

Basilica of
Our Lady of
Perpetual Help

MAY 2020

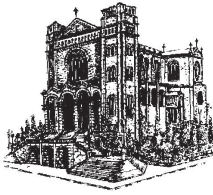


Monthly Messenger



Happy Mother's Day





BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

**526-59TH STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11220**

**PHONE: 492-9200
www.olphbkny.org**

VOL. 128

May 2020

NO. 4

MASSES:

Saturday – (Lower Church), 8:45 a.m., 12:10, 5:00 p.m., (English) & 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Sunday (Lower Church) 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:15 AM & 11:45 AM (Chinese) 1:30 p.m. (Spanish), 3:00 p.m. (Vietnamese) & 6:00 p.m.
Sunday – (Upper Church) 10:15 a.m., (Spanish) & 12:15 p.m. (English)
Weekdays – 6:45, 8:45 a.m., 12:10 P.M., 6:45 p.m. Tues & Thurs (Spanish)
Holy Days – (Eve of) 6:15 p.m. (English); 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)
6:45, 8:45 a.m., 12:10, 6:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish)

SACRAMENTS:

BAPTISMS:

Baptisms are administered in Spanish on the 3rd Saturday of the month and in English on the 4th Saturday of the Month. To register for the required classes and interview, come to the Rectory office.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday – 9:30 a.m., 12:45 P.M. & 6:45 p.m.
Saturday – 12:45 p.m. & 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

MARRIAGES:

Please make reservations at least 8 MONTHS in advance and before engaging your reception hall. Only parishioners who live within the parish boundaries may be married at the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

In any danger of death or serious illness, please call the rectory promptly.
Phone 718-492-9200.

DEVOTIONS:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena:

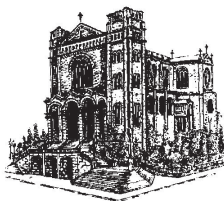
Wednesday – after 8:45 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Masses.
Spanish Novena & Mass 6:45 p.m. (Lower Church)

First Friday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 12:10 P.M. Mass until 7:00 P.M.
Healing Mass -- 7:30 p.m. on First Friday

First Saturday: The Fatima Rosary is recited 12:45 p.m.

RECTORY HOURS:

Monday to Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The office will close on Legal Holidays at 2:00 p.m. **Urgent sick calls any hour.**



**BASILICA DE NUESTRA
SEÑORA PERPETUO SOCORRO**
526-59TH STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11220
CASA PARROQUIAL: 492-9200
www.olphbkny.org

VOL. 128

Mayo 2020

NRO. 4

MISAS:

Sábado – (Iglesia de Abajo) 8:45 a.m. & 12:10 p.m., 5:00 p.m. (en Ingles), & 7:00 p.m. (en Español)

Domingo – (Iglesia de Abajo) 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:45 (Chínesa), 1:30 p.m. (Español), 3:00 p.m. (Vietnamita) & 6:00 p.m.

Domingo – (Iglesia de Arriba) 10:15 a.m. (en Español) & 12:15 p.m. (en Ingles)
Durante la Semana – 6:45, 8:45 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 6:45 p.m. Martes & Jueves (en Español)

Días de Guardar – (Vísperas) 6:15, 7:30 p.m. (en Español)

Día de La Fiesta – 6:45, 8:45 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Español)

SACRAMENTOS:

BAUTISMO:

Los Bautizos serán en Español el 3er Sábado de cada mes, y en Ingles el 4to Sábado de cada mes.

Para las clases y entrevista requisitas favor de registrarse en la Oficina de la Rectoría.

RECONCILIACION (CONFESIONES):

Miércoles – 9:30 a.m., 12:45 & 6:45 p.m.

Sábado – 12:45 p.m. & 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

MATRIMONIO:

Favor de hacer reservaciones en la Iglesia, por los menos OCHO MESES de antemano, antes de alquilar el salón de recepción.

SACRAMENTO DE LOS ENFERMOS:

En caso de emergencia, llamen 492-9200 a cualquier hora.

DEVOCIONES:

Novena a la Virgen del Perpetuo Socorro:

Miércoles – Después de la misa de las 8:45 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

Misa y Devoción en Español a las 6:45 p.m. (Iglesia de Abajo)

Primer Viernes: Exposición del Santísimo después de la misa de las 12:10 hasta las 7:00 p.m. Misa de Curación - 7:30 p.m. (Iglesia de Abajo).

Primer Sábado: El Rosario en honor a la Virgen de Fátima se reza a las 12:45 p.m.

HORAS DE OFICINA:

Lunes a Jueves: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Viernes y Sábado: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Domingo: 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

La oficina va a estar cerrada los días feriados a las 2:00 p.m.



From the Pastor's Desk

May 2020

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Perpetual Help,

I wrote the following for the May 3rd parish bulletin: "It's May! May is one of Mary's months – October is the other one, of course. This year the whole month of May falls in the Easter Season. Pentecost Sunday is May 31st. May is usually the month of First Communions and weddings. Our Confirmation celebration was to be on Friday, May 29th. This is not an ordinary May, as we all realize. Almost everything is on hold. Except for Mothers' Day, next Sunday. Every family will celebrate Mothers' Day, as we will at our streamed Masses on Facebook. My guess is that there will be many Zoom celebrations to wish our mothers a happy and blessed day." I trust you had a Happy Mother's Day!

