

St. Mary Star of the Sea and St. Gertrude Roman Catholic Church



1920 New Haven Ave.,
Far Rockaway, N.Y. 11691

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Website: www.saintsmaryandgertrude.org

TEMPORARY ADMINISTRATOR:

Rev. Msgr. John J. Bracken P.A., Ext. 22

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Jean Yvon Pierre, Ext. 27

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF:

Deacon Michael C. Moss
Deacon Adalberto Eddie Montero
Deacon Candidate Rene Hernandez

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Ms. Joanne Murray, Ext. 16
Mrs. Carmen Montero, Ext. 10

IN RESIDENCE:

Rev. Charles H. White, Ext. 18
Rev. Fredrick Anawonah, Ext. 17

WEEKEND ASSISTANT:

Rev. Edward Smith

TRUSTEES:

Lillian Virginia Roundtree
Miguel Jimenez

PASTORAL COUNCIL, CHAIR:

Yvonne Hall

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE:

Mr. Conrado Hernandez, Director, Ext. 25
Mrs. Susan Singh-Smith, Ext. 25
All children in grades 1-8 should be registered every year for Religious Education classes.

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Mr. Joseph R. Villadiego, Ext. 24.

SCHOOL:

Ms. Angela D. Brucia, Principal
595 B. 19th St., Far Rockaway, N.Y. 11691
Phone: 327-2242 Fax: 327-0797

SCHOOL BOOKKEEPER

Ms. Carla Ramos - 718-327-2242, Ext. 204

SATURDAY EVENING MASSES:

5:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)

SUNDAY MASSES:

8:15, 9:45 (Alternating English & Spanish at St. Gertrude's),
11:30, 1:15

WEEKDAY MASSES:

8:00 & 12:10—Monday thru Wednesday
9:00 at St. Gertrude's & 12:10 at St. Mary's - Thursday
12:10, 7:30 PM (in Spanish) - Fridays
12:10 PM—Saturdays

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays at 3:30 to 4:30 PM, Mondays 7:30 to 8:30 PM
or by appointment.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Mondays after the 12:10 Mass

EXPOSITION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT: First
Sundays 2:30 - 3:30 PM and First Fridays 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are scheduled for the Third Saturday of each
month in Spanish and the Fourth Saturday of each month in English.
Parents should call for an appointment with a priest to arrange for the
baptism of child. Birth Certificate should be presented at this time.

MARRIAGES: Call the rectory for an appointment with a priest at
least 6 months prior to the wedding.

SICK CALLS: Emergencies - ANY TIME. Home bound - call the
rectory

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: The normal way for being received
into full communion with the Catholic Church is through the R.C.I.A.
Adults interested in being baptized, confirmed or making first
communion should speak with a member of the parish staff to enroll

CORO HISPANO: MIERCOLES 7:30 PM

ENGLISH CHOIR: FRIDAY 7:30 PM

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: SATURDAY 11:00 AM

CIRCULO DE ORACION CARISMATICO: JUEVES 7:30 PM

CURSILLO DE CRISTIANDAD: VIERNES 7:30 PM

SANTO NOMBRE & SAGRADO CORAZON: 4th DOMINGO
DESPUES DE LA MISA DE LAS 11:30

CENÁCULO SACERDOTAL: Rosario el 4to Domingo—11:00
A.M. en Santa Gertrudis

Rosary Society: 1st & 4th Sunday of month after 8:15 Mass

Legion of Mary: Spanish: Mon. 7:00 PM - Rectory; St Mary

Legion of Mary: (St. Gertrude's) After the 9:45am mass

Legion of Mary: Spanish: Sats. 10:30 AM -Rectory Basement

St. Vincent De Paul Society: Contact the Rectory

Jornada Youth Group: Fridays 8:00 PM

Haitian Committee: Sunday 10:30 AM

Charismatic Prayer Group: in English - Mondays 7:00 P.M. - 9:00
P.M. in the School Auditorium.

Charismatic Youth Prayer Group: Thursday 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Group in English Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. in the Church.

Stewardship Committee: 2nd Sunday 2:30 P.M.

