

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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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, November 27

- 12:10 pm – Nicholas Velez (birthday)
- 5:00 pm – Mass for the People
- 7:30 pm – Estabana Nino—Acción de Gracias
Maria Keeney (dec)

Sunday, November 28—First Sunday of Advent

- 8:15 am – Waldman, Gabriel & Herson Rivera (dec)
- 9:45 am – Mass available at St. Gertrude
- 11:30 am – Luis Nieves (dec)
- 1:15 pm – Mass available

Monday, November 29

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

Tuesday, November 30—St. Andrew

- 8:00 am – Agnes Cashman (dec)
- 12:10 pm – Mass available

Wednesday, December 1

- 8:00 am – Mass available
- 12:10 pm – Edwin Thomas (dec)

Thursday, December 2

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

Friday, December 3—St. Francis Xavier

- 12:10 pm – Mass available
- 7:30 pm – Misa disponible

Saturday, December 4—St. John of Damascus

- 12:10 pm – Haydeen Tolentino (dec)
- 5:00 pm – John Schiavone (dec)
- 7:30 pm – Concepcion de Maria

Sunday, December 5—Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:15 am – Mass available
- 9:45 am – Octavio Andujar (dec)
Lorenzo Vasquez (dec)
- 11:30 am – Misa por la Comunidad
- 1:15 pm – Mass available

Weekday Readings

- Sun** * Is 2:1-5 * Ps 122:1-9 * Mt 24:37-44
- Mon** * Is 4:2-6 * Ps 122:1-9 * Mt 8:5-11
- Tues** * Rm 10:9-18 * Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 * Matt 4:18-22
- Wed** * Is 25:6-10a * Ps 23:1-6 * Mt 15:29-37
- Thurs** * Is 26:1-6 * Ps 118:1,8-9, 19-21, 25-27 * Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Fri** * Is 29:17-24 * Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 * Mt 9:27-31
- Sat** * Isa 30:19-21, 23-26 * Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 * Matt 9:35-10:1, 6-8

**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

Sunday Collection: Not available

(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.**

PLEASE PRAY for Robert Cunningham, Yvonne Hall, Zoila Yopez, Beverly Smith, Pedro Bonilla, Juan Vasquez, Ulitt Doyle, Donna Mohammed, Annabel Davis, Wiloby & Lukey Snips, Vivian & Edith Hall, Nydia Rodriguez, Lucinda Staten, James Iloka, Daphne Riley, Kathleen Briza and our faithful departed.

NICARAGUAN COMMUNITY

The Nicaraguan Community welcomes everyone to a celebration in honor of “La Concepcion de Maria” on Saturday evening December 4th at 7:30 P.M. The guest celebrant will be Father Bismarck Chav.

Immaculate

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Conception

On December 8th we will honor Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. She is the patroness of the United States. Masses will be celebrated:

- Tuesday 7:30 P.M. Spanish
- Wednesday 8:00 A.M. English
- 7:30 P.M. Spanish

MASS INTENTIONS

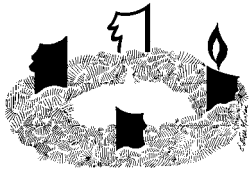
It is an ancient Christian tradition to request that Mass be offered living and deceased. You may request an announced Mass at the rectory. The customary offering is fifteen dollars. There are a limited number of Masses available between now and the end of the year.

MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

The bread and wine are available for intentions.

The sanctuary candle is available for intentions.

The flowers are available for intentions.



First Sunday of Advent

PEACEFUL AND STILL

Several years ago I had the opportunity to spend a night at the Timberline Lodge on the slopes of Oregon's Mount Hood. Peering out the window of my room in the early morning, I saw the snow-covered slope of the top of the mountain appear as the sun began to rise. I quickly got out of bed, got dressed, and walked through the lodge to the front door. Opening the door, I was stunned by the fact that the cloud line was only a few feet below me. Only the lodge and the top of the mountain itself were above the clouds. As I climbed up the face of the mountain, the sun began to rise, piercing the clouds with shafts of pink, orange, and yellow light. When I climbed higher and higher, the snow-capped peaks of the surrounding mountains began to pierce the clouds. All was still and peaceful, like the world proclaimed in today's passage from Isaiah.