A question: how are you faring during this Covid-19 pandemic? What is sustaining you during the "pause" – as Gov. Cuomo calls it? Both the pandemic and the shut-down affect us profoundly: we are vulnerable to the virus ... we are to remain at home, in close quarters with our family ... students continue learning online and parents have become at least teachers aides, if not teachers themselves ... breadwinners are furloughed and, therefore, must apply for unemployment ... our churches are closed leaving us without gathering for Mass and, therefore, without sacramental Communion. So, I ask the question again: How are you faring? What is sustaining you?

Many people have said that their faith is sustaining them during this time of isolation and concern. God is in our midst and by the practices of our faith we find hope and consolation, as well as the wisdom to live in these new and uncharted circumstances. Last month I wrote about each family being "the church-at-home", what the bishops call "the domestic church." This is an identity that we may not have thought much about over the years. We say: church is OLPH ... church is going to Mass ... church is confession and other sacraments ... church is the community that "does" all these things. The family is that community "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Mat. 18:20)

So the “church-at-home” has prayer time together and individually, participates together in Sunday Mass online, talks about how they are doing and how God is helping them, and so recognizes God present in their family life. Each family has had to discover their rhythm of daily living, including “faith-time” as “the church-at-home.”

Remember that May is dedicated to Mary. Pope Francis wrote his letter to the church for the month of May and recommended praying the rosary particularly for those affected by the coronavirus - for healing, consolation, and for the eternal rest of those who have died.
http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/letters/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200425_lettera-mesedimaggio.html

We, Redemptorists of OLPH, celebrate daily Mass for your intentions. We celebrate with you by streaming the Mass on Facebook “OLPH Brooklyn”. We desire to be in communion with you in this way.

May Mary, our Mother of Perpetual Help, be with us each day to bless and protect us.

Your brother in Christ the Redeemer,

Fr. James Gilmour, C.Ss.R.

SOME FINAL REMINDERS

The OLPH parish internet page is:

<https://olphbkny.org/>

The Sunday Bulletin is found at:

<https://olphbkny.org/bulletins>

The Monthly Messenger is found at:

<https://olphbkny.org/2020-monthly-messengers>

Your Sunday collection can be sent online at:

<https://olphbkny.weshareonline.org/index.aspx>

The English Facebook page is:

OLPH Brooklyn

Remember to participate in the 2020 Census:

<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

Desde el Escritorio del Párroco

Mayo de 2020

Amados Parroquianos y Amigos de Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro,

Yo escribí lo siguiente en el boletín parroquial del 3 de mayo: “¡Mayo! Es uno de los meses dedicados a María – octubre es el otro, por supuesto. Este año mayo cae en el Tiempo Pascual. El domingo de Pentecostés se celebra el 31 de mayo. Mayo normalmente es mes de Primeras Comuniones y bodas. Hubiéramos celebrado la Confirmación el viernes, 29 de mayo. Sin embargo, todo queda postergado por causa del coronavirus. Menos el Día de la Madre, el domingo próximo. Todas las familias celebrarán el Día de la Madre, incluyendo nosotros por las Misas en Facebook. Muchas familias celebrarán a su Madre a través de Zoom para que pasen un día bendecido y feliz.” ¡Espero que hayan pasado un Feliz Día de la Madre!

Una pregunta: ¿Cómo están pasándolo durante esta pandemia del Covid-19? ¿Qué les sostiene durante la “pausa”, como la llama el Gobernador Cuomo? Tanto la pandemia y las restricciones nos afectan profundamente: somos vulnerables al virus ... nos hemos de quedar en casa, un espacio quizás restringido para la familia numerosa ... estudiantes siguen aprendiendo por internet, y sus padres se vuelven maestros u asistentes de maestras ... el sostén de la familia despedido de su empleo ahora aplica por el desempleo ... nuestras iglesias están cerradas dejándonos sin la comunidad que se reúne para la Misa y, por lo tanto, sin la Comunión sacramental. Entonces, vuelvo a preguntar: ¿Cómo están en estos tiempos? ¿Qué les sostiene en estas circunstancias?

Muchas personas declaran que su fe les sostiene durante este tiempo de aislamiento y preocupación. Dios está en medio nuestro, y por las prácticas de nuestra fe encontramos esperanza y consuelo, como también sabiduría para manejarnos en estas circunstancias nuevas y nunca transitadas. En abril escribí sobre la familia como “iglesia-en-casa”, lo que los obispos llaman “iglesia doméstica.” Es una identidad que quizás no hemos profundizado. Decimos: la iglesia es NSPS ... la iglesia es ir a la Misa ... la iglesia es confesarse y los otros sacramentos ... la iglesia es la comunidad que hace todo esto. La familia es esa comunidad “donde hay dos o tres reunidos en mi

Nombre, ahí estoy yo en medio de ellos.” (Mat. 18:20) Entonces la “iglesia-en-casa” ora juntos en familia y cada uno personalmente, participa juntos en la Misa por línea, conversa juntos sobre cómo están y cómo Dios les ayuda, y de esta manera reconoce a Dios presente en su hogar. Cada familia descubre su ritmo de vida que incluye “momentos de fe” como “iglesia-en-casa”.

Recuerden que el mes de mayo se dedica a María. El Papa Francisco escribió su carta a la iglesia para el mes de mayo y recomendó el rezo del Santo Rosario especialmente por los afectados por el coronavirus – para su sanación, su consuelo, y por el descanso eterno de los fallecidos. http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/es/letters/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200425_lettera-mesedimaggio.html

Nosotros, los redentoristas de NSPS, celebramos la Misa cada día por sus intenciones. Celebramos la Misa con ustedes por Facebook “Charles McDonald.” De esta manera deseamos estar siempre en comunión con ustedes.

