



St. Benedict's Roman Catholic Church
2969 Otis Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465
Bulletin: June 21, 2026 - Happy Father's Day
718-828-3403 (see page 6 for extensions)

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!

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

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:

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

Happy Father's Day Sunday, June 21st



Father's Day Prayer

Saint Joseph, virgin father of Jesus, most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray for us daily to the Son of God, that, armed with the weapons of His grace, we may fight as we ought in life, and be crowned by Him in death.

*A Very Blessed and Happy
 Father's Day To All Fathers,
 Grandfathers, and
 Godfathers!*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, June 21st; Twelfth Sunday in

Ordinary Time; Father's Day; First Day of Summer

7:00 St. Benedict Parish
8:00 Father's Day Novena
9:30 Father's Day Novena
11:00 Father's Day Novena
5:00 Father's Day Novena

MONDAY, June 22nd; Saint Paulinus of Nola; Saints John Fisher and Thomas More

8:30 Father's Day Novena

TUESDAY, June 23rd

8:30 Father's Day Novena

WEDNESDAY, June 24th; The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

8:30 Father's Day Novena

THURSDAY, June 25th

8:30 Father's Day Novena

FRIDAY, June 26th

8:30 Walter Patrick

SATURDAY, June 27th; Saint Cyril of Alexandria

8:30 Michele Del Vecchio

4:00 Hugo Fucci

SUNDAY, June 28th; Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 Freddy Moreira
8:00 John Donadio
9:30 Miguel Santo Vazquez
11:00 Domenico Chiodi
5:00 St. Benedict Parish

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

*Loving Wife, Children and Grandchildren
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Michele Del Vecchio*

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

*Loving Wife, Children and Grandchildren
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Michele Del Vecchio*

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

*The Riggins and Martinez Families
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Richard Martinez
Happy Heavenly Birthday
"We Love You"*

The Federal Education Freedom Tax Credit

We want to bring your attention to an exciting new opportunity launching next year: the federal Education Freedom Tax Credit. This program allows taxpayers to support K-12 tuition and education scholarships at zero net cost.

Materials will be provided when we receive them! Thank you!

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Penance has rightly been called by the holy Fathers "a laborious kind of baptism." This sacrament of Penance is necessary for salvation for those who have fallen after Baptism, just as Baptism is necessary for salvation for those who have not yet been reborn ⁵²³

⁵²³ Council of Trent (1551): DS 1672; cf. St. Gregory of Nazianzus, *Oratio* 39, 17: PG 36, 356

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

[The Church] has received the keys of the Kingdom of heaven so that, in her, sins may be forgiven through Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit's action. In this Church, the soul dead through sin comes back to life in order to live with Christ, whose grace has saved us ⁵²⁶

⁵²⁶ St. Augustine, *Sermo* 214, 11: PL 38, 1071-1072.

SIGN UP FOR A FREE CLASS TO LEARN ABOUT PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES

With severe weather events becoming more frequent and more extreme, it is more important than ever that New Yorkers are prepared for disasters.

Monday, June 29, 2026 at 10:30am at the Northeast Bronx Senior Center, 2968 Bruckner Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10465.

To Register: Registration is required to attend the event. To register visit: www.prepare.ny.gov or scan the QR code below:



- New York State Homeland Security and Emergency Services Citizen Preparedness Corp.
- This Event is brought to you by Governor Hochul in conjunction with New York National Guard and Knights of Columbus Council #11590 and the Northeast Bronx Senior Center.

