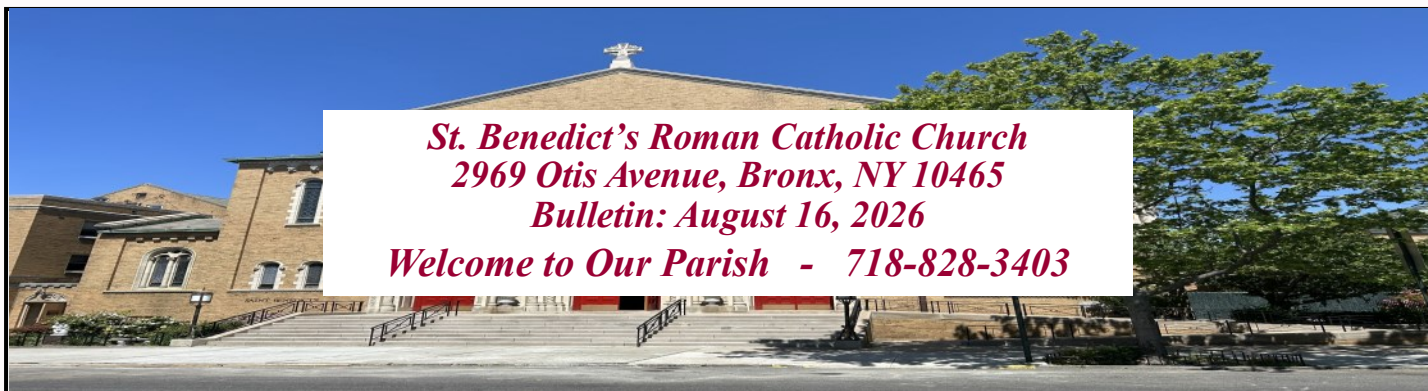




St. Benedict's Roman Catholic Church
2969 Otis Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465
Bulletin: August 16, 2026
Welcome to Our Parish - 718-828-3403



Religious Education

REGISTRATION for 2026-2027 IS NOW OPEN
for Religious Ed (CCD) and Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd (CGS)

ONLINE REGISTRATION for both our Parish programs is available on our Parish website @stbenedictchurchny.org. All information regarding program fees, class times and dates, along with the registration form and online payment option are also available on our Parish website.

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION upon request. Please email Maria Pirraglia at: reled@stbenedictsschool.com to schedule an appointment.

The Seven Sacraments



Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist,
 Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick,
 Holy Orders, Marriage

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.

St. Benedict's School Registration

We know summer is well underway, but time flies and pretty soon we have to get back into school mode. If you are thinking about what school to place your child in for this coming September, one way to show love to your children is to offer them a catholic school education. So, please feel free to contact St. Benedict School at your convenience to set up a tour. **Registration for the 2026/2027 school year is OPEN and we have availability in all grades.** If you are looking to apply you may do so by going online to our website at **stbenedictschoolbx.org** and clicking APPLY NOW. SBS serves grades PK-3 students all the way through 8th grade. PK classes are curriculum based and 8th graders are guided and prepared to enter high school. PK-3 must be aged 3 by 12/31/2026 and PK-4 must be aged 4 by 12/31/2026. **Financial aid for the 2026/2027 school year will be available to the families with students FULLY REGISTERED and ENROLLED in grades KINDERGARTEN through 8th grade and is on a first come, first served basis.** You may contact the school at 718-829-9557 for further information about our school and to set up a one-on-one tour.

Have a blessed, safe and enjoyable rest of the summer!

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

SUNDAY, August 16th; *Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:00 Kamocsai and Duane Families
8:00 Antonio e Silverio DiMeglio
9:30 St. Benedict Parish
11:00 Barnard Family "Living"
5:00 Eleanor Marx

MONDAY, August 17th

8:30 Deceased Members of the
Aiello and Webster Families

TUESDAY, August 18th

8:30 Augusta Mero
"Happy First Heavenly Anniversary"

WEDNESDAY, August 19th; Saint John Eudes

8:30 Sacred Heart of Jesus and
Immaculate Heart of Mary

THURSDAY, August 20th; Saint Bernard

8:30 Deceased Members of the
McGuire and Derasmo Families

FRIDAY, August 21st; Saint Pius X, Pope

8:30 Catherine Dunne

SATURDAY, August 22nd; The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 Natividad Burgos Alba
4:00 Luvigj Popovic

SUNDAY, August 23rd; *Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:00 Johanna Livesay "Living"
8:00 St. Benedict Parish
9:30 Jaime Cabral
11:00 Santo Terrasi
"Happy Seventh Heavenly Anniversary"
5:00 Benito and Mary Chiatto

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

Denise Raucci
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Catherine Dunne

THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP HAS BEEN DONATED BY:

John M. Matthews
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
John P. Matthews

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

Wife Linda and Children Chris, Jenn and Liz
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Owen Patrick Faughnan
"Happy Heavenly Birthday"

IMPORTANT

We know that many of you receive religious cards, printouts, and small items in the mail. Out of deep respect for these holy images, we understand why you may hesitate to throw them away and instead leave them in the church vestibule.

However, we must kindly ask that you **do not leave these items in the vestibule of the church.** Since they are generally unblessed, they, unfortunately, end up being placed in our standard recycling.

We truly appreciate your understanding and cooperation in keeping our gathering space tidy. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with one of our priests or deacon. Thank you!

BUS TRIP TO PADRE PIO Monday, September 21, 2026

National Centre for Padre Pio
111 Barto Road, Barto, PA
Depart 8:00am from the Bruckner Blvd side
Depart 4:00pm from Barto, PA
\$60.00 per person round trip (*No Refunds*)

Bring your own lunch

If you are interested in this bus trip, please come to the rectory to reserve and pay for your seat(s) in advance. Thank you!



*With Sincere
Sympathy*

*Unfortunately, Anne
Myers' husband, John
Myers, went home to
God recently.*

*Please keep Anne and
her children in your
prayers and thoughts!*

*May John
Rest in Peace!*

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

Maria Carlisi, Frederick Cook,
Donald Thacke

Message from Fr. Pergjini,

Saturday, August 15th was the **Solemnity of the Assumption**. In one of the many homilies that I carefully listened to when I was young and sitting in the pews, it was the homily preached on the Solemnity of the Assumption Day. I was touched by the story and the presence of Our Blessed Mother in our lives. Her intercessions are always powerful, especially in those moments and places that we can never imagine to be true. It was the story of a young Catholic French woman. She fell in love with a young Muslim man during her college years. After a few years of dating, they decided to get married. They were a very happy couple, and they respected each other regardless of their differences. However, she was not a practicing Catholic. After a few years of marriage, one night her husband, to her surprise, asked his wife to go to Mecca. She was shocked and did not feel comfortable regarding this invitation to an unknown place. Mecca is the famous city where the Muslims around the world go in pilgrimage, at least once in a lifetime. The name Mecca and the well-known pilgrimage was familiar to her since she got married to a Muslim. She tried to excuse herself by saying that she was not a Muslim. She still believed to be Catholic, and would not feel at ease to go to a pilgrimage that she did not belong to. However, her husband insisted and was demanding that she should go to Mecca. Finally, he succeeded in convincing her to go on this pilgrimage. She remembered it was August 15th, the day when she happened to be in Mecca with other pilgrims. As she was forced to be dressed, at least for the time being, from top to bottom with the black dress that all Muslim women wore, she found herself in a very depressing moment and and regretting for accepting to go there. She felt very lonely, physically present among people with whom she did not have any connection and did not know the purpose of this isolating experience. She was physically there but completely disconnected from the rest of the crowd mentally and spiritually. Still, as she was taught what to do, she continued to be among that suffocating crowd and follow them. In those difficult moments regretting for going to Mecca, she immediately thought that August 15th was the Solemnity of Our Lady of the Assumption. She kept thinking of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother in Heaven. In France, where she was born and grew up it was a national holyday. She felt miserable during the time she found herself amid the unknown crowd. In her mind memories of the Assumption Day came to her. She remembered when she, along with her family, went to attend mass on Sundays. Somehow, those thoughts of the past helped her to escape her present moment and taking refuge in her Catholic past. She looked toward heaven and felt somehow consoled thinking of this very important Marian feast. In her mind suddenly came the idea of saying the rosary to escape the depressing feelings. As a child she remembered that with her parents and grandparents they often said the rosary. She was aware that she did not have a rosary with her. It would have been impossible and even loosing her life if she would have been discovered bringing a rosary to Mecca. Again, looking toward heaven and praying to Our Lady of the Assumption, suddenly the idea to start the rosary with her fingers came to her mind. She remembered well how to start, Credo first, Our Father and the Hail Mary's. As she described later, the time of that rosary was the most peace-

