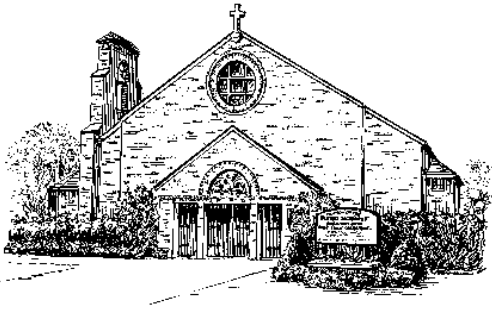


# BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

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

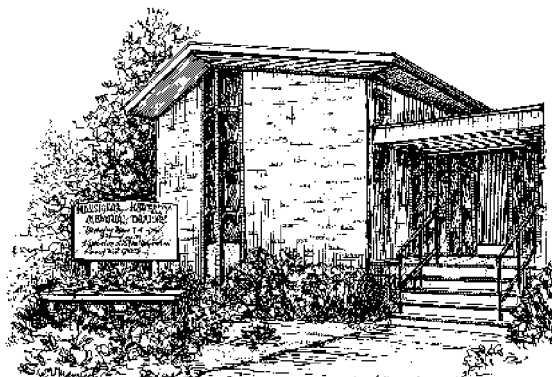
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.com>

### **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



**FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM**

Registration for the 2015-2016 Faith Formation Program for all **NEW** children will take place on **Sunday, March 22, 2015 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.** in the Parish Center Meeting Room. A copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate is required for all grades and for Grades 2 through 7 also required is proof of Penance and Reconciliation. Registration Fee: \$25. Registration for returning students will take place from April 15<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. Re-registration forms will be sent home with students on April 15<sup>th</sup> and must be returned by April 29<sup>th</sup> along with a \$25 registration fee per family.

**PLEASE NOTE:** New Registration includes private school children making their sacraments with the Blessed Sacrament Parish Family.

**THE PATH TO FREEDOM**

Most of us, if we were asked "Does the phrase 'the Ten Commandments' appear in the Bible?" would likely get it wrong, because the answer is "no." "The Ten Commandments" is a post-biblical, phrase that developed along with an image of God as police officer that is not found in today's passage from Exodus. The first phrase is the key: God is the one who brings us out of slavery; following God's law or commands is our path to freedom. The moneychangers whom Jesus drove from the temple were not explicitly breaking any of the commandments, but neither were they helping people to find God's path to freedom as they came to worship at the temple. This is an important Lenten lesson for us. We need to stop asking ourselves whether or not we are breaking specific rules or regulations and instead examine our lives to see if we are truly following a path to God's freedom through Christ. Copyright J.S. Paluch Co.

<b><u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u></b>	
<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>\$7084.00 (Weekly)</b>	<b>\$6269.00 (Weekly)</b>
<b>\$2776.00</b>	<b>\$2513.00</b>
<b>&lt;Monthly &gt;</b>	
<b><u>ATTENDANCE</u></b>	
<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
<b>847 (Adults)</b>	<b>848 (Adults)</b>
<b>162 (Children)</b>	<b>164 (Children)</b>
<b>1009</b>	<b>1002</b>

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP  
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL  
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
TIMOTHY HURLEY**

***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 Ribaud, 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, Felicidad Tobias, Jose Ruiz and Robert Hammerton.

***SYMPATHY***

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

**MONDAY**

7:00 Gerry Scotti (Living Intention)  
9:00 Vincent Cataldo  
7:00 Special Intention

**TUESDAY**

7:00 Richard Beyer  
9:00 William Farley  
7:00 Msgr. Daniel Sullivan

**WEDNESDAY**

7:00 Thomas J. & Bertha A. Sweeney  
9:00 Timothy Hurley  
7:00 Peter Saldi

**THURSDAY**

7:00 Msgr. James Vaughey (Living Intention)  
9:00 John O'Toole  
7:00 Anna LoCasto

**FRIDAY**

7:00 Bishop John G. Nolan  
9:00 Christopher Biggs  
7:00 Florentino Saluta

**SATURDAY**

9:00 Francis N. Corbett  
5:00 Theresa & David DeMarzio

**SUNDAY**

8:00 Robert McNamara  
9:30 Joseph Morrell (6<sup>th</sup> Anniv)  
12:30 Anthony Mazza

**SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 15, 2015**

<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>		
5:00 PM Vigil	Team	10
8:00 AM	Team	6
9:30 AM	Team	7
11:00 AM	Team	8
12:30 PM	Team	9

