

GOD BLESS America



★ 1776 - 2026 ★

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Only the parish office handles sponsor certificate requests Monday to Friday, 9AM to 5PM. 718-356-0294. To be considered active members of our parish, each family and single adult must be **properly registered** and must **regularly use the weekly donation envelopes at Sunday Mass**. This is the only way the parish can issue a Godparent/Sponsor Certificate (or other letter) declaring that the person named is a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church.

Parishioners must be registered and **must be using the envelopes for at least 6 months before a Sponsor/ Godparent Certificate can be issued**. Besides attending Mass each Sunday and Holy Day, a godparent/sponsor must also be **confirmed Catholic**, and if married, be **married in the Catholic Church**. Cohabitation disqualifies a person from serving as godparent. If your child is approaching a Sacrament for the first time, **please let godparent/sponsor candidates know of this protocol well in advance so that the candidate will have plenty of time to rectify any impediments that would prevent him/her from serving as godparents**.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

It's great to be a Catholic! Spread the word! John Burger writes, "Sir Alec Guinness may be one of the most versatile actors of all time. The British thespian took on roles as diverse as Shakespeare's *Romeo*, a Soviet military officer in *Doctor Zhivago* and Obi-Wan Kenobi in *Star Wars*. In one celebrated 1949 film, *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, he portrayed nine completely different characters. But Guinness was not acting when he embraced the Christian faith." ("Alec Guinness and the Role that Led to His Finding the Faith," Aleteia.org, 13 July 2020).

Although he was baptized Anglican, Guinness began to reject the Christian Faith in his youth. He resisted it for years. Atheism flared up in his heart. He came to see Christianity as, what he called, "fairy tale rubbish." But when he began acting, an Anglican minister informed him that he was blessing himself the wrong way in one of his stage roles. During the World War II bombing of London, another Anglican gave Guinness a copy of St. Francis de Sales's *Introduction to the Devout Life*. The actor began attending Anglican services on a regular basis.

As he mentions in his autobiography *Blessings in Disguise*, one incident opened his heart to the Catholic religion. Guinness went to France to act in a film adaptation of G.K. Chesterton's *Father Brown* detective stories. He himself landed the role of Father Brown, the humble, crime-solving cleric. The film was being shot in a small French village. One evening while Guinness was still in costume he was going back to his lodgings. A little boy, mistaking him for a real priest, grabbed his hand and said gleefully, "Mon Pere," which is the French way of saying "Father." With a child's trust the boy accompanied Guinness. Guinness was deeply moved. He said, "Continuing my walk, I reflected that a Church that could inspire such confidence in a child, making priests, even when unknown, so easily approachable, could not be as scheming or as creepy as so often made out. I began to shake off my long-taught, long-absorbed prejudices."

A short time later, Guinness's son Matthew, age eleven, was paralyzed from polio from the waist down. At the end of each day's work on the film, Guinness began visiting a small Catholic church on his route home. He decided to make a deal with God: If God would let Matthew recover, Guinness would not stand in the way if his son would want to become Catholic. The boy recovered completely, and Guinness enrolled him in a Jesuit academy. At age 15, Matthew announced that he wanted to become Catholic. His famous father accepted his decision.

Guinness himself began to study our Holy Faith. He had long chats with a Catholic priest, went on retreat at a Trappist monastery and even attended Mass with the actress Grace Kelly while he was working on a film in Los Angeles. Overcoming a few stumbling blocks in the form of certain Catholic teachings, he at last entered the Catholic Church in 1956. "There had been no emotional upheaval, no great insight, certainly no proper grasp of theological issues," Guinness said, "just a sense of history and the fittingness of things." While Guinness was in Sri Lanka in 1956 making *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, his wife, actress Merula Silvia Salaman, also became Catholic. He and his wife both died in 2000.

God bless you!

Father Eric



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

Saturday, July 4, 2026

5:00pm(Vigil) Raffaella Paterek

Sunday, July 5, 2026

8:00am Restituto & Liwayway Clemente
 10:00am Antonietta & Pasquale Spensieri
 12Noon Luigi Piscitelli

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 9:00am People of the Parish
 Tuesday: 9:00am Nancy Chalupink
 Wednesday: 9:00am Pasquale & Sophia LaBarberia & Joseph La Franca
 Thursday: 9:00am Edward J. Hollywood, Sr.
 Friday: 9:00am Louis & Jackie Perrone & Family

Saturday, July 11, 2026

9:00am Julius DeVito
 5:00pm(Vigil) John & Angela Lupacchino

Sunday, July 12, 2026

8:00am Jerry Webb
 10:00am Loreti & Ungarelli Family-Living & Deceased
 12Noon Al Pisano



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

Saturday, July 4, 2026

6:00pm(Vigil) Patricia Cohoon

Sunday, July 5, 2026

9:00am Daniel Hollnsteiner
 10:00am Vincenzo & Bellina Demetrio
 11:00am Maria Del Monaco
 1:00pm Daniel Hollnsteiner
 6:00pm Flora Roca

