

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

February 21, 2016

Staten Island, New York 10310



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



ENCYCLICAL ON THE CARE OF CREATION

In his recent encyclical on caring for all creation, Pope Francis highlights overconsumption and excessive economic development as the primary causes of the destruction of our common home. With him, let us pray to “discover the worth in each thing” and to embody that discovery by buying less and recycling our possessions when we no longer need them.

CHANGE OF DATE

The Defensive Driving Class sponsored by the Holy Name Society of Holy Family Church has been changed from March 9th to **Sat., April 9th** from 9am to 3:30pm. Cost is \$39 for those registered by April 7th, \$44 after April 7th. Call (718) 637-3934 for more information.

ST. RITA’S LENTEN SERIES

St. Rita’s, 281 Bradley Ave. is presenting a series lectures and performances at 7:30pm during Lent. Friday, Feb. 26th: “St. Francis and St. Clare presented by Joanne Malick, followed by exposition of relics of St. Francis and St. Clare.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Lenten Program, in the Spirit of St. Ignatius Loyola, each Wed. in Lent, 7:00pm in the Church, 10 Austin Place. Feb. 24th “Jesus the Healer – Noticing and Paying Attention”.

PRAYER SHAWL

The Prayer Shawl Group will meet on Wed., Feb. 24th at 10:00am in the Nurses’ Office.

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
\$ 4,658 (Weekly)	\$4,989 (Weekly)
\$ 2,849 (Monthly)	\$1,986
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
690 (Adults)	623 (Adults)
173 (Children)	145 (Children)
863	768

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
PETER R. PALLADINO, SR.**

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, Katie Hanley, 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 soul of and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 Georgia McConnon (Living)
9:00 Special Intentions (Living)
7:00 Jack Pair

TUESDAY

7:00 Timothy Fiori
9:00 Anna Plumb (6th Anniv.)
7:00 Knights of Malta

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Marie Belford
9:00 Jeremiah J. Bullen, Sr.
7:00 Cynthia Gombalski

THURSDAY

7:00 William McCormack
9:00 Mary Patricia Peters
7:00 Rev. Terzo Vinci

FRIDAY

7:00 Rev. Leo Gussini
9:00 Ellen Carino
7:00 Marion Ford

SATURDAY

9:00 Michael Manley
5:00 Anna Nicholson (10th Anniv.)

SUNDAY

8:00 Amelia Santoriello
9:30 Alfred Trovato
12:30 Lucia Castro

SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2016

	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
5:00 PM Vigil	Team 9	J. Hanson	N. Mata & J. Wright
8:00 AM	Team 10	C. Burns	A. Morell & E. Hodgens
9:30 AM	Team 6	M. Peries	B. Collorec & P. Thomann
11:00 AM	Team 7	E. Trentalange	J. Spach & M. Spach
12:30 PM	Team 8	T. Sanders	M. Conigatti & K. Byrne

FEBRUARY FORTUNE

Saturday, Feb. 27th from 8 – 11pm in the Gym
 \$100 ticket gets 2 people into the event, a chance to win \$10,000 and 100 chips to show your skill at the gaming tables. To purchase tickets or for more info: call Rich Kerney 718-869-4539 or Mike Tornello 917-453-2954

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

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

The Titan League Breakfast Club will meet on Thursday, Feb. 25th at 10:00 A.M. at the Dakota Diner (Richmond & Forest Avenues.)

TITAN LEAGUE SOCCER

Registration is now open. Please visit the Titan League website and click on the link.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is asking those considering a Lenten sacrifice to give "40 Bucks for Lent" and to use the hashtag **#40BucksForLent** to help Middle Eastern Christians and other religious minorities suffering religious persecution there.

Knights of Columbus
 1 Columbus Plaza
 New Haven, CT 06510
 (203) 752-4000

HOLY NAME SOCIETY, RICHMOND DIVISION

Day of Reflection, March 5th at Our Lady Star of the Sea, 5371 Amboy Road. Healing Mass 9am, Continental Breakfast 10:15am, Spiritual Discussion 11am, Lunch 12:30pm, Spiritual Discussion 1:30pm and Confessions 2pm. The total cost is \$25pp and the whole family is welcomed to participate. Any questions or to reserve your seat call Steve Bilardi at 347-861-0316 or our parishioner Peter Siuzdak 718-448-3582

REGIONAL DAYS OF MERCY

The Cardinal is hosting a series of "Regional Days of Mercy" throughout the archdiocese for the Year of Mercy. These events, which begin at 2:30pm, will include a talk from a missionary of mercy, a reflection from Cardinal Dolan, witness testimonies to the power of mercy, confessions and information about how to get involved in the corporal works of mercy. The Cardinal will celebrate the Vigil Mass and there will be a light reception to follow. The Staten Island location is: March 12th at Our Lady of Pity.

WAY OF THE CROSS

For over 30 years Pax Christi Metro New York has walked The Good Friday Way of the Cross praying for peace and justice on the streets of our city. Join with us as we reflect on Living Lives of Mercy with Care and Compassion. The Walk will take place from 8:30am to 12noon on Good Friday, March 25th. We begin at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza (47th St. at First Ave.) and proceed along 42nd Street to between Eighth and Ninth Ave. **Please wear or carry a cross.** For more info, call 212-420-0250 or info@nypaxchristi.org.

2016 CARDINAL'S APPEAL

The *Cardinal's Appeal* supports the many programs and ministries that nurture our faith:

- Adult Faith Formation
- Black Ministry
- Catechetical
- Family Life/Respect Life
- Hispanic Ministry
- Hospital Apostolate
- Liturgy
- Prison Apostolate
- Superintendent of Schools
- University Apostolate
- Young Adult Outreach
- Youth Ministry

Make an online gift today at: www.cardinalsappeal.org

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FROM THE PASTOR

Some of us recall the haunting lyrics of a song from time gone by “the Sounds of Silence!” Lent has many opportunities some obvious and direct and some open to discovery. Old remembrances become new and new thoughts are expanded. I thought the following article by Peg Ekerdt, a Pastoral Associate at Visitation Church in Kansas City, MO especially poignant for me and I thought perhaps for you:

We Rise Again from Ashes

My friend writes from his prison cell. He sends letters to his parents, who scan them and email them to a large group of family and friends. The most recent letter described in great detail the nightly sonic chaos that characterizes prison bedtime. But the description did not end with chaos: so Friday night, about 1:30am, I am lying in bed and reading. Other guys are reading and some are yelling obscenities back and forth. All of a sudden, over all the noise, you can make out someone singing. Just barely, but he is really good. While he sings, people stop talking and start listening. Finally I can understand that he is singing a song called Broken Hallelujah. He finishes the song, everyone is quiet. Someone yells, “sing it again.” So he does, and when he finishes, they all cheer. He sings two more religious songs and people cheer. Then after the third time, there is no more noise. It is quiet for the night. Music really can tame the wild beast.

I went to the Internet to find the lyrics of this song, written by a group called The Afters: “Even though I don’t know what your plan is, I know you make beauty from these ashes. I’ve seen joy and I’ve seen pain. On my knees, I call your name. Here’s my broken hallelujah.” From the depths of prison cells comes the message that God is present in all times and places, moving human hearts, embracing human pain and promising the possibility of new life from ashes. It is a pattern that we recognize – dying and rising to find the grace of new life.

So sociologist husband long ago coined the term “busy ethic” to describe how folks legitimate their retirement. On a day-to-day basis, the busy ethic, he says, “esteems leisure that is earnest, active and occupied.” Whenever I hear a retired person claim, “I’m so busy I don’t know what I did before I retired.” I am reminded that the busy norm prevails. Busyness establishes our worth: If we are busy, we are contributing members of society. Implicitly we seem to feel that inactivity is not good and contemplation is suspect.

I would never suggest that prison is an optimal way to cultivate an appreciation for the gifts of silence and contemplation. It is a punishing existence of isolation and deprivation. But it does occur to me that the amount of time spent in solitude there can lead people to insights and wisdom that busyness precludes.

It is something to consider as we enter the season of Lent. We may well find that the Lenten practices of our Catholic tradition are exactly what the Spirit calls us to do this year: to fast from food, from shopping, or distractions of any kind; to give time, talent and treasure to those in need; or to pray more faithfully each day.

But we might find as well that our spiritual lives would benefit from an examination of the busyness and clutter of our lives. We might give up nothing but instead carve out time to intentionally slow down by saying no to some activities, and determining what commitments we might forego for six weeks. We could truly honor the Sabbath for the six Sundays of Lent with this rule of thumb: If we couldn’t do something on a snow day, or when weather prevents us from our normal activities, we won’t do it on this Lenten Sunday. It might seem impossible, and if there are children in our midst, it might seem insane, but there is value in doing little in order to allow God in. Could we risk it for even one Sunday?

Our spiritual lives would benefit if we considered the 40 days a pilgrimage of its own that slows down enough each midday to let us consider the presence of God in daily conversations, insights and coincidences. The Jesuits call it the Examen, and they traditionally practice it at noon and at day’s end. There are countless instructions on how to do it. At its simplest, it invites us to be mindful that God is present in all things and encourages us to ask for the grace to recognize the Presence each day.

Finally, could slowing down lead us to face the brokenness that separates us from God, or the alienation we experience in human relationships? In this season of penitence and renewal, might we take time to figure out why we feel the pain, admit the sources of our fears and anger, pray for the grace to forgive, or speak the words that acknowledge failure and ask forgiveness?

Might we slow down and seek the presence of God in silence and prayer? Might we find life in what looks like loss? This Lent, could we sing our own broken hallelujah?

God Bless You.
MSGR. FINN