<u>LECTORS</u>
J. Hansen
M. Peries
R. Salaycik
E. Trentalange
C. Wodzinski

<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
V. Donnelly & T. Sanders
S. & A. Coscia
B. Collorec & A. Morrell
H. Wodzinski & M. Conigatti
J. & M. Spach

**Legion of Mary** – Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Legion of Mary would like to invite members, auxiliary members, non-members and their families to the Acies held on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 P.M. at St. Ann's parish (101 Cromwell Avenue). The Acies is the great annual function of the Legion of Mary in which each of its members consecrates themselves to Mary, Queen of the Legion and from her receive strength and blessing for yet another year's battle with the forces of evil. For further information please call Pam Pugliese at 718-442-8667, Kathy Ward at 718-447-4768 or Fr. Frank Lanzaderas at 718-442-1581.

**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.

**The Catholic School Region of Staten Island Inaugural Gala** honoring His Eminence Timothy M. Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2015 at Nicotra's Ballroom, Hilton Garden Inn. For further information and reservations please visit [catholicschoolsgala.eventbrite.com](http://catholicschoolsgala.eventbrite.com) or contact Diana Gatto at [Diana.Gatto@archny.org](mailto:Diana.Gatto@archny.org)

**Blessed Sacrament Holy Name Society** is hosting a **Discount Defensive Driving Class** on Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. in the Parish Center Meeting Room. The DMV approved course entitles New York drivers to a 10% auto insurance discount for three years and as many as 4 violation points reduced from your NY driving record. Cost is \$39 if registered by March 26<sup>th</sup> and \$44 after that date. Seats are limited, lunch and refreshments included. To register send your name, phone number and payment to Greg DeForest, 115 College Avenue, SI, NY 10314. For further information please call 718-442-7361.

**St. John's University** invites everyone to celebrate with the Italian Cultural Center **La Festa di San Guiseppe** on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 12 Noon, Kiernan Suite, Kelleher Center. For further information please call 718-390-4448.

**FROM THE PASTOR**

**LENT: From Darkness to Light  
Paradox and Challenge in: "This Joyful Season"  
PART ONE**

Today we embark on our Lenten Journey reflecting on the beginning of our faith motivated steps to Calvary and Jerusalem. From a mountain village in Honduras, Central America, Miguel Dulick, originally from St. Louis; degreed at St. Louis University and Weston School of Theology in Boston, invites you and me to reflect with him on the incredible challenge he lives in one of the most dangerous countries in the world. He states that "we could not take a single day's step through the darkness of 20 murders a day without the faith that draws us together in the love that "casts our few" (1John 4:18). Read on reflectively and carefully with our brother in the missions.

*The liturgy calls Lent "this joyful season," keeping our eyes on the prize: The Paschal Mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus celebrated in the Triduum—a single liturgy from the sign of the cross on Holy Thursday until the final blessing of the Easter Vigil. Lent, "these 40 days," reminds us of the 40 years of desert wandering by the Israelites to prepare them for the Promised Land. We make the voyage with Noah on the ark through the Deluge that cleansed (or "baptized") the world of sin. We repeat Jesus' own sojourn in the desert, battling the temptations to cheapen his mission. Lent is the great retreat of the church year, a time of conversion paced by a heightened practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.*

*Entering Lent, we may feel as if we are in a foreign land, not least because of the challenging Mass readings that we seem to encounter only at this time of year.*

**PARADOXES OF FAITH**

*There is perhaps no more challenging story-disorienting, even repellent in the eyes of some-than the very first reading we hear in March: the sacrifice of Isaac (Gen22). A deal-breaker for many an atheist, it should be read in its entirety to experience its full impact. Is this the story of some savage God who orders Abraham to slaughter his own son, whom he "loves"? Or is this a faith so full that in the darkest hours of his life, Abraham, as Jesus says, "saw my day and was glad" (John 8:56)?*

*Lent challenges all of us to see in the dark, you might say, guided by a light that only faith can detect.*

*The liturgy itself loses no time in closing the circle, citing Paul's lightning strike from Romans 8:32 of the same sacrificial scene, with Jesus in the role of "Beloved Son," but this time there is no ram in the thicket: "God did not spare his own Son but handed him over (the same Greek is used for Judas' betrayal) for us all." Dare we take Paul's hint and say that the Father loves Jesus, yes, but loved us sinners even more? These are the paradoxes of our faith that thrive in Lent.*

