



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

MAY 3, 2026 | 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CONTACT US

ST. TERESA CHURCH / RECTORY
1634 Victory Boulevard
Castleton Corners
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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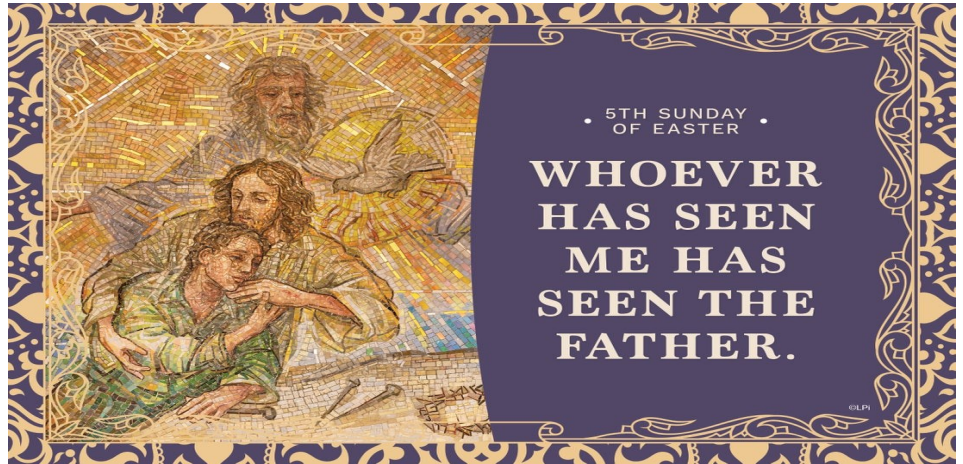
MASS SCHEDULE

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

**St. Teresa Religious
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THIS SUNDAY, MAY 3	DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU!	NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 10
4:00PM Jack D'Ugo 7:30AM Annamaria Caruselle and Mark Kennedy 9:00AM For the People of Our Parish 10:30AM Edna Bassill 12:30PM Robert and Jean Tronolone 5:00PM Jack Marino		4:00PM Margaret M. and Thomas J. Burke 7:30AM Ann Marie Kotowicz, Rose Ann Repaci and Cusimano Family 9:00AM Barbara Eiseman Hovszpian 10:30AM For the People of Our Parish 12:30PM Mother's Day Novena 5:00PM Michael Ward
MONDAY, MAY 4	TUESDAY, MAY 5	WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
8:30AM Aniello Manfredi and Giuseppe Dalia	8:30AM Mary Whalen 12NOON Lincoln Hession	8:30AM For Peace in Memory of Dorothy Day 12NOON Leszek Lubinski, Krystyna and Stefan Ruginel
THURSDAY, MAY 7	FRIDAY, MAY 8	SATURDAY, MAY 9
8:30AM Al and Rita Zucal 12:00NOON Lawrence Lamazza	8:30AM Theodore Robert Coletti 12NOON Anna Anthony Peres	8:30AM Sherri McColgan

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

SERVED BY

MSGR. WILLIAM BELFORD

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FATHER JOHN KALLATTIL, VC

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, Anne Lamantia, 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 Prestigiaco, 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, 10:30am

Father Kallattil 4pm, 7:30am, 12:30. Clove Lakes Home

Father Challman 5pm

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Teresa Parish,

On this Sunday before Mothers Day, I think you will be interested to read about Fernando Mendoza, a football player who is a committed Catholic, the Heisman Trophy winner, the quarterback who led Indiana University to its first national championship, and who was the No.1 player chosen in the National Football League Draft held in Pittsburgh on April 23.

On Draft Night, when he could have been the center of attention, Mendoza chose to stay at home and watch the draft on TV, surrounded by his family, and close to the person who has shaped him the most: his mother.

Though every other possible first round pick wanted to be in Pittsburgh for celebration and interviews, an article by OSV (Our Sunday Visitor media) reported that Mendoza stayed at home in Florida to share the night and make memories with everybody who was part of his football journey: "Mentors, coaches, family, friends. Being able to share that memory with all of them is going to be the best memory that I can make, rather than limit it to ten or twelve people in Pittsburgh."

For Mendoza, this night was not simply a career milestone. It was a moment of gratitude and presence. At the center of everything was concern for his mother, Elsa, who has long battled multiple sclerosis, an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system, and has confined her to a wheelchair.

The physical strain on her and the logistics of travel made the choice to stay at home practical. But his reasoning also goes deeper. "I see her fighting every single day, and with a smile on her face," Mendoza told ESPN sportscaster Rich Eisen. "So there's no excuse for me to have a bad day, a bad play or a bad game. I'm always trying to have an optimistic approach, give the best and do the best for my teammates." That perspective, shaped not by highlight reels but by daily witness, forms the foundation of his life. And it is inseparable from his Catholic faith, which he practices openly and consistently.

'This moment is bigger than me.' Among on-field vignettes that define Mendoza: back on January 19 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Mendoza delivered one of the most dramatic moments in recent college football history. Facing fourth-and-four at the 12-yard line in the national championship game, he ran into a wall of defenders, absorbed multiple hits, yet dragged himself across the goal line for a touchdown that helped secure a 27–21 victory and cap a perfect 16-0 season.

Moments later, amid the celebration, he redirected the spotlight. "This moment is bigger than me," he said. "First, I want to thank God." This appreciation was not a one-time sentiment. The month before, at the Heisman Trophy ceremony for the best 2025 college football player on December 13 in New York City, Mendoza again placed faith at the forefront. "First, I want to thank God for giving me the opportunity to chase a dream that once felt a world away."

Then he turned to his mother, and spoke directly to her: *"Mami, this is your trophy as much as it is mine. You've always been my biggest fan. You're my light. You're my biggest supporter. Your sacrifice, courage, love, those have been my first playbook, and the playbook that I'm going to carry through my entire life. You taught me that toughness doesn't need to be loud. It can be quiet and strong. It's choosing hope. It's believing in yourself when the world doesn't give you much reason to."*

Those words reflect a path shaped by work, patience and resilience. Mendoza was just a two-star recruit out of Christopher Columbus High in Miami, a Catholic school run by the Marist Brothers. After beginning his college career at the University of California, Berkeley, Mendoza transferred to Indiana, where he became the centerpiece of an amazing turnaround. Just two years removed from a 3–9 season, the Indiana team surged to a national championship with Mendoza leading the way.

His arrival later this year in the NFL carries similar expectations. The Raiders have struggled for stability at quarterback. Mendoza steps into that uncertainty as a potential cornerstone, a player expected to restore direction to a franchise searching for that. Yet for all the pressure that comes with being the top pick, Mendoza's identity remains unchanged.

Those close to him describe his steady, lived faith. He reportedly prays the rosary every Friday, listens to Mass before games, and strives to maintain focus. He attends Mass regularly and embraces the sacraments, not as routine, but as grounding his life. Dominican Father Patrick Hyde, pastor of St. Paul Catholic Center at Indiana University, has seen that consistency firsthand: "Fernando backs up his words on TV by giving glory to God at Sunday Mass," Father Hyde wrote on X. "He shows up out of love for God, not for human praise." And in a meaningful gesture, Mendoza brought his Heisman Trophy to his college's St. Paul Catholic Center on Christmas Eve, not for display, but as an act of gratitude.

Weeks later, after the national championship, was won, he stood on the field, with confetti falling, and history secured, And Mendoza was embracing his mother. Both were in tears. "I want to give all the glory and thanks to God," he said.

Msgr. William Belford

TODAY is Food Pantry Sunday

Your freewill contribution after Mass will provide gift certificates to more than 65 local families and individuals who need some help to insure that they and their children have enough to eat. Other donations can be sent by mail or left at the rectory at other times.

MASS BOOK RESERVATIONS FOR JULY TO DECEMBER 2026 WILL OPEN ON THURSDAY MAY 7

Many people faithfully commemorate the dates of loved ones' anniversaries of birth, death or other special days in their lives by requesting a Mass for their intention in our church. Coming to Mass on those days and praying to God for our loved ones expresses our connection with them, and we who remember them also benefit from praying for them. So: the Mass Book for July to December 2026 will be open in the rectory on Thursday May 7, beginning at 10am, for those who want to come in. Any questions, please call Lisa at 718 442-5412.

A big day that no husband or wife should ignore is your anniversary day or year. 25 years and 50 years of married life are significant numbers that are worthy of celebration and special thanks to God. So here is an invitation and reminder for our parishioners who are Golden Anniversary or Silver Anniversary Couples this year.

Our parish wants to honor you, pray with you, and have breakfast with you and your family. The details: 10:30 Mass on Sunday May 17th in St. Teresa Church. This Mass with renewal of vows is followed by a delicious breakfast served by the men of our Holy Name Society. Please call Lisa at the Rectory 718 442 5412 by Friday to say that you are a Silver or Golden Jubilarian and want to come for Mass and breakfast on May 17th.

Also: If you married in 1976, then this is your year to celebrate as Golden Jubilarians with Archbishop Ronald Hicks. Our Parish Mass on May 17th is for both Silver and Golden couples. But if this is your 50th Anniversary, Arch-bishop Ronald Hicks invites you and all Golden Jubilarians to have seats of honor in Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday June 7, at a 2:30 pm Mass. Please call Lisa at the Rectory 718 442 5412 for more details and to register for the Cathedral by Wednesday May 20th.

A PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

That people who mourn will receive hope and strength from Jesus' post-resurrection appearances, and look forward to a reunion with their loved ones in heaven, let us pray to the Lord...

MEMORIAL DAY OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT MEMORIAL DAY

All Are Cordially Invited To A Tribute
To The Men And Women Who Gave Their Lives
So We Could Be Free...

Mass At Our Lady of Pity RC Church

1616 Richmond Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10314

Friday, May 22nd at 9:30 AM

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated followed by a service at The FIVE STAR POST MONUMENT, #1857 American Legion where Five Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients will be recognized:

Sergeant William Shemin - US Army - WW1

Sergeant Henry Johnson - US Army - WW1

Lieutenant Vincent R. Capodanno - US Navy - Vietnam War

Private Joseph F. Merrell - US Army - WWII

Corporal Desmond T. Doss - US Army - WWII

The monument is located outside of the Church near the rear parking lot.

Matthew J. Scamardella

Past Post Commander

Five Star Post #1857 American Legion

718-761-5544

matthewfh@matthewfuneralhome.com

Thank you for your faithful weekly donations to God for our Parish Support.

*WeShare online amount was \$1,920.
Parishioners brought envelopes to Mass
with contributions of \$5,403.*



Federal Scholarship Tax Credit: What It Means for New York Families

What is it?

The federal scholarship tax credit gives taxpayers a 100% credit of up to \$1,700 for donations to Scholarship Granting Organizations, which fund student scholarships, helping families cover education costs in Catholic and public schools.

What does it mean for you?

If you owe federal income tax, you could take up to \$1,700 of what you would otherwise pay to Washington, and instead redirect it toward scholarships that support students in New York.

Who could qualify?

Eligibility for scholarships extends to families earning up to 300% of the regional median income, which could include more than 90% of K-12 students in many areas.

What does it mean for New York?

If Governor Hochul allows New York to participate, millions of dollars in privately funded scholarships will help families afford tuition, tutoring, special needs services, education technology, supplies, and more.



Take action today!

The decision to bring these scholarships to New York rests with Governor Hochul. By sending her messages of support, you can help ensure New York families have access to millions in privately funded scholarships and the educational opportunities they make possible.

- 1 Go to www.nyscatholic.org
- 2 Under "Action Center" in the menu, click "Latest Action Alerts"
- 3 Click "Will Governor Hochul Opt-in to Support Kids & Schools?" and send your message

or scan here:



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COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

5th Sunday of Easter • John 14:1-12

PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

HEARTS
TRUST
PREPARE

PLACE
GOING
FATHER

BELIEVE
LIVING
MIRACLES

A T N A Y H O F N T W
H M O P R E A P A R E H
A I S A E A S T A N I M
T R U S F H A E T
H A E F H T O E W L C
N C Y A O S U R S I A
S L H P B E L I E V E
O E W L U T S H T I H
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MISSION

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