

*St. Benedict's Roman Catholic Church - 718-828-3403
2969 Otis Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465 - Bulletin: March 1, 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"*

**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!

Please pray daily for all Priests and Deacons and thank them for their service!

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. The Archbishop has invited the parishioners, eighth graders, confirmation classes and high school students to attend this Mass.



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!

SIN
(Taken from the Catechism of the Catholic Church)
Sin is an offense against reason, truth, and right conscience; it is failure in genuine love for God and neighbor caused by a perverse attachment to certain goods. It wounds the nature of man and injures human solidarity. It has been defined as "an utterance, a deed, or a desire contrary to the eternal law." (*St. Augustine, Contra Faustum 22: PL.42, 418; St. Thomas Aquinas, STh I-II, 71,6*).
Mortal Sin destroys charity in the heart of man by a grave violation of God's law; it turns man away from God, who is his ultimate end and his beatitude, by preferring an inferior good to him.
Venial Sin allows charity to subsist, even though it offends and wounds it.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

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

MONDAY, March 2nd

8:30 Angela and Domenico Pirraglia

TUESDAY, March 3rd; *Saint Katharine Drexel*

8:30 Charles Pudlo

WEDNESDAY, March 4th; *Saint Casimir*

8:30 Michele and Mary DeBartolo

THURSDAY, March 5th

8:30 Nicholas Vertucci

FRIDAY, March 6th

8:30 St. Benedict's School

SATURDAY, March 7th; *Saints Perpetua and Felicity*

8:30 Roxanne Parsons
4:00 Lucille Aquilato

SUNDAY, March 8th; *Third Sunday of Lent*

7:00 Souls in Purgatory
8:00 Michele Del Vecchio
9:30 Michelangelo Cipollone
11:00 Lucio Creglia
5:00 St. Benedict's Parish

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

There will be a Second Collection **NEXT** weekend for Catholic Relief Services.

Thanking you in advance for your generosity!

God Bless you!

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

His Loving Wife Rosa
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Michele Del Vecchio

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

His Loving Wife Rosa
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Michele Del Vecchio



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!

Covering Crosses and Images

In our parish and the dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from the last Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent) may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil

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:

Lisa Tell
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Angela Berger

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

John Carozza, Carmella DeScisciolo, Angelina Margaret Riccio

Message from Fr. Pergjini,

A few years ago, I wrote an article about a family who faithfully came to pray at the 7:00am Sunday Holy Mass with two disabled young children. At that early hour, and especially in this cold weather, it is unusual to have little children at Mass. The family, with their two sons, try to sit in the middle aisle where there is some space between the pews. However, as soon as the bell rang for the start of Mass, I used to hear the piercing voices of the two children. The parents were holding them and trying their best to keep them calm. But the restrained children used to vent their frustration with angry sounds. I could hear the banging of the pews with their shoes, and sometimes even crying out with a loud voice. I felt their discomfort, and their struggling to free themselves from the arms of their parents. The children were restless during the entire Mass. I must be honest and say that it was not easy to focus on the sublime spirituality of the Mass with the constant loud distractions of these small children. However, in my heart and mind, I admire the parents for being aware of the redeeming value of the Holy Sacrifice, and for knowing that from the Holy Mass they will receive the strength to accomplish their duties as parents. A few of the faithful people that read my article back then were very moved by the gesture and commitment of the parents to bring their children to mass at that early hour, and even willing to help the parents, if they needed help. On the other hand, I had some faithful who attended that mass expressing their frustrations not being able to focus on the Mass because of the continuous loud voices of the two children. I had to listen to their concerns and I understand very well their discomfort. I begged them to be patient and pray for them. After three years, maybe more, the family still comes with their children, their parents and grandmother. It is a big improvement. It is never the loud and unhappy voices as they used to be before. What a powerful example this is for many parents who neglect the obligation and the indispensable necessity of attending Holy Mass on Sunday. These two innocent children are loved by God who knows very well the patience and sacrifice of their parents, who make a sacrifice to wake up very early in the morning and come to worship. During the consecration, holding the Body and Blood of Christ in my hands, I thank Christ to bless them and to heal them. Christ for sure knows everything. As the parents come to receive holy communion, still struggling to hold and calm their dear sons, I feel the pain of the parents and their children. It is more peaceful and I can say God's Hand is upon them. I place my hand over their heads to bless them.

