

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

The Evangelist Saint Matthew, who will accompany us throughout this liturgical year, presents the beginning of Christ’s public mission. It consisted essentially in preaching the Kingdom of God and healing the sick, showing that this Kingdom is close at hand and is already in our midst. Jesus began His preaching in Galilee, the region where He grew up, the “outskirts” in comparison with the heart of the Jewish Nation which was Judea, and in it, Jerusalem. But the Prophet Isaiah had foretold that this land, assigned to the tribes of Zebulun and Napthali, would have a glorious future: the people immersed in darkness would see a great light. In Jesus’ time, the term “gospel” was used by Roman emperors for their proclamations. Independently of their content, they were described as “good news” or announcements of salvation, because the emperor was considered lord of the world and his every edict as a portent of good. Thus, the application of this phrase to Jesus’ preaching had a strongly critical meaning, as if to say God, and not the emperor, is Lord of the world, and the true Gospel is that of Jesus Christ.

The “Good News” which Jesus proclaims is summed up in this sentence: “The Kingdom of God - or Kingdom of Heaven - is at hand”. What do these words mean? They do not of course refer to an earthly region marked out in space and time, but rather to an announcement that it is God who reigns, that God is Lord and that His lordship is present and actual, it is being realized. The newness of Christ’s message, therefore, is that God made himself close in Him and now reigns in our midst, as the miracles and healings that He works demonstrate. God reigns in the world through His Son made man and with the power of the Holy Spirit who is called “the finger of God”. Wherever Jesus goes the Creator Spirit brings life, and men and women are healed of diseases of body and spirit. God’s lordship is thus manifest in the human being’s integral healing. By this, Jesus wanted to reveal the Face of the true God, the God who is close, full of mercy for every human being; the God who makes us a gift of life in abundance, His own life. The Kingdom of God is therefore life that asserts itself over death, the light of truth that dispels the darkness of ignorance and lies.

Let us pray to Mary Most Holy that she will always obtain for the Church the same passion for God’s Kingdom which enlivened the mission of Jesus Christ: a passion for God, for His lordship of love and life; a passion for man, encountered in truth with the desire to give him the most precious treasure: the love of God, his Creator and Father.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



Court Madonna #114 is hosting the 2nd annual Family Fun Day! Join us on Sunday, February 9th from 1pm until 3pm, for an afternoon of fun, games, crafts, face painting, and snacks. Call Gina 917-733-4307 to RSVP No later than January 31st. ***FREE*** fun for the whole family!

Liturgical Ministers for February 1/2, 2020.

Mass	Lector	Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
4:00pm	J. SMITH	T. WEBB	A. WEBB
8:30am	J. HENDRICK	J. TAYLOR, A. WITKOWSKI	T. LAMOREAUX, E. WITKOWSKI
11:30am	H. MARINARO	T. MARION	A. LAUTURE, Z. ADAMCIK, R. WITHEROW

There will be First Friday adoration after the 11:30am Mass in the Chapel on Friday, February 7.

Eucharistic Adoration prayer cards are also available in the parish office. Give the gift of prayer.



Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser

Help Little Lambs by ordering your favorite Pizza... Just in time for Lent! Orders will start Jan. 15 and due by Feb. 10 Delivery/Pick at St. Mary's Little Lambs School-Feb. 26 in the afternoon,

more information to follow. Orders are available on line:

Go to www.pizzakit.com click on "Products" then "shop" Fundraiser **ID # 368645** is necessary for Little Lambs to get sales credit.

Mary Carver, Director of Little Lambs will also be in the Narthex the weekend of Feb. 1/2 to take orders.



Boy Scout Troop # 173 is having their *Chili Takeout Fundraiser* on the weekend of February 1st/2nd after all Masses \$8 per quart.

We now have Lottery tickets available for the month of February. You can win multiple times a month. Call the parish office for more information.

All proceeds go to Church Improvements.

Court Madonna # 114 will have their Annual Tricky Tray on Sunday, February 16.

Doors open at 12 noon, drawing begins at 2pm. Tickets 25 for \$1!

All proceeds benefit community charities. Contact Barbara Drew, Chairperson, for any additional information or for donations. (845) 856-2624

Planning Catholic Funeral Liturgies Workshop at St.

Joseph's Seminary Feb. 1, 2020 10am to 12. Topics covered:

What's the Catholic teaching about death? What is the history of Catholic funeral rites? What role do the funeral rites have in the mourning process? What are the options for readings, music, prayers and words of remembrance? Can Catholics be cremated? Fr. Matthew Ernest, S.T.D. Cost:

\$15 Register at: nyliturgy.org/funeralworkshop

Soap Box Derby-

Any child interested in driving the St. Mary's car for the Soap Box Derby is asked to contact Gina at the parish office. All names will be put in "hat" to be picked. Please reply before March 15th.

Announced Masses

- Monday, January 27 (Angela Merici, virgin and religious founder)**
9:00am Mary Wohlscheid, by Bob and Sue Dennington
- Tuesday, January 28 (Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor of the Church)**
9:00am Parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas Forestburgh, by Fr. Csete
- Wednesday, January 29**
9:00am Intentions of Jack Flynn, Jr., by Gayle Cortes
- Thursday, January 30**
9:00am Intentions of Joan Froehlich, by dad
- Saturday, February 1**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, February 2 (Presentation of the Lord)**
8:30am Mary Warren, by the Hagen family
11:30am Edwin Greeves, by Mercurio family
1:00pm *Hungarian Mass*



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, in memory of Donna Holmberg, by her husband John and family.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Antonino Mazzara, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Carmella Balsamello, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Haberzettl, Eric Hildebrandt, Rose Gotthardt, Georgia Gotthardt, John Olenick, John Hendrix, and Stephen A. Odrechowski and fam., Scott Robertson, and Eva Scopino.

We have various announced Mass Intentions available for the 2020 year. Cost is \$15. Stop by the parish office. Everyone loves the gift of prayer.

The collection for January 18/19 was \$4,208.
Thank you for your continued generosity.