



*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"*

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY  
Monday, March 30, 2026**

**Confessions from 2:00pm until 4:00pm  
AND 6:00pm until 9:00pm**

This has become known as Reconciliation Monday around the Archdiocese of New York as well as the Archdioceses of Brooklyn and Queens.

We hope you will go to Confession and also encourage others to go to Confession to embrace your Easter Duty.



**"Mary's Way of the Cross"** follows the mother of Jesus as she walks the road to Calvary, where Jesus was crucified, emphasizing here sense of surrender: **"I knew it had to be, so I walked on silently."** Enter an intimate journey of faith through a deep reflection that will unite one's pain and suffering with Jesus on the cross through the sorrowful heart of His Mother.

Please join us on **Monday, March 30th** as we walk through the Stations of the Cross (**Living Stations**) here at St. Benedict's Church at 3:00pm.

We hope to see you there!

**Mass of the Chrism, Tuesday, March 31st at 4:00pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral, NYC**

Archbishop Hicks will bless the Holy Oils used in the celebration of the sacraments throughout the archdiocese and the priests will renew their commitment to clerical service.



**Lenten Prayer**

Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and giving His life on the Cross. Help us to bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen!

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**

Every **Friday** in the Church during Lent, as follows:

12:00 Noon      Italian Stations  
7:00pm          English Stations  
**(the Church will open at 6:30pm)**

**CONFESSION:**

**(the Church will open at 6:30pm)**  
**Fridays** during Lent there will be Confession in the Church from 6:30pm until 7:30pm

### **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

#### **SUNDAY, February 22nd; *First Sunday of Lent***

7:00 St. Benedict's Parish  
8:00 Michelangelo Cipollone  
9:30 Tomas Perez Alamo  
11:00 Luigi Doci  
5:00 Frances Hruska

#### **MONDAY, February 23rd; *Saint Polycarp***

8:30 Brendan Golden

#### **TUESDAY, February 24th**

8:30 Angela and Domenico Pirraglia

#### **WEDNESDAY, February 25th**

8:30 Elizabeth Perez Bhoj

#### **THURSDAY, February 26th**

8:30 Francesco Dilluvio

#### **FRIDAY, February 27th; Abstinence; *Saint Gregory of Narek***

8:30 Souls in Purgatory

#### **SATURDAY, February 28th**

8:30 Daniel Civarelli  
*Happy Heavenly Anniversary*

4:00 Kamocsai and Duane Families

#### **SUNDAY, March 1st; *Second Sunday of Lent***

7:00 Manuel DeJesus  
8:00 Defunti Famiglia DiMeglio e Romano  
9:30 Giuseppe Trudo  
11:00 St. Benedict's Parish  
5:00 Sylvia DeJesus



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

*The Kiely and Frawley Families*

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

*Dorothy and Brian Frawley*

**THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:**

*Susan McSherry*

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

*Robert Michael Mazzeo*



### **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, March 6, 2026 from 8:00pm until 8:00am.**

**We always need volunteers! Thank you!**



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!

### **First Sunday of Lent**

#### **Verse Before the Gospel**

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

*(St. Matthew 4:4b)*

### **OLD PALMS**

**There is a bin in the vestibule of the Church to deposit the palms we received in the past year.** They will be burned and become the ashes of this year as we continue the annual cycle — really a spiral — of growing closer to God. Thank You!

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

*Susan McSherry*

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

*Joseph McSherry*

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

**Edmund Donovan, Joseph P. Santangelo**

*Message from Fr. Pergjini,*

The famous British convert, Saint John Henry Newman, said: **“that what gives a river spirit and energy is precisely the firmness of its banks. If one were to knock down those banks, the river would promptly spread out into a lazy lake, perhaps serene, but lacking in direction.”**

What a powerful statement, to read, think, meditate on the meaning of these wise and prudent words of the genius mind of Saint John Cardinal Newman who last year was declared Doctor of the Church! Our moral and spiritual lives are like a river or a lazy lake which is lacking the right direction. This Sunday, the first Sunday of Lent, Saint Matthew reminds us of Christ's temptations by the Devil. Those temptations are also our temptations that we all experience in life. Many people observe the forty-day season spiritually, and others choose different forms of body discipline; physical, mental, and spiritual. Everyone has their own way of entering these sacred days and experience the power of Lent. Reading the statement St. Cardinal Newman and the passage of Christ temptations, we try to take a moment in silence of our hearts. We place ourselves in the desert of our souls thinking of our past, and present temptations. We picture ourselves next to Our Savior who went through the temptations and defeated the Evil one. The temptations can very well be identified with our own daily temptations. As we think of our past temptations, we very well can see the image of the river which we sometimes have knocked down the banks of the river. As we humbly realize laziness and the lack of direction, lack of hope, and sometimes even despair because there were no directions, there's no connection between us and our Savior. In those moments of reflection and allowing Christ's presence to speak to us we humbly see ourselves who have destroyed the banks of the river, unwilling to follow the right direction and preferring our own making, our own standards, and our own pleasure. We sometimes thought to have peace without holiness, without any direction. It is a false peace which brings more misery to our souls. The spiritual foundation is shaking without Christ. We are left with our broken idols in our hands. Lent can help us to see within ourselves those times when we have tried to find another exist by compromising the truth and God's Commandments. This sacred season of Lent makes it possible to recognize the redeeming value of the Sacraments and experience the misery of the lazy lake and realize the hope of God's grace offered to us. Lent is the time to confront our past in silence, and desire to go back on our knees and beg Christ's Mercy. Only then we can see that we have changed the directions of the river. We are aware that it is not anymore the energetic river that leads us toward the Divine Truth. We, ourselves have removed the commandments, precepts, and Catholic teachings from our lives. We have become the victims of the temper that can promise a false and painful future. The river is Christ that we firmly stand and move with Him knowing that we never we will get lost. The Saintly Cardinal Henry Newman who gives this powerful image of the River moving toward the ocean of eternity of Love with Christ invite all of us to meditate on these wise words. It is a blessing to recognize our misery and begging for mercy. Christ himself can teach us that we do not live on bread alone, that we must worship only our God alone and only Him should serve, and we should never put the Lord our God to the test. These three temptations can very well reflect our unfaithfulness when we have failed into our sinfulness and left the river that leads us toward the immense ocean of Love that redeems our broken souls. To keep the banks of the river in its proper place we have the tools, we have the resources to keep that river going toward the end without end. We all are reminded that one of the five precepts of our catholic Church is to go to confession at least once a year. Our parish has offered the opportunity for confession every weekend before each Holy Sacrifice of the mass, and on Fridays during the Stations of the Cross. Also, for years, the Monday of the Holy week, every Catholic Church in our Archdiocese of New York, diocese Brooklyn and Queens will open their doors to hear confessions. The faithful has a moment to make an examination of conscience before the Blessed Sacrament. Christ freely invites us, without forcing us, but simply looking at us to come and rest in Him, to be honest and humbly asks for mercy.

Lent is a time of grace, peace, and love. What an amazing experience to be embraced by the grace of the sacrament of confession and being in a state of grace receive Holy Communion. May the words of Saint Henri Newman help us to be firm and determined standing in the power of Christ our foundation and our salvation:

**“that what gives a river spirit and energy is precisely the firmness of its banks. If one were to knock down those banks, the river would promptly spread out into a lazy lake, serene, perhaps, but lacking in direction.”**



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



**MARCH 8TH**

**St. Joseph's Seminary**

St. Joseph's Seminary Schola Cantorum presents an Easter Schola Concert **on Sun., April 19th at 4:00pm in the historic St. Joseph's Seminary Chapel.**

Please join us at St. Joseph's Seminary as we celebrate the Easter Season with song and a festive garden party in our beautiful cloister.

