

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



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

Phone: (718) 327-1133
Fax: (718) 327-3276



e-mail: info@saintsmaryandgertrude.org

Website: www.saintsmaryandgertrude.org

ADMINISTRATOR:

Rev. Fulgencio Gutierrez, Ext. 22

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Jean Yvon Pierre, Ext. 27

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF:

Deacon Michael C. Moss
Deacon Adalberto Eddie Montero
Deacon 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

TRUSTEES:

Miguel Jimenez
Lillian Virginia Roundtree

PASTORAL COUNCIL, CHAIR:

Yvonne Hall

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE, Ext. 25

Deacon Michael Moss, Director, (917) 769-4496
Dr. Emy Punsalan, RICA
Ms. Estabana Nino, RICA
Ms. Carmen Macfie, CCD
Mrs. Susan Singh-Smith, CCD
All children in grades 1-8 should be registered every year for Religious Education classes.

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Mr. Joseph R. Villadiego, Ext. 24.

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 (Spanish), 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 & 9:45 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.

JDV Group: Wednesdays 8:00 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 14

- 12:10 pm – Simitaukai Stase Jouzas Family
Kelneriai Ona Zenonais Family
- 5:00 pm – Kemi George (birthday)
- 7:30 pm – En honor al Señor de Esquipulas
Presentación de la bebe Daily E. Rodas Reyes

Sunday, January 15 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:15 am – Nicole Navarro (birthday)
- 9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) Frank Montañez (dec)
- 11:30 am – Pedro y Cristina Bonilla—Acción de Gracias
Padre Fulgencio Gutierrez (cumpleaños)
Margarita Posada (cumpleaños)
Presentación de la bebe Celeste Belen de Leon Orellana
- 1:15 pm – Mass available
- 2:30 pm – Syllianne & Therese D. Pierre

Monday, January 16

- 9:00 am – Thomas A. Marcos – Thanksgiving

Tuesday, January 17 – St. Anthony

- 8:00 am – Mass available
- 12:10 pm – Mass available

Wednesday, January 18

- 8:00 am – Mass available
- 12:10 pm – Mass available

Thursday, January 19

- 9:00 am – (St. Gertrude) Mass available
- 12:10 pm – Mass available

Friday, January 20 – St. Fabian & St. Sebastian

- 12:10 pm – John J. Waldron Jr. (dec)
- 7:30 pm – Ericka Anaya Hoyos (dec)

Saturday, January 21 – St. Agnes

- 12:10 pm – Mass available
- 5:00 pm – Thomas Valentine – Thanksgiving
- 7:30 pm – Virgen de la Altagracia

Sunday, January 22 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:15 am – Rosary Society
Gabriel, Herson, Waldman & Jim Rivera (dec)
- 9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) George Rountree (dec)
- 11:30 am – Carolena Mayorga Contreras (cumpleaños)
- 1:15 pm – Mass available



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 Collection

1st Collection last weekend - \$5288.00
2nd Collection - \$1267.00

First Collection Same Sunday Last Year (2011): \$6110.76

(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.

Weekday Readings

- Sun** * 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 * Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 * Jn 1:35-42
- Mon** * 1 Sm 15:16-23 * Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23 * Mk 2:18-22
- Tues** * 1 Sm 16:1-13 * Ps 89:20-22, 27-28 * Mk 2:23-28
- Wed** * 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 * Ps 144:1-2, 9-10 * Mk 3:1-6
- Thurs*** 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 * Ps 56:2-3, 9-14 * Mk 3:7-12
- Fri** * 1 Sm 24:3-21 * Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11 * Mk 3:13-19
- Sat** * 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 * Ps 80:2-3, 5-7 * Mk 3:20-21



The Vocations Crosses are available for 2012. Sign-up sheets may be found in the lobbies of both parish locations.

Please sign-up and take home the Vocations Cross for 1 week and pray for vocations. It is important that we, the faithful, pray for our priests, deacons, sisters and brothers.

There are two crosses available at each location.

MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

The bread and wine are given in thanksgiving for
Tania Bonilla.

The sanctuary candle is given in thanksgiving for
Pedro & Cristina Bonilla.

The flowers are given in thanksgiving for
Pedro & Cristina Bonilla.



Rosalie McAllister, Eileen Barton, Roberto Bonilla, Maria Guadalupe Vasquez, Pedro Bonilla, and our faithful departed.

The Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2012 in commemoration of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING

In today's first reading, Samuel hears the Lord's voice, but mistakes it for Eli's. Fortunately, Eli is familiar enough with the ways of the Lord to help Samuel make his response.

As we seek the Lord, it is good to have someone like Eli who is familiar with the Lord's voice. There are many voices that bid us "Follow this way," and the Lord's call is not always easy to discern. There are people, too, who would pretend to know the Lord and draw others to themselves rather than to God.

Eli could have taken advantage of Samuel's naïveté and claimed it was he who had summoned Samuel. But Eli claims neither to be God nor to speak for God. Instead, he encourages Samuel to listen for himself.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Perhaps the most profound line in all of today's readings is Jesus' question of the two disciples who begin to follow him. "What are you looking for?" he asks plainly and directly.

Finding the Messiah was partly a matter of what one was looking for. If one lived with the expectation of the Messiah's coming, there would be a certain alertness, a certain watchfulness to life, and a certain openness to God's movements. The two disciples had followed John the Baptizer, but as soon as John pointed to Jesus, they were ready to follow him.

It has been said that what we find in life is pretty much what we have sought. "What are you looking for?" is a challenging question for each of us to ask of ourselves. Our honest answer to this question can reveal much about our faith and our values. Those who, like Andrew and the other disciple, are looking for the Messiah will find the Messiah, dwelling now, as then, among the people. "Come and see!"

The Dominican Community is celebrating their feast day: Virgin of the Altagracia on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at the 7:30 P.M. Mass. Refreshments in the school basement after mass. Everyone is welcome.



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY PRAYER

God of our work and of our rest, again and again your creatures take sides against one another. Oppression and violence are our sad inheritance. But we still look for you where the lowly are raised up, where the mighty are brought down. We find you in your servants, and we give you thanks for the witness and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. Fill us with a spirit and strength like his, so that day by day we may see where our community is torn by repression and fear and ignorance, and so give ourselves to healing. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2011

Given By:

In Memory Of:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Ingrid M. Hoyte | |
| Irma L. Rodriguez | |
| John Dunn | Minnie Dunn |
| Maria L. Reyes de Vega | |
| Grey Mera | |
| Sandra N. Lopez | |
| William Anthony & J. Howell | Sheena Anthony |
| Michael E. Aifuobhokhan | |
| Jose Manuel Morataya | |
| Victor Bolanos | |
| Ana & Rene Gonzalez | |
| Jaime Miranda | |
| Waldine Gonzalo Perez | |
| Luz & Moises Colon | Hector Carchi |
| Ana Margaret Posada de Alvarenga | Almas del purgatorio |
| Raquel Polanco | |
| Neila Ferraro | |
| Carmen Caceres | |
| Mildred V. Pemberton | |
| Oscar D. Enamorado | |
| Ana & Jose Mejia & Urbina | |
| Jose A. Guzman | |
| Manuel Mejia | |
| Emilia Diaz | |
| Diego & Maria Zipriano | Amalia Gonzales |
| Maria T. Kohl | The Kohl & Stock families, Martin Bader |
| Basilia Gutierrez | |
| Ms. Miriam Crespo | |
| Ann-Marie Monereau | |
| Maria Hernandez | |
| Hugh and Mary Doherty | Jack Doherty |
| Louisa Miceli | DiSaltore, Magliulo, Bruno, Soma, Villani & Miceli Families |
| Ms. Rosa Dubon | |
| Silvia Aguilar | Raul Espinosa, Raul Espinosa Jr, Handel Cerritos, Domitila Barrientos Maria Crespo |
| Carmen Andujar | |
| Maria L. Fernandez | |
| Joyce George | |
| Romula Santana | |
| Jorge y Familia Estrada | |
| Chantal Morency | Agnes Jean Louis |
| Froilan Quima Rivera | |
| Maritza Martinez | Mis papas Amando X. Juan y Fam. |
| Juan Garcia | |
| Luz Rodriguez | Hipolito Rodriguez |
| William F. Phelan | Deceased members of the Phelan, Costa & Sukdeo Families |
| Marie Domanie Joseph | |
| Reina Maldonado | |
| Rafael Campo Familia | |
| Juan Blanco | |
| Junior Jean Baptiste | Theyda Victor |
| Ana Maria Blanco | |
| Iris Constable | |

A WALK THROUGH THE MASS BY: THOMAS RICHSTATTER, O.F.M.

