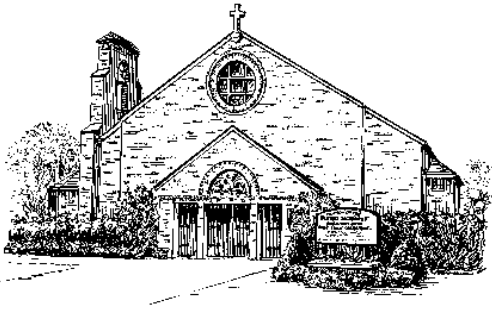


# BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Staten Island, New York



**Reverend Monsignor Peter G. Finn, Pastor**  
**Reverend Francisco Lanzaderas**  
**Reverend Albin Roby**  
**Reverend Monsignor Francis V. Boyle, Pastor Emeritus**

## **MASSES:**

Saturday in the Church: 5:00 PM (Vigil), Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM.  
Weekdays in the Church: 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Saturday in the Church: 9:00 AM.  
Holy Days in the Church: 7:00 PM (Vigil), 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 12:00 to 1:00 PM; 4:15 to 5:00 PM.  
Anytime upon reasonable request.

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Sunday at 2:00 PM. (Except during July & August, then only on the First and Third Sunday and other specified days)  
Arrangements should be made at least one month in advance with the priest of the Parish. Parents of a first child and parents who are new to Blessed Sacrament must attend a Baptism Instruction Class which is held the second Wednesday evening of every month (except July and August) at 7:30 P.M. in the Parish House Meeting Room. Godparents should be Practicing Catholics, and must obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their Parish.

## **SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

Arrangements should be made about six months in advance, with a priest of the Parish. Couples must attend Pre-Cana Conferences.

**SICK CALLS** - At any time.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA** - Every Monday after the 9:00 AM Mass.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** - First Friday from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P.M.

**NEW PARISHIONERS** - Welcome to our Parish.

We invite all parishioners to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. If you are new in the parish, please introduce yourself after Mass and register at the Parish House Office weekdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Kindly notify us if you change your address.

### **PARISH HOUSE**

30 Manor Road  
442-1581

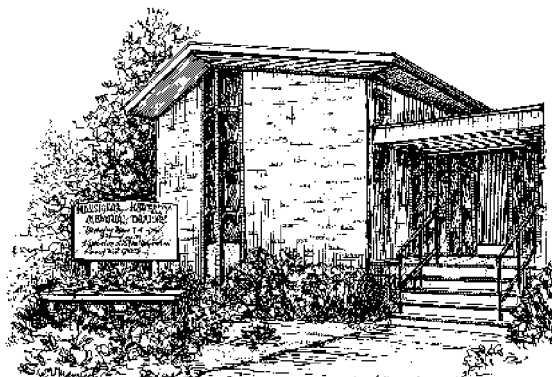
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

### **SCHOOL**

Mr. Joseph Cocozello  
Principal  
830 Delafield Avenue  
442-3090

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Sister Anne Dolores Van Wagenen, C.S.J.B. - D.R.E.  
830 Delafield Avenue  
448-0378



# CCD NEWS

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Our Faith Formation Program will begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. for all 8<sup>th</sup> Graders receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. All other classes will begin on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> as follows: Grades 1-5 from 2:00 to 3:30 P.M.; Grades 6 & 7 from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.

We are looking for high school students in need of Christian service to act as aides during our afternoon and evening sessions. If interested please call Sister Anne Dolores at the Faith Formation Office at 718-448-0378. Thank you.

**WE HAVE A WINNER...Congratulations** to Mr. Michael Aponte who won \$780.00 in our July 50/50 Raffle Drawing.

Why not take an extra raffle this month and double your chances of winning?

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>\$6012.00 (Weekly)</b>	<b>\$6122.00 (Weekly)</b>
<b>\$1129.00</b>	<b>&lt; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection &gt; \$1694.00</b>

## ATTENDANCE

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>690 (Adults)</b>	<b>794 (Adults)</b>
<b>134 (Children)</b>	<b>165 (Children)</b>
<b>824</b>	<b>959</b>

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP  
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL  
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
TERESA & JOSEPH DICKS**

## **PRAY FOR THE SICK**

The sick are comforted just knowing that you pray for them. In your charity please remember: Margaret Pittman-Boyle, Douglas Pflieger, Jr., Phyllis Ribaldo, Ann Socci, James Burghardt, Concetta Chicolo, Kelly Ward, Amelia DiMauro, Mary Kenny, Kathryn Haring, Jean Carter, Stephanie Barry, Jane Redmond, Carolyn DeStefano, Robert Tursi, Deirdre Westergren, Nicholas Toto, Marykate Rose, Peggy Travers, Mary Anne Blaine, Jean Cunningham, Jean Elmadary, Alan March, Sebastian Lattuga, Grayce Novaro, Angela Siuzdak, Helen Ramsey, Katherine Barbera, Phyllis Scharfenberg, Phyllis Giambruno, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Patricia Connelly, Hugh Kiernan, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Elaine Lydersen, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Susannah Yates, Carol Stoltzfus, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Grace Leddy, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, Felicidad Tobias, Jose Ruiz, Casta Miskowitz, Rosemary Callahan, Elizabeth Coyne, Danielle Ziegler, Brandon Toro, Bruce McKee, Kathy Ward, Mary Ann Carrente, Catherine Vitale and Robert Hammerton.

## **SYMPATHY**

Remember the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

### **MONDAY**

7:00 Patrick Maita  
9:00 Marguerite Gartrell

### **TUESDAY**

7:00 Alexander Li  
9:00 Carbo Family

### **WEDNESDAY**

7:00 Lucia Caccavo  
9:00 Jane Forlenza

### **THURSDAY**

7:00 Robert Silvestro  
9:00 Brett Greeley

### **FRIDAY**

7:00 Special Intention to the Blessed Virgin Mary  
9:00 Rose LoBello

### **SATURDAY**

9:00 Michael Salaycik  
5:00 Heap Family

### **SUNDAY**

8:00 John Ciano  
9:30 Gloria DeJesus  
12:30 Genevieve Thompson

**SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 16, 2015**

<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>		
5:00 PM Vigil	Team	9
8:00 AM	Team	10
9:30 AM	Team	6
11:00 AM	Team	7
12:30 PM	Team	8

<u>LECTORS</u>
L. Lagmay
C. Burns
K. Hanley
M. Conigatti
K. Kelley

<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
J. Wright & C. Rooney
D. Vigliotti & P. Manley
K. Byrne & A. Morrell
M. Peralta & M. Conigatti
A. Talaid & H. Wodzinski

**A SOLEMN EVE OF REMEMBRANCE**

Sponsored by the University of Notre Dame  
Alumni Club of Staten Island.

Thursday, September 10, 2015

St. Peter's Church

53 St. Mark's Place

Sacred Music begins at 7:00 P.M.

Concelebrated Holy Mass begins at 7:30 P.M.

Reading of the names of Staten Islanders

Lost on 9/11

Candlelight Procession and Benediction

You are invited to join us for the

**FOURTEENTH ANNIVERSARY**

**SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE**

of the

**EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

**PARISH NURSE PROGRAM**

The Parish Nurse's office hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. If you wish to make an appointment with the Parish Nurse, Peggy Smith, please call her at 718-447-9657.

**FAMILY CATECHESIS: WHY AND HOW**

Saturday, September 12, 2015

St. Francis de Sales

135 East 96<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC

Registration Fee \$20

9:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. – *Rediscovering the Sacredness of Family Life*

12:00 P.M. – Lunch

1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. – *Partnering with Parents – Living in the In-Between of What is and What Should Be*

Presented by Dr. Jo Ann Paradise. For further information and registration please visit [www.nyfaithformation.org/events/family-catechesis-why-and-how](http://www.nyfaithformation.org/events/family-catechesis-why-and-how)

**FROM THE PASTOR****BRUCE JENNER AND GNOSTICISM**

I am sure the title of the column will probably intrigue you as it did me. We are all aware of Bruce Jenner, but what is Gnosticism and how does it relate to Bruce Jenner?

We begin by reminding ourselves that the author of that outstanding presentation on "Catholicism" which we were privileged to have several years ago during Lent and Easter time was the work of Fr. Robert Barron, founder of *Word on Fire Catholic Ministries* and now Rector of Mundelein Seminary and a major contributor to Catholic thought in the United States.

Fr. Barron continues insightful teaching of the Faith and in a recent Guest column in Our Sunday Visitor reminds us that 'For the people of faith, the body can never be construed as a prison for the soul or an object for the soul's manipulation rather they work together'.

Fr. Barron writes.....

*Two news items from last week put me in mind of St. Irenaeus and the battle he waged, 19 centuries ago, against the Gnostic heresy. The first was the emergence of Bruce Jenner as a "woman" named Caitlyn, and the second was a "shadow council" that took place in Rome and apparently called for the victory of a theology of love over Pope St. John Paul II's theology of the body.*

*I realize this requires a bit of unpacking. Let me begin with Irenaeus. Toward the end of the second century, Irenaeus, the bishop of Lyons, wrote a text called *Adversus Haereses* ("Against the Heresies"), and the principle heresy that he identified therein was Gnosticism. Gnosticism was, and is, a multi-headed beast; but one of its major tenets is that matter is a fallen, inferior form of being, produced by a low-level deity. The soul is trapped in matter, and the whole point of the spiritual life is to acquire the gnosis (knowledge) requisite to facilitate an escape of the soul from the body.*

*On the Gnostic interpretation, the Yahweh of the Old Testament, who foolishly pronounced the material world good, is none other than the compromised god described in Gnostic cosmology, and Jesus is the prophet who came with the saving knowledge of how to rise above the material realm. What Irenaeus intuited – and his intuition represented one of the decisive moments in the history of the Church—is that this point of view is directly repugnant to biblical Christianity, which insists emphatically upon the goodness of matter. Scan through Irenaeus’ voluminous writings and you will find the word “body” over and over again. Creation, Incarnation, Resurrection, the theology of the Church, sacraments, redemption, the Eucharist, etc., all involve, he argued, bodiliness, materiality. For Irenaeus, redemption is decidedly not tantamount to the escape of the soul from the body; rather, it is the salvation and perfection of the body.*

*Now you might think that this is all a bit of ancient intellectual history, but think again. As I hinted above, the Gnostic heresy has proven remarkably durable, reasserting itself across the centuries. Its most distinctive mark is precisely the denigration of matter and the tendency to set the spirit and the body in an antagonistic relationship.*

*This is why many thinkers have identified the anthropology of Rene Descartes, which has radically influenced modern and contemporary attitudes, as neognostic. Descartes famously drove a wedge between spirit and matter, or in his language, between the *res cogitans* (“thinking thing”) and the *res extensa* (“thing extended in space”). In line with Gnostic intuitions, Descartes felt that the former belongs to a higher and more privileged dimension and that the latter is legitimately the object of manipulation and reorganization. Hence he says that the purpose of philosophy and science is to “master” nature rather than to contemplate it. One would have to be blind not to notice how massively impactful that observation has proven to be. Echoes of Descartes’s dualism can be heard in the writings of Kant, Hegel and many of the master philosophers of modernity, and they can be discerned, as well, in the speech and attitudes of millions of ordinary people today.*

*All of which brings me back to Bruce Jenner and to the “shadow council” in Rome. In justifying the transformation that he has undergone, Jenner consistently says something along these lines: “Deep down, I always knew that I was a woman, but I felt trapped in the body of a man. Therefore, I have the right to change my body to bring it in line with my true identity.”*

*Notice how the mind or the will—the inner self – is casually identified as the “real me” whereas the body is presented as an antagonist which can and should be manipulated by the authentic self. The soul and the body are in a master/slave relationship, the former legitimately dominating and remaking the latter. This schema is, to a T, Gnostic—and just as repugnant to biblical religion as it was 1,900 years ago.*

*For biblical people, the body can never be construed as a prison for the soul, nor as an object for the soul’s manipulation. Moreover, the mind or will is not the “true self” standing over and against the body; rather, the body, with its distinctive form, intelligibility and finality, is an essential constituent of the true self.*

*Until we realize that the lionization of Caitlyn Jenner amounts to an embracing of Gnosticism, we haven’t grasped the nettle of the issue.*

*And just a word about what took place in Rome last week. I want to be careful here, for I’m relying on a few reports concerning what was intended to be a private gathering of Church leaders and intellectuals. I certainly want to give all of the participants the benefit of the doubt, and I remain sincerely eager to hear their own accounting of what was discussed. But what particularly bothered me—in fact, it caused every single anti-gnostic sensor in me to vibrate – was the claim that the secret council was calling for a “theology of love” that would supplant the theology of the body proposed by John Paul II. For biblical people, human love is never a disembodied reality. Furthermore, love - which is an act of the will - does not hover above the body, but rather expresses itself through the body and according to the intelligibility of the body. To set the two in opposition or to maintain that an inner act is somehow more important or comprehensive than the body is to walk the gnostic road - which is just as dangerous a path as it was in the time of St. Irenaeus.*

GOD BLESS YOU,  
MSGR. FINN