

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's said that upon reading the Gospels, Gandhi commented that he very much liked Jesus Christ. It was Christ's followers he found troublesome. One wonders who Gandhi had met and if these Christians had truly counted the cost of their faith. Following Jesus, really following Jesus, is much more challenging than we may think. He emphasizes this with strong language in this Sunday's Gospel. He compares discipleship to the carrying of one's own execution device - "his own cross" - and for the need even to "hate" what could disrupt one's commitment. Some of this is standard hyperbole, exaggeration for effect common to the time period. Some of this should make us wonder how deep our discipleship goes.

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost?" Jesus imagines this construction project gone wrong. Someone may lay the foundation but not have enough resources to finish. We've received the firm foundation of the sacraments - our baptism, for one, along with weekly Mass attendance and regular confession. Yet how often do we find ourselves too distracted, exhausted, or uninterested to truly build our lives on our faith? We have all met such Christians. Some days, we may be those Christians ourselves. We become the incomplete tower that confuses and baffles the onlookers. "This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish!"

For some of us, our cross may feel heavier than we expected upon the first lift. Building a tower means laying stone upon stone. It's a process. We don't arrive at completion overnight. Grace is always sufficient to provide the resources, but we need to keep saying yes to the task. This week, consider your own discipleship. What is one area where you've become distracted or discouraged? How can that improve this week? Let God lay another brick on the tower.

Sunday Collection: August 31 & September 1, 2019 collection will appear in next week's bulletin.

St. Theresa Triduum

Wednesday, 9/25

Thursday, 9/26

Friday, 9/27

St. Francis of Paola Church – 7:15 pm

23er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Mas allá de todo. Así da comienzo el Evangelio de este domingo, dejarlo todo para seguir a Jesús es el costo del discipulado. No hay vuelta atrás; sería una equivocación hacerlo. Es la experiencia del SI con mayúscula. El costo es grande comparado con cualquier cosa. Este es el punto; seguir a Jesús hasta Jerusalén va más allá de calculaciones humanas. Se paga un alto precio. ¡Dejarlo todo! Si, todo. Así lo explica Jesús a los que lo seguían es su tiempo histórico, y, en nuestro tiempo es también muy válida su explicación: "Si alguno quiere venir a mí y no se desprende de su padre y de su madre, de su mujer e hijos, de sus hermanos y hermanas, e incluso de su propia persona, no puede ser discípulo mío." Y agrega algo más fuerte todavía: "El que no carga con su propia cruz para seguirme luego, no puede ser discípulo mío." (Lucas 14:26-27).

Seguir a Jesús y su Reino es muy diferente a lo que se piensa y se calcula. Comprometerse al discipulado en las parroquias en las que sirven, en sus comunidades, debe ser una decisión de vida, no de momentos e ilusiones. Jesús, pide algunas cosas importantes para el seguimiento: Relación personal con Él, renuncia de uno mismo, compromiso total, e identificarse al modo de vivir de Jesús. El Papa Francisco dice: "Seguir a Jesús es exactamente esto: por amor, ir con él, detrás de Él: el mismo camino, la misma vía. Y el Espíritu del mundo será el que no tolerará y nos hará sufrir, pero un sufrimiento como el que pasó Jesús. Pidamos esta gracia: seguir a Jesús por el camino que Él nos enseñó. Esto es bello, porque nunca nos deja solos. ¡Nunca! Siempre está con nosotros. Así sea."

Readings for the week of September 8, 2019

Sunday:	Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 [1]/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
Monday:	Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab [9]/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday:	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-
Friday:	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

A Message from Fr. Tom

I am sure we have all seen evangelists on television that have a popular message for a diverse group of people. In order to gain a wide audience and popularity—their message is simple and attractive. There is a lot I recognize I need to learn from these preachers. But, in my experience they very rarely if ever mention the cross. “Show me the cross and I will show you the real Jesus.”