THE MOUNTAIN OF PEACE

Isaiah describes the mountain of the Lord's house as a place where we receive instruction from God. In prophetic exhortation we are reminded that we are to beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks. We are not to raise a sword against another nation or train for war again. We can choose to throw our hands in the air and give up hoping that this could ever become a reality. Or we can choose to heed the call of Saint Paul, issued in today's second reading: "Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Romans 13:12). Preparing ourselves for the coming of the Lord means much more than putting our own spiritual house in order. It means that in our everyday life we dedicate ourselves to being peacemakers: at home, at work, and in our relationships. The stunning prophecies we hear during this holy season remind us that, like a peaceful mountaintop high above the clouds, our world can become a place of peace, tranquility, and light.

JESUS IS THE REASON

In today's world the Christmas season starts on the day after Thanksgiving and ends on December 25. For many of us this time is filled with baking, sending cards, choosing gifts, attending parties, and setting up a Christmas tree and decorations. Add to this our daily work schedules and the needs of our children and this time of the year can be very stressful. The Church puts a different emphasis on the next four weeks. This is Advent, the season of expectation, with scripture readings and prayers calling on us to prepare in our hearts and lives for the Lord's coming on Christmas Day. According to our heritage, we may already have Advent customs such as the lighting of candles on the Advent wreath, a Jesse tree, setting up a manger scene ready for the Christ child at Christmas, or special devotions. An Advent tradition from Germany called *Kristkindl* (meaning "Christ child") is suitable for families, small church groups, or even for individuals. The original custom was for the mother of the house to pass a bowl around the family circle containing rolled-up slips of paper with a family member's name on each one. Each would take one slip and carefully looked at the name so no one else could see it. For the rest of Advent the person named on the paper became the *Kristkindl* of the person who took the slip of paper, and he or she would do at least one good deed a day for them, but without them finding out who did it! Even young children could do this. It became a treasured way of preparing hearts to serve Christ through serving other people. Honor Jesus in the person of your *Kristkindl*: pray for them, save money to send to a good cause in their name, donate gifts to a shelter, do extra chores unasked, adopt a needy family.



ADVENT RETREAT

Father Lewis Maynard of St. Agatha's Parish will conduct a retreat for the Spanish community here at St. Mary's. He will celebrate the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday, December 5th and on Monday and Tuesday evening at 7:30 P.M.

THANKSGIVING

We are grateful to so many people who assisted us in providing Thanksgiving Meals and baskets to those of our community. We especially wish to thank all who prepared the meals and served them to our guests.

We would like to recognize the contributions received from:

The Greybeards The "Ribs", Good Shepherd Parish, St. Camillus, St. Francis, St. Helen, Holy Name, Blessed Trinity as well as many individuals from the Rockaway community and beyond.

ESL (English as a Second Language) at St. Gertrude Tessier Hall on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5:40 pm to 9:00 pm.

Diocesan Substance Abuse Hotline Holiday Resource

For those who struggle with alcohol and substance abuse, the holidays can be a hard time. Pick up the phone if you or your loved one needs assistance in this area. Call the Diocesan Substance Abuse Hotline at 1-800-659-1603. Our hours are: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday (8:30 AM—8:00 PM) Tuesday & Friday (8:30 AM—5:00 PM) Saturday (9:00 AM—1:00 PM). Someone on the other end is waiting to assist you or your loved one in starting a new life in recovery. We are closed on Christmas Day (12/25/10.) If you need immediate assistance on this day please call Alcoholic Anonymous New York Intergroup for support and meeting information, 212-647-1680. Telecom Device for Deaf Only: 212-647-1649.

PAUL JOHN PAUL II HOUSE OF DISCERNMENT

Young men who are considering Priesthood are invited to Advent Vespers, Sunday, November 28th, 2010 at 4:30 PM – 341 Highland Blvd. Brooklyn NY, 718-827-2454 - www.brooklynpriests.org.

Cathedral Seminary-Residence of the Immaculate Conception invites you to attend our annual Advent Service of Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Immaculate Conception Center, 7200 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, NY. Light refreshment to follow!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES —QUEENS WIC PROGRAM—WIC is a federal supplement nutrition program for women, infant and children. We offer families checks for healthy foods, nutrition counseling and health education, vouchers for the farmer's market, breastfeeding support and referrals for health care and other social services. We are located at 161-10 Jamaica Avenue Suite 306, Jamaica, NY 11432. Telephone: 718-657-2580.

“Camp Fatima and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registration for the 2011 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region of NH, offer 2-week overnight sessions for children, ages 6-15. Round trip bus transportation is available out of Long Island. To request a brochure and DVD, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or e-mail mdrumm@campsfatimabernadette.org, or visit us on the web at www.campsfatimabernadette.org. Please don't wait as sessions do fill up quickly.”

Retrouvaille is a peer ministry. Couples who have had problems in their own marriages and have recovered from those problems, share their experiences with couples in troubled marriages in the hope that they too will see that their marriage can be saved. Thousands of couples all over the globe have found hope, help and healing by participating in the Retrouvaille program. A Retrouvaille weekend is a deeply personal and private experience shared between a husband and wife that can help a couple to reconnect and go on to lead a happy and fulfilling life together. You Can Save Your Marriage Now! For more information about the upcoming Retrouvaille weekend that begins on Friday, Dec. 3, 2010 at the Montfort Retreat House in Bay Shore, please call 800-470-2230 and you will be connected (confidentially) to an experienced couple from Long Island Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

EL DIEZMO—EL REPORTE DE LAS OFRENDAS

Domingo Pasado: No esta disponible.

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!

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.

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.

ESL (Ingles como Segundo Idioma) los Lunes, Martes y Miércoles de 5:40 pm a 9:00 pm en el Salón Tessier en Santa Gertrudis.

SERVICIOS DEL PROGRAMA WIC

WIC es un programa federal de nutrición suplementario para mujeres, bebés y niños. Ofrecemos a las familias cheques como parte de los alimentos saludables, asesoría de nutrición y educación de salud y, los comprobantes para el Mercado del agricultor, apoyo de la lactancia materna y referencias para el cuidado de la salud y otros servicios sociales. Estamos situados en el 161-10 Jamaica Avenue Suite 306, Jamaica, NY 11432. Teléfono: 718-657-2580.



Primer Domingo de Adviento UN MONTE TRANQUILO Y SOSEGADO

Hace algunos años tuve la oportunidad de pasar una noche en el hotel *Timberline Lodge*, en el Monte Hood del estado de Oregon. Al amanecer miré por la ventana de mi habitación y pude ver cómo iba apareciendo el pico nevado de la montaña según iba saliendo el sol. Al momento salté de la cama, me vestí en un dos por tres y salí del hotel –y me quedé estupefacto al ver que las nubes comenzaban apenas unos pies más abajo de donde yo estaba. Solamente el hotel y el pico de la montaña se veían, por encima de las nubes. Comencé a subir la montaña, y el sol iba saliendo, traspasando las nubes con rayos de luz rosada, amarilla y anaranjada. Según yo iba subiendo cada vez más alto, los picos nevados de las montañas vecinas también comenzaban a surgir de entre las nubes. Todo estaba tranquilo y sosegado, como el mundo que nos anuncia hoy la lectura de Isaías.