Nigerian Committee: 2nd & 4th Sunday after the 8:15 A.M. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS*Saturday, January 8*

12:10 pm – Rev. Samuel Aririatu (dec)

5:00 pm – John Schiavone (dec)

7:30 pm – Misa disponible

*Sunday, January 9**The Baptism of the Lord*

8:15 am – Mass for the People

9:45 am – Mary Spina (dec)

Hector A. Barrios (dec)

Marva Taylor (dec)

Washington Cragwell (dec)

11:30 am – Aida & Angel Rodriguez (43rd anniversary)

Por los Sacerdotes

1:15 pm – Meredith Lewis (dec)

Rev. Samuel Aririatu (dec)

Philomene Calipo -Thanksgiving

Monday, January 10

8:00 am – Mass available

12:10 pm – Mass available

Tuesday, January 11

8:00 am – Mass available

12:10 pm – Patrick O'Brien (dec)

George & Olayinka Amakhu -Thanksgiving

Wednesday, January 12

8:00 am – Mass available

12:10 pm – Mass available

*Thursday, January 13**Saint Hilary, bishop*

9:00 am – Mass available at St. Gertrude

12:10 pm – Rosa Lila Feliciano (dec)

Friday, January 14

12:10 pm – Mass available

7:30 pm – Misa disponible

Saturday, January 15

12:10 pm – Mass available

3:00 pm – Philippines Cultural Mass

7:30 pm – Ana Margarita Posada (cumpleaños)

Samuel Garcia (dec)

El Señor de Esquipulas

*Sunday, January 16**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:15 am – Mass for the People

9:45 am – Mass available at St. Gertrude

11:30 am – Misa disponible

1:15 pm – Patrick Gracey (dec)

Virginia Steiger (dec)

**We Are A Tithing Community Following
God's Plan for Giving**

In return for the Lord's generosity, our people returned to His Church the following:

Offertory CollectionWeekend of 12-31 2010 and 1-1,2 2011

Mass Time	# of Attendees	# of Env.	1st Collection	# of Env.	Debt Reduction	Total Collection
7:30 PM	108	13	\$257.25	0	\$0.00	\$257.25
9:00 AM	70	50	\$629.75	0	\$0.00	\$629.75
11:30 AM	95	38	\$388.31	0	\$0.00	\$388.31
8:15 AM	194	75	\$1,294.25	47	\$347.60	\$1,641.85
9:45 AM	177	34	\$605.30	20	\$186.02	\$791.32
11:30 AM	431	100	\$1,770.32	50	\$591.61	\$2,361.93
1:15 PM	167	49	\$1,157.82	28	\$248.83	\$1,406.65
Catholic Charities		5	\$43.00			\$43.00
Christmas Gift		3	\$130.00			\$130.00
Christmas Mass		5	\$55.00			\$55.00
Christmas Flowers		5	\$25.00			\$25.00
Totals	1242	377	\$6,356.00	145	\$1,374.06	\$7,730.06

First Collection Same Sunday Last Year: \$7062.38**(Parish weekly expenses average: \$8756.25)**

“Our Weekly Offering is One Way of Saying: WE BELONG to the Lord... And One Another. What Does **YOUR** Weekly Offering Say? Pray for His Guidance! THEN Make or Renew Your Commitment to Tithing –

Make your Return to God Easier by using...**PARISH PAY** www.parishpay.com.**Weekday Readings****Sun** * Is 42:1-4, 6-7 * Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10 * Mt 3:13-17**Mon** * Heb 1:1-6 * Ps 97:1-2b, 6-7c, 9 * Mk 1:14-20**Tues** * Heb 2:5-12 * Ps 8:2ab, 5-9 * Mk 1:21-28**Wed** * Heb 2:14-18 * Ps 105:1-4, 6-9 * Mk 1:29-39**Thurs** * Heb 3:7-14 * Ps 95:6-11 * Mk 1:40-45**Fri** * Heb 4:1-5, 11 * Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8 * Mk 2:1-12**Sat** * Heb 4:12-16 * Ps 19:8-10, 15 * Mk 2:13-17

MASS INTENTIONS— It is an ancient Christian tradition to request that Mass be offered living and deceased. You may request an announced Mass at the rectory. The customary offering is fifteen dollars. There are a limited number of Masses available between now and the end of the year.

MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

The flowers are given in thanksgiving for **Rosalie McAllister**.

PLEASE PRAY for Robert Cunningham, Yvonne Hall, Zoila Yepez, Pedro Bonilla, Vivian & Edith Hall, Nydia Rodriguez, Lucinda Staten, Kathleen Briza, Michael Wanser, Shane Keane, Liz Moskowitz, William Anthony and our faithful departed: Rev. Samuel Aririatu.



The Baptism of the Lord

PARENTS OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM

As a church musician I have had the privilege of providing the music for hundreds of weddings over the years. During those moments when I am not playing the keyboard or singing, instead of always focusing on the bride and groom, I often turn my attention to their parents. I marvel at the wonderful expressions of love and pride that emanate from those parents as they witness their children's love blossom before them. This is the sentiment I am reminded of as I listen to today's Gospel. At the beginning of Jesus' public ministry—at the moment of his baptism in the Jordan—we glimpse the love emanating from Father to Son. The Father's voice, coming from the heavens, declares that this one is his beloved son, in whom he is well pleased.

PLEASING IN GOD'S EYES

What is it that made Jesus pleasing to his Father? And what makes us pleasing to God? Perhaps the prophet Isaiah holds the key. The prophecy announced in today's first reading gives us a glimpse of the kind of person who is found pleasing in God's eyes. Too often we see these prophecies fulfilled solely in Jesus. As people baptized into Christ Jesus, we, too, can be the fulfillment of these prophecies. In baptism, we are called to be people who establish justice on the earth; we are summoned to be the light for people who are blind to the needs of others; we are charged with being the servants of God. This work is not easy. It demands the strength that comes only from a deep relationship with God. Today is the day to begin anew to grow in our love for God. Let us strive to become those who are the beloved of God, those in whom God is well pleased. This demands growth in intimacy with God, which can be nurtured each day in prayer, as well as each week when we come to Mass to offer God praise and thanksgiving.

CHURCHES IN NEED

We are a Catholic Church; which means that we are united in Faith with more than one billion Catholics around the world. Next Sunday, we will be accepting your contribution in support of local churches in South and Central America, the Caribbean, Africa and in Eastern Europe .

HAITIAN COMMUNITY

Our parish Haitian community will celebrate Independence Day with Mass celebrated by Father Yvon this Sunday, January 9th at 2:30 P.M. A reception will follow in the school. All are welcome.

FILIPINO COMMUNITY

Monsignor Ramon C. Tronged, Vicar General of the Diocese of Legazp, will celebrate Mass on Saturday, January 15 at 3:00 P.M. in honor of Santo Niño De Cebu. A reception will follow in the school.

Congratulations to the following who were installed as Ministers of Holy Communion and Lector.

Ahida Cabrera
Rafael Campo
Joyce George
Sylvia Madison

Oscar Perez
Thelma Perez
Israel Rivera
Sylvana Santizo

Armida Wallace

Lector
Estebana Nino



Here is my servant whom I uphold



WHO'S IN? WHO'S OUT?

The book of Leviticus in the Old Testament contains a long list of rules for Jewish people to become "pure" and to maintain that purity.

This purity has nothing to do with simple cleanliness. The rituals to ensure purity guaranteed a worthiness to be in contact with sacred things. The code for the priests who officiated in the temple ceremonies required the highest degree of purity. The Pharisees would only eat with others who were keeping those strict laws of purity. Social exclusion was the Jewish norm. The elite mixed only with the elite and the pure with the pure. Some Jews, the Essenes, took themselves off to a desert settlement to be even more pure and exclusive. So, along comes John the Baptist. He walks around in animal skins, eats grasshoppers, and doesn't seem to care all that much about the laws of Moses. He knows the Messiah, the Savior, is at hand and he says that *all* must repent and be baptized—men and women alike, and regardless of social status. No wonder the Pharisees, Sadducees, and other elite people are shocked and enraged. Jesus appears and insists on being baptized, just like everybody else in the crowd attracted by John. John reluctantly agrees, knowing that Jesus is the expected Savior. Jesus breaks even more rules: he heals on the Sabbath, forgives sins, and invites all sorts of people to his table. He shares meals with tax collectors and prostitutes, as well as respectable, even wealthy, citizens. Is it any wonder that people were shocked? Jesus was a scandal. He was inclusive of all people without any limits or preconditions whatsoever. Jesus not only loved them, he made them feel wanted, cared for, and included. Should we not do the same? Remember, Jesus did say to follow him.

ARMED SERVICES

If you have a family member or friend on active duty in the Armed Forces, please inform the rectory so that we may recognize their service and pray for their safety and swift return home.

ROCKAWAY LITTLE LEAGUE—Registration is now open online for Baseball and Softball for boys and girls from ages 4 to 15. In-person registration dates are Sunday, January 16 and Saturday, January 22 at the RLL Clubhouse in Ft. Tilden. There will also be a registration session at Stop & shop on Saturday, January 15. All sessions are from 9am to 1pm. Go to www.rockawaylittleleague.com for more information.

BLOOD PREASURE SCREENING—St. John's Hospital will conduct blood pressure screenings here at St. Mary and St. Gertrude Parish on:

Sun. Jan. 23—11 am to 2:30 pm
Sun. Feb. 27— 11 am to 2:30 pm
Sun. Mar. 20—11 am to 2:30 pm

FAMILY, MARRIAGE AND INDIVIDUAL

THERAPY - Professional therapy, provided by the New York State licensed therapists, is available to our parish and 112 other parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani has been conducted in the diocese for the past 36 years for the convenience of parishioners. Services are provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, a proprietary professional corporation, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. Confidential information and appointments are available by calling 631-243-2503.

HEAP PROGRAM—Do you need assistance with paying your heating bill? Is your heat cut off because of lack of payment? Apply for a Heap Benefit today!! NYC Council Member James Sanders Jr. is offering The Home Energy Assistance Program (H.E.A.P.) The HEAP Program assists low-income New Yorkers with heating their homes. Apply Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Councilman Sanders' new Far Rockaway Office, 1526 Central Avenue, Far Rockaway—718-471-7014. No appointment necessary.

"A Visit with St. Paul"

A one-man show written and performed by Glenn Smith

St. Raymond's church
January 18, 2011
7:00 P.M.

This performance is a benefit for a Catholic missionary in China.

Glenn is a St. Raymond's graduate—Class of '68

For more information:
www.visitwithstpaul.com

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS

Ha sido una antigua tradición cristiana solicitar que una misa sea ofrecida por una persona en vida o fallecida. En la rectoría usted podrá solicitar que una misa sea anunciada. La donación de una misa es quince dólares. Hay un número limitado de misas disponibles desde ahora hasta el final del año.

EL DIEZMO—EL REPORTE DE LAS OFRENDAS**Domingo Pasado: \$7780.06****Mismo Domingo Hace un Año: \$7062.38****Un Promedio de Gastos Semanales: \$8756.25**

Si usted es nuevo en nuestra parroquia, puede hacerse miembro oficial de Santa María llenando una tarjeta de inscripción que está disponible en el vestíbulo de la Iglesia. Que Dios les bendiga!

**El Bautismo del Señor****LOS PADRES DE LOS NOVIOS**

Como soy músico pastoral en una iglesia, he tenido el privilegio de encargarme de la música en centenares de bodas. Durante los ratos en que no estoy ni cantando ni tocando el órgano, no siempre miro a los novios, sino que a menudo me fijo en sus padres, y me maravillo ante la expresión de amor y de orgullo que brilla en sus rostros al ver florecer el amor de sus hijos. Al escuchar el evangelio de hoy, me acuerdo de la alegría que he visto brillar en los padres de tantos novios. Al comienzo del ministerio público de Jesús –en el momento de su bautismo en el Jordán– vislumbramos por un momento el amor de Dios Padre hacia su Hijo. La voz de Dios, resonando desde los cielos, proclama que éste es su Hijo amado, en quien tiene sus complacencias.

