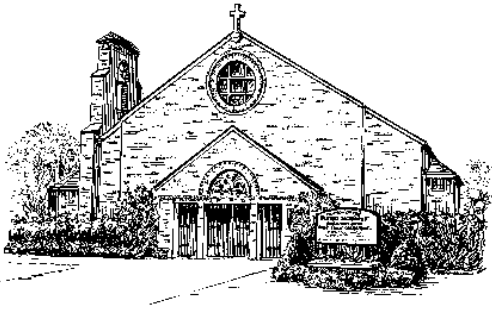


BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

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

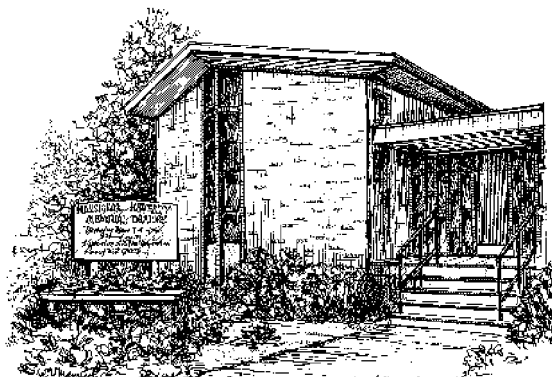
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

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



THE NEW COVENANT

When the prophet Jeremiah coined the term “new covenant” he was actually doing something quite radical. For the Jewish people, there was only one covenant, the one made between the Lord God and Israel through Moses at Mount Sinai. For Jeremiah to suggest that God would somehow supersede the covenant with a new one would have sounded audacious to Jewish ears. But in this way he is a predecessor of Jesus who, in the Gospel of John, is continually portrayed as superseding the past, establishing the reign of God in a new way. And in today’s Gospel passage, Jesus the “new covenant” speaks the language of his “new commandment” of love when he tells of the dying grain of wheat, and of our need to die to self in order to be raised with Christ. As Lent ends and we prepare to enter into Holy Week, the dying grain of wheat serves as an excellent symbol of the kind of dying and self – sacrifice to which disciples are called, a symbol of that new covenant written deep within our hearts.
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The Living Stations of the Cross will be presented on Friday, March 27th and Good Friday, April 3rd at 7:30 P.M. in the Church.

The New York Bible Summit 2015
Saturday, June 20, 2015
New York Catholic Center
350 east 56th Street, NYC

Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Catechetical Office
And American Bible Society.

Keynote Speaker: Fr. Michael Francis Kolarcik, S.J.
 Registration begins on April 1, 2015
 For further information and to register please visit www.nyfaithformation.org or call 646-794-2692.

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u>	
<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$6388.00 (Weekly)	\$7783.00 (Weekly)
\$1174.00 <Catholic Relief Fund>	\$2223.00
\$2222.00 <Debt Reduction>	
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	
<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
857 (Adults)	945 (Adults)
170 (Children)	290 (Children)
1027	1235

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, Lisa Barlow, Mary Kenny, Kathryn Haring, Jean Carter, Stephanie Barry, Jane Redmond, Carolyn DeStefano, Robert Tursi, Deirdre Westergren, Nicholas Toto, Marykate Rose, Carlo Fumando, Peggy Travers, Mary Anne Blaine, Jean Cunningham, Jean Elmady, Jameson Riley David, Alan March, Sebastian Lattuga, Grayce Novaro, Angela Siuzdak, Helen Ramsey, Katherine Barbera, Phyllis Scharfenberg, Phyllis Giambruno, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Michael Caruso, Patricia Connelly, Eugene Esposito, Hugh Kiernan, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Elaine Lydersen, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Susannah Yates, Carol Stoltzfus, Harvey Minars, , Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Grace Leddy, Margaret King, Joseph D’Amico, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, Felicidad Tobias, Jose Ruiz, Casta Miskowitz and Robert Hammerton

SYMPATHY

Remember the soul of Phyliss Rotunno and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 John T. Shields
 9:00 Mark Szabo
 7:00 Josephine Carozzi

TUESDAY

7:00 Josephine Carozzi
 9:00 Dionisia Calamba
 7:00 Jerry Botta

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Virginia & Frank Bonventre
 9:00 Deceased Members of the Bogziewicz Family
 7:00 Leo Esposito

THURSDAY

7:00 Anthony Stoffo
 9:00 Donald Tarasovis
 7:00 Victor W. Siuzdak

FRIDAY

7:00 Thomas McGinley
 9:00 Cecelia Baeszler
 7:00 In Thanksgiving

SATURDAY

9:00 LeRoy Family
 5:00 Rita Styles

SUNDAY

8:00 Emily Marie McGinley
 9:30 Victoria Magliocca
 12:30 Robert Braisted

SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 29, 2015

	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>		<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
5:00 PM Vigil	Team	9	Sr. Anne Dolores & R. Helbock	R. Gallop & A. Talaid
8:00 AM	Team	10	J. Hansen & C. Burns	S. Coscia & E. Hodgens
9:30 AM	Team	6	D. Maj & L. Lagmay	B. Collorec & A. Morrell
11:00 AM	Team	7	K. Kelley & C. Tobias	M. McKeever & P. Thomann
12:30 PM	Team	8	C. Wodzinski & J. Pace	K. Byrne & E. Laub

Way of the Cross Over the Brooklyn Bridge- On Good Friday, April 3, 2015, Communion and Liberation will sponsor the Way of the Cross over the Brooklyn Bridge. Participants will congregate for the first station at St. James Cathedral, Brooklyn at 10:00 A.M. After a station on the Brooklyn Bridge, the procession will follow the cross to a third station at City Hall Park in Manhattan, and a fourth station near Ground Zero. The final station will be at St. Peter's Church, on Barclay Street, concluding at 1:30 P.M. At each station, there will be readings from the passion, a meditation, a reflection and hymns. All are invited. For more information please call Communion and Liberation at 212-337-3580 or visit www.wocbrooklynbridge.org.

