

# Church of the Blessed Sacrament Manhattan

**Rev. John P. Duffell, *Pastor***  
**Rev. Alexis Bastidas, *Associate***  
**Rev. Dennis Baker, S.J., *Sunday Associate***  
**Rev. Msgr. Robert B. O'Connor, *Pastor Emeritus***

**Tina Silvestro,**  
*Director Religious Education*  
**Caroline Sliney, *School Principal***

**Dr. Gregory D'Agostino,**  
*Organist & Director of Music*  
**Theo Corbin, *Pastoral Assistant***

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**CHURCH:** 152 West 71st Street, New York, N.Y. 10023  
**SCHOOL:** 147 West 70th Street, New York, N.Y. 10023

Ph: 212-877-3111  
Ph: 212-724-7561

[www.blessedsacramentnyc.org](http://www.blessedsacramentnyc.org)  
[www.sblsnyc.org](http://www.sblsnyc.org)

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## **MASSES:**

SUNDAY Masses: Sat. evening at 5:30 PM  
Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 (Family Mass)  
11:15 (Spanish), 12:30 (choir) & 5:30PM  
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 AM; 12:10 PM; 5:30 PM  
SATURDAYS: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM  
HOLY DAYS & EVES. OF HOLY DAYS: As Announced.

## **BAPTISM:**

Arrangements must be made at the Rectory. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Parents, and also godparents when possible, must attend the Pre-Baptismal conference which is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm in the rectory.  
*During Lent the sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated only in an emergency situation.*

## **CONFESSIONS:**

Saturday afternoons 4:30 to 5:15 pm, and anytime at the Rectory.

## **MARRIAGES:**

Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance at the rectory to ensure the date and the hour desired. The Nuptial Mass is the ordinary form of celebrating Christian marriage, and should be strongly considered when making Wedding plans. Attendance at the Pre-Cana Conferences, or the equivalent, is required by the Archbishop.

## **PARISH BOUNDARIES:**

Central Park West to the Hudson River, from the South side of 77th Street down to the North side of 65th Street.

## **NEW PARISHIONERS:**

We welcome new parishioners, and invite them to register at the Rectory. The registration is our only means of certifying anyone as a member of our parish. If you move to another Parish, or change your address within the Parish, please notify us.

## **FATIMA DEVOTIONS:**

The Rosary is said daily after the 12:10 pm Mass. Friday from 6-7 pm there is a holy hour.

## **BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:**

First Friday - Exposition: 12:35 pm.  
Adoration: All day; Benediction: 5:15 PM.

## **MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:**

Mondays, before the 12:10 Mass and before the 5:30 pm Mass.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS:**

Classes in Religion for Catholic children/teenagers, Pre-kindergarten - High School take place on Sundays. The Family Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Church followed by class instruction in the school.

Ongoing religious education is important for the religious development of your children. A child must have at least one year of religious instruction before enrolling in the First Communion or Confirmation class.

*Spanish Programs Website: [www.nygente.com](http://www.nygente.com)*

*Sunday School Website: [www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](http://www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)*

**PARISH NEWS**

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

I'm delighted to announce that the goal for the \$50,000 challenge grant for the facade work has been met, and surpassed. Thank you to all who so generously stepped up to the challenge. And of course to the anonymous benefactor who offered the challenge grant, the whole parish joins me in thanking you.

“Hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor”. On Monday we will celebrate the 14th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Interfaith Peace Walk. I hope you will be part of the special walk. We will begin at 2:00pm at Holy Name Church on 96th and Amsterdam and will visit several host sites before ending up at Blessed Sacrament for refreshments and fellowship.

Catholic Schools Week is being celebrated throughout the archdiocese and the nation from Sunday, Jan. 26 through Saturday, Feb. 1. The theme this year is “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.” Have you been to our parish school? It's a remarkable place, a great school with a committed, hardworking faculty. Do you know a child who could benefit from our school? Get in touch with our principal, Ms. Sliney. There are scholarships available.

Thursday, January 21, is the feast of Saint Agnes. According to tradition, Agnes was a member of the Roman nobility and raised in a Christian family. She suffered martyrdom at the age of twelve or thirteen during the reign of the Roman Emperor Diocletian, on 21 January 304. Tradition says that Agnes as a beautiful young girl of wealthy family and therefore had many suitors of high rank. Details of her story are unreliable, but legend holds that the young men, slighted by her resolute devotion to religious purity, submitted her name to the authorities as a follower of Christianity. She is one of seven women, who along with the Blessed Mother, are commemorated by name in one of the Canons of the Mass.

John Keats wrote a rather famous and beautiful poem entitled “Eve of St. Agnes”! He says that as you go to bed on the 20th you'll dream of the one who will fulfill your being; the lover that's there for you (that's if you've not already found him or her.) The poem suggests you will on the “Eve of St. Agnes”.

On a personal note, I will be away from the parish for a few days this week – from Monday to Thursday down in Florida – returning to leave Friday morning for the wedding of one of our parishioners in Lake Placid. I will be back on Sunday, celebrating the 4:00pm Special Needs mass and the 5:30pm mass.

Let us pray for peace in this Year of Mercy.  
Fr. Duffell



**14TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY INTERFAITH PEACE WALK**

When: Monday, January 18, 2016

Theme: Here the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor!

Time: Walk begins at 2:00PM

Where: Gather at Holy Name of Jesus Church (W 96th Street / Amsterdam Ave) for an introduction and short prayer; proceed to several Upper West Side faith communities (including St Gregory the Great and West Park Presbyterian) for reflection, readings and song; end at Church of the Blessed Sacrament (W 71st St / Broadway) for reflection, refreshments and fellowship.

Participants and host congregations are encouraged to bring/collect letters addressed to congressional leaders urging support of initiatives to protect the planet and the poor who are so devastatingly affected by climate change and income inequality. Letters will be carried from congregation to congregation and then delivered in bulk.

**COLLECTION**

Thank you so very much for your generous response to the needs of the parish. Our collection last Sunday was \$11,186. \$4,205 was received in ParishPay for a total of \$15,391.



**ARCHDIOCESAN - WIDE FOOD CAMPAIGN**

This year, Blessed Sacrament Parish will participate in Feeding Our Neighbors, an Archdiocesan - Wide Drive to replenish dwindling Food Pantries in our community. From January 23 through January 31, you can Feed Our Neighbors by replenishing the Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry, our sister pantry at the Kennedy Center on West 134 Street and pantries across the Archdiocese. It only takes one small action to feed the hungry. Together we can change lives.

Three simple ways to participate are: (1) Bring non-perishable foods to Saturday and Sunday Masses between January 23rd and 31st (2) Support by donating money during a Mass collection, make an on-line donation at [www.catholiccharitiesny.org/feedingourneighbors](http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org/feedingourneighbors) or make a quick \$10 donation by texting “CCHOPE” to 85944 and (3) Volunteer at a Food Pantry near you.

Members of the parish Social Action Committee and others will be distributing Feeding Our Neighbors information and food list at the church entrance.

**NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES**

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

Me alegra mucho comunicarles que hemos igualado y superado la subvención de los \$50,000 dolores para el fondo de la restauración de la fachada de nuestra parroquia. Gracias a todos por su generosidad; y al benefactor anónimo que ofreció esta subvención, el agradecimiento de todos nuestros feligreses.

“Escuchemos el Grito de la Tierra y el Grito de los Pobres” (“Hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor.”) El lunes celebraremos el decimo cuarto “Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Peace Walk.” Espero puedan participar. Comenzaremos a las 2:00pm en la Parroquia de Holy Name en la Calle 96 y Amsterdam y visitaremos otros lugares antes de terminar en nuestra Parroquia.

La Semana de las Escuelas Catolicas sera celebrada a través de la arquidiócesis y el país del domingo 23 de enero hasta el sábado 1ro. de febrero. El tema de este año es “Escuelas Catolicas: Comunidades de Fe, Conocimiento y Servicio”. Han ustedes visitado nuestra escuela? Una gran escuela con una facultad muy dedicada y trabajadora. Conocen algun niño/a que pueda beneficiarse en nuestra escuela? Contacten con nuestra directora la Sra. Sliney. Hay becas disponibles.

El jueves 21 de enero es la Fiesta de St. Agnes. Según la tradición, Agnes era miembro de una noble familia romana y educada en la fe cristiana. Fue martirizada entre los 12 y 13 años durante el reino del Emperador Romano Diocletian, el 21 de enero del 304. Cuenta la tradición que Agnes al ser una joven bella y de noble familia tenia muchos pretendientes de alto rango. Los detalles sobre su historia son escasos pero según la leyenda estos al verse rechazados debido a su fuerte devoción religiosa la delataron a las autoridades como fiel al Cristianismo. Ella es una de las siete mujeres, junto con la Virgen Santísima, que es recordada por su nombre en uno de los Canones de la Misa.

John Keats escribió un poema muy famoso titulado “La Vispera de St. Agnes”. En él se dice que sonaras con aquel ser destinado para ti; quiere decir el/la amante que esta allí (si aun no lo has encontrado.) El poema sugiere que lo/a encontraras “La Vispera de St. Agnes”.

Estaré unos días durante esta semana fuera de nuestra Parroquia - de lunes a jueves en la Florida y saldré de nuevo el viernes por la mañana a celebrar la boda de unos feligreses en Lake Placid, N.Y. Estaré de vuelta el domingo celebrando la Misa “Special Needs” a las 4:00pm así como la Misa de las 5:30pm.

Roguemos por la paz durante este Año de la Misericordia.  
Padre Duffell.



**DOWNEY SIDE ADOPTION AGENCY:**  
**MISSION FOR HOMELESS YOUTH**

at Blessed Sacrament Convent on 70<sup>th</sup> STREET is looking for a volunteer bookkeeper or retired accountant for 4 hours a week (small stipend).  
Please contact Fr. Paul Engel OFM.CAP at 212-714-2200

**CONVERSATIONS WITH “RECYCLED” CATHOLICS**

Many people--Catholics, those of other religions and of no religion-- have been struck by the words and actions of Pope Francis. Included among them are former Catholics who have long felt alienated from many of the church's positions and practices, but now may be considering giving Catholicism a second look. This series is designed for such people—**not for people who are comfortable in their faith and looking for spiritual enrichment.** It is for people in transition, hence the term “recycled,” moving from a style of religion that was found to be unsatisfying to one that is both personally fulfilling and authentically Catholic. In a series of six non-judgmental, open yet focused discussions, Fr. Kevin Madigan will help participants reflect on their lived experience of Catholicism, its positive and negative aspects, in the hope of discovering possible directions for the future. The general approach could be described as a “therapy of the imagination,” an attempt to discover how familiar doctrines, metaphors, and images might be mined for new insights and meaning.

The series will take place in two locations: St. Thomas More Rectory, 65 East 89<sup>th</sup> St., on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 6<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., and Blessed Sacrament Rectory, 152 West 71<sup>st</sup> St., on Thursday evenings, beginning January 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. To register, please call 212-876-7718. There is no charge and refreshments will be served. The topics for discussion:

- 1/20, 1/21 Will the real Jesus please stand up.
- 1/27, 1/28 The Church, who needs it anyway?
- 2/3, 2/4 I would describe myself as “spiritual, but not religious.”
- 2/10, 2/11 Fast-food Catholicism may be dangerous to your health.

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**REMINDER**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend there will be no class today, **January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

**RECTORY**

The rectory will be closed on Martin Luther King Day.

**Weekly EM and Lector Schedule**

**Saturday, January 16**

- 5:30 1st Jerry Becker
- 2nd Vincent Gardino
- POF Carolyn McZinc
- EM Carolyn McZinc, Jerry Becker, Ginetta LaBianca

**Sunday, January 17**

- 8:30 1st Mary Steffany
- 2nd Mary Steffany
- POF Damian Begley
- EM Terry Naglack, James Palazza, Louella White, Mary Steffany, Damian Begley
  
- 10:00 1st Gabriel Keane
- 2nd Anna Piazza
- POF Jillian Macdonald
- EM Anna-Sophia Leone, Mary Bradley, Joan Tedeschi, Eddie Litton
  
- 12:30 1st Diana Lote
- 2nd Diana Lote
- POF Ingrid Leacock
- EM Thomas Alexander, Elsa Alvarez, Christina Elefante, Raul Garcia-Moncada, Ingrid Leacock, Lidia Stempien
  
- 5:30 1st Mia Yabut
- 2nd John Gasdaska
- POF Mark Murphy
- EM Elisa Dragu, John Gasdaska, Rob Porell, Mia Yabut, Patricia Alvarez de Fallon, Brian Fallon, Mark Murphy

**ABC'S OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**

CRS/Egypt: Refugees. American Catholics help, via CRS, refugees from Syria, Africa and Iraq who have found their way to Egypt. CRS also works to help build bridges between Muslims and Christian minorities. Over 340,000 people are served. CRS closely with local Egyptian organizations to help create positive change in an age-old society. Last week - CRS/DR Congo. Next week - CRS & Farmers. For more info: [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)



**Saturday Evening, January 16th**

5:30 Intention of Thomas Middelhoff

**Sunday, January 17th**

8:30 Janet Koutsostergios +

10:00 Nguyen Thi +

11:15 Epifanio Nieves +

12:30 Dolores Errity

5:30 Intention of Thomas Middelhoff

**Monday, January 18th**

7:30 Isabel Silva +

12:10 Gustavo Baquerizo +

5:30 Intention of Thomas Middelhoff

**Tuesday, January 19th**

7:30 Juan Gallegos +

12:10 John Geary +

5:30 Suzanne Bombar +

**Wednesday, January 20th**

7:30 John Kegan +

12:10 Peggy Darnell +

5:30 Intention of Thomas Middelhoff

**Thursday, January 21th**

7:30 Eduardo Pando

12:10 Intentions of Anne Sponholz

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

**Friday, January 22th**

7:30 Eduardo and Fernando Pando +

12:10 Julia Gonzalez +

5:30 Intention of Gisette Rodriguez

**Saturday, January 23th**

7:30 Frank Camilleri +

12:10 Dr. Mariano Madamba +

**Forum on Human Trafficking: Analysis and Action Plan**

“Human Trafficking is a scourge upon the body of Christ.”  
– Pope Francis

Speakers: **Carol Smolenski**: Executive Director of ECPATUSA, leader in the fight against child trafficking. **Gonzalo Martinez de Vedia**: Worker Justice Center of NY, expert on debt bondage in agriculture. **Patricia Latona**: UN representative for ZONTA International, advocate for international women’s rights. Followed by a short workshop for interested audience participants.

Where: Holy Trinity Catholic Church Murphy Canter  
213 West 82<sup>nd</sup> Street 10024  
Time: 7pm – 9pm - Date: Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016  
RSVP: Friday, January 29, [holytrinityreled@earthlink.net](mailto:holytrinityreled@earthlink.net)  
Cost: free/ good will offering



If you have not registered in the parish and attend our mass regularly, please fill the following form out and return it to the Rectory office. *All information will be kept confidential*

**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Spouses Name** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Only if BOTH are Registering)*

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Apt. #** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Occupation** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Spouses Occupation** \_\_\_\_\_

**How should we address you? (Check One)**

**Mr. & Mrs.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mr.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mrs.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ms.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to receive weekly offering envelopes?**

**Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARISH PAY**

Parish pay will collect monthly contribution from your checking, savings or credit card account and send it to the parish. There is no cost to you to participate in the program. You may log onto [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) or call 1866-727-4741 ext.1 to sign up.



**TOURING TUESDAYS**

The best investment in your child’s future is in a Catholic School Today.

- More than 98% of Catholic school grads pursue post-secondary education
- Moral development and self-discipline are emphasized
- Community service is always part of the curriculum
- More than 7500 scholarships are available for eligible students

February 2 & 23, March 8, April 12 from 9:00 – 11:00 am.  
**Reservations are required.** To RSVP, call 646-794-2885 or visit [www.buildboldfutures.org](http://www.buildboldfutures.org)

**BLESSED SACRAMENT WOMEN’S GROUP**

Happy New Years from the Blessed Sacrament Women's Group! We will celebrate the New Year Sunday, January 24th after 5:30 p.m. mass in the upstairs of the rectory. Wine and treats will be provided! We will play games and discuss the National Geographic piece on the importance of the Virgin Mary, as "The Most Powerful Woman on Earth."

**INTERNATIONAL THOMAS MERTON SOCIETY**

On Saturday, January 30th, the Corpus Christi Chapter of the **International Thomas Merton Society** will close the Merton Centennial Year. Fr. Daniel Horan OFM will speak on “The Christ of Thomas Merton & Julian of Norwich”. Other speakers will discuss the women who shaped Merton’s thought and spirituality, especially Baroness Catherine de Hueck Doherty and Sister Therese Lentfoehr.

From 2:00 – 7:00pm. Mass will be celebrated at 5:00, followed by a Gala Reception. Corpus Christi Church 529 West 121st Street, NY 10027.

Free to Chapter members and students with ID.  
 Non-members \$10. For information call 212-666-9350 or Email: [mertonnyc@yahoo.com](mailto:mertonnyc@yahoo.com).  
 Website: [thomasmertonsociety-nyc.org](http://thomasmertonsociety-nyc.org)