juan” Cuong M. Pham

OLMC WELCOMES YOU TO

REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LAST DAY FOR REGISTRATION IS SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

1 child - $75

2 children (same parents)- $120

3 more children (same Parents) - $160

If registering your child for the first time, we will need a copy of the child's birth certificate and prior sacramental certificates.

No Registrations will be taken without full payment!

REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

Registrarse permite que nuestra parroquia les pueda servir sus necesidades espirituales. Por favor devuelva este formulario en la colecta o déjelo en la oficina parroquial. Su participación fortalecerá su fe y su sentido de pertenencia en la familia de Dios.

Nombre(s): _____

Dirección:_____ **Apt**_____

Ciudad:_____ **Código Postal**_____

Teléfono: _____

E-mail: _____

POR FAVOR MARCAR:

[ ] Nueva Registración [ ] Cambio de dirección

POR FAVOR MARCAR:

[ ] Prefiero Sobres [ ] Donaciones en línea

PARISH REGISTRATION

We encourage all who worship with us to consider registering to our parish. Please return this form in the collection or drop it off at the parish office. Your participation will strengthen your sense of belonging in God's family.

Name(s): _____

Address:_____ **Apt**_____

City _____ **ZIP** _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

PLEASE MARK ONE:

[ ] New Registration [ ] Change of Address

PLEASE MARK ONE:

[ ] I prefer envelopes [ ] I prefer E-giving

ARTIST & FLEA MARKET

Spend the day exploring our Flea Market! Get to know our vendors' items, taste delicious foods, and participate in our raffles!

Vendors are welcome to register at the parish office.

$45 TABLE RENTAL FOR 1 DAY OR $80 FOR BOTH DAYS!

Saturday, July 18 9:00am-5:00pm
Sunday, July 19 8:00am-3:00pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
On the Street of Newtown Avenue

- Household Items & Clean Clothing
- Handmade Crafts & Art

Proceeds for our Sacred Heart Committee & Jornada Group

mountcarmelastoria.org
23-25 Newtown Avenue
Astoria, NY 11102
718.278.1834

MARTES

30 DE

JUNIO, 2026

NOCHE DE ALABANZA Y ADORACION

Concierto Eucaristico con

La Hna. Gela, Martha Paguay y el Diacono Elkin Tamayo

$20 Adulto	$10 Niños edades 5-10

23-25 Newtown Avenue
Astoria, NY 11102

5:00pm a 9:00pm

Organizado por el grupo de Oración Carismático. Terminaremos con una Hora Santa.
Estacionamiento disponible.

Para Mas Informacion Llame:
Sergio Huerta: 347.484.7976

NEW CHURCH BANNER

We are pleased to announce the installation of the beautiful new wall banner on the Convent Building facing our parish parking lot. This prominent addition, highlighting the ministries and services of our parish while honoring Our Lady as the Mother of Queens County, is the generous gift of Mr. Frank Miller, a longtime parishioner and devoted member of our faith community.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Miller for this significant contribution to our parish. His generosity not only enhances the beauty and visibility of our church but also helps proclaim our mission of faith, service, and evangelization to all who pass by. May Our Lady of Mount Carmel bless him abundantly for his kindness, generosity, and steadfast love for our parish family.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

A few years ago, I met a woman in my parish who was a successful lawyer. Yet in her free time, she poured her energy into a nonprofit she founded to advocate for children with special needs. When I asked what inspired her, she spoke of her niece, who was born with disabilities. Her niece was both a glorious gift and a constant challenge. Out of that painful, beautiful experience, she felt called to create something lasting for other children and parents. The nonprofit thrived, not because she had mapped it all out, but because she was deeply moved to act.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is "moved with compassion" for the crowd, for they were "like sheep without a shepherd." (Matthew 9:36) So he calls his disciples, ordinary men with no special qualifications, and sends them to heal, preach, and cast out demons. Their mission flows not from their skills but from his authority and the Spirit's gifts.

The Second Vatican Council teaches that the Spirit continually pours out charisms, special graces for the good of the Church and the world (cf. Lumen Gentium 4 & 12). These often arise from the unfolding of our lives: from what breaks your heart, what fills you with hope, what suffering has shaped you. The Spirit works through those very experiences to equip us with gifts that build up others.

What is your charism? Well, what needs around you call you to loving action? This could be where Christ is sending you. Allow your heart to be moved like Christ's. Then get to work.

- Father John Muir

LABORERS

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few." This excerpt from Matthew's Gospel has become a catchphrase in the modern Church. We give ourselves vertigo with the amount of head-shaking we do over the much-lamented "decline in numbers."

Which numbers, you ask? Well, take your pick numbers of baptized Catholic children who continue to profess their faith in adulthood, numbers of registered parishioners, numbers of priests ordained each year. All are a fraction of what they were generations ago.

That last one-the priests - that's a particular worry for us, isn't it? So we pray, "Send us laborers, Lord! Make them holy. Make them earnest."

And then we add, in the silence of our hearts: "Make them perfect."

It's no secret that part of the reason the pews are empty is because we often find it hard to love the Church if we find it hard to love a particular priest, a particular bishop, or a particular human representative of the Church.

Because that's the thing about priests and bishops and all the laborers in the field: they are human. They are sinners. Just like you and me.

We must consider this: today's Gospel lists the Apostles whom Jesus sent out in ministry to heal, console, and evangelize, and right at the end like a record scratch comes the name of Judas Iscariot, the betrayer. If ever a laborer failed in his work, it was Judas.

And surely, when he did, his fellow laborers were so demoralized and so disenchanted that they considered laying down their tools and leaving the harvest to wither and die. But they did not, and we must not.