GOLDEN WEDDING MASS CELEBRATION will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2015 and Sunday, June 21, 2015 at 2:00 P.M. at St. Patrick's Cathedral for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage during 2015. His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan will be the principal celebrant. Pre-registration is required. Please contact the Parish House Office at 718-442-1581 by Monday, May 18, 2015

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.

The Titan League Breakfast Club will meet on Thursday, March 26th at 10:00 A.M. at the Dakota Diner (Richmond & Forest Avenues.)

Automated Giving – Blessed Sacrament Parish has an automated giving program called ParishPay. It is a check-free, no-cost, convenient way for you to participate in stewardship and donate to special collections. For more information or to enroll, please visit www.parishpay.com or call the parish office at 718-442-1581.

FROM THE PASTOR

Our Lenten Journey this week is reminding us that many men and women participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is nearing its final preparations for the Rite of Initiation at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, April 4, 2015.

Simultaneously, this very Sunday, the young men and women in our 7th grade in both Blessed Sacrament Elementary School and our Faith Formation Program will participate in the Rite of Election at the 9:30 A.M. Mass on their journey of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, October 10, 2015.

The period of preparation for both of these aspiring young and mature Catholics during Lent is a reminder and an inspiration for all of us who are graced with the gift of Faith and Baptism into the Catholic Family, the Christian Family of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Called by our Baptism and commitment to belief in God the Father Almighty and His Only Son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...His Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins...we are also aware of our call to be witnesses to that Faith by word, deed and action so modern day Apostles, Disciples in deed Evangelists to our brothers and sisters all around us.

The following account of "***Accidentally Finding God and Happiness***" is the story of an atheist father ironically precipitating a daughter's conversion.

Jennifer Fulwiler grew up following her father's atheist belief system. Though she was unnerved by the idea that she and all her loved ones would simply cease to exist someday, she came to the conclusion that the only way to deal with the prospect of death was to distract yourself with as many laughs and good times as possible. And that's exactly how she lived for many years.

Fulwiler found a good job, got married to a successful man, drove a Jaguar, and lived in a great condo in Austin, Texas. Despite all this material comfort, she felt haunted by spiritual emptiness, a feeling that life was ultimately meaningless.

In light of her husband Joe's nominal Christian faith, Fulwiler started investigating Christianity, a religion she had rejected a long time ago. This time, she did it with an open mind. Ironically, she credits her atheist father with giving her the foundation for her eventual conversion to Catholicism.

During an interview on "Christopher Closeup" about her memoir "Something Other Than God: How I Passionately Sought Happiness and Accidentally Found It," Fulwiler said, "He was one of my biggest influences in converting to Catholicism, because of his humility and selfless love. Also, what he always taught me was to seek truth above all. Even if it's inconvenient, even if you don't like the conclusions you come to, you have to always be focused on what is true."

Finding the truth in Christianity in general—and Catholicism in particular—took a lot of mental and spiritual effort for Fulwiler, who always thought you need to check your brain at the door in order to believe in God. And though her husband Joe didn't believe that, his own biases showed when he said things like, "Catholicism is a corrupt belief system that is not true Christianity."

Once again, the couple's rigorous investigation into the teachings of the faith, as opposed to what nonbelievers said about it, brought them to a different conclusion. Fulwiler said, "Joe went to Yale undergrad, Columbia Law School, Stanford Business School, studied in the Master's Computer Science Program at Stanford. So for somebody like me, who was really afraid of this idea of checking my brain at the door, (it was vital) having my husband agreeing with me, saying, 'This is the most intellectually honest belief system in the world. This moral code is perfectly consistent. This Church is full of wisdom.'"

Converting didn't just affect the Fulwilers' beliefs, but their actions and their lifestyle as well. Before becoming Catholic, noted Jennifer, she followed the values of the society in which she lived; make as much money as you can, love comfortably, don't make too many sacrifices, and don't have too many children.

Since Jennifer and Joe are now the parents of six children, they obviously moved beyond their old ways. She concludes, "When we first made all these changes and we left the fancy lifestyle, we suddenly had all of these problems and crosses that we didn't have before...And to this day, we struggle so much more than we did when we were living our worldly, secular lives. And yet, our lives are bursting with life and with love and with joy...So I think it's definitely a scary proposition to nonbelievers, when I say, 'My life is 10 times harder now than it was when I was an atheist.' And I think it is sometimes hard for them to believe the truth: that it might be 10 times harder, but it is infinitely more joyful."

Jennifer and Joe give us real "food for thought" as we pray, fast, abstain and serve our brothers and sisters through almsgiving this Lent. For, above and beyond all we are using these tools to assist in our witness to the Gospel as Faithful 2015 Evangelists.

GOD BLESS YOU,
MSGR. FINN