Whenever we experience a change in our cherished rituals it is a matter of concern. And as the Eucharist is our most cherished religious ritual—the very source and summit of our faith—any change in the way we celebrate the Eucharist will naturally produce a certain amount of anxiety.

Rituals, by their very nature, tend to be fixed and unchanging. Think of the rituals in our daily lives: There are set ways of shaking hands, eating with a fork, responding to a letter. And when we are accustomed to a certain way of doing things we seldom ask why we do it that way.

In the Eucharist, too, we have many ritual actions which we perform over and over without asking why. And when some of these rituals change—as they have at various times throughout the history of the Church—the anxiety that these changes might cause can be alleviated by looking carefully at the elements of the ritual that didn't change.

In this Catholic Update we will “walk through” the ritual prayers and actions of the Eucharist to examine why we do what we do at Mass. I think these explanations will be helpful for the great numbers of Roman Catholics who attend Mass regularly but don't always remember the reasons behind the various actions of the Mass. They may be especially helpful for catechumens (those preparing to enter the Catholic Church) and visitors from other churches who are not familiar with the Catholic Church.

What is the Mass? - The core of the Eucharist never changes. The Mass is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The bishops at the Second Vatican Council brought together these three mysteries in a multifaceted description of the Mass recalling the Last Supper, the sacrifice of the Cross, and Easter Sunday.

But the Mass is not merely a meal which reminds us of the Last Supper, or a Passion play which helps recall Good Friday, or a Sunrise service which celebrates the Lord's resurrection. In the Eucharist, when we recall these mysteries of redemption, “the Church opens to the faithful the riches of the Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age in order that the faithful may lay hold of them and be filled with saving grace” (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, #102). At every Eucharist, in a real yet mystical way, we become present to these central mysteries of our Faith.

“At the Last Supper, on the night when he was betrayed, our Savior instituted the Eucharistic sacrifice....” The events of Holy Thursday give us the key for understanding the “shape” of our eucharistic ritual.

What do we do at a formal meal? We gather with our family and friends, we talk and share our stories, and then we move to the table. The food is brought to the table, we say grace, and we pass the food and eat and drink. Finally, we take our leave and return to our homes. The Mass has these same four movements: 1) Gathering, 2) Storytelling, 3) Meal sharing and 4) Commissioning. In a sense, the Gospel of Luke

walks us through the Mass in the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Lk 24:13-35). The disciples are walking along and the stranger catches up to them; 1) they gather together; 2) they tell their story and recall the Scriptures; 3) they recognize him in the “breaking of bread” and 4) they dash back to Jerusalem to share their joy with the other disciples. Let's take a closer look at each in turn.

Part One

Gathering rites—Coming together, assembling, is at the heart of our Sunday worship. The reason behind each of the ritual actions of the first part of the Mass can be found in this word: gathering. The purpose of these rites is to bring us together into one body—the Body of Christ—ready to listen to God's word and to break bread together.

Greeters. In many churches today there will be someone at the door to greet you as you arrive for Sunday Mass: We all like to be greeted and welcomed when we gather for a celebration. If the greeters (and we all should serve this function for one another) recognize that you are new to the parish, they will give you a special hello and be sure that you have the service books (missalette or hymnal) and participation aids necessary to pray well with the assembly.

Use of water. One of the first things Catholics do when they come to church is dip their right hand in water and make the Sign of the Cross. This ritual is a reminder of our Baptism: We were baptized with water and signed with the cross. At every Mass we renew our promises to die to sin. The Eucharist begins in Baptism; it is Baptism that brings us to Church.

Genuflection. In medieval Europe, it was a custom to go down on one knee (to genuflect) before a king or person of rank. This secular mark of honor gradually entered the Church, and people began to genuflect to honor the altar and the presence of Christ in the tabernacle before entering the pew. Today, many people express their reverence with an even older custom and bow to the altar before taking their place.

Posture, song. When the Mass begins, everyone stands up. Standing is the traditional posture of the Christian at prayer: It expresses our attentiveness to the word of God and our readiness to carry it out. Often we begin by singing together. What better way to gather than to unite our thoughts and our voices in common word, rhythm and melody.

