



CHURCH OF SAINT TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS & ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL

DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CONTACT US

ST. TERESA CHURCH / RECTORY
1634 Victory Boulevard
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Staten Island, NY 10314
PHONE 718 442 5412
EMAIL rectory@stteresasi.org
WEBSITE www.saintteresasi.org
OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 4:30pm

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MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY 4:00PM
SUNDAY 7:30AM, 9:00AM,
10:30AM, 12:30PM, 5:00PM

*ALL THESE MASSES ARE IN ST. TERESA
CHURCH ON VICTORY BLVD., EXCEPT THE
9AM MASS WHICH IS IN ST. NICHOLAS
CHAPEL, ON NORTHERN BLVD. AT LA BAU
AVE., ONE BLOCK IN FROM VICTORY BLVD*

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8:30AM
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 12 Noon

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS, NOON TO 1:00PM



SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

Designated Sundays at 1:30
Please call the rectory to
check dates and to meet with
a priest or deacon.

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday, Noon to 1pm,
in confessionals in church

WEDDINGS

Please call and speak to a
priest to begin planning your
wedding

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anytime

NOVENA SERVICES

Mondays after 8:30 Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Fridays after Noon Mass
until Benediction at 3PM

RELIGION/ SCHOOL

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THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14	DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU!	NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
4:00PM Gloria Marino 7:30AM Emanuel Amatrudo 9:00AM For the People of Our Parish 10:30AM Patrick Glynn 12:30PM Paul Gaglio 5:00PM Arielle Newman		4:00PM Gloria Marino 7:30AM Edward, John and Genevieve Lewis 9:00AM Jacqueline Franklin 10:30AM For the People of Our Parish 12:30PM Lila and Danielle Pabone 5:00PM Gerard and Irma Muro
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17
8:30AM Jose Luis Rementeria	8:30AM Stefan, Krystyna Rugiel and Leszek Lubinski 12NOON Mary Perez	8:30AM George Dougherty 12NOON Dr. Hugh Smith
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20
8:30AM Janet Napolitano 12NOON Gloria Marino	8:30AM Mark Kennedy 12NOON Angelina Garcia	8:30AM Fred Joseph Fischer

IT IS A DEVOUT AND LOVING PRACTICE TO COME TO MASS AND PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED.

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Parochial Vicar

FATHER STEVEN CHALLMAN

Sunday Associate

DEACON JONATHAN REYES

Deacon

MRS. NICOLE C. FRESCA

St. Teresa-St. Rita Principal

MRS. LISA RAMETTA

Religious Education Coordinator

MRS. LISA NAUGHTON

Parish Manager

MR. EDWARD MORAND

Director of Music

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Your prayers are requested for all who are sick in our parish and community, especially: **Grace Agalo-os, Bethany Armstrong, Bernadette, Karen Bertuzzi, Michael Borik, Vincent Borzumato, Rosemary Callenberg, Eileen Carroll, Libby Cugini, Carina DeGiulio, Kevin Dunne, Patricia Dunne, Joanie Edwards, Augustine Ferrer, Mark & Arlene Fileccia, Michael G., Josephine Greco, Edward Gross, Elaine Guarlino, Ricky Gundacker, David Hall, Barbara Harris, Vincent Hicks, Barbara Hicks, Buddy Jarrel, Pat Jarrell, Jennifer Johnson, Fred Kabat, Donnalyn Lawton, Catherine Leone, Edward Lewis, Josephine Linton, Lomando, Linda Mahoney, Paul Mahoney, Janet Massa, Judy C. Mc., Marie McMillen, Christine Momole Susan Morris, Josephine Nastasi, Joseph Pastore, Ryan Pizzaro, Joanny Pizzuti, Sal Prestigiacomo, Gerry Pye, Edwin Rodriguez, Marty Rose, Ronald Rothmund, Jerry Scattaglia, Cheryl Spinelli, David Valle, Tita Valonzo, Michael Walsh, Jerry Yannaci Sr., Margaret White**

Pray for Our Parishioners in the Military

Staff Sergeant Michael R. Mazzuki, Jr. U.S. Army, Fort Stewart, GA

Staff Sergeant Connor M. O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corp., Camp Lejeune, NC

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR PRIESTS

Monsignor Belford 4pm, 9am, 10:30pm

Father Kallattil 7:30am, 12:30pm, Clove Lakes Home

Father Challman 5pm

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Teresa Church,

In our vestibule we proudly display a painting of Father Vincent Capodanno—a Staten Islander from Port Richmond who graduated from Curtis High School and desired to be a priest. He became a member of the Maryknoll Missionaries, and while working in Hong Kong during the Vietnam War, he saw a great need for more chaplains to help the spiritual and emotional needs of men and women serving our country in the Armed Forces. He volunteered, and was sent to Vietnam.

Father Capodanno was exceptionally close and helpful to his Marines (often called “Grunts”). They called him: “The Grunt Padre”. He died on a battlefield in Vietnam during a firefight he did not have to be in. Unarmed as chaplain, he ran from wounded soldier to wounded soldier, consoling them and administering the Sacrament of the Sick, known in those days as the Last Rites. Many needed that, because of their wounds. He himself was mortally wounded and died that day.

He is buried here at Saint Peter's Cemetery, with other members of the Capodanno family. Because of his sacrifice and commitment to Jesus and to his Marines, his memory is important to our community. There is a major Staten Island boulevard named for him, and a Father Capodanno Guild that tells his story to new generations. Family and friends hope that his extraordinary service and sacrificial death may lead our Catholic Church to consider him a Martyr, and call him a Saint. To receive information or lend support, join the Capodanno Guild (www.capodannoguild.org) and attend annual events.

Another self-supporting organization to admire is the Archdiocese for the Military Services USA (www.milarch.org). Archbishop Timothy Broglio has this full-time ministry and responsibility: to provide spiritual care to members of our military, and to their families, and to the military academies, and to patients in veterans hospitals. Several Auxiliary Bishops spend literally six months a year travelling from base to base, or ship to ship, visiting members of our nation's American military, providing the consolation of our Church's worship and sacraments. Read more in their magazine, named SALUTE.

I read an article last month in our Archdiocese's www.GoodNewsRoom.org about Veterans Day, which is our nation's day to salute the men and women who are serving or have served in the armed forces of our United States. A number of priests of our Archdiocese of New York have been chaplains, including Father James Collins who served in our parish, and John Cardinal O'Connor, who was a Navy chaplain for 27 years—and later became Archbishop of New York.

Many years before them, there was a great pastor and a World War I Chaplain: Father Francis Duffy of the famous Fighting 69th. Father Duffy was pastor of Holy Cross Parish on 42nd St. There is an excellent statue of him near the big red stairs and theater ticket booth in the area called Father Duffy Square.

Monsignor Joseph LaMorte, now the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of New York, was a chaplain for the New York Air National Guard for 40 years. He explained: “Twenty-five percent of the people you encounter would be Catholic, and another 25 percent were in need of spiritual assistance from their own denomination. Most of the men and women in service weren't connected with their own parish, so this was an opportunity for me to bring a kind of parish experience into their lives.”

After his four-decade career with the Air National Guard, Monsignor LaMorte retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel. “During those years as a chaplain, it was a great opportunity for me to work side by side with Jewish and Protestant chaplains... I was introduced to ecumenical and interfaith dialogue hands-on by being partners with other faith groups.”

Monsignor Thomas Sandi, administrator now at Holy Trinity Church in Manhattan, was an active-duty Air Force chaplain for 24 years. After being ordained in 1973 and assigned to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish here on Staten Island, he volunteered in 1976 to be a chaplain in the Air Force. During his 24-year career, Monsignor Sandi served at 12 different locations, including the Pentagon and Bosnia-Herzegovina. In 2000, he was honorably discharged from the Air Force with the rank of lieutenant colonel and returned to the Archdiocese of New York. “I think the discipline I learned at the seminary gave me the discipline to go into the Air Force.” And there his responsibilities gave him opportunities to be a very creative teacher.

Father Peter Pomposello, another St. Joseph's Seminary graduate, is an active-duty Army chaplain at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. “It's a great privilege to be with soldiers. If you think of the typical soldier, 18 or 19 years old and away from home for the first time, we bring home and support to them. Their home and church are with us. We encourage them to continue their faith; to come to church; and continue to live the sacramental life.”

Father Pomposello is also known by his online handle—Father Uncle Sam— as he documents his life as the garrison priest chaplain at Fort Bragg, which is the largest military United States Army base by population. He has been on active duty as a chaplain for the past 11 years. Being an Army chaplain was always his goal when he started on his path to priesthood after being in the Army Reserves at Fort Dix in New Jersey .

Father Pomposello and all these active duty and reserve chaplains are working hard to help everyone to keep their faith in God, and to bring more of them to know Jesus and be part of His Catholic Church. Let us help them every way we can.

Msgr. William Belford

Our Christmas Schedule of Masses begins on December 24 at 4pm in St. Teresa Church and at 4pm in St. Nicholas Chapel. There will be a Christmas Eve Mass at 9pm in our Church with choir singing at 8:30. On Christmas Day we will have Masses at 7:30am in Church, 9am in St. Nicholas Chapel, 10:30am in Church, and 12:30pm in Church. We will not have 5pm Mass on Christmas Day. But FYI: Saint Christopher Parish, 130 Midland Ave. in Grant City, will have a Christmas Mass at 6pm.

Get ready for Christmas and make a good confession. Cardinal Dolan declares December 15 (tomorrow) **RECONCILIATION MONDAY**. Both our priests will be in church to give the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 2pm to 4 and 6pm to 8.

MANY THANKS IN ADVANCE TO EVERYONE WHO IS SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND CONTRIBUTING THIS CHRISTMAS IN PERSON IN CHURCH OR BY OUR ON-LINE GIVING CALLED WESHARE, OR BY BRINGING OR SENDING A CHECK IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK. WE ARE TRULY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SACRIFICIAL GIVING TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH.



We have a lovely St. Teresa tradition of parishioners donating for the Christmas Flowers that will decorate our Church and Chapel. **Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes** are available now. The suggested flower offering is \$20. Donors' names will be displayed during Christmastime on a poster in church and chapel. To have the poster list made on time, we need your name and offering by Monday morning, December 15.

Help the Sisters and Brothers who helped you! Be sure to read a message from Cardinal Dolan on p. 5 about the situation

JOY

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

A Nativity Scene Erected In Central Park by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights

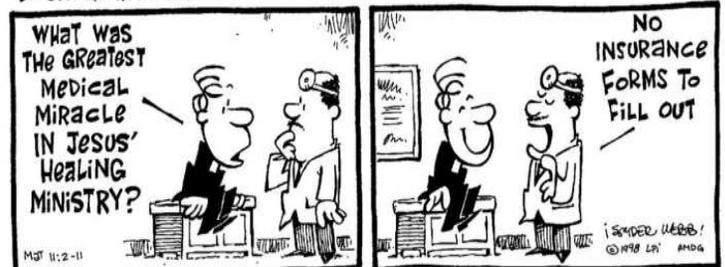
The Catholic League has again erected a life-size Nativity Scene in Central Park. It is located on 59th St. and 5th Avenue, at the Grand Army Plaza, across from the Plaza Hotel. We received a permit from the New York City Parks Department, as we have for decades.

We display our manger scene each year to let both New Yorkers, and tourists, know that the Christmas season begins with Jesus. Other celebrations that accompany Christmas are important, but mean nothing without acknowledging the historical truth of the birth of the Prince of Peace.

We hope that New Yorkers, and others visiting New York City this Christmas, will stop by and see the Catholic League's nativity scene in Central Park. It will be up through January 4, 2026.

Thank you for your faithful weekly donations to God for our Parish Support.
Parishioners brought envelopes to Mass with contributions of \$9,014.

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT





OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL
1011 FIRST AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022

December 7, 2025
Season of Advent
Jubilee Year of Hope

Dear friends in the Lord:

As we approach the annual collection for the *Retirement Fund for Religious* – an appeal that benefits nearly 25,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests – I reflect on the ministry of women and men religious – past and present – and I am grateful for the ways they have shaped my own faith, and the tremendous service they have offered our archdiocese.

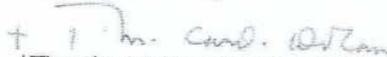
In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, parish religious education programs, hospitals, and works of mercy with very little compensation, leaving their religious communities with a shortage of retirement savings. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain committed to their vocations, accepting the limitations of aging and embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Your gift, which will be collected on December 14, offers support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders. Rising health care costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet day-to-day needs for medications, nursing assistance, and other necessities. Over 20 congregations in the archdiocese received more than \$2,000,000 in grants from this national collection.

I write to you today and express my thanks for last year's contribution of \$344,809 and ask you to pray with me for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured; they are praying for us. To learn more about the collection and whom it supports, visit <https://retiredreligious.org/>.

With gratitude and prayerful best wishes to all for a blessed Advent season, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,


†Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York

TMD:djlf

GROWING 
WITH THE **Gospel**
CYCLE A

 **COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

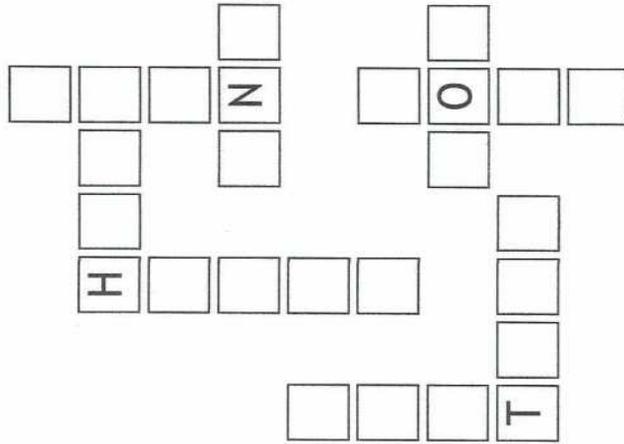


3rd Sunday of Advent • Matthew 11:2-11

 **PUZZLE**

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Tell John what you have heard and seen.



 **MISSION**

If you have any videos that tell Bible stories, watch one or two together with your family.

 BECAUSE VIBRANT CHARACTERS MATTER



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