

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Fr. Patrick Peyton was best known for preaching that famous slogan: the family that prays together, stays together. Fr. Peyton was born in Ireland in 1909 in the town Caricastle. He came to the U.S. in his teens and settled in Pennsylvania and became a janitor in the Cathedral at Scranton. He could not afford the seminary but the pastor paid for his seminary studies at Notre Dame University in Indiana. One day, he started hemorrhaging and they rushed him to the hospital. He was diagnosed with Tuberculosis and told that he had no more than a couple of months to live.

The chaplain visited him and told him to pray to the Blessed Mother because her prayers are never refused by her divine Son Jesus Christ (blessed be His Name). Peyton prayed and prayed to Our Lady that he would get better so that he could become a priest. Suddenly, he felt completely better and told the doctor that he was cured. The doctor told him, "Don't be ridiculous. One does not get cured from what you have." They did the tests. Sure enough. He was cured. A short time later, he was ordained along with his brother Tom. And on that day, he promised the Mother of God that in gratitude for healing him and giving him back his life, he would dedicate that life to her. But what could he do?

At this time, World War II was going on. Many families were in chaos. Fathers were overseas fighting. Mothers were working outside of the home. For the first time in our history, juvenile delinquency was a problem. Fr. Peyton felt that he was being led to help families and to urge families to turn to our Lady for help. He soon had a weekly Rosary radio program in Albany, NY.

He decided to go onto nationwide network radio, but the executives laughed at him when he proposed this idea. Prayers on network radio? How ridiculous! But then Father explained—and the executives agreed—that family life was disintegrating in America, and perhaps prayer was the key. They said they would give him an hour on national radio: prime time on Mother's Day, May 8, 1945. However, the executives were adamant that the priest had to come up with a decent program and he had better furnish some big stars. But he had no money for big stars. And as for ideas, well, his idea of a great radio show was the one he did in Albany. Moreover, he knew nothing about show business. What to do?

Fr. Peyton went to work—on his Rosary beads. And something interesting happened. Tragically, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sullivan had lost 5 sons in one naval battle during WWII, which was still going on. Their story was all over the media at the time. Fr. Peyton called them, and they agreed to say the Rosary on his program. The executives were happy about this. But what about a star? Father knew no stars. And so, he picked up the phone and dialed the operator and asked, "I want to speak with Bing Crosby in Hollywood." Believe it or not, he gets Crosby on the phone, who agrees to go on the program. While they were preparing the show, the Germans surrendered and President Truman named Mother's Day "V-E Day," victory in Europe. Fr. Peyton called the White House and asked if President Truman could say something on his program. The commander in chief agreed.

To sum up, Father Peyton's opening show featured the biggest story in the nation—the Sullivans, the most popular entertainer in the world at the time—Bing Crosby, and the President of the United States. It was the beginning of a great success story, which itself began with the Holy Rosary. His family radio and television programs would lead millions of people to God. This humble priest died in 1992.

Please Pray the Rosary Every Day! God bless you! Father Eric



St. Joseph's Church 16 Poplar Avenue Staten Island, New York 10309

Saturday, January 11, 2025

5:00pm(Vigil) Anita Burrattini

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:00am Keith Donohue

10:00am Loreti & Ungarelli Family-Living & Deceased

12Noon Ronald Lauria

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 9:00am People of the Parish

Tuesday: 9:00am Deceased at St. Joseph Cemetery

Wednesday: 9:00am Gladys Dillomis Thursday: 9:00am Tatyana Brik Friday: 9:00am Carmine Loffreno

Saturday, January 18, 2025

9:00am Ismael Diego 5:00pm(Vigil) Mary Walsh

Sunday, January 19, 2025

8:00am Robert Hanson

10:00am Avidano & Tedeschi Family-Living & Deceased

12Noon Maryann Monachino

BAPTISM SEMINAR SATURDAY, January 25, 2025

Immediately following the 6:00pm Mass at St. Thomas Church there will be a meeting for expectant parents and parents of newborn babies. Parents are expected to be at Mass as well as the meeting. We urge parents to attend before the baby is born. We also urge Godparents to participate by attending this meeting. This is a requirement for all parents prior to the Baptism of their child.



MARRIAGE BANNS

3rd Banns Brian Nickel & Brittany Granata 3rd Banns Joseph Power & Veronica Praia

2025 MARCH FOR LIFE

Join us in advocating for the sacred dignity of every human person at the national March for Life in Washington, DC on January

24th.Through prayerful, public witness at our nation's capital, we seek to testify to the goodness of life and stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable. A bus will leave Blessed Sacrament at 5:30am and return around 9pm. The cost is \$30 per person.

For information call 718-442-1581.



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH 6123 AMBOY ROAD STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309

Saturday, January 11, 2025

6:00pm(Vigil) Thomas P. Monahan, Jr.

