

SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE INDEPENDENCE DAY

THE CHURCH WILL CLOSE AFTER THE 12 NOON MASS AND THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 5TH. THERE WILL BE NO NOVENA AT 5:00 P.M.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Last month I turned 60. I had mixed feelings as you might imagine. I am so grateful to be still alive and healthy but age brings with it some limitations.

When I woke up the morning of my birthday, Fr. Liju had festooned the rectory with dozens and dozens of flowers! When I opened my door and saw the arrangements, I thought that I must have died and missed my own funeral!

Mentally I think of myself as a twenty something! As one of my friends said "Yeah, you're almost three twenty somethings!"

One of the good feelings about aging is that you begin to see how you have grown. When I look back on my younger days, I can hardly recognize myself. Life and God's grace have taught me a great deal for which I am very grateful.

It helps me to be patient with some of the immature things that happen each day. I remind myself of how I was at that age, and it seems to put everything in perspective. Maturing is a great gift of aging! You also become aware of the prejudice that many of this country have against our senior citizens. They assume it is a time of uselessness and sickness broken up by periods of organized 'fun'. That maturing creates people who are even more useful to the community, that aging confers a wisdom that can only come through experience and that the senior years can be very fulfilling are some of the learnings that I have been blessed with.

So I say: dread not the senior years because they are the true flowering of human living!

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous support of the essential work of the Holy Father and his charitable acts through the Peter's Pence Collection. You have helped to cast Christ's love upon the world. To read more about the good done through the Peter's Pence Collection, please visit

www.usccb.org/nationalcollections.



FILM FESTIVAL – SUMMER SMILES

Groundhog Day with Bill Murray – A Comedy about Reality - Wednesday, August 4th

The Loved One with Jonathan Winters – A Comedy about Death – Wednesday, August 11th

Liar Liar with Jim Carrey – A Comedy about Truth –
Wednesday, August 18th

All Films are at 7:00 p.m. – Air conditioned space and High Definition – Free

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

WE'VE REACHED OUR GOAL

Congratulations and thank you to all those who have contributed so generously to the Annual Catholic Appeal. We have reached our goal of \$120,000 with a total pledge amount of \$129,873.51. We had a total of 539 donors and \$97,997.92 has already been received. **Once again, thank you for making this Annual Catholic Appeal a success.**

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY – July 5th

7:00 a.m. Donald Fitzgerald
9:00 a.m. Giuseppa Impala
12 Noon Frank & Josephine Manniello

TUESDAY – July 6th

7:00 a.m. Melanie & Rene Sylvestre
9:00 a.m. Frances & Edgar Grech (Birth. Remb.)
12 Noon Cesaria Maffei

WEDNESDAY - July 7th

7:00 a.m. Wilfredo De Jesus, Virgin of Guadalupe
9:00 a.m. Nikola & Marija Franolic
12 Noon Lodovico Raicovi

THURSDAY- July 8th

7:00 a.m. Elizabeth Fay
9:00 a.m. Gerarda Luisa Maglio
12 Noon Angela Rose & Vincent Gallo

FRIDAY - July 9th

7:00 a.m. Maria Falzon
9:00 a.m. Natale Iacopelli
12 Noon Donata & Giuseppe D'Andrea

SATURDAY - July 10th

7:00 a.m. Salvatore Russo
9:00 a.m. Luigi Fosco
12 Noon Calogero & Concetta Farruggio
5:00 p.m. All those enrolled in the Purgatorial Society

SUNDAY - July 11th

7:00 a.m. Wilfredo De Jesus, Rosa Casbellanos, Elena Senteno & The Virgin of Guadalupe
9:00 a.m. Luca Antoncic (Birth. Remb.)
10:30 a.m. John Battaglia
11:45 a.m. **Spanish-** Accion de Graciosa la Virgen Del Carmen de Peru, Familia Murichi-Huarotte
1:00 p.m. Carlos Morera & Maria Emilia Peramas

Lower Church:

9:00 a.m. **Italian-** Costantino & Angela Sferrazza

THE BREAD AND WINE are donated this week in loving memory of Frances Grech requested by her daughter Judith.

THE CANDLES ON THE ALTAR were donated last week and this week in loving memory of Josephine Sottile requested by Bill & Carmelita LaCovara.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in loving memory of Rose, Vito & Sgt. Patsy Rocco requested by Florence McCauley & Family.

THE FLOWERS AT THE TABERNACL are donated this week in loving memory of John Dredger requested by the Tebbett & Korva Families.

PLEASE KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS



Please pray for the recently deceased:
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them forever. +

COLLECTION

Week of: June 26th & 27th:

Total Collection: \$8,047.21
Attendance: 1,553
Per Capita: \$5.18

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Religious Education Office is now closed for the summer. It will reopen on September 7th. First Registration date will be September 12th. To all of our students and parents have a wonderful Summer!!! See you in September.

SCHOOL NEWS

Registration continues to be ongoing for grades N to 8. From July 1 until August 15, please leave a message on the School Office phone 718-728-1969 or email Ms. Harnischfeger at principal@icsastoria.org if you would like to set up a meeting to register your child for the 2010-2011 School Year. We look forward to meeting with you and giving you the best Catholic Education in Astoria!

Congratulations to Alexis Velazquez who won the raffle for the Fifth Grade Veterinarian Clinic!

100 children have registered for the 2010 Immaculate Conception Summer Program. We know they will have an adventure and have lots of fun. The program runs from June 28 until August 20 from 7:30 AM until 6 PM Mondays through Fridays. Free breakfast and lunch is offered daily.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011

The Youth Group of our parish is beginning its year long fundraising to send teens and young adults to share in the worship and praise with our Holy Father. Next weekend members of the Youth Group and Squires will be handing out cans for you to take home and collect money for this cause throughout the summer. They will be collected the week of Sept. 11th through Sept. 19th. Thank you for your generosity.

FUNDRAISER FOR MICHELLE SPELLMAN LUPO

Riccardo's By the Bridge
Buffet Dinner/ DJ/ Raffles
Date: Saturday, July 10, 2010
Time: 1: PM to 5 PM
Location: 21-01 24th Avenue, Astoria
Tickets: \$40 for adults \$15 for children
Phone: (718)721-7777

Michelle Spellman Lupo is an alum from Immaculate Conception School and parish who is currently battling cancer. This fundraiser will help to offset the medical bills her family is now incurring. Michelle is a mother of three children.

AUTUMN AUCTION

The Immaculate Conception School Alumni Association is happy to announce that it is hosting an Autumn Auction to benefit our students and school on Sunday, October 10, 2010 at Riccardo's by the Bridge from 1-5pm. A buffet dinner, beer, wine, soda

and dessert will be served. Tickets cost \$45.00 per person and are available in the school office or the rectory. Bring your family and friends. Volunteers for the event are also needed. For more information call Committee Chairperson: Ms. Frances Rocco at 917-482-6124.

Autumn Auction Committee members are already at working securing and collecting donations from our business neighbors and hope to have an extensive array of 200 gifts, baskets and certificates. Chances will be sold the day of the auction and these prizes raffled away. If you would like to donate an item or basket, please contact : kprager@stjohnsprepschool.org

ST. GIANNA RESPECT LIFE

"All are welcome to attend the next St. Gianna Respect Life Committee meeting Wednesday, July 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory". The last two meetings for this year will take place on Wednesday, September 1st and Wednesday, November 3rd.

BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

Have you ever started reading the Bible, only to put it down after a few weeks? Do you listen to the Scripture readings at Mass and wish you knew more about the story? Join us for an incredibly easy and fun way to read through the Bible. It's nothing like you've ever seen before!

The Great Adventure Bible Timeline Bible Study is your answer! Registration forms can be found in the back of the church, rectory, and our website.

FOUNDATION FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM

Are you thinking about volunteering for a parish ministry? Are you already in ministry or part of the Parish Pastoral Council, but need an update on the teachings of the Catholic Church? Perhaps the Pastoral Institute's **Foundations for Ministry Program** is for you! This 10 week program, designed for adult learners, covers a different topic each week. Classes begin in September and are being offered in English and Spanish in the Parish Center at Mount Carmel. If you are interested call Nelsa Elias at the Pastoral Institute at 718-229-8001 ext. 350 for more information.

EL PROGRAMA FUNDAMENTOS PARA LOS MINISTERIOS

Esta pensando ofrecer su tiempo como voluntario en un ministerio de la parroquia? Ya esta colaborando en un ministerio o es miembro de Consejo Pastoral Parroquial pero quiere actualizar su conocimiento de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia Catolica? Tal vez el programa **Fundamentos Para Los Ministerios**, ofrecido por el Instituto Pastoral, es para usted! Este programa de 10 semanas, especialmente diseñado para estudiantes adultos, trata un tema diferente cada semana. Las clases empiezan en septiembre y

se ofreceran al Monte Carmelo en ingles y espanol. Si usted esta interesado, por favor llame al Instituto Pastoral para mas informacion al 718-229-8001 ext 350 (Pregunte por Nelsa Elias).

THE BRIDGE TO LIFE WISH LIST

Bridge to Life is in dire need of cribs with mattresses and car seats (not older than 5 years) to avoid babies sleeping with their moms & allowing moms to take their newborns home from the hospital. Also needed are strollers and car seats (not older than 5 years old) Also layette items; hooded towels, crib sheets, baby wash and pacifiers. Please help the less fortunate with your donations and prayers. Any questions, please call Bridge to Life at 718-463-1810.

REMEMBER IMMAC!

Countless charitable organizations rely on Estate Planning and Bequests to help them survive financially in a troubled economy. Our beloved parish is no different. Occasionally a far thinking and generous parishioner remembers the parish in the will.

It is important that everyone plans for the future by naming a health care proxy and an individual to be the Executor of their estate. To not plan is to give the government a foothold to make its own demands. So plan ahead for your family's sake and when you do, please remember to name Immaculate Conception Parish or School as one of your beneficiaries. The thanks of future generations will accompany you on your journey to the Lord!

CATHOLIC MIGRATIONS

The Catholic Migration Office (CMO) provides non-profit legal services to immigrant communities in Brooklyn & Queens. CMO-Queens is located at 47-01 Queens Blvd., Suite 201, Sunnyside, NY 11104. The following legal services are available at CMO-Queens.

- Immigration Legal Services
 - Citizenship
 - Non immigrant visas
 - Family based petitions
 - Adjustment of status
- Housing Legal Services
 - Help getting repairs in your apartment
 - Anti-eviction
 - Anti-harassment
- Workers' Rights Counseling
 - Wage and Overtime
 - Unsafe working conditions

For more information about CMO, call 347-472-3500. Free consultations. For questions pertaining to workers' rights, call our toll free hotline at 1-877-52-LABOR (52267).