

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

*Fifth Sunday of Lent
Bulletin: March 22, 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"*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Monday, March 30, 2026

Confessions from 2:00pm until 4:00pm AND 6:00pm until 9:00pm in the Church

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. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during confessions.

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

HOLY THURSDAY

8:00am Church Opens

8:30am Tenebrae Service

8:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

After the Lord's Supper the Transfer of the Holy Blessed Sacrament for the Repose to the Altar of the Sacred Heart for Adoration until 12:00 midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY

8:00am Church Opens

8:30am Tenebrae Service

12:00pm Italian Stations of the Cross

3:00pm Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion

8:00-9:00pm Confessions are available during the
Choral Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY

8:00am Church Opens

8:30am Tenebrae Service

2:00-4:00pm Blessing of the Easter Food in the Vestibule of the Church

3:00-4:00pm Confession

8:00pm Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES:

7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

Please Note: **NO** 5:00pm Mass

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, March 22nd; *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

7:00 Biagio, Roxanne and Lisa Caserta
8:00 April Tagliarino
9:30 Frank O'Brien
11:00 Domenico Chiodi
5:00 St. Benedict's Parish

MONDAY, March 23rd; *Saint Turibius*

8:30 Evelyn Egan O'Halloran

TUESDAY, March 24th

8:30 Alfred Civarelli
Happy Heavenly Birthday

WEDNESDAY, March 25th; *The Annunciation of the Lord*

8:30 Sandee O'Brien

THURSDAY, March 26th

8:30 Elizabeth Perez

FRIDAY, March 27th

8:30 Alfred and Mary Giancarli

SATURDAY, March 28th

8:30 Frank Janicki
4:00 St. Benedict's Parish

SUNDAY, March 29th; *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

7:00 Mark Stevenson
8:00 Michelangelo Cipollone
9:30 Alfred Henry Lento
11:00 St. Benedict's Parish
5:00 Stephen J. Pavlik

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!

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

The Irving Family
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Fr. Giles Nathe

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

Susan and Frank McSherry
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Joseph McSherry



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is **OPEN** Monday through Saturday from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Since Good Friday is on the First Friday of April, we will **NOT** have Overnight Adoration during the Month of April. Therefore, the **NEXT Overnight Eucharistic Adoration will be Friday, May 1, 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

The Blessed Sacrament

The Blessed Sacrament will **NOT** be exposed on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, unless otherwise stated.

We will resume the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Easter Monday, April 6th from 9:00am until 1:00pm in the Adoration Chapel.

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

Carole & Danielle Janicki and Jack DiNardi
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Cosmo Sette
"Living - Healing"

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

Daniel Frances Henderson

Message from Fr. Pergjini,

A few years ago, I celebrated the funeral of a young man. At my surprise the wife of the young man came to the rectory office and thanked me for celebrating the Holy Mass for the repose of his soul. She kindly asked me if I could put into writing what I preached that day. I promised her that as soon as I have some time, I will do it. Now, here I am trying to reconstruct in my mind what I preached that day. The church was packed with people. Unfortunately, I could not go to the wake service, but thanks to our deacon who said the prayer service at the funeral home. He told me that the parents of the young man were faithful, practicing Catholics. As soon as they walked in, I immediately recognized them. They faithfully attend Holy Mass every Sunday. The young man was married but they did not have children. His wife was devastated! It was very sad to see her crying and looking at the coffin. I felt the pain of his family and friends in that big crowd. The parents were much stronger and tried to ease the pain of their daughter-in-law. In these circumstances I tried to deliver a message of faith, hope, love, trust and consolation. Seeing the parents of a young man whom I saw every Sunday early in the morning inspired me and eased my homily. They are a very quiet and humble couple whose faith was tested at this moment of their life. I read the Gospel of *St. John 11:21-27* in which Christ powerfully said to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies will live and everyone who believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" I started my homily with a real story that touched my heart many years ago. At that time, I was very young and I never thought that one day I would share from the pulpit my youth experience in such a delicate moment of my ministry. As a teenager I was moved to hear the words of a young girl who died of cancer. She was not called to enter the monastery or was interested in a religious life. She was a beautiful young girl who lived a very short life surrounded by her humble and loving Christian parents. She was a loving and friendly young girl. She was a high school senior student. Suddenly that physical beauty was struck by a terrible cancer that took her life within a few months. A few weeks before her death she wrote in her moving diary one sentence that one can always reflect and enter the power of life and death. During that agonizing time, she was able to penetrate the core of her soul as she was preparing herself for that final moment of death. She simply wrote: "It is not important how long you live but how you live." At that time, and even today after many years, these words are very powerful to me. As I was preaching to that big crowd I was looking at the body of the young man and the light coming from the Pascal candle standing in front of the coffin. The light of the candle reminded me of the young girl and the young man. They both were baptized. The light from the Paschal candle placed in front of the coffin brings to my mind their baptism. The word "baptism" is frequently mentioned during the funeral Holy Mass and impossible for a preacher at a funeral mass not to mention baptism. Most of us were baptized as infants, and some of us even baptized the same day of our birth or after a few days. Today the parents take their time and wait for awhile to baptize their children. They plan a party to take place after the baptism ceremony. It is impossible to speak about death and not to mention the day of our baptism. The day of our baptism faith and eternal life are promised to us. It is true that day the parents and godparents and those who are present do not think of death. A small candle was lit from the light of the Pascal candle and given to the parents and godparents to keep that light burning brightly. The light of Christ welcomed them to become members of His Body and Blood, and at the funeral Holy Mass is the same light of Christ powerfully standing before the deceased body receiving the faithful departed into the arms of Mercy and Love of the Almighty Father. At every baptism we do ask from the church the gift of faith in Christ and that gift of faith gives us the pledge of eternal life. Christ asked Martha: "Do you believe this?" This question does not mean if she understood, but if she truly believed in him and who he was. Martha needed that time, that moment to be asked about the redeeming value of Christ. She peacefully responded with a full yes, with her whole heart and mind: "Yes, Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God, the one who is coming into the world." Jesus Christ is asking the same question to all of us who face the loss of one of our dear one's as He did to Martha. The question is, are we able to respond with the same belief and trust as Martha did? Many Catholics today do not faithfully practice their faith, and when they are faced with loss, they are unable to make sense of Christ's words "do you believe this?" The young girl who wrote before her death is not important how long we live but how we live and how we prepare ourselves to meet Christ at our moment of our death. It can help us to see death not as an end, but as new life in Christ. To me as a priest, it is very consoling to see the humble and faithful people, who in tears continue to come to church praying at the Holy Mass, listen to God's words, and strengthened by receiving the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity at Holy Communion. As we are approaching Easter, we must be aware that the mystery of the Risen Christ reminds all of us that Easter touches the most delicate issue and the most indispensable one, our death and the hope to be strengthened, and consoled by the powerful question of Christ to all of us: Do you believe who I am? I am the resurrection and the Life.

