

*St. Benedict's Roman Catholic Church
2969 Otis Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465, Bulletin: January 11, 2026*



*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"*



**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 .

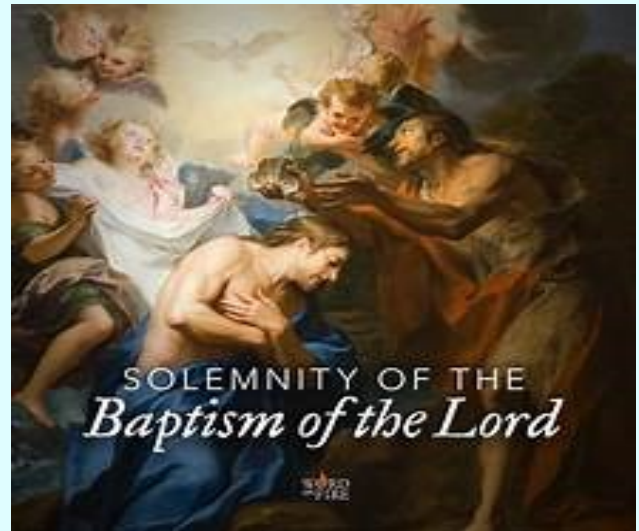
Itinerary: 5:30am Mass here at Saint Benedict's Church; Bus departs 6:00am SHARP. We will return approximately 9:00pm.

Please join us in the fight to protect and respect the dignity of human life, from conception to natural death. We, as Marchers, will bring our prayers and the pro-life message to our nation's capital.

For more information, please contact the rectory office at 718-828-3403, ext.101. Thank you



Baptism of the Lord



Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift... We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called gift because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own:

***Grace** since it is given even to the guilty;
Baptism because sin is buried in the water;*

***Anointing** for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed;*

***Enlightenment** because it radiates light;*

***Clothing** since it veils our shame;*

***Bath** because it washes;*

***Seal** as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship*

~~~St. Gregory of Nazianzen

Jesus, I trust in You.

Mary Faustina Kowalska

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, January 11th; The Baptism of the Lord

7:00 Anthony Avitabile
8:00 St. Benedict's Parish
9:30 Michelangelo Cipollone
11:00 Ralph Dello Iorio
5:00 Randy Varona

MONDAY, January 12th

8:30 Joyce Patrella

TUESDAY, January 13th; Saint Hilary

8:30 Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY, January 14th

8:30 Giuseppe Trudo

THURSDAY, January 15th

8:30 Salvatore Catalano

FRIDAY, January 16th

8:30 Michele and Mary DeBartolo

SATURDAY, January 17th; Saint Anthony, Abbot

8:30 Eulogio Millan
4:00 Sze Ming Chin

SUNDAY, January 18th; Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 St. Benedict's Parish
8:00 Antonio e Silverio DiMeglio
9:30 Daniel Shea
11:00 Sister Katherine
"Living"
5:00 Doris Cumbee

Every family moving into the Parish is invited to register at the rectory during business hours (see page 6 of this bulletin). Please introduce yourself to one of the priests.

If you change your address or telephone number, it is very important that you notify us at the rectory. Thank you.

If anyone is interested in memorializing the following, there are many dates available during 2026 for:

- ◆ Altar Bread, Wine and Candles;
- ◆ Sanctuary Lamp;
- ◆ Adoration Chapel Candles

Please stop by the rectory during regular business hours (see page 6 of this bulletin). (718-828-3403, ext. 101). Thank you!



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

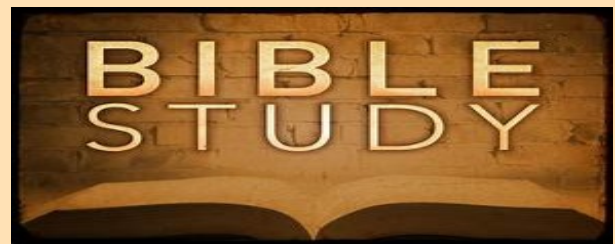
The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is **OPEN** Monday through Saturday from 9:00am until 1:00pm. The **NEXT Overnight Eucharistic Adoration will be Friday, February 6, 2026 from 8:00pm until 8:00am.**

We always need volunteers! Thank you!



Please remember to pray for our Police Officers, Firefighters, First Responders, Military, and for all those who have no one to pray for them.

Lord, hear our prayer!



The Bible Study Group is held every Tuesday in the Convent downstairs at 7:00pm.

We will continue to discuss the Book of Revelation!

We hope to see you there!

HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR

If you truly want to help the soul of your neighbor, you should approach God first with all your heart. Ask God simply to fill you with charity . . . with it you can accomplish what you desire.

~~St. Vincent Ferrer

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

Doreen Johns, Jennie Perrini, Joan Pizzi-Petrucelli

Message from: Father Pergjini:

Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift...We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called gift because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; Grace since it is given even to the guilty; Baptism because sin is buried in the water; Anointing for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; Enlightenment because it radiates light; Clothing since it veils our shame; Bath because it washes; and Seal as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship. ~St. Gregory of Nazianzen

This powerful statement of baptism written by the famous bishop and doctor of the Church; Saint Gregory of Nazianzen, can help us today as we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. Often, I ask the question at the baptism celebration, and today as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord: Do you know the date of your baptism? Only a few hands are raised when I ask this question. We all know the date and the year of our birthday, but the date and year of our baptism only a few people are aware of that unique and important day of our faith. Pope Benedict XVI, may he rest in peace, was born in the early morning of Holy Saturday, April 16, 1927. His parents and godparents in the evening of that same day of his birth, in a heavy snowstorm, the baby Joseph Ratzinger was baptized. In my bedroom I keep my baptism certificate underneath a small wooden statue of Saint Anthony. I was baptized on February 21st, eleven days after my birth. Most of us were baptized as infants and do not have any memory of that beautiful and unique day of our life. Our parents and godparents spoke to us about our baptism. On the day of our own baptism the priest who baptized us asked three questions to our parents and godparents. The first question was: "what do you ask of your child today." The answer was "baptism." The second question was: "what does baptism give you?" the parents and godparents answered "faith." And finally, the last question was: "What does faith give you?" And the last answer was "Eternal life" One can ask a legitimate question as we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. Why was Christ baptized? Jesus Christ, the son of God, the second person of the Holy Trinity did not have any need to be baptized by Saint John the Baptist. Why then was Christ baptized since He did not need