

# 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

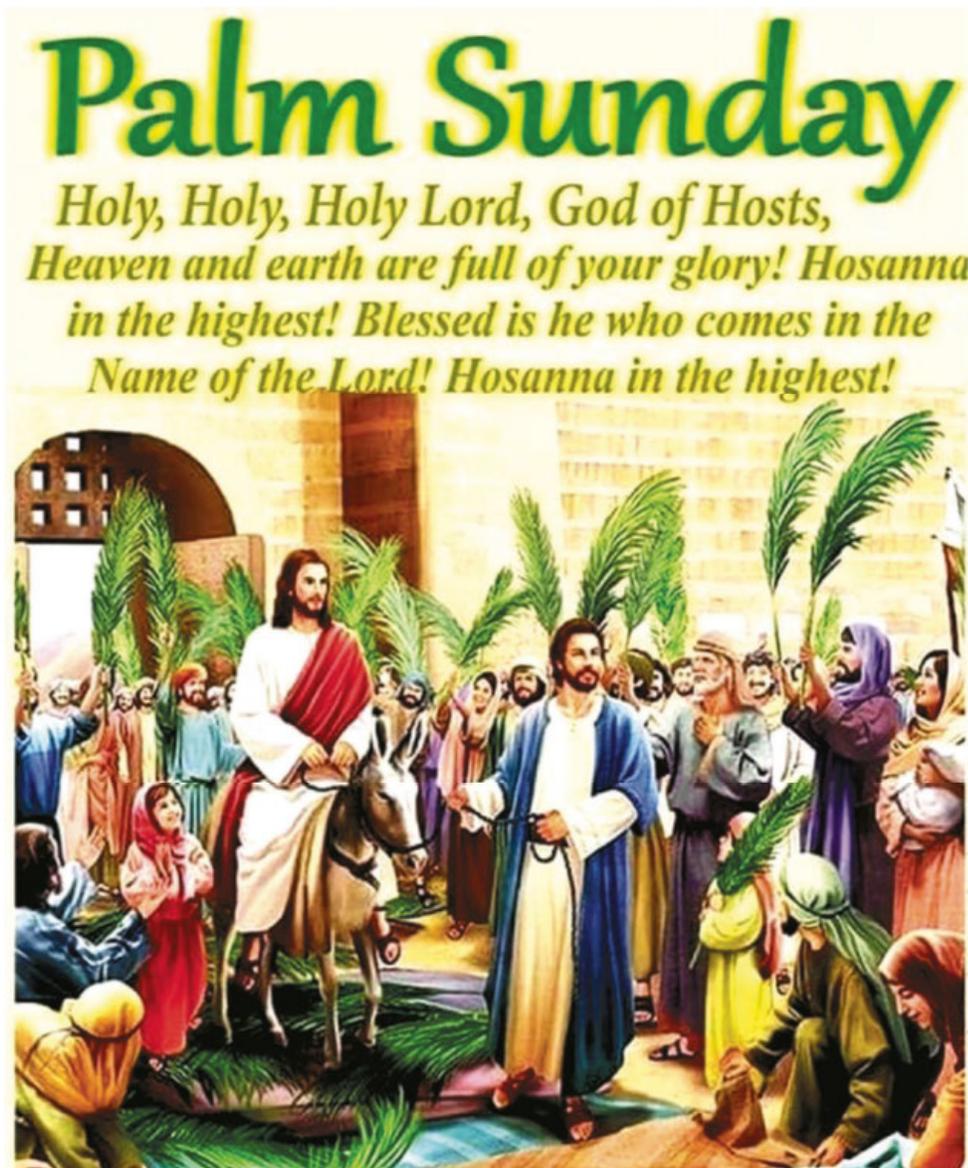
## BAPTISMS

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  
Salesian Fathers, Weekend Associates*

*Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, Principal  
Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Dir. of Religious Education  
Nadia Papayani, Dir. of Music*

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FAX: 718-892-1146

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

SCHOOL: 718-792-3688  
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## CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

### FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN:

#### THE SAINT OF HOLY WEEK

The first Palm Sunday was a glorious day, the day when Jesus of Nazareth entered Jerusalem, riding on a donkey as the prophets said the Messiah would, the new King, the Deliverer, the new David. “Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,” the people shouted.

Palm Sunday was the first day of the first Holy Week. Soon Holy Thursday would come, when the Lord Jesus would have His Last Supper with His apostles the night before He died. Then He would be arrested in the garden, brought to a mockery of a trial, brought before Pontius Pilate and then condemned to death and brought forth to die on the first Good Friday.

