



CHURCH OF SAINT TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS & ST. NICHOLAS CHAPEL

JANUARY 5, 2025 | THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

CONTACT US

ST. TERESA CHURCH / RECTORY

1634 Victory Boulevard

Castleton Corners

Staten Island, NY 10314

PHONE 718 442 5412

EMAIL rectory@stteresasi.org

WEBSITE www.saintteresasi.org

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 4:30pm

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MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY 4:00PM

SUNDAY 7:30AM, 9:00AM,

10:30AM, 12:30PM, 5:00PM

ALL THESE MASSES ARE IN ST. TERESA
CHURCH ON VICTORY BLVD., EXCEPT THE
9AM MASS WHICH IS IN ST. NICHOLAS
CHAPEL, ON NORTHERN BLVD. AT LA BAU
AVE., ONE BLOCK IN FROM VICTORY BLVD

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8:30AM

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY 12 Noon

SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS, NOON TO 1:00PM



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

- Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

Designated Sundays at 1:30
Please call the rectory to check
dates and to meet with a priest
or deacon.

CONFESIONS

Every Saturday, Noon to 1pm,
in confessionals in church

WEDDINGS

Please call and speak to a priest
to begin planning your wedding

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anytime

NOVENA SERVICES

Mondays after 8:30 Mass

EUCARISTIC ADORATION

First Fridays after Noon Mass
until Benediction at 3PM

RELIGION/ SCHOOL

St. Teresa Religious Education

Program for public school students
begins with first grade and leads to
sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy
Communion, and Confirmation. Students
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9650 or visit stsrstreamacademy.com.

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 5	DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU!	NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
4:00PM Gaetano Guacci 7:30AM For The People Of our Parish 9:00AM Frank DelCarvo 10:30AM Carol Burgess 12:30PM Jack O'Reagan 5:00PM Frank and Mary Ciardiello		4:00PM Paul Belford 7:30AM Joseph Capobianco 9:00AM For the People of Our Parish 10:30AM Carol Burgess 12:30PM Theresa Pepio 5:00PM Leonardo Ayala
MONDAY, JANUARY 6	TUESDAY, JANUARY 7	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8
8:30AM Carol Burgess	8:30AM Theresa Pecararo 12NOON Frank Buhse	8:30AM Victoria Yashian 12NOON Sarah Duffy
THURSDAY, JANUARY 9	FRIDAY, JANUARY 10	SATURDAY, JANUARY 11
8:30AM Merritt and Sellenthin Families 12NOON Michael LaGallo	8:30AM JoAnn Lorenzo 12NOON John Mahoney	8:30AM Brian Dellomo

IT IS A DEVOUT AND LOVING PRACTICE TO COME TO MASS AND PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED. MANY PEOPLE HAVE FOUND SOLACE AND BECOME CLOSER TO GOD BY ATTENDING MASS DURING THE WEEK AS WELL AS ON SUNDAY.

SERVED BY

MSGR. WILLIAM BELFORD

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FATHER JOHN KALLATTIL, VC

Parochial Vicar

FATHER STEVEN CHALLMAN

Sunday Associate

DEACON JONATHAN REYES

Deacon

MRS. NICOLE C. FRESCA

St. Teresa-St. Rita Principal

MRS. LISA RAMETTA

Religious Education Coordinator

MRS. LISA NAUGHTON

Parish Manager

MR. EDWARD MORAND

Director of Music

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Your prayers are requested for all who are sick in our parish and community, especially: **Grace Agalo-os, Bernadette, Karen Bertuzzi, Michael Borik, Vincent Borzumato, Rosemary Callenberg, Eileen Carroll, Carina DeGiulio, Kevin Dunne, Patricia Dunne, Joanie Edwards, Augustine Ferrer, Mark & Arlene Fileccia, Michael G., Josephine Greco, Elaine Guarlino, Ricky Gundacker, David Hall, Barbara Harris, Vincent Hicks, Barbara Hicks, Buddy Jarrel, Pat Jarrell, Jennifer Johnson, Fred Kabat, Donnalyn Lawton, Catherine Leone, Edward Lewis, Genevieve Lewis, Josephine Linton, Lomando, Joann Lorenzo, Linda Mahoney, Paul Mahoney, Mikia James Martin, Janet Massa, James Matons Judy C. Mc., Marie McMillen, Susan Morris, Josephine Nastasi, Joseph Pastore, Ryan Pizzaro, Joanny Pizzuti, Sal Prestigiacomo, Gerry Pye, Edwin Rodriguez, Marty Rose, Ronald Rothmund, Jerry Scattaglia, Cheryl Spinelli, David Valle, Michael Walsh, Jerry Yannaci Sr.,**

Pray for Our Parishioners in the Military

Sergeant Michael R. Mazzuki, Jr. U.S. Army, Fort Stewart, GA

Staff Sergeant Connor M. O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corp., Camp Lejeune, NC

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR PRIESTS

4pm, 7:30, 12:30 Msgr. Belford

9am, 10:30, Clove Lakes Father Kallattil

5pm Father Challman

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Teresa Church,

Last Sunday I offered you the first part of a homily given by our Holy Father Pope Francis at the Vatican on November 24th. He spoke about the pressures on young people who can feel accused or condemned by peers. Find that part in the bulletin for last Sunday. Old bulletins are on our website. New ones appear on Fridays: www.saintteresasi.org.

In his talk that day, to young people who are taking responsibility for the next World Youth Day (2027; Seoul, Korea) Pope Francis gave advice and encouragement to the young people of the church. He focused first on the word accusations with all the negativity that brings, and then on the word approval. I think that adults too can benefit from the Pope's advice: to be ourselves, to be faithful followers of Jesus, and not to be desperately seeking the approval of others.

This brings us to my second point: approval. Jesus says: "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). What does Jesus mean by this statement? Why does he not do something to ensure his success, to garner the support of the authorities, to get their approval for his ideas? How can he expect to change things if he has been "defeated"? The answer is: Jesus behaves in this way because he rejects the mentality of power. Jesus chooses to be free of that (cf. Mark 10:42-45).

Dear young people, you would do well to follow his example. Do not allow yourself to be dragged along by the need to be seen, approved of, and praised. Those who get caught up in this frenzy experience anxiety. They end up pushing others around, falling into rivalries, being disingenuous, giving into peer pressure, compromising just to gain a bit of recognition and visibility. Please be careful, your dignity is not for sale. It is not for sale!

Be careful. God loves you just as you are, and not as you appear. Before Him, the innocence of your dreams is worth more than success and fame, and the sincerity of your intentions is worth more than worldly approval. Do not be deceived by those who seek to lure you with vain promises, but only want to manipulate you and use you for their own interests. Beware of being exploited. Be careful not to be conditioned.

Be free, but free in harmony with your dignity. Do not settle for being "stars for a day" on social media, or in any other context! I recall an occasion when a young woman wanted to be noticed. Even though she was pretty, she put on all her make-up before going to the party. I thought, "after the make-up, what is left?" Do not put make-up over your soul, and do not put make-up over your heart. Be as you are: sincere and transparent.

Do not be 'stars for a day' on social media or in any other context. You are called to shine in a wider sky. In heaven, the infinite love of the Father is reflected in many little lights. His love is revealed in us through faithful affection between spouses, the innocent joy of children, the enthusiasm of young people, caring for the elderly, the generosity of consecrated persons, the charity shown towards the poor, and the honesty upheld in work environments.

Think of the things that will make you strong, such as: the faithful affection of spouses - a beautiful thing ; the innocent joy of children - this is a beautiful joy! ; the enthusiasm of young people - be enthusiastic, all of you! ; and taking care of the elderly.

I ask you: do you care for the elderly? Do you visit your grandparents? Be generous in your lives, and be charitable to the poor. Be honest in your work. This is the true firmament where we shine like stars in the world. Remember the words of St. Paul to the Philippians 2:15: "That you become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation."

Please do not listen to those who lie to you! No approval you receive can save the world or make you happy. Only the free gift of love can bring us happiness. What saves the world is the free gift of love. Love cannot be bought, it cannot be sold: it is gratuitous, it is a giving of oneself.

This Epiphany Sunday is still an early day in a new year. If you are unhappy about yourself or something you are involved in, learn from the Roman expression: Carpe diem. Seize the day. Change, fix, repair, begin anew! The Lord made himself known to many in the villages and towns he visited. Blest, fortunate, filled with joy were those who believed what He said. Let us do the same, and make this a truly Happy New Year for ourselves and others.

Msgr. William Belford



TODAY IS FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Your freewill contribution after Mass this Sunday will provide gift certificates to more than 65 local families and individuals who need some help to insure that they and their children have enough to eat this month. Other donations can be sent by mail or left at the rectory at other times.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HOLY NAME MEN

TREES WILL BE TAKEN DOWN THIS SATURDAY JANUARY 11. IF YOU DONATED A TREE AND WANT TO SAVE ANY OF YOUR DECORATIONS, PLEASE VISIT YOUR TREE THIS WEEK BEFORE SATURDAY MORNING.

TWO GOOD CAUSES - ONE SECOND COLLECTION

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (Washington D.C.)

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Today we take up one collection for both the Catholic University of America (a very good school) and the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Your support helps CCC engage and build Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Archdiocese of NY to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message. Please support us; www.usccb.org/ccc.

DO YOU NEED SOMEONE WHO CAN LISTEN TO YOU?

Christmas can be difficult. If you can benefit from a conversation with a professional counselor who shares our Catholic perspective, our priests can make a connection for you with the Archdiocese of New York's

PARISH COUNSELING NETWORK

Our parishioners can make an appointment to meet with a professional counselor on Staten Island, for up to six meetings, with only a \$10 co-pay per session.

This can be arranged very easily. Tell one of our priests that you want to talk with a counselor. He will contact the **PARISH COUNSELING NETWORK** on your behalf. Then you call and arrange your first visit with someone who really knows how to listen to you.

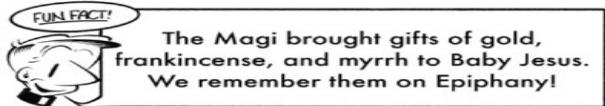
A PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY SUNDAY

O God, who on this EPIPHANY day revealed your ONLY BEGOTTEN SON to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we may pass safely through the shadows of this world, and reach the brightness of our eternal home. Through Christ our Lord.

"What was the favorite dessert of the king who brought gold?"



"Karat cake!"



Thank you for your faithful weekly donations and your special Christmas gifts to God for our Parish work and support.

Because of an early deadline for this bulletin, we do not have a report to give today.

Value of the Month

Joy

Emily Culotta Carlo Maiorana
Derek Adone Angelina Parrella
Isabella Scotto Quinn Fattorusso
Madison Shearin Louis Peteroy
Daniella Fonollosa Joshua Mendez
Every Shearin Jake LoPinto
Rock Hoti Gabriella Jovellanos
Emily Donnellan Francesco Ferrante
Anthony Bilotti Danielle Coan

St. Teresa-St. Rita STREAM Academy

EASY STEPS FOR ONLINE GIVING TO OUR PARISH via WE SHARE

(THIS SAVES US MONEY BY ELIMINATING THE COST OF ENVELOPES --

AND CAN SAVE YOU THE JOB OF PREPARING THEM!)

1. Go to our website: **WWW.STTERESASI.ORG**
2. Scroll down past the images of our Church and Mass. (Notice that you can watch Mass live on Saturday 4pm or anytime afterwards.)
3. You will see a big **WE SHARE** button. Click on it and scroll down to create a new account. That opens online choices that stay under your control. You can decide on a special Christmas gift or a monthly donation. And you get an end-of-the-year statement for tax purposes.
4. You may feel strange that you don't have anything to put in the basket. But people already using **WE SHARE** (or similar regular automatic payments with their bank or credit card) have gotten used to this. Most importantly, God knows and you know that you are doing your part to support our church. We presently have 360 people on **WE SHARE**, and would welcome more people when they are ready.
5. Contribution amounts are reported in the bulletin each Sunday on page 4. For example, you can see in the December 15 bulletin:
"Thank you for your faithful weekly donations to God for our parish support. WeShare online amount was \$2,847. Parishioners brought envelopes to Mass with contributions of \$9,436."

GROWING *Gospel*

WITH THE CYCLE C

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Epiphany of the Lord • Matthew 2:1-12

PUZZLE

Unscramble these words from today's Gospel:

wise-men	king	Mary
child	star	gifts
born	worship	dream

wsie mne **w i s e e m e n**

brno	-----	-----
kning	-----	-----
derma	-----	-----
cildh	-----	-----
wrshopi	-----	-----
Mrya	-----	-----
gftsi	-----	-----
srtia	-----	-----

MISSION

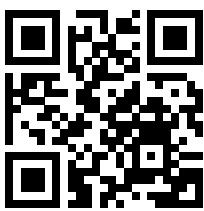
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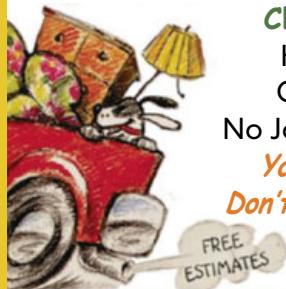
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