

Worship, Devotion and Spiritual Formation

On Saturday September 9th I met with a group of about fifteen parishioners to discuss our worship and devotional schedules here in Queen of All Saints. The meeting was primarily in response to Bishop DiMarzio's request that each parish evaluate its Sunday Mass schedule and attendance with an eye on possibly reducing the number of Masses.

Throughout a very healthy discussion there were several conclusions and decisions that were reached.

Our Sunday Mass Schedule

We are blessed with a growing parish! Our current Mass schedule on Sundays (one Saturday evening Mass and two Sunday Masses) is meeting the needs of our parishioners. At different times of the year, attendance at each Mass may increase or decrease slightly, but overall each Mass is relatively well attended, and thankfully our congregation continues to grow. There was unanimous agreement that we should not change the current schedule.

Our Weekday Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses at 8:30 AM from Monday through Friday are generally well attended. Attendance at the weekly Saturday morning Masses has not been nearly as consistent. In my first year at Queen of All Saints, I restored the Saturday morning Mass to the schedule, but attendance has always been spotty at best. A decision was reached to discontinue the Saturday morning Mass *except on the First Saturday of each month* when we will have that 8:30 Mass followed by a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament concluding with Benediction. This new schedule becomes effective right away.

Holy Days of Obligation

For the past several years, we have offered Mass at 8:30 AM and 7:30 PM on each Holy Day of Obligation. The evening Mass has always been poorly attended. We concluded that would be the same if the evening Mass were held on the vigil (the evening before) of the Holy Day. Two suggestions were made: while maintaining the 8:30 AM Mass we might add an earlier Mass at 7:30 AM or a Noon Mass. Both the earlier Mass and the Noon Mass might appeal to people on their way to work or people who work in the neighborhood. I welcome your suggestions.

First Fridays

For the past few years we have offered an additional evening Mass and Holy Hour on First Fridays. The young adults of the parish have coordinated this effort, though the Mass and Holy Hour were for all parishioners. For different reasons, the young adults will be focusing on doing something quarterly and no longer on the First Fridays. Beginning in October, we will no longer have an evening Mass on First Friday. I will be saying an additional First Friday Mass at 10:30 AM each month for the school. All parishioners are invited to be present as well.

Devotions and Prayers

The Rosary will be prayed in common in church immediately the 10:30 Mass on the First Sunday of each month. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed in church following the 10:30 Mass on the Second Sunday of each month. The Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed each Monday following the 8:30 AM Mass.

Year of Prayer for Vocations ~ Eucharistic Adoration

Our diocesan year of prayer for vocations to Holy Orders and the Consecrated Life began last month on the Feast of St. John Vianney. All parishioners are asked to pray for an increase in these vocations. In Queen of All Saints we will dedicate each Wednesday to praying for vocations. There will be a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament each Wednesday following the 8:30 Mass dedicated to this intention. All parishioners who are able to be present are encouraged to join in this very important day each week. You can also try to attend Mass each Wednesday at a church near your place of work.

Sacred Space

Whenever we enter church, especially when we reach the top of the stairs and pass through the interior glass doors, we have entered sacred space. It is made sacred by the presence of the Lord. Jesus is there in the Tabernacle. This is His Real and personal presence: His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. This is a time to be focused exclusively on the Lord. It is a time to be silent before God. It is a time to prepare for Mass, to celebrate Mass and a time to pray after Mass. For the Lord who is there for us, and in respect for one another, we should acknowledge that we are in sacred space by our silence, reverence and awe before God.

This is neither the time nor place for chats, meetings or catching up with our neighbor. Those things can be easily and better taken care of once we are outside, and their importance and urgency pales in comparison to the One whom we have come to see and worship and who lovingly asks for, and surely deserves, our undivided attention.

Unfinished Work

All of the above decisions will be continually looked at during the year. Please feel free to be in touch with me if you have any further suggestions.

We are still looking at Adult Faith and Spiritual Formation as well as special efforts during Advent and Lent.

Thank you for your understanding and support. God bless you!

Father Ceriello

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PARISH OFFERING

The offering to the parish last Sunday was: \$9955
Thank you for your generosity and support of Queen of All Saints!

PARISH WEEKLY GOAL

Thank you for your sacrificial giving each week. Please remember that in order for us to meet our ordinary expenses, we need a minimum of \$7500 in each Sunday's offering. Please continue to be as generous as you can. If you miss a week for any reason, please try to make up for it the following week or when you return. This is especially true on holiday weekends and during the summer months.
Thank you again for your understanding.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Sunday, September 17**
8:30am Lena and Gilbert Berrocal
10:30am Pro Populo
- Monday, September 18**
8:30 am Philip Calvin Amico
- Tuesday, September 19**
8:30 am Open
- Wednesday, September 20**
8:30 am Open
- Thursday, September 21**
8:30 am Open
- Friday, September 22**
8:30 am Open
- Saturday, September 23**
8:30am No Mass
5pm Candida Jimenez
- Sunday, September 24**
8:30am Open
10:30am Pro Populo

Back to (Sunday) School!

Registration is still open. Please contact Sister Katie at: 718-638-7625 or gasfaithformation@gmail.com. Everyone ages 3-15 is invited to join us for the Sunday School!
Join us this Sunday at 8:45 AM in Saint Joseph Hall (S.J.H.)

PRAYER LIST FOR SICK AND DECEASED OF THE PARISH

*The Prayer list for the sick and the deceased of the Parish will be updated.
Please call the rectory to add the names of your family members.*

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AA Meets every Monday at 6:30 pm and every Wednesday at 7:15pm in St Joseph Hall.

Prayers to Saint Peregrine

Prayer of those suffering with Cancer

St Peregrine, whom Holy Mother Church has declared Patron of those suffering with Cancer, I confidently turn to you for help in my present sickness. I beg your kind intercession. Ask God to relieve me on this sickness, if this be His Holy Will. Plead with the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Sorrows, whom you loved so tenderly and in union with whom you have suffered the pains of Cancer, that she may help me with her powerful prayers and loving intercession. But if it should be God's Holy Will that I bear this sickness, obtain for me courage and strength to accept these trials from the loving hand of God with patience and resignation, because he knows what is best for the salvation of my soul.. St Peregrine, be my friend and patron. Help me to imitate you in accepting suffering, and to unite myself with Jesus Crucified and the Mother of Sorrows, as you did. I offer my pains to God with all the love of my heart, for his glory and the salvation of souls, especially my own. Amen.

Prayer for others who are suffering with Cancer

O great St Peregrine, you have been called the Mighty, the Wonder-Worker, because of the numerous miracles which you have obtained from God for those who have had recourse to you. For so many years you bore in your own flesh this cancerous disease that destroys the very fiber of our being, and who had recourse to the source of all grace when the power of man could do no more. You were favored with the vision of Jesus coming down from His Cross to heal your affliction. Ask of God and Our Lady, the cure of the sick whom we entrust to you. *(Pause here and silently recall the names of the sick for whom you are praying.)* Aided in this way by your powerful intercession, we shall sing to God, now and for all eternity, a song of gratitude for His great goodness and mercy. Amen.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING DRIVE

St Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2016 from 9am to 12pm in front of the church.