EL MONTE DE LA PAZ

Isaías nos describe el monte de la casa del Señor como un lugar donde el Señor nos instruye. En su exhortación profética nos recuerda que debemos forjar arados de nuestras espadas y podaderas de nuestras lanzas; ya no debemos alzar la espada contra ningún otro pueblo ni adiestrarnos más para la guerra. Bueno, pues, podemos encogernos de hombros y decidir que esas esperanzas de paz nunca se harán realidad. Pero también tenemos la alternativa de escuchar las palabras de san Pablo, cuando nos dice en la segunda lectura: “Desechemos, pues, las obras de las tinieblas y revistámonos con las armas de la luz” (Romanos 13:12). Prepararnos para la venida del Señor significa mucho más que poner en orden nuestra casa espiritual. Significa que en nuestra vida diaria tenemos que dedicarnos a ser instrumentos de paz tanto en nuestro hogar, como en nuestro trabajo y en nuestras relaciones con los demás. Las profecías tan increíbles que escuchamos en este santo tiempo de Adviento nos recuerdan que, como el pico de una montaña que se eleva por encima de las nubes, nuestro mundo se puede convertir en un lugar de paz, de tranquilidad y de luz.

RETIRO DE ADVIENTO

El Padre Lewis Maynard de la Parroquia Santa Agatha conducirá un Retiro de Adviento en Santa María para nuestra comunidad hispana. El Padre celebrará la Misa de las 11:30 A.M. el Domingo 5 de Diciembre como también el Lunes y Martes a las 7:30 P.M.

LA COMUNIDAD NICARAGUENSE los invita a todos a la celebración en honor de la “La Concepción de María” el Sábado 4 de Diciembre a las 7:30 P.M. El celebrante será el Padre Bismarck Chav.

JESÚS ES LA RAZÓN

En el mundo de hoy la época de Navidad comienza el día después de Acción de Gracias y termina el 25 de diciembre. Para muchos de nosotros éste es un tiempo lleno de tareas, como hornear, enviar tarjetas, escoger regalos, ir de fiestas, y poner el arbolito y las decoraciones. Si a todo esto añadimos el trabajo diario y el cuidado de nuestros hijos, este tiempo del año puede ser muy estresante. La Iglesia le da un énfasis diferente a las próximas cuatro semanas. Éste es el Adviento, un tiempo de espera, con lecturas bíblicas y oraciones que preparan nuestro corazón y nuestra vida para la venida del Señor el día de Navidad. Nuestras costumbres varían según nuestra herencia y cultura; así podemos encender la corona de Adviento, poner el árbol de Jesé, poner un nacimiento o belén u otras devociones especiales. Una costumbre de Adviento en Alemania se llama *Kristkindl* (significa “el Niño Jesús”) y bien puede hacerse en familia, en pequeños grupos o aun individualmente. En la costumbre original la madre de la casa pasaba alrededor de un círculo familiar un recipiente con papelitos enrollados y en cada uno estaba el nombre de un miembro de la familia. Cada persona tomaba uno de los papelitos y miraba el nombre con cuidado de que nadie más lo viera. Durante todo el resto del Adviento la persona cuyo nombre apareció en el papel se convertía en el *Kristkindl* de la persona que agarró el papel y ésta última hacía al menos una buena acción diaria por su *Kristkindl*, ¡pero sin que la persona supiera quién lo hacía! Hasta los niños pequeños podían participar. Se convirtió en una manera hermosa de preparar el corazón de todos para servir a Cristo en otras personas. Honra a otras personas en tu *Kristkindl*: reza por ellas, ahorra dinero para enviar una donación en su nombre, haz un donativo a algún refugio público, haz tareas extras que no te hayan pedido, adopta una familia necesitada.

Día de Acción de Gracias

Les estamos muy agradecidos a todas aquellas personas que nos ayudaron a proveer a nuestra comunidad alimentos y cena en el Día de Acción de Gracias. Especialmente le damos las gracias a todos los que prepararon y sirvieron los alimentos.

También le agradecemos la contribución que recibimos de:

“The Greybeards”, The “Ribs”, Parroquia El Buen Pastor, San Camillus, San Francis, Santa Helen, El Santo Nombre, Sagrada Trinidad como también a todas las personas en y fuera de nuestra comunidad.

La Inmaculada



Concepción

IMMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN

El 8 de Diciembre celebraremos la Festividad de la Inmaculada Concepción, Patrona de los Estados Unidos. Tendremos Misas el:

Martes	7:30 P.M.	Español
Miércoles	8:00 A.M.	Ingles
	7:30 P.M.	Español