

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

*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"*

Bulletin: April 26, 2026

RECTORY TELEPHONE NUMBER
718-828-3403

E-mail: stbenedict@optonline.net

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

RECTORY HOURS:
Monday through 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

CLERGY:

Reverend Nikolin Pergjini, Pastor
Reverend David Birkdale, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Nestor Halpern

*May Crowning and Procession
Monday, May 4, 2026*



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:
Weekdays: Monday through Friday
8:30am
Saturdays: 8:30am and
4:00pm (Saturday Evening Vigil)
Sundays: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
11:00am, 5:00pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):
Saturdays: 9:00am until 9:30am and
3:00pm until 4:00pm
Sundays: Confession is available a half hour
before the Sunday Masses:
6:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 4:30pm

The May Procession will begin at 7:00pm on Monday, May 4th in front of St. Benedict's Church. We will process with Our Blessed Mother and walk along Edison Avenue (pass St. Benedict's School) to Philip Avenue. At Philip Avenue we will turn left to Logan Avenue and then walk back to St. Benedict's Church. We will process through the streets of St. Benedict's parish praying for the intercession of Our Blessed Mother on the whole neighborhood. **The Mass will begin immediately after the Procession.**

All are invited to process with us!

Any students who have recently received their First Holy Communion and Confirmation are invited to join the procession with their communion dresses/suits. If they cannot walk in the procession, they can meet us in church dressed in their Communion outfits.

God Bless America!

*The May Crowning of Mary
Honors the Virgin Mary!*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, April 26th; Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:00 St. Benedict's Parish
8:00 Yolanda and Vincenzo Caserta
9:30 Maria LoCascio
11:00 John Bruno, Sr.
Happy Heavenly 30th Anniversary

5:00 Jennifer Salvation
Living

MONDAY, April 27th

8:30 Mary Kochan

**TUESDAY, April 28th; Saint Peter Chanel, Saint Louis
Grignon de Montfort**

8:30 Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY, April 29th; Saint Catherine of Siena

8:30 Domenico and Angela Pirraglia

THURSDAY, April 30th; Saint Pius V

8:30 Brendan Golden

FRIDAY, May 1st; Saint Joseph the Worker; First Friday

8:30 St. Benedict's School

SATURDAY, May 2nd; Saint Athanasius

8:30 Souls in Purgatory

4:00 Helen Ann Cataudella

SUNDAY, May 3rd; Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:00 Mary Freyne

8:00 Pietro Libera Piacquadio

9:30 Richard Martinez

Happy Heavenly 3rd Anniversary

11:00 Mary Halton

5:00 St. Benedict's Parish



The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is **OPEN** Monday through Saturday from 9:00am until 1:00pm. 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 are discussing the Book of Genesis!

We hope to see you there!



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:

Herbert Sandoval
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Cheyenne Oswalt
Living - Healing

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

Your Children and Grandchildren
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Virginia Parisi
Happy Heavenly Birthday

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

Mike and Jeanette Kochan
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Mary Kochan

Join Archbishop Ronald A. Hicks

Join Archbishop of New York Ronald A. Hicks ON A PALLIUM PILGRIMAGE TO **ROME (June 25th-July 1, 2026)**. On June 29th, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, the Holy Father will bestow the pallium on new bishops from around the world, including Archbishop Ronald A. Hicks. If interested, please contact Pilgrimages by Corporate Travel at 800-727-1999 / Info@ctscentral.net

Please Pray for Police Officers, Firefighters, EMT's, Military, Armed Forces and all those who risk their lives to protect us; that God will bless them and keep them!

Message From Fr. Pergjini,

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter. This Sunday we pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. A few years ago, we were asked and encouraged to write about our vocation story, hoping to inspire young men who experience an inner call from Christ to serve Him and His people. Here I am, sharing with you my vocation story.

