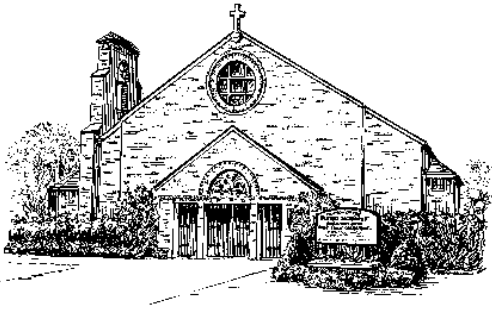


# BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Staten Island, New York



**Reverend Monsignor Peter G. Finn, Pastor**  
**Reverend Francisco Lanzaderas**  
**Reverend Albin Roby**  
**Reverend Monsignor Francis V. Boyle, Pastor Emeritus**

## **MASSES:**

Saturday in the Church: 5:00 PM (Vigil), Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM.  
Weekdays in the Church: 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Saturday in the Church: 9:00 AM.  
Holy Days in the Church: 7:00 PM (Vigil), 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 12:00 to 1:00 PM; 4:15 to 5:00 PM.  
Anytime upon reasonable request.

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Sunday at 2:00 PM. (Except during July & August, then only on the First and Third Sunday and other specified days)  
Arrangements should be made at least one month in advance with the priest of the Parish. Parents of a first child and parents who are new to Blessed Sacrament must attend a Baptism Instruction Class which is held the second Wednesday evening of every month (except July and August) at 7:30 P.M. in the Parish House Meeting Room. Godparents should be Practicing Catholics, and must obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their Parish.

## **SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Arrangements should be made about six months in advance, with a priest of the Parish. Couples must attend Pre-Cana Conferences.

**SICK CALLS** - At any time.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA** - Every Monday after the 9:00 AM Mass.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** - First Friday from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.

**NEW PARISHIONERS** - Welcome to our Parish.

We invite all parishioners to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself after Mass and register at the Parish House Office weekdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Kindly notify us if you change your address.

### **PARISH HOUSE**

30 Manor Road  
442-1581

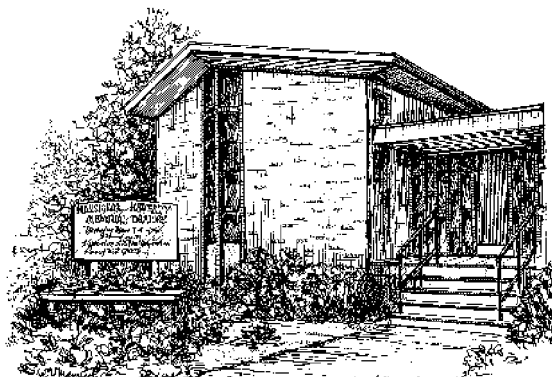
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.com>

### **SCHOOL**

Mr. Joseph Cocozello  
Principal  
830 Delafield Avenue  
442-3090

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sister Anne Dolores Van Wagenen, C.S.J.B. - D.R.E.  
830 Delafield Avenue  
448-0378



**LISTEN AND FOLLOW**

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him." And listen they did. From that moment on, Peter, James, and John were ardent followers, forsaking everything to follow in their Master's footsteps. Like the psalmist crying, "Lord, I am your servant," the three disciples committed themselves to lives of incredible hardship and indescribable joy. After that day on the mountain, they never again wavered in their chosen vocation.

Though our tests may not be as severe as Abraham's and our peak experience not as dramatic as the Transfiguration, we all face the daily challenges of walking "before the Lord in the land of the living." As we follow our varied calls to love and serve, let's be comforted by Paul's reminder to the Romans: "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

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Considering a catholic Elementary School for your child? Are you interested in learning more about Catholic schools serving children in grades Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 in Staten Island? Register to visit a Catholic school on **TOURING TUESDAY**, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. or by appointment. **TOURING TUESDAYS** are universal Open Houses scheduled periodically throughout the school year at Catholic elementary schools across the Archdiocese of New York. Pre-registration is required. To register, please call 718-667-5350, ext.1007.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>\$6332.00 (Weekly)</b>	<b>\$7953.00 (Weekly)</b>
<b>\$1878.00 &lt;Hungry &amp; Homeless&gt;</b>	<b>\$2278.00</b>

**ATTENDANCE**

<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>656 (Adults)</b>	<b>842 (Adults)</b>
<b><u>178 (Children)</u></b>	<b><u>233 (Children)</u></b>
<b>834</b>	<b>1075</b>

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP  
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL  
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
RAYMOND MAGNUSKI**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

The sick are comforted just knowing that you pray for them. In your charity please remember: Margaret Pittman-Boyle, Douglas Pflieger, Jr., Phyllis Ribaldo, Ann Socci, James Burghardt, Concetta Chicolo, Kelly Ward, Amelia DiMauro, Lisa Barlow, Mary Kenny, Kathryn Haring, Jean Carter, Stephanie Barry, Jane Redmond, Carolyn DeStefano, Robert Tursi, Deirdre Westergren, Nicholas Toto, Marykate Rose, Carlo Fumando, Peggy Travers, Mary Anne Blaine, Jean Cunningham, Jean Elmadary, Jameson Riley David, Alan March, Sebastian Lattuga, Grayce Novaro, Angela Siuzdak, Helen Ramsey, Katherine Barbera, Phyllis Scharfenberg, Phyllis Giambruno, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Michael Caruso, Patricia Connelly, Eugene Esposito, Hugh Kiernan, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Elaine Lydersen, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Susannah Yates, Carol Stoltzfus, Harvey Minars, , Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Grace Leddy, Margaret King, Joseph D'Amico, Infant Twins, Allison & Adrianna, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, and Felicidad Tobias,

**SYMPATHY**

Remember the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

**MONDAY**

7:00 John T. Shields  
9:00 Ruth Rose  
7:00 For the Intentions of the Unborn

**TUESDAY**

7:00 Rosemary Gaffney  
9:00 Raymond Magnuski  
7:00 Thomas McDonnell

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00 Christian Strom (Living Intention)  
9:00 Bessie Samat  
7:00 Paul Townsley

**THURSDAY**

7:00 Rev. Vincent Quintia  
9:00 Gary Asarcon  
7:00 Kenneth Pogan

**FRIDAY**

7:00 In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony  
9:00 Victoria Finn (Living Intention)  
7:00 Brett Greeley

**SATURDAY**

9:00 Terrence Cardinal Cooke  
5:00 Raymond Destefano

**SUNDAY**

8:00 Emily Marie McQuade  
9:30 John & Peggy Ciano  
12:30 Ansel & Mary Martin

**SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 8, 2015**

<b><u>ALTAR SERVERS</u></b>		
5:00 PM Vigil	Team	5
8:00 AM	Team	1
9:30 AM	Team	2
11:00 AM	Team	3
12:30 PM	Team	4

<b><u>LECTORS</u></b>
P. Thomann
F. Molanphy
M. Conigatti
J. Pace
K. Kelley

<b><u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u></b>
K. Byrne & A. Talaid
P. Manley & D. Vigliotti
B. Collorec & K. Falcone
N. Mata & Y. Mata
E. Laub & H. Wodzinski

**PARISH NURSE PROGRAM**

The Parish Nurse's office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. If you wish to make an appointment with the Parish Nurse, Peggy Smith, please call her at 718-447-9657.

**Staten Island Charismatic Prayer Groups'** are sponsoring their Annual Communion Brunch on Saturday, March 14, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. at Blessed Sacrament Parish Center. Fr. Andrew Awotwe-Mensah will celebrate Mass at 9:30 A.M. Brunch fee - \$25/Person. For reservations and information please contact Lolita Peralta at 347-863-4759.

**The Episcopal Parishes of Staten Island** are sponsoring a Lenten Program "***All Are Precious in HIS Sight***" featuring Jim Hughes Ministries on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 4:00 P.M. at St. John's Episcopal Church (1333 Bay Street) A light supper will follow the service and everyone is asked to bring either a salad or dessert dish to share.

**The St. Joseph Guild** will meet on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> for mass at 9:30 A.M. and a meeting to follow in the Parish House Meeting Room.

**The Holy Name Society** will meet on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> for Mass at 8:00 A.M. and a meeting to follow in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

**The Senior Group** is sponsoring a Day of Recollection at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, New Jersey on Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. The bus will leave from Blessed Sacrament at 8:15 A.M. Offering \$60/person. For reservations and information please call Betty Hartmann at 718-727-2669.

**CHINESE AUCTION** – St. Peter's Boys High School is sponsoring their CHINESE AUCTION on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Doors Open at 6:00 P.M. Calling begins at 7:15 P.M. Admission \$5.00 per person. Refreshments and Parking available.

**FROM THE PASTOR**

On this Second Sunday of Lent our journey to Calvary and Jerusalem here on Staten island, pauses to celebrate the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, celebrating the great Saint of the Gaels and the Faith he proclaimed to the people of Ireland.

Our pause is just that, and should be no more, as we continue to immerse ourselves in the Lenten challenge of prayer, fast, abstinence and almsgiving.

And yet, there looms on the horizon many societal challenges. Foremost among those challenges is terrorism and the barbarian actions of ISIS, ICEL, Al-Qaida and others.

Our sometimes apparently nonchalant and seemingly detached attitude toward this evil should alarm us and cause us to intensify our prayer to Almighty God for the strength morally and in every other way to meet and defeat this devil's dance in civilization.

It does not help when some of our leaders, national or international, distort the history of Christianity and/or fail to reflect on the rise and spread of Islam itself from the 7<sup>th</sup> Century onwards and its mode of expansion. As a famous historian once said: "those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it."

The following essay by Michael j. Ortiz, teacher and author in the Wall Street Journal column "***Houses of Worship***" is enlightening.

**Distorting Christian History to Defend Islam**

***In an attempt to find a peaceful alternative for those in the Islamic world who advocate violence for political and religious goals, Christians in the West shouldn't distort the history of Christianity, or stand idly by while others do so. Letting this version of events shape perceptions of Christian history invariably means a portrait of religion as a force of darkness, while science and technology will always be beacons of sanity and light.***

*The narrative portraying religious conviction as antithetical to reasoned comity among people and nations is easy enough to fall into. At the national prayer breakfast last week, for instance, President Obama compared the excesses of the Crusades and the Inquisition to the terrorism of today's radical Islam. The President went on to condemn (rightly) those who advance their religious convictions with violence.*

*But what he and many others miss is the conviction that Western core values come from a faith in which God enters into human history precisely to save the world from the erring reason that fails, among other things, to recognize that terrorism is an affront to God and humanity.*

*The all-to-common narrative goes like this: Centuries ago, Catholics and Protestants gladly burned heretics up and down Europe by the thousands until, thank God-or All Powerful Goodness, as Ben Franklin would put it-the rise of Enlightenment thinkers banished the barbarity that is somehow native to religious fervor. Only with the liberalizing mandates (1962-65), we're told, did Catholicism-usually the main boogeyman in this version of history-come to grips with the idea of democracy and religious freedom, and finally extinguish the last embers of the Inquisition.*

*This narrative is false according to the historical record and to the origins and abiding ethos of Christianity, Catholic and Protestant. Historians call this the la leyenda negra-the "Black Legend"-because it blackens the name of Catholicism in Particular and religion in general. According to this legend, the Inquisition is on a continuum with the Holocaust and the terrors of Stalinism.*

*Yet objective historians realize that in the most infamous example, in Spain, several popes condemned the Inquisition's excesses. Moreover, the 6,832 members of the clergy executed by the Spanish Republican Red Terror in 1936 is more than twice the number of those executed in 345 years of the Inquisition in Spain.*

*Far from being an enemy of reason and peace, Christianity's overwhelming message through the centuries has been one of tolerance, a message that underpins many of the values that people of all faiths, and of no faith, can live by. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's work as a theologian has done great service in trying to correct the erroneous view that faith and civil tolerance must always be opposed.*

*He looks forthrightly at the negative aspects of the rise of democracies in the West, while not forgetting their positive legacies. As then-Pope Benedict pointed out in a 2005 address to the Roman Curia-the church's governing body-popes of the 19<sup>th</sup> century condemned democracy because of so many of its exponents were claiming "to embrace with their knowledge the whole of reality to its limit, stubbornly proposing to make" God completely "superfluous." He thus reminds us that a Western culture beset by nihilism cannot provide a way out of the nihilism of the jihadist.*

*If we say to followers of Islam that the only way to rid the faith of extremists is to accept "modernity," are we also asking them to accept a world view that embraces a growing agnosticism about the fundamentals of civilized living?*

*While we celebrate our freedoms, such freedoms also give us rampant abortion, commercialized eroticism and laws that make marriage anything one wishes to mean. If we want the Muslim world to emulate our institutions of democracy, perhaps we should give them reasons for believing that democracy doesn't automatically have to jettison publicly held moralities that actually ensure those freedoms in the first place.*

*Benedict XVI saw with his own eyes a Europe in flames after the Allies defeated Hitler's self-made religion of blood. Yet he rightly remembered in that 2005 address the hope of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century for a state that was "not neutral regarding values but alive, drawing from the great ethical sources opened by Christianity." If we betray this hope today, it will not only be the West that suffers.*

For the continued murder and persecution of our Christian brothers and sisters we must pray, sacrifice, aid and assist in this awful slaying of the innocents. May we make this a vital part of our Lenten journey.

GOD BLESS YOU  
MSGR. FINN