Greeting. The priest will ask us to begin with the sign of the cross, again reminding us of Baptism, and will greet us, saying, “The Lord be with you.” You will hear this greeting frequently. It means many things. Like “good day,” it can mean both “hello” and “good-bye.” It is both a wish (May the Lord be with you) and a profound statement of faith (As you assemble for worship, the Lord is with you). It is an ancient biblical greeting: Boaz returned from Bethlehem (we read in the Book of Ruth 2:4) and said to the reapers, “The Lord be with you!” The ritual response to this greeting is the formula, “And with your spirit,” by which we return the hello, the good wishes, the statement of faith.

Will continue next week...

The 2011 tax statements are now available. Please fill in the form below; drop it in the collection basket at the weekend Mass, bring it to either rectory, or mail request form to:

St. Mary Star of the Sea and St. Gertrude Church
1920 New Haven Avenue
Far Rockaway, NY 11691
Attn: Joanne Murray

NOTE: Tax statements will not be automatically mailed out. Statements are given by request only.

Request for 2011 Tax Statement

Please fill in and print all information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Apt. No. ____ Telephone Number: _____
(if applicable)

select one: ____ Will pick up ____ Please mail

NOTE: Tax letters will only be mailed to the address on our files

ROCKAWAY LITTLE LEAGUE—Registration for the 2012 baseball and softball seasons are now underway online. For more information or to register, go to www.rockawaylittleleagueny.com. Fees increase in February.

EL DIEZMO—EL REPORTE DE LAS OFRENDAS

Domingo Pasado: \$5288.00

Segunda Colecta: \$1267.00

Mismo Domingo Hace un Año: \$6110.76

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!

MISA EN HONOR A LA VIRGEN DE LA ALTAGRACIA!

La Comunidad Dominicana tendrá una Misa en honor a la Virgen de la Altagracia el 21 de Enero del 2012 a las 7:30 P.M. Después de la misa tendremos un pequeño refrigerio en el sótano de la escuela. Todos son bienvenidos.



La Oficina de la Rectoría estará cerrada el Lunes 16 de Enero del 2012 en conmemoración del Día de Martin Luther King Jr.



Segundo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

TU SIERVO ESCUCHA

En la primera lectura de hoy, Samuel escucha la voz del Señor, pero cree que es Helí. Afortunadamente, Helí está suficientemente familiarizado con los caminos del Señor y ayuda a Samuel a responder.

Cuando buscamos al Señor, es bueno tener a alguien como Helí que reconoce la voz del Señor. Hay muchas voces que nos invitan a “seguir el camino”, y el llamado del Señor no es siempre fácil de discernir. Hay personas, también, que pretenden conocer al Señor y atraen a otros hacia ellos, no hacia Dios.

Helí pudo haberse aprovechado de la inocencia de Samuel y decirle que era él quien lo llamaba. Pero Helí ni dice ser Dios ni hablar por Dios. En cambio, anima a Samuel a escucharlo él mismo.

¿QUÉ BUSCAN?

Quizás la línea más profunda en todas las lecturas de hoy es la pregunta de Jesús a los dos discípulos que comienzan a seguirlo. “¿Qué buscan?” les pregunta sencilla y directamente.

Encontrar al Mesías dependía parcialmente de lo que uno buscaba. Si uno vivía a la expectativa de la llegada del Mesías, habría cierto estado de alerta, cierta observación de la vida, y cierta apertura a las manifestaciones de Dios. Los dos discípulos habían seguido a Juan el Bautista, pero tan pronto Juan les mostró a Jesús, estuvieron listos para seguirlo.

Se ha dicho que lo que encontramos en la vida es casi siempre lo que buscamos. “¿Qué buscas?” es una pregunta retadora que debemos hacernos a nosotros mismos. Nuestra honesta respuesta a esta pregunta puede revelar mucho sobre nuestra fe y nuestros valores. Quienes, como Andrés y el otro discípulo, buscan al Mesías encontrarán al Mesías habitando ahora, como entonces, en medio de la gente. “¡Vengan y vean!”



Las Cruces de Vocaciones están disponibles para este año 2012. En el vestíbulo de ambas Iglesias encontrarán las hojas para anotarse para recibir la Cruz por una semana.

Por favor anótese para llevar la Cruz de Vocaciones a su casa por una semana para orar por las vocaciones. Es muy importante que nosotros, los fieles, oremos por nuestros sacerdotes, diáconos, hermanos y hermanas religiosas.

Tenemos dos cruces disponibles en cada parroquia.