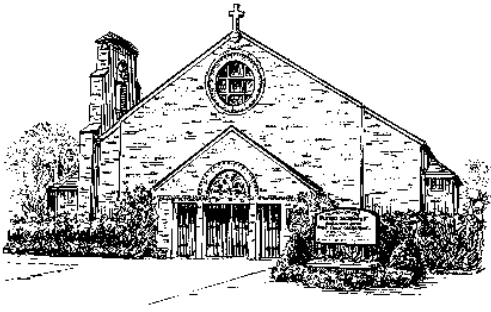


BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Staten Island, New York 10310

January 10, 2016



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 Tuesday 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

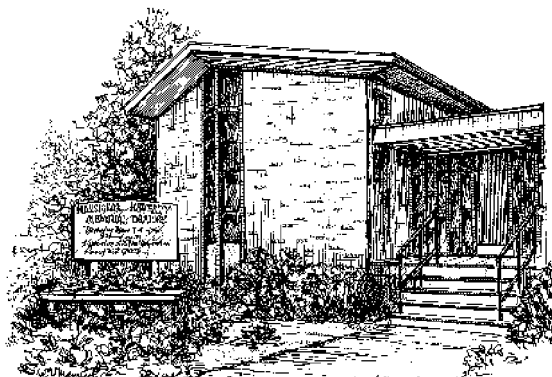
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

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



Thank You

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On behalf of Fr. Frank, Fr. Roby and myself, we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Parishioners, Staff, Parish Societies and Organizations for their time and effort in helping to make Christmas 2015 and New Year 2016 a spiritual, joyful and family celebration of the Birth of Christ. We sincerely appreciate your thoughts and gifts. You are all very special and will be remembered in our Masses and Prayers.

God Bless You,
Msgr. Finn

ENCYCLICAL ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home, the much anticipated encyclical of Pope Francis on the environment, was released to the world on Thursday, June 18, 2015. People all over the world eagerly awaited the Pope's call to save God's creation and protect the poor (who are those most harmed by ecological destruction). News coverage was extensive and it generated much interest among people of many faiths around the world. You can find an introduction to the encyclical in a 6 ½ minute video that features Catholic voices, online at:

<http://www.yaleclimateconnections.org/2015/06/video-outlines-background-for-pope-francis-papal-encyclical/>, or go to Yale Climate Connections and search "encyclical background".

SENIOR SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Will meet on Jan. 13th at 10am, in the Nurse's office.

DECEMBER 50/50

The winners of the December 50/50 are Mr. & Mrs. Francis Napolitano. They won \$875.00

MINTY AWARDS

The Minty Organization for the Performing Arts will be hosting its annual Minty Awards Dinner Gala on Jan. 14 at 7pm at Nicotra's Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn. Tickets are \$85 (\$65 for those under 21) and can be purchased by calling 347-688-9527 or visiting www.mintys.org. RSVP by Jan. 11

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
\$9,178 (Weekly)	\$ 14,813(Weekly)
\$1,749< (Comm. & Catholic U.)>	\$ 1,243
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
890 (Adults)	822 (Adults)
157 (Children)	153(Children)
1047	975

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, Mary Kenny, Kathryn Haring, Jean Carter, Jane Redmond, Carolyn DeStefano, Robert Tursi, Deirdre Westergren, Nicholas Toto, Marykate Rose, Peggy Travers, Mary Anne Blaine, Jean Cunningham, Jean Elmadary, Alan March, Sebastian Lattuga, Grayce Novaro, Angela Siuzdak, Helen Ramsey, Katherine Barbera, Phyllis Scharfenberg, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Michael Caruso, Patricia Connelly, Hugh Kiernan, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Elaine Lydersen, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Danielle Ziegler, Susannah Yates, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Grace Leddy, Margaret King, Joseph D'Amico, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, Felicidad Tobias, Jose Ruiz, Casta Miskowitz, Rosemary Callahan, Elizabeth Coyne, Lucy D'Angelo, Robert Hammerton, Catherine Vitale, Capala Lusi, Jack McGarry, Robert McQuade, Amy Mezzacappa, Mary Ruggiero, Amparo Isaza and Brian Nelson

SYMPATHY

Remember the souls of James Bottiglia, Peter C. Bjorklund and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 Donna & Steven Ancona
9:00 Noreen O'Mahony (Living)

TUESDAY

7:00 Patricia Dillion (Living)
9:00 Elizabeth Diener

WEDNESDAY

7:00 John E. Finn, Sr.
9:00 Bernardina Cabotaje

THURSDAY

7:00 Pat Varano
9:00 Diane McKlusky

FRIDAY

7:00 Msgr. Vincent Julian
9:00 Michael Salaycik

SATURDAY

9:00 John & Fred Buzzard
5:00 Mary E. Kuhhorn

SUNDAY

8:00 Michael McCarthy
9:30 Patrick Smith
12:30 Barbara Martin Keeley

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ANTHONY MAGLIOCCA**

SCHEDULE FOR

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

<u>LECTORS</u>
Sr. Anne Dolores
C. Burns
K. Hanley
J. Pace
M. Conigatti

<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
T. Sanders & E. Laub
B. Boyd & R. Gallop
J. Pace & E. Hodgens
E. Checkett & G. Checkett
M. Conigatti & H. Wodzinski

TOURING TUESDAY DATES

The 2016 Staten Island Catholic Elementary School Open Houses are: **Jan. 12**, Feb. 2, Feb. 23, March 8, and April 12 from 9-11am.

This Christmas, give the gift of a Catholic education. Staten Island Catholic Schools are Christ-centered, academically excellent and welcoming communities that teach students to be life-long learners and leaders energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church, and one another. To locate a faith-based Pre-K, Kindergarten or elementary school program near you, visit www.buildboldfutures.org or call 646-794-2885. Additional Open Houses and private tours are available.

