

Church of St. Theresa

A Caring Community Reaching Out To One Another in Christ

2855 St. Theresa Avenue, Bronx, New York

MAY 17, 2015

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday at 5:00pm,
Sunday at 7:30am, 9:00am(Italian),
10:30am(Family Mass) 12:15pm ,
1:30PM(Spanish) & 5:00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday thru Saturday 8:00am & 9:00am

DEVOTIONS

Miraculous Medal & St. Theresa Novenas
after Monday morning Masses
St. Anthony Novena after Tuesday
morning Masses.

Thursday 12 Noon Mass
& Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition & Benediction of the
Blessed Sacrament
First Friday 7:30pm to 8:30pm followed
by silent adoration.

CONFESSION

Saturdays from 4:00pm to 5:00pm
and by appointment

BAPTISMS

Baptisms take place most Sundays
after the 12:15pm Mass.
We ask parents to attend the Baptism
preparation meeting. Register at the
Rectory for the meeting. The date of
the Baptism will be discussed at the
Baptism meeting.

MARRIAGES

Call the Rectory at least six months in
advance of the wedding date to make an
appointment with parish clergy.



Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derivan, Pastor

Rev. Joseph Ligory, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Thomas D'Angelo, In Residence
Rev. Robert Imbelli, Weekend Associate
Deacon Anthony P. Cassaneto

Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, Principal
Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Dir. of Religious Education
Dr. Liya Petrides, Music Director

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FAX: 718-892-1146

WEBSITE: www.sttheresachurchbronx.org
E-MAIL: rectorystc@aol.com

SCHOOL: 718-792-3688
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 718-792-8434

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN:

Preparing for the Feast of Pentecost Next Sunday:

Next Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to the apostles and filled them with His grace. The Holy Spirit came to the apostles in the forms of wind and fire-wind to blow away their fears and fire to put them on fire with the zeal to spread the message of the Risen Christ. Before Pentecost the apostles were just frightened for their lives. They were gathered in the Upper Room where Jesus visited them after His Resurrection. But now they had seen Him ascend to His Father in heaven. They must have felt alone, even abandoned. What would they do without Jesus?

But they were not entirely alone. The Acts of the Apostles says that “all devoted themselves to prayer with Mary the Mother of Jesus.” In moments of deepest fear, what does a child do? He or she turns to mother who gives both consolation and strength. That is the way it is in our family life and it must have been the way for the apostles in the days before Pentecost. Very often in paintings of the day of Pentecost, the apostles are depicted with tongues of fire over their heads. But the paintings always portray Our Blessed Mother Mary in the midst of the apostles. She who received the Holy Spirit on the day of the Annunciation when the Angel Gabriel asked her to be the Mother of the Son of God, she would help her new children, the apostles and the others, to prepare for the Holy Spirit to come to them.

We can imagine Our Blessed Mother saying to the apostles, “Dear children, remember His words, ‘Peace be with you.’ You have nothing to fear. And remember what He told you, that He would send upon you the Holy Spirit, the “Spirit of truth,” to guide you into all truth. Instead of being afraid then, prepare your hearts for what is to come. Be ready when my Jesus sends His Holy Spirit upon you, just as He promised.”

Mary must have strengthened the apostles in that Upper Room on the days before Pentecost. After all, that is what a mother does: she gives strength to her children. On the Cross, the Crucified Jesus gave His Mother to us when He said to her and to St. John, who stood for all of us, “Woman behold your son.” She who was the Mother of Jesus was now Mother of His church. We are all her sons and daughters and we have Jesus’ word for that.

Turn to Our Mother Mary in this week before Pentecost. Pray that she will help us to open our hearts more and more to the Holy Spirit. She helped the apostles to prepare for the first Pentecost. She will help us to prepare for this Pentecost too.

“Mary, Mother of Pentecost, Mother of the Church, pray for us. Amen”

Father Derivan



DEVOTION TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER

During the month of May, the month of Our Lady, we will present here information on various devotions that are popular among Catholic people.

Our Lady is honored in every country and in every culture. May our devotion to Mary, Mother of Jesus, Mother of the church, continue to grow and may she help us to come ever closer to Jesus her Son.



ST. THERESA FEAST COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of the Feast Committee on Tuesday, May 26th at 7:30pm in the large rectory meeting room. Our meetings are always open to all our parishioners and local Residents. Please feel free to join us if you’d like to see how our committee works, and to bring up any ideas or suggestions you may have or even get involved by volunteering. We are always looking for new faces and good help.



**ST THERESA SCHOOL
BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

St. Theresa School is collecting Box Tops for Education. We receive 10 cents for every box top we send in. Thank you to the efforts of our families and many parishioners, every penny helps in allowing us to make improvements to our school and supply



ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

The St. Anthony Novena is every Tuesday at 7:00pm. Come join the other devotees for the 13 week Novena as they petition, praise and thank God for all the blessings received through the intercession of St. Anthony.



CONFESSIONS are heard every Saturday from 4:00PM-5:00PM or by appointment in the Rectory.



PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Most Holy Spirit, the Divine Helper, Father of the poor, Comforter of the afflicted, Light of hearts, Sanctifier of souls.. I adore You with profound homage: I bless You a thousand times, and with the Angels who stand before your throne, I also say: "Holy, holy, holy." I firmly believe that You are eternal, of one substance with the Father and the Son. I hope in Your goodness that You will save and sanctify my soul. I love You, O Divine Love, with all my affections above all things of this world, because You are Infinite Goodness, alone worthy of all my love. And since in my ingratitude and blindness to your holy inspirations, I have so often offended You by my sins, with tears in my eyes I beg your pardon more for having offended You the Supreme Good, than for any other evil. I offer You this most cold heart of mine, and I pray You to pierce it with a ray of Your Light, and with the spark of Your fire, which shall melt the hard ice of my iniquities.

You Who filled the soul of the most holy Mary with immense graces, and inflamed the hearts of the apostles with holy zeal, I beseech You, inflame my heart also with Your love.

- You are the divine Spirit; give me courage against all evil.
- You are Fire; enkindle me with a burning desire for Your love.
- You are Light; enlighten my mind with the knowledge of eternal things.
- You are the Dove; give me innocence of life.
- You are the gentle Breeze; disperse the storms of my passions.
- You are the Tongue; teach me how to bless You always.
- You are the Cloud; shelter me under the shadow of Your protection.

And lastly, You are the Giver of all heavenly gifts; animate me, I beseech You, with Your grace; Sanctify me with Your love; enlighten me with Your wisdom; adopt me by Your goodness as Your child and save me in Your infinite mercy; so that I may ever bless You, praise You, and love You along with the Father and the Son first during this life on earth, and then in heaven for all eternity. Amen



Every Wednesday there is an open AA meeting 8:00PM at the Pelham Grand, 1870 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, NY
All Are Welcome!

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Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2015 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Saturday, June 20th or Sunday, June 21st at 2:00pm. Pre-registration is required. Please contact your parish for registration. The closing date to register for the Mass is Tuesday, May 19, 2015. This event is sponsored by the Family Life Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New York.



**ST. RITA OF CASCIA
MAY 22**

Rita was born in 1381 in a little Italian village. Her parents were older. They had begged God to send them a child. They brought Rita up well. Rita wanted to enter the convent when she was Fifteen, but her parents decided that she should marry instead. The man they chose for Rita turned out to be a mean and unfaithful husband. He had such a violent temper that everyone in the neighborhood was afraid of him. Yet, for eighteen years, his wife patiently took all his insults. Her prayers, gentleness and goodness finally won his heart. He apologized to Rita for the way he had treated her and he returned to God.