On this second Sunday of Lent, I share the experience of these disabled children and their dedicated parents, placing them on the Mountain of Transfiguration where Christ took Peter, James, and John. The Mountain is a powerful image in the life of Christ and has a very important place. Pope Benedict XVI in his book "Jesus of Nazareth" volume 2, beautifully describes the deep and profound meaning of the mountains in the life of Christ. He cites the various mountains where Christ had a special and meaningful relationship. The mountain of temptations where Christ defeated the devil; the mountain of great preaching where huge crowds came to hear the good news of salvation; the mountain of his prayer where Christ in solitude prayed to His Father; the mountain of Transfiguration where Christ anticipated the Glory of His Resurrection; the mountain of his agony where Christ was sweating blood; the mountain of His Cross where Christ died, and the final mountain is the mountain of the Risen Lord where he powerfully declares; "All power in heaven and on earth is given to me." (Mathew 28:18).

I picture the two innocent children and their parents who struggle but are never discouraged, climbing the mountain, the mountain of prayer, the mountain of fatigue, of fear, but, also of hope, and confidence in the power of the Eucharist. Their strong faith and dedicated commitment to their dear children deeply moves me. I feel the voice that came from the cloud in today's reading, the voice of Almighty Father:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: listen to him." (Mathew 17:5).

The disciples were afraid of that voice, afraid to accept suffering and martyrdom, unwilling to accept that the Glory of the Risen Christ without the cross would have been impossible. Christ comes to calm their fears and strengthen them for their future. This passage of the transfiguration reminds us all participating in these sacred mysteries, to listen to the voice of the Almighty Father. When He calls out in the middle of the Transfiguration, listen to Him.' This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.' The voice of the Father becomes alive. It can penetrate the heart of our own lives, and the lives of parents who must constantly increase their patience and love for their disabled children, or any children. In our own challenges and fears, we, too, need to listen, and to follow Jesus. It is Christ who calms our fears and our sufferings and makes it easier to carry our cross. He prepares us for the sufferings, death, and the Glory of the Resurrection, just as he prepared his disciples. Only in this way, and no other way we can understand our own cross, our own struggles, and remain in that spirit of trust, and not revolt against God refusing to accept our cross. We all must climb the mountains of prayer, preaching, sufferings, agony, death, hope, and finally the mountain of the Glory of the Resurrection.

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: listen to him." (Mathew 17:5).



*Please Pray for Our Veterans
(Living and Deceased)*



**MARCH
8TH**

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

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.

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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!

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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!



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, 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

MARCH CLASSES:

Traditional Religious Education (CCD)

The Sacramental Fee for children receiving **FIRST COMMUNION (\$50)** and **CONFIRMATION (\$100)** is **DUE on March 4, 2026.**

Sundays: **MARCH 1, 8, (15th NO CLASS-Saint Patrick's Day Parade) Attend Mass!, 22, (29 NO CLASS—Palm Sunday) Attend Mass!**
APRIL 5 (NO CLASS-Easter Sunday) Attend Mass!

Wednesdays: **MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25**
APRIL 1st (NO CLASS-Easter Break)

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

Sundays: **MARCH 1, 8, (15th NO CLASS-Saint Patrick's Day Parade) Attend Mass!, 22, (29 NO CLASS—Palm Sunday) Attend Mass!**
APRIL 5 (NO CLASS-Easter Sunday) Attend Mass!

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

2026 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal

The Archdiocese of New York is pleased to announce the launch of the 2026 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal!

This is an Important moment for our parish and our archdiocese, as we are all called to consider contributing to the *Cardinal's Appeal*.

Thank you to those who have already participated this year. If you have not yet done so, please join our fellow parishioners in supporting the mission of the Church today. Together, we can reach our goal in the amount of \$71,000.

Thank you for making a difference!

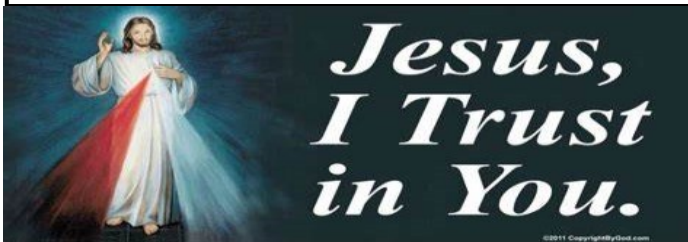
To make a gift, please visit: cardinalsappeal.org or call **646-794-3300** today.

Thank you for your consideration and for being loving and generous stewards of our archdiocese and its mission. God Bless!

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

“Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them.”

—*St. Therese of Lisieux*



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

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Bronx, NY
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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, 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 March 1, 2026:

1 SUN SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

2 Mon Lenten Weekday Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38

3 Tue Lenten Weekday [USA: Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin] Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12

4 Wed Lenten Weekday [Saint Casimir] Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28

5 Thu Lenten Weekday Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31

6 Fri Lenten Weekday Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

7 Sat Lenten Weekday [Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs] Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 20

8 SUN THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42