

*St. Benedict's Roman Catholic Church
2969 Otis Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465
718-828-3403*

Bulletin: December 14, 2025

*The Home Parish of Terence Cardinal Cooke - (March 1, 1921 - October 6, 1983)
Cardinal Archbishop of New York — Motto: Fiat Voluntas Tua, meaning,
"Thy Will Be Done"*



**Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 14, 2025**

**Reconciliation Monday
December 15th
2:00pm until 4:00pm AND
6:00pm until 8:00pm
(see page 2)**

A GUIDE TO CONFESSION

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION:

Penitent: Bless me Father for I have sinned. It has been (*tell how long it has been*) since my last confession. These are my sins.

Now confess all the sins you have committed since your last confession. When you have finished confessing your sins, say: "That is all, Father." Now you listen to the words, advice and penance that the priest will give you, and when the priest tells you to, we say the **Act of Contrition**.

Act of Contrition:

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who are all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

Absolution:

The priest extends his hand over the penitent's head and says the words of absolution (forgiveness). When the priest makes the sign of the cross over you, bless yourself and say, **AMEN**.

Dismissal:

Priest: The Lord has freed you from your sins, go in peace.

Penitent: Amen. Thank you, Father.



Whoever confesses his sins...is already working with God. God indicts your sins; if you also indict them, you are joined with God. Man and sinner are, so to speak, two realities: when you hear "man" - this is what God has made; when you hear "sinner" - this is what man himself has made. Destroy what you have made, so that God may save what he has made...When you begin to abhor what you have made, it is then that your good works are beginning, since you are accusing yourself of your evil works.

The beginning of good works is the confession of evil works.

You do the truth and come to the light.

~~St. Augustine

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, December 14th; Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 St. Benedict's Parish
8:00 Maria and Pasquale Delli Carpini
9:30 Lena Charles and Aniello Fabozzi
11:00 Salvatore Giancarli
5:00 Mary Brogan

MONDAY, December 15th; Reconciliation Monday

8:30 Angela and Domenico Pirraglia

TUESDAY, December 16th

6:45 Souls in Purgatory
8:30 Mary Caiola

WEDNESDAY, December 17th

6:45 Mary Elizabeth O'Neill
8:30 Kathy Brogan

THURSDAY, December 18th

6:45 Augusta Mero
8:30 Patrick J. O'Halloran

FRIDAY, December 19th

8:30 Fr. Richard Smith
Living

SATURDAY, December 20th

8:30 Mary Halton
4:00 Charles Halton

SUNDAY, December 21st; Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00 Brett Elizabeth Blake
8:00 Anthony Cristo
9:30 Anastasia Vazquez Nieves
11:00 John Bruno, Sr.
Happy Heavenly Birthday
5:00 St. Benedict's Parish

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

O God, Who instructed the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, Grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen!

THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD, WINE, AND ALTAR CANDLES HAVE BEEN DONATED BY:

The Brogan Family
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Mary and Kathy Brogan

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

Loving Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Frank DiGiannantonio
6th Heavenly Anniversary



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is **OPEN** Monday through Saturday from 9:00am until 1:00pm. The **NEXT Overnight Eucharistic Adoration will be Friday, January 2, 2026 from 8:00pm until 8:00am.**

We always need volunteers! Thank you!

Reconciliation Monday

Reconciliation Monday will be December 15th this year in all the parishes of the Archdiocese of NY. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available for all the faithful as follows: **2:00pm until 4:00pm AND 6:00pm until 8:00pm.** In our parish, the Blessed Sacrament will also be exposed during the time of confession to help make a Good:

Examination of Conscience

Tuesday, December 16th "Advent Healing Mass"

We are going to have an "Advent Healing Mass" here at St. Benedict's Church on Tuesday, December 16th at 6:00pm.

The Mass will be Celebrated and Preached by Fr. Christian Amah. It will be very nice to see Father.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and confession will be available during the Talk. We hope to see you at the "Healing Mass."

Please Join Us!

Pray for our Veterans - Living and Deceased

THIS WEEK'S ADORATION CHAPEL CANDLES HAVE BEEN DONATED BY:

The Janicki Family
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
The Deceased Members of the Civarelli and DiNardi Families

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased Members of Our Parish and their Grieving Families:

Petra Colon, Johanna L. Falletta

Five Steps for a Good Confession

1. Examine your conscience.
2. Be sincerely sorry for your sins.
3. Confess your sins. (*Do not confess the sins of others*)
4. Resolve to amend your life.
5. After your confession, do the penance the priest assigns.

Don't be hasty *Don't be superficial * Avoid anxiety

A More Thorough Examination Of Conscience for Adults

(The first step to a good confession is to examine your conscience. The list below is based on the Ten Commandments and the teachings of the Church. You may find this list helpful in your preparation for Sacramental Confession. If you have

questions about anything listed here, please feel comfortable to speak to the priest.)

Did I deny or doubt God's existence?

Did I refuse to believe God's revelation?

Did I believe or partake in fortune telling, tarot cards, good luck charms or reincarnation?

Did I deny that I was a Catholic?

Did I leave the Catholic faith?

Did I despair of or presume on God's mercy?

Did I neglect prayer for a long time?

Did I blaspheme God or take God's name in vain, curse, or break an oath or vow?

Did I miss Mass on Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation through my own fault?

Was I inattentive at Mass?

Did I come to Mass late or leave early?

Did I observe the Lord's Day by prayer and rest?

Did I disobey or disrespect my parents or legitimate superiors?

Did I neglect my duties to my husband, wife, children, or parents?

Did I fail to actively take an interest in the religious education and formation of my children?

Have they received Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation at the appropriate age?

Have I failed to educate myself on the true teachings of the Church?

Did I give a full day's work in return for my full day's pay?

Did I give a fair wage to my employee?

Did I give scandal by what I said or did, especially to the young?

Was I the cause of anyone leaving the faith?

Was I impatient, angry, envious, unkind, proud, jealous, revengeful, hateful towards other, lazy?

Did I give a bad example, abuse drugs, drink alcohol to excess, fight or quarrel?

Did I physically injure or kill anyone?

Did I attempt suicide?

Did I have an abortion?

Have I seen to it that my dying love received the Sacraments of the Church especially Anointing of the Sick?

Have I respected the rules of the Church to honor the dead?

Have I given Christian burial with Mass for the dead when it was my responsibility to do so?

Have I made provision for the proper burial of cremated remains?

Did I willfully entertain impure thoughts and desires?

Did I dress immodestly?

Did I use impure or suggestive words? Tell impure stories? Or listen to them?

Did I deliberately look at impure images by TV, internet or movies?

Did I perform impure acts by myself or with another, i.e. did I engage in masturbation, pre-marital sex or homosexual acts?

Did I receive Holy Communion when I was living with someone outside of the Sacrament of Marriage?

Did I marry or advise another to marry outside the church?

Did I abuse my marriage rights? Was I faithful to my wedding vows?

Have I kept company with someone else's spouse?

Did I practice artificial birth control or was I or my spouse sterilized?

Did I attempt in vitro fertilization?

Did I steal, cheat, help or encourage others to steal, or keep stolen goods? have I made restitution for stolen goods?

Did I fulfill my contracts: give or accept bribes; pay my bills and my taxes: rashly gamble or speculate; deprive my family of necessities of life?

Did I tell lies? Deliberately to deceive; or injure others by lies?

Did I commit perjury? Was I uncharitable in word or deed, gossip or reveal others' faults and sins? Fail to keep secrets I should have?

Did I eat meat on the Fridays of Lent or Ash Wednesday?

Did I fulfill my Easter duty? Fail to confess at least once a year?

Did I go to the Holy Communion in the state of mortal sin?

Did I fast for one hour from food and drink?

Did I make a bad confession?

Did I fail to contribute to the support of the Church?



Dear Parishioners

*This year our **Christmas Angels** are making an effort to ensure that our parish children will find a gift under their tree in spite of the difficulties faced by their families. We are seeking your help by asking you to consider a financial donation towards this cause.*

*If you would like to make a donation, there is a wooden box marked "**Christmas Angels**" in the center aisle of our church. Please be assured that every donation will help bring joy to a child.*

Thank you for your continued concern, support, and generosity!

God Bless you and your families!

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a **Second Collection THIS WEEK-END (12/14) for the "Retirement Fund for Religious."** This annual appeal benefits thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and His Church.

Thank you for supporting their faithful service!

RECTORY TELEPHONE NUMBER:

718-828-3403 Fax: 718-829-1304

E-mail: rectory@stbenedictchurchny.com

Website: <http://www.stbenedictchurchny.org>

RECTORY HOURS:

Monday - Friday:

9:00am until 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon until 1:00pm (**Lunch**)

1:00pm until 3:00pm

Saturday:

9:00am until 1:00pm

Sunday: Closed



May the Advent Season be a time of Prayer, Faith, Hope, and Love as we prepare in our hearts, minds, and souls to welcome Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ this Christmas.

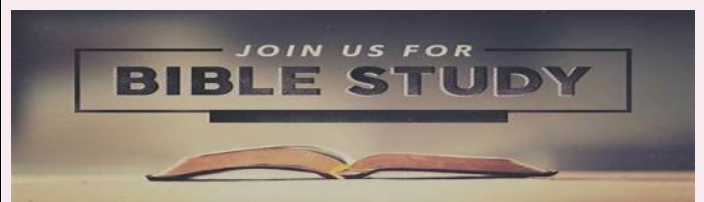
Please pray for those who do not know the interior beauty of the Advent Season and for those who do not have anyone to pray for them!

MASS INTENTIONS/ANNOUNCED MASSES

It is that time of year again! If you would like to reserve **Announced Masses**, please complete the **GOLD** form that is in the back of the Church. Return your completed form to the rectory, with your check, (in person, by mail, in the Sunday collection basket, or the mail slot in the rectory's front door). These Masses will be reserved from January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026. Masses will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Thank you!

IMPORTANT!

Effective, January 1, 2026, there will only be one Holy Mass during the weekdays. The 8:30am Holy Mass will continue. Unfortunately, the 6:45am Mass attendance has decreased significantly. There are only a few people attending this Mass. For this reason, and also for the overwhelming schedule of funerals, religious education, preparing the adults to receive the sacraments, and visiting classrooms at our school and the Villa Maria Academy. We thank you for your understanding and patience regarding this decision. We apologize to those who faithfully attended the 6:45am Holy Mass! Our prayers and God's Blessings!



There will NOT be Bible Study on Tuesday, December 16th. Fr. Christian Amah will Celebrate the Advent Healing Mass on Tuesday, December 16th at 6:00pm at St. Benedict's Church (see the front cover of this bulletin, bottom right).

*Please Pray for those who have no one to
Pray for them!*

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

**Please Remember to Pray for the Sick!
May they find healing and comfort in Jesus Christ!**

Sr. Claire Regan, Stacey Addario, Joseph Abbate, Nydia Alicea, Louis Amend, Donna Antonacci, Margarita Arroyo, Yselsa Arroyo, Gustavo Bardana, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Jack Bonacorso, Kathleen Bowers, Joseph Brenner, Wendelin Brenner, Walter Buddington, Peter Burnett, Amy Buscamonte, Caceres Family, Diane, Georjina Cales, Frankie Carpenter, Fay Carter, Jay and Patricia Cepero, Carolyn Chiappetta, Patricia Coughlin, Tom Curran, Maryann Cuttita, Lillian Cuttler, Frank Dailey, Vinny D'Amico, Louis D'Annunucci, Carla DeCicco, Anton Deski, Darielle Deviccaro, Angela Diaz, Lali Dilone, Anthony DiNardi, Charlisa DiNardi, John DiNardi, Margaret Dionisio, Dorothy DiPierro, Pat Eaccirano, Sandra Edwards, Sean Fagan, Barbara Farrell, Francisco Fernandez, Isabelle Mercedes Fernandez, John Fernandez, Nereida Ferrer, Filomena Fidanza, David Fisher, Anthony Fortunato, Roseann Frattini, Debra Ann Garcia, Richard Garcia, Sr., Richard Garcia, Jr., Rose Gettenberg, Ralph Giorgio, Hope Gordon, Marion Gruber, Frank Hinz, Jr., Sharon Holzapfel, Eileen Jeninngs, Edward Kennedy, Paul Korngold, Stephanie (Tyko) Kreps, Daniel Kundig, Josephine Lambell, Irene Lang, Manuel Larino, Elise Lawle, Geraldine Lee, Mary Alexandra Lee, Virginia Lee, Frankie Lettera, Jessica Lettera, Francine Lettley, Frank Lomangino, LauMei Sheung Louie, Tiffany MacKnight, Ernie Magnotta, Julia Magnotta, Elizabeth Mandile, Ann Marro, Olga Martinez, Robert McCarthy, Margo McGinty, Denise McPadden, Sue McVey, Carolyn Morello, Christie Madonna Muccino, Paula Mullane, Rosa Munoz, Lisa Murphy, James Nother, Oyola Family, Maylee Roman Overman, Angelo Palumbo, Sr., Juana Perez, Pasquale Preziosa, Paolo Principe, Linda Ranallo, Kim Rappold, Joshua Reaser, Philip Rebia, Maritza Resto, Frank Riegel, Phillip Rivera, Joanne and Walter Robinson, Mario and Nelson Roman, Antonette Roublick, Sylvia Russo, Angela Dello Russo, John Russo, Carl Saglimbeni, Ann and Dave Samhammer, Joseph P Santangelo, Ashley Saucedo, Ada Scanga, Margaret Geddis Schmidt, Nicolai Soriano, Maria Soto, Edward Spar, Lois Stabile, Virginia Strasser, Theresa Stanton, Ramon Surita, Pasquale Tartaglione, Robert Terrera, Stefanie Ural, Teresa Bosquez Valdez, Thomas Vecchio, Fran Walsh, Loretta White, Tracy Young

+ Babies/Children +

Amber, Baby Amari, Baby Rose, Brayden, Brinley, Mia Carolla, Daniella Grace Comblo, Charli Mary Carozza, Sebastian DeLuca, Caleb DeJesus, Marco Garcia, Joseph Gentile, Ella Grazia Delli Carpin, Eli, Blake Salvatore Haddock, Noelle Jablonka, Katherin, Savannah Longo, Sophia Lopez, Emi Lun, Aubrey Madden, Giulia Sofia McCullough, Mila, Natalie, Lucas Ortiz, Sihanna, Anastassia Savov, Tiffany Toro, Summer Rose Vachna

Religious Education Announcements

DECEMBER CLASSES:

Traditional Religious Education (CCD)

Sundays December 7, 14 (Confession)
21

December 28 (NO CLASS)
Christmas Break

Wednesdays December 3, 10, 17 (Confession)

December 24 (NO CLASS) Christmas Break

December 31 (NO CLASS) Christmas Break

REMINDER: Attend Mass

Thursday, December 25th Christmas Day

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Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

Sundays December 7, 14, 21,

December 28 (NO CLASS) Christmas Break

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CATECHESIS of the GOOD SHEPHERD (Level 1)

Religious Education designed for **children ages 4-6 years or Pre-K and Kindergarten**. Sessions are **October through May on Sundays from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at the Convent**.



**TO REGISTER AND FOR
MORE INFORMATION,**

please contact Maria
Pirraglia at:

reled@stbenedictsschool.com

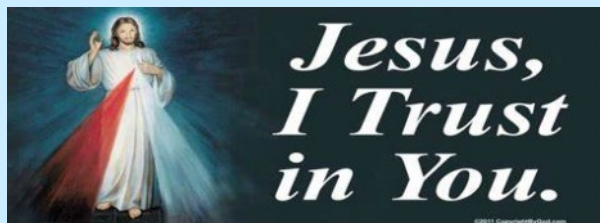
SAVE THE DATE!

WE MARCH FOR LIFE!