St. Joseph's Schola Cantorum will perform selected works in our historic chapel followed by a reception in the spring air. **An event not to be missed!**

**Date and Time: Sunday, April 19th at 4:00 pm**  
**Location: St. Joseph's Seminary Chapel, Yonkers**  
**Tickets:** VIP seating \$100, adults \$40, children 12 and under \$20.  
For more information & to purchase tickets go to: [SJSCONCERT-GardenParty.eventbrite.com](http://SJSCONCERT-GardenParty.eventbrite.com) or call (914) 367-8206

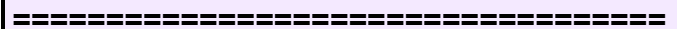


**LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

As a way of reminding everyone about the guidelines for the Lenten Fast and Abstinence, I offer the following explanation: During the Season of Lent, the Church urges all the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily life through performing acts of fast and abstinence.

**“FASTING”** Fasting requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige until age 59. Those not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

**“ABSTINENCE”** Abstinence prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent that they are able.



**ASH WEDNESDAY is a day of Fast and Abstinence!**

**GOOD FRIDAY is a day of Fast and Abstinence!**

**FRIDAYS in Lent are days of Abstinence!**



**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'Annuncci, Debbie, Carla DeCicco, Anton Deski, Darielle Deviccaro, Angela Diaz, Lali Dilone, Anthony DiNardi, John DiNardi, Margaret Dionisio, Dorothy DiPierro, Pat Eaccirano, Sandra Edwards, Sean Fagan, Barbara Farrell, Melissa Fonseca, 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 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, Katharina Listner, Frank Lomangino, LauMei Sheung Louie, Tiffany MacKnight, Ernie Magnotta, Julia Magnotta, Elizabeth Mandile, Margaret Mangiaracina, 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**

**FEBRUARY CLASSES:**

Traditional Religious Education (CCD)

**Sundays:** February 1, 8, 15, 22

**Wednesdays** February 4, 11, (18 NO CLASS). **INSTEAD Attend Mandatory Ash Wednesday Service. Meet at Church. Attendance will be taken. Class on February 25**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

**Sundays** February 1, 8, 15, 22

**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](mailto:reled@stbenedictsschool.com)



**Please use the envelope system!  
Remember, all donations are  
tax deductible!**



*Please pray daily for our  
Priests and Deacons and  
thank them for their  
service!  
Thank you!*



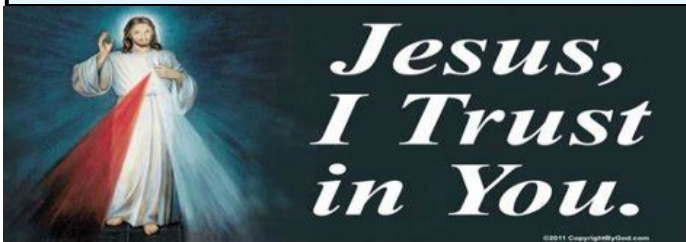
**Prayer to the  
Holy Spirit**

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!

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

**“Grant me. O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen”**

~~~*Thomas Aquinas*



**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<br>718-828-3403<br>Ext. 101 |

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**U.S. Air Force:**

1<sup>st</sup> 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, 82<sup>nd</sup> 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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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, YN3, Ryan T. Moreno, CS3; 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, Ensign Brandon McGaughan, 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 Feb. 22, 2026:**

**22 SUN FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

**23 Mon** Lenten Weekday [Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr] Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46 (224) 19

**24 Tue** Lenten Weekday Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15 )

**25 Wed** Lenten Weekday Jon 3:1-10/Lk 1:29-32

**26 Thu** Lenten Weekday Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/ Mt 7:7-12 (227)

**27 Fri** Lenten Weekday [Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church] Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26

**28 Sat** Lenten Weekday Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

**MARCH 2026**

**1 SUN SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9 (25)