Yes, Lord, you are Our Salvation!

Amen!

50/50 WINNER:

March 1, 2026
Mr. & Mrs. Edgardo Rivera
\$177.00

50/50 WINNER:

February 15, 2026
Ms. Maria Angelica Estrada
\$186.00

CLOTHING DRIVE - St. Benedict's Cornerstone will have a Spring Clothing Drive the weekend of April 18th and 19th. Clothing donations will be accepted at the Convent BEFORE and AFTER the Masses. This is the ONLY weekend! Thank you!

BINGO

St. Benedict's School and Parish are excited to announce a **Bingo Night Fundraiser to be held on April 25, 2026!** Doors open at 6:00 pm and Bingo begins at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$30 and cover 10 game cards. Limited space available, no door admission. Please purchase tickets in advance in the church vestibule or through the rectory. 50/50 and other Raffles. Feel free to bring your own food and beverages. 50/50's for sale prior to event. Winner need not be present.

We hope to see you there!

For Your Information:

Sunday, June 14, 2026 - If you are celebrating your wedding anniversary this year (25 through 60 years plus) there will be a Mass here at St. Benedict's Church at the **11:00am Mass**. If you are interested, please call the rectory to register at 718-828-3403, ext. 101

Throggs Neck Homeowner's Association

Listed below are the dates of the 2026 Throggs Neck Homeowner's Association meetings:

March 31st, April 28th, May 26th, June 30th (all Tuesdays) at The Villa Barone Manor, 737 Throggs Neck Expressway at 6:00pm.

We hope to see you there!

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.

===== **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!
=====

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, Peter Samoylo, 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)** were due **March 4th**. **If you have not yet paid, please do so as soon as possible**. Thank you!

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)

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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!

Maria Pirraglia:
reled@stbenedictsschool.com

Deacon Nestor Halpern

Deacon Nestor Halpern is available if you are in need to talk to someone about your faith or life in general.

You may leave a message for Deacon Nestor at 718-828-3403, ext. 7 or via email at:

deaconnestor@stbenedictchurchny.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!

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.

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:

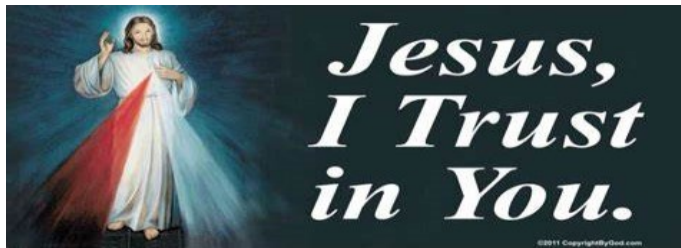
Jayke Hooks, Seaman Apprentice, Thomas J. Hooks, Brandon A. Moreno, YN3, Ryan T. Moreno, CS3; Seaman Apprentice, PO3 Eberlee Santander.

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.



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

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Bronx, NY
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Visit our Website: www.stbenedictchurchny.org

Spiritual Readings for the Wk of March 22, 2026

22 SUN FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45 (34)

23 Mon Lenten Weekday7 [Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop] Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11

24 Tue Lenten Weekday Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

25 Wed THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Solemnity Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

26 Thu Lenten Weekday Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

27 Fri Lenten Weekday Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

28 Sat Lenten Weekday Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

**29 SUN PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD**