

# 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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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

### HEALTH CARE PROXY

Once again we emphasize the importance of having a Health Care Proxy, a person to whom you designate permission to make decisions for you in life-threatening illnesses when you are unable to do so. Such a person (spouse, child, neighbor, friend) should faithfully follow your desire and your direction in such matters as the continuation or discontinuation of life-prolonging techniques. Since the time of Pope Pius XII, the Church has made the distinction between ordinary and extraordinary means of preserving life. Ordinary means (such as nourishment, acceptable health procedures, use of drugs that have a reasonable likelihood of helping the person) are mandatory. Extraordinary means (experimental procedures, drugs or treatments) are not. Your Health Care Proxy should be familiar with your wishes and should have a copy of the proxy form that you fill out. We have printed in our bulletin several times a standard Health Care Proxy form issued by our Archdiocese. We present it here for your use again. If you have any questions about this, please see one of our priests.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

### Making Decisions at the End of Life

#### Moral Principles

- Decisions regarding the medical care of gravely ill person have great moral significance. They require us to face the reality of suffering and death, in the light of faith, confident in the redemptive power of our suffering united to the Cross of Christ, with the sure hope of the resurrection.
- No matter how grave a patient's ailment or incapacity, they always remain a person, made in the image and likeness of God, and precious in his sight. It is always wrong to deliberately cause the death of an innocent person, either by our direct actions or by failing to perform a duty.
- The fundamental distinction that should be borne in mind is whether medical treatment is "ordinary", which is morally obligatory, or "extraordinary", which is morally optional and can be declined.
- What are "extraordinary" treatments? According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, they are "medical procedures that are excessively burdensome, dangerous, or disproportionate to the expected outcome." If you decline such treatments, you are not causing death. Instead, you are refusing "over-zealous" treatment and acknowledging the inevitability of death. (Catechism, no. 2278).
- Even if death is imminent, we must always provide the ordinary care owed to a sick person - - nutrition, hydration, cleanliness, warmth, etc. Death from an underlying cause, such as cancer, must at some point be accepted, but a person should never die from starvation or dehydration.
- On this subject, Pope John Paul II has said, "I should like particularly to underline how the administration of water and food, even when provided by artificial means, always represents a natural means of preserving life, not a medical act. Its use, furthermore, should be considered, in principle, ordinary and proportionate, and as such morally obligatory"
- Ordinary care would also include providing a sick person with painkillers, even at the risk of shortening their life. In this case, death is not willed as either an end or a means. (Catechism 2279).

#### "Living Wills"

- Much is heard about "living wills" - a specific instruction on a particular course of medical treatment, usually with regard to life-sustaining treatment. They are also known as "advance directives: There are many problems with "living wills". They are inflexible, and tie the hands of your doctors and loved ones. Because it's impossible to foresee your exact medical situation, they are inherently vague and can be confusing to doctors. Most "living will" forms that are generally available are actually "refuse treatment" forms that create a presumption in favor of death.

- For these reasons, we strongly recommend that you avoid a so-called "living will". Instead, we recommend that you appoint a Health Care Proxy.

#### Health Care Proxies

- Under New York State law, a Health Care Proxy allows you to choose someone you trust to make medical decisions for you, if you can't do it for yourself. It only takes effect if you are incapacitated and it lapses if you recover.

You should choose someone as your Proxy whom you trust to act in your best interests, according to your moral values. You should give your Proxy specific instructions about your Catholic values, especially about assisted nutrition and hydration. You do not need a lawyer to appoint a Health Care Proxy - all you need is to have two witnesses to your signature. See below.

<u>Health Care Proxy</u>			
I, _____, hereby appoint			
_____	_____	_____	
(Name)	(Address)	(Phone)	
as my health care agent to make my health care decisions for me, except to the extent that I state otherwise. This healthcare proxy shall take effect only in the event I become unable to make my own health care decisions. In the event that the person appointed above is unable, unwilling, or unavailable to act as my Health care agent, I appoint			
_____	_____	_____	
(Name)	(Address)	(Phone)	
as my alternate agent until such time as he/she becomes able, willing or available to act as my health care agent. Those making decisions for me should be guided by the moral teachings of the Catholic Church, and avoid doing anything that is contrary to the teachings of the Church. My agent should direct that the assisted provision of food and hydration, should be provided to me, as long as they are of benefit to me. I do not intend any direct taking of my life, but only that my life not be unreasonably prolonged, when death is imminent.			
This proxy shall remain in effect indefinitely, unless I revoke it in writing or I execute a new Health Care Proxy.			
_____	_____		
Dated	Signature		
_____	_____	_____	_____
Address,	City,	State,	Zip
Witnesses: The undersigned declare that the person who signed this document is personally known to them, and that he/she appears to be of sound mind and acting of his/her own free will. He/she signed this document in our presence. We are not the persons appointed as agents by this document.			
_____			
Signature			
_____	_____	_____	
Address,	City,	State,	
_____			
Signature			
_____	_____	_____	
Address,	City,	State,	

MESSAGE OF OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Today's Gospel passage (Mk 6:30-34) tells us that after their first mission, the Apostles returned to Jesus and told him "all that they had done and taught" (v. 30). After the experience of the mission, which was undoubtedly thrilling but also arduous, they needed to rest. And understanding this well, Jesus wished to give them some relief and said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest for a while." But Jesus' intention could not be fulfilled this time because the crowd, guessing the location of the lonely place where he would take the disciples by boat, ran there and got there ahead of them.

The same can happen today. At times we are not able to complete our projects because something urgent and unexpected occurs, disrupting our plans and this requires flexibility and being available to the needs of others.

In these situations, we are called to imitate what Jesus did: "As he landed he saw a great throng, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things." With this brief sentence, the Evangelist offers us a flash of singular intensity, taking a snapshot of the eyes of the divine Master and his teaching. Let us observe the three verbs in this frame: to see, to have compassion, to teach. We can call them the Shepherd's verbs. The gaze of Jesus is not a neutral one — or worse, a cold and detached one because Jesus always looks with the eyes of the heart. And his heart is so tender and filled with compassion, that he is able to understand even the most hidden needs of people. Moreover, his compassion does not simply suggest an emotional response toward people in situations of distress. It is much more. It is God's attitude toward mankind and our history. Jesus appears as the fulfillment of God's concern and care for his people.

Because Jesus was moved when he saw all those people in need of guidance and help, we would now expect him to perform some miracles. Instead, he began teaching them many things. This is the first bread that the Messiah offers to the starving and lost crowd; the bread of the Word. We all need the Word of truth to guide and illuminate our way. Without the truth which is Christ himself, it is not possible to find the right direction in life. When we distance ourselves from Jesus and his love, we become lost and life is transformed into disappointment and dissatisfaction. With Jesus by our side, we can proceed with confidence and overcome all trials, advancing in love toward God and neighbor. Jesus gave himself for others, thus becoming an example of love and service for each of us.

May Mary Most Holy help us to bear the problems, suffering and difficulties of our neighbors with an attitude of sharing and service.

Angelus Message, July 22, 2018

ARRANGING FOR THE BAPTISM OF YOUR CHILD:

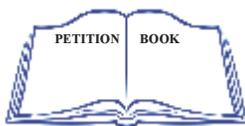


Parents who wish to have their children baptized in St. Theresa Church are asked to come to the rectory and fill out the form for the Baptism Class (generally held twice a month on Thursdays at 7PM in the church). Parents are asked to bring the child's birth certificate to this class. Godparents are encouraged to attend, if possible. At the Baptism Class, the date of the child's baptism will be arranged. During the current time, we have only one child baptized at a time, with the family following social distancing. We have baptisms on most Sundays.

We remind parents that they should have their children baptized as soon as possible after birth (that is, within a month or two). We want the child to have the grace of Baptism from his or her earliest weeks of life. Baptism should not be delayed until the child is older.

We look forward to welcoming your children into the Church with their first sacrament, the sacrament of Baptism.

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.



**JULY 24**  
**SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLUF**  
Priest († 1898)

The Maronite Saint Sharbel was born Youssef, to a devout Lebanese family. Mass and the rosary were at the heart of their shared life. At about twenty-three, Youssef heard an interior call from Christ, left his home in secret, and entered a monastery. He took the name Sharbel, after an early martyr.

Sharbel learned the monastic choral liturgy, performed manual labor, and ministered to the villagers. Seven years after he was ordained a priest, he asked his superior if he might become a hermit. Knowing the rigors of the solitary life, the superior hesitated. He changed his mind after witnessing a miracle in which water in Sharbel's reading lamp burned like oil.

Sahrbel spent twenty-three years in his hermitage in Annaya, interceding for the whole world. Most of his day was taken up in prayer and manual labor. At the age of seventy, he suffered a stroke while saying Mass. As he was led to his bed, he continued to repeat the words he had been saying at the moment he was stricken: "Father of truth, behold you Son who makes atoning sacrifice for you. Accept the offering; he died for me that I might have life. Behold the offering! Accept it..." He died eight days later, on Christmas Eve, 1898.

Sharbel's tomb soon became renowned for miracles of healing. Today it draws pilgrims from far and wide.

*Merciful Father, through the intercession of Saint Sharbel Makhluf, accept my life as an offering.*

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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 OBEDIENT FATHER**

As he had done with Mary, God revealed his saving plan to Joseph. He did so by using dreams, which in the Bible and among all ancient peoples, were considered a way for him to make his will known.

Joseph was deeply troubled by Mary's mysterious pregnancy. He did not want to "expose her to public disgrace", so he decided to "dismiss her quietly" (Mt 1:19). In the first dream, an angel helps him resolve his grave dilemma: "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:20-21). Joseph's response was immediate: "When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him" (Mt 1:24). Obedience made it possible for him to surmount his difficulties and spare Mary.

In the second dream, the angel tells Joseph: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him" (Mt 2:13). Joseph did not hesitate to obey, regardless of the hardship involved: "He got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod" (Mt 2:14-15).

In Egypt, Joseph awaited with patient trust the angel's notice that he could safely return home. In a third dream, the angel told him that those who sought to kill the child were dead and ordered him to rise, take the child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel (cf. Mt 2:19-20). Once again, Joseph promptly obeyed. "He got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel" (Mt 2:21).

During the return journey, "when Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. After being warned in a dream" – now for the fourth time – "he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth" (Mt 2:22-23).

The evangelist Luke, for his part, tells us that Joseph undertook the long and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered in his family's town of origin in the census of the Emperor Caesar Augustus. There Jesus was born (cf. Lk 2:7) and his birth, like that of every other child, was recorded in the registry of the Empire. Saint Luke is especially concerned to tell us that Jesus' parents observed all the prescriptions of the Law: the rites of the circumcision of Jesus, the purification of Mary after childbirth, the offering of the firstborn to God (cf. 2:21-24).

In every situation, Joseph declared his own "fiat", like those of Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In his role as the head of a family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents (cf. Lk 2:51), in accordance with God's command (cf. Ex 20:12).

During the hidden years in Nazareth, Jesus learned at the school of Joseph to do the will of the Father. That will was to be his daily food (cf. Jn 4:34). Even at the most difficult moment of his life, in Gethsemane, Jesus chose to do the Father's will rather than his own, becoming "obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). The author of the Letter to the Hebrews thus concludes that Jesus "learned obedience through what he suffered" (5:8).

All this makes it clear that "Saint Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his fatherhood" and that in this way, "he cooperated in the fullness of time in the great mystery of salvation and is truly a minister of salvation." (Pope St. John Paul II)

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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## 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 & FORMER PARISHIONERS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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



**JULY 18**  
**SAINT CAMILLUS DE LELLIS**  
Founder († 1614)

A native of Bocchianico in the Abruzzi, Italy, Camillus became a soldier of fortune at seventeen and by twenty-five had gambled away everything he had. He found work at a Capuchin friary and was moved to repentance. When the friars refused to permit him to make vows with them because of his ulcerous leg, Camillus sought treatment at Saint James Hospital in Rome.

In order to pay for his treatment, Camillus had to work in the hospital alongside the poorly paid nurses. They were dirty, rude, and cruel. In time, Camillus became an administrator, all the while progressing in his spiritual life under the direction of a priest he had met—Saint Philip Neri. Philip counseled him toward the priesthood. But Camillus saw further: he wanted to become a priest who would serve Christ in the sick. He went ahead and gathered like-minded men for the work. He then founded a hospital where fresh air and good food were the norm. He gave priority to hygiene and privacy. In 1595, the Camillians were the first nurses to serve in a mobile unit on a battlefield.

Throughout his life, Camillus' own pains only grew worse. He called them "God's Mercy" and never stopped serving the sick, even prostrating himself before them. "The poor and the sick are the heart of God," he said. "By serving them we serve Jesus the Christ."  
*Loving Father, through the intercession of Saint Camillus de Lellis, make me a servant of the sick.*



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!

## Wedding Banns

III Anthony LoMedico & Julia Mercado  
I Jonathan Guido & Stephanie DePalma



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF  
MARY O'FLAHERTY  
ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS  
LOVE, ADELINE



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED  
MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES  
ANNA D'ORAZIO & JOSEPH IULIANO

**CCD ( Religion Class) REGISTRATION**  
(Religion Classes for children who attend public school)



Applications are now being accepted for classes which begin in September 2021. Sunday classes: Grade 1, 2, 3 and Communion Class-9:00AM. Wednesday evening classes: Grades 4,5,6,7 (Confirmation Class)-7:00PM.

**HOW TO APPLY** Pick up an application in the Rectory Office or download applications from the St. Theresa Church website: [www.sttheresachurchbronx.org](http://www.sttheresachurchbronx.org)  
Applications are available both in English and in Spanish.

### SACRAMENT CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

Students must complete 2 consecutive years of CCD classes to be eligible to receive sacraments. Elementary school children who have not been baptized must attend CCD prior to receiving Baptism.

For additional information contact Mrs. McCarrick, CCD Coordinator, at [sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com](mailto:sainttheresa.religioused@gmail.com)

### A SUMMER BLESSING

May our loving God watch over you and keep alive in your heart all that you have learned this year.

Keep your mind on God. Remember to pray often and to celebrate your faith, at home with your family, and at Mass with your faith family.

Keep your faith in God. Let all the joys of summer remind you of God's goodness. Never forget that God is always with you, no matter what.

May the God of all creation, who comes to us in Jesus, and lives among us in the Holy Spirit, keep you safe, happy, and holy this summer and always. Amen



# MASS INTENTIONS

## SATURDAY JULY 17, 2021

5:00PM Frances & Charles DeClemente

## SUNDAY JULY 18, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Rosalie Masters

10:30AM Maureen & Marco Pozzuto

12:15PM Patricia Musano

1:30PM Gerardo & Alberto Gomez

5:00PM Joseph P. Poidomani

## MONDAY JULY 19, 2021

8:00AM The DiFranco Family

9:00AM Fr. Charles Szivos

## TUESDAY JULY 20, 2021

8:00AM Josephine Marino

9:00AM Patricia Musano

## WEDNESDAY JULY 21, 2021

8:00AM Eleni Kaimis

9:00AM Mary & Alfred Zombo

## THURSDAY JULY 22, 2021

8:00AM Joseph Biogiotti

9:00AM Vincent Virgintino

12NOON Eileen Maskara

## FRIDAY JULY 23, 2021

8:00AM Mary Patten

9:00AM Diane Martino

## SATURDAY JULY 24, 2021

8:00AM Marie Pisani

9:00PM Nicoletta Ferrara

5:00PM Patricia Musano

## SUNDAY JULY 25, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa Parish

9:00AM Silvio & Anna Spinosa

10:30AM Frank Gande

12:15PM Mike Cipriani

1:30PM Jenaro & Omar Martinez

5:00PM Rose Volpicella



Nancy Cardone, Antoinette DelVecchio, 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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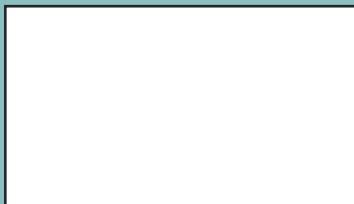
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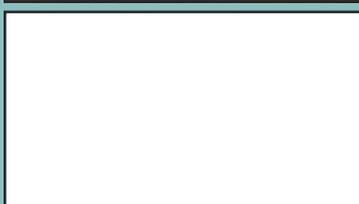
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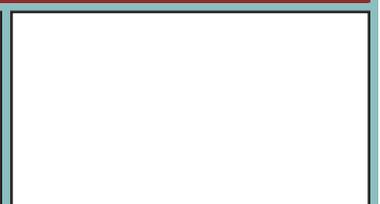
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