ful and most prayerful moment of her life. She focused on the Hail Mary's and carefully counting her fingers for every decade. She experienced peace in that huge crowd of people that were unaware what she was praying, and to whom she was praying. They never could read her thoughts in prayers to our Blessed Mother. The sad feelings and the loneliness that she had from the beginning of that trip were gone. The power of the rosary penetrated her soul. In her moments of desolation, she was embraced and consoled by the motherly love of Our Blessed Mother who calmed her broken soul. She pictured in her mind the beautiful statue of Our Lady of the Assumption in the church where she was baptized and received her first communion and confirmation. Also, the powerful image of the procession of the rosary with its thousands of people in Lourdes came to her mind during those moments of prayer. She kept repeating the Hail Mary's and she asked for mercy and peace. She felt the presence of Mary in her heart and mind. The loneliness and sad experience of being at Mecca against her will was replaced by the power of and presence of Christ through the intercessions of Our Blessed Mother. It was a moment of consolation after experiencing desolation. It was a moment thanking God for the gift of her faith that she received at her baptism. The time spent in prayer mediating the mysteries of Christ made it possible for her to become aware of the power of the rosary. Christ respects our freedom, allows us to make our own decisions without forcing us to follow Him. It gives us the time and space to realize the power of His presence through Mary, His Mother and Our Mother. Christ has patience! He waits for us in our struggling and our confusing realities. For the young French woman, it was a moment of deep prayer, reflection, penance, and commitment. She came to understand, thanks to her husband's insistence to go to Mecca; to rediscover the beauty and the power of her faith in a place where no one could imagine that she was saying Catholic prayers, our powerful Rosary. That experience helped her to make a good Examination of Conscience in that huge crowd of Muslim pilgrims.

As she was absorbed into prayer and thinking of her past life as a Catholic, she experienced more than ever the power of Mary. The presence of the Blessed Mother is present everywhere, even in Mecca, for those who ask for her intercessions. She humbly experienced that the Blessed Mother being in the Glory of heaven is a source of consolation, of trust and peace for those who in their need beg Our Lady of the Assumption for help.

She did find refuge on the Solemnity of the Assumption in Mecca by invoking Mary's help and reciting the rosary with her fingers. It was a moment of blessing and grace that she deeply felt in her soul and mind promising that she would never neglect her faith but continue to rediscover the power of Christ through Mary in her life. This powerful Solemnity of the Assumption reminds all of us that where Christ is, Mary is also with Him. She intercedes for us, when we humbly beg for her intercessions.

The homily that touched me back in my youth days, became today, after many years, to share with you who read my column.

May Our Lady of the Assumption intercede for us to be faithful to Jesus Christ by living the Truth of our salvation for the conversion of sinners and to give praise and Glory to Almighty Father!



**BLOOD DRIVE
1082 Edison Avenue**

Sunday, August 23, 2026 the Knights of Columbus will host a Blood Drive from **8:30am until 2:30pm** at the corner of Edison Avenue and Bruckner Boulevard, where the Food Pantry operates.

The New York Blood Center has expressed the urgent need for blood donations as New York City, specifically, and New York State in general. They are experiencing a blood shortage that has reached a crisis level.

**We need your help!
Please Donate!
Thank you!**

**San Silverio Committee of Morris Park
BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER**

**Friday, September 18th at 6:30pm
Morris Park Association
1824 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx**

**\$35.00 per person
6 games - 3 cards per game
Cash Prizes and Raffles, Beverages included
Bring snacks and goodies to share
with your table.**

**To reserve your spot, please call:
Domenic at 718-344-4103
Angela 347-204-8183**

The Bible Study Group

The Bible Study Group is taking a break for the summer. God willing, we will begin again in the Fall (date to be determined).