to be baptized? Here is the reason of His baptism, hoping we can make sense of His baptism and our baptism. Jesus Christ wanted to open the door for all of us by His great humility and saying to us by His example that what Christ did, you and I must do. Having in mind the powerful moment of His baptism by Saint John the Baptist, when the Holy Spirit descended upon him like a dove and a voice from Heaven was heard: "You are my beloved Son with you I am well pleased." It is a powerful and divine experience telling all of us that His baptism and our baptism, confronts every one of us to answer some essential questions by bringing to our mind His Life. Did Christ pray? Did Christ teach and preach the Truth that saves our broken souls? Did Christ help the poor? Did Christ have compassion, Mercy, and Love? Did Christ speak to us warning us about sin and to repent and believe in the Gospel? Did Christ fully live His humility and taught others to be humble? Did Christ promise at the last supper His Presence, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, hidden in the Sacred Host to be present to the end of Time? Did Christ give the power to His apostles to forgive and absolve sinners through the Sacrament of Confession? Did Christ insist that we must experience the conversion of our hearts? Did Christ confront sin, hypocrisy, pride and selfishness? Did Christ promise to us a comfortable life, paradise on earth or eternal Life with Him? Did Christ love even His enemies? Did Christ carry His Cross in obedience to fulfill the mission from His Almighty Father? Did Christ accept the suffering to the end? Did Christ forgive those who Crucified Him? Did the salvation come from those who crucified Him or from Christ who was crucified? Did Christ appear after His crucifixion to everyone or only to those who followed Him to the cross, accepting the suffering and death? Did Christ before ascending to Heaven give the command, not an option, to His apostles to go and baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit? I am sure there are many other questions that someone can ask. We hope and pray that we reflect on these questions in peace, silence of our hearts and in a deep prayer we humbly answer them before Christ. It will take some time of prayer and a good examination of our conscience honestly and humbly to answer these questions. We are all sinners, still begging for God's Mercy and Love. This is the only way, and there is no other way, we can understand the reason of Christ's baptism and ours. We are all asked by Christ to live our baptism vows. Parents and godparents who freely are willing to baptize their children are responsible before God to teach first by examples the redeeming value of our baptism, to renew their baptism vows, and honestly and humbly to live and practice our faith and raise their children in the way that Christ through the Catholic Church, teaches us. The good intention of the parents and godparents to baptize their children is a very good one. However, the practicing of the faith and living according to the Divine Truth and its commandments is not lived. We all hope and pray celebrating the Baptism of Our Lord, reading the powerful quote of Saint Gregory Nazianzen, and peacefully and prayerfully answering the questions regarding the Baptism of Christ and our own baptism, and with God's grace live a life as Christ asks from all of us. I would encourage the faithful to find out the date of our own baptism. In a spirit of prayer, at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we all must be thankful and grateful before Almighty Father for being baptized in Christ uniting ourselves with Him and with one another. We are thankful to our parents, godparents and the priest or deacon who baptized us. In that spirit of gratitude, we prayerfully read and re-read this beautiful quote of our baptism and experience the power of Christ within us to follow in His footsteps.

Baptism is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift...We call it gift, grace, anointing, enlightenment, garment of immortality, bath of rebirth, seal, and most precious gift. It is called gift because it is conferred on those who bring nothing of their own; Grace since it is given even to the guilty; Baptism because sin is buried in the water; Anointing for it is priestly and royal as are those who are anointed; Enlightenment because it radiates light; Clothing since it veils our shame; Bath because it washes; and Seal as it is our guard and the sign of God's Lordship ~St. Gregory of Nazianzen.

Amen!



**Prayer for
The United States of America!**

Father, I come before you, lifting up the United States of America. I pray for unity among its people, that love may bridge the divides, and that grace may guide our interactions. Grant wisdom and discernment to our leaders, so that they may govern with integrity and seek the well-being of all.

May Your peace reign in our land, and may your purposes prevail. In Your mercy, heal our nation, restore hope, and let righteousness and justice flow like a mighty river.

Amen!

*Happy Moments, Praise God
Difficult Moments, Seek God
Quiet Moments, Worship God
Painful Moments, Trust God*

God Bless America!

Please pray for our priests and thank them for their service!