In Zurich, Switzerland I knelt down in a beautiful church near the train station called "Lieben Frauen," and confessed my sins after twenty-three years. It was a moving experience because my last confession in Albania took place when I received the sacrament of confirmation; so long ago. The priest was kind and gentle. He understood the circumstances of my painful past. Now as an adult, after all these years, I was able to receive the Body of Christ again. It was in Zurich that a wonderful rectory door of the church opened for me. I met a visiting German Jesuit, Pater Heinrich Pfeiffer, may he rest in peace, who was teaching Christian art at the Gregorian University in Rome. How thankful and grateful I am to our Almighty Father for allowing me to meet this man. He was gifted with an extraordinary intelligence, with a deep and profound spiritual life, and an unshakable faith in Jesus Christ! Pater Pfeiffer shared with me later that while the whole world was watching the first man going to the moon so long ago, he was celebrating his first Holy Mass, the mystery of our salvation embracing the whole world as well as the moon and the stars. What a great spiritual experience, what a wonderful man to have known. After Zurich, Geneva became my dearest city. Taking one of the Swiss trains that day, a majestic view of Lac Lemman opened before us, the great Lake Geneva, with vast craggy mountains rising from its waterline, and postcard villages and vineyards dotting its shores. I felt as though the Hand of God was reaching down from the clouds above to keep steady the beauty of this heavenly place. In Geneva, another humble and very spiritual Swiss Jesuit, Pere Raymond Brechet, touched my mind and soul asking a simple question: "What are you doing with your life dear Nikolin?" This holy man re-awakened my childhood dream of a priestly vocation, which had been suffocated by the brutal and merciless Communist regime. In Geneva, more than one year, I worked in a restaurant, while struggling with this deep inner question of how to serve God the best way I could. I prayed constantly before the Blessed Sacrament in a small and ancient church, called Saint Hippolyte. During all my time in Geneva I did not share with anyone my inner struggle to accept or reject my call to the priesthood. At some point, I crossed the Atlantic Ocean and joined my two brothers in New Jersey. There, a new reality, a new life, opened before me in this new land. But the idea of the priesthood, the dream of my childhood, never abandoned me. It not only continued but became more insistent. I used to go every day and when I received Holy communion, I begged Christ to help me to make the right decision. I still remember the day when I sat down and wrote to the Jesuit Father in Geneva, Pere Brechet. It was December 6th. I wrote to him "that the holy Spirit had placed you in my life to think and pray deeply, and to answer God's call to serve him and His people. My parish will be my spiritual family, and the parishioners will be my spiritual children." To write these lines in my letter took a lot of prayer, as the inner struggle became more mature, and the call to God was purified by grace. It took more than one year to discern my vocation. It was a time through the interior struggling that I said YES to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, To forever serve Him and His people. I entered the minor seminary after a few months. It was the beginning of a whole new reality for me, with new challenges to face. After these twenty-seven years as a priest, I am still completely thankful for the gift of a vocation to serve God's people, and to be a Catholic priest. During these years of my priesthood, I have come to know many people who have received me kindly and generously. Hopefully, some have been lifted and brought closer to God in the sacraments. Others, of course, might be unhappy with some of the things I have done. I still pray for God's mercy and forgiveness all the time, and the grace to keep doing God's work as best as I can. Beyond the horizon of all these gifts, however far above the mountains of Geneva and Lac Lemman, I am forever transfixed in gratitude by the mystery of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In my young years, under the yoke of the Communists, I greatly missed the grace of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Now I can celebrate the mystery of salvation and stand before the altar in persona Christi. It is a very humble experience, the deepest prayer of my life.

Now as I pray before the Blessed Sacrament, the exposed Real Presence of the Body of Christ, I am so happy to place before Him, all those who have been part of my life. Some are still here, others have gone forward, my dear parents, uncles, aunts and cousins, memorable friends, with whom I have shared and received the gifts of our faith. Yes, indeed, in the powerful spirit of the Eucharist, Jesus Christ unites the living and the dead.

Treasuring this peaceful meditation before the Altar, I look ever again at the consecrated Host and in true adoration thank God for these twenty-seven years. He has lifted me from the misery of the labor camp and the terror of the Communist regime, carried me through Switzerland, and placed me carefully in the hands of new friends here in the Bronx, who pray for me as they support the great work of St. Benedict's Parish. How grateful I am, to God, and to them, for so many graces I did not deserve. It is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for vocations to the priesthood!

We pray that Christ can touch the minds and hearts of those whom only He chooses to call! May those who are called by Christ generously respond to serve Christ and His people for the Glory and the Praise of Almighty Father, and for the salvation of our souls! Amen!

PAGE FOUR

**50/50 WINNER:
Ms. Marilyn Reed**

**April 5, 2026
\$165.00**



I. Julia Delorenzo and Ryan Levine

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, 718-828-3403, x101

Second Collection

There will be a **Second Collection NEXT WEEKEND** for **Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe**. Thanking you in advance for your generosity.

**Archbishop Stepinac High School,
White Plains, NY**

Prospective students and parents are invited to attend **Stepinac's Spring Open House on Wed., May 13th from 5pm to 7pm**. RSVP for tickets required at:

www.stepinac.org/openhouse

Visitors will be among the first to tour the latest additions to Stepinac's advanced real-world learning environment. Discover what makes this renowned all-male Catholic High School a leader in preparing young men for success in college, their careers and in life.



Is God calling you to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life? Speak to one of our priests or call the Archdiocese Vocations Office at 914-968-1340.

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'Annucci, 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

Pro Life Organizations: Archdiocese of NY
Family Life: 646-794-3185. <https://nyfamilylife.org>
Good Counsel Homes: 201-795-0637
<http://www.goodcounselhomes.org>
Pregnancy Help Line: 1-800-712-HELP

Jeanne Jugan Residence located on Schurz Ave in the Bronx has a part time job opening for a Prep/Cook.

Must be able to work weekends.

Please contact Susan O'Connor/HR Director
347-329-1734 ph.

Email:
bxhumanresources@littlesistersofthepoor.org

Throggs Neck Homeowner's Association

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

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!

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:

deaconnestor@stbenedictchurchny.com



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!



**Religious Education Announcements
APRIL CLASSES:**

Traditional Religious Education (CCD)

The Sacramental Fee for children receiving **FIRST COMMUNION (\$50)** and **CONFIRMATION (\$100)** were due last month. If you have not yet paid, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you!

Sundays: APRIL 5 (NO CLASS-Easter Sunday)
Please attend Mass!
12 (Divine Mercy Sunday),
19, 26

Wednesdays: APRIL 1st (NO CLASS-Easter Break)
8, 15, 22, 29

Rehearsal-First Holy Communion, Tuesday, April 28
First Holy Communion IS Saturday, May 2nd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

Sundays: APRIL 5 (NO CLASS-Easter Sunday)
Attend Mass!
12 (Divine Mercy Sunday), 19, 26

Maria Pirraglia:
reled@stbenedictschool.com

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY "THANK YOU"

Thank you to everyone who attended the Divine Mercy Service on April 12th. There was Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction, and Confession.

A special thank you to Sydney for her wonderful voice. She beautifully sang the Divine Mercy Chaplet and brought Divine Mercy Sunday into the spirit of this Blessed day.

Spending an hour or two with Jesus in Church was absolutely magnificent.

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!

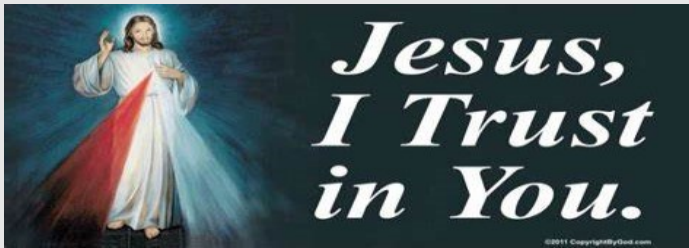
To make a gift, please visit: cardinalsappeal.org
or call **646-794-3300** today.

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

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

By this final greeting “we sing for his departure from this life and separation from us, but also because there is a communion and a reunion. For even dead, we are not at all separated from one another, because we all run the same course and we will find one another again in the same place. We shall never be separated, for we live for Christ, and now we are united with Christ as we go toward him ... we shall all be together in Christ.”¹⁹²

¹⁹² St. Simeon of Thessalonica, *De ordine sepultura*. 336: PG 155, 684.



From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

When the will sets itself upon something that is of its nature incompatible with the charity that orients man toward his ultimate end, then the sin is mortal by its very object ... whether it contradicts the love of God, such as blasphemy or perjury, or the love of neighbor, such as homicide or adultery But when the sinner’s will is set upon something that of its nature involves a disorder, but is not opposed to the love of God and neighbor, such as thoughtless chatter or immoderate laughter and the like, such sins are venial.¹³⁰

¹³⁰ St. Thomas Aquinas, *STh I-II, 88, 2, corp. art.*

**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, Reverend (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

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 Wk of April 26, 2026:

26 SUN FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10 (49)

27 Mon Easter Weekday Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:11-18

28 Tue Easter Weekday [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest] Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30 (280)

29 Wed Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Memorial Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50

30 Thu Easter Weekday [Saint Pius V, Pope] Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20

MAY 2026 1

1 Fri Easter Weekday [Saint Joseph the Worker] Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6 (283)

2 Sat Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Memorial Acts 13:44-52/Jn **14:7-14**

3 SUN FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER