

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

April 22, 2018

Staten Island, New York 10310



Reverend Monsignor Peter G. Finn, Pastor
Reverend Francisco Lanzaderas
Reverend Roland Antony Raj, MMI
Reverend Monsignor Francis V. Boyle, Pastor Emeritus

MASSSES:

Saturday in the Church: 5:00 PM (Vigil), Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM.
Weekdays in the Church: 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Saturday in the Church: 9:00 AM.
Holy Days in the Church: 7:00 PM (Vigil), 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 12:00 to 1:00 PM; 4:15 to 5:00 PM.
Anytime upon reasonable request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sunday at 2:00 PM. (Except during July & August, then only on the First and Third Sunday and other specified days)
Arrangements should be made at least one month in advance with the priest of the Parish. Parents of a first child and parents who are new to Blessed Sacrament must attend a Baptism Instruction Class which is held the second Tuesday evening of every month (except July and August) at 7:30 P.M. in the Parish House Meeting Room. Godparents should be Practicing Catholics, and must obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their Parish.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made about six months in advance, with a priest of the Parish. Couples must attend Pre-Cana Conferences.

SICK CALLS - At any time.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA - Every Monday after the 9:00 AM Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - First Friday from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.

NEW PARISHIONERS - Welcome to our Parish.

We invite all parishioners to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself after Mass and register at the Parish House Office weekdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Kindly notify us if you change your address.

PARISH HOUSE

30 Manor Road
442-1581

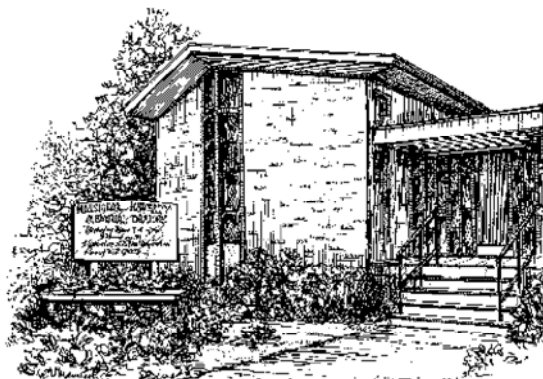
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

SCHOOL

Mr. Joseph Cocozello
Principal
830 Delafield Avenue
442-3090

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sister Anne Dolores Van Wagenen, C.S.J.B. - D.R.E.
830 Delafield Avenue
448-0378



TITAN LEAGUE BREAKFAST CLUB

The Titan League Breakfast Club will meet on Thursday, April 26th at 10am at the Dakota Diner.

A GRANDPARENT'S PRAYER

Dearest God

Thank you for the wonderful gift of my grandchildren. Please help me to be a good and loving grandparent. Let me gently pass on to them the great treasure of my faith.

Show me how to teach them compassion. Through my witness, let my grandchildren learn to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty and care for those who suffer.

Give me the desire, strength and time to assist my family in ways most helpful to them. May they learn from me how to be servants to one another.

Inspire me to give my grandchildren a deep appreciation for the splendor of your creation.

Together, let us treat this world gently - for the sake of grandchildren everywhere.

Help me to respect the wishes and the decisions of my grandchildren's parents. Even if I am tempted to disagree, please remind me that it is you who have set these parents in authority over my grandchildren. Lead me on the path of contentment, so I will know how to teach my grandchildren this most important life lesson. Let us be grateful for all you have given us, knowing that it is enough.

And finally, dear Lord, when you call me home, let me leave my grandchildren a little closer to you, because of the time you have allowed me to share with them.

Amen

SUNDAY COLLECTION

<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
\$4,812 (Weekly)	\$9,983 (Weekly)
\$1,971 (Monthly)	\$20,826 (Easter)

ATTENDANCE

<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>
723 (Adults)	1,519 (Adults)
151 (Children)	400 (Children)
874	1,919

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DECEASED MEMBERS
OF THE DRONNE FAMILY**

PRAY FOR THE SICK

The sick are comforted just knowing that you pray for them. In your charity please remember: Margaret Pittman-Boyle, Douglas Pfleging, Jr., Phyllis Ribaud, Ann Socci, Concetta Chicolo, Mary Kenny, Jean Carter, Jane Redmond, Carolyn DeStefano, Robert Tursi, Nicholas Toto, Marykate Rose, Peggy Travers, Mary Anne Blaine, Jean Cunningham, Jean Elmadary, Alan March, Sebastian Lattuga, Grayce Novaro, Angela Siuzdak, Helen Ramsey, Katherine Barbera, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Michael Caruso, Patricia Connelly, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Danielle Ziegler, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, Katie Hanley, Jose Ruiz, Rosemary Callahan, Elizabeth Coyne, Robert Hammerton, Catherine Vitale, Capala Lusi, Jack McGarry, Robert McQuade, Brian Nelson, Julia Micol, Molly Cafaro, Bob Miuccio, Maryann & Danny Brown, James McGarrigle, James Finnigan, Robert Blake, Lelia Moran, Gail Kees, Michelina Farley, Cara Healy, Eileen Doran, Phyllis Morrell, Marion Coolen, Michael Roskowinski, Barbara Braisted, Jeff Orr, Debbie Caporale, Ana Ely Diaz, Ruth Orr, John G. Ferriera, Gina King, Anna Scampas, Kaitlyn, Elinor Walshe, Jerry Scully, Debra Olsen, and Joan Callahan.

SYMPATHY

Remember the soul and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 John Beagen (10th Anniv.)

9:00 Brian Colgan

TUESDAY

7:00 Frank Grimes

9:00 Anna Gangemi

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Margaret Lutfey

9:00 Bernard Phillip

THURSDAY

7:00 George Froehlich

9:00 Michael Dicks

FRIDAY

7:00 George Froehlich

9:00 Marie Evans

SATURDAY

9:00 John Buldo (Living)

5:00 Doris O'Toole

SUNDAY

8:00 Nicolina & Angelo DeLisa

9:30 John & Peggy Ciano

12:30 Ann M. Piazza (4th Anniv.)

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 29, 2018**ALTAR SERVERS**

5:00 PM Vigil	Team	3
8:00 AM	Team	4
9:30 AM	Team	5
11:00 AM	Team	1
12:30 PM	Team	2

LECTORS

J. Hansen
C. Burns
M. Boyd & Student
J. Pace
D. Leddy

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

D. Vigliotti & J. Wright
A. Coscia & E. Hodgins
A. Aponte & W. Boyd
J. Boyle & K. Boyle
E. Checkett & G. Checkett

LETTER FROM THE CARDINAL

Dear friends in the Lord,

As you know, every year we here in the Archdiocese of New York take up a special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. During the time of communist reign in many countries, practicing the faith became illegal, church buildings were confiscated and people were forced to hide and secretly share the truths of the Gospel. After decades of institutional oppression and persecution, Catholics still struggle to rebuild not only their physical places of worship, but also their church ministries and communities. With your support of this collection, the Church is providing resources to these communities to breathe new life into the faith once again.

For example, the nation of Albania, this small country suffered greatly under communist rule. In the capital of Tirana, located in the middle of the country, the Church is continuing to restore not only its structures, but also the spirituality of the faithful after years of oppression. In 1996, the congregation of sisters known as the Company of Mary Our Lady founded a kindergarten the first Catholic school in the entire capital city. Since then, they have opened a school for grades 1-9 and a daily activity center for children. These sisters are now serving over 700 children daily from all different background, faiths, and ethnic groups. With your support of Church in Central and Eastern Europe, these sisters will be able to make critical repairs to their building to continue to serve. Your generosity helps them to continue teaching children and equips the congregation to provide a space to build peaceful communities.

Be assured that your donations make a difference for those still struggling in the aftermath of communism so, please prayerfully consider how you can support this special collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.

Thank you for your help to restore the Church and build the future in Central and Eastern Europe.

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM

The Parish Nurse's office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. If you wish to make an appointment with the Parish Nurse, Peggy Smith, please call her at 718-447-9657.

FROM THE PASTOR

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter at our 11:00am Mass we offer the Sacrament of Anointing praying God bless us with good health physically, mentally and spiritually. And on Wednesday this week we celebrate Grandparents Day.

Pope Francis earlier this year spoke of:

*Without grandparents there is no future
"A people that does not care of grandparents, that does not treat them well, has no future!" "The elderly have wisdom", he says. "They are entrusted with a great responsibility: to transmit their life experience, their family history, the history of a community, of a people". "Let us keep in mind our elders, so that sustained by families and institutions", they "may with their wisdom and experience collaborate in the education of new generations".*

Our Sunday Visitor In Focus describes 5 Goals for Catholic Grandparents, by Susan M. Erschen.

When a son or daughter becomes a parent, something marvelous happens to us. We become grandparents! The ancient blessing from Psalm 128:5-6 is fulfilled for us: "May you...live to see your children's children." A new life wraps itself around our hearts, our eyes fill with tears of joy, and we are blessed in a most amazing way!

Although parents are the most important teachers in a child's life, grandparents also have a role to play. Pope Francis tells us in Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love): "Very often it is grandparents who ensure that the most important values are passed down to their grandchildren, and many people can testify that they owe their initiation into the Christian life to their grandparents. Their words, their affection, or simply their presence help children to realize that history did not begin with them, that they are now part of an age-old pilgrimage and that they need to respect all that came before them" (No. 192).

PAGE FOUR

Pope Francis wrote in *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel): "An authentic faith...always involves a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave this earth somehow better than we found it" (No. 183). In our relationship with our grandchildren, we have a chance to show just how authentic our faith is. We can transmit our values. We can work to make their lives just a little better. We can make a difference. Let us not miss this precious opportunity.

With that in mind, here are five goals we might want to consider.

1) Teach them compassion - Compassion is a cornerstone of our faith. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus calls us to be compassionate. In the story of the Judgment of the Nations (Mt 25:31-46), those who fed the hungry and gave drink to the thirsty are the ones invited by God to enter the kingdom. Compassion separated the sheep from the goats. The more we can show our grandchildren how to be compassionate, the more we will lead them closer to God.

2) Be ready to serve - In today's busy world, it seems most grandparents serve the young families in some way. With more two-career families, round the clock work schedules and almost constant electronic connection to the workplace, young parents often need their own parents to help with childcare and scheduling conflicts. Everywhere we go, we see grandparents tending their children's children. They are at the grocery store, the playground, the library, restaurants and morning Mass. Gone are the days when grandparents could say: "I raised my children. I am not doing it again." Today's families need our support. If we want to spend quality time with our grandchildren, it often involves also caring for them. Grandfathers and grandmothers are now a "stay-at-home" grandparents. Many retired grandparents spend one or more days a week caring for their grandchildren. Even out-of-town grandparents are asked to give service. They may use vacation time to care for their grandchildren so the parents can go on a business trip or have a quiet weekend away.

3) Show them love of nature - It is no secret that Pope Francis has made love of nature and care of the environment a priority for every Christian. Yet, it is not easy to love or care for something you do not know. Today, many children do not know nature. They often spend long hours in day care facilities and classrooms. Their free time may be spent in front of an electronic screen of some type. For all these reasons, exposing our grandchildren to the wonder and awe of God's creation might be a most important goal for grandparents. Pope Francis tells us in *Laudato Si'* (On Care for Our Common Home): "We were not meant to be inundated by cement, asphalt, glass and metal and deprived of physical contact with nature" (No.44). Let us take our grandchildren outside. One of my grandchildren's favorite activities is a night walk. We carry flashlights and look at the moon and the stars. On daytime walks, we stop often to admire the details on a butterfly, or pick up a pretty rock. We have stopped to watch a spider spin a web or a baby snake slither off the path. One grandmother I know put up bird feeders in her yard and bought picture books to help her grandchildren identify the birds that visit.

When we expose our grandchildren to nature, we expose them to God. The French philosopher Voltaire once said: "I cannot image how the clockwork of the universe can exist without a clockmaker." Pope Francis also reminds us there is a divine artist who has crafted the beauty of each new season. The Holy Father wrote: "Creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father". What a beautiful image Francis paints of God reaching out his mighty hand to offer us a pretty tulip, a perfect snowflake or a dawn that looks-as my granddaughter once said - like it is swirled with the colors of a lollipop. The more we can teach our grandchildren to appreciate these wonders, the greater the chance they will want to preserve them.

In his 2015 address on the White House lawn, Pope Francis pleaded with us: "When it comes to the care of our common home we are living at a critical moment in history. We still have time to make the changes needed."

Certainly, we do not want our grandchildren to raise their own children in a world that has become an industrial wasteland. Let us actively work to teach them to love and care for all of God's creation.

4) Respect their parents' wishes - One of the hardest jobs for a grandparent might be to keep our mouths shut. Today's world is vastly different from the world in which we raised our children. This presents current parents with challenges we did not face. Today's parents need to determine how to carry their beloved child through a raging sea of new technologies, advanced medical research, alarming social trends and demanding expectations. Our advice may not always be up to date or wanted. It is important that, as grandparents, we respect the decisions the parents make for their children - even if we do not always understand or agree. Young parents must make their own rules based on new research and information. This is good. This is progress. It has been that way since the beginning of time. Jesus encouraged this. He taught: "Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to this wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate" (Mt 19:4-6).

5) Help them be content - Contentment is possibly one of the best feelings in the world. It wraps us in peace, gratitude and joy. It is a taste of heaven here on earth. It is a gift we surely want to give our grandchildren. A secret for contentment can be found in Psalm 23. Its first verse says: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I lack." Older versions of the Psalm often say: "I shall not want." We hold on to this line as a promise from God. We trust God will lead us someday to a place of perfect peace, harmony and contentment. However, maybe we would be more content right now if we took the words "I shall not want" as a command rather than just a promise. Wanting too much almost always leads to discontent. It is not easy to stop wanting. One lesson to teach our grandchildren is the difference between need and want. Grandchildren will often tell us they need something - a new toy or a snack. Our first question for them should be: "Do you need it or do you want it?" We can also teach them how to admire something without possessing it. We will be doing our grandchildren a favor if we can help them realize they do not need to get some new possession in order to have had a great time. Fun memories should be cherished more than souvenirs. The world is not meant to be a shopping mall. We should look at it more as a museum. Let us admire without hoping to have all we see.

God bless Grandpa and Grandma
And all God's Children
Msgr. Finn