We Welcome into the Roman Catholic Church and our Parish community of St. Benedict:

**Nicholas Daniel Manozzi, Nico Silvio Nocerino
Raphael Fran Faiella**

Baptized January 26, 2025

**Vanessa Pervorfi, Myriam Aurea-Rose Vega
Eva Vushaj**

Baptized February 2, 2025

Alessia Baca, Endri Tata

Baptized February 8, 2025

Jaxon Gregory Graciani

Baptized February 9, 2025

Brody Vincent Costa

Baptized February 15, 2025

Ethan Anthony Milito

Baptized February 23, 2025

Jacob Bautista, Juliet Richelle Reyes,

Frank John Todino

Baptized March 2, 2025

Kristel Celaj

Baptized March 8, 2025

Andri Hila

Baptized March 16, 2025

Aurelia James Converso, Sara Gjini,

Emiliano Jesus Ortega, Emma Lou Ortega

Baptized April 6, 2025

Isabell Shabaj, Matteo

Levi Shabaj, Nicholo Shabaj

Baptized April 26, 2025

Aria Sage Danza

Baptized April 27, 2025

Nathan Balthazar Ejlli, Noah Gasper Ejlli

Baptized May 3, 2025

Cecilia Caio Gil, Gent Gjoka,

Baptized May 4, 2025

Luna Kita Lekutanaj

Baptized May 10, 2025

Sofia Mirdita, Elsa Qeta

Baptized May 17, 2025

Leonardo Ayala Colt, Valentina Marie Colt

Baptized May 18, 2025

Mora Mae Jakaj

Baptized May 23, 2025

STRENGTH AND GUIDANCE

A prayer for strength is often needed during difficult times. Please remember that God is always here for us, to give us strength, guidance and lift our hearts when all seems hopeless.

**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, 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, Charalisa 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, Donna Inzano, Eileen Jeninngs, Edward Kennedy, Paul Komgold, 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, Katharina Listner, Frank Lomangino, LauMei Sheung Louie, Tiffany MackKnight, Ernie Magnotta, Julia Magnotta, Elizabeth Mandile, Ann Marro, Olga Martinez, Robert McCarthy, Margo McGinty, Annette Matranga, Denise McPadden, Sue McVey, Carolyn Morello, Christie Madonna Muccino, Paula Mullane, Rosa Munoz, Lisa Murphy, Oyola Family, Maylee Roman Overman, Angelo Palumbo, Sr., Juana Perez, Pasquale Preziosa, Paolo Principe, Michael and Robert Prokop, 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, 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 Carpini, Eli, Blake Salvatore Haddock, Hayden, Noelle Jablonka, Katherin, Savannah Longo, Sophia Lopez, Emi Lun, Aubrey Madden, Maizy, Giulia Sofia McCullough, Mila, Natalie, Lucas Ortiz, Sihanna, Anastassia Savov, Tiffany Toro, Summer Rose Vachna

Religious Education Announcements

JANUARY CLASSES:

Traditional Religious Education (CCD)

Thursday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Holy Day of Obligation . Attend Mass

CLASSES RESUME:

Sundays: January 4, 11, 18, 25

Wednesdays January 7, 14, 21, 28

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Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

Sundays January 4, 11, 18, 25

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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



**San Silverio Committee of Morris Park
BINGO NIGHT Fundraiser**

Friday, January 23rd at 6:30pm

Morris Park Association, 1824 Bronxdale Ave

\$35.00 per person (6 games - 3 cards per game)

Cash Prizes and Raffles

Beverage included! Bring snacks and goodies to share with your table!

To reserve your spot, please call:

**Domenic at 718-344-4103 or
Angela at 347-204-8183**

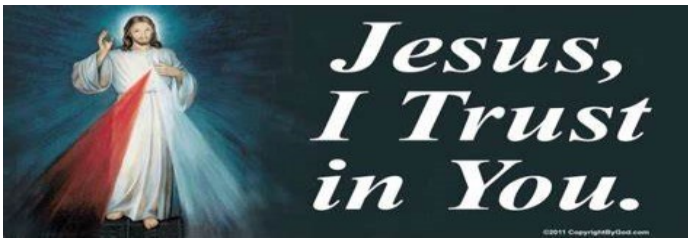
I LOVE GOD
I'm proud to say that

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

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

We firmly believe and confess without reservation that there is only one true God, eternal, infinite (immensus) and unchangeable, incomprehensible, almighty, and ineffable, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit; three persons indeed, but one essence, substance or nature entirely simple.⁸

⁸ *~Lateran Council IV: DS800*



RECTORY HOURS:

Monday—Friday

9:00am until 12:00pm

12:00pm until 1:00pm (Closed for Lunch)

1:00pm until 3:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am until 1:00pm

Sunday: Closed

Rectory Telephone Number: 1-718-828-3403

Extensions:

Fr. Nikolin Pergjini	Pastor	109
Fr. David Birkdale	Parochial Vicar	104
Deacon Nestor Halpern		107
Miladi Barnard	Reception Desk	101
Chrissy Sette	Reception Desk	101
Carole Janicki	Bulletin	102
Carl Triano	Finance	117
Maria Pirraglia	Religious Education	718-829-1200 718-828-3403 Ext. 101

**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

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 January 11, 2026:

11 SUN THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Feast Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17 (21)

12 Mon Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time) 1 Sm 1:1-8/ Mk 1:14-20 (305)

13 Tue Weekday [Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church] 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28 (306)

14 Wed Weekday 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39 (307)

15 Thu Weekday 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45 (308)

16 Fri Weekday 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12 (309)

17 Sat Memorial Saint Anthony, Abbot 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17 (310)

18 SUN SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME