

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 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.

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
Deacon, John Figueroa

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

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRIESTS AND DEACON

How hard these days had been for this woman! Hard long, how hard, how painful. She knew it was to be this way. She was no stranger to long and hard and painful days. Thirty-four years had passed since that day in Nazareth when the Angel came to her. She had been praying, as she always did, before doing her chores in her home. She was but a teenager then, with all her life ahead of her. And then the Angel came and asked her to help God change the world. She said yes. She always said yes, not just in a one-word yes, but in those words that her parents had taught her, words that she would keep on saying every day of her life, “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to God’s Word.” Her name, of course, was Mary.

Her life was changed at that very moment. She knew that was bearing within her God’s Son. Then there was the journey to Bethlehem, long and hard and painful. But she had Joseph, her wonderful Joseph, the most faithful husband who ever lived, Joseph who was ready to accept his task of being foster father to Mary’s Son, God’s Son. Then there was Bethlehem, with the beauty of angels singing in the night, with gifts of lambs from shepherds and wondrous gifts from Magi kings. But almost immediately there was the pain again—the pain of having to flee at night when jealous Herod tried to kill God’s Son. Then there was Egypt, then the return to Nazareth, then the most precious years of her life, just being home with Jesus and Joseph. But as she saw them in the carpenter’s shop and heard the hammer banging on the nails, she must have shuttered, for she knew what was ahead. She knew that one day, someone else would use a hammer to nail her Son to a Cross.

And on that Friday, that day came, the longest and hardest day of her life. They took her beautiful Son and arrested Him, scourged Him, mocked Him, and condemned Him to carry a Cross and to die on Calvary. She stayed with Him. What mother could leave her child in pain? Every blow that came to Him, came to her. And when He was nailed to that Cross, she was nailed there too, not with physical nails, but with the nails of suffering love. What did she say on that long hard day? What did she say as she stood on Calvary hill watching her beloved Son die for the world? They said she stood there on Calvary. She stood. She did not collapse in grief. She stood despite all her pain. And she nodded yes when her dying Son said to her and to the Apostle John, “Woman, behold your son.” She realized He was giving her a new task, a new mission, a new motherhood—to be mother not to John, but to the whole world. And she must have said over and over again the words she always said, words that gave her strength to go on despite all the pain, “I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to God’s Word.” She must have said the same words as she held her Son in her arms when His dead body was taken down from the Cross, holding Him as she did long ago on the first day of His earthly life, holding Him now even in death.

But now it is Sunday. And all the world will be changed. That faithful woman Magdalene runs back from the tomb to report that it is empty, that she has seen angels who have told her that He is alive. Peter and John run there too and they must all have run back to the woman who was now their new Mother. Can you imagine them running to her, telling her the news? And can you imagine her smiling at them with her motherly smile and saying to them, “My children, I know. My Son has risen. Thank you for telling me, but He has told me so already.”

Tradition tells us that the first person that the Risen Jesus appeared to was His Mother Mary. How could it be otherwise? What did Our Lord say to His Mother on the first Easter Sunday? Of course we do not know. What a Son says to a Mother is between Son and Mother. But we can imagine what the Risen Jesus asked His Mother on Easter Sunday, “Please, Mother, take care of them, even as you took care of me. Be the Mother of my Church. Be the Mother of my Easter joy.” Death is no more. Life—Jesus’ life, our life—has conquered even death itself. Do you want to understand that? Do you want to know how joy can come from pain, how life can come from death, how a dark Friday can become the brightest of Sunday mornings? Do you want to understand that? Then turn to Mary. She is the Mother of Easter and she will help you to come closer to Our Easter Lord. Let Mary help you not to keep Easter to yourself, but to share the Easter message, to share your Easter joy. She will help you. She always does. And what words will she teach you? Perhaps she will just tell you, “If you want to understand Easter, then just say with me the words I have said in my life, words that helped me to bear the pain and to find the joy, ‘I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to God’s Word.’ Come, my child, come let me bring you to Jesus, my Risen Son.”

May Our Blessed Mother Mary, “Mother of Easter,” guide you, your family and our parish as we celebrate the joy of her Risen Son. You are remembered in all of our Masses.

Happy Easter!

Father Thomas B. Derivan
Father Robert Imbelli

Father Joseph Ligory
Salesian Fathers

Father Edmundo Gomez
Deacon John Figueroa

PRAYER FOR EASTER

Jesus, you have risen,
So there is hope for me.
You are no longer in the power
Of sin, of evil! Love has triumphed,
Mercy has been victorious!
God’s mercy always triumphs
Because God’s love is stronger
Than evil and death itself.
God’s love can transform our lives.
God’s love can do this!

Pope Francis

PRAYER FOR THE EASTER SEASON

Almighty God, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus, you set us free from sin and death. May we live each day in the hope of dying to sin with him in order to be raised to life everlasting with him.
In this Easter season, give us a new appreciation of mystery and the gift of life Jesus has won for us.
Open our hearts to one another as we prepare for the coming of the Spirit, not only at Pentecost, but in each moment of our lives. Amen

EASTER SUNDAY

ST. MARY MAGDALENE THE SAINT OF EASTER



St. Mary Magdalene is truly “the saint of Easter” because she was the first person to see the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate whether Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus’ feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus’ ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semipermanent entourage who served Jesus and his disciples.

On Good Friday Mary Magdalene watched the crucifixion along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Then early on Easter morning she came visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away. She and the other women saw an angel who told her, “Why do you look for the Living One among the dead? He has been raised, even as he said.” She ran to tell the apostles about what she had seen and for this she is known as “the apostles to the apostles.” Afterwards the Lord Jesus met her as she was crying thinking, as she said, “They have taken my Lord away and I do not know where they have put Him.” Then the Risen Jesus simply called her by name, “Mary,” and She realized that He was alive again..

St. Mary Magdalene’s feast day is July 22. she was the first witness of the Resurrection. She is the patroness of converts and repentant sinners.

We call upon her intercession on this Easter Sunday that, like her, we will hear the Lord calling us by name and that, again like her, we will respond to Him with great faith and great love.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR EASTER SUNDAY

After listening to the Word of God in the gospel of Easter Sunday, there are three things that I would like to say.

First: the announcement. There is an announcement: the Lord has risen; that announcement which traveled by word of mouth ever since the early days of Christianity: it was a greeting: The Lord has risen. And the women who went to anoint the Lord’s body were met by a surprise. The surprise.... God’s announcements always bring surprises because our God is the God of surprises. It has been like this from the beginning of salvation history; ever since our father Abraham. God surprises you: “Just go, go, leave your land and go.” And one surprise always follows another. God is not able to make an announcement without surprising us. And the surprise is what moves your heart, what touches you in the very place you do not expect. To use the language of young people: the surprise is a low blow, you do not expect it. And he goes and moves you. First: the surprising announcement.

Second: Haste. The women run, they hasten to say: “But we have found this!” God’s surprises place us on a journey, immediately, without delay. And so they run to see. Peter and John run. The shepherds on that Christmas night ran: “Let us go to Bethlehem to see what the angels have told us.” And the Samaritan woman runs to tell her people: “This is the news: I found a man who told me everything I have done.” And the people know the things that the woman has done. And those people run; they leave what they are doing, even the housewife leaves the potatoes in the pot - she will find them burnt on her return - but the important thing is to go, to run in order to see that surprise, that announcement. It still happens today. In our neighborhoods, in the villages, when something extraordinary happens, people run to see; they go in haste. Andrew wasted no time and went in haste to tell Peter: “We have found the Messiah.” Surprises, good news are always announced in this manner: in haste. There is a person in the Gospel who takes his time. He does not want to take risks. But the Lord is good. He awaits him with love. It is Thomas. “I will believe when I see the wounds” he says. The Lord also has patience for those who are in no hurry.

The surprising announcement, the hastened response, and the third I wish to mention to you today is a question: “What about me? Do I have a heart that is open to God’s surprises; am I capable of going in haste or do I persist with the refrain: “Well, I will see tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow”? What does the Surprise tell me? John and Peter hastened to the sepulcher. The Gospel said that John “believed”. Peter also “believed”, but in his own way; with his faith somewhat clouded by regret for having denied the Lord. The surprising announcement, the running, the hastening and the question: And what do I do on this Easter? What do you do?

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

The St. Anthony Novena is celebrated each Tuesday, at 6:00PM. This consists of prayers to St. Anthony and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. We invite you to come as we ask for the intercession of St. Anthony for ourselves, our families and our parish. You will have the opportunity to venerate the relic of St. Anthony after the Novena.

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.



You Gave Life to the Dead

We adore you, O Lord, and give you thanks,
for you made us in your image and likeness.
We extol your redemption, O only Son,
for by your coming you have shown us mercy and have given us life.
Though you were true God, beyond suffering and death,
You desired, in your kind mercy, to become human for our sake,
to visit the dead, and to fill them with your presence.
You, O Christ, are the light that never ceases.
You were entombed like all mortals and, with your living voice,
you woke all the just who were deep in sleep.
You removed from creation the ancient sadness, and gathered
the nations to worship you and to announce
your salvation in every place.
Yesterday, the King was crucified and battered with sufferings;
and today, by his resurrection, he has shone victoriously.
Yesterday his side was pierced by a lance,
and today, in his compassion,
he opened up for us the waters of baptism.
Yesterday he was crowned with thorns,
and today he has adorned his church with a crown of splendor.
Yesterday sadness covered all creation,
and today the joy of resurrection has pervaded the whole universe.
On this day, O Lord, Maker of life,
Your Church glorifies you and cries to you
With the fragrance of this incense:
As you saved us by your passion
and granted us life by your resurrection,
so now clothe our bodies with the power of your Spirit,
that we may all shine in the robe of glory
and be able to meet you, O Christ, the true Bridegroom.
In your grace, make us worthy to enter your heavenly kingdom,
along with all our faithful departed,
that we may glorify you, your Father, and your Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. Amen

(Reprinted from Catholic New East Welfare Magazine)

THE EASTER SEASON: THE 50 DAYS OF EASTER

At Easter we celebrate our new life in the risen Christ, who shares his peace with us.

Jesus lived in the spirit of peace. He showed his disciples the way to spread peace to others. And, when he had risen from the dead, he appeared to his disciples and gave them the gift of his peace. "He stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." (Luke 24:36). He calmed their fears, saying, "Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself" (Luke 24:38-39). The risen Christ's message that day gave the disciples peace and comforted them with the knowledge that Jesus Christ was truly alive and would remain with them forever. This same message is meant for us today, at Easter, and throughout our lives.

When we celebrate Easter, we celebrate Christ's Resurrection and rejoice in the new life that we have because of him. With Jesus we have passed from death to life, from sadness to joy, from hopelessness to the fulfillment of our deepest hope: everlasting life. At Easter we celebrate that we too can share everlasting life with Christ—we too can rise from the dead and have endless glory with the Lord. And when that time comes, our peace will be everlasting.

The Church sets aside an entire season, the Easter season, to celebrate all the meaning that Christ's Resurrection has for us. The Easter season begins on Easter Sunday and concludes with Pentecost Sunday, which is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday.

