

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, September 5, 2011

9:00am In Thanksgiving

TUESDAY, September 6, 2011

6:30am Betty Rahming

NOON Victor Rodriguez

WEDNESDAY, September 7, 2011

6:30am Thomas Ferguson & Jean Cipolla

NOON Brooks & Watkins Family

THURSDAY, September 8, 2011

6:30 am William Coen

NOON Shawn Maynard

FRIDAY, September 9, 2011

NOON Frank Serrone

SATURDAY, September 10, 2011

8:30am Angelina Fanelli

56:30pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, September 11, 2011

8:00am F.F. James Coyle,
Purgatorial Society

11:30am Marie Gedeon

5:30pm 10th Anniversary of 9/11



REMEMBER IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



The Sick: Guy Fury, Theresa Stokes, Rita Tammaro, Noreen Charles, Thomas Toal, Christine Walker, Stacy Lapenna, Carlos Salcedo, Faye O'Malley, Hyacinth Khaleel, John Collins, Gladys Santiago, Ellen M. Lehane, Arthur Leclair, Eileen Kiley, Margaret Healey, Kathy Fine

A Time to Die— Timothy Murray, Mary Scudero

Help us keep our sick list current; all names will remain on our list for three weeks unless notified otherwise. Please notify the Parish Office (1-718-253-4404) when changes occur. We enjoy hearing the good news of recovery.

Those in the Armed Services—in these difficult times, let us lift up in prayer our brave men and women who fight for our freedom all over the world.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Altar Bread & Wine—

In memory of **Cristino Gali**
donated by
Antonio & Dora Velazquez.

PARISH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

In observance of the civil holiday of Labor Day, September 5th, the Parish Office will be closed and will reopen on Tuesday, September 6th at 9:00am. Have a safe holiday weekend.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11TH

All parishioners are invited to join us for the Mass of Remembrance on the weekend of September 10th/11th, 2011 as we commemorate the 10th Anniversary of 9/11/01.

Immediately following each Mass, a prayer will be conducted at the statue of the Pieta located in front of the Rectory. Please consider joining us for this opportunity to come together in prayer and remembrance.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP DIMARZIO

On **Sunday, September 11, 2011**, our city and nation will observe the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks that took the lives of thousands of our brothers and sisters in New York, Washington, D.C. and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Since that terrible day, we have been united in prayer for an end to all terrorism, extremism of any kind and violence throughout the world. This September 11th will provide a unique occasion for the entire Church to pray for the repose of all those who died, both on that terrible day in the ensuing years through illness contracted from exposure to Ground Zero. We must also redouble our prayers for a just and lasting peace throughout the world.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Honoring The Divine Mercy in a more prayerful and uniform manner requires the following preparation be observed:

- Displaying the Divine Mercy Image, leading the Chaplet prayer and securing volunteers to participate (will be performed by Barbara Rogus).

Those who agree to recite a decade of The Divine Mercy Chaplet must pray slowly and with a voice loud enough to be heard by others.

Veneration of "The Image" will follow the recitation of The Chaplet.

Any questions, please contact Barbara at 1-718-253-6909.

Thank you for your cooperation.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners:

Labor Day is a day set aside to honor those who labor, a day to remind ourselves of the work done by so many people, work which makes our lives what they are; a day, a special day, to rest, to break from the work we do.

It is a holiday which certainly sounds like a secular holiday, one devoid of religious meaning, devoid of Christian significance.

Can we who believe in a life eternal, we who believe that earthly death gives way to everlasting life, we who believe that our earthly world will give way to the heavenly world, can we believe in the value of worldly occupation?

Well, the Christian response is a resounding yes. The Christian response is that our work and our labor here on earth is a sort of preparation for the life to come; that we are on a type of staying ground as we stand on earthly ground. And so the sacredness of our work and our labor can be found in the intentions that fill our hearts as we tend to our daily duties. Our work becomes holy work when our hearts and souls are filled with the love of God when we do what we do for the glory of God.

A very simple and easy first response. But in all honesty, a very simplistic and shallow response as well.

The fullness of our Catholic response to the making holy the work of our hands goes deeper. You see, the first response, when all is said and done, leaves our work itself behind. What we do becomes too incidental, too peripheral. Our sweat and tears fall aimlessly to the ground; our very livelihoods pass into the annals of ancient history with little consequence. But doesn't it seem that there must be something more, more significance, more substance, more importance to the work which consumes so many hours of our lives? The Catholic response finds its fullness in its insistence that the work we do is ultimately a participation in the creative work of God. With God's creative hand, and more still with the incarnation of the Word, nothing here in the world can now be called profane, everything is sacred, everything even work. All that is done to build up the kingdom of God, all here has a purpose, all contribute to this holy building of God's reign. Whether one labors in the factory or the financial markets, whether one serves coffee or services cars, whether one mends broken bones in the hospital or gently cares for broken hearts at home, anything and everything we do finds lasting significance as a place of God's eternal construction, one that would not be complete without even the tiniest of pieces.

It is with this perspective that this Labor Day holiday can become for us a holy day. And it is with this same perspective that our tomorrow and the days that follow, regardless where they're spent or what fills them, that each one of these can become a holy day as well; for each one will be filled with our holy labor.

In Christ's peace,
Rev. Fr. Thomas V. Doyle

2011 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you for your participation and support of the 2011 Annual Catholic Appeal. To date, **213** generous parishioners have pledged **\$56,757.50**, or **105.72%** of our assigned parish goal. We are truly blessed. As you know, all monies received over our assigned goal is returned back to the parish for our own needs.

