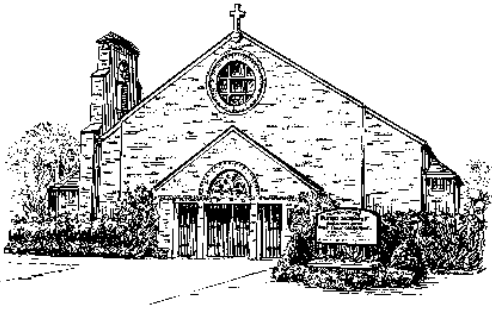


BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

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

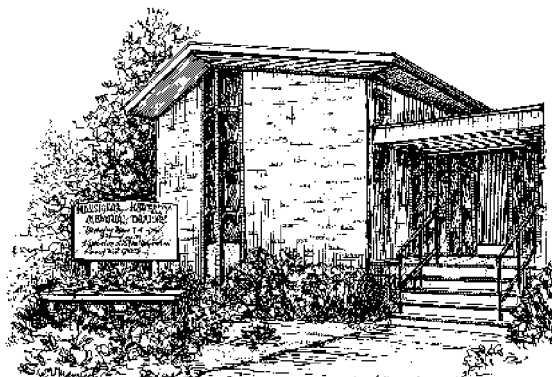
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

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



SAVORING THE EXPERIENCE

One of the wonderful things about vacations is the time we spend two or three weeks afterward savoring the experience, sharing vacation photos and memories with our family and friends. This kind of reflection puts us back in touch with the original experience and reminds us of the relaxation and wonder the vacation afforded us. Today, on the Third Sunday of Easter, the Church blesses us with reminders of what we celebrated two Sundays ago. All three readings are reflections on the meaning of the death and resurrection of Christ. One of the threads running through these reflections is that the purpose of the Lord's suffering, death and resurrection was to save us, to forgive our sins. We are given fifty days to ponder this reality—fifty days to savor the experience of Christ's dying and rising for us.

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**Mass for God's Special People
Sunday, April 26, 2015**

11:00 A.M. – Blessed Sacrament Church

This Mass is sponsored by Blessed Sacrament's Ministry for Inclusion and anyone with special needs, their family and friends are invited to attend. Light refreshments will follow Mass in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u>	
<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
\$6423.00 (Weekly)	\$10,366.00 (Weekly)
\$2972.00 <Monthly>	\$ 3855.00
 <u>ATTENDANCE</u>	
<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
799 (Adults)	1259 (Adults)
<u>192</u> (Children)	<u>307</u> (Children)
991	1566

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JOHN NAPPI (7TH ANNIV)**

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 Elmadary, 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, 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, Rosemary Callahan, Elizabeth Coyne, Lucy D'Angelo and Robert Hammerton

SYMPATHY

Remember the souls of Lorraine Beagen, Josephine Jordan and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 Ruth Flanagan

9:00 Ruth Flanagan

TUESDAY

7:00 Kathleen Denio

9:00 Jerome Uy

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Florence Bencivena

9:00 Anthony T. Lenza (6th Anniv)

THURSDAY

7:00 Eugene Esposito

9:00 Kathleen Spillane

FRIDAY

7:00 Lorraine Beagen

9:00 Eugene Sanborn

SATURDAY

9:00 First Eucharist

5:00 Margaret Lutfey

SUNDAY

8:00 Emily Marie McQuade

9:30 Josephine & Joseph Cavallo

12:30 Joseph Anthony Sutera & Angie Salerno

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 26, 2015

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

<u>LECTORS</u>
A. Lutfey
F. Molanphy
R. Salaycik
J. Pace
C. Wodzinski

<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
A. Aponte & M. McKeever
S. Coscia & E. Hodgins
B. Collorec & P. Thomann
J. & M. Spach
M. Conigatti & K. Byrne

DINE OUT AGAINST HUNGER
Sponsored by Project Hospitality
Thursday, April 23, 2015

Dine out to help out! Dine out with your family, friends and co-workers! Over 125 Staten Island restaurants will donate 20% of your food bill to Project Hospitality. Proceeds will help support our soup kitchen and food pantry programs. For a list of participating restaurants please visit: www.dineoutstatenisland.com

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 Senior Group will meet on Monday, April 20th at 1:15 P.M. in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will meet on Wednesday, April 22nd at 10 A.M. in the Parish House Meeting Room.

St. Joseph the Worker Concert on Saturday, May 2nd at 7:00 P.M. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church (5411 Amboy Road). Tickets are \$25/person. All proceeds to benefit the immigrant work of St. Mary's of the Assumption Church/The Ladies of St. Mary's and ElCentro del Immigrante. The evening will feature Daniel Rodriguez and Marla Kavanaugh. For reservations and further information please call 718-442-3137.

Marian Conference - Everyone is invited to join in a tribute to Our Lady's Motherhood on Saturday, May 9th at St. Joachim/St. Ann's Church (On the grounds of Mt. Loretto). The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be present. The Conference will begin at 9:00 A.M. with the Rosary, Guest Speakers, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Vigil Mass and Procession, with special fun events for school age children and teens. Adults-\$45 - Children Free! For reservations please call 646-662-3914.

Dear Msgr. Finn:

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that two of our new 2015 Venerable Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Award recipients are from your Parish: Julio Ruiz-Gomez and Vincent Wiedemann. They were selected from amongst a pool of very talented and gifted students from throughout the Archdiocese of New York. We will now have three students in our program from Blessed Sacrament Church; including our current scholar Mackenzie DeRosa.

Students selected into the Venerable Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Program are chosen based on their strong academic record, their active participation within their parish and school communities, and their demonstration of good character and sound leadership ability. Scholarship awards are renewable, for up to 3 consecutive years, based upon their meeting certain academic and service requirements. Additionally, all of our scholars receive mentorship and advisement: spiritually, professionally and personally.

We are excited to welcome Julio and Vincent into our 'PT Scholars' family, and we thank you for your continued support in referring such strong and worthy candidates to our program.

Sincerely,
Leah T. Dixon
Pierre Toussaint Scholars Program
Coordinator & Advisor

FROM THE PASTOR

While mourning the seemingly increased number of suicides or attempted suicides reported at locations such as the Verrazano and other Bridges in the metropolitan area to name a few, coupled with the sense of sadness and loss every tragic loss of life entails, I came upon an article by a Pastor in Milwaukee entitled "The Great Puzzle". Fr. Mike Barrett describes how "Suicide tragically interrupts life before all the pieces are in place." The article counsels all who confront or are confronted by the tragedy of suicide.

The Great Puzzle

Growing up with seven siblings, I was frustrated when my mom's rainy-day solution to our restlessness was pulling out the board games. They were more like "bored" games to me. Monopoly and jigsaw puzzles had two things in common: I could never win at either, and my level of interest waned quickly. At Monopoly, I sat next to the banker, hoping he or she couldn't count. At puzzles, I lacked an eagle's eye to spot the missing piece. When the game time turned into a free-for-all and boards and puzzles got flipped over in the chaos, my mother ordered us to put away all part and pieces in their proper order and place. The unfinished puzzles meant we only saw the general picture, and seldom the beautiful landscape taking shape bit by bit, piece by piece.

Suicide has been described as an ultimate act of aggression. It is beyond us to grasp what exactly just took place when loved ones end their own lives. It can be the result of something as obvious as the humiliation of a public arrest, or family problems, or a deep depression, out of which the victim sees no other exit. Some families, with the help of a competent therapist, have begun performing a "psychological autopsy" that allows survivors to reflect about the words and actions of the deceased in an effort to get at the why of the "what just happened"?

In The Savage God: A Study of Suicide (Norton Paperback, New York, 1990), author A. Alvarez hints that there is an uncanny bloodline link between people who commit suicide. Family members mimic earlier deaths as they plan their own. Studies show that a long lost relative's mysterious or untimely death may have set the course for other suicides within the same family. Therapy can help potential victims piece together the meaning of their lives (and deaths) and thus enable them to chart a healthier course.

"Death Cafes" have provided opportunities for people to increase their awareness of how short life is and how to get the most out of it. In this casual forum, people can speak about the unspeakable, the uncomfortable, and the inevitable—death and dying. By lifting the taboo, participants allow one another to share fears and ideas, which can lead to healing and insight. As the concept gains acceptance, these gatherings could facilitate suicide prevention.

Those doing pastoral ministry with people affected by suicide find that a state of shock is typical for everyone involved. A minister of care is helping guide a family through a storm they have never faced before. The temptation is strong to smooth the grief with happy celebrations filled with reminiscences. Talk of heroics and glory is a common defense at funeral homes or churches when young people lose a peer. Grief is unfamiliar for them. Most importantly, all mourners struggle to find meaning in their loss. The pastoral minister serves as an anchor for a ship full of people often lost in a sea of emotion.

When the right moment arises, it is important to remind mourners that God grieves, too. The divine prerogative has been thwarted in this death. The victim has snatched and overturned life, the board, the puzzle and, we might say, even Providence itself. As death claims a brother or sister, we must reassert the promise of a new heaven and a new earth envisioned in the Book of Revelation. Our God holds the absolute outcome, and our God is always the God of the living. God says from the throne, "I am the Alpha and the Omega." While this moment is a sad ending for the family and friends, we believe in a God who has power over death.

Like tiny Monopoly icons, my 95-year-old mother and I amble through the hallways of her assisted living facility. We offer a friendly glance toward the residents as we approach what is commonly known as the "day room." There are normally four such areas on each floor, one at each corner of the unity. In every one of them, and on every floor, there are large tables with unfinished puzzles spread out. Each puzzle is a work in progress. Some have been there for months, still unfinished. They beckon and remind the residents to take a chance, help build the landscape, fit their piece into the picture, do their part to create something beautiful. The reward for their efforts is a sense of community and purpose. We all contribute to the meaning of life, so never give up.

The Lutheran Home knows well what I had yet to learn as a youngster when I scuttled those time-absorbing board games. Life is a puzzle. Life takes time. God holds the most important pieces, and, in the end, is the One who completes the picture and makes wholeness possible.

GOD, AUTHOR OF ALL LIFE, PRAY FOR US
MSGR. FINN