

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 7:30pm
to 8:30pm followed by silent adoration
until 9:00pm.

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.



Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derivan, Pastor

Rev. Joseph Ligory, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Thomas D'Angelo, In Residence
Msgr. Neil Graham, Retired, Spanish Mass
Rev. Robert Imbelli, Weekend Associate
Rev. Charles Szivos, Parochial Vicar

Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, Principal
Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Dir. of Religious Education
Helena Kim, Dir. of Music

RECTORY: 718-892-1900/1901
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

Think of what happened on the night of the first Easter. It is a beautiful story, almost like the story of someone coming home. All of a sudden Jesus is there. Of course the apostles were startled. Of course they were afraid. They knew He had died on the Cross and now He is right here before them. What was His first word to them? Would He be angry with them for running away when He was arrested? Would He accuse them of denying Him, abandoning Him, forsaking Him, as indeed they did? No, there was none of that. His first words to them were words that carried deep meaning, "Peace be with you." Shalom, peace, that traditional Hebrew greeting, still used today. "Peace be with you," but what He was saying was far more than a nice greeting. He was offering them true peace, the peace that came about from His sacrifice on the cross, the peace he won for us by His glorious resurrection. He was offering them and us peace of heart, peace of soul, peace of life. He was offering them the peace that comes when we are right with God. He was offering them and He offers us that peace which will be fulfilled in the Kingdom of heaven. "Peace be with you."

But then we have today's gospel Two disciples were walking on the road to the village of Emmaus. It happened on Easter evening. Their eyes are downcast because of Jesus' death. They were hoping He was the Messiah, the Christ who would set His people free. And suddenly, unexpectedly Someone is walking next to them. It is the Risen Jesus, but because of their sorrow, they do not recognize Him. He walks next to them, speaks with them, assures them that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. They still do not recognize Him. It is only when He sits down at table with them, blesses and breaks bread as He did at the Last Supper and as He does here at every Mass. Only then, their eyes are opened and they recognize that it is the Risen Jesus right there with them. They run to tell the apostles and, almost as soon as they arrived, Jesus appeared to them all with His blessed words, "Peace be with you." And those two disciples who had met Jesus on the road must have said to the others after Jesus left, "Yes, we know the peace He is talking about, the peace that filled our hearts as He walked with us on the road, the peace that filled us when He gave His very self to us at the table of the Holy Eucharist."

When Cardinal Dolan became our Archbishop, he spoke about this gospel. He said that at time we are like those two disciples on the road to Emmaus, "so absorbed in their woes...that they failed to recognize Jesus as He walked right alongside of them."

Cardinal Dolan then applied this to us, "I say to you, my sister and brother disciples on the road to Emmaus, let us not turn inward to ourselves, our worries, our burdens, our fears, but rather to Him who is 'the way, the truth and the life,' the One who told us over and over again, 'Do not be afraid,' who assured us that He 'would be with us all days, even to the end of the world.' The Cardinal then told a beautiful story of the time he visited the Holy Land. He asked a Franciscan priest to show him the road that Jesus and the two disciples walked on, the road to Emmaus. And the priest said to him, "That we cannot do. You see, no one knows where the village of Emmaus actually was, so there is no more road to Emmaus." And then the wise priest added, "Maybe that is part of God's providence because we can now make every journey we undertake a walk down the road to Emmaus."

What a beautiful reminder, not only from our Cardinal Archbishop, but from the Lord Himself. We are all like those two disciples. We walk along the road of life and, as we do, we must have faith enough to see Jesus waling by our side, whispering to our souls, "Peace be with you." The Cardinal asked us all to join him as we walk to the Emmaus of today on what he called an "adventure in fidelity." He reminded us to keep that image of the two disciples walking on the road with Jesus walking with them. He concluded his homily with these beautiful words, "We must dare to believe that from Staten Island to Sullivan County, from the Bowery to The Bronx, from White Plains to Poughkeepsie, the Risen Jesus is walking right alongside of us. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good for His mercy endures forever."

Father Thomas B. Derivan

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER DERIVAN II: BRINGING CHILDREN TO CHURCH

Sometimes parents are worried about bringing their children to Mass, concerned that they may disturb other people at Mass. Please, parents, remember this: **THE LORD WANTS YOUR CHILDREN TO COME TO MASS.**

One of the most beautiful stories in the Gospel is when parents brought their children to Jesus to have Him touch them. The gospel says that the disciples tried to prevent them. Perhaps they said to these parents, "Jesus is too busy to see these children: or "It is more important for adults to be with Him rather than the children" or even "The children will make too much noise." Our Lord, the gospel says, scolded the disciples and corrected them by saying, "Let the little children come to me. Do not stop them. For the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When parents bring their children to Mass, they are obeying Jesus' command, "Let the little children come to me." Of course, if a child becomes upset, the parent can bring the child to the vestibule or even the "Cry Room" (Bathroom Room at the end of the vestibule) and then come back into the main church. I know that adults who are present will understand that a child's being in church is far more important than any inconvenient sound the child may make. The Lord wants His children to come to Him.

Do not think that this is just my opinion. It comes from Pope Francis himself. When Pope Francis visited a parish church in Rome, he said this: "What I want to say to you: children cry, they make noise, they go from one side to the other ... but I am so annoyed when a child cries in church and people want him to go outside. No! A child's cry is the best homily! The cry of a child is God's voice. Truly, never, never chase them out of the church! Thank you so much!"

Thank you, dear parents, for bringing your children to Mass. And thank you everyone for welcoming them.

Father Thomas B. Derivan

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

CARDINAL DOLAN'S REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

Are we not at times perhaps like those two dejected disciples on the road to Emmaus? They were so absorbed in their own woes, so forlorn in their mistaken conclusion that the one in whom they had placed their trust was dead, so shocked by the shame, scandal, and scorn of last Friday ... that they failed to recognize Jesus as he walked right alongside of them!

I say to you, my sister and brother disciples now on the road to Emmaus, let's not turn inward to ourselves, our worries, our burdens, our fears; but turn rather to Him, the way, the truth, and the life, the one who told us over and over, "Be not afraid!", who assured us that He "would be with us all days, even to the end of the world," and who promised us that "not even the gates of hell would prevail," the one who John Paul the Great called, "the answer to the question posed by every human life," and recognize Him again in His word, in the "breaking of the bread," in His Church.

Let Him "turn us around" as he did those two disciples, turned them around because, simply put, they were going the wrong way, and sent them running back to Jerusalem, where Peter was, where the apostles were, where the Church was.

For three weeks in July, 1992, I was on pilgrimage in Israel. I had a wonderful Franciscan guide who made sure I saw all the sacred places in the Holy Land. The day before I departed, he asked, "Is there anything left you want to see?" "Yes," I replied, "I would like to walk the road to Emmaus." "That we cannot do," he told me, "You see, no one really knows where that village of Emmaus actually was, so there is no more road to Emmaus." Sensing my disappointment, he remarked, "Maybe that's part of God's providence, because we can now make every journey we undertake a walk down the Road to Emmaus."

My new friends of this great archdiocese, would you join your new pastor on an "adventure in fidelity," as we turn the Staten Island Expressway, Fifth Avenue, Madison Avenue, Broadway, the FDR, the Major Deegan, and the New York State Thruway into the Road to Emmaus, as we witness a real "miracle on 34th street" and turn that into the road to Emmaus?

For, dare to believe, that: from Staten Island to Sullivan County, from the Bowery, to the Bronx, to Newburgh, from White Plains to Poughkeepsie., He is walking right alongside us. "For why do we look for the living among the dead? For He is risen as he said, alleluia, alleluia!" Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever."

(Taken from the Archbishop's Homily at his Installation as Archbishop of New York-April 15, 2009)

EMMAUS REFLECTION

I walk my life... Emmaus bound...
Side by side a God
Whose touch I've felt in varied grace-gift ways.
And yet - at times -
Dismayed...Distraught...Distressed...
I cry - fear - filled -
"I had hoped..." I had hoped..."
And mourn, because—it seems—
A God all-giving does not give...
A God all-present is not there...
A God all-loving does not touch...
And then
In tender tones that mingle
Love
And understanding of my foolish ways
And question why I am so slow to understand,
My gentle God reminds me
Of the gift that I have been...
The presence
Of the God-ness I have shared...
The touch of God
That flows in gentle rhythm
Through the music of my life.
And so...Emmaus-come...
I know my God...
Sister Ann Marie Slavin, OSF



MAY CROWNING CEREMONY

The May Crowning ceremony honoring Our Blessed Mother Mary during her month of May will take place next Sunday, May 7th at the 10:30AM Mass. The children who received First Holy Communion on the day before will especially honor Our Lady in this Crowning ceremony.

Also St. Theresa's Altar Society is sponsoring a Family and Parish Community Communion Breakfast after the May Crowning at the 10:30AM Mass on Sunday, May 7th. All St. Theresa's First Communicants will be the guest of the Altar Society.

In addition, all others are invited to attend. Tickets can be purchased through the school or Rectory. The ticket price is \$5.00 per person, ages 5 to adult. Children under 5 are free.

NO tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information please call Carmela at: 718-828-0360



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Friday, May 12th—11:00AM - 4:00PM

Plant & Bake Sale

Saturday, May 13th—10:00AM - 5:00PM

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Please contact Mother Ema or Sister Purificacion 718-829-0428



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN:

This Saturday, May 6th, 72 children from our school and our CCD Program will receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time. (We are happy to report that because we have such a large number of First Communicants, we have to have to have two Masses, morning and afternoon.) May Our Lord bless these children as they come to receive Him on Saturday, but also on every Sunday at Mass.

We are grateful for all who have assisted in the preparation of these children for First Holy Communion: Mrs. Josephine Fanelli, our school principal; Mrs. Marie McCarrick, Director of Religious Education; Mrs. Donna Sirabella and Ms. Angela Cunnane, St. Theresa School, 2nd Grade Teachers; and CCD catechists Mrs. Josephine Leone, Mrs. Anna Bruno, and Mr. Jason Marescie. And, of course, many thanks to the parents and grandparents for helping these children to reach this milestone in their Catholic lives.

Our First Communicants Are:

James Addario
 Isabella Agosto
 Joaquin Agosto
 Charlie-Joy Amaro
 Alexis Barbieri
 Dean Bargellini
 Layla Barrero
 Michael Beers
 Isabella Bondi
 Ava Bonilla
 Evan Bushati
 Julian Cancio
 Logan Cardona
 Luis Chicaiza
 Sophia Cifu
 Justin Cortes
 Kymberleigh Cribbe
 Angelene Cruz
 Aleksandra Dedvuday
 Emma DeFilippo
 Donald DeRosa
 Eva Downes
 Sebastian Dukaj
 Christian Esteban

Cameron Faulkner-Bravo
 Amanda Fonseca
 Giorgio Giacinto
 Gabriella Gomez
 Annalyse Gorritz
 Denisa Haxhari
 Elliot Jaico
 Deanna Kaseman
 Kyra Kraft
 Lydia Ledda
 Isabella Lepore
 Ella Lomonaco
 Jayden Lugo
 Nichelle Maddine
 Kylie Magistrado
 Juan Diego Manas
 Michelle Martinez
 Dain Melendez
 Leyna Melendez
 Serena Mercado
 Isabella Meza
 Gerard Nika
 Marco Orecchio
 Isabella O'Shea

Sophia Ottaviano
 Genevieve Padilla
 Peter Palomino-Salas
 Isabella Perlaska
 David Popowich
 Madison Ramirez
 Gennarina Riccuci
 Sebastian Rivera
 Eddie Rohena
 Misael Roldan
 Alessandra Romeo
 Daniel Saldiveri
 Joseph Scarano
 Nikoleta Shala
 Gabriel Torres
 Iliana Torres
 Terrell Tyler
 Jailyn Vega
 Hailey Villaverde
 Giovanni Volpicella
 Gjon Vucaj
 Ambra Vuksani
 Ryan Weber
 Ezekiel Zoquier

PARENTS PRAYER ON FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Lord Jesus, You gave these children to us so that we might teach them to know, love and serve You above all others.
 We brought them to You at the dawn of their lives to give them Your Divine Life in Baptism.
 We bring them to You again today, so that you might be their food and strength in Holy Communion.
 Help our children to live always in your love, the love you showed us on the Cross and the love you give us in this wonderful Sacrament. We promise to keep on bringing them to you in Sunday Mass. May we never turn them away from you by neglect, but instead may we help them to find you and love you more and more. Lord Jesus, you are our greatest gift to our children. Be with them and be with us always. Amen.



SOME WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS ABOUT FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On December 14, 2014 Pope Francis visited a parish in Rome. On that day he spoke about his First Holy Communion Day. May our children have as much joy in remembering their First Communion Day as Pope Francis has over seventy years later. These are the Pope's words to those First Communion children:
 "Here are those of you who will make their First Communion. You know, this year, I celebrated the 70th anniversary of my First Communion: I received First Communion 70 years ago. It's been a long time. I did it on the 8th of October 1944. I remember it as if it was yesterday. I was prepared for a year by a nun who was so good, whose name was Dolores. She taught me the catechism. Then came the big day. At that time, before the Mass, you could not even drink a little water, nothing, not even a drop of water. It was Pius XII who saved us from that !. It was good ... And we all entered the churches with their hands clasped together, thus, and we sang a song you may know: "O holy altar guarded by the angels, I come to you for the first time ...". I will never forget this day ...
 Do not forget your teachers. You know, I have never forgotten them in my life; when the nun who prepared me died on October 17, 1987, I went to see her and I remained beside her remains, and I prayed a lot, because this nun made me know Jesus. Do not forget the teachers. Do not forget the date. And every year, on the anniversary of the date, receive Communion too."



FEAST UPDATE

We thank all who have already responded to our letter about the Grand Raffle at our St. Theresa Feast to be held from June 21st to 25th. We thank all for their positive remarks and suggestions for the Feast. We are grateful for the cooperation given to us by Community Board 10, the 45th Precinct and the office of Senator Jeff Klein.

If you know of someone who wishes to be a vendor or a sponsor or would like a table at the Flea Market, please have him or her contact the rectory for the necessary information.

Beginning this weekend, there will be a table for Raffle tickets in front of the church (or, in inclement weather, in the church vestibule). Raffle returns may be given in at this table or may be brought or mailed to the rectory. Additional Raffle tickets will also be available.

TD BANK OPENING

We congratulate TD Bank which has opened at new branch at 1765 Crosby Avenue (on the corner of Westchester Avenue) and their new manager Hal Kalezic. Our Children's Choir participated in their Grand Opening last Saturday. At that time, Mr. Kalezic presented our church with a check for \$10,000. We are most grateful to TD Bank for this donation and this amount will be designated as their major sponsorship for our upcoming Feast.

TD Bank has also announced their "Affinity Program." If you open a new account, the bank will provide a \$50 donation to our church. We wish TD Bank and their staff all the best as they become our "new neighbors."



HOLY HOUR HONORING OUR LADY'S APPEARANCE AT FATIMA

May 13th is the 100th anniversary of the apparition of Our Blessed Mother to three children at Fatima in Portugal. Our Holy Father will participate in this observance and at that time will canonize two of the children Blessed Francisco and Blessed Jacinta Marto. In observance of this anniversary, we will have a Holy Hour on Saturday, May 13th immediately after the 5:00PM Mass. The Holy Hour will be from 6:00PM to 7:00PM and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

MAY 1ST - FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

The feast of St. Joseph the Worker was established by Pope Pius XII in 1955 in order to Christianize the concept of labor and give to all workmen a model and a protector. By the daily labor in his shop, offered to God with patience and joy, St. Joseph provided for the necessities of his holy spouse and of the Incarnate Son of God, and thus became an example to all laborers. "Workmen and all those laboring in conditions of poverty will have reasons to rejoice rather than grieve, since they have in common with the Holy Family daily preoccupations and cares" (Leo XIII).

This feast honors St. Joseph as the model of the working person. It falls on the first day of the month that is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope Pius XII expressed the hope that this feast would accentuate the dignity of labor and would bring a spiritual dimension to labor of all types. The Pope gave us this feast on May 1st which is celebrated as "May Day" in the Communist world. The Pope did so to emphasize the spiritual value of work as an offering to God in opposition to the Communist view of work as service only to the state. It is eminently fitting that Pope Pius chose St. Joseph, a working man who became the foster-father of Christ and patron of the universal Church, to be the model for all working persons.

Prayer in honor of St. Joseph the Worker

God, Creator of all things, who laid down for the human race the law of work, graciously grant that by the example of Saint Joseph and under his patronage we may complete the work you set us to do and attain the rewards you promise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

THE 2017 CARDINAL'S APPEAL: The annual Cardinal's Appeal continues in our parish and throughout the Archdiocese. If you have not received an Appeal mailing, additional Appeal letters are available at both entrances of the church.

We ask you to prayerfully consider the importance of the Appeal. Today we emphasize the Works of Charity. One way in which we are able to demonstrate our faith is through tending to the needs of less fortunate brothers and sisters in the Lord. The Appeal sets aside \$1.5 million per year so that the Catholic Charities Office, together with the Family Life/Respect Life Office, the Hispanic Apostolate, and the Office of Black Ministry, are able to provide them with the essential human needs of shelter, nourishment, medical assistance, and counseling. Please keep the success of the Appeal in our parish and throughout the Archdiocese in your prayers.



1ST TIME: John Fiumefreddo & Danielle Artuso



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR BREAD IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF IRMA ORRICO LOVE, FRANK & FAMILY



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH AND THEIR FAMILIES MAMIE RUSSO, JOSEPH MENNILLO & LUCIA SCIORTINO



THE SANCTUARY LAMP BURNING NEAR THE TABERNACLE THIS WEEK IS IN LOVING MEMORY OF EVELYN DISTEFANO LOVE, JOHN & FAMILY

Next Weekend—Mission Collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith fosters and ever-deeper spirit of universal mission, to inform Catholics of the life and the needs of the Catholic Church in the Missions, and to encourage prayer and financial help for those mission churches.

Through the offerings from Catholics worldwide, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith provides ongoing support for the pastoral and evangelizing programs of the Catholic Church in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America. This includes aid for the education and support of seminarians, religious novices and lay catechists; for the work of religious communities in education, health care and social services; for the work of religious communities in education, health care and social services; for communication and transportation needs and for disaster and emergency relief when necessary.

Deacon Anthony Cassaneto will be preaching at our Masses today on behalf of this Mission Appeal which will be our second collection next weekend. Thank you for your generous help to

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.



SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2017

5:00PM Zottola & Marino Families

SUNDAY APRIL 30, 2017

7:30AM Merinda Fusco

9:00AM Flora Pisano

10:30AM Francesca Giaquinto

12:15PM Irma Orrico

1:30PM Parishioners of St. Theresa

5:00PM Sr. Grace Sabatello, Mary Sabatello & Frances Ackery

MONDAY MAY 1, 2017

8:00AM Dominico, Maria & Clino DiRusso & Family

9:00AM Michael Russo

TUESDAY MAY 2, 2017

8:00AM Frank Porco

9:00AM Francesco & Angela Squiterri

WEDNESDAY MAY 3, 2017

8:00AM Msgr. Don Giuseppe Calderone

9:00AM Alberto Morante

THURSDAY MAY 4, 2017

8:00AM Dominique Lopresti

9:00AM Francesco Zaccaro

12:00PM Holy Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY MAY 5, 2017

8:00AM Martina Giambrone

9:00AM Frank Conte

SATURDAY MAY 6, 2017

8:00AM Ashley Martinez

9:00AM Maria Russo

5:00PM Evelyn DiStefano

SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017

7:30AM Madeline Benza

9:00AM Anella Giuliano & Laura Zaro

10:30AM Joseph Louis Poidomani

12:15PM Marie Gaetano

1:30PM George Ortiz

5:00PM Maria Perricone

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH:

Phyllis Amitrano, Maryann Cale Bannan, Linda Barbaro, Ralph Barbaro, Nancy Cardone, Elaine Reiss Cina, Joseph Cina, Phyllis Caruso, Peter Corbo, Marie DiPolo, Daley Gribbon, Sean Howell, William Keenan, Sal Lanza, Frank Maiorana, Maryann Maiorana, Diane Martino, Joe Martino, Theresa Martino, Tina Maskara, Jeannete Montalbano, Isabelle O'Brien, Joan Ricci, Marie Russillo, Mario Simeone, Toni Spahr, Bina Trerotola, Florence Valentine, Nicholas Vasti, Irene Vesely.



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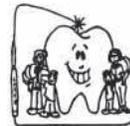
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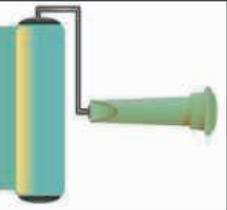


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