

CHURCH OF THE MAGDALENE



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Father John Vigilanti, Pastor

Dorothy Meehan, Dir. Of Religious Education
 Jeanne LiMarzi, Secretary
 Anne Holland, Director of Music, Organist
 Marianne Scott, Receptionist

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00PM Confessions: Saturdays 4:30PM
 Sunday Masses 9:00AM & 11:00AM Monday - Friday 8:00AM Mass

ANNOUNCED MASSES: Jan. 30 – Feb. 7

REQUESTED BY:

Saturday	5:00 PM	Josephine Reynolds	Tedesco Family
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sean Tierney	Ita Yager
	11:00 AM	Irene Vigilanti	Scott Family
Monday	8:00 AM	Joseph Radelich	His Family
Tuesday	8:00 AM	Intentions of Kati Osterman	Osterman Family
Wednesday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Thursday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Friday	8:00 AM	Joseph Winters	Ryan Doherty
Saturday	5:00 PM	Antonio Pirrotta	Pete & Debbie Love
Sunday	9:00 AM	Margaret & Francis Dwyer	Morrow Family
	11:00 AM	Joseph Duignan	Duignan Family

Next Weekend Celebrants Feb. 6-7

5:00 p.m. Sat Fr. Vigilanti
 9:00 a.m. Sun. Fr. Vigilanti
 11:00 a.m. Sun Fr. Vigilanti

Pray for the sick: Liam Wolfe, Paul Wallace, Nancy Letizia, Jasmine Meyer, Anthony Tobacco, Elias Samarasto, Joyce Carroll, Lorraine Savagno, Joseph & Madeline Carbone, Howard Phillips, Rita Sena, John Ryan, Joseph & Laurel Tyson, Michael Kessman, Liam Ahern, Giavanna McVeigh, George Rose, Betsy Zeino, Moriah Jordan, Kevin Doherty, Carol Many, Senny Josephs, Bob & Wanda Praisner, Tom Loemker, Ann & Tom Cahill, Marcella Thorne, Matthew March, Nijole Raskys, Lorraine & Peter Simone, Jim Defemia, Humberto Gonzalez, Bill Monroe, Joseph Robert Carbone, Kathryn Feakins, Linda Klimaszenki, John Masteller, Paul & Donna Sabatos, Christopher Bellantoni, Geraldine Forster, Roberto Uribe, and Alice Pacella.

January 26, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

Thank you very much for your comments concerning Ash Wednesday. They were thoughtful and welcomed. They were also unanimous. As a consequence, due to continued prevalence of the virus, we will hold three services: Mass at 8am, a service at 12noon, and a service at 7pm. We will follow all aspects of the Ash Wednesday liturgical ceremony except the actual imposition of ashes. Instead, we will fill roughly 150 small cellophane packets with a small spoonful (espresso size) of ashes that you may take home as a reminder of the holy season we have entered.

1, Speaking of the virus, I am hearing from former parishioners and friends in Westchester that they have appointments to receive the vaccine in **BINGHAMPTON, ALBANY, and Aqueduct RACE TRACK!!** This is madness. And remember, you **must** receive the second shot **AT THE SAME PLACE!!** This reflects a total collapse of government at the federal, state and local levels. I cannot recall in my lifetime such a national paralysis in the face of a monumental threat to public health and safety. As a consequence, we have lost over 400,000 fellow citizens. Kudos to all our medical personnel who find themselves meeting an unenviable challenge. I would also like to thank several parishioners for their offer to sit at a computer and try to schedule an appointment for me. One was actually successful last Wednesday and obtained an appointment for me within 24 hours at the County Health Clinic in White Plains. I had tried on my own and was informed that nothing was available until May. Please explain that to me. Some had to reload the state website over and over and over (some 300+ times). The downside was the 2 hour wait on the sidewalk in 30 degree temperatures. Pathetic! The upside was that I had to show my license to prove I was over 65, a compliment for sure. I can't remember the last time I was "carded!" My second shot is scheduled for Feb 18th. The clinic is dispensing the Moderna vaccine. The medical staff was well-organized, efficient, and good-natured. Just to be on the safe side, however, I continue to get the rapid test for Covid. So far, so good.

2. This year our Sunday gospel readings will come from St. Mark. Just a few notes about St. Mark. It is the earliest gospel written (around 70AD in Rome), some 20 years after the earliest writing in the New Testament, St. Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians. It emphasizes what Jesus DOES, rather than what Jesus TEACHES. It is written for a Gentile, non-Jewish audience. It is the shortest gospel. It has no narrative about the birth of Jesus or John the Baptist. Often, Jesus commands that the recipient of his healing power not proclaim it. One is not to be distracted by the unusual and extraordinary, but must learn that salvation comes through service to others. Jesus gives us the clearest example of this principle when he is nailed to the cross.

3. Our government has authorized a second round of PPP for employers. I have decided to apply for it. If our application is approved, it will mean that our parish will be entitled to roughly a \$27,000 forgivable loan. Unlike the diocese and other parishes, who have let people go, we have not. We are fortunate to have extremely loyal, invested employee-parishioners. I am committed to support those who sustain our parish operations. This pandemic will continue to place a financial strain on many businesses for months to come. While your generosity keeps us safe from operating at a deficit, I do not know what the future holds for us or our nation. Preaching the gospel, supporting our local outreach programs, and sustaining our financial viability remain our goals. Therefore, I will apply for the PPP.

4. During the past week it was determined that our rectory housekeeper, Anna Gonzalez, who has worked here for some 25 years cleaning the rectory, is no longer medically or physically able to continue the work. I thank her for her work and dedication to our parish. For the past several weeks I have done the laundry (bedding and towels), but my vacuuming days are over! I have some leads on a possible replacement and will keep you posted. If you have further leads, let me know.

5. Our total Christmas collection was a staggering \$60,559. My deepest appreciation. Our weekly collections, both in person and online, remain robust. Thank you.

6. As you know, the Cardinal's Appeal for 2021 has begun. Our goal is \$54,000. I will keep you informed of our progress. In the past your generosity has

exceeded the goal given to us by the diocese. Obviously these are different times, but we will do the best we can.

7. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining the Covid protocols in church. With more contagious and lethal variants of the virus emerging, we cannot let our guard down.

8. Last weekend's attendance: 5pm, 67; 9am, 38; 11am, 55. This is 45.7% of our normal attendance and 25.8% of our registered households. Watching live stream, 116 households; later, 70 households.