

# 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](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

### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN: ST. THERESA AND HER MESSAGES:

During the coming weeks we turn to our holy Patroness St. Theresa. How important it is for us not only to know about her, but to turn to her for her help, remembering that she promised to send a “shower of roses” upon us.

Each week we will concentrate on one of St. Theresa’s messages to us.

This week we think about her **message of holiness.**

Our church was the first church in our Archdiocese named after the newly canonized St. Theresa or, as she was called in her native France, St. Therese, who was canonized on May 17, 1925. Two years later St. Theresa Church was established. For ninety years and more parishioners have honored our saint. They have called upon her for help. And they have learned from her.

But who was this saint whom Pope Pius XI called “the greatest saint of modern times?” To call her that, on the surface level, makes no sense at all. She was not known during her lifetime other than by people in her family and in her convent. And yet she is known and loved now throughout the world. I remember our dear Father Charles telling us about his brother who lives and works in the country Abu Dhabi, near Saudi Arabia, and the church that he goes to there, where Father Charles celebrated Mass on his visit, is dedicated to St. Theresa.

Why is St. Theresa so popular? The facts of her life are simple. She was one of nine children of Louis and Zelig Martin, living in the little town of Alencon in France. She joined the cloistered Carmelite convent in the neighboring town of Lisieux, at the age of fifteen. She suffered from tuberculosis, which ultimately brought about her death at the age of twenty-four. In fact when she died, the other sisters said that they had few things to say about her. And yet she has had such a tremendous effect on Catholicism, even being declared a Doctor of the Church because of the importance of her writing. That writing was the result of a direction from her religious superior (who was also her blood sister) who told her to write down her reflections. After her death those reflections were published in a book called “*The Story of A Soul,*” which is said to be the most popular religious book, other than the Bible, to be read by Christians and non-Christians alike.

To read St. Theresa’s words (as the world soon found out) is like opening a spiritual goldmine. To describe what she says is like describing sunsets and rainbows and anything else that is fantastically beautiful. That word “beautiful” describes St. Theresa’s words and St. Theresa herself. Her message is simple and beautiful. “I want to be a saint,” she said when she entered the convent. It was as simple and as beautiful as that. Later on she would write, “I was made to understand that the glory I was to win would never be seen during my lifetime. My joy would consist in becoming a great saint. This desire might seem presumptuous, seeing how weak and imperfect I am, yet I rely not on my own merits to become a saint, but rather I put my hope in Him who is goodness and holiness itself. It is He alone who will raise me to Himself and will clothe me with His infinite merits and will make me a saint.”

St. Theresa gives us a most important message. Our job here on earth is to become saints or, better put, to cooperate with God’s grace as He makes us saints. St. Theresa put sanctity as our goal, but she also put it within the reach of every person, young or old, educated or not, married or single. St. Theresa’s greatest contribution to the Church (for which Pope St. John Paul II declared her a Doctor of the Church) is what she called her “little way,” which very simply was finding God in the daily things of our lives, trusting that God will make us His saints. The temptation for all of us is to try to be too big. St. Theresa said we have to be little, little like a child trusting in his or her parents. And it is precisely in our littleness that God makes us His saints. Saints are not people who do extraordinary things or, at least, they do not have to be. She wrote, “You do not need extraordinary experiences to become a saint. Ordinary ones serve just as well. It is what you do with your experiences that makes you a saint, how you see God in them, whatever they are.” That is her “little way.” She wrote, “I must stay little and become less and less. The nearer one gets to God, the simpler one becomes.” Maybe the reason why people are attracted to St. Theresa is because she tells the truth. She tells it “As it is.” “I realized,” she wrote, “how easy it would be to become wrapped up in oneself and to forget the sublime purpose of our vocation. I wish for only one thing to live Jesus unto folly. I no longer know how to ask passionately for anything except that the will of God should be accomplished in my soul.” Notice she uses the word “vocation.” And she is not talking only about her vocation of being a cloistered nun. For St. Theresa our main vocation in life, whoever we are, is to become a saint. In fact, St. Theresa beautifully said, “There is only one tragedy in life, not to become a saint.”

Her message of holiness is her great gift to us, the message of her little way. Her message to us is contained in her beautiful words, “I want to be a saint.” May those words always be in our minds and hearts.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

### SUMMER ATTIRE AT MASS

We ask you to consider your proper dress code for Mass during the summer months. Please show respect for the presence of Our Lord and for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass by dressing appropriately for Mass on Sunday. Please do not wear inappropriate shorts or shirts, halter tops, flip flops, short skirts or any other outfits that do not show reverence for the Mass. Our outward appearance in church shows our inward respect for the Lord. Thank you for giving good example to others by the appropriate way you dress for Mass on Sunday.

### 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.



## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Today's Gospel makes us consider how necessary it is to invoke God, "the Lord of harvest to send out laborers." The "laborers" whom Jesus speaks of are the missionaries of the Kingdom of God, whom he himself calls and sends on "ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come." Their task is to proclaim a message of salvation addressed to everyone. Missionaries always proclaim a message of salvation to everyone; not only those missionaries who go afar, but we too, are Christian missionaries who express a good word of salvation. This is the gift that Jesus gives us with the Holy Spirit. This message is to say: "The kingdom of God has come near to you", because God has "come near" to us through Jesus; God became one of us; in Jesus, God reigns in our midst, his merciful love overcomes sin and human misery.

This is the Good News that the "laborers" must bring to everyone: a message of hope and comfort, of peace and charity. When Jesus sends the disciples ahead of him into the villages, he tells them: "first, say 'Peace be to this house!' heal the sick in it." All of this signifies that the Kingdom of God is built day by day and already offers on this earth its fruits of conversion, of purification, of love and of comfort among men. It is a beautiful thing! Building day by day this Kingdom of God that is to be made. Do not destroy, build!

With what spirit must disciples of Jesus carry out this mission? First of all they must be aware of the difficult and sometimes hostile reality that awaits them. Jesus minces no words about this! Jesus says: "I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves." this is very clear. Hostility is always at the beginning of persecutions of Christians; because Jesus knows that the mission is blocked by the work of evil. For this reason, the laborer of the Gospel will strive to be free from every kind of human conditioning, carrying neither purse nor bag nor sandals, as Jesus counseled, so as to place reliance solely in the power of the Cross of Jesus Christ. This means abandoning every motive of personal advantage, careerism or hunger for power, and humbly making ourselves instruments of the salvation carried out by Jesus' sacrifice.

A Christian's mission in the world is splendid, it is a mission intended for everyone, it is a mission of service, excluding no one; it requires a great deal of generosity and above all setting one's gaze and heart facing on High, to invoke the Lord's help. There is a great need for Christians who joyfully witness to the Gospel in everyday life. The disciples, sent out by Jesus, "returned with joy." when we do this, our heart fills with joy. This expression makes me think of how much the Church rejoices, she revels when her children receive the Good News thanks to the dedication of so many men and women who daily proclaim the Gospel: priests - those brave parish priests whom we all know, nuns, consecrated women, missionary men and women. Fear not! Be courageous and bring to others this guiding light of apostolic zeal that these exemplary disciples have given to us.

Let us pray to the Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, that the Church may never lack generous hearts that work to bring everyone the love and kindness of our heavenly Father.

Angelus Address, July 3, 2016

### THE TRUE JOYS OF SUMMER



Over the years, one of the endearing qualities of Pope John Paul II, has been his total joy in living. Thanks to the media, we have noted the witness of a Pope who schedules vacation time and celebrates leisure, respite for body and soul.

But Pope John Paul II is not the first pope of modern times to urge Catholics, by example and in speeches, to take a vacation. Our use of the term comes from the Middle English word, which in turn comes from Latin- -speaking to freedom, exemption, immunity. In short, a breather.

It was one Pope John Paul II's predecessors, Pope Paul VI, who also urged Catholics to take a vacation. His basic reason: Vacation time can and should be spiritually refreshing.

"Vacations have an immense importance," he said, "often decisive for our intellectual and moral development." And in what may be words to the wise for workaholics, Pope Paul VI, went on to cite vacations as almost an obligation for a balance human life.

"Vacations are not merely a beautiful pause which interrupts the monotony of work with physical and external enjoyment. They are also," he added, "and perhaps even more, an encounter." The Pope who wrote so eloquently about the Catholic mission of evangelization in the modern world, among other things, pointed out clearly how he saw vacation time.

\*Vacation is an encounter between "a person and himself," he began. A time for healthy introspection and an honest look, away from daily pressures, at who you are as God created you.

\*Vacation is also another chance to look at a person's "true calling." What is one's true vocation, and how are we answering that calling.

\*Vacation, said Pope Paul II, will also afford an opportunity for people to look at the value of their "existence." We are children of God, people called to live in the presence of God even in this world. How much do we even recall that high calling, and what do we do about it the rest of the year, while on the job, whatever that may be?

This year, let us recall this sage papal advice on vacation time. We will want to make time, however briefly, to look at our lives with honesty, to do some reading, and put a little of that time to work in prayer. Spiritual reflection is surely part of the "freedom" that a happy vacation should include. (Franciscan Mission Associates)



JULY 7, 2019



### 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 [sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com](mailto:sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com) 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### “BACK TO BASICS” CAMP PROGRAM



Our Summer Basketball Camp is for boys entering Grades 5, 6, 7 & 8. Enrollment is limited.

It is designed to develop basketball skills, conditioning and back-to-basics fundamentals.

There are two 5-day sessions:

- Monday, August 12th through Friday, August 16th and
- Monday, August 19th through Friday, August 23rd.

Camp runs each day from 9AM to 3PM. Boys may arrive at 8:30AM. If you are interested, please pick up a registration form at the Rectory or in the vestibule of the church.

### 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.

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



### CCD (Religion Class) REGISTRATION

**(Religion Classes for children who attend public school)**

Applications are now being accepted for classes which begin in September 2019.

**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](http://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](mailto:sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com)

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**JULY 11  
ST. BENEDICT ABBOT  
(480?-543)**

It is unfortunate that no contemporary biography was written of a man who has exercised measureless influence on monasticism in the West. Benedict is well recognized in the later Dialogues of St. Gregory, but these are sketches to illustrate miraculous elements of his career.

Benedict was born of a distinguished family in central Italy, studied at Rome and early in life was drawn to the monastic life. At first he became a hermit, leaving a depressing world-pagan armies on the march, the Church torn by schism, people suffering from war, morality at a low ebb.

He soon realized that he could not live a hidden life in a small town any better than in a large city, so he withdrew to a cave high in the mountains for three years. Some monks chose him as their leader for a while, but found his strictness not to their taste. Still, the shift from hermit to community life had begun for him. He had an idea of gathering various families of monks into one "Grand Monastery" to give them the benefit of unity, fraternity, permanent worship in one house. Finally he began to build what was to become one of the most famous monasteries in the world Monte Cassino, commanding three narrow valleys running toward the mountain.

The Rule that gradually developed prescribed a life of liturgical prayer, study, manual labor and living together in community under a common father (abbot). Benedictine asceticism is known for its moderation, and Benedictine charity has always shown concern for the people in the surrounding countryside. In the course of the Middle Ages, all monasticism in the West was gradually brought under the Rule of St. Benedict.

Today the Benedictine family is represented by two branches: the Benedictine Federation and the Cistercians.

The church has been blessed through Benedictine devotion to the liturgy, not only in its actual celebration with rich and proper ceremony in the great abbeys, but also through the scholarly studies of many of its members. Liturgy is sometimes confused with guitars or choirs, Latin or Bach. We should be grateful to those who both preserve and adapt the genuine tradition of worship in the Church.

"Rightly, then, the liturgy is considered as an exercise of the priestly office of Jesus Christ. In the liturgy the sanctification of man is manifested by signs perceptible to the senses. In the liturgy full public worship is performed by the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, that is, by the Head and his members.

"From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the priest and of his Body the Church, is a sacred action, surpassing all others: (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 7).

## **NO VACATION FROM SUNDAY MASS**

During the summer, parents understandably want to get an early start on enjoying their Sundays by visiting relatives, enjoying the recreational places of our city, or just traveling. However, let us not forget the importance of **SUNDAY MASS EACH WEEK**. It is easy to fall into the temptation of just letting Sunday Mass slip by. "We're too busy today," or "We'll make Mass next week," can become easy excuses. This is a special plea to parents to make sure that their families come to Mass every Sunday. **MAKE TIME FOR MASS**. Plan your weekend around the Mass. In fact, it is good to come to Mass early before setting out on your Sunday journey to pray for a safe trip. Remember, if you are occupied all day Sunday, come to the 5:00PM Saturday Mass or plan to come back from your trip in time for the 5:00PM Sunday Mass. Children also enjoy visiting a new Catholic Church if they are away from the city. Parents remember that you are always giving your children a message: either the message that Sunday Mass is the most important thing your family does or the message that Mass is not that important. Please God, you always give the right message!

When traveling, you can check the location of the nearest Catholic church and the times of the Masses on [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org).



## **PARISH MISSIONARY APPEAL TODAY**

This weekend our second collection will be for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith which promotes the missionary efforts of the Church throughout the world. Father Alysius Nzekwe will be preaching at our Masses on behalf of the Missionary Society of St. Paul in Africa. We ask your generous help in the second collection today.

## **HOLY HOUR:**

**Our First Friday Holy Hour will be discontinued during the summer. It will resume of September 6th.**



## **We are in need of Food for our Food Pantry for the Summer Months.**

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.**



THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR THIS WEEK  
 IN MEMORY  
 OF  
 EILEEN MASKARA  
 LOVE, MICHAEL & FAMILY



**SATURDAY JULY 6, 2019**

5:00PM Eileen Maskara

**SUNDAY JULY 7, 2019**

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Egidio La Marie

10:30AM Luigi Gentile

12:15PM Anthony & Angelina Ferrantino

1:30PM Roslaba Gomez

5:00PM Olive Nelson

**MONDAY JULY 8, 2019**

8:00AM Crisia Esposito

9:00AM Pino Peri

**TUESDAY JULY 9, 2019**

8:00AM Frank Porco

9:00AM Anthony Joseph Enrique Cruz

**WEDNESDAY JULY 10, 2019**

8:00AM Petrina Vullo

9:00AM Peter Rocchio

**THURSDAY JULY 11, 2019**

8:00AM Denis Driscoll

9:00AM Evelyn Segerra

12NOON Matthew Michael Ward

**FRIDAY JULY 12, 2019**

8:00AM Peace of Mind & Spirit of Rudina Preldakaj

9:00AM Petrina Vullo

**SATURDAY JULY 13, 2019**

8:00AM Carmela D'Angelone

9:00AM Rosina, Luigi & Ciro Sanfilippo

5:00PM Gregoria Family

**SUNDAY JULY 14, 2019**

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Salvatore DiFranco

10:30AM Filomena Parisi

12:15PM Charles & Frances DeClemente

1:30PM Msgr. Neil Graham

5:00PM Jeanne Filek

**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.



In whatever  
 direction we go,  
 [God] is there  
 before us,  
 calling to us  
 and coming  
 to meet us.  
 — HENRI DE LUBAC

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

**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 Orizzo, 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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