

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 dis-
cussed at the Baptism meeting.

MARRIAGES

Call the Rectory at least six months in
advance of the wedding date to make an
appointment with parish clergy.

ST. THERESA'S FAMILY IS OUR FAMILY
"ST. THERESA STRONG"



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

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

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FAX: 718-892-1146

WEBSITE: www.sttheresachurchbronx.org
E-MAIL: rectorystc@aol.com

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

CHURCH OF ST. THERESA, BRONX

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN

What tremendous words the Lord Jesus says in the gospel today! The scene follows upon the scene of last Sunday's gospel, when the Lord multiplied bread and fish to feed the five thousand. Now the Lord Jesus uses that occasion to tell His listeners that He will give them a greater bread, a bread that gives life to the world. The people understandably say, "Give us this bread always." And then the Lord Jesus gives us these tremendous words, "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." The Lord Jesus is preparing them for the great mystery of the Holy Eucharist, the mystery to be celebrated at the Last Supper, the same mystery celebrated here in our church. From our altar Jesus the Lord is saying to each one of us, "I am the Bread of Life. And the bread that I give is my Body for the life of the world."

This week, dear friends, we celebrate the feast of St. John Vianney, known as the Parish Priest or Cure of Ars, a little town in France. St. John Vianney died over one hundred and fifty years ago on August 4, 1859. The story of St. John Vianney, like the story of every saint, is a story of God's grace. John Vianney was born of a poor French couple. He did not have the opportunity of much formal education. He felt God's call to the priesthood, but his lack of formal education stood in the way. But nothing could turn him away from his desire to serve God in the priesthood. He had to study Latin along with much younger students. Finally he was ordained as a priest and was sent to the little town of Ars where, his bishop said, he could do little harm. He arrived in Ars to find a village of 230 people. His bishop warned him, that he would not find much practice of religion in the town of Ars. The bishop said, "There is little love of God in that parish; you will be the one to put it there." And so he did. He met a young man as he traveled on the road to his new parish. He asked the man for directions, saying, "You show me the way to Ars and I will show you the way to heaven." He set himself on his priestly work, determined to bring Christ to his people. He prayed, "Lord, grant me the conversion of my parish. I am willing to suffer whatever you wish for my entire life." This humble priest changed Ars and changed the world. People came from far and wide to go to him for confession. Is there any wonder that Pope Benedict XVI made him the patron saint of priests throughout the world?

What was the secret of St. John Vianney's holy life? The answer is simple: he encouraged his people to love Jesus in Holy Communion. To use the words of today's gospel, he encouraged his people to come to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, the Bread of Life, to discover that whoever comes to Him will never hunger. He encouraged his people just to stop in and pray before the tabernacle. "One need not say too much to pray well," he said. "We know that Jesus is there in the tabernacle; let us open our hearts to him, let us rejoice in His sacred presence. That is the best prayer." He encouraged his people to receive Holy Communion. "Come to Communion, my brothers and sisters, come to Jesus. Come to live from Him in order to live with Him. Of course, you are not worthy of Him, but you need Him." He wanted people to look at the Eucharist, to adore the Eucharist, to love the Eucharist, to make the Eucharist the center of their lives. He encouraged people to gaze upon the Sacred Host with immense love. That was the secret of this holy man's life and that is his constant message to us one hundred and fifty years after his death.

Give thanks to God today, dear friends, for the gift of the Holy Eucharist, the Bread of Life, Jesus' true and abiding Presence. And give thanks to God for the gift of priests, priests who have served you in the past, priests who try to serve you now, and please God, many more young men who will be the modern-day Cures in the years ahead. On that day when St. John Vianney arrived at Ars, he met that boy and said that beautiful sentence, "You show me the way to Ars and I will show you the way of heaven." In that simple sentence, St. John Vianney was summarizing what priests are called to do. May all priests help their people to find the way, the way of Jesus, the way to eternal life.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE



Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world!
We humbly beg of Thee to manifest in Thy Church the Spirit Whom You so abundantly bestowed upon Thy Apostles.

Call, we pray, very many to Your priesthood and to the religious life.

And may zeal for Your glory and the salvation of souls inflame those whom You have chosen.

May they be saints in Your likeness, and may Your Spirit strengthen them.

O Jesus, give us priests and religious according to Your own Heart!
O Mary, Mother of Jesus! Obtain for fervent souls the grace to hear and the courage to follow your Divine Son.

Queen of Apostles, pray for us.

AUGUST 1, 2021

MESSAGE FROM OUR HOLY FATHER POPE FRANCIS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Over the last few Sundays the liturgy has presented us with the image filled with Jesus' tenderness reaching out to the crowd and its needs. In today's Gospel passage (cf. Jn 6:24-35) the perspective changes. The crowd whose hunger Jesus has satisfied begins to seek him anew and goes to encounter him. But for Jesus, it is not enough that people seek him. He wants people to know him. He wishes that the search for him and the encounter with him go beyond the immediate satisfaction of material needs. Jesus came to bring us something more, to open our lives to a wider horizon than the daily concerns of eating, clothing ourselves, career and so on. Thus, turning to the crowd, he exclaims: "You seek me, not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves." In this way, he encourages the people to go a step further and to question themselves on the significance of the miracle, and not simply to take advantage of it. Indeed, the multiplication of the loaves and the fish is a sign of the great gift the Father has given to humanity, which is Jesus himself!

He, the true "bread of life," wants to satisfy not just the bodies but also the souls, giving the spiritual food that can satisfy profound hunger. This is why he invites the crowd to obtain not the food which perishes, but that which endures for eternal life. It is the food that Jesus gives to us every day: his Word, his Body, his Blood. The crowd listens to the Lord's invitation, but does not understand its meaning — as often happens to us — and asks him: "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Those who are listening to Jesus think that he is asking them to observe the precepts in order to obtain more miracles like the multiplication of the loaves. This is a common temptation; to reduce religion to only the practice of its laws, projecting onto our relationship with God the image of the relationship between servants and their master: servants must carry out the tasks that the master assigns to them in order to enjoy his benevolence. We all know this. Therefore, the crowd wants to know from Jesus which actions it must perform in order to please God. But Jesus' reply is unexpected: "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." Today, these words are also addressed to us: God's work does not consist so much in "doing" things, but in "believing" in Him whom He sent. This means that faith in Jesus allows us to carry out God's works. If we allow ourselves to be involved in this loving and trusting relationship with Jesus, we will be able to perform good works that exude the fragrance of the Gospel for the good and needs of our brothers and sisters.

The Lord invites us not to forget that, if it is necessary to worry about bread, it is even more important to nurture our relationship with Him, to strengthen our faith in Him, who is the "bread of life" who came to satisfy our hunger for truth, our hunger for justice and our hunger for love. May the Virgin Mary support us in our journey of faith and help us to joyfully surrender ourselves to God's design for our lives.

Angelus Address, August 5, 2018

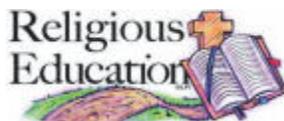
REQUIRED ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Archdiocese of New York is committed to doing all that is can to protect children and young people from sexual abuse. As part of that effort, we periodically write to the Catholic community to advise them whom they may contact and what steps they can take if they have suffered abuse by someone representing the Catholic church.

"To report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York, you may contact the victims assistance coordinator, Mrs. Eileen Mulcahy at 646-794-2949 or victimsassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the archdiocesan website www.archny.org. In keeping with archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure."

"Cualquier persona que necesite reportar algún incidente de abuso sexual de un menor por un sacerdote, diacono, religioso/a, o laico sirviendo en la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York, se le pide que por favor contacte al coordinador de asistencia a las víctimas, Señora Eileen Mulcahy al 646-794-2949. Ella también pueden ser contactada vía correo electrónica: victimsassistance@archny.org. Para más información pueden visitar la página en la red de la arquidiócesis: www.archny.org. De acuerdo con las normas de la arquidiócesis sobre el respeto al abuso sexual de menores, esta información se provee para asegurar que nuestros niños permanezcan seguros."

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
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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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: A CREATIVELY COURAGEOUS FATHER

Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true "miracle" by which God saves the child and his mother. God acted by trusting in Joseph's creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world. Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt.

A superficial reading of these stories can often give the impression that the world is at the mercy of the strong and mighty, but the "good news" of the Gospel consists in showing that, for all the arrogance and violence of worldly powers, God always finds a way to carry out his saving plan. So too, our lives may at times seem to be at the mercy of the powerful, but the Gospel shows us what counts. God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been abandoned, but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves.

The Gospel does not tell us how long Mary, Joseph and the child remained in Egypt. Yet they certainly needed to eat, to find a home and employment. It does not take much imagination to fill in those details. The Holy Family had to face concrete problems like every other family, like so many of our migrant brothers and sisters who, today too, risk their lives to escape misfortune and hunger. In this regard, I consider Saint Joseph the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.

At the end of every account in which Joseph plays a role, the Gospel tells us that he gets up, takes the child and his mother, and does what God commanded him. Indeed, Jesus and Mary his Mother are the most precious treasure of our faith.

In the divine plan of salvation, the Son is inseparable from his Mother, from Mary, who "advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son until she stood at the cross."

We should always consider whether we ourselves are protecting Jesus and Mary, for they are also mysteriously entrusted to our own responsibility, care and safekeeping. The Son of the Almighty came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph. God trusted Joseph, as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child. In this sense, Saint Joseph could not be other than the Guardian of the Church, for the Church is the continuation of the Body of Christ in history, even as Mary's motherhood is reflected in the motherhood of the Church. In his continued protection of the Church, Joseph continues to protect the child and his mother, and we too, by our love for the Church, continue to love the child and his mother.

That child, Jesus would go on to say: "As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40). Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is "the child" whom Joseph continues to protect. For this reason, Saint Joseph is invoked as protector of the unfortunate, the needy, exiles, the afflicted, the poor and the dying. Consequently, the Church cannot fail to show a special love for the least of our brothers and sisters, for Jesus showed a particular concern for them and personally identified with them. From Saint Joseph, we must learn that same care and responsibility. We must learn to love the child and his mother, to love the sacraments and charity, to love the Church and the poor. Each of these realities is always the child and his mother.

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. Amen.**

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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.

SEE GOD WITH THE EYES OF FAITH

In St. Paul's famous phrase about faith, hope and charity, it is clear that faith and hope are lesser virtues. But that is only because Paul is looking to the eternal kingdom where experience will replace faith, since we will see God face-to face and possession will replace hope. Charity, love of the Lord, will not be replaced but intensified so that is why Paul speaks so highly of love. Here on earth, however, faithfulness is of great importance. Because we cannot see God, except in the eye of faith, faithfulness is vital. Psalm 46 begins with a call for the faithful to put all their trust in the Lord and to know He is our strength and our salvation.

“God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in distress.
Thus we do not fear, though earth be shaken and mountains quake to
the depths of the sea; Though its waters rage and foam and mountains
totter at its surging.” (Ps. 46: 2-4)

And the Psalm closes with these words that assure us He will be our protector, if we put our unyielding faith in Him. “Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, exalted on the earth. “(Ps. 46:11) Being still is the key. How often do we allow ourselves to reflect, to reconnect with the Lord? Even during these many months inside, away from others, staying safe, everyone kept busy. But busywork without intention is not always going to allow for the time and focus to deepen our faith and our faith life. The question then becomes how can you have more faith? A personal way that needs no other interactions is to dedicate ourselves to our prayer life. Our prayer can be that of the man who said: “I believe, Lord, help my unbelief.” Or choose a prayer from childhood that had a connection to a family member you can't visit now, a grandmother or grandfather. Build time into your day to dedicate to prayer. Watch daily Mass on television if your parish is live streaming, or find one online that you connect to. It is a manner of community we must have during these times, but it is one that strengthens our love of our faith and our love of our Lord.

It is a virtuous circle; our faith grows because we trust God more; our trust grows because we have more faith. O Lord I trust in You; I place my faith in You. Help me be more faithful to You and what You wish for me.

(From Franciscan Mission Associates)



AUGUST 1
SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI
Magnanimity († 1787)

Alphonsus was raised by good-hearted, noble parents. He sailed through his studies and by the age of twenty-seven had already established a successful law career, when he lost a case due to a gross oversight. Seeing this as a sign, Alphonsus quit his practice. In prayer, an interior voice told him, “Leave the world and give yourself to me.”

Outstanding in magnanimity, Alphonsus wanted to do great things for the Lord. He became a priest and began to preach missions throughout the kingdom of Naples. Seven years later, in 1732, he founded the Redemptorist Order for missionary work among peasants. He began to produce a body of writings much of it in response to the excesses of merciless Jansenism that would one day make him a Doctor of the Church.

After Alphonsus was named Bishop of Sant' Agata dei Goti, he labored unceasingly for both priests and people. When he was sickened by rheumatic fever, he survived with a painfully stooped neck. Yet the pope would not permit him to resign, convinced that he was, by his sufferings, doing great good for his diocese.

He is still known for his works on Marian theology, devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, and moral theology. He is the patron of confessors and moral theologians.

Father in heaven, make my soul capable of doing great things for the sake of your name.



AUGUST 4
SAINT JOHN VIANNEY
Priest († 1859)

John's parents were hardworking French peasants. They reluctantly let him go to school at twenty. After learning the rudiments, he was drafted into the army, only mistakenly to follow a fellow soldier into desertion in a remote village. He spent some time there teaching children until his brother offered to serve in his place so that John could study for the priesthood. In the seminary, he was stymied by the Latin and required intense tutoring.

He was ordained nevertheless, and in 1818 assigned to the tiny, lukewarm parish of Ars. He already followed a strict diet and regulated his sleep, but in Ars he doubled his penances. He preached with authority, tended the poor, and heard confessions. Ars was converted, and, over the next thirty years, his Masses and his confessional became pilgrimage destinations, with sometimes three hundred people a day arriving in the village. He spent three-fourths of his time hearing their sins. At the age of seventy-three, as he lay dying, John was still absolving penitents.

John's teachings were practical and direct. “Take a house which has been for a long time very dirty and neglected-it is in vain to sweep out; there will always be a nasty smell. It is the same with our soul after confession; it requires tears to purify it. My children, we must ask earnestly for repentance.”

Father in heaven, through the intercession of Saint John Vianney, grant me profound sorrow for my sins.





III TIME: Jonathan Guida & Stephanie DePalma



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING NEAR THE TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF JOSEPH IULIANO LOVE, THE RICCO FAMILY



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF JOSEPH IULIANO LOVE, THE RICCO FAMILY

A NOTE ON OUR SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN CHURCH

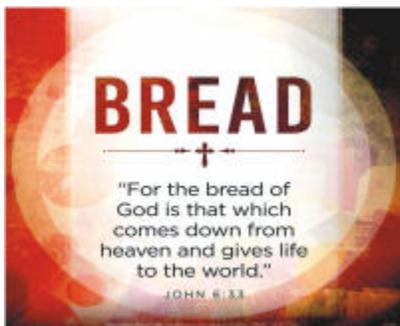


As you know from coming to Sunday Mass, we are maintaining our safety precautions in church—asking every person (vaccinated or not) to wear a mask, following distancing in the benches and sanitizing after every Mass. Throughout the pandemic, we have asked for the advice of nurses and other medical personnel who attend Mass in our church and we have followed their advice. They have advised us to keep up our precautions because of the fact that many persons at Mass have not been vaccinated (especially the children) and because of the variants that are now affecting our country.

We thank everyone for following these safety precautions until things get better and we are advised that we can change them in our church. If someone comes to church with you as a visitor, please remind that that we wear masks here in church.

May Our Lord keep you and your family safe.

Father Thomas B. Derivan



SATURDAY JULY 31, 2021

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

MONDAY AUGUST 2, 2021

8:00AM Mary Cea

9:00AM Kristen Rodriguez

TUESDAY AUGUST 3, 2021

8:00AM John Perino

9:00AM Vincent, Antoinette & Frank Vignola

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 4, 2021

8:00AM Fr. Tom D'Angelo

9:00AM Drone Ded Pllumaj

THURSDAY AUGUST 5, 2021

8:00AM Msgr. Neil Graham

9:00AM Jose Rivera

12NOON The Cardone Family

FRIDAY AUGUST 6, 2021

8:00AM Ann Bottari

9:00AM Joseph Iuliano

SATURDAY AUGUST 7, 2021

8:00AM Msgr. Joseph Devlin

9:00AM Sergio A. Ocasio Roman

5:00PM Joseph Dilluvio

SUNDAY AUGUST 8, 2021

7:30AM Parishioners of St. Theresa

9:00AM Barbara & Natale Micale

10:30AM Giuseppe, Annunizata & Mario Pozzuto

12:15PM Ralph Bockino

1:30PM Sofia & Acridina Mongayo

5:00PM Grace March



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, Diane Stoyka, Nicholas Vasti ,

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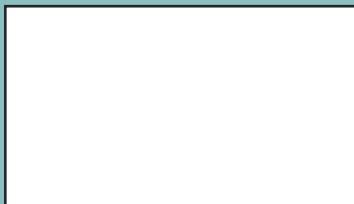
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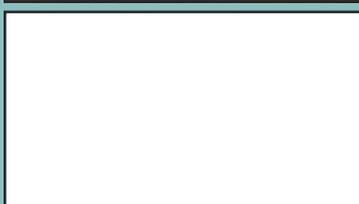
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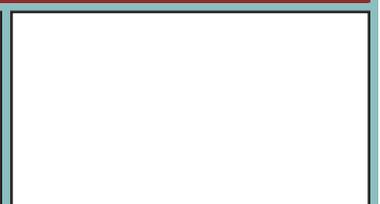
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