

# 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: Mar. 13-Mar. 21**

**REQUESTED BY:**

Saturday	5:00 PM	Frances Gerlanc	Frances Loffredo
Sunday	9:00 AM	Antoinette LiMarzi	Her Family
	11:00 AM	Michael William Meyer	Scaglione Family
Monday	8:00 AM	Intentions of Norma Causland	Todd & Roberta Ruppel
Tuesday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Wednesday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Thursday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Friday	8:00 AM	For Our Parishioners	
Saturday	5:00 PM	Frances Gerlanc	Petry Family
Sunday	9:00 AM	Kathleen Dwyer	Morrow Family
	11:00 AM	Special Intention	Ita Yager

**Next Weekend Celebrants March 20-21**

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

**Pray for the sick:** Liam Wolfe, Nancy Letizia, Jasmine Meyer, 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, Bob & Wanda Praisner, Ann & Tom Cahill, Marcella Thorne, Matthew March, Nijole Raskys, Jim Defemia, Humberto Gonzalez, Bill Monroe, Joseph Robert Carbone, Kathryn Feakins, Linda Klimaszenki, John Masteller, Paul & Donna Sabatos, Christopher Bellantoni, Geraldine Forster, Alice Pacella and Louis Rodriguez.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME:** Be sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour this weekend.

**MARCH 17** ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**MARCH 19** ST. JOSEPH'S DAY –Since it falls on a Friday, Cardinal Dolan has granted dispensation, allowing the eating of meat without breaking the Lenten practice of abstinence.

**CARDINAL'S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2021:** \$1M of the Cardinal's Appeal supports the Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence, which is a comfortable and safe home for fifty-seven retired priests who have devoted their lives to serving the Church. Help us care for those who cared for us with a gift to the Cardinal's Appeal. Please be as generous as your financial means will allow. **As of March 5, we have 53 participants who have pledged \$31,464.** To donate online click: [Donate](#)

### **FEAST OF FAITH: Lent, a Season of the Word**

Each year on the First Sunday of Lent we hear one of the Gospel accounts of the temptation of Jesus. In Luke's account, the devil cites the scriptures repeatedly, urging Jesus to interpret them in a false, self-serving way—if God sends angels to protect those whom God loves (as it says in Psalm 91), then prove it! But Jesus resists this insidious temptation by turning to scripture passages that tell of right relationship with God—living by God's word, trusting in God, and worshiping God alone.

Jesus himself listened to the inspired word of God and let it shape and form him. Through the liturgy, we do the same. The readings we hear at Mass can teach us, but that is not their primary function. Rather, the scriptures are meant to reveal the Lord to us, to let us experience his presence, and to form us in our Christian identity. Christ's presence is realized by his spoken word, "since it is he himself who speaks when the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church" (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 7). In the readings proclaimed at Mass, we hear the voice of Christ himself.

**KIDS' CLUB FUNDRAISER- DUCK DONUTS:** On Sunday, February 28, our 8<sup>th</sup> graders held a fundraiser to support Kids' Club in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown. Below is a note from Jennifer Green, President: "On behalf of all the Directors of Kids' Club, I write to thank you and your parishioners for your recent donation. We are truly honored by your generosity. Rest assured that 100% of your contribution will go directly to programming that supports underserved youth in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown."

### **GOD UPHOLDS ME**

I take for my sureties: The power of God to guide me, the might of God to uphold me, the wisdom of God to teach me, the eye of God to watch over me, the ear of God to hear me, the word of God to give me speech, the hand of God to protect me, the way of God to go before me, the shield of God to shelter me.

—St. Patrick

March 9, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

Last week (March 2<sup>nd</sup>) the diocese sent out an email to all pastors that *all non-essential/discretionary capital projects are to be put on hold.* It has come to the attention of the diocese that some pastors have expended significant amounts of money on non-essential projects. Really?? I have been arguing this point in a letter to the diocese over a year ago. Parishioners generously donate to their parish out of loyalty to their parish or because of an identified need the parish has. Pastors have an obligation to expend the money wisely and in accord with clearly essential needs. At present, essential needs are identified as maintaining the structural integrity of a building or safeguarding the welfare of a congregation utilizing church property. For parishes that were enrolled in the *Renew and Rebuild* campaign (we were not), money donated must be spent as advertised in the case elements presented to parishioners for the solicitation of donations. Fair enough. But I would maintain that even in those cases, money was spent foolishly. Remember also, the diocese took 26% of the funds raised through the Renew and Rebuild campaign. Enough said.

1. Following on the above, I want to ensure our parishioners that your donations are targeted for projects (mostly minor) for the safety of our parishioners or preventative maintenance. Our buildings are in good shape. Unless we are confronted with an unforeseeable incident, I do not anticipate any major expenditures involving our property.
2. I have asked Fr. James Sheehan, presently the chaplain at Bronx Community College and Hostos, to assist me with Sunday masses, since Fr. Reynolds is fully retired. I have asked Fr. Sheehan to alternate saying the 5pm and 11am masses on the weekends. I will continue with the 9am and one other mass each weekend. Fr. Sheehan is a priest of the archdiocese, ordained in 1979. He has advanced degrees from the Gregorian University and the Alphonsianum Academy in Rome, and a Master's degree in Media Studies from the New School for Social

Research. He is the author of “The Father Who Didn’t Know My Name,” a personal account of his father’s battle with Alzheimer’s disease. He is fluent in Spanish, Italian, and, I hope, in English (just kidding). I explained that homilies are no more than 10 minutes! I will be a hard task master on that issue!! Feel free to give me your feedback after a month or two. It is imperative that I have a priest I can rely on, since commitments in April (R & R) and June (wedding) require me to be away two weekends. It is going on two years since I have been able to get away. Now or never.

3. Since Dot Meehan, Jeanne LiMarzi, and Marianne Scott, our rectory staff, are graduates of Maria Regina HS in Hartsdale, the parish made a \$500 donation in their honor to the high school. Dot, Jeanne, and Marianne have been instrumental in keeping things moving smoothly during this past Covid year, for which I am grateful. This week Maria Regina will be enrolling the class of 2025. The initial numbers for next year’s freshman class are excellent. I am scheduled to give a Zoom conference to the alumnae of MR on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 930 am. We wish all our Catholic schools success in their recruiting efforts this month. They have done a great job in operating without missing a beat, while protecting the safety of their students, during this pandemic.
4. I had another meeting with the diocesan representative for the Cardinal’s Appeal today (9<sup>th</sup>). As of last Friday (5<sup>th</sup>), 53 of our parishioners have pledged \$31,464 toward our goal of \$54,000. Fantastic!!! This is 57% of our goal. If you have not received or completed a pledge card, they may be found in the back of the church. Our parish code is W511. Or, just send the rectory (mail/email, phone call, etc.) a notice of your willingness to pledge, and we will fill out the pledge card for you. It doesn’t get any easier than that. Remember: Check to see if your employer will match your gift.
5. As you know, Holy Week/Easter will be here early. Since the majority of Americans have not been immunized, I assume we will be operating

under occupancy restrictions. *We will live stream the 9am on Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday Mass at 8pm, and the Good Friday service at 3pm and Easter at 9am.* Just check our website or go to the Locallive website. Because of the virus, palm will be placed on a table outside the church (weather permitting); the Holy Thursday mass will eliminate the ritual of the washing of the feet; and the Good Friday service will eliminate the kissing of the cross. A simple bow or genuflection will do. Even though I have received my 2 shots, I intend to remain cautious.

6. Remember: *NEXT SUNDAY OUR CLOCKS SPRING AHEAD ONE HOUR* for Daylight Savings Time.
7. Last weekend's attendance: 5pm, 69; 9am, 46; 11am, 66. This is roughly 52% of our normal weekend attendance. Live streaming: 118 households watched live, 51 watched later. The Kringas wedding on the 6<sup>th</sup> drew a wide audience: 124 watched live and 80 watched later. On another note, it is encouraging to see a number of our younger parishioners returning to mass. Things are looking up.
8. Since the Feast of St. Joseph falls on a Friday, cardinal Dolan has granted a dispensation, allowing the eating of meat without breaking the Lenten practice of abstinence. I can live without meat but not without sfinge (zeppole), the traditional Italian pastry for the Feast of St. Joseph!