

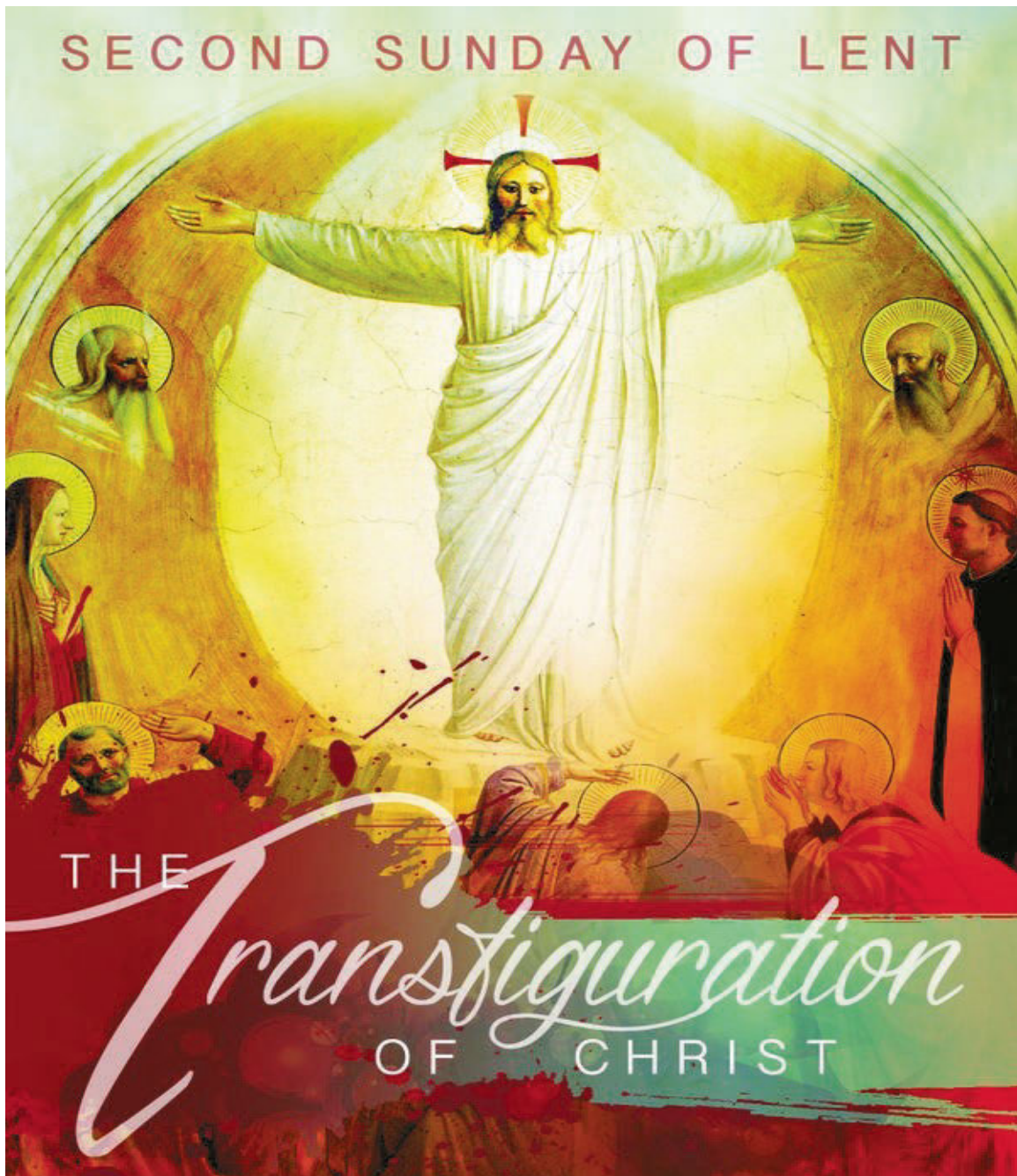
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 16, 2025

WELCOME TO ALL

Our Parish Family invites all to be active and participating members in every aspect of parish life! Every family moving into the parish is invited to register at the Parish Office. If you change your address, please notify us.

St. Joseph - St. Thomas
St. John Neumann Parish
www.sjstsjn.org





Dear Parishioners,

In this penitential season of Lent, we do well to remember with compassion the Holy Souls in Purgatory. They are in a perpetual season of penance, atoning for their sins done while in the body on earth. St. Francis de Sales was of opinion that the thought of Purgatory ought rather to comfort than to terrify. "The majority of those," he used to say, "who dread Purgatory do so in view of their own interests, and out of self-love, rather than for God's interests. The cause of this is that those who preach on the subject are in the habit of depicting only the pains of that prison, and say not a word on the joy and peace which the souls therein detained enjoy. It is true that the torments of Purgatory are so great that the most acute sufferings of this life cannot be compared with them; but, then, on the other hand, the inward satisfaction of the sufferers is such that no amount of earthly prosperity or contentment can equal it."

"The souls who are waiting there enjoy a continual union with God. Their wills are in perfect subjection to His will, or, to speak more correctly, their wills are so absolutely transformed into the will of God that they cannot will anything but what He wills. If Paradise were open to them, they would rather cast themselves down into Hell than appear before God stained and denied as they see themselves still to be. They accept their Purgatory lovingly and willingly, because it is the good pleasure of God. They wish to be there, in the manner it pleases God that they should be, and for as long as He wills. They cannot sin. They cannot feel the slightest movement of impatience, nor be guilty of the smallest imperfection. They love God more than themselves and more than any other creature, and with a perfect, pure, and disinterested love. They are in Purgatory consoled by the Angels. They are secure of their salvation. They are in a state of hope, which cannot but be realized. Their grief is holy and calm."

"In short, if Purgatory is a species of Hell as regards suffering, it is a species of Paradise as regards charity. The charity that quickens those holy souls is stronger than death, more powerful than Hell. Its lamps are all of fire and flame. Neither servile fear nor mercenary hope has any part in their pure affection. Purgatory is a happy state, more to be desired than dreaded, for all its flames are flames of love and sweetness. Yet still it is to be dreaded, since it delays the end of all perfection, which consists in seeing God, and therefore fully loving Him, and by this sight and by this love praising and glorifying Him through all eternity." (For further reading see *The Spirit of St. Frances de Sales* by Jean Pierre Camus.)

God bless you!

Father Eric



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
16 POPLAR AVENUE
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10309

Saturday, March 15, 2025

5:00pm(Vigil) Nick & Frances Zagarino

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8:00am Gorizia & Antonio Prince
 10:00am Anthony & Theresa Lazaro
 12Noon Arnel VeraCruz

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 9:00am People of the Parish
 Tuesday: 9:00am Angelica Munoz Teahan-Living
 Wednesday: 9:00am Arthur Crozier
 Thursday: 9:00am Dr. Kelly Powers Doll
 Friday: 9:00am Eddie Shamah

Saturday, March 22, 2025

9:00am Anthony "Tony" Pelligrino
 5:00pm(Vigil) John & Angela Lupacchino

Sunday, March 23, 2025

8:00am Sandra Williams
 10:00am Avidano & Tedeschi Family-Living & Deceased
 12Noon Luke & Domenica Napodano



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

Saturday, March 15, 2025

6:00pm(Vigil) Angelo Nuara

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:00am Matthew Moore, Sr.-Living
 10:00am Rocco & Ersilia Villani
 11:00am Betty & Salvatore Aquino
 1:00pm Angelo Nuara
 6:00pm Jo Renee Burke

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 7:00 am Richard Putz
 8:00am Thomas Michael Murphy
 Tuesday: 7:00am William P. Gallagher-Living
 8:00am Concetta Carbone
 Wednesday: 7:00am Thomas Michael Joseph Murphy
 8:00am Vincenzo & Bellina Demetrio
6:00pm In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph
 Thursday: 7:00am Diane Palladino
 8:00am Mildred Scarpato
 Friday: 7:00am People of the Parish
 8:00am Patrick Ruane-Living
 7:30pm Nicholas Mancini

Saturday, March 22, 2025

8:00am Peter Catania &
 Deacon Art Fama-Living
 6:00pm(Vigil) Eddie Shamah

Sunday, March 23, 2025

9:00am Thomas Geressy
 10:00am Pietro, Sibilia & Michael Dellegrazie
 11:00am Robert Clark
 1:00pm Joseph Serra
 6:00pm Vincenza, Martin & Joseph Brullo



Our Bread and Wine this week is offered :

At St. Thomas Church
In Loving Memory of
Robert "Bobby" Donahue
requested by Mark Cannizzaro & Family



Our Altar Candles will burn
 throughout this week in

St. Thomas Church
In Loving Memory of
Robert "Bobby" Donahue
requested by Mark Cannizzaro & Family



BAPTISM SEMINAR
SATURDAY, March 29, 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.

MASS FOR COUPLES MARRIED
50 YEARS DURING 2025



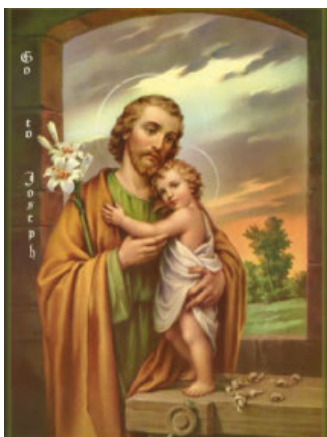
Couples celebrating their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2025 are invited to attend the Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Timothy Michael Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday, June 1st at 2:30 PM. Each couple may bring up to four (4) additional guests. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Phyllis Catania at the Parish Office

The closing date to register is May 12, 2025

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, Thomas Marchese, Angelo Cordella, Dominick Aiello, Juliann Bonavita, Isla Albashara, Anthony Pelle, Christina Natale, Antonio Buono, Patrick Ruane, Adrea Sinisi, Neil DeGennaro, Patricia McKay

In your sympathy, please pray for: Angela Marie DiBeneditto, Calogera Montalbano, Lorraine Counts, Robert Jackson.



"O blessed Saint Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary, to you we come in our need, and with confidence implore your protection. As the faithful guardian of the Holy Family, watch over us, your children, and guide us in the way of salvation. By your powerful intercession, obtain for us from God the graces we need, especially [mention your specific request], and help us to live a life of love and fidelity to God's will. Amen."

There will be a special Mass on March 19th in St. Thomas Church at 6:00pm.

All are Invited

Lent

During Lent- Mass:

Every Friday at 7:30pm at St. Thomas Church.

Stations of the Cross:

Every Friday following the 9:00am Mass at St. Joseph. At St. Thomas Church at 12noon in Italian and after the 7:30pm Mass.

OUR REMEMBRANCE VIGIL CANDLES will burn for 1 year in St. Thomas Church for:

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
MARCO & MARTHA SIGNORILE
"FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS"
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Theresa Geandomenico

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ERICK IVAN NEGRAN
BELOVED HUSBAND, FATHER & POP
"LOVE YOU FOREVER"
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Kathy Negron

IN MEMORIA DI
BENDETTO, GIOVANNA & SALVATORE BONELLO
"SEMPRE NEL MIO CUORE"
CON AMORE PIERA
requested by Piera Bonello Maimo

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
ROSARIA & PIETRO CANGIALOSI
"SEMPRE NEL MIO CUORE"
YOUR LOVING DAUGHTER MARIA STELLA
requested by Maria Stella Candela

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
THOMAS G. DELPRIORE
"ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS"
YOUR LOVING FAMILY
requested by Joan DelPriore



Easter Spiritual Bouquet Cards
Easter Mass Remembrance cards for the living and deceased are available at Church and in the Parish Office. The intentions will be placed on our altars throughout the Easter Season.



Memorial Easter Flower Offering
Memorial Easter Flower Offering envelopes are also available in the rear of our Churches and will be placed on our altars throughout the Easter Season.

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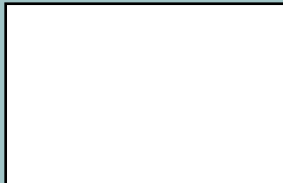
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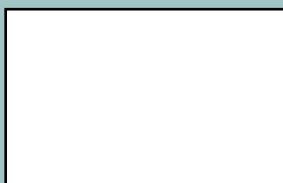
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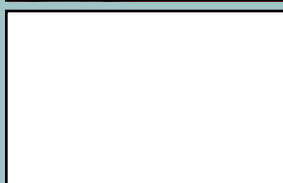
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