Que María, nuestra Madre del Perpetuo Socorro, esté con nosotros cada día para bendecirnos y protegernos.

Su hermano en Cristo Redentor,

P. Santiago Gilmour, C.Ss.R.

UNOS RECUERDOS FINALES

©LPI

La página de internet de la parroquia es:

<https://olphbkny.org/>

El boletín de cada domingo se encuentra en:

<https://olphbkny.org/bulletins>

El Mensajero Mensual se encuentra en:

<https://olphbkny.org/2020-monthly-messengers>

Se puede hacer su colecta dominical en línea en:

<https://olphbkny.weshareonline.org/index.aspx>

La página en español de Facebook es: Charles McDonald

Es importante participar en el Censo 2020:

https://2020census.gov/es.html?fbclid=IwAR16t1G3pI5TfuR1tPT-mOGFOf26VCBvFTVZy_g_HQhL04urzR-FVYeaSSQ

Years ago, I read a book by a woman named Martha Manning called *Chasing Grace*. Amazon described the book this way: *The eldest child of a devout Irish-American Catholic family, Martha Manning weaves her story around the seven holy sacraments: baptism, penance, communion, confirmation, holy orders, marriage and last rites. She recalls her childhood pratfalls, adolescent yearnings and entrance into motherhood with wisdom, wit and remarkable honesty.* One of my favorite stories that Manning writes was about a night that she, her mother, and two elderly nuns had gone to dinner and a show in Washington, DC. By the time the show ends, it has gotten rather late. As they drive home, they soon find themselves hopelessly lost in some very dangerous parts of our nation's capital. The two nuns are in the backseat chatting and laughing about the wonderful evening they had just shared. They are completely oblivious to any danger they may be in. In the front seats, Martha and her Mother are getting more and more frightened. These are the days before cell phones and GPS's. Finally, Martha can't take it anymore and she turns to the two Sisters and says, *be quiet, don't you realize we could be killed at any moment?* One of the nuns, says, *don't worry dear. We are all in the state of grace.* The author goes on to say that she and her mother often told this story and ended with the words, *can you believe those nuns?* And the other would respond, *No, but I wish I had that much faith.*

In the Gospel, Jesus is speaking to his apostles about his leaving them to return to the Father. It is clear that Jesus has a deep and profound love for these men. I have always loved the farewell scene in the musical *Godspell* where Jesus is saying farewell to his disciples. It is a very emotional scene, and one that captures the love and sadness that both the Lord and the apostles are experiencing. He promises to send the Holy Spirit to them. The Gospel speaks these words to them and to us: *Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known, that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.*" Our Lord uses the words *the world* several times in the Gospel. What does Jesus mean by *the world* and why is he so concerned about its impact on his followers. Is Jesus renouncing the world as an evil place, reality from which we need to isolate and protect ourselves? The traditional phrase *the world, the flesh and the devil* captures the power of temptation and what might turn a follower from God. To be called *worldly* is not a compliment in terms of Christian values. Yet, God chose to become fully human and enter into

our world. He lived all that was human except sin. He turned water into wine so a party could continue. He attended festive dinners and delighted in children, the lilies of the fields and fields of purple flowers. He has friends in whom he delighted. There has been a long history, and not without wisdom, of fearing the power of the society and culture that could lead a believer away from the Lord. Many saints chose to withdraw from the world around them. Some of the earliest followers of Jesus chose to go into the desert to withdraw from temptation. Still, Vatican II gives another long held tradition of the Catholic faith, as it speaks about how much wonder and goodness are in creation and in people who may not be followers of Christ. Many of us loved the image of Saint John Paul II when he would get off of a plane in a country that he had never visited. He would kiss the ground since it was holy to him.

Many secular people, as well as others who are not followers of Jesus or those who have no faith beliefs, are doing wonders around us. They are feeding the poor, working to protect the environment, seeking to build peace, fight disease and sickness, care for the abandoned. I believe, whether they know it or not, that they are doing such great deeds by the grace of God. I think of some of the great movies I have seen, television shows that have inspired me, music that has moved my heart, books that have made me see new realities, and creativity that amazes me. I see the hand of God in such activities of our world.

Yet, we are not naïve about the modern world. There are very strong and seductive currents that are not in line with the Gospel: to state a few: the hostility toward life in the womb, and the considerations of euthanasia, the easiness with which our world turns to war, bigotry and racism, misuse of the wonderful gift of marriage and sexuality, greed, pride, rampant selfishness, hostility toward people of faith. How easy it is to say everybody else is doing it. It's not my problem. This is *the world* that Jesus warns about leading to great harm to the believers.

The challenges for people of faith is to discern what is best in the world around us and embrace it; and to turn away from that which is sinful and ugly in the plan of God. A question that a follower of Jesus must ask himself/herself regularly is: **Is the world changing me or am I changing the world.**

Father Patrick Woods, C.Ss.R.

La Vita E Bella



La Vita E Bella (Life is Beautiful) was an award-winning movie in 1997. Roberto Benigni is coauthor and star of the movie. It takes place in Italy during the Second World War. Guido Orefice is a delightfully happy, friendly man who manages to win the hand of a high-class woman Dora. They have a son named Giosue. Guido is Jewish. During the war, he is rounded up with his uncle Eliseo, and his son and put in a cattle car to be sent to a concentration camp. Dora is not Jewish, but she begs to join the

family as a prisoner. She is sent to a cattle car for women. Guido never sees her again.