WEEKDAYS

Monday: 7:00 am Franco LaRocca
 8:00am Tony Corino
 Tuesday: 7:00am Mario Colella
 8:00am Bob & Catherine Masonave
 Wednesday: 7:00am Salvatore & Rosalia Caruso
 8:00am Peter Leo
 Thursday: 7:00am Pasquale LaRocca
 8:00am Michael Calabrese
 Friday: 7:00am Nancy Liguori
 8:00am Ann E. McCarthy

Saturday, July 11, 2026

8:00am Ana Maria Gutierrez
 6:00pm(Vigil) Fred Tarrazi

Sunday, July 12, 2026

9:00am Carmela Pugliesi
 10:00am Sibilia, Pietro & Michael Dellegrazie
 11:00am Barbara Cannizzaro
 1:00pm Francesco & Marianna Badame
4:00pm Polish Mass
 6:00pm Mary Walsh-18th anniversary

MEMORIALS



Our Bread and Wine this week is offered :
 At St. Thomas Church
In Loving Memory of
Tony & Bobby Corino
requested by Ann Corino



MARRIAGE BANNS

2nd Banns Jason Ahearn & Julia Bottiglieri
3rd Banns Anthony Petrarca & Nicolette Colella
3rd Banns Christopher Somma & Alexa Catalano

BAPTISM SEMINAR

SATURDAY, July 25, 2026

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.

"300 CLUB LXV"

300 CLUB WINNERS - WEEK # 18

Congratulations!

\$100.00	Henry Stolzenthaler Council 1675	# 116
\$ 25.00	Christopher Biel	# 279
\$ 25.00	Brian & Maria Meister	#077

"300 CLUB LXV"

300 CLUB WINNERS - WEEK # 19

Congratulations!

\$100.00	Cathy Pisano	# 153
\$ 25.00	Mr. & Mrs. Arthur McCutchan	# 243
\$ 25.00	Debra Emigholz	#288



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.

Joseph A. Pulizotto, Ellen Merli, Louis Amatrudo, Stacey Benvenuto, Gertrude Sokolowsky, John Michael Pasquale, Hope Vosilla, Helen Cole, Kristen Kress, Anthony Pelle, Jr., Christina Natale, Neil DeGennaro, Wesley Devita, Patricia Conway, Tom Quercia, Linda DiSilvio, George Marino, Michael Archer, Michael Rokicki, Renee Bavero, Joseph Mangano, Gertrude Buonomo, Dominic Aiello, Robert Salvador, Angelo Cordella, Cathy Pisano, Frances Minieri, Kym Garrison, Angelica Munoz Teahan, Zackary Caruso, Hannelore Nobile, Daniel Simonson.

In your sympathy, please pray for: Richard Cavileer

OUR REMEMBRANCE VIGIL CANDLES

will burn for 1 year in St. Thomas Church for:

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF

JACK J. BECACCIO
BELOVED HUSBAND, FATHER & GRANDFATHER
FOREVER LOVED-FOREVER MISSED
"YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS"
YOUR LOVING WIFE, PEGGY
requested by Peggy Becaccio

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF

PIETRO A. MACRI
"TI VOGLIAMO BENE PER SEMPRE"
LA TUA AMATA FAMIGLIA MACRI
requested by Esterina Macri



Prayer to St Michael The Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.
Be our protection against
the wickedness and snares
of the Devil. May God rebuke
him, we humbly pray, and do
thou, O Prince of the heavenly
hosts, by the power of God,
thrust into hell Satan, and
all the evil spirits, who
prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen

SACRED HEART

REMEMBRANCE VIGIL CANDLES

will burn for 1 year in St. Thomas Church :

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF

CHRISTOPHER CONRAD
"FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS"
"WE LOVE YOU & MISS YOU"
MOM & DAD

requested by Jean & Tom Conrad

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF

ANNA & VINCENT PAONE
BELOVED SISTER & BROTHER-IN-LAW
"YOU WILL BE FOREVER LOVED & MISSED"
JEANNIE & TOMMY

requested by Jean & Tom Conrad



Christmas in July!!!



**OFF THE
STREETS**
Help get our homeless off the streets

Donation Day

Saturday, July 11, 2026, 12-2 pm

Do you have small apartment-sized
furniture cluttering up your space?

Do you want to help bless those
without homes in your community get
off the streets?

Do you want to learn more about Off
The Streets' mission in our Staten
Island neighborhood?

St. Charles Church
Parking lot at the corner of Hylan
Boulevard and Tysens Lane. Enter lot
on Penn Avenue, opposite the church

Christmas in July

Since July 2024, we've assisted:
91 Adults & 133 Children 🎁

Scan the QR code to shop our Amazon
Wish List and purchase new household
essentials for individuals moving from
homelessness into permanent housing.
Your gift brings warmth and hope
throughout the year.



Or go to
<https://www.amazon.com/registries>
search Off The Streets Staten Island
Christmas in July 2026



Wishing you all the very best this
summer season!

To make a monetary
donation, please scan:

Off The Streets Staten Island Donation



View Amazon
Wish List



For more information, call 347-987-0467 or visit www.offthestreetsstateniland.com



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