Rita's happiness over her husband's conversion did not last long. One day, shortly after, he was murdered. Rita was shocked and heartbroken. But she forgave the murderers, and tried to make her two sons forgive them, too. She saw that the boys, instead, were determined to avenge their father's death. Rita prayed that they would die rather than commit murder. Within several months, both boys became seriously ill. Rita nursed them lovingly. During their illness, she persuaded them to forgive, and to ask God's forgiveness for themselves. They did and both died peacefully.

Now her husband and her children were dead. Left alone in the world, Rita tried three times to enter the convent in Cascia. The rules of the convent did not permit a woman who had been married to join even if her husband had died. Rita did not give up, however. At last, the nuns made an exception for her. In the convent, Rita was outstanding for her obedience and charity. She had great devotion to the crucified Jesus. Once, while praying, she asked him to let her share some of his pain. One thorn from his crown of thorns pierced her forehead and made a sore that never healed. In fact, it grew so bad and gave off such an odor that St. Rita had to stay away from the others. She was happy to suffer to show her love for Jesus. St. Rita died on May 22, 1457, when she was seventy-six. Like St. Jude, St. Rita is often called "Saint of the Impossible."

Maybe someone we know and love is not living close to God. We can ask St. Rita to help that person. We can ask her also to help us know how to pray for that person.

MAY 17, 2015

THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
Rev. Matthew R. Mauriello

The medal of the Immaculate Conception is more popularly known as the Miraculous Medal. It was designed By the Blessed Virgin Mary who manifested the design of the medal to a young novice of the Daughters of Charity in the Chapel of the Motherhouse, 140 Rue du Bac, Paris, France.



Zoe Laboure was born in 1806 and entered the religious congregation founded by St. Vincent de Paul at the age of 24 in April of 1830 and took the name Catherine. The first apparition of Our Lady took place three Months later on July 18th at 11:30pm. Seated in the sister's chapel, the Blessed Virgin told Sister Catherine that she had been chosen for a special mission for the glory of God. It would bring much suffering, but would also bring abundant graces to many.

On November 27, 1830, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to the young novice a second time. Mary was beautifully robed, standing on a globe, half visible. In her hands, Mary held another globe representing the world. Suddenly this globe disappeared and on Our Lady's fingers were many rings with precious stones. From these gems came rays of light shining on all sides. Mary then explained to her: "The globe represents the whole world and every single person. The rays are the symbols of the graces I shed upon those who ask for them."



There was a frame formed around the Blessed Virgin within which was written in letters of gold this prayer: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." The novice then heard a voice: "Have a medal struck according to this model. All who wear it will receive great graces; they should wear it around the neck." The tableau seemed to turn and on the reverse side, Sister Catherine saw the letter M surmounted by a bar and a cross; beneath this were the hearts of Jesus and Mary, the one crowned with thorns and the other pierced with a sword.

When Sister Catherine related this vision to her confessor, Fr. Aladel, he asked her if there was to be any writing on the reverse of the medal. He told her to ask the Blessed Virgin what to put there. The sister obeyed and prayed to Our Lady for an answer. One day during her meditation, the Blessed Virgin responded with a voice which said, "the M and the two hearts express enough."

With the approval of Monsignor de Quelen, Archbishop of Paris, the first 1,500 medals representing this vision were struck and issued in June 1832 and many conversions resulted from their spread abroad. The most striking among these was the conversion of Alphonse Ratisbonne, which took place in Rome in 1842. Although he was Jewish, he reluctantly agreed to wear the medal, received a vision of Our Lady and founded a religious congregation after his conversion. On account of these wonderful conversions and other miracles, the medal has come to be known as the 'Miraculous Medal'.

The young novice obeyed the directives of her confessor to keep secret her identity as the person to whom Our Lady had manifested the medal. She died 46 years later on 31st of December 1876 and was beatified by Pope Pius XI in 1933 and canonized by the same Pontiff in 1947. The Feast of St. Catherine Laboure is kept on November 28 each year, the day after the Feast of the Manifestation of the Miraculous Medal on November 27th.



