

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: starofthesea1920@gmail.com



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.

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, February 5—St. Agatha

- 12:10 pm – Children of the Parish
- 5:00 pm – John Schiavone (dec)
- 7:30 pm – En honor de la Virgen de Suyapa
Gladys Martinez Caffyn (dec)
Margarita Terrero (dec)
Pascual Rivas (dec)

Sunday, February 6

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:15 am – Mass for the People of the Parish
- 9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) For the children of our Parish
- 11:30 am – Jose Antonio Osorto (dec)
Emmanuel Ernesto Xiloj (dec)
Ernesto Xiloj (dec)
- 1:15 pm – Robert Dier (dec)
Mme George Guiteau (dec)

Monday, February 7

- 8:00 am – Monica McCabe (dec)
- 12:10 pm – Vocations

*Tuesday, February 8—St. Jerome Emiliani
St. Josephine Bakhita*

- 8:00 am – Married Couples
- 12:10 pm – Irene Hutchinson (birthday)

Wednesday, February 9

- 8:00 am – Pat & John Gannon (dec)
- 12:10 pm – For the children of St. Mary’s School

Thursday, February 10—St. Scholastica

- 9:00 am – (St. Gertrude) Vocations
- 12:10 pm – Deceased Members of the Parish

Friday, February 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

- 12:10 pm – For the children of the parish
- 7:30 pm – For the sick and the homebound

Saturday, February 12

- 12:10 pm – Children of the Parish
- 5:00 pm – Safety of those serving in the Armed Forces
- 7:30 pm – Married Couples

Sunday, February 13

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:15 am – Mass for the People of the Parish
- 9:45 am – (St. Gertrude) Lorenzo Bernardez (dec)
Victorina Nuñez (dec)
- 11:30 am – Por los Sacerdotes
- 1:15 pm – Eugene Turner (dec)



Pray for ...

Robert Cunningham, Yvonne Hall, Zoila Yopez, Pedro Bonilla, Lucinda Staten, Kathleen Briza, Michael Wanser, Shane Keane, Liz Moskowitz, William Anthony, Sixto Rivera Patrick Scannell, Derek Abraham, Peggi Pauguanm and our faithful departed: Sandra Ufret.

**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

Weekend of 1-29 & 1-30 2011

Mass Time	# of Attendees	# of Env.	1st Collection	# of Env.	Debt Relief	Total Collection
5:00 PM	73	43	\$470.50	15	\$168.00	\$638.50
7:30 PM	200	29	\$350.75	20	\$182.53	\$533.28
8:15 AM	168	70	\$1,257.61	45	\$227.63	\$1,485.24
9:45 AM	136	41	\$632.57	31	\$234.04	\$866.61
11:30 AM	432	117	\$1,174.76	71	\$749.84	\$1,924.60
1:15 PM	163	49	\$890.56	16	\$78.41	\$968.97
Totals	1172	349	\$4,776.75	198	\$1,640.45	\$6,417.20

First Collection Same Sunday Last Year: \$6668.89

(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 58:7-10 * Ps 112:4-9 * Mt 5:13-16
- Mon** * Gn 1:1-19 * Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35 * Mk 6:53-56
- Tues** * Gn 1:20-2:4a * Ps 8:4-9 * Mk 7:1-13
- Wed** * Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 * Ps 104:1-2, 27-30 * Mk 7:14-23
- Thurs** * Gn 2:18-25 * Ps 128:1-5 * Mk 7:24-30
- Fri** * Gn 3:1-8 * Ps 32:1-2, 5-7 * Mk 7:31-37
- Sat** * Gn 3:9-24 * Ps 90:2-6 * Mk 8:1-10

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 candles are given in thanksgiving for **Margarite Terrero.***

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Our society loves celebrity. We love it so much that we've created a whole social class of them, people who are celebrated: celebrities. The place we often find them is "in the spotlight." But in one of his usual twists on our usual assumptions about what is right and good, Jesus today informs us that we shouldn't be *in* the spotlight, we should *be* the spotlight. Paul understood this when he was writing to the Corinthians. He did not come to them as a celebrity, as the one to be celebrated; he came weak, fearful, and trembling so that the light of the gospel, and not his own, might shine. Isaiah gives us a bit more information about whom we should shine our light upon: the hungry who need to be fed, the homeless who need shelter, the oppressed who need a voice. Our own little spotlight, then, becomes the very light of the dawning day, as we build lives and communities that live in charity and justice.

WHOSE LIGHT IS IT, ANYWAY?

But if we are to be that spotlight, or the beacon on a hill as Jesus states it, our light needs a source of power. Paul informs us that the Spirit and power of God are what we need to energize the light we shine for all to see. Even though Jesus says that people see our light, it must first be the light of God, to whom the glory truly belongs. Our individual and community lives need to be placed in a curious kind of "loop" wherein we receive the power to shine from God alone, so that we might shine it on the poor, weak, and lowly, the "little ones" whom Christ will one day call to our attention. And so we place God, the one we celebrate, back into the spotlight. It is through this continual "loop" of our turning and re-turning again and again to the Lord that we walk the path of the Christian disciple. Today, as we near the season of Lent, we can get a head start on the journey.



YOU ARE
THE SALT
OF THE
EARTH

BACK TO BASICS

Salt and light are the two symbols that Jesus sets before us in today's Gospel. He says we are salt and light in the world, but only when we put ourselves to good and useful purposes. In ancient times salt was valuable not only as seasoning, but also to preserve foods and disinfect wounds. Salt signified permanence, loyalty, and commitment. In those days salt came either from evaporated sea water or from the Dead Sea. The crystals were large and grayish in color because of the presence of other minerals. The taste was different from what we are used to, and without additives to keep it stable, the salt could eventually leach out. What is left tastes "flat" and was worthless as a seasoning and useful only for keeping footpaths free of vegetation and occasional snow in winter. That may be why Jesus says it is then "no longer good for anything but to be . . . trampled underfoot" (Matthew 5:13). A light is only useful if it provides illumination for human purposes. Houses in Jesus' time were lit with small oil lamps. Oil was not cheap; therefore, lamps were only lit for what were essential and important activities—the Sabbath meal for example—to be shared by all. In a time before electricity, even one small oil lamp would have seemed very bright in the darkness, and a reminder of God as the creator of light. The prophet Isaiah in today's first reading gives us a "road map" of how to be light and salt in the world: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked . . . and do not turn your back on your own" (Isaiah 58:7). Take care of the human family, and your good deeds, says Jesus, will be like light and cause others to "glorify your heavenly Father" (Matthew 5:16).

Living Stewardship Now—What are your deeds of salt and light? Do you serve your fellow parishioners? Are you involved with local charities or community action? Do you need to increase or change your involvement?

THANK YOU

Because of your generosity the parish was able to contribute \$1,331 to support the Churches in Need—Africa, Eastern Europe, Central & South America and the Caribbean.

HAITIAN RELIEF

In the name of Father Ivon, the parish contributed \$1,000 to the continuing earthquake relief efforts in his country.

The 2010 tax statements are now available. Please cut out and fill in the form below; drop it in the collection basket at the weekend Mass, bring it to the 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 are will not be automatically mailed out. Statements are given by request only.

Request for 2010 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 in our files



An Opportunity for Young Men to Learn More About the Priesthood

Join Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and other priests and seminarians from the Brooklyn Diocese for an afternoon of prayer, dinner and conversation

Sunday, February 13, 2011
 At 6:00 P.M.

The Pope John Paul II
 House of Discernment
 718-827-2454

The **Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary** celebration will take place on **Saturday, April 30, 2011** at Immaculate Conception Church, located at 86-45 Edgerton Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11432. The Wedding Anniversary Mass will begin at 11:00 A.M. **All couples celebrating 25th, 30th, 40th, and 50th anniversary** are invited to attend with their families. Registration forms are in the church entrance.



Today we rejoice and celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life. Over the years, many men and women have chosen to live out their baptismal vocation by professing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. They do this by joining a religious congregation, a secular institute, or through private vows. We pray and ask God to bless those people dedicated to God's service.

Do you or someone you know attend **YORK OR LA GUARDIA COLLEGE**? Do you know if faith and reason are compatible? Are you looking for meaning and direction in your life?

You are not alone—become part of college students following the Lord!

Contact: Fr. Martin—Catholic Chaplain,
 Phone: 347-261-4406
 E-mail: mesguerra@dobmail.org

Saint Columba Church
 Ladies' Guild
 Annual Card Party
 "Raffle Mania"
 Friday, March 25, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.
 Monsignor Jolley Hall
 2245 Kimball Street
 Between Avenues U and V
 Donation: \$15
 For reservations call Rose at 718627-4247

The Catholic Tour a 30 year old pilgrimage Apostolate is please to announce pilgrimages now available to the Beatification of Pope John Paul II in Rome, Italy on May 1, 2010. Please call 1-877-627-4268 to free before the signing deadline of February 20, 2011 in order to secure your place to this momentous event.

Diocesan Lenten Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

March 24-April 1, 2011
 (optional extension to Egypt)
 Only 20 seat available
 For a brochure call:
 The Pilgrimage Office 718-965-7313
 Or email: Pilgrimages@rcdob.org

The Substance Abuse Hotline at Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services

1-800-659-1603
 Hours: Mon., Wed. & Thurs (8:30 AM—8:00 PM)
 Tues. & Fri. (8:30 AM—5:00 PM)
 Sat. (9:00—1:00 PM)

EL DIEZMO—EL REPORTE DE LAS OFRENDAS**Domingo Pasado: \$6417.20****Mismo Domingo Hace un Año: \$6668.89****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!



Quinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

A LA LUZ

Nuestra sociedad le rinde culto a la celebridad. Tanto la apreciamos que hemos creado toda una clase social de gente notoria: las celebridades. A éstas las encontramos a menudo “a la luz” pública. Pero Jesús, haciendo una torcedura de nuestras suposiciones, como frecuentemente lo hace, nos dice que nuestro afán no debe ser ése, *estar* a la luz pública, sino *ser* la luz del mundo. Pablo entendió esto bien cuando escribió a los corintios. Él no fue a ellos como una celebridad, como alguien a quien hay que celebrar, sino que vino débil, tímido y tembloroso, para que brillara la luz del Evangelio y no la suya propia. Isaías nos dice aún más acerca de sobre quiénes debemos dejar brillar nuestra luz: los hambrientos que necesitan ser alimentados, los desamparados que necesitan abrigo, los oprimidos que necesitan una voz. Así, al edificar vidas y comunidades que viven en amor y justicia, nuestra pequeña luz personal se convierte en la misma luz de la aurora.

AL FIN Y AL CABO, ¿DE QUIÉN ES LA LUZ?

Mas, si hemos de ser esa luz o el faro sobre el cerro, como dice Jesús, nuestra luz necesita una fuente de energía. Pablo nos dice que necesitamos el Espíritu y el poder de Dios para poder dar esa luz que ilumine a todos. Si bien Jesús dice que la gente ve nuestra luz, primero que nada debe ser la luz de Dios, a quien verdaderamente pertenece toda la gloria. Nuestra vida personal y comunitaria necesita estar entrelazada, de manera que brillemos conforme a la luz recibida de Dios y así dejar que esa luz brille sobre los pobres, los débiles, los humildes y los “pequeños” que un día Cristo nos mostrará. De este modo, Dios será siempre el centro y motivo de nuestra celebración. Es en ese continuo circuito de volver una y otra vez al Señor, que caminamos por la senda de los discípulos de Cristo. Hoy, al acercarnos al tiempo de Cuaresma, podemos comenzar la jornada con una gran ventaja.

Lecturas de hoy: *Isaías 58:7-10; Salmo 112:4-9; 1 Corintios 2:1-5; Mateo 5:13-16*

LO MÁS ELEMENTAL - La sal y la luz son dos símbolos que Jesús nos presenta en el Evangelio de hoy. Él dice que nosotros somos sal y luz en el mundo, pero sólo cuando nos decidimos a ser útiles y a hacer el bien. En la antigüedad la sal no sólo servía para condimentar los alimentos, sino también para preservarlos y desinfectar las heridas. La sal significaba permanencia, fidelidad y compromiso. En esos tiempos la sal provenía del agua del mar evaporada o del Mar Muerto. Los granos eran más grandes y tenían un color grisáceo debido a la presencia de otros minerales. El sabor era diferente al que estamos acostumbrados y sin aditivos para su conservación, la sal podía, a la larga, desvanecerse. Lo que queda tiene un sabor insípido que no sirve para condimentar, sino más bien para dejar sin vegetación los caminos transitables y ocasionalmente para limpiar la nieve en el invierno. Es probable que por eso Jesús dijera que “ya no sirve para nada y se tira a la calle para que la pise la gente” (Mateo 5:13). Una luz es útil sólo si da iluminación para algún propósito humano. Las casas en tiempos de Jesús se iluminaban con pequeñas lámparas de aceite. El aceite no era barato, por tanto las lámparas se iluminaban sólo para aquellas actividades esenciales e importantes—la comida del sábado, por ejemplo—y para compartirla con todos. Antes de la electricidad una lámpara de aceite, por pequeña que fuera, parecía muy brillante en la oscuridad y recordaba a Dios como creador de la luz. El profeta Isaías nos ofrece en la primera lectura de hoy una guía de cómo ser luz y sal en el mundo: “. . . que compartas tu pan con el hambriento y abras tu casa al pobre sin techo; que vistas al desnudo y no le des la espalda a tu propio hermano” (Isaías 58:7). Dice Jesús que cuando cuidas de la familia humana con tus buenas obras eres luz y haces que otros “den gloria a su Padre, que está en los cielos” (Mateo 5:16).



La Corresponsabilidad Vivida Ahora - ¿Cuáles son tus obras de sal y luz? ¿Prestas algún servicio a tus parroquianos? ¿Te involucras en obras de caridad locales o actividades comunitarias? ¿Necesitas aumentar o cambiar tu participación?

RETIRO—El Sábado 12 de Febrero la Legión de María organizó un Retiro Espiritual e invita a participar a todos los legionarios auxiliares y los que deseen participar. Se llevara a cabo en la Iglesia desde las 9:00 A.M. hasta las 4:00 P.M.



Hoy celebramos con alegría la Jornada Mundial de la Vida Consagrada. En el curso de los años, muchos hombres y mujeres han decidido vivir su vocación bautismal haciendo una profesión de los consejos evangélicos de pobreza, castidad y obediencia. Lo hacen al unirse a una congregación religiosa, un instituto, o mediante votos privados. Rezamos y pedimos que Dios bendiga todas estas personas dedicadas al servicio de Dios.