

# 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

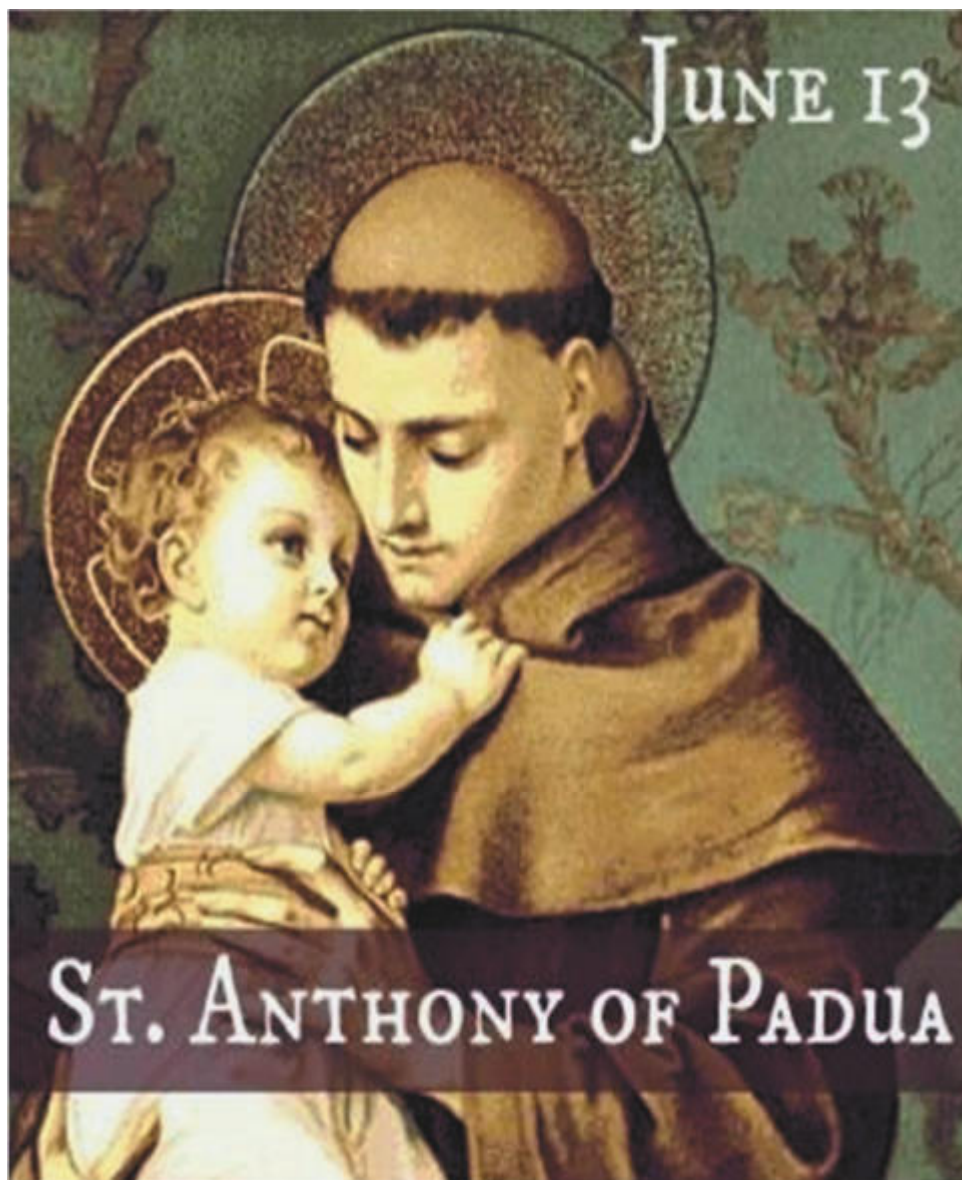
## **BAPTISMS**

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"**



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*Rev. Joseph Ligory, Parochial Vicar*  
*Rev. Edmundo Gomez, Retired,*  
*Rev. Robert Imbelli, Weekend Associate*

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**E-MAIL: [rectorystc@aol.com](mailto:rectorystc@aol.com)**

**SCHOOL: 718-792-3688**  
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**FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN**

The month of June is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Our Lord. When we speak of the heart, we are speaking about our inner self. What is most dear to you? What is most important? When we say that a loved one is close to our heart, we mean that person is deep within us. Our love makes that person present, whether they are actually here or not. Some of the most beautiful letters I have read are letters from the loved ones of young men and women serving in the Armed Forces. There is no doubt that they are in each other's hearts. Their hearts are symbols of their love for each other. Even though they may be thousands of miles away from one another, their love warms their hearts.

