

# Church of St. Theresa

*A Caring Community Reaching Out To One Another in Christ*

*2855 St. Theresa Avenue, Bronx, New York*

## 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  
until 9:00pm.

## CONFESSION

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

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms take place most Sundays  
after the 1:30pm 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*  
*Msgr. Neil Graham, Retired, Spanish Mass*  
*Rev. Robert Imbelli, Weekend Associate*  
*Rev. Charles Szivos, Parochial Vicar*

*Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, Principal*  
*Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Dir. of Religious Education*  
*Helena Kim, Dir. of Music*

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FAX: 718-892-1146

WEBSITE: [www.sttheresachurchbronx.org](http://www.sttheresachurchbronx.org)  
E-MAIL: [rectorystc@aol.com](mailto:rectorystc@aol.com)

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

## CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

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### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN:

This week on Friday, we celebrate the Feast of St. John Vianney. You will read about him in this bulletin today. St. John Vianney is a special saint for us who are priests. He is the patron saint of priests, a model for us to imitate and a brother priest in heaven for us priests to turn to. He was not a man of great accomplishments, as far as this world is concerned. He spent his whole priestly life in the little village of Ars in France, ministering to his people there, doing the same work that priests throughout the world have always done and are doing. His only claim to fame was that he was the Cure (or parish priest) of Ars and it is by that name—the Cure of Ars—that we priests revere him and pray to him. When he heard God's call to the priesthood, he had to overcome the difficulty of not knowing Latin. Some of his teachers considered him a very unintelligent person. It is said that, when he was finally ordained, his bishop sent him to the little town of Ars because at least there he could do little harm! But of course God had other plans. On his way to Ars, on the outskirts of the town, he met a boy and asked for directions. The humble Cure said, "You show me the way to Ars and I will show you the way to heaven." That was his focus in his priestly life—to show people the way to heaven. That is what all priests are called to do—to turn our people's minds and hearts in the right direction, namely towards our faith, our love for God, our belief in the Trinity, our reverence for the Eucharist, our determination to serve Him by serving one another. In our busy world, sometimes these things are quickly forgotten. A priest's job is to help his people focus on the Lord and His promise of eternal life. Every priest will tell you that we fail in this. But we keep trying. We give to God the little that we have and we ask Him to use it to help you on your way to heaven.

I ask you, as we prepare for the Feast of St. John Vianney, to pray for priests. This parish has been blessed with wonderful priests. Of course I am thinking about our dear Father Grippo who was your "Cure of Ars" for twenty-three years and did his job so faithfully. Pray for priests. Pray for your priests here who try to serve you. Pray for young men who are studying for the priesthood in our seminaries. One young man from our parish, Louis Masi, has been studying for the priesthood in the North American College in Rome. He will be ordained a deacon this October and then he will be ordained a priest, by God's good grace, next May. How blessed we are that one of "our own" will be following in the footsteps of St. John Vianney. Pray that more young men will be like Louis and will hear Christ's call to follow Him. We priests need your prayers. In fact I am convinced that your prayers keep us going. Please do not stop praying for us. And be assured that we always pray for you.

Father Thomas B. Derivan



**ST. JOHN VIANNEY  
PRIEST (1786-1859)**

A man with vision overcomes obstacles and performs deeds that seem impossible. John Vianney was a man with vision: He wanted to become a priest. But he had to overcome his meager formal schooling, which inadequately prepared him for seminary studies. His failure to comprehend Latin lectures forced him to discontinue. But his vision of being a priest urged him to seek private tutoring. After a lengthy battle with the books, John was ordained.

Situations calling for "impossible" deeds followed him everywhere. As pastor of the parish at Ars, John encountered people who were indifferent and quite comfortable with their style of living. His vision led him through severe fasts and short nights of sleep. (Some devils can only be cast out by prayer and fasting.)

With Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lardet, he established La Providence, a home for girls. Only a man of vision could have such trust that God would provide for the spiritual and material needs of all those who came to make La Providence their home.

His work as a confessor is John Vianney's most remarkable accomplishment. In the winter months he was to spend 11 to 12 hours daily reconciling people with God. In the summer months this time was increased to 16 hours. Unless a man was dedicated to his vision of a priestly vocation, he could not have endured this giving of self day after day.

Many people look forward to retirement and taking it easy, doing the things they always wanted to do but never had the time. But John Vianney had no thoughts of retirement. As his fame spread, more hours were consumed in serving God's people. Even the few hours he would allow himself for sleep were disturbed frequently by the devil. Who, but a man with vision, could keep going with ever increasing strength? Indifference toward religion, coupled with a love for material comfort, seem to be common signs of our times. A person from another planet observing us would not likely judge us to be pilgrim people, on our way to somewhere else. John Vianney, on the other hand, was a man on a journey with his goal before him at all times.

Recommending liturgical prayer, John Vianney would say, "Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there: If you set it on fire it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky; public prayer is like that."



**A REFLECTION FROM OUR RETIRED POPE BENEDICT XVI:**

Today, in the liturgy, the Old Testament Reading presents to us the figure of King Solomon, the son and successor of David. It presents him at the beginning of his reign, when he was still very young. Solomon inherited a very demanding task and the responsibility that lay heavily on his shoulders was great for a young king. He first of all offered God a solemn sacrifice, “a thousand burnt offerings” as the Bible says. Then the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night and promised to grant him what he asked in prayer. And here we see the greatness of Solomon’s soul. He did not ask for a long life, nor wealth, nor the elimination of his enemies; instead he said to the Lord: “Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong” (1 Kings 3:9). And the Lord heard him, so that Solomon became famous throughout the world for his wisdom and his right judgments.

Therefore he prayed God to grant him “an understanding heart.” What do these words mean? We know that the “heart” in the Bible does not only indicate a part of the body, but also the center of the person, the seat of his intentions and opinions. We might say: the conscience. Thus an “understanding heart” means a conscience that knows how to listen, that is sensitive to the voice of truth and for this reason can discern right from wrong.

In Solomon’s case, the request was motivated by the responsibility of leading a nation, Israel, the people whom God chose to show the world his plan of salvation. The King of Israel, therefore, had to try always to be in tune with God, listening to his word, in order to guide the people on the paths of the Lord, the path of justice and of peace.

However, Solomon’s example is valid for every person. Each one of us has a conscience so as to be, in a certain way, “king”, that is, to exercise the great human dignity of acting in accordance with an upright conscience, doing what is right and avoiding wrong.

The moral conscience presupposes the ability to hear the voice of truth and to be docile to its indications. People who are called to the task of government naturally have a further responsibility and, therefore - as Solomon teaches - are in even greater need of God’s help. Yet each one has his own part to play, in the concrete situation in which he finds himself. An erroneous mentality suggests to us that we ask God for favorable things or conditions; in fact, the true quality of our life and of social life depends on the upright conscience of each one, on the capacity of one and all to recognize right, separating it from wrong and seeking patiently to put it into practice, thereby contributing to justice and to peace.

Let us ask the Virgin Mary, Seat of Wisdom, for help in this. Her “heart” was perfectly docile to the Lord’s will. Even though she was a humble and simple person, Mary was a queen in God’s eyes, and we venerate her as such. May the Blessed Virgin help us to form in ourselves, with God’s grace, a conscience ever open to the truth and sensitive to justice, to serve the Kingdom of God.

Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus Address, July 24, 2011



**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION  
OF ADULTS**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process through which adults can learn about becoming Catholic and living the faith. Non-Catholic adults who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith are invited to join our RCIA program.

If you’re already a Catholic adult but have not been Confirmed nor received your First Holy Communion the RCIA program is also for you.

Weekly classes meet on Tuesday evenings in the rectory beginning in September. Classes continue to meet weekly through the fall, winter and spring culminating with the reception of the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

If you are interested in participating in the RCIA program please leave you name, address and telephone number with Msgr. Derivan, Fr. Joseph or Marie McCarrick and we will be in touch with you.

The Rectory telephone number is 718-892-1900.

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



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**Register School Age Children for CCD Classes  
Weekly CCD Sessions**

Grades 1, 2, 3, Basic 1 and Communion 2 Classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:00AM until 10:30AM.

Grades 4, 5, 6, Basic 2 and Confirmation Classes meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00PM until 8:30PM.

Applications and information about CCD fees may be downloaded from the St. Theresa Parish website: [www.sttheresachurchbronx.org](http://www.sttheresachurchbronx.org) or you may request an application by calling the Religious Education Office at 718-792-8434 or drop by the Rectory to pick one up.

**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.

**MASS INFORMATION:**

While you are away, please do not forget the obligation of Sunday Mass. If you are visiting some other city or state and need the times Of the Masses, you may consult [www.masstime.org](http://www.masstime.org) for the information about the Catholic church near where you are staying.

## WE CATHOLIC BELIEVE:

During the summer months, we are presenting in our bulletin an excellent summary our Catholic faith from Franciscan Communication. This may be helpful to you and also to someone who may have asked you for information about the faith. Please pass it on to him or her. Today's article is:

### THE SACRAMENTS

**“Remember that the purpose of the sacraments is to help us on our way...”**

Faith is a journey that lasts a lifetime, a journey undertaken in the community called Church. As Catholic Christians, we celebrate special moments along our journey. These moments are multidimensional; they mark the checkpoints and passages of human life, and celebrate also what God has done and continues to do for us.

One name for these action-moments is the **sacraments** (from the Latin for “to make holy”). We believe that Jesus initiated the sacraments in his lifetime by revealing God's presence within certain human experiences. Through the centuries, our celebration of sacraments has become ritualized, surrounded by public prayer and ceremony. Sacraments are rooted in **symbols**, concrete signs that stand for a reality deeper than what is visible.

The Church recognizes seven sacraments—though we might easily say that Christ himself is our chief sacrament, or sign of God's love, and that we as Church are another such sign. The seven sacraments draw their symbolic power from ordinary human actions transformed by faith.

Sacraments are not magic. They are not the mystery celebrations of the ancient Greeks, in which a handful of initiates practiced secret rites. Sacraments are celebrations of the whole Church community. Although the priest, deacon or bishop is the usual minister of most sacraments, it is the believing presence of the whole community which brings the sacramental action to fullness.

**SACRAMENTS OF BELONGING**—The first sacrament any Catholic Christian receives is **Baptism**. Jesus himself was baptized by John in the Jordan River and told his disciples to baptize “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

Water is the symbol of Baptism. The early Church, rooted in a desert culture, annually witnessed the miracle of new life that water brought to the barren wasteland. Through the symbol of immersion in, or pouring of, water, Christians are called to participate in Jesus' going down to death and his rising to new life.

By Baptism we are welcomed into the faith family of the Church. The first sacrament of **initiation** draws us into a lifelong grace relationship with God. Every Catholic Christian, through Baptism, is called to be like Jesus: to be **priest**, sharing in Christ's ministry; to be **prophet**, sharing in Christ's witness to God's Word and Kingdom; and to be **king**, sharing in Christ's loving power to steward all Creation.

Most Catholics today are baptized as infants; their parents and godparents pledge the community's commitment to help this child grow in faith. In the early days of the Church, infant Baptism was a rarity; most Christians came to faith as adults, after an extended period of study, prayer, and preparation. In the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, the Church has returned to this ancient practice, with the whole community supporting and welcoming adult **catechumens** (or learners”).

Baptism is not the only sacrament of initiation. The gift of the Holy Spirit is given to Catholics in the sacrament of **Confirmation**. Anointing with oil, an ancient gesture for sealing and strengthening commitment, is the symbol of Confirmation, which is usually administered by the bishop as leader of the local Church. Adults coming into the Church are confirmed and receive First Eucharist at the time of their Baptism (ideally, during the Easter Vigil service on Holy Saturday), as was done in the early Church. Catholics baptized as infants are usually confirmed in early adolescence, marking a renewal of their baptismal commitment and the beginning of adult Christian service and witness.

Baptism and Confirmation are once-in-a-lifetime sacraments; they mark a lifelong grace-relationship with God. Catholics recognize the authority of this baptismal relationship among all Christians; baptized members of other Christian denominations who join the Catholic community are never re-baptized. But the third sacrament of initiation, First Eucharist, marks only the first of many, many times when we come to share at the table of the Lord.

On the night before he died, Jesus shared the very ordinary gifts of bread and wine with his friends in a wholly new way. He blessed the bread and wine, and told his friends that the bread and wine were now his Body and Blood, broken and poured out for the world to share. The sacrament of **Eucharist** (which means “thanksgiving”) is celebrated at every Mass, in remembrance of Jesus' **sacrifice**, the offering of himself to God on the Cross. As well as a memorial of sacrifice, the Eucharist is also a meal—the Body and Blood of the Lord shared in the form of bread and wine, as **Holy Communion**.

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### 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.

**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.

## FOUR CATECHETICAL MOMENTS

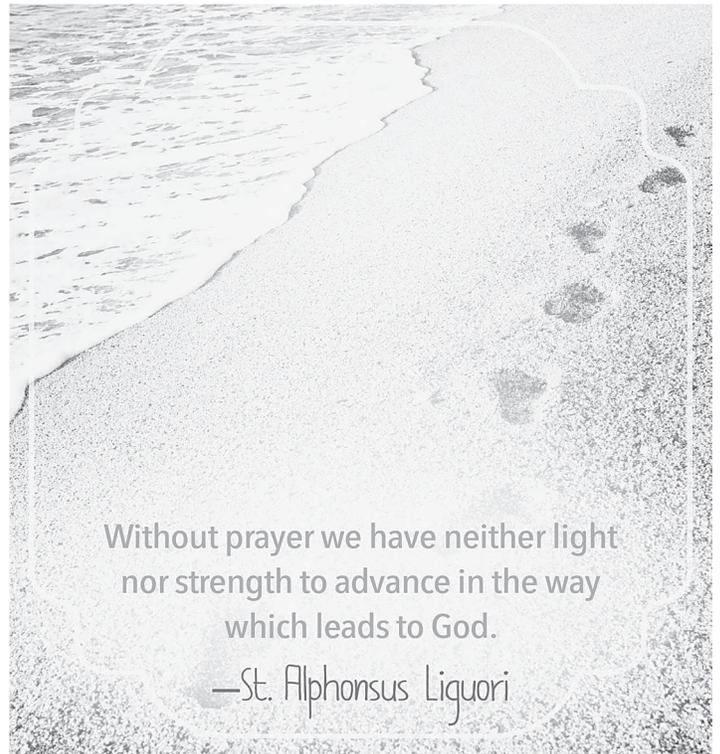
By Loyes Spayd (reprinted from *Catechist's Connection*)

Mealtime is a time to give thanks. It is time to remember those who do not have enough to eat. Mealtime is a time to share stories. It is a time to remember other meal times, perhaps special holiday ones. It is time to relax and be together and maybe even squabble and make up. It is a time to connect what is happening at your dinner table and what happens at the altar table at the Sunday Eucharist.

Bedtime is a time for secrets and confidences; fears, insecurities and questions will surface; stories of their day and their worlds will be told. At bedtime, children look for extra affection and a sense of safety. It is a time to pray about all this with them and bless them and entrust them to God's care for the night.

Car time is great because children are a captive audience. Families can discuss appropriate music to listen to, or listen to books on tape, or play games, or talk about the ethics and values in the way people drive and the way they live as you drive past.

Never miss an opportunity to touch and bless your children and assure them that God is with them even when you are not. Kiss and bless them at the door or at the bus stop, and once again entrust them to God's care until you see them again. Every once in a while, name what you are doing and tell your children why you are doing it.



Without prayer we have neither light  
nor strength to advance in the way  
which leads to God.

—St. Alphonsus Liguori



## FOOD PANTRY

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need to replenish our Food Pantry. The pantry is in need of many items. We are asking for items such as canned vegetables, gravy, tomato sauce, pasta, plus everyday items such as coffee, tea, rice, tuna fish, cake mixes, frosting, noodles, side-dish items, canned or boxed juices, peanut butter, cereal and other non-perishable items.

**NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!**

These items will be passed on to needy families in our parish and community. God bless you for your kindness.



### SAVE THE DATE

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TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
DEBRA DECAMILLIS  
LOVE, THE MONTELEONE FAMILY



THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR THIS WEEK  
ARE IN LOVING MEMORY  
MARJORIE  
LOVE, MARILYN CONTANT

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

CELL# \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE RECTORY OFFICE.**



**SATURDAY JULY 29, 2017**

5:00PM Victor & Frances DeJohn, Peter & Dolores Ferrara

**SUNDAY JULY 30, 2017**

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Flora Pisano

10:30AM Nereida Cruz

12:15PM Harry & Mary Inzinnia

1:30PM Special Intention

5:00PM Marjorie Paul

**MONDAY JULY 31, 2017**

8:00AM Huldah Gordon

9:00AM Louis Russo

**TUESDAY AUGUST 1, 2017**

8:00AM Teresa, Luigi & Anthony Marcellino

9:00AM Rita Macera

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2, 2017**

8:00AM For Our Men & Women in the Military

9:00AM Antonio Mastrangelo

**THURSDAY AUGUST 3, 2017**

8:00AM Mary Cea

9:00AM Dorina DiLullo

12:00PM Holy Souls in Purgatory

**FRIDAY AUGUST 4, 2017**

8:00AM For Healing

9:00AM Mary Eramo

**SATURDAY AUGUST 5, 2017**

8:00AM Francesco & Antonia Cipollone

9:00AM DiLullo Family

5:00PM Agnes Vavara

**SUNDAY AUGUST 6, 2017**

7:30AM Luigi Pasquale D'Aloia

9:00AM Angela Orecchio

10:30AM Ann Marie Bottari

12:15PM Mario Pozzuto

1:30PM Parishioners of St. Theresa

5:00PM John Marinese

**PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:**

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Linda Barbaro,  
Ralph Barbaro, Nancy Cardone, Elaine Reiss Cina,  
Joseph Cina, Phyllis Caruso, Peter Corbo, Marie DiPolo,  
Daley Gribbon, Sean Howell, William Keenan, Sal Lanza,  
Frank Maiorana, Maryann Maiorana, Diane Martino,  
Joe Martino, Theresa Martino, Isabelle O'Brien, Frank Oricco,  
Marie Russillo, Camille Siciliano, Mario Simeone, Toni Spahr,  
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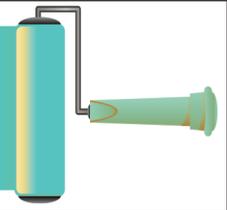
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