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

Richard Abbate, Mary Wynne

Message from Fr. Pergini,

“Saint John the Baptist had one of the hardest duties: to rebuke a king. It is not difficult for a rude or arrogant person to speak harshly to those in power; such a person may even take pleasure in it. What is difficult is to correct someone well—at the right time, in the right spirit, and in the right way. The Holy Baptist rebuked Herod without stirring needless anger. He must have spoken with gravity, self-control, sincerity, and clear goodwill. Yet, he also spoke with such firmness, precision, and faithfulness that his rebuke cost him his life.” This powerful reflection from Saint John Henry Newman closely echoes the Gospel message for this Sunday, June 21st: **“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.”** On Wednesday, June 24th, we celebrate the *Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*. Saint John did not hesitate to speak the truth for the good of the king’s soul. What a great saint, prophet, and martyr he was. The birth of Saint John the Baptist on June 24th, six months before the birth of Christ, is deeply significant. Saint Augustine saw rich symbolism in this feast: John was born when the days began to grow shorter, while Christ was born when the days began to grow longer. In the Office of Readings, Saint Augustine also says, “John was a voice that lasted only for a time; Christ, the Word in the beginning, is eternal.” Saint John the Baptist, humble and heroic, prepared the way of salvation. He baptized in the waters of the Jordan the very one who instituted Baptism: Christ himself. At Holy Mass, before we receive Holy Communion, the priest holds up the sacred Host—which we believe to be the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Savior—and says the words first spoken by Saint John the Baptist: “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.” John pointed to Christ as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Today, the faithful kneel in reverence and adoration before receiving Holy Communion and recall those same words. Often, when we pray at Holy Mass, we may not fully recognize the prophetic depth of this great saint and martyr. At the end of his mission, Saint John shed his blood because he rebuked the sinful actions of Herod. The words of Christ in today’s Gospel, together with the wisdom of Saint John Henry Newman, invite us to reflect on what is eternal and what is not. It is never easy, especially when we face difficult decisions concerning the salvation of our souls and the souls of others. Christ reminds us not to fear those who can harm only the body, but to fear the one who holds power over both body and soul. In daily life, we often struggle through pain and suffering as we try to choose what is right and avoid what is sinful. It is a grace and a gift to take time to listen to the voice of Christ in our conscience and to discern what is essential for our salvation. Whoever fears the Lord in love and truth will not compromise what saves our wounded souls. We must also understand that when we speak the truth of our faith, we should be ready to accept the consequences. Christ is always with us when we bear witness to his truth. Saint John the Baptist was not afraid to speak the truth to the wicked people. He confronted those living in sin with clear and powerful words: “Repent and prepare the way of the Lord.” To repent means to stop a sinful lifestyle and turn toward the Lord. St. John the Baptist was not afraid to point out even to King Herod’s sin. He wanted that Herod could turn toward God. Saint John Henry Newman, who wrote the powerful quote about St. John the Baptist, was also rejected by family and friends when he became Catholic. He was not afraid of being persecuted and rejected when he defended the teaching of the Catholic Church, and the reason why he became Catholic. He spoke the truth with love and humbly accepted the consequences of his decision. His only sister rejected him as a brother. She refused to attend his funeral, even though more than ten thousand people were present at the Funeral Mass. This Sunday’s message demands those who preach the gospel to speak without fear for conversion, to turn toward Christ. It is true when the truth is preached, persecution, anger, and rejection are very common. It is impossible to please everyone. Christ himself did not please everyone. Those who followed him understood that they could not continue living in sin. They had to choose either to remain with Christ or to leave Him. Christ never forced anyone to follow him. If we believe in His power, we cannot compromise the truth to please others. The truth of Christ is not our invention; it is divine, and it is given for our salvation. Today, however, some sinful actions are no longer regarded as sinful but are treated merely as acceptable lifestyles. The love of Christ is often separated from the truth of Christ, and people begin to create their own rules and commandments. But love and truth come from the same source: Christ. Love and Truth can never be separated. We, too, as sinners in need of conversion, should seek the powerful intercession of these great saints, so that we may rightly fear God, who holds power over our soul and body.

May Saint John the Baptist and Saint John Henry Newman intercede for us, that we may always speak the truth with love.

Amen!

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50/50 WINNER:
Ms. Marie Horan

May 3, 2026
\$198.00

Happy First Anniversary Deacon Nestor! Congratulations!

***We are very happy that God blessed us
with Deacon Nestor. We are grateful for
everything he does for us and we wish
him many, many more years here at
St. Benedict's Parish.***

Please keep him in your prayers.

***May God always Bless
Deacon Nestor Halpern!***

***God Bless All Fathers
Living and Deceased***

God Bless Our Veteran Fathers

Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical

Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas ("On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence"), is now officially available through the Vatican Documents Database.

You can access the document directly at the following link:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>

U.S. Bishops Consecrated Nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 11, 2026

On **Thursday, June 11, 2026**, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) solemnly consecrated our nation to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**. This historic act invited Christ's love, mercy, and protection into our country as we approach our nation's 250th anniversary.

In union with this national event, all parish families are warmly encouraged to **enthron** **their own homes** to the Sacred Heart. Home enthronement is a beautiful way to officially recognize Jesus as the source of peace, love, and security in your family life.

If you would like to discuss home enthronement further or want guidance on how to bring this blessing into your home, **please speak with our priests or deacon** after Mass, or contact the rectory.