And so it is with the Lord Jesus. This month is the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Devotion to the Sacred Heart formally began when the Lord Himself revealed His Sacred Heart to Sister Margaret Mary Alocque, now St. Margaret Mary, a Visitation sister who lived in her cloistered convent in France. Beginning in 1673 she was blessed with a series of appearances of Our Lord who asked her to promote devotion to His Sacred Heart. As she said, "He disclosed to me the marvels of his Love and the inexplicable secrets of his Sacred Heart." Our Lord asked her to ask people to make up for the offenses against His Sacred Heart. The offenses against His Heart meant offenses to His love. Our Lord told St. Margaret Mary that there were two kinds of offenses against His Sacred Heart—first, the sins committed by so many people, but then also another kind of offenses—being ungrateful to the love of Jesus Christ, the offense of ingratitude. He said, "Behold the Heart that has so loved men ...instead of gratitude I receive from the greater part (of mankind) only ingratitude." Many people have rejected His love through sin, but many more have rejected His love by just not caring, not being grateful to God for His goodness. We all know people who fit into both categories. The Lord wants us to be what He asked St. Margaret Mary to be, "disciples of His Sacred Heart," helping people to come to know the surpassing love of Jesus Christ, a love that He is ready to give everyone from His Sacred Heart.

As I mentioned June is the month of the Sacred Heart. Bring to the Heart of Jesus all of those who are important in your life. June is the month of weddings. Bring to the Heart of Jesus your prayers for married couples, especially couples here in our parish. May the love of His Heart strengthen their hearts as they face the challenges of marriage and family life. Let His love touch them. June is the month of graduations, like the graduation of our 8th Graders from our school and from other grammar schools, high schools and College. Bring to Jesus' Heart your prayers for these young people and all young people. You may not know them by name, but they need your prayers to help them to stay on the right path of life, to take what their parents and teachers have given them and to move on by their good efforts and the grace of God. And let me add June is the month of Flag Day, which we celebrate this week. Bring to the Heart of Jesus your prayers for the young men and women in the Armed Forces, especially those from our own parish. Pray that the love of Jesus from His Sacred Heart will strengthen them and protect them as they continue to serve our country proudly.

And bring yourself to the Heart of Jesus everyday. Do not neglect Him. Do not forget His love for you. Pope Francis says, "Remember that God loved us first: He is always waiting for us, welcoming us into His heart, into His love." Bring yourself to the Heart of Jesus every morning. This month is a special month for another reason. June is the month of the great St. Anthony of Padua, revered and loved by so many people throughout the world. Often when we see a statue of St. Anthony (as we have in our own church), he is depicted holding the Child Jesus. Another friar in his monastery said that once he saw the Child Jesus appearing to St. Anthony who held Him in his arms. That showed how close St. Anthony was to Jesus, how close he was to Jesus' Sacred Heart. May St. Anthony help us to come closer to the heart of Jesus. And may we always be able to say, "Lord, I am here. Your heart is open in love for me. Help me always to open my heart to you."

Father Thomas B. Derivan

**PADUA AND HOW ST. ANTHONY CHANGED IT**

St. Anthony took a long and winding road to his eventual work that made Padua a changed city. After being raised in a wealthy family, Anthony's religious life began at the age of 15 as an Augustinian. But that was not what Anthony felt was his true calling, so he began life again as a follower of St. Francis of Assisi, even meeting the great saint in Assisi and becoming enamored by his humble lifestyle. After a short time in relative obscurity, Anthony's gifts of preaching and evangelization were noticed and he began preaching in many cities in Europe including Bologna, Montpellier, Toulouse and Limoges. He drew large crowds leading many to repent their sins. Anthony was recalled to Italy when St. Francis died in 1226.

A year later, in poor health, he settled in Padua where he exclusively preached and dedicated the remainder of his time to inviting all to embrace the Lord's mercy. Even without all his strength St. Anthony was a force. His preaching converted many and led to an amazing reconciliation of the town. Long-standing quarrels were amicably settled. Prisoners were forgiven and liberated. Thieves with ill-gotten goods were reconciled to honest ways and made restitution, often at his feet. These stories illustrate how much we all search for forgiveness, and for a path back to our merciful and gracious God.

Anthony's tireless work to spread the love of our Lord and reconciliation continued until his untimely death at the age of 36, June 13, 1231. Such grief followed in Padua and all who had followed him petitioned the Church to declare Anthony a saint. Shortly after, he was canonized and his reputation continued to grow.

We can imitate the spirit of St. Anthony even when we don't have his learning power or eloquence. We can seek reconciliation with God and neighbor. It will change not only us but our neighborhood as well. You can even celebrate his feast day, June 13, with some special act of reconciliation to honor his many favors to us all.

(From Franciscan Mission Associates)



**MESSAGE OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY**

In today's Gospel passage (cf. Mk 4:26-34), Jesus speaks to the crowd about the Kingdom of God and the dynamics of its growth, and he does so by recounting two brief parables. In the first parable (cf. vv. 26-29), the Kingdom of God is compared to the mysterious growth of the seed, which is cast upon the ground and then sprouts, grows and produces ears [of grain], independent of the care of the farmer who, when it is fully grown, sees to its harvest. This is the message that this parable conveys to us: through Jesus' teaching and action, the Kingdom of God is proclaimed, has burst into the field of the world and, like the seed, grows and develops by itself, through its own strength and according to humanly incomprehensible criteria. In its growth and development in history, it does not depend much on man's doing, but is above all an expression of the power and goodness of God, of the strength of the Holy Spirit who brings forth Christian life in the People of God.

At times history, with its events and its protagonists, seems to go in the opposite direction of the design of the heavenly Father, who wants justice, fraternity and peace for all his children. But we are called to live out these periods as seasons of trial, of hope and of vigilant expectation of the harvest. Indeed, yesterday like today, the Kingdom of God grows in the world in a mysterious way, in a surprising way, revealing the hidden power of the little seed, its victorious vitality. Within the folds of personal and social events which at times seem to signal the failure of hope, it is important to remain confident in God's subdued but powerful way of acting. For this reason, in moments of darkness and of difficulty we must not lose heart, but remain anchored in faithfulness to God, to his ever-saving presence. Remember this: God always saves. He is the Savior.

In the second parable (cf. vv. 30-32), Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed. It is a very small seed, yet it grows to become the greatest of all the plants in the garden: an unforeseeable, surprising growth. It is not easy for us to enter this logic of the unforeseeable nature of God and to accept it in our life. But today the Lord exhorts us to an attitude of faith which exceeds all our plans, our calculations, our predictions. God is always the God of surprises. The Lord always surprises us. It is an invitation to open ourselves more generously to God's plans, both on the personal level and on that of the community. In our communities it is important to pay attention to the little and big occasions of goodness that the Lord offers us, allowing ourselves to engage in his dynamics of love, of welcoming and of mercy toward others.

The authenticity of the Church's mission does not come through success nor through the gratification of the results, but by going forth with the courage of trust and the humility of abandonment to God. Going forth professing Jesus and with the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the awareness of being small and weak instruments which, in God's hands and with his grace, can accomplish great deeds, advancing his Kingdom which is "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom 14:17). May the Virgin Mary help us to be simple, to be attentive, to cooperate with our faith and with our work to develop the Kingdom of God in hearts and in history.

Angelus Address, June 17, 2018

**Act of Consecration of the Human Race to the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Pope Leo XIII**

Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race,  
look down upon us, as we humbly come before you.  
We are yours and yours we wish to be;  
but to be more surely united with you,  
behold each one of us freely consecrates himself today to your most Sacred heart.  
Many, indeed, have never known you,  
many too, despising your precepts, have rejected you.  
Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to your Sacred Heart.  
Be you king, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken you,  
but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned you;  
grant that they may quickly return to their Father's house,  
lest they die of wretchedness and hunger.  
Be you king of those who are deceived by error or whom discord keeps aloof,  
and call them back to the harbor of truth and unity of faith,  
so that soon there may be but one flock and one shepherd.  
Grant, O Lord, to your Church, assurance of freedom and immunity from harm;  
give peace and order to all nations,  
and make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry:  
Praise to the Divine Heart that wrought our salvation;  
to it be glory and honor forever.

(From Pope's Leo's Encyclical Letter *Annum Sacrum*, May 25, 1899)

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**JUNE 13, 2021**

## **ST. THERESA GRAND RAFFLE**

Tickets for our annual **GRAND RAFFLE** have been sent to all who are on our mailing list. We hope you have received yours. If not or if you wish additional tickets, they are available by calling the rectory (718-892-1900) or at the Gift Shop on Sunday.

We thank those who have already made their Raffle returns. We ask your special help with the Raffle this year. We are hoping for a considerable profit from the Raffle to assist our parish. We are still very much affected by the current coronavirus epidemic which has affected us all. It has changed so much in our lives, in your family's life and in the life of our parish. Therefore, we are depending on the Grand Raffle more than ever this year to help our parish meet our financial obligations.

We are asking every parishioner to take a ticket (two if possible) so that the Grand Raffle this year will be more successful than ever. The price of the ticket will be \$50. Our Raffle prizes to the following:

First Prize, \$15,000  
Second Prize, \$2500  
Third Prize, \$500

The drawing for the Grand Raffle will be on Sunday, June 27th at the 7:00PM "Salute to Heroes" in front of the church. Also if your Raffle tickets are in before June 12th you will qualify for the "early bird drawing," the winner of which will receive \$300 and three additional tickets. Also we will award \$100 in cash to the seller of the First Prize ticket. The early bird drawing will be this Sunday, June 13th after the 10:30AM Mass.

You may return your ticket stub and payment either by coming to the rectory or mailing it to the rectory or dropping it in the collection on Sunday.

Please help us to make the Raffle successful this year. We are confident you will help to keep **"St. Theresa Strong."**



## **PRAYER FOR FLAG DAY, JUNE 14:**



As we observe Flag Day this Monday, let us pray for our country. May the Lord help us to do our part to keep our country strong. May we overcome all our divisions and truly be what the flag stands for: "one nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all:

Almighty God,

We come to honor you this day. We come to acknowledge that you are the only one who can rightly lead and guide our country.

Lord, we lift up prayer for our country.

We ask that you would bless our country with your wisdom, your love, and your compassion. May we be a people who are pursuing you and your plans for us - individually and together.

Lord, we lift up prayer for our leaders.

Lord, we ask for blessings on our leaders. May these public servants who are in positions of authority take that responsibility seriously and do their very best each day. May they realize their need for you and for your direction. May they hear your voice as they make their decisions, and may they follow your guidance. May they have a passion for people, for truth, and for righteousness.

Lord, we lift up prayer for our troops.

Lord, we ask for blessings on our service men and women. We ask protection for all our men and women in uniform both here and around the world. We are grateful for their service and their dedication to keeping our nation safe.

We pray that you would keep them safe.

We thank you for our blessings of life and liberty. May our country continually show love and honor to you. May our dedication to you cause us to reach out to all the other nations and people groups with a strong desire for justice and for peace.

We ask all these things in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen





## The Prayer to the Sacred Heart



Oh Lord Jesus Christ, to Your most Sacred Heart I confide this intention {name petition}.  
Only look upon me, then do what Your love inspires. Let Your Sacred Heart decide.  
I count on You. I trust in You. I throw myself on Your mercy. Lord Jesus, You will not fail me.  
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in You.  
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in Your love for me.  
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Your kingdom come.  
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have asked You for many favors, but I earnestly implore this one.  
Take it, place it in Your open Heart.  
When the Eternal Father looks upon it, He will see it covered with Your Precious Blood.  
It will be no longer my prayer, but Yours, Jesus. Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I place all my trust in You. Let me not be disappointed. Amen.

## The Promises of the Sacred Heart given to St. Margaret Mary Aloccoque

- I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
- I will give peace in their families.
- I will console them in all their troubles.
- I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.
- I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.
- Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
- Tepid souls shall become fervent.
- Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
- I will bless those places wherein the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.
- I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
- Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.
- In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.



**JUNE 13**  
**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA**  
**Patron of lost items († 1231)**

A Lisbon native, Anthony spent ten years in assiduous prayer and study as an Augustinian Canon until the day the relics of some martyred Franciscan missionaries were carried in procession through his city. Anthony promptly joined the Franciscans with hopes of imitating them. Illness interrupted his first mission trip, and having landed unexpectedly in Sicily upon his return, he made his way to Assisi. There, the humility of the flesh-and-blood Saint Francis, who was still living, deeply impressed him. He retired to the order's house in Forli and devoted himself to silence, solitude, and humble service.

Once, some Dominicans came to visit the friars, and it was discovered that no one had been assigned to preach. The task fell to Anthony. He began haltingly, but soon grew in power and command. By the end of his homily, it was evident that Anthony had a great gift. For the next ten years, until his death, Anthony preached with amazing success throughout Italy and France. Heresies were combatted, sinners were reconciled, and miracles abounded.

One miracle occurred after a novice ran away from the friary with Anthony's beloved book of psalms. Anthony prayed that the book would be returned. Upon coming to a river, the novice saw a startling vision on the other side that convinced him to return with the psalter.

*Father in heaven, through the intercession of Saint Anthony of Padua, draw me into your embrace, that I might know your care over the smallest things.*



Nancy Cardone, Thomas Egan, Louise Esposito, Josephine Graziano, Maryann Maiorana, Margie Primiani, Frances Riccio, Toni Spahr, Nicholas Vasti, Benny Primiani, Antoinette Primiani, Lisa Primiani, Fr. Thomas Lynch



**III TIME:** Jesus Villanueva & Vanessa Rios



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
ANNA ARCURI  
LOVE, FELICIA GENTILE & FAMILY



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING NEAR THE  
TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
THOMAS FIORETTI  
LOVE, THE PEREZ FAMILY



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED  
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES  
IDA AURRICHIO, FRANK BONFIGLIO, JOSEPH DUNN,  
THOMAS FIORETTI, CARMINE PALLADINO  
SERGIO ALEJANDRO OCASIO-ROMAN,  
FATHER ALFRED D'INCECCO & PATRICIA TORRES

#### ST. THERESA SCHOOL—VIRTUAL TOUR



Mrs. Fanelli, our school principal, and her staff have produced a virtual tour of St. Theresa's School. We think you will enjoy it, whether you have school-age children or not. You will find it on our church website: [www.sttheresachurchbronx.org](http://www.sttheresachurchbronx.org).

We remind all homebound parishioners that the Sunday Mass is also available each Sunday on our website.

#### 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.



#### SATURDAY JUNE 12, 2021

5:00PM Victor Misuraca

#### SUNDAY JUNE 13, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Frances Vasti Falcone

10:30AM Anna Arcuri

12:15PM Olga Corbo

1:30PM Francisca Mauvo

5:00PM Rose Gaetano

#### MONDAY JUNE 14, 2021

8:00AM Alan Sepp

9:00AM Dora Skori

#### TUESDAY JUNE 15, 2021

8:00AM Aggeliki Raptis

9:00AM Joseph Berritto

#### WEDNESDAY JUNE 16, 2021

8:00AM Carmella, Theresa & Frank Orazio

9:00AM Joseph Bottari (Living) Speedy Recovery

#### THURSDAY JUNE 17, 2021

8:00AM Fr. Thomas Lynch (Living) Speedy Recovery

9:00AM Rosalia, Maria Rosa & Antonino Mancuso

12NOON Nicoletta Ferrara

#### FRIDAY JUNE 18, 2021

8:00AM William Zackert

9:00AM Jose Vega

#### SATURDAY JUNE 19, 2021

8:00AM Patricia Torres

9:00AM Lorenzo Albanese

5:00PM Diane Martino

#### SUNDAY JUNE 20, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa Parish

9:00AM Father's Day Intention

10:30AM Maria Zottola (Anniversary)

12:15PM Father's Day Intention

1:30PM Father's Day Intention

5:00PM Father's Day Intention

#### LOOKING AHEAD—

#### ST. THERESA PARISH CELEBRATION, JUNE 27

Plan to join us on Sunday, June 27 for a special Parish Celebration and our "Salute to Heroes" honoring all of those who have helped us during the pandemic, particularly doctors, nurses, EMT's, health-care professionals, police officers, fire fighters and all our other "heroes."

#### Our schedule will be as follows:

- Mass at 5:00PM
- Procession of the Statue of St. Theresa, immediately after the Mass
- Prayers in front of church honoring our patroness St. Theresa at the end of the Procession
- "Salute to Heroes" in front of the church and school
- Grand Raffle Drawing at 7:00PM

Plan to be with your fellow parishioners on June 27. Invite friends and neighbors as we thank the Lord for helping us get through this difficult time.

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