

SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

TODAY: April 26

Acts 4:8-12
1 John 3:1-2
John 10:11-18

Next Sun: May 3

Acts 9:26-31
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8



PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGES TO THE CARDINAL'S CAMPAIGN! Last year, you raised almost \$5,000 through your support of the Cardinal's Campaign. Our parish receives a portion of the funds raised beyond our goal. Our goal this year is \$18,500 and we have gifts and pledges totaling almost \$18,000. If you have not had the opportunity to make a gift to the Cardinal's Campaign, there are envelopes available in the vestibule. You can send your donation directly to the Archdiocese or place it in the collection on Sunday and we will mail it for you. If you want to make a gift in cash, simply put it in the envelope and bring it to the office, or place it in the collection next week. We will write a check for you. Thank you for your support!

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL – On Sunday, July 12, at 1 p.m. there will be a celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in the gym. This festival will mark the beginning of the consolidation of our parish with St. Mary of the Assumption. Parishioners from both parishes will be invited to this feast. The festival will be a collaborative effort of the Spanish and English speaking communities. **We want you!**

- There will be a prize for the parishioner who attends and has been a parishioner the longest time. (Please bring proof!)
- There will be a prize for the most interesting memento or piece of memorabilia from the parish.
- English speaking parishioners who attend the 11:30 a.m. Spanish Mass will be invited to make their own consecration to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and will receive a beautiful scapular.
- There will be traditional folk dances, music, food and beverages – All for free!!

PASTOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – Next Meeting is this Monday, 27 April, at 5 p.m. All are welcome!

REMEMBER YOUR MOTHER on MOTHER'S DAY – Mother's Day is May 10th. There are envelopes available in the vestibule of the church so that you can remember your mother, living or deceased, during the Mother's Day Masses.

MASS with the ANOINTING OF THE SICK – May 2nd, Saturday, at 10 a.m. – Healing Mass with Anointing of the Sick. Persons with a serious illness, a chronic condition that is serious or persons having an operation very soon are invited to receive the sacrament.

IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? – DOES SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED THE SACRAMENTS of COMMUNION and/or CONFIRMATION? – We offer a program for adults seeking to become Catholics as well as adults interested in completing their sacraments. If you would like more information please call the parish office (718-442-3411) and leave a message for Colin Vautrinot. Colin is our Director of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

ADVOCATING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – Advocacy for affordable housing is part of our Catholic Christian commitment to social justice. The SI Advance recently reported that rents are on the rise in Staten Island. The median rent on Staten Island is now \$1,817 per month. While that is lower than the citywide median of \$2,690, a rent of \$1,817 would be a significant challenge for many residents of the Island. According to a federal government standard, persons should only pay 30% of their income on rent. In order to afford a rent of \$1,817, you would need an income of \$72,680. This is almost four times the salary of someone working 40 hours per week at New York State's minimum wage. Please watch for opportunities to advocate for more affordable housing in our City. If you want to be part of this effort, please leave your contact information in the rectory for Fr. Hallinan.

Happy Easter! Alleluia!
Jesus Christ, He lives!
Serve Him to receive salvation;
Eternal life he gives!

WEEKLY OFFERING: April 12th: \$2851. Thank you for your generosity!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION - Many of our customs surrounding critical illness come from antiquity, and yet attitudes have certainly changed. Death was an all-too-familiar presence then, and people tended to see it as a natural and unavoidable part of life, not a personal catastrophe. People tried to review their lives, settle their affairs, say farewell to their dear ones, and welcome the deathbed vigils and prayers that assured them of God's love and forgiveness. What people most feared was sudden death. It was dreaded and never discussed. The faithful filled the catacombs with consoling images of the good shepherd carrying the sheep to safe pasture, or the faithful in glory seated at banquet tables. The prayer texts from the time are consoling and positive, and many inspired our modern prayers. The care of the dying flowed directly from Roman pagan practice; it was home-based and family-centered. Pagans didn't especially fear death, but they were terrified by the dead. Christians, on the other hand, consoled their sick with psalms of joy and faith in the Resurrection. The goal was to assure the sick person of God's love, and that the ties that bind the dead and the living would endure. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 26, 2015