Friday, January 23, 2026

We are happy to announce that due to a grant the Annual Bus Trip for March for Life on Friday, January 23, 2026 is free of charge. While the grant will cover 3k toward the bus, the cost of the bus is \$3,650.00. We will gratefully accept voluntary donations to help cover the remaining balance not covered by the grant. If interested, please register for the trip (or bring donations to help offset remaining costs) to the rectory office. **Itinerary: 5:30am Mass here at St. Benedict's Church; Bus departs at 6:00am SHARP.**





***Quotes from the Fathers of the Church,
the Saints, and the Great Teachers!***

“He who knows how to forgive prepares for himself many graces from God. As often as I look upon the cross, so often will I forgive with all my heart”

~~~St. Faustina Kowalska

Since 1995 our parish has had a tradition of each family donating a Christmas ornament for our Family Christmas Trees. We invite new parishioners to add an ornament to our parish trees. Please place it in a small bag with your name and bring it to the rectory. We will hang the ornaments on our Christmas trees in Church for the Christmas Season. Thank you!



**FLEA MARKET
Holy Family, Blessed Sacrament and
St. John Vianney**

2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx 10472

Annual Christmas Flea Market

Sunday, December 14th, 8am until 3pm

718-863-9156 or Text 914-984-3901

**St. Benedict's Church
Bronx, NY
Online Giving with We Share**

To strengthen your involvement with
our community.

Consider signing up for safe, secure,
& confidential online giving.

Used by over 2,000 Catholic
parishes to accept donations
online, quickly & easily



Visit our Website: www.stbenedictchurchny.org

**Prayer List For Our United States
Servicemen and Women**

U.S. Air Force:

1st Class Airman Eric Bosco, General Thomas D. Crimmins, Ismael Guiles, Major Roger Illari, 1st Airman Darren Morello, Stephanie Mendez, Air Force Airman, Msgt. Daniel Rivera, Lieutenant Colonel Alicia Stumpf, Lieutenant Colonel Sean Stumpf.

U.S. Army/U.S. National Guard:

SPC, Army National Guard, Middle East, Marcus Cassin, Pvt. Matthew Dooley, Sgt. Scott Douglas, Jason Engeldrum, Sgt. Pedro Flores, Pvt. Anthony Grieco, Jr., 2nd Lt. Christopher Hackett, Johnny Jiminez, 82nd Airborne, Corporal Jenna Kuhl, Sergeant First Class Javier Mendoza, PV2 James McCarthy, Private Patrick W. Mooney, Major Peter Anthony Orlando, Pvt. Anthony Ottaviano, Rev. (Captain) Peter Pompisello, Major Lori Robinson, Thomas Robinson, Jr., Pvt. Sidney Antonio Kearns Rodriguez, Pvt. Justin Roman, Ryan Shank, Timothy S. Valentine, S.J., Capt. Javi San Juan, 1st Lt. Renee San Juan, Colonel Raymond Van Pelt, Franky Perez, Sgt. Andrew Santander, Staff Sgt. Matthew Wickes, SPC Albert Zapata, Staff Sgt. William Ziegler.

U.S. Coast Guard:

Jayke Hooks, Seaman Apprentice, Thomas J. Hooks, Brandon A. Moreno, Seaman Apprentice, PO3 Eberlee Santander.

U.S. Marine Corps:

Corporal Michael John Canzone, III, 1st Lieutenant Ryan E. Dengler, Master Sgt. Mark S. Lynch, Corporal Kevin S. Major, LCpl Erik Mango, Lieutenant Colonel Frank Parisi, Reserves, In Basic Training Daniel Smith Peters; Sgt. Benjamin Rodriguez, Staff Sgt. Randy Vaccaro, Reserves; Pvt. 1st Class, Jason R. Wager, Reserves.

U.S. Navy:

Lieutenant Commander Diplomat John Brunetti, Lieutenant JG Bethany Lee Champlin; Petty Officer Gillen, LCDR Jennifer Groger Widman, ABH3 (AW) Christopher Hough, Jordan McKay, Active Reservist, Naval Airman E-3, Sea Bee Sammy Pizzano, Petty Officer William F. Ramos, Ralph Romero Sanchez, Richard Torrens, Lieutenant Commander Victor Schaefer, E-4 Edwin Vargas, Pvt. Nicholas Zayas.

Spiritual Readings for the Week of December 14th:

14 SUN THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 (7)

15 Mon Advent Weekday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

16 Tue Advent Weekday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

17 Wed Advent Weekday

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

18 Thu Advent Weekday

Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25 25a/Lk 1:5-25

19 Fri Advent Weekday Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

20 Sat Advent Weekday

Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

21 SUN FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT