

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

In the Church there are many patron saints of mothers. The most important, of course, is Our Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of Jesus, Mother of us all. But Our Lady is happy to share the title “patron of mothers” with other holy women. One is St. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine. Another patron of mothers is our own American saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, who was a married person and mother of five children before she founded the Sisters of Charity. And another patron of mothers who lived in our own time is St. Gianna Molla, a mother, a doctor who gave her life for the unborn baby she was carrying. All of these are great and holy patrons for mothers to pray to. But I most admit a favorite. We will celebrate her feast later on this month. Her name was St. Monica, mother of the future St. Augustine. St. Monica should have a special place in the hearts of all mothers, particularly those who face hardship and trouble. And even if we are not mothers, St. Monica is a saint for all of us to know, to learn from, and to love.

Our readings from God’s Holy Word reflect very well the life of St. Monica. The gospel speaks of division in families, not the petty divisions that sometimes rise up among family members, but the divisions that happen over faith, over one member of the family disregarding or even belittling the faith of another. So it was with Monica. She lived in North Africa in the fourth century. She suffered from the hard treatment of her mother-in-law and she suffered also from the callousness and unfaithfulness of her husband who ridiculed her Christian faith. Again to use the words of the Scripture today, Monica did not fix her eyes on her troubles; instead she fixed her eyes on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of her faith. She prayed for her husband and mother-in-law. She prayed long and hard and her prayer was answered. Both husband and mother-in-law softened their stance against Christianity and eventually opened their hearts to faith.

But a mother’s work is never done. Monica’s work was far from done. There was her son Augustine, a brilliant young man, well versed in the philosophy of his day, a young man who went down every path seeking meaning and purpose in his life. And almost all of his wanderings led to dead ends. Any mother who has faced the heartache of seeing a child go in the wrong direction has a saintly patron in St. Monica. For twenty years she prayed for his conversion, never giving up. Again in the words of today’s reading, she persevered in running the race that was set before her, not growing weary. At times, yes, she was tempted to lose heart. She followed her son after he left Africa and went to the great Italian city of Milan. Monica prayed for her son in the cathedral of Milan. Once she broke out in tears. The holy bishop St. Ambrose tried to comfort her, asking her the reason for her crying. And she told him her tears were for her son Augustine. St. Ambrose assured her that her prayers were not in vain. As he told her, “The child of so many tears cannot be lost.”

Perhaps you know the rest of the story. Augustine was in a garden and he heard the voices of children, chanting “Take and read.” He saw in the garden a copy of the Holy Scripture and he picked it up and read the words of St. Paul, “Put aside all the allurements of this world and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.” And in an instant, Augustine’s life was changed. He asked St. Ambrose to help him prepare for baptism. He went on to be a strong and fervent Christian, a holy priest and bishop, and one of the greatest saints in the history of the church—all because of his mother Monica’s prayers and tears.

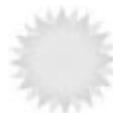
St. Monica belongs to mothers who are having problems in their families. But she does not just belong to them. Like all the saints, St. Monica is given to us as an example of how to live our Christian lives—putting up with divisions, persevering in faith, never giving up. Shortly after Augustine was baptized, Monica was called home to heaven. Her work on earth was done. Her reason for being on this earth had come to its beautiful conclusion. But like all the saints, Monica’s work is not finished. She is one of what the Scripture today calls “the great crowd of witnesses,” the saints in heaven guiding us on our way there. May St. Monica help us all. May she help us, amid all the difficulties of life, to persevere in faith, to run the race, and most of all to fix our eyes on Jesus, to fix our eyes on heaven and to fix our eyes on eternal life.

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.



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.

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.

A MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY

The Gospel for this Sunday (Lk 12:49-53) is part of Jesus' teachings to the disciples during his journey to Jerusalem, where death on the cross awaits him. To explain the purpose of his mission, he uses three images: *fire*, *baptism* and *division*. Today I wish to talk about the first image: *fire*.

Jesus expresses it with these words: "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!" The fire that Jesus speaks of is the fire of the Holy Spirit, His presence living and working in us from the day of our Baptism. It - the fire - is a creative force that purifies and renews, that burns all human misery, all selfishness, all sin, which transforms us from within, regenerates us and makes us able to love. Jesus wants the Holy Spirit to blaze like fire in our heart, for it is only from the heart that the fire of divine love can spread and advance the Kingdom of God. It does not come from the head, it comes from the heart. This is why Jesus wants fire to enter our heart. If we open ourselves completely to the action of this fire which is the Holy Spirit, He will give us the boldness and the fervor to proclaim to everyone Jesus and his consoling message of mercy and salvation, navigating on the open sea, without fear.

In fulfilling her mission in the world, the Church - namely all of us who make up the Church - - needs the Holy Spirit's help so as not to let herself be held back by fear and by calculation, so as not to become accustomed to walking inside of safe borders. These two attitudes lead the Church to be a functional church, which never takes risks. Instead, the apostolic courage that the Holy Spirit kindles in us like a fire helps us to overcome walls and barriers, makes us creative and spurs us to get moving in order to walk even on uncharted or arduous paths, offering hope to those we meet. With this fire of the Holy Spirit we are called to become, more and more, communities of people who are guided and transformed, full of understanding; people with expanded hearts and joyful faces. Now more than ever there is need for priests, consecrated people and lay faithful, with the attentive gaze of an apostle, to be moved by and to pause before hardship and material and spiritual poverty, thus characterizing the journey of evangelization and of the mission with the healing cadence of closeness. It is precisely the fire of the Holy Spirit that leads us to be neighbors to others, to the needy, to so much human misery, to so many problems, to refugees, to displaced people, to those who are suffering.

I am thinking with admiration especially of the many priests, men and women religious and lay faithful who, throughout the world, are dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel with great love and faithfulness, often even at the cost of their lives. Their exemplary testimony reminds us that the Church does not need bureaucrats and diligent officials, but passionate missionaries, consumed by ardor to bring to everyone the consoling word of Jesus and his grace. This is the fire of the Holy Spirit. If the Church does not receive this fire, or does not let it inflame her, she becomes a cold or merely lukewarm church, incapable of giving life, because she is made up of cold and lukewarm Christians. It will do us good today to ask ourselves: "How is my heart? Is it cold? Is it lukewarm? Is it capable of receiving this fire?"

Let us ask the Virgin Mary to pray with us and for us to the Heavenly Father, that he dispense upon all believers the Holy Spirit, the divine flame which warms hearts and helps us to be in solidarity with the joys and the sufferings of our brothers and sisters.

Angelus Message, August 14, 2016



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 _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____



**ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL
RELIGIOUS
AUGUST 18**

Born at Dijon in 1572, into a prominent family, St. Jane Frances received an excellent education. In 1592, she married the Baron de Chantal, an officer in the army of Henry IV. After Eight happy years, she was left a widow with four little children when the Baron was killed in a hunting accident.

In 1604, she heard St. Francis de Sales preach and placed herself under his spiritual direction.

After providing for the welfare of her children, St. Jane Frances went to Annecy and established the congregation of the Visitation in 1610.

For many years she suffered great interior trials with the utmost resignation, while she labored to extend her Congregation and promote God's glory. Eighty-six houses were established before her death, which took place in 1641. She was canonized in 1767 by Pope Clement XIII.

PRAYER God, You endowed St. Jane Frances with admirable qualities in various walks of life. Through her intercession help us to be true to our vocation and never fail to bear witness to the light You give us. Amen.



**ST. JOHN EUDES
PRIEST
AUGUST 19**

St. John Eudes was born in France, November 14, 1601. An exemplary youth, he was extolled as one of the most brilliant students ever to attend the Jesuit College at Caen.

As a priest John was full of zeal for the salvation of souls. He worked valiantly among his countrymen and became known as one of the greatest missionaries of his day. Traveling throughout France, he taught the great truths of the Faith and made a host of conversions.

The Saint founded the Congregation of the "Priests of Jesus and Mary" and the Congregation of "Sisters of Our Lady of Charity." The purpose of the former was the direction of seminaries and the religious instruction of the people through missions. He died on August 19, 1680.

Pope Leo XIII recognized St. John Eudes as the author of the liturgical devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and Pope Pius XI canonized him in 1925.

PRAYER God, You wonderfully chose St. John, Your Priest, to announce the unsearchable riches of Christ. Help us to grow in the knowledge of You through his example and counsels and so to live faithfully according to the light of the Gospel. Amen.

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM PARISH FAMILY FEAST



Saturday, September 14, 2019
11:00AM—8:00PM
Located at Hoe Avenue
(between E. 167th St. & Home St.)
Come join us for a fun day of
Music, Food, Games and Fun for the whole family.

Table/Space rentals are available for \$40.00
If interested, please call the rectory at 718-542-6164



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.

**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
- 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

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

PERSISTENCE IN ONE'S WORK -- THE EXAMPLE OF ST. MONICA

St. Monica, also known as Monica of Hippo was a very important influence in the life of her son, St. Augustine, a highly revered saint in his own right. And it is for this relationship she is well known. But St. Monica, whose summer feast day falls on August 27, is also known for her persistence in her work to spread the word of God and to gather the errant sinner. She spent her life praying for the conversion of both her husband and her son. And did not rest until she had fulfilled that goal.

According to her biographies, St. Monica was born in the early 300s, of Christian parents in North Africa but was married to a pagan named Patritius. The pair had three children, Augustine, Navigus and Perpetua. Both Patritius and his mother who came to live with the couple, were of bad temper. While not Christian, and in opposition to her almsgiving and prayer habits, it is said that Patritius allowed his wife to have her faith, even relenting and allowing Augustine to be baptized when he fell ill as a baby. For her sake she never gave up on her husband, despite her unhappy marriage and his disinterest in the Word of The Lord. She dedicated her life to both his and her son's conversion. And it worked! Just before his death Patritius converted to Christianity. Monica's work was still not done. Now she had to turn her sights on her wayward son. In the intervening years Augustine had become a father, allied himself to a different religion and tried in vain to get away from his mother. He was not spiritually ready to embrace the truth. Despite his many, many bad turns, St. Monica never gave up on her son. She followed him all over Italy and finally caught up with him. There she became a big part of his life and was relentless in her efforts to open his eyes. Finally after more than a dozen years, it also worked. After six months of intense discussion and intervention by St. Ambrose, Augustine was baptized in 387, fulfilling a lifelong dream of his mother's. And it was time because she died soon after and was buried and remained a relatively unknown saint for years. St. Monica is the patron of among other issues, difficult marriages, victims of abuse and conversion of relatives.

(From Franciscan Mission Associates)



ST. BERNARD
ABBOT AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
AUGUST 20

St. Bernard was born of noble parentage in Burgundy, France, in the castle of Fontaines near Dijon. Under the care of his pious parents he was sent at an early age to a college at Chatillon, where he was conspicuous for his remarkable piety and spirit of recollection. At the same place he entered upon the studies of Theology and Holy Scripture. After the death of his mother, fearing the snares and temptations of the world, he resolved to embrace the newly established and austere institute of the Cistercian Order, of which he was destined to become the greatest ornament. He also persuaded his brothers and several of his friends to follow his example.

In 1113, St. Bernard, with thirty young noblemen, presented himself to the holy Abbot, St. Stephen, at Cîteaux. After a novitiate spent in great fervor, he made his profession in the following year. His superior soon after, seeing the great progress he had made in the spiritual life, sent him with twelve monks to found a new monastery, which afterward became known as the celebrated Abbey of Clairvaux. St. Bernard was at once appointed Abbot and began that active life which has rendered him the most conspicuous figure in the history of the 12th century.

The Saint funded numerous other monasteries, composed a number of works, and undertook many journeys for the honor of God. Several Bishops were offered him, but he refused them all. His reputation spread far and wide; even Popes were governed by his advice.

St. Bernard was commissioned by Pope Eugene III to preach the second Crusade. In obedience to the Sovereign Pontiff, he traveled through France and Germany, and aroused the greatest enthusiasm for the holy war among the masses of the population. The failure of the expedition raised great storm against the Saint, but he attributed it to the sins of the Crusaders. St. Bernard was eminently endowed with the gift of miracles. He died on August 20, 1153, and was canonized in 1174 by Pope Alexander III.

PRAYER God, You blessed Your Church with St. Bernard, a man full of zeal for Your house, radiating brightness and ardent love. Through his intercession, grant that we may be animated by the same spirit and always walk as children of light. Amen.

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES
JOHN V. PICONE & AUGUDA VAQUEZ



SATURDAY AUGUST 17, 2019

5:00PM Helen & Vincent Virgintino

SUNDAY AUGUST 18, 2019

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Marie Sansalone

10:30AM Frances Caldalaro

12:15PM Edward Katz & Lubrano Family

1:30PM Martha & Fernando Bustamante

5:00PM Clemente Gomez-Mendez

MONDAY AUGUST 19, 2019

8:00AM Mariana Pratts

9:00AM Giuseppe Salerno

TUESDAY AUGUST 20, 2019

8:00AM Regjine Nikollaj

9:00AM George Posillico

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21, 2019

8:00AM Benita Zingaro

9:00AM George Posillico

THURSDAY AUGUST 22, 2019

8:00AM Vincent Bottari

9:00AM Anna Cernaro

12NOON Anthony Peter Pelliccio

FRIDAY AUGUST 23, 2019

8:00AM John Liello

9:00AM Maria & Nicola LaVerghetta

SATURDAY AUGUST 24, 2019

8:00AM The DelVecchio Family

9:00AM Michael & Brunetta Biase

5:00PM Elizabeth Alfano

SUNDAY AUGUST 25, 2019

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Fr. Tom D'Angelo

10:30AM Nicholas Iuliano

12:15PM Ann Nutini

1:30PM Las Arma del Pulgatorio

5:00PM Vito Manginelli

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Kenny Brisco, 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, Frances Regine, Marie Russillo, Camille Siciliano, Mario Simeone, Toni Spahr, Florence Valentine, Dean Valentine, Nicholas Vasti, Frank Vertullo, Irene Vesely.

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Normal School Office hours begin on September 3, 2019

7:30AM-3:00PM.

Our first day of school for Grades Pre-K 3 year olds, K-8th will be September 5th.

Pre-K 4 year olds begins on September 4th.

All parents will receive a calendar and letter by August 1st.

Looking forward to a new school year!

Josephine Fanelli

St. Theresa School

718-792-3688

Fax 718-892-9441

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.



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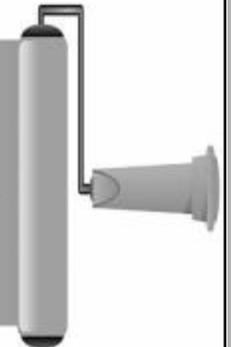
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