Every year, the Annual Catholic Appeal provides the means to continue the mission that Christ has entrusted to us: to serve, to educate, to care for the poor, and to be a beacon of hope. The ministries, agencies, and programs that benefit from this effort allow us to fulfill the mission given to us as Catholics in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

It is the hope of Bishop DiMarzio and the Pastoral Staff of Saint Thomas Aquinas that each family will make a gift. We cannot ask everyone to consider the same size gift, but we ask that your gift reflect how generous God has been to you with his gifts. Supporting the Annual Catholic Appeal gives us an opportunity to work together to help seminarians studying for the priesthood, diaconate candidates, young people receiving the Sacraments, hospital patients, the hungry and the poor, senior citizens in need, as well our own parish. Thank you for your prayers and for offering your assistance through your ACA donation.

Parish Goal	\$53,685.00
Pledges-to-date	\$56,757.50 (105.72%)
Paid-to-date	\$49,730.62 (92.63%)

To date, if all pledges are paid, the Parish of Saint Thomas Aquinas would receive \$3,072.50. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge if you have done so already.

Material on the 2011 Annual Catholic Appeal is available throughout the Church.

REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

An all-scholarship Jesuit school for talents and gifted Catholic boys invites 8th graders and their parents to its Open House on Monday, October 10th (Columbus Day) from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. For more information please call Eric DiMichele, Director of Admissions at 1-212-288-1100 or e-mail at edimiche@regis-nyc.org.

THE 30TH ANNUAL GREAT IRISH FAIR OF NEW YORK

Get your fill of all things green the weekend of September 16th, 17th, 18th at MCU Park (formerly Keyspan Park) in Coney Island for the 30th Annual Great Irish Fair of New York. Hear Irish bands playing contemporary and traditional Irish music. See Irish step dancers, rides, food, drink and more. Proceeds benefit Catholic Education.

Friday, Sept. 16th
from 6:00pm to 10:00pm
Saturday, Sept. 17th/Sunday, Sept. 18th
from 10:30am o 7:30pm

Go to www.gifnyc.com for additional information and details.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OWN!

Congratulations to Mr. Thomas Donahue of the NYC Department of Youth & Community Development and our own parishioner, who is this year's recipient of the Thomas Cuite Memorial Award to be presented at the 30th Annual Great Irish Fair.

HELP WANTED

Experienced cook needed at Brooklyn Church located in Mill Basin: to prepare well balanced meals for two, serving and clean-up required and minimal kitchen duties, hours 4:00pm to 7:00pm; job requires shopping at local grocery store, car is required. Please call 1-718-763-5533 for more information or for an interview.

SAINT COLUMBA LADIES GUILD

The Ladies Guild of Saint Columba Parish presents **FALL FEST 2011**: an afternoon of fun, prizes, raffles and 50/50 raffle on Saturday, October 1st in Monsignor Jolley Hall. Doors open at 11:30am and tickets are \$20.00 each. Ticket are limited and for more information and tickets please call Rose at 1-718-627-4247.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

What: a process for adults in which we take time to discuss what Catholics believe, how they pray and choose to live.

Who: adults who want information about the Church, Catholics who have not received Communion or Confirmation.

When: meetings weekly in the evening; day and time to be determined.

Where: Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish

Topics: Faith, Sacraments, Jesus, Scripture, Church, Prayer, Mary, Mass, Life Issues and others.

We are planning now to begin; call the Parish Office at 1-718-253-4404 and leave your name, address and telephone number. You'll be glad you did.

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Saint Paul tells us this week that love is the fulfillment of the law. It is the fulfillment of all our works. It is no wonder, then, that a vocation to the priesthood or religious life is founded and sustained in the love of God. Consider making God the love of your life. Maybe then you will discover that he has a special plan for you. Call the Vocation Office of the Diocese of Brooklyn at 1-718-827-2454 or write: vocations@diobrook.org.

WORKSHOP FOR ALL LITURGICAL AND CATECHETICAL MINISTERS

Our Cluster Zone is planning a workshop for ministers in our five parishes (Mary Queen of Heaven, Resurrection, St. Bernard, St. Columba, St. Thomas Aquinas) on Saturday, Sept. 24th from 10:30am until 1:00pm at St. Columba. All ministers should have received a flyer with a registration form to sign up for this important workshop on the Roman Missal; those forms should be returned to Sister Terry before Wednesday, Sept. 14th. For more information please call the Parish Office and leave a message for Sister Terry. Please make every effort to attend this important workshop.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our parish support group for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones will resume meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. In September, the meetings will be held on September 12th and 26th at 7:00pm in the Aquinas Center (2000 Flatbush Avenue). If you or someone you know is interested in this group, please contact Sister Terry at 1-718-253-4404, extension 30 prior to attending the meetings.

ROSARY SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP



The Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to Bally's Hotel in Atlantic City on **October 6, 2011**. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call Noreen at 718-253-7824. Please leave a message. All are welcome.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY ATLANTIC CITY TRIP



The Holy Name Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Atlantic City on **September 20, 2011** to Showboat. The bus leaves from in front of the Church at **8:30am**. For more information please call Bill or Dorothy at 1-718-377-4061. All are welcome.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In Saint Paul's letter to the Romans he suggests that God lavishes his love upon us through Jesus Christ, who calls us to the kind of loving relationship, if we so choose it, that demands accountability. It is like, in Saint Paul's vocabulary, a kind of "debt" that we can never "pay-in-full". But we begin to repay by following the direction off one of the most familiar statements in the Bible: **Love your neighbor as yourself**. Good stewards realize that God does not call them just to love those who are easy to love, but to love the unloved and the hard-to-love people in this world as well. This week, remind yourself: ***I am put here as an ambassador of God's love.***