

# 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. 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*

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SCHOOL: 718-792-3688  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 718-792-8434

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## CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN

Our Lord in the gospel today performs a marvelous miracle. It is called the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fish. There is this vast crowd of people—five thousand men, the gospel tells us, and certainly an equal number of women and children. And the Lord feeds them all from the five loaves of bread and the two fish. The Lord blesses bread and fish and the apostles hand it out and the miracle is that the more they hand out, the more is left. All are fed. All are satisfied. A great miracle has happened. The Lord has had pity of His people.

But there is one part of the gospel story which is so important. Our Lord has told the apostles to give food to the vast crowd of people. And they are dismayed. How can we possibly feed so many? Then the gospel says that St. Andrew comes to Jesus and says, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for so many?” You can imagine the boy coming to Andrew and saying, “Here is what I have. I want to give it to Jesus.” And with the little that the boy has to give, the Lord performs His great miracle. The point is clear. The Lord can do great things with the little we offer Him, provided it is offered in love. We see that in our everyday lives. The Lord can use something we say, a simple act of kindness we do, to touch others with His love. We may not think that we are accomplishing much, but by God’s good grace we are. The Lord is taking our loaves and fish, whatever they are, and multiplying what we offer to help His people. We may never know the effect of our goodness, our example, our kindness to others, our welcoming others to our church. You may be like that little boy who offered the little that he had and let the Lord do the rest.

We do not know what became of that little boy. Hopefully he continued to practice the lesson he certainly understood on that day when he offered Jesus all that he had, his bread and his fish. Hopefully that lesson stayed with him throughout his life. A few loaves of bread and a few fish were so little. But the boy’s goodness was so great. The Lord did His miracle with the help of that boy’s goodness. The Lord can continue to use us to do the miracles of His love.

The Lord could have fed that crowd without human help. He chose not to. He chose to need what that little boy offered. The Lord chooses to need us too. He chooses to take what we offer and continue to do the miracle of His love. May we offer to the Lord what we have—our bread and fish—and may we be ready to see Him multiplying those gifts once again. May the Lord use us to perform the miracle of His constant love.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

### GRANDPARENTS DAY—THE FAITHFUL WHO LEAD THE WAY

“Grandparents are often forgotten and we forget this wealth of preserving and passing on the roots. For this reason, I have decided to establish the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.”

Pope Francis

The relationship between Grandparent and grandchild is one that can foster a great love of Christ. With his own personal belief in the strength of that relationship, Pope Francis has designated the fourth Sunday of July as World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The date was chosen because of its proximity to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. In choosing a day to honor those of advanced age, Pope Francis said: “The Holy Spirit ... arouses thoughts and words of wisdom in the elderly today: their voice is precious because it sings the praises of God and guards the roots of peoples. They remind us that old age is a gift and that grandparents are the link between generations, to transmit to young people an experience of life and faith.”

This year the celebration will be Sunday, July 25, 2021 and Pope Francis will offer a special Mass. This past year when families were apart due to the pandemic it was difficult for many. Zoom meetings and virtual meetings cannot replace face to face conversation and affection, especially for the elderly for whom the virtual world can be sterile and unknown. Grandparents hold a special place in the heart of our Pope. He was so moved by an encounter with a grandmother in Romania he created a prayer card to memorialize it. Additionally, he has spoken often times, to young Catholics about their responsibility toward their elders. “As you continue to grow in every way—stronger, older and even in importance—do not forget the most beautiful and worthwhile lesson you learned at home. It is the wisdom that comes from age. When you grow up, do not forget your mother and your grandmother, and the simple but robust faith that gave them the strength and tenacity to keep going and not to give up. It is a reason for you to give thanks and to ask for the generosity, courage and selflessness of a ‘home-grown’ faith that is unobtrusive, yet slowly but surely builds up the Kingdom of God.” Today, let us pray we are together with our grandparents and special elderly friends at Mass to honor them and be witness to their decades of strength in the face of so many challenges.

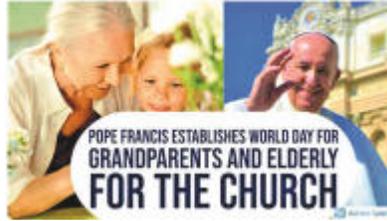
(From Franciscan Mission Associates)



**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.

JULY 25, 2021

## WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS



This Sunday has been designated by our Holy Father Pope Francis as the celebration of the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The theme chosen by the Holy Father for this World Day is “I am with you always” (cf. Mt 28:20) which is a way of expressing the closeness of the Lord and the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging pandemic times.

“I am with you always” is also a promise of closeness and hope that young and old can mutually share. Not only are grandchildren and young people called upon to be present in the lives of older people, but older people and grandparents also have a mission of evangelization, proclamation and prayer and of encouraging young people in their faith.

The Pope selected this Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of July, as the World Day for Grandparents because it is close to the feast of St. Anne and St. Joachim, the parents of Mary and the grandparents of Jesus, on July 26. He actually announced this special “Grandparents Day” on January 31, right before the Feast of the Presentation of the Infant Jesus in the temple when Mary and Joseph were met by two elderly, faithful people, Simeon and Anna. The Pope said,

“Simeon and Anna, both elderly, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, recognized Jesus as the Messiah. The Holy Spirit still stirs up thoughts and words of wisdom in the elderly today: their voice is precious because it sings the praises of God and safeguards the roots of peoples. They remind us that old age is a gift and that grandparents are the link between generations, passing on the experience of life and faith to the young. Grandparents are often forgotten and we forget this wealth of preserving roots and passing on.

This is why, I have decided to establish World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be held throughout the Church every year on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, Jesus’ grandparents. It is important for grandparents to meet their grandchildren and for grandchildren to meet their grandparents, because — as the prophet Joel says — grandparents will have great dreams for their grandchildren, and young people, taking strength from their grandparents, will go forward.”

The importance of the relationship between the elderly and the younger generation, particularly between grandparents and their grandchildren, is one of Pope Francis’ favorite topics. Some time ago he held an audience with around 7,000 grandparents, urging them to talk with their grandchildren about the faith. “Talk to your grandchildren, talk. Let them ask you questions,” he said. “They may be different from you, they may have other hobbies, they like other music... but they need the elderly, this ongoing dialogue. You are an important presence, because your experience is a precious treasure, essential to looking to the future with hope and responsibility.

The Pope has said that not only the actual grandparents of children, but indeed all older people are called to be spiritual “grandparents” to young people, sharing their experiences, especially of the faith. He said, “This is what the Lord today asks us: to be grandparents. To have the vitality to give to young people, because young people expect it from us; to not close ourselves, but to give our best. They look for our experience, for our positive dreams to carry on. I ask the Lord for all of us that he give us this grace.”



**JULY 26**  
**SAINT ANNE**  
**Married Laywoman († 1st century)**

The cult of Saint Anne, the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary, can be traced almost to the very beginnings of Christianity. Extra-biblical sources give us Anne’s name and details about her union to Joachim, Mary’s father. Her feast was celebrated in the East as early as the 4th century.

In the Middle Ages, crusaders brought the devotion to Anne to Europe, where it spread rapidly. Anne became a subject for artists, who frequently portrayed her teaching young Mary to read. She also appears as a grandmother holding a youthful Mary, who in turn cradles the child Jesus. In keeping with her role as mother, she became intercessor for women in childbirth and for farmers in planting season.

Veneration to Saint Anne was brought to North America with the first European colonists. In Canada, the shrine of Saint Anne de Beupre in Quebec has had a reputation as a place of healing since March 13, 1658, the day construction was begun. One of those present that day, Louis Guimont, experienced a miraculous healing of what may have been severe kidney disease after placing three stones in the foundation of the chapel. From that time, the humble church and its successor, a towering neo-Roman basilica, have seen hundreds of miraculous cures of sick and disabled persons.

*Loving Father, through the intercession of Saint Anne, grant me fruitfulness in body and soul.*

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

Today's Gospel passage (cf. Jn 6:1-15) recounts the parable of the multiplication of the loaves and the fish. Seeing that a large crowd had followed him to Lake Tiberias, Jesus turned to the Apostle Philip and asked him: "How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" The few denarii that Jesus and the apostles had were in fact not enough to feed that multitude. And then came Andrew, another of the Twelve, leading a young lad to Jesus, who made all that he had available to them: five loaves and two fish. But certainly, Andrew says, this is not enough for that crowd (cf. v. 9). He was a good lad! Courageous. He too could see the crowd and the five loaves but he says: "I have this: If you need it, take it". This boy makes us think.... What courage.... Young people are like this. They have courage. We must help them express this courage. And yet, Jesus ordered his disciples to ask the people to sit down. He then took the bread and the fish, gave thanks to the Father and distributed it and everyone was able to eat their fill. Everyone ate as much as they wanted.

With this Gospel passage, the liturgy inspires us to keep our gaze on Jesus, who, in last Sunday's Gospel passage according to Mark, upon seeing "a great throng ... had compassion on them" (Mk 6:34). That boy too with the five loaves had understood this compassion and said: "Poor people! I have this...". His compassion moved him to offer what he had. Indeed today, John shows us again that Jesus is attentive to people's primary needs. The parable describes a concrete fact: the people were hungry and Jesus engaged his disciples so that this hunger could be satisfied. This is the concrete fact. Jesus did not only offer this to the crowd — he offered his Word, his solace, his salvation, ultimately his life —, but he certainly did this too: he took care of the food for the body. And we, his disciples, cannot ignore this. Only by listening to the peoples' most simple requests and being close to their practical existential situation can one expect to be listened to when speaking about higher values.

God's love for a humanity that is hungry for bread, freedom, justice, peace and, above all, his divine grace, never fails. Even today, Jesus continues to feed, to make his presence alive and comforting, and he does so through us. So the Gospel invites us to be available and hard working, like that youth who, realizing he had five loaves, says: "I contribute this, then you will see [to it] ...". Faced with the cry of hunger — all types of "hunger" — of many brothers and sisters in every part of the world, we cannot be detached and calm spectators. The proclamation of Christ, Bread of eternal life, requires a generous commitment of solidarity toward the poor, the weak, the least ones, the defenseless. This action of closeness and charity is the best test of the quality of our faith, both at the personal level and at the community level.

Then at the end of the story, when everyone had eaten their fill, Jesus told the disciples to gather up the leftovers so that nothing would be wasted. And I would like to suggest to you this sentence that Jesus uttered: "Gather the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost." I am thinking about the many hungry people and how much leftover food we throw away.... Let each of us think about this: where does the food that is left over from lunch go, from dinner, where does it go? What is done with the leftover food in my house? Is it thrown away? No. If you have this habit, I will give you some advice: speak to your grandparents who lived through the post war period and ask them what they did with the leftovers. Never throw away leftover food. Either heat it again or give it to someone who can eat it, to someone who needs it. Never throw away leftover food. This is a piece of advice and also an examination of conscience: what do we do with leftovers at home?

Let us pray to the Virgin Mary so that programs dedicated to development, food and solidarity may prevail in the world and not those of hatred, weapons and war.

Angelus Message, July 29, 2018

## A CHILD'S PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS



Dear God, please bless my grandparents.  
Thank you for the life they gave my parents  
and for the life, they give to me.

For the ways they helped me and made me strong, I give thanks.  
For the ways, they love me no matter what, I rejoice.  
For the ways, they have paved the road  
that leads me here, I am grateful.

Let them grow in wisdom and joy in life.  
Let them find peace and rest from their work.  
Let them be healed of every sickness and pain.  
And let them see with their own eyes your glory  
and the love of their children and grandchildren.

Bless them always until they come to rest in you. Amen

(From Xavier University Jesuit Resources)



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. 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!

## THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH



*As you know our Holy Father Pope Francis has declared a special YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH, extending from last December 2020 to December, 2021. During these summer weeks we are presenting in our bulletin some of the words of Pope Francis from his Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde (With a Father's Love)* announcing the Year of St. Joseph and explaining why St. Joseph is so important for us all. May St. Joseph help us to come ever closer to Jesus Our Lord.*

*In his letter, Pope Francis emphasizes the fatherhood of St. Joseph. In this excerpt he calls St. Joseph:  
AN ACCEPTING FATHER*

Joseph accepted Mary unconditionally. He trusted in the angel's words. Today, in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident, Joseph appears as the figure of a respectful and sensitive man. Even though he does not understand the bigger picture, he makes a decision to protect Mary's good name, her dignity and her life. In his hesitation about how best to act, God helped him by enlightening his judgment.

Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.

The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that explains, but accepts. Only as a result of this acceptance, this reconciliation, can we begin to glimpse a broader history, a deeper meaning. We can almost hear an echo of the impassioned reply of Job to his wife, who had urged him to rebel against the evil he endured: "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" (Job 2:10).

Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.

Jesus' appearance in our midst is a gift from the Father, which makes it possible for each of us to be reconciled to the flesh of our own history, even when we fail to understand it completely.

Just as God told Joseph: "Son of David, do not be afraid!" (Mt 1:20), so he seems to tell us: "Do not be afraid!" We need to set aside all anger and disappointment, and to embrace the way things are, even when they do not turn out as we wish. Not with mere resignation but with hope and courage. In this way, we become open to a deeper meaning. Our lives can be miraculously reborn if we find the courage to live them in accordance with the Gospel. It does not matter if everything seems to have gone wrong or some things can no longer be fixed. God can make flowers spring up from stony ground. For "God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything" (1 Jn 3:20).

Faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad. But we should never think that believing means finding simple and comforting solutions. The faith Christ taught us is what we see in Saint Joseph. He did not look for shortcuts, but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.

Joseph's attitude encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak, for God chooses what is weak (cf. 1 Cor 1:27). He is the "Father of orphans and protector of widows" (Ps 68:6), who commands us to love the stranger in our midst.

I like to think that it was from Saint Joseph that Jesus drew inspiration for the parable of the prodigal son and the merciful father (cf. Lk 15:11-32).

### PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Good St. Joseph, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ  
became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.

Good St. Joseph, pray for us.



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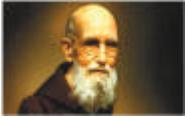
II Jonathan Guido & Stephanie DePalma



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED  
MEMBER OF OUR PARISH AND HER FAMILY  
FRANK LIMITONE, MARY FACCIETTA  
FRANCESCO LOMBARDO  
&  
ANTOINETTA DELVECCHIO



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING NEAR THE  
TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
GREG MASKARA  
FROM, ST. THERESA SCHOOL



**JULY 30**  
**BLESSED SOLANUS CASEY**  
Priest († 1957)

Barney was born in Oak Grove, Wisconsin, the sixth child in a large family of immigrant farmers. At a young age, he embraced his mother's devotion to the rosary, promising to pray it every day. When he was seventeen, he left home and found various work as a logger, a hospital orderly, and a prison guard. After witnessing a violent attack on a woman, he became serious about the priesthood.

At the age of twenty-one, Barney entered the local seminary, but was unable to master the German language used there. He prayed a novena to Mary for guidance and heard the words "Go to Detroit." There, among the Capuchin Franciscan friars, he became Solanus. But he still struggled with the coursework, and in 1904, he was ordained a "sacerdos simplex," a priest who could say Mass but not hear confessions or preach in public. Upon his assignment to Yonkers, New York, he willingly took on tasks usually assigned to novice friars: garden and kitchen work and tending the door.

By the time Solanus moved back to Detroit in 1924, the unusual fruit of his sacrifice was becoming clear. His superiors commanded him to record the extraordinary healings that were occurring after he prayed with the poor and sickly who came to the friary door, and he filled notebooks with records of favors granted.

When Solanus died in 1957, all of Detroit mourned him.

*Loving Father, through the intercession of Blessed Solanus Casey, let gratitude for your favors envelop my soul.*

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

**SATURDAY JULY 24, 2021**

5:00PM Patricia Musano

**SUNDAY JULY 25, 2021**

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Silvio & Anna Spinosa

10:30AM Frank Gande

12:15PM Mike Cipriani

1:30PM Jenaro & Omar Martinez

5:00PM Rose Volpicella

**MONDAY JULY 26, 2021**

8:00AM Thomas Maldonado (Happiness, Love & Light)

9:00AM Greg Maskara

**TUESDAY JULY 27, 2021**

8:00AM Rafael A. Rios

9:00AM Dr. Richard Rattotti

**WEDNESDAY JULY 28, 2021**

8:00AM Anna Lucania

9:00AM John DeStefano

**THURSDAY JULY 29, 2021**

8:00AM Joseph Biagotti

9:00AM Luis Garcia

12NOON Richard Blasucci

**FRIDAY JULY 30, 2021**

8:00AM John McDervitte

9:00AM Dan Greco & Vito Pipolo

**SATURDAY JULY 31, 2021**

8:00AM Huldah Gordon

9:00AM Louis Russo

5:00PM Agnes Varvara

**SUNDAY AUGUST 1, 2021**

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Marie Sansalone

10:30AM Francesco Ausanio

12:15PM Fredinand Maimone

1:30PM Emerita & Jose Martinez

5:00PM Theresa Tomasulo & Vincent Pisani



Nancy Cardone, Thomas Egan, Louise Esposito, Josephine Graziano, Maryann Maiorana, Lisa Murphy, Joseph Pisano, Margie Primiani, Antoinette Primiani, Lisa Primiani, Benny Primiani, Frances Riccio, Denise Siracusa, Toni Spahr, Nicholas Vasti, ,

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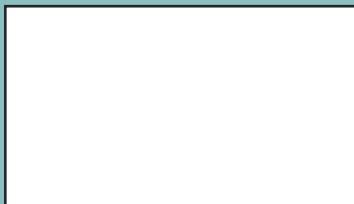
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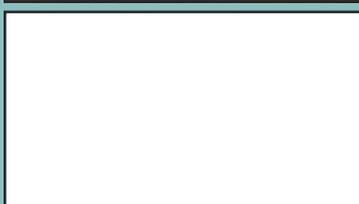
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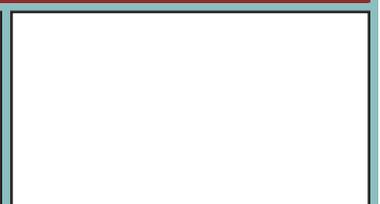
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