In the awful evil of the concentration camp, the ingenious Guido tries to convince his son, that this is a big game, a competition that they were going to win together. The prize would be a tank. In the process he protects his son, by his good humor, his courage, and ingenuity.

Just as the war is ending, and the Germans are evacuating the camp, Guido is captured to be killed. He winks at Giosue in order to say, “We won.” Guido is killed, and shortly after, an American tank rolls into the camp. The son has been saved. He is reunited with his mother, but sadly Guido ahs been shot and killed by a German soldier.

I have been thinking of this movie, as I see all the heroic efforts of parents, grandparents, teachers to continue to love, and educate their children. We as adults know how deadly the Coronavirus is. How much information do parents give young children at home? I think just enough but not too much.

Parents are reminding me of Guido in this movie. They are trying to make the restrictions of this time of pandemic time as enjoyable

as possible. I have been seeing on social media, uplifting, often funny glimpses into how parents are dealing with this time. Many are really trying to make this difficult time beautiful and fun. I wonder, years later, how these young children will remember these days. Will it be a grim memory of a grim time? Or are they going to have memories, incredible memories of family time together?

A friend of mine made facemasks out of clothes and costumes for the kids. One girl had a unicorn face mask with a horn. The youngest had a Batman mask, and his bigger sister had a puppy one. The kids picked out what they wanted, and she sewed them. Another friend had made two glittering facemasks that looked like she made from a nice dress that she had grown out of. Are facemasks going to become a fashion statement?

Other families made movies, sang songs. My grandniece had a Birthday Parade instead of a birthday party. It was fun for them, and fun for the other kids who made signs, and for the parents who drove them.

Innocence has a short shelf life. All of us can remember when our innocence was lost, when we saw that life was not carefree. For me it was the Cuban Missile Crisis, when I saw how concerned my parents and President Kennedy were when he addressed the nation on our small black and white television. His assassination about two years later, taught me that life is serious, hard, and some parts are not beautiful.

To all who are making big efforts to make our time together enjoyable, even fun, I want to bless you and encourage you. You are making life-long, beautiful memories. As Guido protected his son Giosue from the evils of the Holocaust, by protecting him, by making it a game. I think many of you parents, grandparents, teachers are doing the same, using your imagination. Keep singing, keep clapping and banging pots at 7 PM in gratitude for public servants, have virtual parties. Maybe in the middle of all the bad news we too can say, “La Vita e Bella”, Life is Beautiful.

John McKenna, C.S.S.R.
April 17, 2020

The Why and How of Mother's Day

Contrary to popular belief, Mother's Day was not conceived and fine-tuned in the boardroom of Hallmark. The earliest tributes to mothers date back to the annual spring festival the Greeks dedicated to Rhea, the mother of many deities, and to the offerings ancient Romans made to their Great Mother of the Gods, Cybele. Christians celebrated this festival on the fourth Sunday in Lent in honor of Mary, mother of Christ. In England this holiday was expanded to include all mothers and was called Mothering Sunday.

In the United States, Mother's Day started nearly 150 years ago, when Anna Jarvis, an Appalachian homemaker, organized a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions in her community, a cause she believed would be best advocated by mothers. She called it "Mother's Work Day."

In 1872, Julia Ward Howe, a Boston poet, pacifist, suffragist, and author of the lyrics to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," organized a day encouraging mothers to rally for peace, since she believed they bore the loss of human life more harshly than anyone else.

In 1905 when Anna Jarvis died, her daughter, also named Anna, began a campaign to memorialize the life work of her mother. Legend has it that young Anna remembered a Sunday school lesson that her mother gave in which she said, "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day. There are many days for men, but none for mothers."

Anna began to lobby prominent businessmen like John Wannamaker, and politicians including Presidents Taft and Roosevelt to support her campaign to create a special day to honor mothers. At one of the first services organized to celebrate Anna's mother in 1908, at her church in West Virginia, Anna handed out her mother's favorite flower, the white carnation. Five years later, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling for officials of the federal government to wear white carnations on

Mother's Day. In 1914 Anna's hard work paid off when President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday on the second Sunday in May.

Slowly and gradually the Mother's day became very popular and gift giving activity increased. All this commercialization of the Mother's day infuriated Anna as she believed that the day's sentiment was being sacrificed at the expense of greed and profit.

Regardless of Jarvis's worries, Mother's Day has flourished in the United States. Actually, the second Sunday of May has become the most popular day of the year. Although Anna may not be with us, Mother's Day lives on and has spread to various countries of the world. Many countries throughout the world celebrate Mother's Day at various times during the year, but some such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium also celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May.





St. Rita of Cascia

Feast Day May 22nd

St. Rita of Cascia is known to be the patroness of impossible causes as St. Jude is the patron of such causes. Each has their following in this work of intercession. The devotees of St. Rita are many and will convince you of the power of her intercession by stories they have personally experienced. For those unfamiliar with St. Rita, the following is a short version of her life.

Rita Lotti was born in 1381 in the tiny hamlet of Roccaporena, near Cascia, in the Province of Umbria, Italy. Her parents Antonio and Amata looked upon their only child as a very special gift from God since she was born to them as they were already getting on in years.

