

The Master's Message

The Newsletter of the Church of the Master

May, 2025

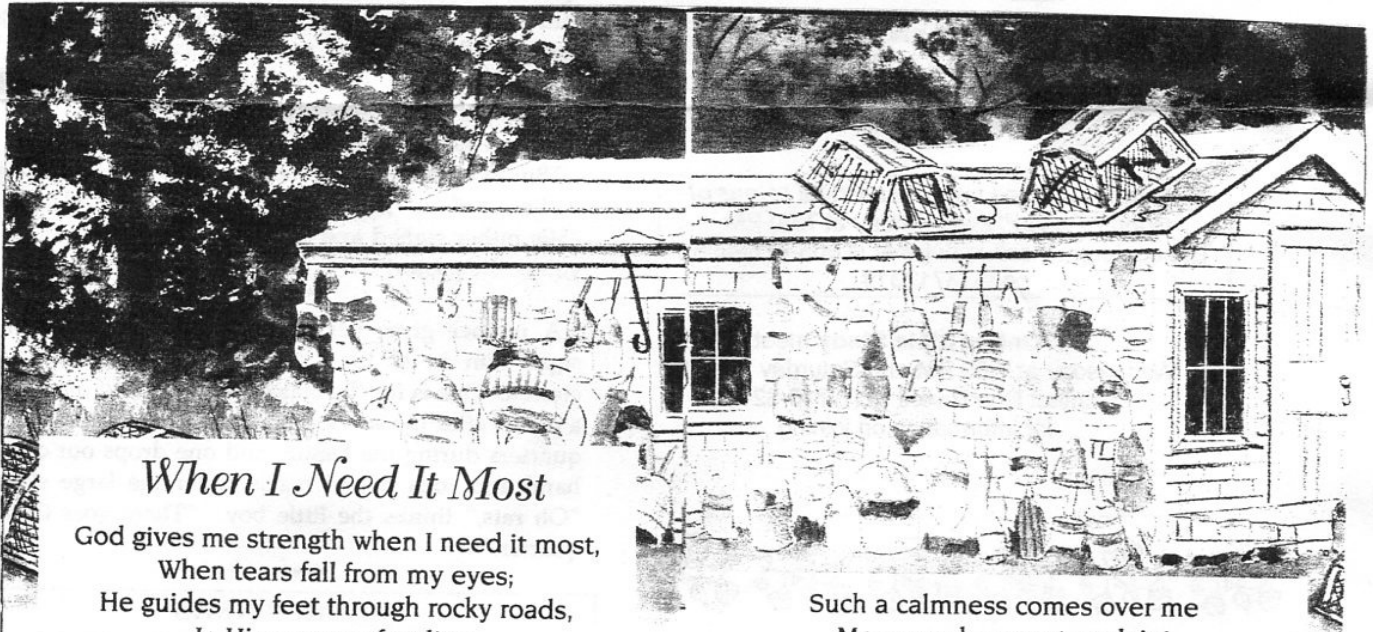
Virtual Adult Bible Study
Wednesday, 7:00 PM
Saturday, 12:00

2783 Lafayette Avenue
Bronx, N.Y. 10465
718-597-6298

Sunday Worship
Sunday 11:00 am

WWW.COTMBRONX.ORG

Rev. Dr. Melva J. Hayden, Pastor

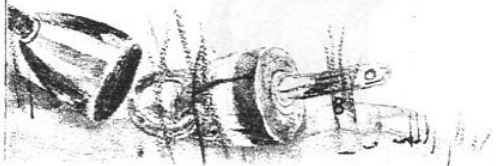


When I Need It Most

God gives me strength when I need it most,
When tears fall from my eyes;
He guides my feet through rocky roads,
In Him my comfort lies.
He gives me peace – I need only ask,
So I humbly bow my head
And gently pray, "Lord Jesus, please..."
And no more tears I shed.
For in His Word He clearly tells me,
"Seek and ye shall find."
So patiently in faith I wait,
And soon His peace is mine.

Such a calmness comes over me
Mere words cannot explain!
There is a joy within my heart –
Yes, through my sorrow and pain!
I am lifted up on higher ground
And cradled in His arms,
And with His Words, "Now rest, My child,"
My heart and soul are warmed.

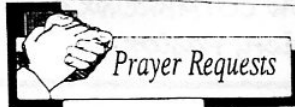
Denise A. DeWald



SPECIAL DATES

- National Day of Prayer, May 1st
- Mother's Day, May 11th
- Armed Forces Day, May 17th
- Memorial day, May 26th

News From the Pews



Continue praying for:
**Allen Ford, Carole Mahon,
 Loretta Byrd, John Bruno,
 Alice & Alex Rivera**

Everyone is invited to join our virtual **"Hour of Prayer Power"** every Friday at 7:00 PM.
 The conference call-in number is 605-475-4860,
 code: 371231#

Our **Online Bible Study** meets
 Wednesday at 7:00 PM and Saturday at 12:00.
 Contact Ron Rivera (917-716-8273)
 for information on joining



Celebrating Mom

In spring 2013, a young man named Aba Atlas wanted to do something special for his birthday, so he gave his *mom* a present — and made a video about the gift and its beloved recipient. (Locate it on YouTube by searching for "iProjectAtlas, Dear Mother.")

For years, Aba's mother had worked long hours outside the home and then cared for her kids each evening. She'd bought a house so her children would always have a place to call home, yet the mortgage caused her great stress. Working at a \$30,000/year position, Aba saved enough money to pay off his mom's mortgage and, on his birthday, presented her with a check. According to a caption in the video, her response was "Wow x 9000."

"I want to celebrate my life by celebrating the woman who gave me life," Aba says.

CHURCH CHUCKLES

When Amber's mother took her to visit family graves on Memorial Day, Amber was keenly interested in inscriptions on tombstones, as well as the names and dates. Her mom explained that the dates indicate the day of birth and death. When they got to one pair of tombstones, a husband's and a wife's, Amber asked why there was no death date for the wife. Her mother explained that the woman hadn't died yet. Amber looked horrified and demanded, "Why did they bury her, then?"

Janice woke up her son one Sunday morning and told him he needed to get ready to go to church. The son pulled the covers over his head and moaned, "Leave me alone, I don't want to go to church this morning."

"Nonsense," she replied. "Get up and get dressed."

"But everybody hates me, the sermons are boring, and none of my friends ever come," he whined.

His mother sighed and said, "Son, you have to go — you're the pastor!"

A mother gives her son two quarters when she signs him in at the Children's Ministry room at church. One is for the collection plate, and one is for a donut after the service. He is playing with the two quarters during the lesson, and one drops out of his hand and rolls out of reach under the large stage. "Oh rats," thinks the little boy. "There goes God's quarter."

CHURCH NEWS

In order to defray the cost of churchyard maintenance, it would be appreciated if those who are willing would clip the grass around their own graves.



- Having lived and having toiled, I'd like the world to find
 Some little touch of beauty that my soul had left behind.

—Edgar A. Guest

from "The Gentle Gardener"

- Security is having the Word of God in your own
 language. Peace is having the Word of God in your heart.

—Corrie Ten Boom

For a better morning, talk with God first.
For a better night, talk with God last.
For a better life, talk with God all day

Holy homophones!

Do you remember learning homophones in school? We enjoy hearing our grade-schooler make the connections. Every once in a while, he hears one — say, *chilly* — and announces, “Hey! That’s a homophone of the kind of chili we eat!”

Struck at home one Sunday morning, I listened to a local worship service on the radio. When the pastor prayed, “O Lord God, reign ...” my brain — apparently due to the same son’s horse-riding lessons — perceived “rein.” In the fraction of a second before the pastor’s next word, I assumed he’d say “us in”; instead, he said “in us.”

Ah, I realized, his phrase was “reign in us,” not “rein us in.” But sometimes God has to do both: In order to *reign* in us fully as King of our lives, God must *rein* in our tendency to wander away from him. Only then can we sense the peace that comes from Christ alone *raining* down on us! (Aren’t homophones fun?!)

—Heidi Mann



Grin and bear it

A preacher decided to skip worship services one Sunday and head to the hills to do some bear hunting instead. As the man rounded a corner, he collided with a huge bear and tumbled down the mountain, losing his rifle and breaking both legs in the process. The bear charged toward him, but the preacher couldn’t move.

“Oh, Lord,” he prayed, “I’m so sorry for skipping church today. Please forgive me and grant me just one wish: Please turn that bear into a Christian!”

Instantly, the bear screeched to a halt, fell to its knees, clasped its front paws together and began praying aloud at the preacher’s feet.

“Dear Lord,” the bear said, “bless this food I am about to receive. Amen.”

Special
M • E • S • S • A • G • E

In our newsletters, we are sharing our financial reports with our readers so everyone is aware of our situation. The financial reports for January and February are now available for this issue,

January - \$2,075.32

February - \$4,649.07

These figures are encouraging, but each month includes one of the two \$3,000 grants we received from the Classis & Synod.

We’re trying to cut corners as much as possible but we need the help of our members, former members and friends. Our insurance has gone up \$1,890.00 and our Con Edison bills are over \$1000 each month. As a member, if you miss a week or two, please put your weekly offering in your envelope for that week and then bring those envelopes with you the next time you come to church. You may not be here for those weeks, but our expenses don’t skip a week.

Again, we thank our generous former members and friends who send us a donation, whether it’s on a regular basis, occasionally during the year or during the holiday season. We really appreciate the donations, as well as hearing from you.

Be a praying parent

Prayer is the saucer into which parental fears are poured to cool. ... Each time a parent prays, Christ responds. His big message to moms and dads? Bring your children to me.

—Max Lucado, *Fearless*