See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. ~1 John 3:1

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday April 25

8:00am- †

Offered By:

5:00pm- † Dolores Elizabeth Margaret Zukowski

Offered By: Zukowski Family

Sunday April 26

8:30am- † Maria Jesus Pagan

Offered By: Brown Family

10:00am- † Gregory Benavides &
Jose Maria Posada

Offered By: Family

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Monday April 27

8:00am- †

Offered by:

12:05pm- † Giovanna & Gaetano Ventrudo

By: Peg & Tom Ventrudo

Tuesday April 28

8:00am- †

Offered By:

12:05pm- † Joseph Clark

By: Dorothy & James Clark

Wednesday April 29

8:00am- †

Offered by:

12:05pm- † Dolores Elizabeth Margaret Zukowski

By: Val Cappucci & Family

Thursday April 30

8:00am- †

Offered By: Casertano Family
Michael, Cheryl & Debra

12:05pm- † Anthony Giano

Friday May 1

8:00am - † Joseph & Concetta Fortunato

Offered By: Ann & Pat

12:05pm - † Frances Lagotta

Offered By: Joann Scamardella

Saturday May 2

8:00am- † Isabel Maria Quiñones

Offered By: daughter, Martha

5:00pm- † Bryan Graves ~6th Anniversasy~

Offered By: Linda Graves

Sunday May 3

8:30am- † Angela Guarino

Offered By: sister-in-law,

10:00am- ~In Thanksgiving Gwendolyn Hernandez
& Nicole Valentin

Offered By: Family

11:30am- † Parish Community Intentions

6:00pm- † Parish Community Intentions

Weekly Memorials

Bread & Wine
Tabernacle Candle
Memorial Candle



Liturgical Minsters Schedule for MAY 2015~

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Lectors: Linda Graves & Angelo Sabella (carry Gospel Book) Substitute: Bill Hinton

Eucharistic Ministers: Bill Hinton, Angelo Sabella & Linford Smith

Substitute: Bill Hinton

Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Lectors: Johnathan Codipilly & Linda Torres (carry Gospel Book) Substitute: Maria Oliveras

Eucharistic Ministers: Delmeter Carey, Linda Torres & MaryAnn Ugbo

Substitute: Diane Carbonaro

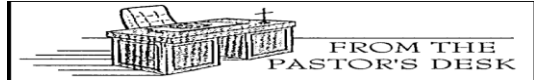
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Valerie Cappucci (carry Gospel Book)

Substitute.: Victoria Garay

E. M.: Dianne Murphy, Lydia Mora & Beverly Marryshow

Substitute: Emmanuel Fode



We are children of God. Is this declaration of faith attractive to us or repellent to us?

Why are we children of God? As Christians, we believe that in baptism, we participate now in the life of Jesus, God's only Son. As we share in the life of God's only Son, we are the adopted sons and daughters of God through Jesus. The author of the letter of John reminds us that our status as children of God is a sign of God's great love for us. God wills that we share the same relationship with God as God's only Son Jesus. God wishes us to share in God's life now, through Jesus, so that one day we will know the fullness of life in God just as Jesus does.

Sometimes we chafe at the notion that we are children of God. If we acknowledge that we are children of God, then we acknowledge that we are dependent on God who is father and mother to us. If we acknowledge that we are children of God, then we acknowledge that we need the counsel, direction, and discipline that an ideal parent offers to help his or her child flourish. We like to assert our adulthood in our relationship with God. We do not want to be dependent on God. We want to be able to choose whether we will accept the counsel, direction and discipline of God. And, in fact, God honors our decision as to how we will relate to God because love can never be coerced. God has to allow us to be free to love God or not. God has to allow us to be free to love God on our own terms. The tragedy is that often we are not as spiritually mature as we like to think and so the 'adult decisions' we make with regard to how we will relate to God, and what direction from God we will accept, can often lead us away from the authentic human flourishing that God desires for all of God's children. As much as we may chafe at being children of God, it is only in accepting our dependence on God and our need for God's guidance, direction and discipline that we can enjoy the fullness of life that is God's desire for us.

In this Easter season, we should pray for the grace to appreciate that to be children of God is, indeed, a sign of God's great love for us!

Fr. Mark Hallinan, S.J.