**TRANSFIGURATION**

*Where I live, Honduras, one of the most dangerous countries in the world, we could not take a single day's step through the darkness of 20 murders a day-we don't count homicides, we count massacres-without the faith that draws us together in the love that "casts out fear" (1John4:18). Not unlike Isaac, our children are sacrificed on the altar of America's addiction to drugs, whose transportation from South America corrupts every level of Honduran life. As with ISIS, beheading is a common mode of revenge or intimidation, including women often enough that a whole separate statistic is kept of "femicides."*

*So with the apostles, we eagerly accept Jesus' invitation to ascend the mountain to witness the Transfiguration (Mark9:2-10) to encourage us in our Lenten efforts. It is one of the "Mysteries of Light" that Pope John Paul II added to the rosary. The scene, Jesus flanked by Moses and Elijah, anticipates the tableau of Golgotha, promising us the light at the end of the tunnel. The apostles could not grasp its significance at the time, of course, and we may not see the effects of our own "light" right away as we pray more, do more, give more. But let us remember, as many Lenten readings demonstrate, that while in the Hebrew scriptures God never fails to redeem "the just" (like Abraham or Susanna); in the Christian scriptures God's preferential option is for the sinner (like the tax collector in the temple, or the woman taken in adultery). As Psalm 116 says, "I believed, even when I said, 'I am greatly afflicted.'"*

**CLEANSING THE TEMPLE**

*The great theme of darkness yielding to light continues in the Third Sunday, springing from the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17 to the cleansing of the temple in John 2:13-25. Both are to be interpreted through Jesus, the "exegesis" of the Father (John 1:18). Surely the commandments are a kind of light, as Psalm 19 makes clear, enlightening the eye." So we should focus less on the "nots" and more on the "shalls." The commandments are not a scolding from above but a covenant of mutual commitment. Yet, compared to "Christ crucified," any law is a poor sign of God's love, "foolishness" even, as Paul says in 1 Corinthians 1:22-25.*

*John's Gospel puts the cleansing of the temple in the first week of Jesus' Jerusalem ministry, while the Synoptics put it three years later, in his last week. No matter. John himself suggests how Gospel time operates: "When he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered" what Jesus did and said. The whole New Testament (indeed, the whole Bible, as Jesus explains on the way to Emmaus) is dipped in the resurrection, pointing up each passage with its light. And look at the delicacy of even the enraged Jesus, whipping the sellers of sheep and oxen that only the rich can afford and tossing the tables of the extortionist moneychangers, while simply cautioning those who sell birds for a couple pennies to the poor: "Take these out of here." He establishes himself-his very body-as temple, altar, Holy of Holies (where the stone tablets of the commandments were kept in the Ark of the Covenant). This is the same body that becomes the Eucharist, the root and measure of our whole faith. And, these are the "signs" of our Lent, as we struggle with our sad "human nature," hoping to open ourselves more and more to Jesus, who already knows us so well.*

**SAVED BY GRACE**

*Moving forward, our vision is expanded still more on the Fourth Sunday. When even a pagan king, Cyrus, is a "messiah" (cf. Isa 45:1), what are the limits of God's grace? The Babylonian exile transformed the whole meaning of God's Chosen People. They are rooted no longer in the Promised Land but in the very heart of God (2 Chr. 36). God's people can be anywhere, an idea just waiting for apostles like St. Paul to take up and run with: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God" (Eph2:8). And Jesus can be anything, He reaches deep into salvation history to apply to himself an image never before associated with the Messiah: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up" (John 3:14). There is simply no limit to God's capacity for humility. The feasts of the Annunciation and St. Joseph wait in the wings of Lent, celebrating Jesus' entry into our world. Lovely stories, but Jesus chooses for himself the sheer ugliness and repulsiveness that snakes suggest (from the serpent in the Garden of Eden to John the Baptist's "brood of vipers!"). This gives some real edge to those "JOHN 3:16" signs blandly waved in stadiums and arenas throughout the land: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."*

*God loved the world! Romano Guardini's groundbreaking life of Christ, *The Lord*, which covered the entire New Testament, laid the foundation for Vatican II. He notes that nothing seems to have excited Jesus so much as the prospect of the gentile ministry, which would have to wait until after his resurrection. Hints of its future success entice him dearly, You see it when he praises the faith of the Roman Centurion and when the Syro-Phoenician woman outwits him. He goes to Caesarea Philippi, at the end of Palestine to predict his passion, a geographical and ministerial tipping point; indeed, his native land is "Galilee of the Gentiles."*

**TO BE CONTINUED.....**

**GOD BLESS YOU,  
MSGR. FINN**