Sunday, January 12, 2025

9:00am Pablo Monzon 10:00am Angelo Deleonardis 11:00am Barbara Cannizzaro

1:00pm Grisanti, Corso & Esposito Family 2:30pm *Special Needs– Jennie Franca*

6:00pm Vincenza Brullo

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 7:00 am Pasquale LaRocca

8:00am Joan Martorelli

Tuesday: 7:00am George England

8:00am Nicholas Paul Conte

Wednesday: 7:00am Noelle Clark

8:00am Pablo Monzon

Thursday: 7:00am Mary Afflitto

8:00am Scalercio, & DeBenedictis Family-Living

Friday: 7:00am George Marino 8:00am Frank Raspente, Jr.

Saturday, January 18, 2025

8:00am Jeremiah Teahan 6:00pm(Vigil) Louis Ferrari

Sunday, January 19, 2025

9:00am Dominick Del Gaudio

10:00am Pietro, Sibilia & Michael Dellegrazie

11:00am Alex Castino 1:00pm Richard English

6:00pm B. William & Sylvia Puleo

SICK & HOMEBOUND

If someone is homebound or in the hospital, please notify us. Arrangements can be easily made for the Sacrament of Anointing. Holy Communion is brought to the sick by the Priests weekly or monthly as requested. Please let us know your needs by calling the parish office.

Ethel Ducey, Joseph A. Pulizotto, Ellen Merli, Louis Amatrudo, Stacey Benvenuto, Mary Baldaracci, Gertrude Sokolowsky, Frank Zagarino, John Michael Pasquale, Christopher Walsh, Hope Vosilla, Helen Cole, Alan Mackiewicz, David Balaban, Bob Ryan, Kristen Kress, Bobby Salvador, Amanda Marchese, Michael Rokicki, Thomas Marchese, Angelo Cordella, Dominick Aiello, Juliann Bonavita, Isla Albashara . *In your sympathy, please pray for:*

Fr. Jos Kandathikudy, Fr. Andrew Thi, Fr. Christopher Daly, Deborah Scarola, Richard Gross, Philip Alfano and Noelle Clark.

Memorial Christmas Trees at St. Thomas the Apostle Church have been donated by:

Rosanne Notabartolo Janine Sartini M/M Matthew Moore Sr. **Doreen Somma** Jimmy & Donna Barretta **Michael Savarese** Melissa Bongailas - Babushkin **Lourdes Valeros** M/M Robert Mengani **Bart Sharp & Family Gregory Massimillo** Diane Marcello John Vincent Scalia Home for Funerals Theresa Dara Jennifer Ricciardi Vincent & Barbara Puleo Patricia Carrasco Carol Prospero **Christoper Biel Charles Salerno Michele Tompkins** Debra Calcagno Wayne & Cindy Evans Kenneth & Elaine Pochank Robert Kress Mary Ann Mattera The Trapp Family Donna McArdle Ida Maniscalco Dorothy O'Mara **Mary Conte** Mary Rodrigo **Lori Cervone Morris** George & Elizabeth Brim Alexa Messina **Christine Cascio** Lynn Oppedisano - Kleinan Valerie Strange Michele LaRocca Byron & Maria Meister **Marie Appice Diane Kitchens** Nicole Rutherford Vanessa Laudando Carla Giordano Raffella DeMeo Margaret Schillaci Colacino & Family **Mary Stumbo** The Padavano Family John Pisaspia M/M Thomas Cisternino

Memorial Christmas Trees at St. Thomas the Apostle Church have been donated by:

Rosemarie Sienicki

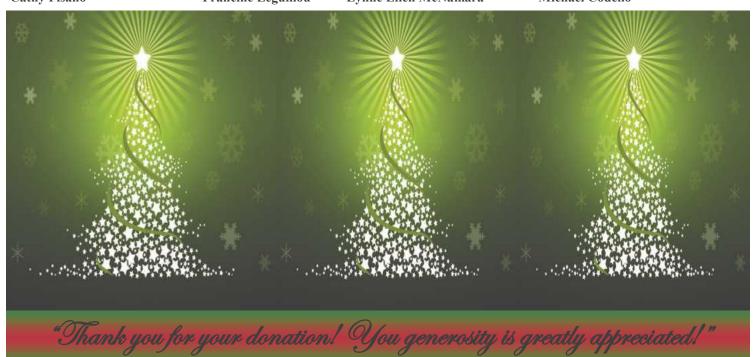
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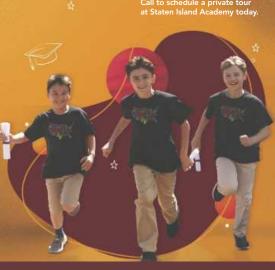






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