Anyone who is inclined to understand Jesus as just another spiritual teacher—a kind of ethical teacher or guru—one teacher among many others—with equally valid options—such a person should take seriously the message of today’s Gospel. Jesus is not merely saying that his teaching is demanding—but rather—that his very self—his own person—is more important than the very things that we bring to God or hope to safeguard by our religious devotion—family, possessions—yes—and “even [one’s] own life.” We need to ask of ourselves—Do I appreciate what the Christian faith offers to me and what demands does this offer come with? What does Jesus demand of me personally to remain in him as his disciple? “Who can know God’s counsel?” “Except [that] you had been given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high.” Jesus by the grace of the Mass, in which we participate, helps us to prefer you above all other things. **Fr. Tom**

Letter to a Suffering Church by Bishop Robert Barron

Dear Faithful of Divine Mercy Parish,
This weekend at all of our Masses we will distribute editions in both English and Spanish of the mini-book “Letter to a Suffering Church” by Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron of Los Angeles. Surveying the landscape of the church today and the many problems we face, we ask ourselves why should I remain Catholic? Jesus promised that the gates of hell would not prevail over his church and that he would be with us until the end of the age. I hope this book—which is short and easy to read—will be a great help to fortify your faith and help you to remain Catholic during these most difficult and confusing times. **Fr. Tom**

September 11, 2019

Join us on Wednesday, September 11, for a Prayer Service in front of the 9/11 Memorial on Monitor St., between Herbert and Richardson Streets at 8:15 AM.

Calendar Meeting

All Groups, Organizations, Associations, Clubs and Societies are invited to a calendar meeting on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the basement of St. Francis of Paola Rectory.

This calendar meeting is for the use of our facilities for parish activities here at Divine Mercy, for the upcoming calendar months of September 2019 through June 2020.

Thinking of becoming a Catholic?

Thinking of being confirmed?

If you or someone you know is thinking of this, then the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the right step for you to take. The RCIA is a process that consists of a combination of participating at Sunday Mass and instructions on the teachings and customs of the Roman Catholic Church.

RCIA is also for baptized Catholics who have not received both First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

The sessions meet weekly. If you are seriously thinking of entering this program call the Parish Office.

Catechist and Volunteer in Divine Mercy Parish is Seeking an Apartment

Violet Anthony has been worshipping with us here in Divine Mercy Parish for the past year. She is a close friend and a resident of St. Clare House which Angela Scannapieco directed. St. Clare House will be closing soon and Violet is looking for an apartment to rent in our neighborhood. Please keep her in mind if you know of something available.

Divine Mercy Parish & Various Knights of Columbus Groups Present

A Viewing of Outcasts

**A Film about the Franciscan Friars
Of the Renewal**

September 27, 2019 at 5:30 pm

In St. Francis Auditorium

Tickets can be purchased at the Parish Office, price \$10.00 (at the door \$12.00).

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Gifts of Love—Emergency Food Pantry
At Divine Mercy Parish**

“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome... “(Matt 25:35-36)

Dear Friends, as we approach the Labor Day holiday let us take time to be grateful for work, and pray for those who are out of work or underemployed and have families to support. Please continue to support our mutual ministry for your generous donations.

Specific items needed: **Canned Meats**
Food Pantry Coordinators and Volunteers

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – September 8, 2019**

BREAD & WINE

Anthony Marino by Scotti Family

SANCTUARY LAMP

Louis Anolfo by Wife

ALTAR CANDLES

Cono Babino by Raffaella Morena

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

Fay Parrino by Anna & Joe Fusco
Geppy Parrino by Anna & Joe Fusco

St. Francis Golden Age Club

The St. Francis Golden Age Club will return on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 12:30 pm. BINGO at 1 pm. Coffee and cake will be served.

Wedding Banns

October 6, 2019- St. Nicholas
Claudia Lopez & Diomedede Aquino
October 12, 2019 – St. Cecilia
Rebecca Salois & Daniel Fava
October 19, 2019 – St. Cecilia
Daniel Gallo & Amanda Sullivan

Welcome Back St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, September 12, at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please bring a “Fall” themed raffle gift. New Members are always welcome.

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Francis of Paola Church**

Saturday, September 7, 2019

5:00pm Joan D’Arienzo by St. Theresa Guild

Sunday, September 8, 2019

8:00am Robert Rizzo by John Passaro

11:30am Mattia & Theresa Paolino

Monday, September 9, 2019

7:45am Pacifico Family by Children

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

7:45am Stella Nicodemo by Carlotta Giglio

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

7:45am Giuseppe & Ersilia Falce by Igino & Giovanna Falce

Thursday, September 12, 2019

7:45am Patrick Solomita by Carlotta Giglio

Friday, September 13, 2019

7:45am Cono Babino by Raffaella Morena

Saturday, September 14, 2019

7:45am Jean Falabella by Carmela Bongiorno

5:00pm Charles & Mary Micka by John & Dorothy Colasanti

Sunday, September 15, 2019

8:00am In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Carol Carannante

11:30am John D’Arienzo, by Wife & Children

**Queen of the Rosary Catholic Academy
Fourth Annual Benefit Dinner**

*Honoring Sr. Joan Losson, O.P., Sue Ann Roye
Marian Mingo (formerly Hernandez)*

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

6 – 10 pm

Giando on the Water

\$125.00 per Person

**For Tickets, Commemorative Journal
Submissions & Further Information:**

QOTRDinner.eventbrite.com– website

QOTRDinner@gmail.com– email

718-388-7992 – phone

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, September 8, 2019

10:30am Open Intention

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

6:30pm Open Intention

Sunday, September 15, 2019

10:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Pray For the Sick:

Lucy Porcelli, Ana Marie Moreno, Sister Miriam Daniel Pendar, C.S.J., Jacqueline Meneel, Nancy & Vincent Gonzalez, James Colasanti, Valarie Bruno, Michael Dick, Felicia Tulumello, Michael Vayda, Jackie Elsasser

Pray For the Recently Deceased:

Jovof Janicki, Cono Babino, Charles Altadonna, Joseph Bavuso, Ann Romano, William J. Gerdes

Religious Education News

Registration for Religious Education has begun. The office at 206 Skillman Avenue is open every day from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Special office hours will be on Sunday, September 8th, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am, and Saturday, September 14th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. If you need to schedule an appointment for a different time please call the Faith Formation office at 347-521-0068 or email us at faithformation@dmbk.org

Catechist Commissioning: On **Sunday, September 15th, 2019** we will celebrate Catechetical Sunday **"STAY WITH US"**. The Catechist Commissioning will take place at St. Francis of Paola at the 11:30 am Mass.

VIRTUS TRAINING: on **Tuesday, September 17th, 2019** we will be presenting Protecting God's Children Training at 5 pm at 206 Skillman Ave. All volunteers need to take this course and agree to a background check. You may register directly online at www.virtus.org

Religious Education: Classes will begin on **Sunday, September 22nd, 2019**. Parents, catechists, and students of St. Francis of Paola are expected to be at the Rectory basement on Sunday, September 22nd, at 10 am for instruction and orientation.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, September 8, 2019

9:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, September 9, 2019

8:30am Michael Dick: Living Intention Get Well

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

8:30am Catherine Fagan

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

8:30am In Memory of the Victims of 9/11

Thursday, September 12, 2019

8:30am James Krische: Living Intention

Friday, September 13, 2019

8:30am Emily & William Nappi

Saturday, September 14, 2019

8:30am Open Intention

Sunday, September 15, 2019

9:30am All Innocent Victims of Violence

7:00pm Open Intention

St. Cecilia's Seniors

Mark This on Your Calendar

St. Cecilia's Seniors has reopen on Thursdays, they will gather from 1 pm to 3:30 pm. There is an annual registration fee of \$10.00. Bingo will be played and cake and coffee will be served. New members are welcome.

Calling All Vendors

Only \$25.00 per table

For questions or to reserve your table at our Flea Market call Rina at 646-584-3340 or Ivette at 917-446-9581. *(Please make check payable to Divine Mercy Parish).*

The Flea Market

will take place on Sunday, October 20th, in Msgr. Vetro Hall, 26 Olive Street between Powers and Devoe Streets, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Parish Office Hours

The 9 am to 8 pm Monday to Friday parish office hours will resume starting September 9, 2019.

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **13**

FILENAME: **04-0284.53b**

PHONE NUMBER: **718-389-0010**

FAX NUMBER: **718-389-5090**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE

Comments:

RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94th Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

Andrea.Haro@nypd.org

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm

Receive Our Parish Bulletin **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.