Without cost we have received, and without cost we are called to give. So we labor on, for the day is drawing to a close, and the threshing time is near.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Virtues, Explained!

God Himself is Truth. Therefore, if we belong to God, we must live truthfully in small matters and in large ones, so that the witness we bear to the ultimate Truth of God shall always be taken seriously.

Prayer of Discipleship

Dear Jesus, You've called every soul to yourself, aware of our faults and failures, but also our gifts, perspectives, our talents, and our dreams. As we grow to know you, help us to more fully understand ourselves and, in doing so, to use our unique positions to spread your love to the world.

Amen.

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn
Money goes back to your local parish
My Car Went To Heaven
DONATE YOUR AUTO
Running or Not
• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• Any Condition • Any Model
718-491-2525
Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over $650,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not, leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org
Leave a Review on Google &
Like us on
Follow us on
With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,
Jim Shea
Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF MASS INTENTIONS?

When a priest offers a Mass, he does so with three intentions in mind. First, that he may offer it reverently and validly within the norms established by the Church. Second, he offers it in union with and for the good of the whole church. Finally, he may offer it with a particular intention in mind. For example, in thanksgiving for particular blessings received, for someone living on a special occasion such as the anniversary of one's baptism, for health and healing for someone who is ill, or as is most common for someone who has passed away.

Typically when someone requests that a priest offer a Mass for a particular intention, a stipend is offered. The local bishops set the amount that becomes customary. This amount has been set to $20 in our parish. Generally Mass Intentions are scheduled through the parish office.

Each Sunday, one Mass must be offered for the intention of the living and deceased members of the parish. This is mandated by Church law. That is why you see a Mass listed as such in the bulletin.

There are times when there are simply too many requests for Masses and therefore we have specific Mass times where we accept more than one intention (Communal Masses). In our parish we have the Saturday English 5:00pm, Sunday 9:30am bilingual or Sunday Spanish 12:30pm Mass. At all weekday Masses, we accept only one intention.

As Catholics we believe that the bonds that unite us do not unravel with death. In other words, we who are living are bound to those whose souls are in heaven and those who are in purgatory. However once a person dies, their soul and body are broken apart. The soul goes on, while the body remains here on earth. If the soul is perfect (without the stain of sin), it can go on to the presence of God. Since God is perfect, only what is perfect can be in the presence of God. As a result, if a soul has a mark of sin or is not perfectly united to God, it needs to be purified of the stain so it may be in perfect union with God. But as the soul cannot change itself, it needs our prayers in a spirit of charity and the grace or help of God. A perfect act of charity is to have one remembered at a Mass.

So family and friends can be remembered at a Mass, which includes non-Catholics. To make this arrangement, contact the parish office. We ask that anyone who wishes to reserve a Mass Intention come ahead of time. The Mass book generally opens around October/November for the upcoming year.

We hope this clarifies some questions you may have about Mass intentions and their importance.

CUAL ES LA IMPORTANCIA DE LAS INTENCIONES DE MISA?

Cuando un sacerdote celebra una Misa, lo hace teniendo presentes tres intenciones. Primero, que pueda ofrecerla de manera reverente y válida, de acuerdo con las normas establecidas por la Iglesia. Segundo, la ofrece en unión con toda la Iglesia y por el bien de toda ella. Finalmente, puede ofrecerla por una intención particular. Por ejemplo, en acción de gracias por bendiciones recibidas, por una persona viva en una ocasión especial como el aniversario de su bautismo, por la salud y recuperación de alguien enfermo o, como es más común, por una persona fallecida.

Por lo general, cuando alguien quiere solicitar una intención, tiene que ir a la oficina parroquial. El costo es de $20. Cada domingo, una Misa debe ser ofrecida por la intención de los miembros vivos y difuntos de la parroquia. Esto es un requisito del derecho canónico. Por esta razón, verá una Misa anunciada con esta intención en el boletín parroquial.

Hay ocasiones en las que simplemente hay demasiadas solicitudes de intenciones de Misa. Por ello, contamos con horarios específicos en los que aceptamos más de una intención (Misas Comunitarias). En nuestra parroquia, estas son los domingos a las 9:30am bilingüe y la Misa en español de los domingos a las 12:30pm.

Como Católicos, creemos que los lazos que nos unen no se rompen con la muerte. Es decir, quienes vivimos estamos unidos a aquellos cuyas almas están en el cielo y a aquellos que se encuentran en el purgatorio. Sin embargo, cuando una persona muere, su alma y su cuerpo se separan. El alma continúa su camino, mientras que el cuerpo permanece aquí en la tierra.

Si el alma es perfecta (sin la mancha del pecado), puede entrar en la presencia de Dios. Como Dios es perfecto, solo lo perfecto puede estar en su presencia. Por lo tanto, si un alma tiene alguna mancha de pecado o no está perfectamente unida a Dios, necesita ser purificada para poder alcanzar la unión perfecta con Él. Pero como el alma no puede purificarse por sí misma, necesita nuestras oraciones, realizadas con espíritu de caridad, y la gracia o ayuda de Dios. Un acto perfecto de caridad es recordar a una persona en una Misa.

Por ello, familiares y amigos pueden ser recordados en una Misa, incluyendo a personas que no son Católicas. Para hacer estos arreglos, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Pedimos que quienes deseen reservar una intención de Misa lo hagan con anticipación. El libro de intenciones generalmente se abre entre octubre y noviembre para el año siguiente.

Esperamos que esta información ayude a aclarar algunas de las preguntas que pueda tener sobre las intenciones de Misa y su importancia.