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, Georgina 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, Emily 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, Christopher Filardi, 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 Jennings, 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 MacKnight, 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, Bradley Nother, 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, William F. Reilly, 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 & 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, Jennifer Tully, 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, Crosslyn, Sebastian DeLuca, Caleb DeJesus, Erma, Marco Garcia, Joseph Gentile, Ella Grazia Delli Carpini, Eli, Blake Salvatore Haddock, Harry, Jr., Hayden, Noelle Jablonka, Katherin, Savannah Longo, Sophia Lopez, Emi Lun, Aubrey Madden, Maizy, Giulia Sofia McCullough, Mila, Natalie, Noah, Lucas Ortiz, Sihanna, Anastassia Savov, Tiffany Toro, Summer Rose Vachna

***Please Pray for the Police, Firefighters, First
Responders, Military and Armed Forces!***

Thank you for Protecting Us!

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II. Juliette Lefebvre and Kevin Loeffler

BIBLE STUDY

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!**

SAVE THE DATE

**St. Benedict's Women's Cornerstone
Retreat will be
October 2nd and 3rd 2026.**

More information in future bulletins!



Baptism



Communion



Confirmation



Reconciliation



Last Rites



Holy Orders



Matrimony

This is an Invitation to **ALL Adults** who have not received their sacraments. You are invited to attend classes here at Saint Benedict's starting the end of September 2026. If you are interested, please come to the rectory to register. Any questions, please call 718-828-3403, x101. Thank you

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD)

2026-2027 Registration will Open July 1st.

We accept children from grades 1-12.

Visit the parish website at:

stbenedictchurchny.org

There will be more information in future bulletins.

**Any questions, please contact Maria Pirraglia at:
reled@stbenedictsschool.com**

2026/2027

**Religious Education Program presents:
CATECHESIS of the GOOD SHEPHERD**

Religious Education designed for children ages 4-6 years or Pre-K and Kindergarten. Beginning October 2026 to

May 2027 will be at the Convent. Registration will

Open July 1st. Visit the parish website at.

stbenedictchurchny.org

There will be more information in future bulletins

**Any questions, please contact Maria Pirraglia at:
reled@stbenedictsschool.com**



The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is **OPEN** Monday through Saturday from 9:00am until 1:00pm. The **NEXT Overnight Eucharistic Adoration will be Friday, July 3, 2026 from 8:00pm until 8:00am.** We are in need of Male volunteers from the parish! Thank you!

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.

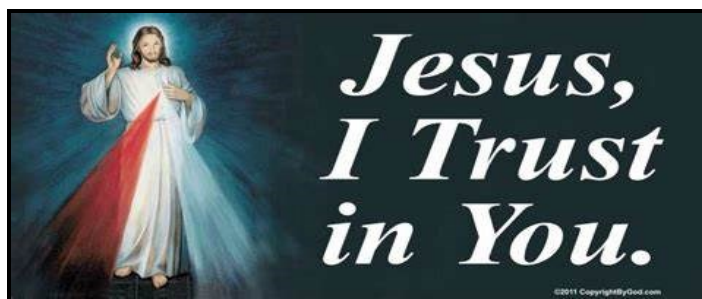
Thank you for making a difference!

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!

Prayer List For Our United States Servicemen and Women



*Have a Blessed, Safe and
Enjoyable Summer!*

RECTORY TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS:

718-828-3403

Fr. Nikolin Pergjini	Pastor	109
Fr. David L. Birkdale	Parochial Vicar	104
Deacon Nestor Halpern		107
Chrissy Sette	Reception	101
Miladi Barnard	Desk	101
Anne Myers	Music	101
Carole Janicki	Bulletin	102
Carl Triano	Finance	117
Maria Pirraglia	RE (CCD)	718-829-1200 718-828-3403

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:

Chief Petty Officer, Laurence Bueno, 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.

St. Benedict's Church Bronx, NY Online Giving with We Share

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our community.

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& confidential online giving.

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parishes to accept donations
online, quickly & easily



Visit our Website: www.stbenedictchurchny.org

Spiritual Readings for the Wk of June 21, 2026:

21 SUN TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jer 20:10-13/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33 (94)

22 Mon Weekday [Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Saints John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs] 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Mt 7:1-5 (371)

23 Tue Weekday 2Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Mt 7:6, 12-14

24 Wed The Nativity Of Saint John the Baptist Solemnity Vigil:
Jer 1:4-10/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17 Day: Is 49:1-6/
Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

25 Thu Weekday 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Mt 7:21-29

26 Fri Weekday 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Mt 8:1-4

27 Sat Weekday [Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Mt 8:5-17

28 SUN THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME