

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
6:00pm

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 meet-
ing. 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.

ST. THERESA'S FAMILY IS OUR FAMILY
"ST. THERESA STRONG"



Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derivan, Pastor

Rev. Joseph Ligory, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Edmundo Gomez, Retired,
Rev. Robert Imbelli, Weekend Associate
Rev. Charles Szivos, Parochial Vicar

Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, Principal
Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Dir. of Religious Education
Nadia Papayani, Dir. of Music

RECTORY: 718-892-1900/1901
FAX: 718-892-1146

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

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

CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN

Today in the gospel we hear some of the saddest words of all of the Scripture. St. John, as you will remember during the past several Sundays, has been giving us Our Lord's beautiful sermon on the Holy Eucharist, with the beautiful words, "I am the bread of heaven. The bread that I will give is my flesh, my Body, for the life of the world." Here is Our Lord inviting these people to come to Him to receive the Bread of Life, but then St. John gives us these sad words, "As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him," or in the words of an old translation, "they walked with Him no longer." They return to their former way of life, the way they were living before they met Jesus, the way of sin, and they walk with Him no longer. These words echo the sad words at the beginning of St. John's gospel, when John says, "He came unto His own and His own received Him not." He came unto His own people, the people of Israel so blessed by God, the people who were awaiting the Promised One, the Christ, but their hearts were closed and they refused to accept Him. Is there anything sadder to Our Lord than people refusing to accept Him, then people who walk with Him no longer?

This week we celebrate on Monday and Tuesday two great saints of long ago, one the mother and the other the son, one just a simple wife, the other the renowned teacher of the faith. The one, the mother is St. Monica; the other, the son, is St. Augustine. How much we can learn from them. Monica was a fervent Christian in their home city of Tagaste in North Africa. Her husband was a cruel and faithless man, but Monica prayed fervently for him and saw him become a Christian before his death. But her son Augustine was a harder story. As a young man, he wandered away from his mother's faith. He left their home, fell into every kind of sin, including having an illegitimate son, and then fleeing their home to go to Italy, to Milan. It was there that this wandering young man met the great bishop St. Ambrose and slowly God's grace touched his heart. And all during this time, his mother Monica kept praying. She would not give up on prayer and she would not give up on her son. She followed him to Milan and kept praying. But of course, as every mother would know, her prayers were full of tears. One day she was in the cathedral of Milan, praying and crying. St. Ambrose came to console her and after hearing her story, he told her to have faith, because, as he said, "The child of so many tears cannot be lost." Augustine wanted to turn away from faith, to walk with Christ no longer, but the Lord would not let him. The Lord kept pulling him towards Himself. Just as Monica would not give up on her son, neither would the Lord Himself. One day Augustine was walking in a garden, and heard voices as if of children playing and the voices said, "Take and read." He found there a copy of the Holy Scripture and he picked it up and read these words, "Put aside all the allurements of this present life and put on the Lord Jesus Christ." Augustine's soul was touched by grace. Unlike the people in the gospel, he would not return to his former way of life; unlike them, he would not walk away from the Lord Jesus Christ. Augustine became a Christian, later on a priest and a bishop and one of the greatest teachers in the history of the Church, all because of God's grace and his mother's prayers and tears.

How much we can learn from these two wonderful saints. First from Monica the mother, we can learn the power of prayer, that prayer touches the heart of God and also touches the hearts of those who have gone away from the Lord. Your prayers are precious in God's eyes. You may never have the reward that St. Monica had, of seeing her son converted, but the Lord will use your prayers and bring about His will and you will know the rest of the story in heaven. And then from Augustine the son, we can learn that it is never too late to turn back to the Lord, that His grace is always there if we just open our hearts to receive it. When he was converted, Augustine wrote these beautiful words, "Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever old and ever new, late have I loved you. You were with me, but I was not with you. But you called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shined, and you dispelled my blindness. You touched me, and I burned for your peace."

The people in the gospel walked away from Jesus. We can only hope that they came back. Let us pray for all who have walked away from the Lord, people we know, even people we love. May they turn to Jesus, may they walk with Him, and may they find the joy of Jesus the Bread of Life.

Father Thomas B. Derivan`



Food is now being collected for our Food Pantry.

Our food pantry is in need of replenishing we are asking for items such as soups, canned vegetables, tomato sauce, pasta, rice, peanut butter, jelly, tuna fish, canned or boxed juices or any other non-perishable items. We can also use coffee, cake mixes and frostings, Jello and puddings.

NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!

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

**Thank you to all who have donated to our Pantry.
God bless you and your families.**



HANDICAP ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH

The side entrance to the Church on Pilgrim Avenue will be open every Sunday for anyone who is handicapped or in a wheelchair. Also this same entrance will be opened every weekday until 9:30AM.

Please continue to share the peace and joy of our faith with others . There are so many that are in 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.



AUGUST 28
ST. AUGUSTINE

Most mothers worry about their children. St. Augustine's mother did, too - and she had good reason! Born at Tagaste in the Roman province of Africa (now Algeria), Augustine had a pagan father, Patricius, and a Christian mother, St. Monica. Although he was not baptized as a child, he did receive a Christian education. He was very intelligent but did not work in school. Studies did not interest him, only games and sports.

However, his lack of interest in school did not last too long. Augustine began to study hard and became a teacher. He then gave up what little Christian faith he had and joined a religious sect called the Manicheans. He was always restless and moved from thing to thing and place to place. From Africa he went to Rome and then to Milan, in northern Italy. He always seemed to be searching for something.

In Milan, out of curiosity he went to hear the preaching of the bishop, St. Ambrose. These sermons changed Augustine. They answered many of the questions that he had about God and about the Bible. It took him a while to think things through, but in 387 he was baptized.

St. Monica, his mother, had never stopped praying for him and had never stopped loving him no matter what he did. She came to live with him and with great happiness witnessed his profession of faith in the Lord Jesus.

Monica and Augustine prepared to return to Tagaste. At the seaport of Ostia, where they were to get the boat to Africa, Monica died. Her death was a happy one because her son had become a Christian.

Augustine went back to Tagaste, sold the family property and gave the money to the poor. He then started a kind of religious community and spent his days in prayer, silence and study.

Once, when he traveled into Hippo, a group of people insisted that he become a priest to help their bishop and to serve in their city. With reluctance, Augustine was ordained a priest. Then when the bishop of Hippo died, Augustine became the bishop.

From then on, Augustine devoted his whole life to preaching and teaching the kingdom of God. He wanted to make up for all the years that he had wasted, all the years in which he had not loved the Lord Jesus. He said, "How late have I loved you!"

He preached every day and wrote a large number of books against the false beliefs held by many people of that time. Among these people were his former friends, the Manicheans. He wanted to make the truth known. He also wrote his *Confessions*, a beautiful book, in which he thanks God for having loved him and for having called him to serve him. The *Confessions* tell the story of Augustine's search for God. Augustine said, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

His writings have had great influence in the Church in every period of history. Augustine was very wise and was named a Doctor of the Church.

St. Augustine was born in 354 and died in 430. His feast day is celebrated on August 28.

ST. AUGUSTINE WRITING ABOUT HIS MOTHER ST. MONICA



The day was now approaching when my mother Monica would depart from this life; you know that day, Lord, though we did not. She and I happened to be standing by ourselves at a window that overlooked the garden in the courtyard of the house. At the time we were in Ostia on the Tiber. And so the two of us, all alone, were enjoying a very pleasant conversation, forgetting the past and pushing on to what is ahead. We were asking one another in the presence of the Truth - for you are the Truth - what it would be like to share the eternal life enjoyed by the saints, which "eye has not seen, nor ear heard, which has not even entered into the heart of man." We desired with all our hearts to drink from the streams of your heavenly fountain, the fountain of life. That was the substance of our talk, though not the exact words. But you know, O Lord, that in the course of our conversation that day, the world and its pleasures lost all their attraction for us. My mother said, "Son, as far as I am concerned, nothing in this life now gives me any pleasure. I do not know why I am still here, since I have no further hopes in this world. I did have one reason for wanting to live a little longer: to see you become a Catholic Christian before I died. God has lavished his gifts on me in that respect, for I know that you have even renounced earthly happiness to be his servant. So what am I doing here?" I do not really remember how I answered her. Shortly, within five days or thereabouts, she fell sick with a fever. Then one day during the course of her illness she became unconscious and for a while she was unaware of her surroundings. My brother and I rushed to her side, but she regained consciousness quickly. She looked at us as we stood there and asked in a puzzled voice: "Where was I?" We were overwhelmed with grief, but she held her gaze steadily upon us, and spoke further: "Here you shall bury your mother." I remained silent as I held back my tears. However, my brother haltingly expressed his hope that she might not die in a strange country but in her own land, since her end would be happier there. When she heard this, her face was filled with anxiety, and she reproached him with a glance because he had entertained such earthly thoughts. Then she looked at me and spoke: "Look what he is saying." Thereupon she said to both of us, "Bury my body wherever you will; let not care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be." Once our mother had expressed this desire as best she could, she fell silent.

(From The Confessions of St. Augustine)

POPE FRANCIS' EXPLANATIONS OF THE PARTS OF THE MASS:

Over the past several months, in his Wednesday audiences, Pope Francis has been giving lessons (or catechesis) on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We present them here to help us understand the beauty and the sanctity of each part of the Mass:

Let us continue with the Catecheses on the Holy Mass. At the Last Supper, after Jesus took the bread and the cup of wine, and gave thanks to God, we know that “he broke the bread”. In the Eucharistic Liturgy of the Mass, this action corresponds to the *Breaking of Bread*, preceded by the prayer that the Lord taught us, that is, by the “Our Father”.

Thus begins the Communion Rite, continuing the praise and petition of the Eucharistic Prayer with the community’s recitation of the “Our Father”. This is not one of many Christian prayers, but *the prayer of the children of God*: it is the great prayer that Jesus taught us. Indeed, consigned to us on the day of our Baptism, the “Our Father” makes resonate within us those same sentiments that Christ Jesus bore within. When we pray the “Our Father”, we pray as Jesus prayed. It is the prayer that Jesus prayed, and he taught it to us; when the disciples said to him: “Master, teach us to pray as you pray”. And this is how Jesus prayed. It is so beautiful to pray like Jesus! Formed by his divine teaching, we dare to turn to God calling him “Father”, because we are reborn as his children through water and the Holy Spirit. We must consider: no one can call him “Father” without the inspiration of the Spirit. How often there are people who say “Our Father” but do not know what they are saying. Because yes, he is the Father, but when you say “Father”, do you feel that he is Father, your Father, the Father of mankind, the Father of Jesus Christ? Do you have a relationship with this Father? When we pray the “Our Father”, we connect with the Father who loves us, but it is the Spirit who gives us this connection, this feeling of being God’s children.

What better prayer than the one taught by Jesus could prepare us for sacramental Communion with him? In the Lord’s Prayer — in the “Our Father” — we ask for our “daily bread”, in which we see a particular reference to the Eucharistic Bread, which we need in order to live as children of God. We also implore “forgiveness of our trespasses”. And in order to be worthy to receive God’s forgiveness we commit to forgiving those who have offended us. And this is not easy. Forgiving the people who have offended us is not easy; it is a grace that we must ask for: “Lord, teach me to forgive as you have forgiven me”. It is a grace. Through our own efforts we are unable: to forgive is a grace of the Holy Spirit. Thus, as we open our heart to God, the “Our Father” also prepares us for fraternal love. Lastly, we again ask God to “deliver us from evil” which separates us from him and divides us from our brothers and sisters. Let us clearly understand that these requests are quite appropriate to prepare ourselves for Holy Communion..