St. Theresa Religious Education Program (CCD) is now registering students for classes that will begin in September 2015. Please call the Religious Education Office (718-792-8434) or visit the rectory to request or receive an application.

HOMEBOUND – If any member of your family or if any of your neighbors are "Homebound" and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the Rectory so that a Priest or Eucharistic Minister might visit them.



ST. THERESA SCHOOL REGISTRATION

St. Theresa School is now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. Tours are available daily from 9-11. Please call the school office at 718-792-3688 to schedule a tour.

We are accepting applications for Grades K-7.

Information about our school is available on our website:

www.sttheresaschoolbronx.org.

Or call the school for additional information 718-792-3688

REMINDER – If you have a Sunday Mass offered for a loved one and are present at the Mass and would like to bring up the Offertory Gifts to the Altar, please let one of the ushers know before the Mass begins.



**ST. CRISTÓBAL MAGALLANES
AND COMPANIONS
MAY 21**

Like Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, S.J., Cristóbal and his 214 companion martyrs lived under a very anti-Catholic government in Mexico, one determined to weaken the Catholic faith of its people. Churches, schools and seminaries were closed; foreign clergy were expelled. Cristobal established a clandestine seminary at Toatiche, Jalisco. Magallanes and the other priests were forced to minister secretly to Catholics during the presidency of Plutarco Calles (1942-28).

All of these martyrs except three were diocesan priests. David, Manuel and Salvador were laymen who died with their parish priest, Luis Batis. All of these martyrs belonged to the Cristero movement, pledging their allegiance to Christ and to the Church that he established to spread the Good News in society-even if Mexico's leaders once made it a crime to receive Baptism or celebrate the Mass.

These martyrs did not die as a single group but in eight Mexican states, with Jalisco and Zacatecas having the largest number. They were beatified in 1992 and canonized eight years later.

Every martyr realizes how to avoid execution but refuses to pay the high price of doing so. A clear conscience was more valuable than a long life.

We may be tempted to compromise our faith while telling ourselves that we are simply being realistic, dealing with situations as we find them. Is survival really the ultimate value? Do our concrete, daily choices reflect our deepest values, the ones that allow us to "tick" the way we do?

Anyone can imagine situations in which being a follower of Jesus is easier than the present situation. Saints remind us that our daily choices, especially in adverse circumstances, form the pattern of our lives.

During his homily at the canonization Mass on May 21, 2000, Pope John Paul II addressed the Mexican men, women and children present in Rome and said: "After the harsh trials that the Church endured in Mexico during those turbulent years, today Mexican Christians, encouraged by the witness of these witnesses to the faith, can live in peace and harmony, contribute the wealth of gospel values to society. The Church grows and advances, since she is the crucible in which many priestly and religious vocations are born, where families are formed according to God's plan, and where young people, a substantial part of the Mexican population, can grow with the hope of a better future. May the shining example of Cristóbal Magallanes and his companion martyrs help you to make a renewed commitment of fidelity to God, which can continue to transform Mexican society so that justice, fraternity and harmony will prevail among all."

PETITION BOOK-Have you noticed our Petition Book in the vestibule of the Church? Every Saturday before the 5:00PM Mass, the petitions entered into the book for that week are brought up to the altar of the Blessed Mother, where they remain for all the weekend Masses. Please pray for these intentions.



NEW YORK KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

"Celebrating over 30 years of supporting Calvary Hospital"
The Knights of Columbus will be selling Raffle Tickets today for the 115th Annual Charity Drive for Calvary Hospital.

The Following Prizes Will Be Offered:

- 1st Prize.....\$2,500 in Cash
- 2nd Prize.....\$1,500 in Cash
- 3rd Prize.....\$1,000 in Cash
- 4th Prize.....\$500 in Cash
- 5th Prize.....\$250 in Cash

The Drawing will be held on May 29, 2015

**Praise, Prayer, Holy Mass and Healing Prayers
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Reverend Father Ralph A. DiOrío, Jr., Ph. D is a renowned Roman Catholic Priest and International Soul winning Evangelist. He is also the founder of the Apostolate of Divine Mercy and Healing, an International Ministry.

BUS TRIP

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Feel free to bring your own food, snacks, lunch to eat on the bus.

Call Pat for more details: 914-636-6093



WANTED-FEAST VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS:

Preparations for our 19th annual Feast to be held July 22-26, are well underway. We are blessed to have wonderful volunteers who help in many different ways at the Feast. But we are always in need of more volunteers. Please consider becoming a Feast volunteer either for all or for part of the Feast. If you can help, please call the Rectory at 718-892-1900 and leave your name and other information there. We appreciate your help and we hope that you can help us make this year's Feast better than ever.

We are also blessed to have businesses as sponsors for the Feast. Please pass this information on to local merchants and stores which you visit. Likewise they can call the Rectory for sponsorship information. This year all sponsors will have a special "I Am A Sponsor of St. Theresa's Feast" sign to display in their windows, to show our thanks to them. You may want to bring this bulletin to stores you visit so that they can have the information.



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JOHN NASSO
LOVE, FRAN RICCO & FAMILY



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED
MEMBER OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILY
JUSTO ROMERO



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING NEAR THE
TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
JOHN NASSO
FROM, FRAN RICCO & FAMILY

Please continue to share the peace and joy of our faith with others. There are so many that are in the need of Jesus. Can you be for all of us a living sign to all our parishioners and neighbors, and tell them for us "we need them and love them". Someone may hear and accept the invitation from you and return home to worship the Lord with us. So please invite a friend, relative, or neighbor to come with you to Church next Sunday. God will do the rest. Let us share our treasure of faith with others.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER

All new or unregistered parishioners are asked to please register by phone or in person at the Rectory or fill out the information below. Many items of importance will be mailed home in the course of the year.

NAME _____

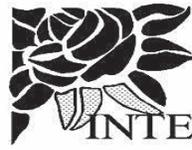
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CELL# _____

E-MAIL _____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE RECTORY OFFICE.



MASS
INTENTIONS



SATURDAY MAY 16, 2015

5:00PM Danuta Grycel

SUNDAY MAT 17, 2015

7:30AM Merinda Fusco

9:00AM Giovanni Paolo

10:30AM Vito DiFigola

12:15PM Mary & Joseph Antico

1:30PM Restituta Rodriguez

5:00PM Barbara McCord

MONDAY MAY 18, 2015

8:00AM Ben Alfano

9:00AM Laura Ann D'Ottore

TUESDAY MAY 19, 2015

8:00AM Pietro & Giovanni Cipollone

9:00AM Frank Regina

WEDNESD MAY 20, 2015

8:00AM Marty Cervellione

9:00AM Giuseppe Guglielmo

THURSDAY MAY 21, 2015

8:00AM Anthony LoBianco

9:00AM Vito Scavone

12NOON Guido Barone

FRIDAY MAY 22, 2015

8:00AM Maria & Angela Artieri

9:00AM Barbara Falantano

SATURDAY MAY 23, 2015

8:00AM Rose Macli

9:00AM Reggie Pacificador

5:00PM Joseph Liotta

SUNDAY MAY 24, 2015

7:30AM Pro-Populo

9:00AM Filomena, Michale, Frank, John & Anna Pagnotta

10:30AM Vito DiFigola

12:15PM Angelo Ricco

1:30PM Edwin Ocasio

5:00PM Lena Rubuano

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Yolanda Vides Cardona, Phyllis Caruso, Peter Corbo, Maryann DiBattista, Daley Gribbon, Sean Howell, William Keenan, Frank Maiorana, Maryann Maiorana, Diane Martino, Joe Martino, Theresa Martino, Tina Maskara, Vincent Mastrogiovanni, Jeannete Montalbano, Isabelle O'Brien, Joseph Pisano, Marie Russillo, Toni Spahr, Florence Valentine, Irene Vesely.

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