DIOS NOS MIRA COMPLACIDO

¿Qué es lo que hace que el Padre se complazca en Jesús? Y, ¿qué hace que el Padre se complazca en nosotros? Tal vez la clave está en el libro del profeta Isaías. La profecía que escuchamos en la primera lectura nos deja ver la clase de persona en quien Dios se complace. Con demasiada frecuencia pensamos que esas profecías se cumplen en Jesús, y nada más que en él. Pero, como cristianos bautizados en Jesucristo, también en nosotros se cumplen esas profecías. Por nuestro bautismo estamos llamados a ser personas que establecen la justicia en esta tierra, a ser luz para los que están ciegos a las necesidades de los demás, y a ser siervos de Dios. Este trabajo no es fácil. Exige la clase de fuerza, que sólo nos puede venir de una relación muy profunda con Dios. Hoy es el día de comenzar una vez más a crecer en nuestro amor a Dios. Esforcémonos por llegar a ser los amados de Dios, aquellos en los que Dios tiene sus complacencias. Esto exige un crecimiento de intimidad con Dios, lo cual se nutre con la oración diaria y con nuestra alabanza y acción de gracias a Dios cuando participamos cada semana en la misa.

La Novena de Nuestro Señor de Esquipulas empezó el Viernes, 7 de Enero cada día a las 6:30 PM en la Iglesia.

LAS FUERZAS ARMADAS— Si usted tiene a un familiar o un amigo en servicio activo en las Fuerzas Armadas, favor de informar a la rectoría para que podamos reconocer su servicio y orar para que regrese a casa pronto.

¿QUIÉNES ESTÁN ADENTRO Y QUIÉNES AFUERA?

Los judíos tenían muchas reglas con relación a la pureza, las cuales tenían que ver más con hacerse dignos para tocar las cosas sagradas, que con la limpieza. Las exclusiones sociales eran algo normal entre los judíos. La élite se mezclaba sólo con la élite y los puros con los puros. Y entonces llega Juan Bautista, a quien las reglas no parecen importarles mucho y dice que *todos* deben arrepentirse y ser bautizados—lo mismo los hombres que las mujeres—sin tener en cuenta la condición social. ¡Qué horror! Jesús aparece e insiste en ser bautizado como los demás, aunque Juan sabe que él es el Salvador esperado. Jesús sigue rompiendo reglas al curar en sábado, perdonar los pecados y compartir sus comidas con recaudadores de impuestos y prostitutas, al igual que con la élite. ¡Jesús era un escándalo! Aceptaba a todos sin poner límites ni condiciones. Amaba a todos y los hacía sentir queridos y acogidos. ¿No deberíamos nosotros hacer lo mismo? Recuerda, Jesús nos pidió que lo siguiéramos.

IGLESIAS EN NECESIDAD

Nosotros somos una Iglesia Católica; esto significa que estamos unidos a un billón de católicos alrededor del mundo por nuestra Fe. El próximo Domingo, tendremos una colecta especial para apoyar a las Iglesias en América Central y América del Sur, El Caribe, África y Europa .

COMUNIDAD HAITIANA

Nuestra comunidad Haitiana estará celebrando el Día de la Independencia con una Misa la cual será celebrada por el Padre Yvon hoy domingo 9 de Enero a las 2:30 P.M. seguida con una recepción en la escuela. Todos son bienvenidos.

COMUNIDAD FILIPINA

El Monseñor Ramón C. Tronged, Vicario General de la Diócesis de Legazp, celebrará la Misa en honor al Santo Niño de Cebu el Sábado 15 de Enero a las 3:00 P.M. seguida por una recepción en la escuela.



Muchas felicidades a las siguientes personas quienes fueron instalados como Ministros de la Sagrada Comunión y Lector.

Ahida Cabrera	Oscar Perez
Rafael Campo	Thelma Perez
Joyce George	Israel Rivera
Sylvia Madison	Sylvana Santizo
Armida Wallace	

Lector
Estebana Nino