Indeed, what we ask in the “Our Father” is extended by the prayer of the priest who, in the name of all, implores: “Deliver us Lord from every evil, and grant us peace in our day”. He then receives a sort of seal in the Rite of Peace: what he first asks of Christ is that the gift of His peace— thus different from worldly peace — may help the Church to grow in unity and in peace, according to His will; then, with the concrete gesture exchanged among us, we express communion and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament. In the Roman Rite the exchange of the sign of peace, placed from antiquity before Communion, is ordered to Eucharistic Communion. According to Saint Paul’s admonition, it is impossible to communicate with the one Bread that renders us one Body in Christ, without recognizing that we are reconciled by fraternal charity. Christ’s peace cannot take root in a heart incapable of experiencing fraternity and of restoring it after it has been wounded. Peace is granted by the Lord: he grants us the grace to forgive those who have offended us.

The gesture of peace is followed by the *Breaking of Bread*. Performed by Jesus during the Last Supper, the breaking of the Bread is the revelatory gesture that allowed the disciples to recognize him after his Resurrection. We remember the disciples of Emmaus who, in speaking of their encounter with the Risen One, recount “how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread” (cf. Lk 24:30-31, 35).

The breaking of the Eucharistic Bread is accompanied by the invocation of the “Lamb of God”, the figure which John the Baptist indicated in Jesus “who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn 1:29). The biblical image of the lamb speaks of redemption (cf. Ex 12:1-14; Is 53:7; 1 Pet 1:19; Rev 7:14). In the Eucharistic Bread, broken for the life of the world, the prayerful assembly recognizes the true Lamb of God, namely, Christ the Redeemer, and implores him: “Have mercy on us ... grant us peace”.

“Have mercy on us”, “grant us peace” are invocations that, from the “Our Father” prayer to the Fraction of Bread, help us to prepare our soul to participate in the Eucharistic banquet, the source of communion with God and with our brothers and sisters.

March 14, 2018

SCHOOL NEWS

On Tuesday: September 4th normal school office hours begin: 7:30AM - 3:30PM

September 5th - First Day of School—Grades 1-8 Full Day 8:00AM - 2:30PM—Kindergarten: 8:30AM - 11:00AM

All Children in Grade K-8 Must be in full uniform

PreK for All (4yr old) 8:00AM - 10:30AM

September 6th - Full Day Grades 1-8

Kindergarten 8:30 - 11:00AM

PreK for All (4yr old's) 8:00 - 10:30AM

PreK 3 - year-old Programs 8:30 - 10:30AM

September 7th Full Day Grades K-8 Early Dismissal 1:00PM

PreK 4 - year old 8:00AM - 2:30PM

PreK 3 - year old 8:30AM - 10:30AM

September 11th Back to School Night Grades K-8 6:45PM in the Church

PreK for All Ice Cream Social: August 29th 6:00PM

PreK 3-year old Ice Cream Social September 4th 6:00PM

We still have a few seats available if you are interested in bringing your child to St. Theresa School give us a call to arrange a tour.



THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

For those who wish to complete the sacraments or become a Catholic, the Church has the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), which is the formal title for the whole process of preparing adults for entrance into the Catholic Church.

The RCIA program prepares men and women to receive the **Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist**. Each year we welcome new members into our Catholic faith and the ceremony is celebrated at our Easter Vigil Mass.

For one reason or another, sometimes people were not able to receive First Communion or Confirmation or even Baptism. We are here to help. The Lord wants it that way! Our parish is happy to offer you the support necessary to be initiated into full communion with the Catholic Church and receive the sacraments.

If you are thinking of entering more fully into the Catholic Church, pray about it and let the Lord do the rest. You may fill out the form below and give it to one of the priests or drop it off at the rectory. Please pass this information on to some other person whom you may know who may benefit from it.

You may wish to contact Mrs. Marie McCarrick, our Religious Education Coordinator, at 718-892-1900 for further information and enrollment. God bless you!

FOR RCIA PROGRAM FOR ADULTS WISHING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS:

**I wish to learn more about St. Theresa's RCIA Program.
Please contact me:**

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Zip _____

Email _____

PLEASE OBSERVE A RESPECTFUL SILENCE IN CHURCH

Some parishioners, very understandably, have asked that we mention the importance of maintaining respectful and prayerful silence before Mass begins. Sometimes we are tempted to carry on conversations, especially when seeing friends or renewing acquaintances. However we must remember that this is disturbing to parishioners who want to spend the time (as we all should) preparing for Mass by offering our own prayers.

Let us remember also that in church we are in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, in the tabernacle. That itself should be reason enough to avoid talking or other distractions.

Thank you for observing a respectful and prayerful silence as we prepare for the Holy sacrifice of the Mass.



CCD (Religion Class) REGISTRATION

(Religion Classes for children who attend public school)

Applications are now being accepted for classes which begin in September 2018.

Sunday classes: Grades 1, 2, 3 and Communion Class

Wednesday evening classes: Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 (Confirmation Class)

HOW TO APPLY

- Pick up an application in the Rectory Office
- Download applications from the St. Theresa Church website: www.sttheresachurchbronx.org

SACRAMENT CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

- Students must complete 2 consecutive years of CCD classes to be eligible to receive sacraments.
- Elementary school children who have not been baptized must attend CCD prior to receiving Baptism.

For additional information contact Mrs. McCarrick, CCD Coordinator, at sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com

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.

Please put only the names of the sick and deceased on this list.





PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILY
PIA MILLER, ROSARIO CAMMAROTO, TOMAS MARCOS,
BENEDETTA (BESSIE) CAMARDA
&
CATHERINE M. GREENAN



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
MARIE SANSALONE
LOVE, THE ZOTTOLA & ADDARIO FAMILIES



THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR THIS WEEK
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARIE SANSALONE
HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN HEAVEN
LOVE & PRAYERS, CARMELA GRECO

CONFESSIONS are heard every Saturday from 4:00PM to
5:00PM .

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 AUGUST 25, 2018

5:00PM Mary Gregoria

SUNDAY AUGUST 26, 2018

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Robert Johansen

10:30AM Louise White

12:15PM Ann Nutini

1:30PM Rosalba Gomez

5:00PM Marie Sansalone

MONDAY AUGUST 27, 2018

8:00AM Marie Sansalone

9:00AM Ann Nutini

TUESDAY AUGUST 28, 2018

8:00AM Rev. Thomas D'Angelo

9:00AM Vincent Janniello

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 29, 2018

8:00AM John McClafferty

9:00AM Kevin & Patrick Keenan

THURSDAY AUGUST 30, 2018

8:00AM Marie Monzeglio

9:00AM Concetta Liccese

12NOON Lucy Mena

FRIDAY AUGUST 31, 2018

8:00AM Huldah Gordon

9:00AM Jason Michael Concepcion

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2018

8:00AM Charles & Mary Szivos

9:00AM Ida Veltri

5:00PM Louis Zerbo

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

7:30AM Vincent Mastrogianni

9:00AM Joseph DeCrenza

10:30AM Rose DeSanctis

12:15PM Louis Zerbo

1:30PM Ashley Seleny Martinez

5:00PM Anne DiTommaso

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Linda Barbaro,
Nancy Cardone, Elaine Reiss Cina,
Joseph Cina, Phyllis Caruso, Marie DiPolo, Thomas Egan,
Frank Ferrara, Rita Ferrara, Daley Gribbon, Ita Griffin,
Sean Howell, William Keenan, Sal Lanza, Frank Maiorana,
Maryann Maiorana, Tomas Marcos, Diane Martino,
Joe Martino, Theresa Martino, Isabelle O'Brien, Frank Oricco,
Marie Russillo, Camille Siciliano, Mario Simeone,
Toni Spahr, Florence Valentine, Dean Valentine,
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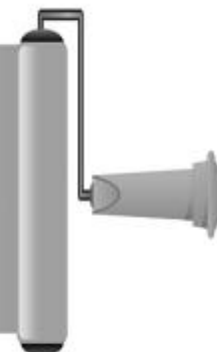
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