But someone was not there for all of this. He was not far away. In fact he must have been in a Jerusalem prison, ready to be put to death on Good Friday too. He was a thief and that is all we know of him, but his crime was so serious that it merited the penalty of death. We do not know his name, but tradition has given him the name Dismas. But there would be something remarkable about him, something that he and nobody else understood: He was the unknown thief who would become the first saint.

Three men were condemned to death on that first Good Friday. All suffered the same penalty—crucifixion, a horrible form of execution probably coming from the Persians, but adopted by Rome to make an example of hardened criminals. Three men were crucified that day on the hill of Calvary, outside of Jerusalem. The one in the middle was Jesus of Nazareth and next to him on either side were two thieves, one of them Dismas. One of the thieves was bitter to the very end. “If you are the Son of God, save yourself and us,” he cried out to Jesus. But the other thief was different. He acknowledged that he was justly condemned, but Jesus was not. Something touched this thief’s soul. Perhaps he had heard Jesus saying of the soldiers, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And perhaps Dismas said to himself, “This Jesus is more than an ordinary man. He speaks like the Son of God and perhaps He is.” And then Dismas may have said to himself, “If Jesus forgives these soldiers, perhaps He may even forgive me.” And so this good thief took the best gamble of his life. He gambled on Jesus’ mercy and He won. He could feel Jesus’ arms touching his soul, drawing him to Himself. And so he made the boldest statement anyone could ever make. This thief dared to ask the Son of God to give him forgiveness and mercy and even more to bring him to heaven. The thief dared to ask the Crucified Jesus, “Jesus, remember me when you enter your Kingdom.” Jesus—remember me, not my sins, but just me. And despite all His pain, the Lord Jesus must have turned His head to the good thief and smiled and said those beautiful words, “Today you will be with me in paradise.” The thief remained a thief to the very end. He stole his way into heaven, casting himself on Jesus’ mercy. The thief made his final theft—and stole his way into the Kingdom of God. And we can truly say that the good thief became the first saint.

This week, dear friends, of course, is all about the Lord Jesus. It is truly His week, the **Holy Week**, the week that makes us holy. It is the week that makes us Christians, **Holy Thursday** the day of Holy Communion; **Good Friday** the day of the Cross; **Holy Saturday** the night when Jesus rose again in Easter glory. Yes, this week of course is all about Jesus. But we can also say that this week is also about Dismas—St. Dismas. For Dismas stands for each one of us. In a way we are all thieves—we steal the beautiful image of God that is in our souls and we gamble it away. We think we have control of our own lives and we say we can gamble it away if we want to. And then like Dismas, we suffer and we realize that we need help, help to put our lives back together. And just as Dismas found that help in the Crucified Jesus, we do too. We look to the Crucified Jesus this week and we cast ourselves on His mercy, hoping that He will “remember me.” This week reminds us that we are all like Dismas and that Jesus loves each one of us even as He loved him.

Make this Holy Week a time of grace for yourself and your family. Pray that the Lord Jesus will remember you just as you remember Him. Plan to take part in the ceremonies of these holy days, days that remind us of the mercy and compassion and love of the Son of God. May St. Dismas help us from heaven. May St. Dismas be our “**Holy Week saint**.” And one day may St. Dismas be there to welcome us into the Kingdom of God our Father.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

#### THE CARDINAL’S APPEAL 2022



As you know, the 2022 Cardinal’s Appeal is well underway in our parish and throughout the Archdiocese. We are coming now to the closing days of Lent, our special time of prayer, sacrifice and penance in preparation for Easter. . One special way of making your Lenten sacrifice is to help the Appeal. In that way, you are helping to serve the “least of Christ’s brethren,” joining your sacrifice with His. Your Appeal offering will be your special “Easter gift” to Our Lord as we celebrate His Resurrection and the promise He gives us of eternal life.

Your Appeal offering may be placed in the regular collection on Sunday at Mass, brought to the Rectory, or sent directly to the Appeal Office. Additional Appeal envelopes are in the vestibule of the church. You can also make online offerings by going to our website: [www.sttheresachurchbronx.org](http://www.sttheresachurchbronx.org) where you will find the section marked “Cardinal’s Appeal.” Please pray for the success of the Appeal, in our parish. With your generous help we shall again reach our goal in the Appeal this year.

#### GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND SHRINES:

The collection in all churches on Good Friday is for the support of the shrines in the Holy Land and for help to our fellow Christians there. The civil unrest in that region has particularly affected Christians in that region and your support in the Good Friday collection provides humanitarian aid to them. Our Holy Father Pope Francis has asked our continued help for our fellow Christians there. Please be generous in the Good Friday collection.

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit [www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday](http://www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday).

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## PALM SUNDAY

### MARY'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

*During Lent, a very popular devotion is the Stations of the Cross, recalling Our Lord's journey, carrying the Cross to die for our sins. The following prayers for the Stations come from Creighton University's Catholic Ministry. They are composed from the standpoint of Our Blessed Mother Mary on that first Good Friday. Let us join with Mary in prayer remembering her Son and Our Lord carrying the Cross for us:*

#### The Thirteenth Station: Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross.



We waited what seemed like a long time before we had permission to take his lifeless body off that cross. And, it took so long to remove the nails, and to finally lower his body to the ground. Someone removed that horrible crown of thorns from his head. They pulled his hair back and wiped his face clean before letting me hold his body one last time. He had been given to me for only a brief time. When he left home three years before, I was so proud of him and excited to experience what God would do through him. There at the foot of the cross, my heart torn by grief, but always trusting in God's promise, I asked only to be God's servant for what was ahead. After the Ascension, when we would gather in homes for the Breaking of the Bread, I again held his broken body in my hands, now full of consolation that his promise was fulfilled: he would always be with us.

Let yourself join me in receiving this mystery of the death of Jesus being so real and complete. Knowing the rest of the story, join me in speaking with him, heart to heart, about our gratitude for how he has transformed the power of death.

#### The Fourteenth Station: Jesus Is Laid In The Tomb.



No mother should ever have to bury a child. Just a short time before this day, Jesus looked into Lazarus' tomb. He must have known he would be laid in a tomb like that soon. And when he thanked God for hearing his prayer, he must have known that the Father who sent him would give him life that would never die. In just a few days, this tomb would be empty and forever a sign of Jesus' surrender to the forces of sin and death, for us.

As we picture this scene, let us place the image of the empty tomb before our eyes. Whenever you are tempted to stand outside any tomb and grieve, remember this empty tomb and know that, through the eyes of faith, all tombs are empty. Today, join me in giving him thanks. Join me in signing ourselves with the sign of his cross, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### THIS MONDAY IS RECONCILIATION MONDAY:

Each year, during Advent and Lent, Cardinal Dolan has directed all churches to have a "Reconciliation (Confession) Monday" with several hours for the opportunity for confession. Here in our church confessions will be heard from 2PM until 4PM and 5PM to 9PM (Monday) April 11. We invite you to take this opportunity to come to confession as you prepare for Easter. If you have been away from the sacraments, be assured that Our Lord is waiting for you with His mercy and love. Please bring this information to others who may wish to "Come Home for Easter."

Some simple points about making your confession:

1. Prepare by examining your conscience, thinking of serious sins since your last confession and any other matters you wish to confess.
2. During this pandemic, we are not able to use the regular confessionals. You will see that we have two "confession stations," one by the sacristy and the other in the front by the baptismal font. Of course, please make sure you have your mask.
3. Those who are waiting for confession should stand at a respectful distance to preserve confidentiality, observing the proper social distancing as marked by the blue tape in the aisles.
4. When you enter the confession station, you may either kneel or stand. Wait for the priest to greet you with the Sign of the Cross. Then say, "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been (how long?)... since my last confession." If you are not sure when your last confession was, say "It has been about ...since my last confession" or "My last confession was about ...ago."
5. Speak loud enough for the priest to hear you, but not so loud for other people to hear.
6. Simply confess your sins.
7. The priest will give you a penance, prayers to say or something to do.
8. Then recite the Act of Contrition. Several forms are listed below. They are also printed on the kneelers where you go to confession
9. The priest will give you the absolution which is the forgiveness of your sins.
10. When you leave the confessional, spend a few moments in your private prayer. Recite your penance and thank God for His mercy and forgiveness.

#### Several Acts of Contrition (select one to say in your confession);

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His Name, my God, have mercy. Amen. **or**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. **or** Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner.

APRIL 10, 2022

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## LENT AT ST. THERESA'S CHURCH

We want you to know our schedule for the weekdays of this week which is the final week of Lent. Please pass this information on to neighbors and friends and invite them to join us.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 8AM and 9AM  
Wednesday at 6PM with Stations of the Cross,

**Special Lenten Reconciliation Monday, April 11th**  
with confessions from 2PM to 4PM and 5PM to 9PM

**Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays after the 6PM Mass

**For Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, see schedule below.**

**Fast and Abstinence:** Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence. Fasting limits a person to one full meal and two lighter meals for those from ages 18-59. Abstinence means no meat is allowed for those 14 and older. Reasons of health or work can excuse, in which case some other form of sacrifice should be substituted (acts of charity, additional prayers, etc)

## SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK



*This week is appropriately called Holy Week because it is the holiest week of the Church Year. It is the week during which the Lord Jesus, by His Passion, Death and Resurrection, made us holy, forgave our sins and offered us new life. We are presenting here our schedule of Masses and other ceremonies for Holy Week so that you can fully take part in these holy days.*

**Palm Sunday, April 10**—Masses at 5:00PM Saturday, Sunday at 7:30AM, 9:00AM (Italian), 10:30AM, 12:15PM, 1:30PM (Spanish) and 5:00PM. Palms blessed at each Mass.

**Monday, April 11**—Reconciliation Monday:  
Confessions heard in our church from 2PM to 4PM and 5PM to 9PM

### **Holy Thursday, April 14:**

- Tenebrae (Morning Prayer)—9:00AM
- Morning Mass—10:00AM
- Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:30PM,  
concluding with procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Repository  
(symbolizing the garden to which Our Lord went after the Last Supper.
- Church will remain open until 11PM for private adoration

### **Good Friday, April 15:**

- Tenebrae (Morning Prayer)—9:00AM
- Children's Stations of the Cross—10:00AM
- Service of Reflections on the Seven Last Words of Our Lord 1:30PM
- Good Friday Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion—3:00PM
- Stations of the Cross (English & Italian)—6:00PM
- Stations of the Cross (Spanish)—7:00PM

### **Holy Saturday, April 16:**

- Tenebrae (Morning Prayer)—9:00AM - - (Easter food baskets will be blessed after this service)
- Confessions 4:00PM to 5:00PM
- **NO 5PM Mass**
- Solemn Easter Vigil Mass-7:30PM. This is the main Easter Mass

**Easter Sunday, April 17:** Masses at 7:30AM, 9:00AM (Italian), 10:30AM, 12:15PM, 1:30PM (Spanish) and 5:00PM.

**PLEASE NOTE : TICKETS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED FOR THE HOLY WEEK SERVICES THIS YEAR.**

## A REFLECTION OF POPE FRANCIS FOR PALM SUNDAY

This week begins with the festive procession with olive branches: the entire populace welcomes Jesus. The children and young people sing, praising Jesus.

But this week continues in the mystery of Jesus' death and his resurrection. As we listen to the Passion of our Lord, we might well ask ourselves just one question: Who am I? Who am I, before my Lord? Who am I, before Jesus who enters Jerusalem amid the enthusiasm of the crowd? Am I ready to express my joy, to praise him? Or do I stand back? Who am I, before the suffering Jesus?

We hear many, many names. The group of leaders, some priests, the Pharisees, the teachers of the law, who had decided to kill Jesus. They were waiting for the chance to arrest him. Am I like one of them?

We have also heard another name: Judas. Thirty pieces of silver. Am I like Judas, who feigns love and then kisses the Master in order to hand him over, to betray him? Am I a traitor?

We hear other names too: the disciples who understand nothing, who fell asleep while the Lord was suffering. Has my life fallen asleep? Or am I like the disciples, who did not realize what it was to betray Jesus? Or like that other disciple, who wanted to settle everything with a sword? Am I like them?

Am I like those people in power who hastily summon a tribunal and seek false witnesses: am I like them? And when I do these things, if I do them, do I think that in this way I am saving the people?

Am I like Pilate? When I see that the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands and dodge my responsibility, allowing people to be condemned – or condemning them myself?

Am I like that crowd which was not sure whether they were at a religious meeting, a trial or a circus, and then chose Barabbas? For them it was all the same: it was more entertaining to humiliate Jesus.

Am I like the soldiers who strike the Lord, spit on him, insult him, who find entertainment in humiliating him?

Am I like Simon the Cyrenean, who was returning from work, weary, yet was good enough to help the Lord carry his cross?

Am I like those who walked by the cross and mocked Jesus: "He was so courageous! Let him come down from the cross and then we will believe in him!". Mocking Jesus....

Or am I like those fearless women, and like the mother of Jesus, who were there, and who suffered in silence?

Am I like Joseph of Arimathea, the hidden disciple, who lovingly carries the body of Jesus to give it burial?

Am I like the two Marys, who remained at the Tomb, weeping and praying?

Where is my heart? Which of these persons am I like? May this question remain with us throughout the entire week.

