

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

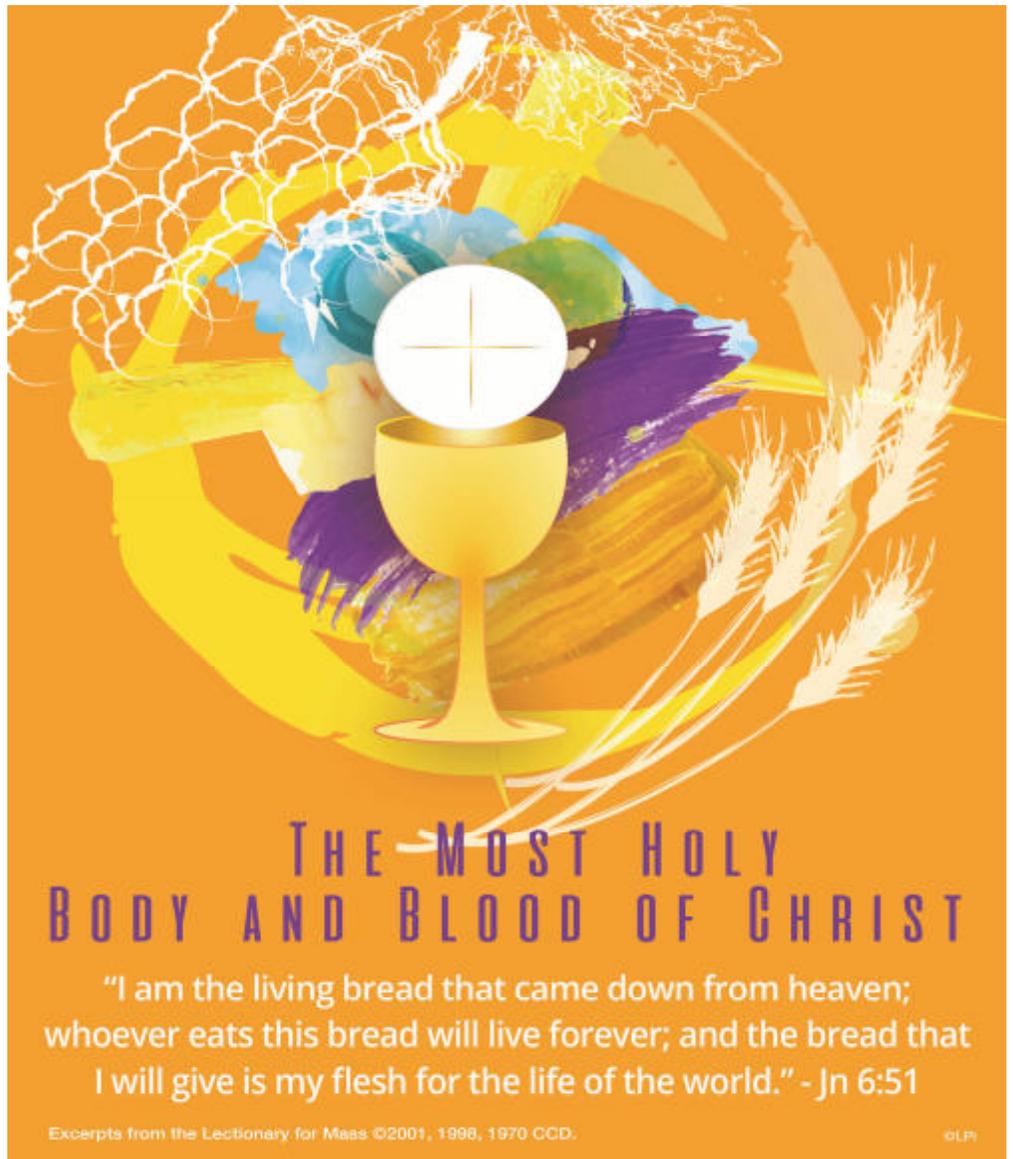
BAPTISMS

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

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

It is hard for us to imagine that for the first three hundred years of the Church's history, the Church suffered terrible persecution. The Roman emperors decreed that following Jesus was a capital crime worthy of death. Christians were imprisoned and condemned simply for doing what we do every time we join in the Mass, celebrating the Holy Eucharist. They had to sneak out through the streets early on Sunday morning to join their fellow Catholics in homes and in underground tunnels called catacombs to celebrate Mass. And despite the danger, they did. They kept the faith. They would not let anything get in their way of receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion. Such was the case with a young boy in Rome who loved the Blessed Sacrament so much that he was willing to die for Jesus in Holy Communion. His name is St. Tarcisius and we do well to think about him on this beautiful feast of Corpus Christi, when we remember that the Lord gives us His very self in Holy Communion every time we come to His altar.

Who was St. Tarcisius? We do not have much information about him. We know he was a young boy who lived in Rome in the middle of the 3rd century. We would probably call him an altar server today. But he was also a Eucharistic Minister like the persons who assist the priest in distributing Communion here at Mass. In those days of persecution the Pope wanted to send Holy Communion to the Christians who were imprisoned for their faith and who were about to be put to death. Whom would the Pope send? Tarcisius said that he was ready to bring Communion. Because he was just a boy, he would be able to get in and out of the prison without much notice. The Pope accepted his request and entrusted to him the precious Body of Christ, saying: "Tarcisius, remember that a heavenly treasure has been entrusted to your hands. Guard this Sacred Mystery faithfully and safely." The Pope placed some of the sacred Hosts in his hand and Tarcisius put his hand under his cloak and he went down the streets of Rome on his holy mission. As he went, he met what we today would call a gang. They wanted him to show them what he had under his cloak. He refused and they retaliated in anger. They kicked him, they threw stones at him, but he would not give up the Sacred Hosts. Tarcisius died as a martyr for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Our retired Pope Benedict recounted the story that the Most Blessed Sacrament was not found on St. Tarcisius' body, either in his hands or his clothing. The consecrated Host which the young Martyr had defended with his life, had become flesh of his flesh thereby forming, together with his body, a single immaculate Host offered to Almighty God.

Pope Benedict has had great love for this young saint of the Holy Eucharist. The Pope said, 'St. Tarcisius' testimony and this beautiful tradition teach us the deep love and great veneration that we must have for the Eucharist: it is a precious treasure of incomparable value; it is the Bread of life, it is Jesus himself who becomes our nourishment, support and strength on our daily journey and on the open road that leads to eternal life; the Eucharist is the greatest gift that Jesus gave to us.' And dear friends, that is the same gift that Jesus Himself gives us every time we come to this altar. It is as if He is saying to us, "Here I am. I give myself to you. Please give yourself to me."

Today's feast of Corpus Christi is the Church's reminder to us that we must never take the Eucharist for granted. We must constantly remind ourselves that the Holy Eucharist is not just a symbol of Jesus. It is the living Jesus who gives Himself to us under the form of bread so that we may be filled with His life. The Holy Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is Jesus. It is as simple and profound as that.

Please God we will never have to make the same sacrifice as St. Tarcisius had to make so many centuries ago. But we must have the same devotion he had, the same love for Jesus present in the Sacrament we receive in our hands or on our tongue. St. Tarcisius was ready to die for the Holy Eucharist. We must always be ready to live for the Holy Eucharist, to let the Eucharist guide our lives, to let Jesus come to us so that we may have life in Him.

Father Thomas B. Derivan



SAINT PETER
Apostle († 1st century)
Feast: June 29

In Luke 5:1-10, Peter, a fisherman, is washing his nets on the shore of the Lake of Gennesaret, when the rabbi Jesus steps into his boat. Jesus has been teaching the people by the seashore, and he asks Peter to row out, that he might address the people from the water. Peter obediently rows out.

After the teaching, Jesus turns to Peter and says, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Peter responds, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." The nets are lowered and pulled up. The catch is so abundant that Peter has to call his friends for help. And, as the fish spill onto the floor of the boat, Peter, who knows the waters by heart, recognizes the extraordinary nature of the catch. He throws himself before Jesus: "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." But our Lord says to him: "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

Reflecting on this scene, Pope Benedict XVI concludes, "Peter could not yet imagine that one day he would arrive in Rome and that here he would be a 'fisher of men' for the Lord. He accepted this surprising call; he let himself be involved in this great adventure: he was generous.... He said 'yes,' a courageous and generous 'yes,' and became a disciple of Jesus."

Peter is the patron saint of harvesters.

Father in heaven, through the intercession of Saint Peter, help me to say "yes" to the great adventure you have prepared for me.

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.

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.

MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

OUR 23RD ANNUAL ST. THERESA FEAST—TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY!!!

Our 23rd annual St. Theresa Italian American Family Feast comes to a close this Sunday. On Sunday the Feast will open from 2PM To 9:30PM. Our schedule is as follows:

- Opening Prayer—2PM
- Sunday Mass—4PM
- Procession of Statue of St. Theresa—5PM
- Feast Concert in church with the combined choirs of St. Theresa and St. Frances de Chantal Church—6PM
- Drawing for the Grand Raffle—9:00PM

If you have not yet bought your Raffle ticket, you may do so after Mass today or at the Feast itself. The cost of the Raffle ticket is \$100. The prizes will be as follows:

- First Prize—\$25,000
- Second Prize—\$5,000
- Third Prize—\$1,000

We thank all who have volunteered to assist at the Feast—in Kiddie Zone, outside events, security, etc. We are particularly grateful to the teachers in our school who have been so generous in volunteering for the Feast. And of course we are thankful to the many people who have come to the Feast and enjoyed it.

We offer special thanks to our generous Feast sponsors, including:

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Let us make the final day of our 23rd St. Theresa's Feast a celebration of "St. Theresa Strong."

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

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For Catholics

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Code of Canon Law, Canon 916). A frequent reception of the sacrament of penance is encouraged for all.

For Fellow Christians

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions that separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21).

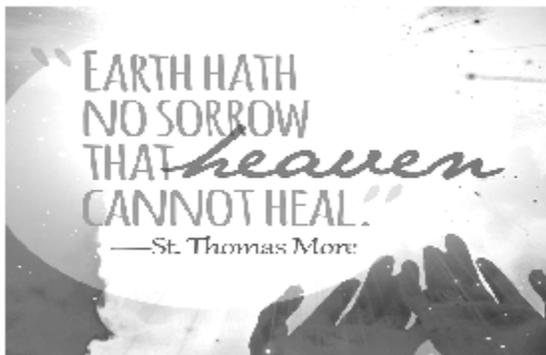
Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (Canon 844 S 4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of communion by Christians of these churches (Canon 844 S 3).

For Those Not Receiving Holy Communion

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

For Non-Christians

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.



KIDS HEAVENLY HUMOR

Where do sheep go on vacation?

The Baaa-hamas.

Why does a seagull fly over the sea?

Because if it flew over the bay, it would be a baygull.

JUNE 23, 2019



**CORPUS CHRISTI
(FEAST OF THE BODY OF CHRIST)**

Today's feast is known by the Latin words, *Corpus Christi*, the Body of Christ. Of course, every Sunday is a celebration of the Body of Christ, the great mystery of the Holy Eucharist. But the Church gives us this special Sunday to pay particular honor to Our Lord's Eucharistic presence in a public way. Today, throughout the Archdiocese, churches will have special processions, devotions, and Benediction as a public witness to our faith in the Blessed Sacrament. Unfortunately in recent years, many Catholics have lost their appreciation of the mystery of the Eucharist. Many Catholics do not seem to understand what our belief in the Eucharist is namely:

- **that at the Last Supper, Our Lord took bread and wine and miraculously changed them into His Body and Blood;
- **that He directed His apostles to "do this in memory of me," so that what happened at the Last Supper continues to happen in the Mass, every day;
- **that Our Lord chose bread and wine to give us His presence to show us that, just as we need food for our bodies, so too we need the blessed food of the Eucharist to nourish our souls on the way of eternal life;
- **that the Mass continues both the Last Supper and the sacrifice of the Cross. This is truly His blood "which will be given up for you (on the Cross)";
- **that Our Lord is present in the tabernacle in our church and in every church. After the Mass, the consecrated hosts are placed in the tabernacle so that the Blessed Sacrament can be brought to the sick and so that we can worship Him in His Eucharistic presence;
- **that Catholics who are free from mortal sin should receive Holy Communion as frequently as possible, even daily, to grow in the life of Christ. For those who have mortal sin, confession is necessary first before one can properly receive Holy Communion;
- **that Catholics fast for one hour before Communion time as a sign of sacrifice, recognizing the sacrifice of Our Lord Himself for us.

It is good for us to refresh our minds on these teachings of the Church regarding the Blessed Sacrament. Today's feast is a good opportunity to do precisely that. May we all grow in our love for Jesus in this wonderful Sacrament. "O SACRAMENT MOST HOLY, O SACRAMENT DIVINE, ALL PRAISE AND ALL THANKSGIVING BE EVERY MOMENT THINE."

LITANY TO THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Lord, have mercy. R. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. R. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. R. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, hear us. R. Christ, graciously hear us.
God the Father of Heaven, R. have mercy on us.
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, R. have mercy on us.
God the Holy Spirit, R. have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, on God, R. have mercy on us.

Jesus, Eternal High Priest of the Eucharistic Sacrifice, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, Divine Victim on the Altar for our salvation, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, hidden under the appearance of bread, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, dwelling in the tabernacles of the world, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, really, truly and substantially present in the Blessed Sacrament, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, abiding in Your fullness, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, Bread of Life, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, Bread of Angels, R. have mercy on us.
Jesus, with us always until the end of the world, R. have mercy on us.

Sacred Host, summit and source of all worship and Christian life, R. have mercy on us.
Sacred Host, spiritual food, R. have mercy on us.
Sacred Host, Sacrament of love, R. have mercy on us.
Sacred Host, bond of charity, R. have mercy on us.
Sacred Host, greatest aid to holiness, R. have mercy on us.
Sacred Host, in which we are given a pledge of future glory, R. have mercy on us.

For those who do not believe in Your Eucharistic presence, R. have mercy, O Lord.
For those who are indifferent to the Sacrament of Your love, R. have mercy on us.
For those who have offended You in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar, R. have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, R. spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, R. graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, R. have mercy on us, O Lord.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine.



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 _____	

ST. PAUL—FEASTDAY: JUNE 29

Saint Paul is one of the most important and influential of all the saints. Many of his writings are contained in the Canon of the Bible and have influenced the growth and development of the Church since the first century.

St. Paul was originally known as Saul, and he was a Roman citizen and a Pharisee. He even presided over the persecutions of the early Christians and was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen. However, Saul experienced a powerful vision that caused him to convert to Christianity while on the road to Damascus. He was duly baptized and took the name Paul.

Paul traveled the world, first to Arabia then back to Damascus. He also visited Jerusalem to see St. Peter, the first pope and pay homage to him. During these travels, he preached ceaselessly, often drawing criticism and ire from those who rebuffed his message. Jews, in particular, hated his preaching as they saw him convert people to Christianity from Judaism.

Eventually, Paul returned to Tarsus, where he was born. He preached there until he was called by Barnabus to come to Antioch. After a year spent in Antioch, a famine occurred in Jerusalem and the pair was dispatched to the city with alms. The accomplished this mission, and returned to Antioch.

Paul and Barnabus then went forth on a mission to Cypress and throughout Asia Minor. They established several churches in their travels. After establishing his churches, Paul remained in communication with the faithful, often writing letters to answer questions and resolve disputes. The letters that have survived have become part of the Bible.

Paul traveled throughout much of Europe, particularly in Macedonia, Greece, and Italy. While preparing for a missionary trip to Spain, he was imprisoned in Caesarea by the Jews for two years. He traveled again, was shipwrecked in Malta, and was imprisoned for another two years for preaching in Rome. Despite these imprisonments, Paul continued to preach.

In 67 AD, Paul was arrested in Rome for a second time and this time he was beheaded under the insane Emperor Nero. Paul is among the most famous, intelligent and influential of the apostles. He is the patron saint of missionaries, evangelists, writers, journalists, authors, public workers, rope and saddle makers, and tent makers. His feast day is on June 29 when he is honored with Saint Peter.

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.

MANY THANKS

We are most grateful to all our wonderful parishioners who have sacrificed so generously by increasing their weekly Sunday Contributions. Please know that your weekly increase is for the betterment of St. Theresa Parish, for the building up and improvement of our parish. We are most grateful to all of you who have helped to make a difference in our community. Please continue to help us in order to keep St. Theresa Parish the vital, growing parish that it is.



II Edison Gramajo & Toni Marie Mellia



THIS WEEK'S ALTAAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF RALPH BOCKINO ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS LOVE, ADELINE & CHILDREN



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES CLOTILDE(JOSIE) RODRIGUEZ, ANGELA BROWNING & MATTHEW BIBBO

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 _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE# _____

CELL# _____

E-MAIL _____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE RECTORY OFFICE.

SATURDAY JUNE 22, 2019

5:00PM Maria Zottola

SUNDAY JUNE 23, 2019

7:30AM John Sweeney

9:00AM Marie Sansalone

10:30AM Henry Philip Farley

12:15PM Marie Halpern & Joseph Tripodi

1:30PM Parishioners of St. Theresa

5:00PM Fr. Charles Szivos

MONDAY JUNE 24, 2019

8:00AM Debra DeCamillis

9:00AM Frank Porco

TUESDAY JUNE 25, 2019

8:00AM Dennis & Mary Russo

9:00AM Josephine Cefola

WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 2019

8:00AM Edward Lopez Jr.

9:00AM Howard Samarel

THURSDAY JUNE 27, 2019

8:00AM Ralph Bockino

9:00AM Ralph Bockino

12NOON Ralph Bockino

FRIDAY JUNE 28, 2019

8:00AM Regina Martucci

9:00AM Luke Turrisi

SATURDAY JUNE 29, 2019

8:00AM The Marriage of Rudina & Sokol Preldakaj

9:00AM Pjeter Vuksani

5:00PM Msgr. Don Guiseppe Calderone & Pietro & Maria Merenda

SUNDAY JUNE 30, 2019

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Angelo & Abbandanza DelGrosso

10:30AM Ovidio Gomez

12:15PM Joseph Mellusi

1:30PM Msgr. Neil Graham

5:00PM Amelia Guliani

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, Joseph Pisano, Marie Russillo, Camille Siciliano, Mario Simeone, Toni Spahr, Florence Valentine, Dean Valentine, Nicholas Vasti, Frank Vertullo, Irene Vesely.

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