Have a Blessed, Safe and Enjoyable Summer!
"See you in the Fall"

Please Remember to Pray for the Sick!

May they find healing and comfort in Jesus Christ!

Sr. Claire Regan, Stacey Addario, Joseph Abbate, 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, Danielle 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, Filomena Fidanza, Christopher Filardi, David Fisher, Anthony Fortunato, Roseann Frattini, Debra Ann Garcia, Richard Garcia, Sr., Richard Garcia, Jr., Rose Gettenberg, Ralph Giorgio, Hope Mercedes Fernandez, John Fernandez, Nereida Ferrer, Gordon, Marion Gruber, Frank Hinz, Jr., Sharon Holzapfel, Donna Inzano, Eileen Jeninngs, Edward Kennedy, Paul Korngold, Stephanie (Tyko) Kreps, Daniel Kundig, Josephine Lambell, Manuel Larino, Elise Lawle, Luis Gabriel Leal, 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, Richard Reale, 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, Fran Walsh, Loretta White

+ Babies/Children +

Amber, Baby Amari, Baby Rose, Brayden, Brinley, Mia Carolla, Daniella Grace Comblo, Charli Mary Carozza, Crosslyn, Declynn, Sebastian DeLuca, Caleb DeJesus, Erma, Marco Garcia, Joseph Gentile, Ella Grazia Delli Carpin, 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

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

PAGE FIVE



II. *Kelcy McGeehan & Michael Braun*

LAMP Catholic Ministries

LAMP Catholic Ministries seeks dedicated Catholics to be part of a team ministry with the poor, who can drive a canteen truck to and from near St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Bronx. Most Saturdays, 10:30am to 1:30pm. Stipend provided. If interested, please contact Marybeth Greene at 718-409-5062.

SAVE THE DATES

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

St. Benedict's Men's Cornerstone Retreat will be **October 23rd and 24th 2026**



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

Registration for 2026-2027 is now open.
Visit the Parish website: stbenedictchurchny.org
Registration deadline is **FRIDAY Sept. 4, 2026**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION for GRADES 1 - 8

Wednesday session 4:15pm to 5:45pm OR

Sunday session 10:30am to 11:45am

Classes meet at St. Benedict's School

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION for Pre-K & Kindergarten

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 (ages 4-6)

Sunday session #1 8:30am to 9:30am OR

Sunday session #2 12:30pm to 1:30pm

Classes meet at the Convent.

NOTE: this class is NOT offered on WEDNESDAYS.

If interested in a tour of the atrium (classroom) email

Maria Pirraglia at:

reled@stbenedictsschool.com

FIRST DAY of CLASSES:

Wed, Sept.23, 2026 and Sun, Sept 27, 2026

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!

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.

There are extra flyers at the rectory!

**Providence Rest Chapel
Generational Healing Mass
3304 Waterbury Avenue**

There will be a Generational Healing Mass on **Monday, August 31, 2026**. Fr Justin Cinnante will celebrate the Mass at 7:00pm at the Providence Rest Chapel (inside the black gate).

All are welcome!

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

"Faith is like a bright ray of sunlight. It enables us to see God in all things as well as all things in God"

~~~*St. Frances de Sales*



**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](http://www.stbenedictchurchny.org)

**Prayer List For Our United States Servicemen and Women**

**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, 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, 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, Liam Deenihan, Parris Island Boot Camp; 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.

**Spiritual Readings for the Wk of Aug 16, 2026:**

**16 SUN TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28 17

**17 Mon** Weekday Ez 24:15-23/Mt 19:16-22 18

**18 Tue** Weekday Ez 28:1-10/Mt 19:23-30 20) 19

**19 Wed** Weekday [Saint John Eudes, Priest] Ez 34:1-11/ Mt 20:1-16

**20 Thu** Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church Memorial Ez 36:23-28/Mt 22:1-14

**21 Fri** Memorial Saint Pius X, Pope Ez 37:1-14/Mt 22:34-40 35 22

**22 Sat The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary** Memorial Ez 43:1-7ab/Mt 23:1-12 (424)

**23 SUN TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Is 22:19-23/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20 (121)