Between Easter Sunday and Pentecost, there are seven weeks of celebration. The first week of the Easter season, called Easter week, begins with Easter Sunday and ends on the Second Sunday of Easter. Thus, this week consists of eight days of celebration. For this reason, it is also called the Easter *octave*, a word that means "eight." Because Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Sunday, every Sunday is a solemnity, an especially important day of celebration in the Church. But every day of the Easter octave is also considered a solemnity. Easter week, then, is eight special days of celebrating the day that Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

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.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS: Please support our advertisers; it is their support that makes this bulletin possible, and when you visit them, please let them know that you read their advertisement in St. Theresa's bulletin.

NEXT SUNDAY IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



One of the most popular devotions in the Church is devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus. In a real sense, devotion to the Divine Mercy began on the hill of Calvary as Our Lord gave His death in mercy for all mankind. But particular devotion to the Divine Mercy of Jesus dates from the 1930's when Our Lord appeared to a humble Polish sister, Sister (now Saint) Faustina Kowalska and asked her to be His "secretary of mercy." Since then devotion to the Divine Mercy has spread throughout the world.

The Sunday after Easter (which is next Sunday) has been designated by Pope St. John Paul II as Divine Mercy Sunday. In preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, the following material from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops may be helpful:

Revelation to St. Faustina: Mankind's need for the message of Divine Mercy took on dire urgency in the 20th Century, when civilization began to experience an "eclipse of the sense of God" and, therefore to lose the understanding of the sanctity and inherent dignity of human life. In the 1930s, Jesus chose a humble Polish nun, St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, to receive private revelations concerning Divine Mercy that were recorded in her Diary. St. John Paul II explains:

This was precisely the time when those ideologies of evil, Nazism and communism, were taking shape. Sister Faustina became the herald of the one message capable of off-setting the evil of those ideologies, the fact that God is mercy—the truth of the merciful Christ. And for this reason, when I was called to the See of Peter, I felt impelled to pass on those experiences of a fellow Pole, St. Faustina, that deserve a place in the treasury of the universal Church.

~Pope Saint John Paul II, Memory and Identity (2005)

Divine Mercy Sunday: In his revelation to St. Faustina Jesus requested that a Feast of Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday) be observed:

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. ... Let no soul fear to draw near to Me. ... It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary, no.699)

On May 5, 2000, five days after the canonization of St. Faustina, the Vatican decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

The Image: Jesus appeared to St. Faustina in a vision, with his right hand raised in a blessing and his left touching his garment above his heart. Red and white rays emanate from his heart, symbolizing the blood and water that was poured out for our salvation and our sanctification. The Lord requested that "Jesus, I trust in You" be inscribed under his image. Jesus asked that his image be painted and venerated throughout the world: "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish" (Diary, no. 48) and "By means of this image I will grant many graces to souls" (Diary, no. 742).

This image of the Divine Mercy is displayed in our church next to the crucifix by the side entrance.



THE DIVINE MERCY

Our attention focuses on the gesture of the Master, who transmits to the fearful, astounded disciples the mission of being ministers of divine mercy. He shows them his hands and his side, which bear the marks of the Passion, and tells them: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (Jn 20:21).

Immediately afterwards "he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (Jn 20:22-23). Jesus entrusted to them the gift of "forgiving sins" a gift that flows from the wounds in his hands, his feet, and especially from his pierced side. From there a wave of mercy is poured out over all humanity.

Let us relive this moment with great spiritual intensity. Today the Lord also shows us his glorious wounds and his heart, and inexhaustible source of light and truth, of love and forgiveness.

The Heart of Christ! His "Sacred Heart" has given men everything: redemption, salvation, sanctification. St. Faustina Kowalska saw coming from this Heart that was overflowing with generous love, two rays of light which illuminated the world. The two rays, according to what Jesus himself told her, "represent the blood and the water" (Diary, p. 132). The blood recalls the sacrifice of Golgotha and the mystery of the Eucharist, the water, according to the rich symbolism of the Evangelist John, makes us think of Baptism and the Gift of the Holy Spirit (Jn 3:5; 4:14).

Through the mystery of this wounded heart, the restorative tide of God's merciful love continues to spread over the men and women of our time. Here alone can those who long for true and lasting happiness find its secret.

Pope John Paul II

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS:

The American Turners in Throggs Neck is looking for Lifeguards for this summer. You must be 15 years of age or older. Lifeguard Certification, CPR and first aid certificates are mandatory. Call 718-829-4200 leave a message for Ida or Pat, or for more information or set up an interview. American Turners New York, 748 Clarence Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
IN LOVING MEMORY OF JOSEPHINE CAMPIONE
ON YOUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY IN HEAVEN MOM
ALWAYS IN MY HEART
LOVE, JOSEPHINE SCARANO



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES
GINA FINNEGAN & CARMEN GLORIA TORRELLAS



**THIS YEAR'S BEAUTIFUL PASCHAL CANDLE
IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF
FATHER CHARLES SZIVOS
YOU ARE TRULY MISSED
FOREVER A PRIEST
LOVE, CAROL DELUCA & FRANK ROSCONI**

**NEXT SUNDAY IS COMMITMENT SUNDAY
FOR RENEW & REBUILD**

Next Sunday after Holy Communion at our Masses you are invited to make your pledge for the Renew & Rebuild Campaign if you have not yet done so. You may fill out one of the forms after Mass and hand it in to one of the priests or ushers. No payment is necessary at this time. Statements will be sent to you by the Renew & Rebuild office.

As you know, the Renew and Rebuild Campaign is an effort to help our parish in needed projects and also to help the Archdiocese. The particular projects for our parish are the following:

- Repairing the mosaics of St. Theresa in front of the church.
- Improving the church sound system
- Repairing church kneelers
- Doing needed repairs on the front steps of the Church.

This Campaign also includes the 2018 Cardinal's Appeal (not held last year) and the 2019 Appeal (which will not be held separately).

Pledges may be made over a 5-year period, as indicated on your form.

We ask you to prayerfully consider the Appeal.
Your generosity will help us to keep "St. Theresa Strong."



SATURDAY APRIL 20, 2019

7:30PM Solemn Easter Vigil

SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2019

7:30AM Easter Intention

9:00AM Easter Intention

10:30AM Easter Intention

12:15PM Easter Intention

1:30PM Easter Intention

5:00PM Easter Intention

MONDAY APRIL 22, 2019

8:00AM John Marro

9:00AM Msgr. Neil Graham

TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2019

8:00AM Mary Cea

9:00AM Pasquale Marro

WEDNESDAY APRIL 24, 2019

8:00AM Vevette Samuels

9:00AM Elizabeth Alfano

THURSDAY APRIL 25, 2019

8:00AM Fr. Charles Szivos

9:00AM Lisa Gonzalez

12NOON Ann Nutini

FRIDAY APRIL 26, 2019

8:00AM Luigi Fata

9:00AM Robert A. Brancati

SATURDAY APRIL 27, 2019

8:00AM Marie Sansalone

9:00AM Laura Sellati

5:00PM Sal & Maria Zottola

SUNDAY APRIL 28, 2019

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Filippo Restifo (Anniversary)

10:30AM Mary Sabatello, Sr. Grace Sabatello
& Frances Ackerly

12:15PM Irma Orrico

1:30PM Rosalba Gomez

5:00PM Mario Sementilli

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Eileen Buckley,
Nancy Cardone, Elaine Reiss Cina, Joseph Cina,
Phyllis Caruso, Pasqua Del Prete, Marie DiPolo, Thomas Egan,
Frank Ferrara, Rita Ferrara, Daley Gribbon, Ita Griffin,
Sean Howell, William Keenan, Sal Lanza, Frank Maiorana,
Maryann Maiorana, Diane Martino, Joe Martino,
Theresa Martino, Patrick & Jimmy McCoy,
Isabelle O'Brien, Frank Oricco, Marie Petillo, Marie Russillo,
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