The Lottis were a devout Christian couple, offering their daughter the witness of strong faith in God and a practical example of Gospel living, especially in their role as official peacemakers or reconcilers among their fellow citizens. It should not have been surprising then that Rita, who shared her parents strong faith and religious devotion, would have desired to dedicate her life to God as a nun. Unexpected, rather, was the response of Antonio and Amata, who preferred to see Rita married, and who, in fact, had arranged a suitable husband for her.

Though initially disappointed, Rita understood this choice to be the expression of God's will for her and so she consented. Thus Rita was married to Paolo Mancini, a good man though of strong and impetuous character. Their marriage was blessed with two sons, perhaps twins, and Rita's days were soon filled with the typical concerns of wife, mother and housekeeper, while Paolo was employed as a watchman for the town. As a minor civil servant, Paolo often found himself drawn into the conflicts that existed between rival political factions, and this may account for the tragedy which eventually touched the Mancini family. One day as he was returning from work Paolo was ambushed and killed. The pain which this unexpected and violent death inflicted upon Rita was only compounded by the fear that her sons would seek to avenge their father's death. As it happened, both sons died within the year.

Now alone, Rita gave herself to works of charity and to a more intense life of prayer. Eventually the desire to enter the convent once more grew in her, but her request for entrance among the Augustinian Nuns of

Cascia was refused, not once but three times. Though Rita was known to the nuns of the Monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene, her good character and religious spirit were outweighed, in the judgment of the community, by the violence that surrounded Paolo's death. The nuns were afraid of tempting the peace of convent life, possibly because one of their members belonged to the family responsible for Paolo's murder. But Rita felt deeply that this was the vocation to which she was called and she turned to her three patron saints to intercede for her. After the third refusal of the nuns, Rita recognized that she herself must put their fears to rest. She approached Paolo's family as well as their rivals, and persuaded them to put an end to their hostility and to live in peace.

The example of her own forgiving spirit, no doubt, was an inspiration and - perhaps an embarrassment - to them. The families were reconciled. They signed a document to this effect, and when Rita presented the document to the nuns, they no longer had reason to refuse her. Rita Lotti Mancini now became Sister Rita.

For the next forty years Rita lived the life of an Augustinian Nun, according to the Rule of the saint she had chosen years before as her spiritual father, Saint Augustine of Hippo. His was a gentle Rule which invited the members of the community to strive in every way possible to achieve communion of mind and heart with God and one another. Her days were spent in prayer and contemplation, in service to the sick and the poor, and in activities necessary to support the life of the small community.

After twenty-five years of religious life, Rita was given what she considered a most treasured and singular gift from God. Always devoted to Jesus crucified, her desire constantly grew to share in his great act of love for her and for all humanity by helping to carry his cross. One day as she knelt in prayer, her forehead was pierced by a violent wound, a thorn from the crown that covered Jesus's own head. She bore this wound for fifteen years until the day of her death.

For the last several years of her life Rita was confined to bed. The last of the many crosses she was presented in life was now the humbling condition of an invalid, totally dependent upon the charity of her sisters. Finally, on May 22, 1457 Rita's life on earth came to an end. The various crosses she had born as wife, widow, mother and nun were now put aside once and for all as she met the embrace of her Risen Lord.

St. Rita is a relatively newly canonized Saint in that she was canonized by Pope Leo XIII on May 20, 1900.

LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE FAITHFUL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

*Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist*

Pope Francis

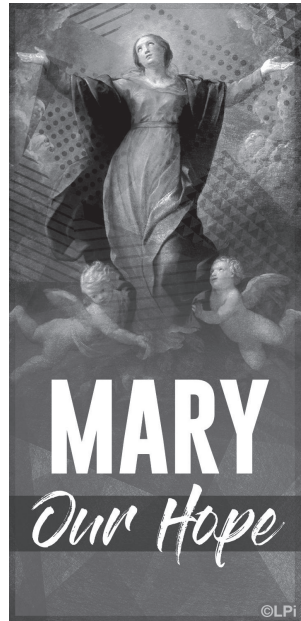
First Prayer

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus’ suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the
Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our
suffering,
and burdened himself with our
sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

*We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*



Second Prayer

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.



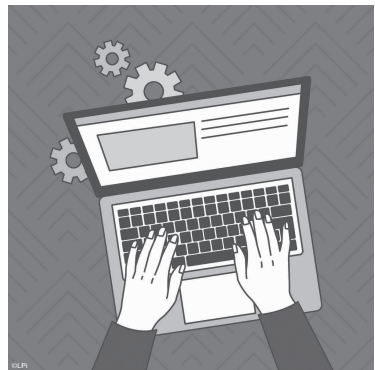
SCHOOL NEWS

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Academy of Brooklyn has been teaching our children using distance learning. Students are still reading, writing and learning math skills. Our parents are doing an amazing job as they too have had to learn how to use the many programs that are suggested by their child's teacher.

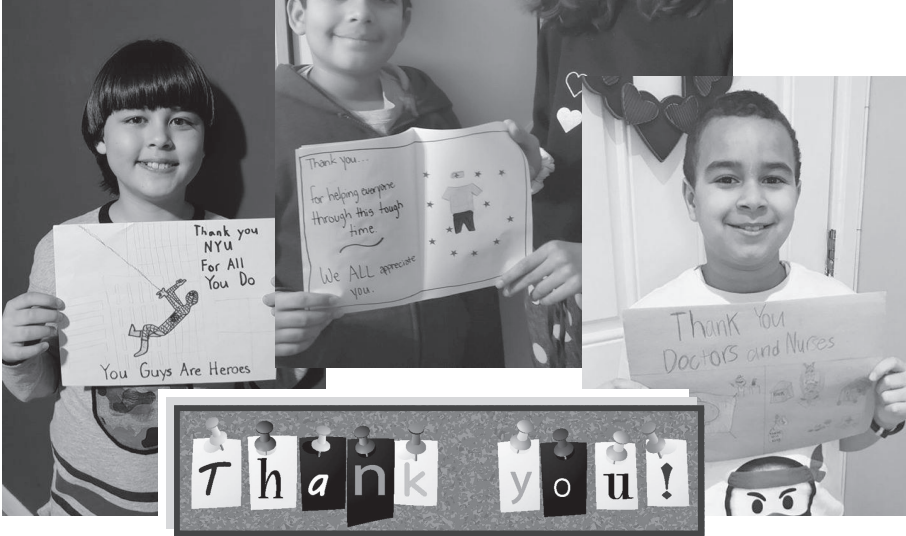
On May 1 the teachers wished Mrs. Tyndall a happy Principal Appreciation Day. For the first time in history these wishes were extended through a zoom meeting rather than at morning devotion. Our school also thanked our nurses with home made cards and signs for Nurse's Appreciation Day. We are grateful for the work our nurses have been doing every day. They are kind, compassionate, and caring to so many people who can not see their own family at a difficult time. Our prayers are for these wonderful people, may God bless them!

In order for students to be able to continue to learn it has been important for students to have an iPad or computer. Mrs. Tyndall, with the help of the Diocese of Brooklyn, wanted to be sure that any student who needed a device to continue working had one. She, along with Ms. Francine, Ms Chavez and Dr. Nofi arranged a time to distribute them safely. Students with siblings who had their own work did not have to worry about sharing a device or missing a class meeting.

We pray for all of our families and neighbors and hope that soon we will meet each other again at our monthly masses.



OLPH CAB Students saying



to our Doctors and Nurses and all who are on the
front line during this pandemic



STUDENT OF THE MONTH March • Responsibility

Pre-K 3	Ellen Feng	3rd Grade	Brandon Munguia
Pre-K 4	Dara Ruiz	4th Grade	Jailanny Estevez
Kindergarten	Joshua Zorrilla	5th Grade	Emmanuel Torres
1st Grade	Matthew Montero	6th Grade	Olivia Harris
2nd Grade	Zafira Cabrera-	7th Grade	Yuki Chen
	Arcos	8th Grade	Hebe Lu



ANNOUNCED MASSES May 2020



PLEASE NOTE:

The English Masses can be viewed on Facebook “OLPH Brooklyn”:
Sundays at 9 AM, and daily at 8 AM.

The Spanish Masses on Facebook “Charles McDonald” are:
Sundays at 10:15 AM, and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 PM.

Friday, May 1

Purgatorian Society
Lucas Zocche
+Helen R. Ledesmo

Saturday, May 2

Purgatorian Society
+Sidney Stacey (birthday)
+Luis Rivas (anniversary)
+Laura Negron Anive

Sunday, May 3

For the People of the Parish
Richard Lenihan
+Christopher Serrano (birthday)
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin
Purgatorian Society
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora
+Aracelis Abreu Leung
+Gioan Boatixito Tang Ngoc So
+Maetta Nguyen Thi Ai
+Giuse Doan Chanh no'l luyen tal
+Phero Lam Tung Nguyen

Monday, May 4

Purgatorian Society
Isabella Zocche
+William McLaughlin (birthday)

Tuesday, May 5

Purgatorian Society
+Helen Scullin (birthday)
+Michael & Mary Lynch & Family
+Providencia Ortiz Morales

Wednesday, May 6

Purgatorian Society
Lucas Zocche
+Thomas, +Julia, +AnnMarie,
+Kevin +Rev. John Costello,
C.Ss.R.
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin

Thursday, May 7

Purgatorian Society
+Celina Rosa Bocaranda Hernandez
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora

Friday, May 8

Purgatorian Society
+Kathleen Kenny Tobin
+James Collins

Saturday, May 9

Purgatorian Society
+Joseph Ward (birthday)
+Della & +Denis Sweeney
+Victor Gonzalez Toro
+Gabriela Perez Ramirez
+Ursula Altagracia Guzman

Sunday, May 10

For the People of the Parish
Kitty and Eddie Stacey
Sister Anna Bittner, Daughter of
Wisdom
+Catherine Walsh
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin

Purgatorian Society
Acción de Gracias a Virgen María
Auxiliadora

+Maria Perez
+Dora Esperanza Merdrau
+Bautista Gomez
+Maria Pagom
+Rosa Feliciano
+Laura Negron
Por el cumpleaños Janet Olmedo
+Celia Mendez
+Gioan Boatixita Tang Ngoc So
+Giuse Pham Hoang Churong ta on
Chua Cho Gd
+Daminh Lu'u Minh Tam
+Vincente Nguyen Huy Cur
Catherine Dothi Hoa

Monday, May 11

Purgatorian Society
Muriel Philbin, Vinnie Walsh
+Francis Collins

Tuesday, May 12

Purgatorian Society
Lucas Zocche
+Richard Shaughnessy
Pro-Vida

Wednesday, May 13

Purgatorian Society
Richard Lenihan
+The Bagnall Family
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin

Thursday, May 14

Purgatorian Society
Repose of the souls of the deceased
members of the Cullen Family
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora

Friday, May 15

Purgatorian Society
+Enedina Zempoalteca (birthday)
Isabella Zocche

Saturday, May 16

Purgatorian Society
+Alexander Mongelli
+Bernadette L. Luna
+Maximo Pena

Sunday, May 17

For the People of the Parish
+Rosemarie Powell
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora
+Engracia Lopez Nieto
+Gioan Boatixita Tang Ngoc So
+Ong ba to tien noi ngoai
+Dominico Dinh Trung Truc
+Maria Phan Thi Bienlegio

Monday, May 18

Purgatorian Society
Isabella Zocche
+Patricia Collins Wolff

Tuesday, May 19

Purgatorian Society
Richard Lenihan
+Joseph Sr. & +Madeline Williams
+Roman Emilio Rodriquez

Wednesday, May 20

Purgatorian Society
+Edward & Philip McGarrity
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin

Thursday, May 21
Purgatorian Society
+Henry Lavelle
+James Collins
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora

Friday, May 22
Purgatorian Society
Lucas Zocche
+Rita Anderson

Saturday, May 23
Purgatorian Society
+Angela Stacey (anniversary)
+Bella Proscia (birthday)
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora
+Agustina Loria
+Clemencia Paucar
+Edion& +Luis Romos

Sunday, May 24
For the People of the Parish
Richard Lenihan
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin
Purgatorian Society
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora
+Lydia Frias
+Gioan Boatixita
+Cau cho cac linh hon
+Anna Dang Thi Quang
+Micae Nguyen Nham

Monday, May 25
Purgatorian Society
+Arthur Z. Corpuz
+Amelia Husel

Tuesday, May 26
Purgatorian Society

Wednesday, May 27
Purgatorian Society

Thursday, May 28
Purgatorian Society

Friday, May 29
Purgatorian Society
+Philip Proscia (birthday)
+Patrick & Dermott Brennan
Misa de Sanacion

Saturday, May 30
Purgatorian Society
+Idanes Lourdes Rodriguez
+Deceased members of the Hartnett
Family

Sunday, May 31
For the People of the Parish
Purgatorian Society
Virgen Maria Auxiliadora
+Gioan Boatixita
+Giuse Doan Chanh no Tuyen tai
+Maria Va Thi Hong
+Anton Nguyen Hung

Monday, June 1
Purgatorian Society
Isabella Zocche
+Michael & Mary Lynch & Family

Tuesday, June 2
Purgatorian Society
Richard Lenihan
+Luis Rivas (anniversary)

Wednesday, June 3
Purgatorian Society

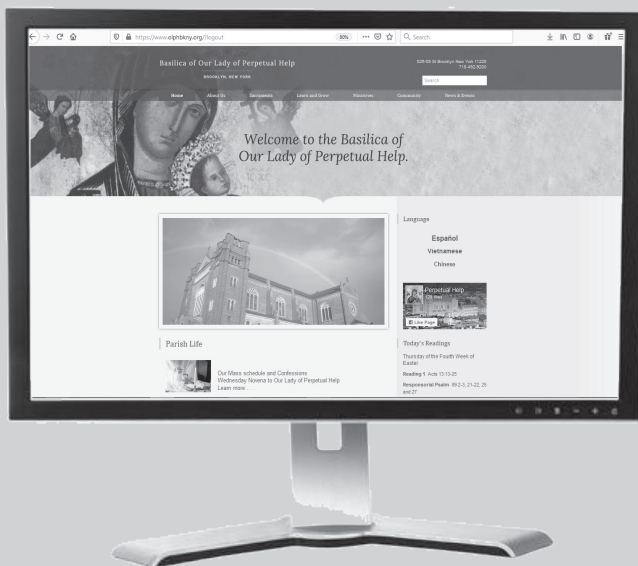
+Thomas, +Julia, +AnnMarie,
+Kevin and +Rev. John
Costello, CSs.R.
Isabella Zocche
+Noel Emmanuel Marroquin

Thursday, June 4
Purgatorian Society

Friday, June 5
Purgatorian Society
Lucas Zocche
+Joe Costello (first anniversary)
Healing Mass

Saturday, June 6
Purgatorian Society
Thanksgiving Yverose Theodore

Please check our website:
www.olphbkny.org
and Facebook: **OLPH Brooklyn**
for up to date information.



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Staff and Personnel

Redemptorist Community

Rev. Karl Esker, C.Ss.R., Rector
Rev. James Gilmour, C.Ss.R., Pastor
Rev. Norman Bennett, C.Ss.R. *
Rev. James Cascione, C.Ss.R.*
Rev. Michael Cunningham, C.Ss.R.*
Rev. William Gaffney, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Clement Krug, C.Ss.R.*
Rev. Joseph Lu *
Rev. John Murray, C.Ss.R. *
Rev. Ruskin Piedra, C.Ss.R. *
Rev. Francis Skelly, C.Ss.R.*
Rev. Joseph Hung Duc Tran, C.Ss.R.*

**Pastoral Associate*

Chinese Apostolate

Rev. Norman Bennett
Rev. Joseph Lu

Vietnamese Apostolate

Rev. Joseph Hung Duc Tran

Parish Deacons

Rev. Mr. Jesús Soto
Rev. Mr. Hector Blanco
Rev. Mr. Danny Rodriguez

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Maritza Mejía

Parish Music Director

Joseph Giordano

Sisters in Residence at O.L.P.H. Convent

Sr. Lucille Ann Aliperti, CSJ
Sr. Mary Doyle, CSJ
Sr. Judith Shea, CSJ
Sr. Maureen Sullivan, CSJ
Sr. Theresa Wong, IHM

Parish Pastoral Council-2017-2018

Rev. Karl Esker, C.Ss.R.
Rev. James Gilmour, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Michael Cunningham, CSsR
Rev. Joseph Lu
Sr. Lucille Aliperti, C.S.J.
Luis Arias
Alice Butler
Tony Coppola
Julia Fernández
Joseph Giordano
Fidel Hernández
Edwin Li
Maritza Mejía
Priscilla Moronta
Fabian Otavalo
Stephanie Rivera
Irma Soto
John Trandinh

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

Parish Organizations

EDUCATIONAL:

R.C.I.A. – R.I.C.A.

Rectory Office
526 59th Street – **718-492-9200**

Office of Religious Education

5901 6th Avenue – **718-439-1281**

LITURGICAL:

Music Ministry

Joseph Giordano – **718-492-9200**
Judy Hernandez – **917-202-0366**
Marcos Marte – **347-749-3556**

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors – English

Sr. Lucille Aliperti, CSJ
718-439-5100

Eucharistic Ministers – Hispanic

Luis Arias – **718-439-4594**

Lectors – Hispanic

Fidel Hernández – **646-596-0784**

Ushers – Hospitality Ministry

Jorge Barraza –
Hispanic – **718-419-9041**
Louis Nevilles –
English – **718-439-6003**

Altar Servers

Rev. Joseph Tran
Sofia Medina

PASTORAL:

St. Vincent de Paul

Sr. Lucille Aliperti, CSJ

Juan Neumann Center Redemptorist Immigration Services

545 60th Street – **718-439-8160**
Mon.-Thurs. 9 AM-12 PM, 1-3 PM
Wed. 9 AM-12 PM, 1-3 PM, 6-8 PM
Sat. 9 AM-12 PM

Advocate for the Disabled

Rev. Norman Bennett, C.Ss.R.
Rev. John Murray, C.Ss.R.

Legion of Mary / Legión de María

Curia – St. Alphonsus Hall –
3rd Sunday, 2:30-4:00 PM
Praesidium N.S. del Perpetuo
Socorro –
Rectory – Saturday, 4:00 PM -

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Academy of Brooklyn

5902 6th Avenue – **718-439-8067**
Principal: Margaret Tyndall

Hijas de María

First Sunday,
Mass and Meeting: 10:15 AM
Ana Concepción and Ana León

Santo Nombre

2nd Sunday,
Mass and Meeting: 10:15 AM
Rev. Ruskin Piedra, C.Ss.R.
Arturo Vázquez

Cofradía del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús

3rd Sunday,
Mass and Meeting: 10:15 AM
Ana Concepción

Cursillistas

Every Wednesday,
7:30 PM Upper Chapel
Eugenia Tlaxcantitla

Prayer Group – Hispanic

St. Gerard Hall, Fridays, 7:30 PM
Roberto Rodríguez – **347-461-6621**

Jornada – Youth

Sundays, 1-3 PM,
Parish Center
Rev. Charles McDonald, C.Ss.R.
Stephanie Rivera

Circle of Friends

558 59th Street – Notre Dame Hall
Tuesdays, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Sr. Lucille Aliperti, CSJ

Knights of Columbus

Brooklyn Council #60
5901 6th Avenue, Room 4
2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 PM
Ben LaSpina – **347-782-8036**

Ladies Auxiliary of the Basilica

Eileen McConeghy –
Notre Dame Hall
First Sunday each month
Mass and meeting: 9:00 AM

Catholic War Veterans

3rd Thursdays

Al-Anon

Tuesdays, 1:00 PM
5901 6th Avenue
Sundays, 7:00 PM
5901 6th Avenue

Cub Scouts of America

St. Gerard Hall
Andres Reinoso
347-760- 5613

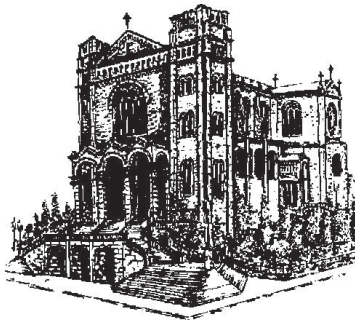
SPORTS:**O.L.P.H. Soccer League**

Kevin Henneman – **718-614-4460**
Martin Brennan – **718-836-4178**

Swimming Teams – Boys & Girls**CYO**

OLPH / St. Andrew
Girls: Charles Boulbol
917-331-5600

Boys: Ray Wendt – **718-833- 8047**



Remember in Your Prayers

**ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**



*Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of Your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.*

*Be with those who serve the sick and
give them Your caring hands.*

*Be with those who lead and give them
Your spirit of wisdom.*

*Be with those who have fallen ill and
give them Your comforting heart.*

*Wrap Your arms around our world
and hold us in Your love.*

*Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love
to all we meet.*

*We ask this in Your Name.
Amen*

*“Whoever enters through the
gate is the shepherd of the
sheep. The gatekeeper opens
it for him, and the sheep hear
his voice, as the shepherd
calls his own sheep by name
and leads them out. When he
has driven out all his own, he
walks ahead of them, and the
sheep follow him, because
they recognize his voice.”*

- Jn 10:2-4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

*God is
always
on time,
but rarely
early.*

©LPI