World Youth Day Homily, April 13, 201

## A MEDITATION ON THE EASTER CANDLE



If you attend the Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday you will witness the lighting of the Paschal or Easter candle. During the pandemic as the pope blessed the fire and lit the candle in a dark St. Peter's Basilica, he called on Christians to "keep kindling sparks of hope, knowing that Jesus has risen and death will not have the last word."

Every Catholic church gets a new Easter Candle that represents Christ, the Light of the World, on Holy Saturday. The candle is rich with symbolism and significance in addition to its beauty. The pure beeswax of which the candle is made represents the sinless Christ who was formed in the womb of His Mother. The wick signifies His humanity, the flame, His Divine nature, both soul and body.

Five grains of incense are sometimes inserted into the candle in the form of a cross represent the five wounds in His hands, feet, and side. Other markings on the candle also carry a special meaning. The cross represents Christ's great sacrifice, and the Greek letters Alpha and Omega represent Jesus as the beginning and end. Each year's candle is also inscribed with the current year, on all four sides of the cross, and sometimes the dates of the principal movable feasts. The current year is a reminder of God's presence here and now.

The Easter candle is lighted each day during Mass throughout the Paschal season until Ascension Thursday. Once the Easter season is over the candle is moved to the baptismal font and used throughout the year during baptisms and funeral Masses. The lighting of the candle at funerals is a sign of hope, a sign of light and it reminds families that their dearly departed is now with Christ. This year observe and meditate on the symbolism and history of the beautiful candle, and on the Light it represents to us all.

(From Franciscan Mission Associates)

## Wedding Banns

**II TIME** Christopher Pagnozzi & Elizabeth Gahrman  
**I TIME** Joseph Scalisi & Samantha Artuso  
**I TIME** Mark DiMichael & Catherine Johnson

## In Loving Memory

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED  
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES  
MICHAEL DILLON, FRANCES LANZA,  
ADANILDA BERRIOS, DERIC FAULKNER,  
JULIA SANTIAGO & CAROL DERIAN, DAVID PAPELL



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
FRANK MARZULLO  
FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS  
YOUR LOVING FAMILY

### 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 (718-8921900) or in the Gift Shop on Sundays.

We ask your special help with the Raffle this year. Because of the current economic situation, so much has changed 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 is \$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 26th after the Procession of the statue of St. Theresa at 7PM.

Also if your Raffle tickets are in before June 11th 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 on Sunday, June 12th after the 10:30AM Mass.



# MASS INTENTIONS



### SATURDAY APRIL 9, 2022

5:00PM Richard J. Tracy

### SUNDAY APRIL 10, 2022

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Giovanni Cipollone

10:30AM Gilbert S. Zingaro

12:15PM Gilbert S. Zingaro

1:30PM Hugo & Omar Martinez

5:00PM Betty & Martin Morgan

### MONDAY APRIL 11, 2022

8:00AM Francis Lanza

9:00AM Nine Haxhari, Shan Haxhari & Luisa Zefi

### TUESDAY APRIL 12, 2022

8:00AM Vilma Rivera

9:00AM Luigi & Carmelina Frangella

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 13, 2022

8:00AM Ann Bottari

9:00AM Gennaro & Carmen Ortiz

### THURSDAY APRIL 14, 2022

9:00AM Tenebrae (Morning Prayer)

10:00AM Morning Mass

7:30PM Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper

### FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2022

8:00AM Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) 10:00AM  
Children's Stations of the Cross

1:30PM Service of Reflections on the Seven Last Words  
of Our Lord

3:00PM Good Friday Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

6:00PM Stations of the Cross (English & Italian)

7:00PM Stations of the Cross (Spanish)

### SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2022

9:00AM Tenebrae (Morning Prayer) Easter food baskets will  
be blessed after this service

4:00-5:00PM Confessions

5:00PM **NO 5PM MASS**

7:30PM Solemn Easter Vigil Mass

(This is the main Easter Mass)

### SUNDAY APRIL 17, 2022

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa Parish

9:00AM Easter Intentions

10:30AM Easter Intentions

12:15PM Easter Intentions

1:30PM Easter Intentions

5:00PM Easter Intentions



Joseph B., Nancy Cardone, Paul C., Thomas Egan,  
Josephine Graziano, Maryann Maiorana, Msgr. John Meehan,  
Joan Orlando, Margie Primiani, Frances Riccio, Toni Spahr,  
Nicholas Vasti, Benny Primiani, Antoinette Primiani,  
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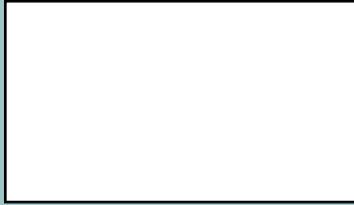
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