

Church of Saint Teresa of the Infant Jesus and St. Nicholas Chapel

December 31, 2017

Served by

Msgr. William J. Belford *Pastor*
 Father Jean-Marie Vianney Uzabakiriho *Parochial Vicar*
 Father John Kallattil, VC *Parochial Vicar*
 Deacon Phillip Maroon *Permanent Deacon*
 Mrs. Anna Simone *School Principal*
 Mrs. Lisa Rametta *Religious Ed. Coordinator*
 Mrs. Lisa Naughton *Parish Manager*
 Sister Margaret Mary *Pastoral Care*
 Mr. Edward Morand *Director of Music*



St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus
 1634 Victory Boulevard
 Castleton Corners
 Staten Island, NY 10314

St. Nicholas Chapel
 La Bau Avenue and
 Northern Boulevard



Rectory Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Confessions: Saturdays: 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm or by appointment. Please call the rectory.

Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration on the First Friday of the month, beginning with the 8:30 am Mass and concluding with a Divine Mercy Holy Hour and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:00 pm.

Novena Services: Miraculous Medal Novena and the Saint Teresa Novena, with veneration of the relic of Saint Teresa, every Monday following the 8:30 am Mass.

Baptisms: Every Sunday of the month 1:30 pm following the 12:30 pm Mass. Parents are asked to contact the rectory and schedule an appointment with one of the parish priests to make arrangements for the celebration of the Sacrament and to register for the Baptism preparation class.

Marriages: Please contact the rectory at least one year in advance of the wedding to schedule an appointment with one of the parish priests. Participation in the Marriage Preparation Program offered by the Archdiocese of New York, along with Natural Family Planning classes, is required. To register for Marriage Preparation sessions, contact the Family Life / Respect Life website at www.flrl.org.

Parish Membership: New parishioners are warmly welcomed. Those already enrolled in the school, CCD Program, sports or other parish activities are not automatically registered in our parish. Please stop by the parish office or call for a membership form. It is important that all parishioners are registered.

Rectory 718-442-5412
School 718-448-9650
CCD Office 718-981-2632
Fax 718-442-9041
Website www.saintteresasi.org
Email rectory@saintteresasi.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm, *Vigil Mass*

Sunday

St. Teresa 7:30 am
 10:00 am
 12:30 pm
 5:00 pm

St. Nicholas 9:30 am & 10:30 am

Eve of Holydays 4:00 pm

Holy Days As announced in bulletin.

Daily Masses 8:30 & 12 Noon
 Saturday, 8:30 am only

First Friday Masses

8:30 am and 12 Noon, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition continues throughout the morning and early afternoon hours, concluding at 3:00 pm with a Divine Mercy Holy Hour and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.



Do Whatever He Tells You! – (John 2:5)

SATURDAY, December 30	SUNDAY, December 31	SUNDAY, continued
4:00PM Brian Liquori	7:30 AM Josephine Pastiglione 10:00 AM For the People of Our Parish 12:30 PM Dawn Hyland 5:00 PM Christmas Remembrance	St. Nicholas Chapel 9:30 AM Louis Tushag 10:30 AM Arielle Newman
MONDAY, January 1	TUESDAY, January 2	WEDNESDAY, January 3
7:30 AM William Buhse 10:00 AM Valerie Agostino 12:30 PM For the People of Our Parish	8:30 AM Eufemia Betonio 12 Noon Ruth Tobin	8:30 AM Proceso Betonio 12 Noon John Murray
THURSDAY, January 4	FRIDAY, January 5	SATURDAY, January 6
8:30 AM Angelo Edward Ciaravino 12 Noon Margaret Driscoll	8:30 AM Frank and Tony Gargiulo 12 Noon Joseph Capobianca	8:30 AM Flordeliz Bertulfo



Your prayers are requested for all who are sick in our parish and community, especially:

Grace Agalo-os, Karen Bertuzzi, Vincent Borzumato, Nicholas Crispiano, Nicholas Ciricirillo, Kevin Dunne, Patricia Dunne, Joanie Edwards, Augustine Ferrer, Mark & Arlene Fileccia, Josephine Greco, Elaine Guarlino, David Hall, Vincent Hicks, Barbara Hicks, Jennifer Johnson, Caitlin Kaht, Donnalyn Lawton, Catherine Leone, Edward Lewis, Genevieve Lewis, Linda Mahoney, Paul Mahoney, Emma Jane Mannix, Bill McMillen, Susan Morris, Helen Nadeau, Josephine Nastasi, Ryan Pizzaro, Sal Prestigiacomo, Edwin Rodriguez, Jerry Scattaglia, Joseph Tirone, Alex Valenti, David Valle, Margaret White.

Members of our Legion of Mary are willing to visit the sick at home. For additional information please contact Marie Razza at 718-442-5421.

MASSES FOR NEXT SUNDAY

January 7		Priest
Saturday	4:00 PM	Fr. Jean-Marie
Sunday	7:30 AM	Fr. Jean-Marie
	10:00 AM	Fr. Jean-Marie
	12:30 PM	Fr. Jean-Marie
	5:00 PM	Fr. Challman
St. Nicholas	9:30 AM	Msgr. Belford
	10:30AM	Msgr. Belford

Pray for Our Parishioners in the Military

Private Daniel A. Hughes, U.S. Army, Ft. Jackson, S.C.
Lance Corporal Connor M. O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corp., Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, GA.



Last Sunday's collection was \$8,971. Because Christmas donations are still coming, the Christmas collection amount will be known next week.



Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Teresa Church,

On this last day of the calendar year 2017, it is right to wish one another a peaceful and healthy new year in 2018. It is also proper and wise to pray our wishes to Almighty God. We can ask God to grant our desires to us, if they be for our good and for the good of others. Here is a prayer that you might want to say:

***MAY ALL THE DAYS OF ALL THE YEARS THAT GOD HAS STILL IN STORE
 BE FILLED WITH EVERY JOY AND GRACE TO BLESS US MORE AND MORE.
 MAY HOPE OF HEART AND PEACE OF MIND BE WITH US NOW AND EVERMORE.***

Tomorrow, Monday January 1, is a special day for at least two reasons. As we noted, it is the start of a new calendar year. A prayerful person marks such days and mentions them in his or her prayers. It is also dedicated to honoring the woman at the heart of Christ's life - his holy mother Mary. Most years you recall that January 1 is a holy day of obligation when we should gather for Mass. But when January 1 falls on a Saturday or Monday - when it is harder to provide all the Masses needed and when it is less likely that everyone will be able to attend - the obligation to come to Mass is removed.

Therefore, all the Masses this Sunday, including the 5pm evening Mass, have the readings and prayers of the Mass of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Then tomorrow, you are invited without obligation to come to one of three Masses in St. Teresa Church. Our Masses for the honor of Mary and prayers for her intercession will be at 7:30am, 10am, and 12:30pm.

Here are the words of the Opening Prayer at Mass when we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:
"O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen."

A smart way to keep the Christmas spirit going is to have a holiday from school or work. I hope that many of you have had some respite from ordinary duties. Our excellent Saint Teresa School - a growing community of faith, knowledge, and service - will reopen on Wednesday, January 3.

But back in mid-December, five students each from grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 represented their classes in a Spelling Bee. This academic contest is always an exciting experience, and has been sponsored for fifty years by the men of our Holy Name Society. The two best spellers receive a cash prize, and the class of the champion gets a pizza party. Mr. Peter Turner was the organizer and chairman; I had the exalted title (and responsibility) of being the Spelling Master, responsible for pronouncing each word carefully from the official list, and using it in a sentence. Two Holy Name men assisted me by checking the responses.

Our contestants were: Ava Gallo, Lilianna Bilotti, Madeline Cuddy, Christopher Pfuhler, and Gianna Shapiro from the 5th grade; Natalie DePeppo, Catherine Smith, Nicholas Ochman, Joseph LoCasio, and Ashley Avena from the 6th grade; Hope Avena, Grace Perez, Matthew Nico Hernandez, Sandun Perera, and Ty Debner from the 7th grade; and Dante Mineo, Matthew Pfuhler, Samara Vazquez, Vincent Carcatera, and Edin Draga from the 8th grade.

Many spellers lasted a long time, but in the end only two remained: Ashley Avena and Edin Draga. The Spelling Bee rules require that when the contest is down to two people, the eventual champion has to correctly spell the word that the other person misspelled, and then correctly spell the next word on the list. To the joy of her sixth grade classmates, Ashley Avena spelled the last two words correctly and became our Spelling Bee champion.

As Saint Teresa School reopens, our school community - students, teachers, and parents - will celebrate a special Mass this Friday at 8:30, continuing as we should our appreciation and happiness for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Parishioners are invited to these monthly school Masses. The special advantage of a Catholic school is that we can pray together. We learn about God's love for us and the reasons for our faith, hope, and charity. January is also Catholic Schools Month, when many parents come to visit Catholic schools with their children and make decisions about next year. Parents are always encouraged to call St. Teresa School and meet with our Principal Mrs. Anna Simione. The school number is 718 448 9650.

Also looking ahead are the members of our Golden Age Society, who meet in our school gym on the Mondays when school is in session from noon to 2:30. More than half the seats were reserved by mid-December for their bus trip to Lancaster, PA, to see a lavish new stage production about the life of Jesus. The date is Wednesday May 16, and cost is \$125 for the show, lunch, and transportation. For seats or more information, come to the meeting on January 8 or call Lorraine Sellers at 718 477 0083.

Wishing you a happy, healthy, and holy new year close to the Christ whose birth was an awesome day in human history,
 Msgr. William Belford



HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY'S FUTURE

On **Sunday, January 21**, in our lower church hall after the 10am Mass, you are invited to join us and hear an experienced lawyer speak about estate planning, the importance of having a will, health care proxies, and related subjects that affect our families and their future. Ms. Joanne Seminara, Esq., a volunteer with our Archdiocesan Office of Planned Giving, will explain about health care proxies, executors, power of attorney, tax issues, probate, how often a will should be updated, etc.



We thank and appreciate Mr. Edward Morand, our Director of Music, and all the choir members and cantors who led us in song this Christmas.

Special thanks to donors to our Christmas Flower collection, whose names are on our bulletin boards. Thanks to Mrs. Lisa Naughton, and to all who helped decorate the church and chapel with poinsettias and wreaths, making them look beautiful.

Our Parish Bereavement Group will begin our 2018 winter schedule on Saturday January 13 at 10:30 & 11:45. Contact Deacon Novella Lawrence at 347-581-1082 for encouragement to come.

PLEASE RESPECT OUR NEIGHBORS

Please remember that our kind neighbors at Castleton Hill Moravian Church need their parking lot on Sundays and during the week for their own churchgoers and preschool parents. Even if the lot looks empty when you arrive, their people may be coming soon. So please remember to come early for Mass and not park there.

PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

That we will always be generous with our time, talents, and treasure, knowing that God our Father is the giver of all our gifts and is pleased by our charity to others, let us pray...

OUR CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY

Many thanks again to the men of our Holy Name Society and to the many donors of our Christmas trees that make such a statement of joy and faith as they will be lit every night until the days after Epiphany Sunday, which is next week, January 7. You can still take a walk through the trees and reflect on the lives that are recalled and celebrated this way. *The trees will be taken down, weather permitting, by Saturday January 13. So donors, after next Sunday, please take away any decorations you want to save.*

OUR NEW CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENES

Special thanks to the men of our Holy Name Society, who used funds from their Christmas tree project to purchase the beautiful new Nativity figures outside church and inside St. Nicholas chapel.

Next Sunday our second collection will be given to support The Catholic Communication Campaign and The Catholic University of America.

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS

If you are a visitor, we welcome you to the Church of St. Teresa and hope that you will come back often. Those who wish to join our parish may do so by calling us or coming to the parish office, or by sending a note in the collection basket. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm. If you wish to contact us by telephone: 718-442-5412.

Travelling for the holidays?

READ OUR SUNDAY BULLETIN ONLINE
You can read all our recent parish bulletins at: saintteresasi.org.
You can also access our parish calendar and view our activities.

The winner of our December 50/50 Drawing was: Joseph Vendittelli. The prize was \$363. If you would like to participate in this monthly activity that benefits our parish and makes people happy, look for the 50/50 envelopes in the vestibule. The next drawing will be at the end of January.



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January 2018

Saint Teresa Church
Staten Island, New York

One Minute Meditations

St. Angela Merici

Born in Italy, St. Angela and her sister were raised by an uncle after the deaths of their parents. Angela received the vocational call as a teenager. Her sister died without receiving the Sacraments, so Angela became a Third Order Franciscan to pray for her. She opened her home as a girls' school for religious education. She was later inspired by a vision to start a religious community to educate young women, and founded the Ursuline Order.

The face of God

God doesn't want us to sacrifice our own wellbeing, but does want us to willingly bring his love to other people. It can be uncomfortable being his loving face to others. This means being patient with those who annoy us, kind to those who are demanding, and forgiving to those who haven't asked.

"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips" (Proverbs 27:2).



Move closer to God in the New Year

While contemplating your New Year's resolutions, wouldn't it be great to make at least one change this year that brings you closer to God?

Consider these ideas from other Catholics to strengthen your prayer life, learn more about your faith, or serve your parish.

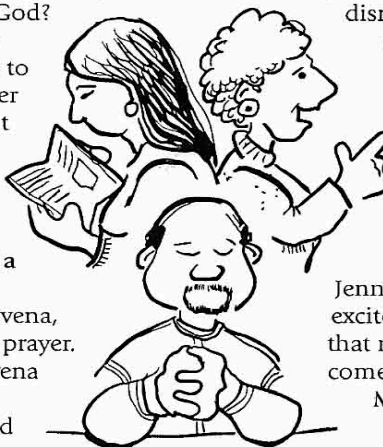
Greg was bored with his prayer routine and wanted a change. His priest suggested he try a novena, nine days of focused prayer. So, Greg chose a novena to the Immaculate Conception. He loved the meditations and felt a connection to Our Lady. Soon, he became hooked on novenas. Once again, he was excited to spend time in prayer.

Jennifer's husband is not Catholic

and asks lots of questions about her faith. Her own religious education ended years ago, and she became dismayed when she couldn't answer his questions.

Learning that adult faith formation classes were starting in her parish, Jenn jumped at the chance to learn more. "Everything I discover helps me to grow stronger in my faith," Jennifer declared. "I'm so excited by what I'm learning that my husband wants to come, too."

Maureen's children are grown and on their own, yet she teaches a religious education class at her parish. "What better way to evangelize our faith than to share it with children? That's where I can do some real good," she said.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Epiphany?

On the feast of Epiphany, we recall the adoration of Jesus by the wise men, who had traveled "from the East." They were looking for the newborn king of the Jews, though they themselves were not Jewish. "Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and

worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world"

(*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #528).

The Epiphany celebrates the revelation of the Messiah to the Gentiles (non-Jews) and to the rest of the world.





Cycle B

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph | Luke 2:22-40

Mary and Joseph took the newborn baby Jesus to the Temple to be presented to God. When Simeon and Anna laid eyes upon Jesus, they proclaimed Him to be the Anointed One.

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Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



The Holy Family of

_____, _____ and _____.

Fill in their names, found in bold above. Draw in faces and color the picture.

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