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.

NEW YORK ENCOUNTER

Come and visit New York Encounter, a cultural festival witnessing to faith in the public square. Organized by Communion and Liberation and Crossroads Cultural Center, the Encounter will take place **January 15-17**, at the Metropolitan Pavilion on 215 West 18th Street (Between 6th & 7th Ave.). Almost all events are open to the public and FREE of charge. For the full program: www.newyorkencounter.org or call (212) 253-5777

CATHOLIC'S DIVORCE SURVIVAL GUIDE

If you or someone you know is experiencing divorce or separation and needs closure and healing, come to The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide, sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York, Family Life/Respect Life Ministry of the Separated and Divorced starting Feb. 23, from 7 to 9pm at St. Ann's Church, 101 Cromwell Ave., in the basement of the rectory. Please spread the word about this inspiring, healing 12 week program. For more information contact Anne-Louise DePalo 347-282-9118 or Carmen Noschese 212-371-1000 ex. 3194

ST. JOSEPH RETREAT CENTER

Meditation Monday, Jan. 11th, Feb.8th, March 14th, April 11th, May 9th and June 13th. An invitation for you to be refreshed, renewed and restored. It's an evening to kick back, relax and let go of stress. The evening consists of faith sharing, reflection and prayer. The evening wouldn't be complete without coffee and dessert. Come journey with others and experience a deeper, exciting personal relationship with God. For a full listing of upcoming events visit: www.daughtersofdivinecharity.org/events-calendar

SWIM TRYOUTS

Swim tryouts on Sat., Jan. 23rd from 6:40 to 8pm at JCC on Manor Road. Basic swim skills required. Contact Deidre Tirota at 646-773-6101 for more info.

FROM THE PASTOR

A month for renewed commitment and inspired initiative is a MANTRA that should fill our hearts and minds to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus reaching out to all our brothers and sisters at home and abroad.

Priorities this first month of the year beckons us to:

- a) Proclaim the Sacredness of all Human Life from conception to natural death
- b) Proclaim the Constitutional Right of Religious Freedom, unhampered and inviolate
- c) Proclaim and affirm freedom, justice and human rights for all people regardless of race, creed, religion, color et al. In the land of the free and home of the brave, however imperfect our national past or present, we must strive to not only proclaim but protect these sacred duties.
- d) Resolve in this year of national challenge to strive to elect the best person that represents all of the above and more by exercising our mind, voice and ballot in November 2016.

If we can achieve a beginning to this process in January 2016 we will certainly celebrate in 2017 movement forward, however miniscule, to a nation of renewed compassion, justice and freedom.

PAGE FOUR

The following article by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore and Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus in Columbia magazine entitled "A Renewed Vision of Religious Freedom" reflects the wisdom of Pope Francis and his care and concern for us the people of God in our Beloved United States of America.

Years ago, when I was serving as Cardinal James Hickey's priest-secretary in the Archdiocese of Washington, an old friend came to visit. As we walked around the chancery office, he stopped and said, "You don't know how good you have it!" It took someone with fresh eyes to show me the many blessings God had given me. In essence, he said, "Don't take your blessings for granted."

I thought of my friend when the Holy Father visited the United States for the first time in September. It was obvious to everyone that Pope Francis had prepared carefully for the visit by studying our culture and pastoral challenges. The pope didn't merely read prepared speeches; looking at us with fresh eyes, he engaged us and reminded us of the many blessings that God has bestowed upon us. He told us not to take these blessings for granted, but rather to cherish them and use them in service to others, especially the poor and the vulnerable.

One blessing that Pope Francis discussed frequently is religious freedom. In his first address, on the South Lawn of the White House, he said that American Catholics seek to build a just, tolerant and inclusive society based upon respect for others, including those with whom we sincerely differ. Catholics in the United States are also concerned that society respect their religious liberty, which the pope described as "one of America's most precious possessions."

Pope Francis expressed his support for the U. S. Bishops' efforts to preserve and defend religious freedom and encouraged Americans to be good citizens who are vigilant and ready "to preserve and defend that freedom from everything that would threaten or compromise it."

In these remarks at the White House, the pope did not mention any specific issues, such as the Health and Human Services mandate that would require many church-sponsored ministries and institutions to facilitate abortifacients, sterilizations and contraceptives for their employees and family members. But later that day, he made a surprise visit to the Little Sisters of the Poor, who are prominently resisting that mandate. This gesture of support should prompt us to take a second look at the sisters' courageous defense of our most fundamental liberty.

The following day, Pope Francis returned to the importance of religious freedom during his address to the U. S. Congress. Once again, he helped us see ourselves anew. He began by pointing the marble relief of Moses in the chamber of the House of Representatives, recognizing that it was through Moses that we received the Ten Commandments, a privileged expression of the law of God written on the human heart. Just legislation, which reflects God's law, unifies peoples and nations and respects transcendent human dignity.

The Holy Father then directed our attention to iconic figures in American culture. He called Abraham Lincoln "the guardian of liberty, who labored tirelessly, that 'this nation, under God, [might] have a new birth of freedom.'" The pope reminded us that this new birth of freedom requires us to serve the common good with strong conviction about our shared human dignity. Such conviction leads us to engage in the struggle to preserve our fundamental, universal and God-given freedoms while resisting efforts to use religion for unjust and violent purposes. Indeed, we should use our freedom to build bridges of understanding and cooperation whenever possible.

In that spirit, the Holy Father also referred to Martin Luther King Jr., whose leadership in attaining "full civil and political rights for African Americans" should inspire us to welcome immigrants who are seeking the blessings of liberty for themselves and for their families.

God bless America
And God Bless you.

MSGR. FINN