

# 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 dis-  
cussed 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"**



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*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**

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## CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN ST. THERESA SCHOOL RE-OPENS THIS WEEK

We welcome back our children, faculty and staff as they begin the new school year this week.

Every school year is a new beginning and that is true in so many ways. It is a new beginning for the children who will be in our school for the first time. We welcome them and want them to know that St. Theresa's School is a special place which we know they will come to love. But it is a new beginning in another sense for all our children, their parents, their teachers and priests, their principal Mrs. Fanelli and all the other people who make our school possible. Every year is a new beginning and we pray that each person—child and adult—will use this year in the best way he or she can.

Always remember this is a Catholic school, where the Lord Jesus is welcomed, honored and loved. He is the reason for our school. St. Theresa School is a parish-based school. That means that our parish has complete responsibility for our school. It also means that school and church are intimately joined. We are conscious of the fact that our school is preparing the next generation of Catholics who will take our place in years ahead. We are proud to have our wonderful principal Mrs. Josephine Fanelli who gives each child personal attention and her dedicated staff of teachers and assistants who make St. Theresa's truly a "second home" for 475 children, making our school one of the largest in the Archdiocese. Recently when we asked parents why they send their children to our school, they mentioned that they always receive a welcoming attitude at our school. That itself says so much.

I have said to the parents that, if we were to look at our school as a corporation, they are the stockholders. That refers to finances, of course. But it also has a deeper sense. Our parents are making an investment in their children's future. And our parents are very involved in that investment. We are blessed to have our very dedicated Home School Association which does so much for our school, conducting social events, providing class mothers, and sponsoring major fundraising events to help keep our school financially sound. That itself says so much about their commitment to St. Theresa's School. It is truly their school.

May Our Lord, His Blessed Mother, and our holy patroness St. Theresa guide us all in the new school year ahead. Please keep our children in your prayers.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

### PRAYER TO BEGIN A SCHOOL YEAR



God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin  
a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.  
Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds  
as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.

We ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### SCHOOL SPONSORSHIPS

Our new St. Theresa School year begins this week. We are making this appeal to parishioners (past and present), alumni and friends of St. Theresa's Parish. We have a School Sponsorship Program in our school. In this, the sponsor offers to help pay a needy student's tuition in whole or in part.

Students are selected by the pastor and the principal particularly because of some unforeseen circumstance that has happened to the family where the child would otherwise not be able to continue in our school. The sponsorship makes it possible for a child to continue to benefit from a good Catholic education at St. Theresa's School. Recipients are chosen by the principal and the pastor according to need. We ask you to consider becoming a School Sponsor. Full Sponsorship is \$5,800 and partial is \$2,900. If you are interested, please contact our principal Mrs. Fanelli at 718-792-3668 or Father Derivan at 718-892-1900 or drop into our School Office. Your sponsorship makes a difference in a child's life.

### THURSDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



**Our Thursday Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament resumes this Thursday after the 12 Noon Mass.**

### FIRST FRIDAY

**This Friday is the First Friday of September. Holy Hour and Benediction will be at 6:00PM**

### 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.



MESSAGE OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY

In the scene from today’s Gospel passage, Jesus, in the home of one of the chief Pharisees, observes that the guests at lunch rush to choose the first place. It is a scene that we have seen so often: seeking the best place even “with our elbows”. Observing this scene, Jesus shares two short parables, and with them two instructions: one concerning the place, and the other concerning the reward.

The first analogy is set at a wedding banquet. Jesus says: “When you are invited by any one to a marriage feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest a more eminent man than you be invited by him; and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give place to this man’, and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.” With this recommendation, Jesus does not intend to give rules of social behavior, but rather a lesson on the value of humility. History teaches that pride, careerism, vanity and ostentation are the causes of many evils. And Jesus helps us to understand the necessity of choosing the last place, that is, of seeking to be small and hidden: humility. When we place ourselves before God in this dimension of humility, God exalts us. He stoops down to us so as to lift us up to himself; “For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Jesus’ words emphasize completely different and opposing attitudes: the attitude of those who choose their own place and the attitude of those who allow God to assign it and await a reward from Him. Let us not forget this: God pays much more than men do! He gives us a much greater place than that which men give us! The place that God gives us is close to his heart and his reward is eternal life. “You will be blessed”, Jesus says, “you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

This is what is described in the second parable, in which Jesus points out the attitude of selflessness that ought to characterize hospitality, and he says: “But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you.” This means choosing gratuitousness rather than self-seeking and calculating to obtain a reward, seeking interest and trying to increase your wealth. Indeed, the poor, the simple, those who ‘don’t count’, can never reciprocate an invitation to a meal. In this way Jesus shows his preference for the poor and the excluded, who are the privileged in the Kingdom of God, and he launches the fundamental message of the Gospel which is to serve others out of love for God. Today, Jesus gives voice to those who are voiceless, and to each one of us he addresses an urgent appeal to open our hearts and to make our own the sufferings and anxieties of the poor, the hungry, the marginalized, the refugees, those who are defeated by life, those who are rejected by society and by the arrogance of the strong.

Let us ask the Virgin Mary, who was humble throughout her whole life, to lead us every day along the way of humility, and to render us capable of free gestures of welcome and solidarity with those who are marginalized, so as to become worthy of the divine reward.

August 28, 2016

ATTENTION—ALUMNI AND FORMER PARISHIONERS!

We are in the process of updating our list of alumni of St. Theresa’s School and former parishioners of our parish. We want them to know about the good things that are going on at our parish and our school.

We ask you to contact family members or friends to ask them to help us update our list. They may do so in any of the following ways:

- Filling out the form and sending it to the Rectory (or asking you to drop it by for them);
- Calling the Rectory to update the information
- E-mailing the information found below
- \* Entering this information on our Facebook page: [St. Theresa Parish \(Official\)](#)

Thank you for your help with this.

**UPDATE OF INFORMATION FOR ALUMNI & FROMER PARISHIONERS**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**IF ALUMNUS, YEAR** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS OF OTHER INFORMATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019



This Monday is Labor Day. For most people, it is the day that signifies the ending of the summer vacation time and is the time for children to go back to school. But Labor Day should be an occasion for us to remember the value of all work and the dignity of working people.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis said this about the value of human labor:

“The Church has placed labor at the center of the questions relating to society. Work is indeed at the heart of the very vocation given by God to man, of prolonging his creative action and achieving, through his free initiative and judgement, dominion over the other creatures, which translates not into despotic enslavement, but into harmony and respect.

We are called to contemplate the beauty of this divine plan, which is founded on concord between human beings and with other living beings and nature. At the same time, we look with concern at the current condition of humanity and of creation, which is deeply marked by the signs of sin, signs of enmity, selfishness, and blind self-privilege.

A society that is not based on work, that does not promote it concretely, and that does not care about those who are excluded from it, would condemn itself to atrophy and to the multiplication of inequalities. On the contrary, a society that seeks to realize the potential of every woman and every man, of every origin and age, will truly breathe deeply, and will be able to overcome the greatest obstacles, putting each person in a position of becoming the creator of his or her own destiny, in accordance with God’s plan.”

May the Lord bless all working people through the intercession of St. Joseph, model of the working person.

Our Masses on Monday are at 8:00AM and 9:00AM.

#### **A MESSAGE FOR LABOR DAY: WORKING FOR A LIVING**

With the end of summer brings the end to what many have as an easier work schedule. With holiday travels in the past, some do not look forward to the long fall and winter because it means back to work. It’s a hard mindset to change, the weather is often not as good, children have homework and projects and sports and the pace of life is just speeding up. But work is not a four-letter word, unless we make it so.

In looking at the papal writings, it is clear the Church leaders believe work can be more than toil. One of the many writings was from then Pope, now Saint, John Paul II who wrote his third encyclical letter on Human Work, *Laborem Exercens* which was published in 1981. One of the many overriding themes in this historical document is the way in which work itself is viewed. In his section titled *Work and Man*, Saint John Paul II calls work “a fundamental dimension of man’s existence on earth,” recalling the first pages of Genesis, “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it.” Some argue “work” came about because of the transgressions of Adam and Eve and so work somehow separates us from the joy of life and its drudgery. In his writing, Saint John Paul II instead talks about the dignity of work and how it is a good thing for humanity because, “through work man not only transforms nature, adapting it to his own needs but also achieves fulfillment as a human being and indeed, in a sense, becomes ‘more a human being’”. So, Saint John Paul II is asking us to shift our perspective slightly. To welcome work as a positive, not look at it as a negative. And as we all know this outlook can make a long Monday go by much faster. We can also begin to find spirituality and goodness in places we might have previously just found frustration.

In the section titled *Elements for a Spirituality of Work*, Saint John Paul II makes three clear points, first that work can bring us closer to our creator, and second that in working we are emulating Jesus, described as “the man of work.” Lastly work is linked with toil in that we are too, subject to crosses. There is so much more in the encyclical and it makes good reading, so find the time to do that. And remember this Labor Day as we head into fall and its increased workloads, that our earthly toil brings heavenly rewards and draws us to our Lord.

(From Franciscan Mission Associates)

#### **FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS September 9—15, 2019**

Bring the Family for: Eucharistic Adoration—40 Hours from Monday, September 9th at 7PM to Wednesday, September 12 at 11AM  
Our Nightly Fervorinos to Inspire Our Faith—Spanish-Thursday, September 12-6PM, English-Friday, September 13-6PM  
Children-Saturday, September 14-6:30PM

Our Bilingual Mass & Procession-Sunday, September 15-12:30PM.

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**PRE-SALE TICKETS 15 FOR \$10.00 Until Wednesday, Sept. 11th**

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## AMERICAN RELIGIOUS BROTHER AMONG NEW MARTYRS RECOGNIZED BY THE VATICAN.



The Vatican has issued sixteen decrees advancing the causes of candidates for canonization and beatification. With the approval of Pope Francis, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints proclaimed the martyrdom and approved the beatification of Brother James Alfred Miller, an American religious from Wisconsin who was martyred in 1982 in Guatemala.

Br. James Alfred Miller, who was a religious brother of the Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (called Christian Brothers) was serving in Guatemala when he was shot to death by three hooded men in the afternoon of February 13, 1982, dying instantly. He was 37.

Miller, who was born near Stevens Point, Wisconsin in 1944, took the habit of the Christian Brothers in August 1962. He coached football and taught Spanish, English, and religion in a high school in St. Paul, Minn. There his construction and maintenance abilities gained him the nickname "Brother Fix-It." Miller was later sent to teach in Nicaragua, where under his leadership a school grew from 300 to 800 students and he supervised the construction of 10 new rural schools.

In July 1978 his superiors asked him to leave the country because of the danger amid the Sandinista Revolution. He returned to the U.S. and again taught high school. He was sent to mission territory in Guatemala in 1981, teaching at a secondary school and at a center for studies for young indigenous Mayans from rural areas. He was assassinated on February 1982, while standing on a ladder, repairing a wall of a school building. Local authorities did not identify the gunmen.

Miller's killing was one in a string of assassinations of priests and religious in the country, including that of Bl. Stanley Rother five months later. Aware of the danger present to him in Guatemala, in one of his last letters before he died, Miller wrote: "I am personally weary of violence, but I continue to feel a strong commitment to the suffering poor of Central America. ...the Church is being persecuted because of its option for the poor."

"Aware of numerous dangers and difficulties, we continue working with faith and hope and trusting in God's Providence. ...I pray to God for the grace and strength to serve Him faithfully among the poor and oppressed in Guatemala. I place my life in His Providence. I place my trust in Him."

Blessed Brother James Miller is the first American Christian Brother to be beatified. The Beatification ceremony will take place on December 7th at Huehuetenango, Guatemala.

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

### **SUMMER SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS**

We are always grateful for your generous support of our parish particularly through the weekly collection at Sunday Mass. During the summer, of course, many parishioners have been traveling and attending Mass at other churches. If you have not been here for Mass on Sundays during the summer, please consider "making up" for your Sunday contributions, either by putting envelopes for the Sundays you were not here in the collection next Sunday or by placing your contribution for Sundays you were not here in an envelope marked "Summer Contributions," so that we can keep a proper record. Our expenses during the summer remain the same as during the rest of the year. Thank you for your generous help in meeting those expenses and keeping "St. Theresa Strong."

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### **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.



I Ryan Wirging & Alexandra Casablanca  
 I Christopher Landi & Alina Sheglov



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES  
 ROLANDO MALDONADO & VINCENT GRIMALDI



**ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER**

All new or unregistered parishioners are asked to please register by phone or in person at the Rectory or fill out the information below. Many items of importance will be mailed home in the course of the year.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_

CELL# \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE RECTORY OFFICE.**



**SATURDAY AUGUST 31, 2019**

5:00PM Gloria Tocci

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2019**

7:30AM Terence Lorino

9:00AM Rosina Michele Martuccio

10:30AM Maria Sladowski

12:15PM Francesco & Carmela Paolone

1:30PM Felipe Antonio Holguin

5:00PM Parishioners of St. Theresa

**MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2019**

8:00AM Francesco Ausanio

9:00AM Rachael & Pasquale Vertullo & Angelina Naclario

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2019**

8:00AM Maria Gabriella Picado

9:00AM Vincent Mastrogiovanni

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2019**

8:00AM Anna Cernaro

9:00AM Frank Orsini

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2019**

8:00AM Catherine Donovan

9:00AM Fr. Charles Szivos

12NOON Walter Rivera

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

8:00AM John Picone

9:00AM Anna & Salvatore Cernaro

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

8:00AM Gary Reith

9:00AM Luke Turrisi

5:00PM Bella Delaney

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2019**

7:30AM John & Annie Sweeney

9:00AM Maria Rosa Gentile

10:30AM Alfio Deleo

12:15PM Janet DeFrancis

1:30PM Msgr. Neil Graham

5:00PM Parishioners of St. Theresa

**PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:**

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Kenny Brisco, 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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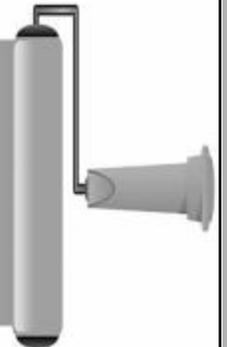
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