

# 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  
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e-mail: [info@saintsmaryandgertrude.org](mailto:info@saintsmaryandgertrude.org)

Website: [www.saintsmaryandgertrude.org](http://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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the 8:15 A.M. Mass

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, January 28 – St. Thomas Aquinas**

12:10 pm – Gaetano & Magdalena Capone (dec)

5:00 pm – Lennard George (dec)

7:30 pm – Haydee Almodovar (dec)

Wilbert Machado (dec)

**Sunday, January 29 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:15 am – For the People of St. Mary and St. Gertrude

Daphne Riley (healing)

Patrick Igharosa (birthday)

9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) Mass available

11:30 am – Maria Vreves Hernandez (dec)

1:15 pm – Rosalie McAllister—Thanksgiving

**Monday, January 30**

8:00 am – Mass available

12:10 pm – Mary B. Waldron (dec)

**Tuesday, January 31 - St. John Bosco**

8:00 am – Mass available

12:10 pm – Ronald A. Marcos (birthday)

**REMINDER: BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1ST, THERE WILL BE NO 8:00 A. M. DAILY MASS**

**Wednesday, February 1**

12:10 pm – Ronald A. Marcos II —Thanksgiving

**Thursday, February 2 - The Presentation of the Lord**

9:00 am – (St. Gertrude) Mass available

12:10 pm – Carmine P. Capone Jr. (dec)

Seberina Polanco (dec)

**Friday, February 3 – St. Blaise & St. Ansgar**

12:10 pm – Danilo De Castro (dec)

7:30 pm – Mass available

**Saturday, February 4**

12:10 pm – Mass available

5:00 pm – Mass available

7:30 pm – Misa en honor a la Virgen de Suyapa

**Sunday, February 5 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:15 am – For the People of St. Mary and St. Gertrude

9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) Mass available

11:30 am – Misa disponible

1:15 pm – Rosalie McAllister—Thanksgiving

**MEMORIALS THIS WEEK**

*The bread and wine are given in thanksgiving for*

**Rosalie McAllister.**

*The sanctuary candle is given in thanksgiving for*

**Rosalie McAllister.**

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

**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 - \$5110.00**

**2nd Collection - \$1287.00**

**First Collection Same Sunday Last Year (2011): \$5728.12**

**(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** \* Dt 18:15-20 \* Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 \* Mk 1:21-28

**Mon** \* 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13 \* Ps 3:2-7 \* Mk 5:1-20

**Tues** \* 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3 \* Ps 86:1-6 \* Mk 5:21-43

**Wed** \* 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 \* Ps 32:1-2, 5-17 \* Mk 6:1-6

**Thurs** \* Mal 3:1-4 \* Ps 24:7-10 \* Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

**Fri** \* Sir 47:2-11 \* Ps 18:31, 47, 50-51 \* Mk 6:14-29

**Sat** \* 1 Kgs 3:4-13 \* Ps 119:9-14 \* Mk 6:30-34



**Pray for ...**

Sister Dolores Foster CSJ, Daphne Riley, Claire Borgella, Rosalie McAllister, , Roberto Bonilla, Maria Guadalupe Vasquez, Pedro Bonilla, and our faithful departed especially Eileen Barton, Ismael Hernandez, Gregorio Garcia, Ena Shortt.



**VOCATIONS**



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.

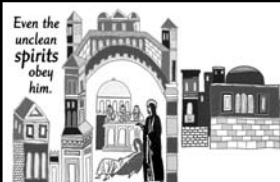
There are two crosses available at each location.

**VOCACIONES**

Las Cruces de Vocaciones están disponibles para este año 2012. En el vestíbulo de ambas Iglesias encontraran 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.



## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### JESUS TAUGHT "WITH AUTHORITY"

That Jesus didn't teach like the scribes was very significant. After all, it was the scribes who taught the scriptures. They were the ones who knew the religious doctrine and taught it to the people. And though frequently criticized in the Gospels, they weren't bad people by definition. Many of them were probably generous, decent, truthful people.

But Jesus was a teacher of a different sort altogether. It was as though he didn't need to refer to the scriptures or to the teaching of anyone else at all. He had the authority himself. Imagine the unusual impression he must have made on his listeners!

It has been suggested that Jesus was reputed to teach "with authority" because the crowds instantly recognized the truth of what he said. Why? Because he spoke the truth that was already in their hearts.

### GOD'S WORD IS ALWAYS BEING SPOKEN

Centuries earlier, God had promised through Jeremiah that "the days are coming . . . when . . . I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts" (Jeremiah 31:31, 33). Of course, "the days to come" are always here and now. The reign of God is always "at hand." So God's word is always being spoken.

Usually, though, we miss God's word, as available as it always is. It's as if a movie, filled with wonder and excitement, were always playing away for our enjoyment; meanwhile, we manage to busy ourselves with other things—and eventually wander off—not willing to give our full attention.

What Jesus did was stir up a message that had been placed deep within his listeners before they were born, etched in their hearts by God. "Wake up!" he urged, and some people didn't wander off. They listened, "spellbound."

And what of us? Must we wait for a charismatic teacher to come and wake us up? Well, we may wait a long time. Let's not give in to the old "homilies are stale" and "church is boring" excuses. God's word is always being spoken. If only we can learn to pay attention, we will be spellbound.

The Honduran Community is celebrating their feast day: Virgin of Suyapa on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at the 7:30 P.M. Mass. Refreshments in the school basement after mass. Everyone is welcome.

## Thank you Father Yvon...

Your family, here at St. Mary Star of the Sea and St. Gertrude Church, bid you Godspeed and blessings in your new assignment to St. Jerome. Thank you for your dedicated service to us these last three years. We were blessed to have you here. Don't forget your family here and please come back to visit us often. We will miss you.

### MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE

St. Mary Star of the Sea and St. Gertrude would like to inform our parishioners that beginning Wednesday, February 1st, 2012, we will no longer have the 8:00 A.M. daily Mass. The decision was made because of the low attendance at this Mass and because Fr. Yvon will not be replaced. The Sunday 8:15 A.M. Mass will remain the same.

**CAMBIO EN EL HORARIO DE LAS MISAS** Santa María Estrella del Mar y Santa Gertrudis desea informarle a todos sus feligreses que comenzando el Miércoles 1 de Febrero ya no tendremos la Misa de las 8:00 A.M. durante los días de la semana. Esta decisión fue tomada debido a la baja asistencia en esta Misa y porque el Padre Yvon no será remplazado. La Misa de las 8:15 A.M. del Domingo continuará igual.

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

**WHOSE AUTHORITY?**

A man stands on your front doorstep, holding a Bible:  
*"Good afternoon. May I share a few words of Christian truth with you?"*

*"Sure. Where do you get this truth?"*

*"From the Bible, of course."*

*"That's your authority? The Bible?"*

*"Yes, it's the only authority for Christians."*

*"Can you prove that from the Bible?"*

*"What do you mean?"*

*"I mean I don't believe the Bible claims to be the sole rule of faith. Please show me where the Bible claims such a status for itself."*

Sometimes the conversation goes more like this:

*"Good afternoon. May I share a few words of Christian truth with you?"*

*"No, I'm a Catholic."*

The door closes.

Many door-to-door proselytizers have good intentions. They want to convert you to the "truth"—as they see it. From their perspective, the Bible is the sole authority for the Christian faith. Some are taught that Catholics are prohibited from reading the Bible or know nothing about the scriptures.

However, not only do we have full access to the Bible, but we hear segments of it proclaimed every time we celebrate Mass. In today's first reading God gives Moses the right to speak with divine authority to the people of Israel. In today's readings Jesus and Moses are recognized as speaking and acting with the authority of God. Both Jesus and Moses acted as a bridge between the people and God. For us the scriptures are a bridge for God's truth, but so are the sacraments and the lived experience of the Church—what we call Tradition. It is part of our responsibility as disciples of Jesus to learn from the scriptures, to listen attentively at Mass, to read scripture prayerfully for ourselves, and to learn more about the Bible through reading, studying, and learning with others.

**Living Stewardship Now**

Join a scripture study group in your parish. Your parish doesn't have a group? Start one. You need not be a scholar or an expert to begin.

**Speech and Hearing Screenings and Hearing Aid Help—**

St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering **FREE** Speech and Hearing Screenings and Hearing Aid Help from January 30, 2012 through May 7, 2012. Please call the center at 718-990-6480 to schedule an appointment.

**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](http://www.rockawaylittleleagueny.com). Fees increase in February.

**registration**

St. Camillus School, located on Beach 99th Street, will begin taking registration for the school year 2012-2013 on Monday, January 30th. Please call the school 718-634-5260 for an appointment. When you

come for registration, please bring the following:

The child to be registered

Birth Certificate

Baptismal Certificate

Copy of the Immunization Record

For students registering above Kgn, please bring the latest report card

Students for Kindergarten must be 5 years old by Dec. 31, 2012

Check for registration fee

An Open House has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 7th from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. for families of prospective students.

**St. Camillus****"By The Sea"****Card Party**

**Join us for a Night Filled with Fun & Fabulous Prizes!**

Friday, February 3rd, 2012

Springman Hall

(Parking lot door entrance only)

Doors open at 7:00 P.M.

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Adult only—No children . All proceeds go to St. Camillus School

**Muchas Gracias Padre Yvon...**

Su familia aquí en Santa María y Santa Gertrudis le desea muchas bendiciones en su nuevo ministerio en San Jerome. Le agradecemos mucho todo lo que ha hecho por nosotros, y su sincero y dedicado servicio durante estos últimos tres años. Realmente fuimos bendecidos por haberlo tenido entre nosotros. No se olvide de su familia aquí, y por favor venga a visitarnos de vez en cuando. Lo vamos a extrañar mucho.

**EL DIEZMO—EL REPORTE DE LAS OFRENDAS****Domingo Pasado: \$5110.00****Segunda Colecta: \$1287.00****Mismo Domingo Hace un Año: \$5728.12****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!

**Cuarto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario****JESÚS ENSEÑABA “CON AUTORIDAD”**

Que Jesús no haya enseñado como los escribas es muy importante.

Después de todo, fueron los escribas los que enseñaban las escrituras. Ellos eran los que sabían la doctrina religiosa y los que la enseñaban a la gente. Y aunque frecuentemente en los Evangelios eran criticados, no eran por lo general malas personas. Muchos de ellos eran probablemente generosos, decentes y sinceros.

Pero Jesús era un maestro muy distinto. No necesitaba citar las escrituras ni las enseñanzas de los demás. Él tenía la autoridad. ¡Imagina la inusual impresión que debe haber causado en sus oyentes! Se dice que Jesús enseñaba “con autoridad” porque las multitudes reconocían de inmediato la verdad de lo que decía. ¿Por qué? Porque hablaba la verdad que ya se encontraba en sus corazones.

**LA PALABRA DE DIOS SIEMPRE ESTÁ SIENDO PROCLAMADA**

Siglos antes, Dios había prometido por boca de Jeremías “ya llega el día . . . en que . . . yo pondré mi Ley en su interior, la escribiré en sus corazones” (Jeremías 31:31, 33). Por supuesto, “el día que llega” siempre es aquí y ahora. El Reino de Dios está siempre “cerca”. Así que la palabra de Dios siempre está siendo pronunciada.

Generalmente, sin embargo, nos perdemos la palabra de Dios, aunque siempre está disponible. Es como si una película, llena de sorpresas y suspenso, estuviese exhibiéndose siempre para nuestra diversión; mientras tanto, nos ocupamos de otras cosas —y finalmente nos alejamos— porque no estamos dispuestos a prestar toda nuestra atención.

Lo que Jesús hizo fue traer a la memoria un mensaje que había sido depositado en lo profundo de sus oyentes antes de haber nacido, grabado en sus corazones por Dios. “¡Despierta!” exhortó, y algunas personas no se alejaron. Ellos escucharon, “estupefactos”. Y ¿qué hay de nosotros? ¿Debemos esperar que venga a despertarnos un maestro carismático? Bueno, podríamos estar esperando mucho tiempo. No usemos viejas excusas del tipo “las homilias no están actualizadas” y “la iglesia es aburrida”. La palabra de Dios siempre está siendo proclamada. Si tan solo aprendemos a prestar atención, nos quedaremos estupefactos.

**¿CON QUÉ AUTORIDAD?**

Un hombre llega a la puerta de tu casa con una Biblia en la mano:

**“Buenos días. ¿Podiera compartir unas palabras de la verdad cristiana con usted?”**

*“Por supuesto. ¿De dónde saca usted esa verdad?”*

**“De la Biblia, por supuesto”.**

*“¿Es ésa su autoridad? ¿La Biblia?”*

**“Sí, es la única autoridad para los cristianos”.**

*“¿Puede usted probar eso con la Biblia?”*

**“¿Qué quiere decir?”**

*“Quiero decir que yo no creo que la Biblia diga ser la única regla de la fe. Por favor, enséñeme dónde en la Biblia dice eso”.*

Algunas veces la conversación se pudiera dar de esta otra manera:

**“Buenas tardes. ¿Podiera compartir unas palabras de la verdad cristiana con usted?”**

*“No, soy católico”. La puerta se cierra.*

Muchos proselitistas que van de puerta en puerta tienen buenas intenciones: quieren convertirte a la “verdad”, tal como ellos la ven. Desde la perspectiva de ellos la Biblia es la única autoridad para la fe cristiana. A algunos de ellos se les ha enseñado que a los católicos se les prohíbe leer la Biblia o que no saben nada acerca de las Escrituras. Sin embargo, no sólo nosotros tenemos acceso a la Biblia, sino que también escuchamos segmentos de ella en las lecturas que se proclaman en la celebración de la Misa. En la primera lectura de hoy Dios le concede a Moisés el derecho a hablarle al pueblo de Israel con autoridad divina. Las lecturas de hoy reconocen que Jesús y Moisés hablan y actúan con una autoridad que viene de Dios. Tanto Jesús como Moisés actuaron como puente entre el pueblo y Dios. Para nosotros las Escrituras son un puente para llegar a la verdad de Dios, pero también lo son los sacramentos y la experiencia de la Iglesia vivida a través de todas las generaciones, o sea, lo que llamamos la Tradición. Parte de nuestra responsabilidad como discípulos de Jesús es aprender de las Escrituras, esto es, escuchar atentamente durante la Misa, leer las Escrituras en una actitud orante, y aprender más acerca de la Biblia mediante la lectura, y el estudio individual y grupal.

**La corresponsabilidad vivida ahora**—Únete a un grupo de estudio bíblico en tu parroquia. ¿No tiene tu parroquia un grupo bíblico? Empieza uno. No necesitas ser un experto en las Escrituras para comenzar.

**MISA EN HONOR A LA VIRGEN DE SUYAPA**

La Comunidad Hondureña tendrá una Misa en honor a la Virgen de Suyapa el próximo sábado 4 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.