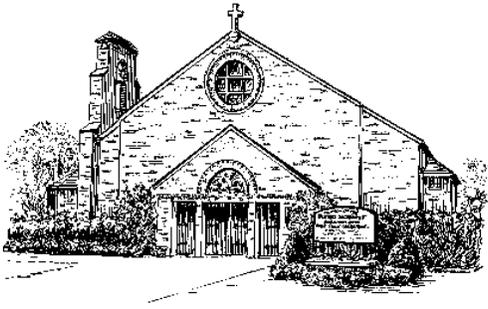


BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

May 8, 2016

Staten Island, New York 10310



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 Tuesday 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

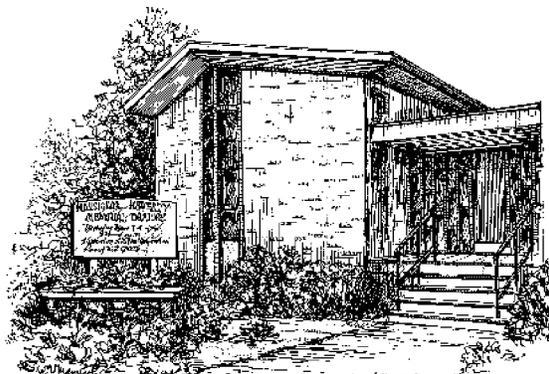
<http://www.blessedsacramentchurchsi.org>

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





*There is but one and only one,
Whose love will fail you never.
One who lives from sun to sun,
With constant fond endeavor.
There is but one and only one.
On earth there is no other.
In heaven a noble work was done,
When God gave us a Mother."*

~ Old Irish Verse

Mother's Day Novena Masses will be offered throughout the month of May. Mother's Day Novena Cards are available at the entrances to Church. This Novena is a truly spiritual way of remembering our loved ones and friends at the Altar of the Lord.

SAVE THE DATE

Blessed Sacrament Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, June 2nd.

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
\$6,715 (Weekly)	\$6,430 (Weekly)
\$1,772 <Central & Eastern Europe>	\$1,374
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	
<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
783 (Adults)	771 (Adults)
176 (Children)	151 (Children)
959	922

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP
KEEPS ITS SILENT VIGIL
BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MICHAEL LUZZO**

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 Ribaud, Ann Socci, James Burghardt, Concetta Chicolo, Kelly Ward, Amelia DiMauro, Mary Kenny, Kathryn Haring, Jean Carter, 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, Margaret Romani, Br. William Herbst, Barbara Brown, Michael Caruso, Patricia Connelly, Mary Belli, Mark Volpe, Elaine Lydersen, Linda Hansen, Dean Robert Ziegler, Danielle Ziegler, Susannah Yates, Marco Antonio Gonzalez, Grace Leddy, Joseph D'Amico, Larry Taylor, Jr., Kathy Quinlan, Katie Hanley, Felicidad Tobias, Jose Ruiz, Casta Miskowitz, Rosemary Callahan, Elizabeth Coyne, Lucy D'Angelo, Robert Hammerton, Catherine Vitale, Capala Lusi, Jack McGarry, Robert McQuade, Amy Mezzacappa, Mary Ruggiero, Amparo Isaza, Brian Nelson, Joan Callahan, Julia Micol, Molly Cafaro, Bob Miuccio, and Maryann & Danny Brown.

SYMPATHY

Remember the soul of John Joseph Greany and the souls for whom Mass will be offered during the week, especially:

MONDAY

7:00 John & Julie O'Rourke (Living)
9:00 Kenneth Finnerty

TUESDAY

7:00 Christine Conney
9:00 William Yates

WEDNESDAY

7:00 Michael P. DeMato
9:00 Nora Bullen

THURSDAY

7:00 Bill Kolakowski
9:00 Patricia Smith

FRIDAY

7:00 Gerard Durr (Living)
9:00 Marie Summa

SATURDAY

9:00 Anna LaLima
5:00 Dionisia Calamba

SUNDAY

8:00 Mary McNamara
9:30 Michael Luzzo
12:30 Rose LoBello

SCHEDULE FOR MAY 15, 2016

<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>		
5:00 PM Vigil	Team	3
8:00 AM	Team	4
9:30 AM	Team	5
11:00 AM	Team	1
12:30 PM	Team	2

<u>LECTORS</u>
L. LAGMAY
E. TRENALANGE
P. PERIES
M. CONIGATTI
M. BOYD

<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>
A. MORRELL & E. LAUB
B. BOYD & B. COLLOREC
P. THOMANN & E. HODGENS
E. CHECKETT & G. CHECKETT
J. SPACH & M. SPACH

**TRAVELING? MAKING SUMMER VACATION PLANS?**

If you'll be away from home during the summertime please notify the Parish Office providing us with your leave and return dates so we can adjust our mailings for the summer months. Six to eight weeks advanced notice is needed to place a Temporary Hold or forward on your Offertory envelopes.

Another option is online giving with ParishPay. You can contribute from wherever you are—you can easily set up payments in advance. When you give online, it helps us make our budget, even when attendance is a bit lower in the summer months. Visit blessedsacramentchurchsi.org for the ParishPay link to sign-up at anytime.

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.

ST. CLARE'S EMPLOYMENT GROUP

May 19 at 7:30p.m in the Presentation Center, 169 Lindenwood Road. **Topic:** "State University of NY Alternative Programs for Adults" – SUNY Attain Computer Lab with Microsoft Certification, and the Empire State College Degree Granting Programs
Presenters: Valerie Falk, Instructor, SUNY Attain Lab Arthur Merlino, Retired Manager, NYS Dept. of Labor and Kendall Spiller, Staten Island Workforce1 Career Center. **Questions:** Please call rectory 718-984-7873

MSGR. FARRELL SUMMER CAMPS

Register now for a summer of fun and learning at Msgr. Farrell High School. Camps are for grades 5 and up and include: Basketball, Football, Lacrosse, Wrestling, Weight Training, Soccer, Art, Computer Animation, Science, Robotics and Theatre. TACHS preparation classes available before camp begins each day. Standard camp times are 9:30am to 1:30pm with a few exceptions. Please check website: msgrfarrellhs.org for specific dates and times or call 718-987-2900.

SENIOR SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Meeting on Wed., May 11th at 10:00am in the Nurse's Office.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

8:00am Mass next Sunday, May 15th with meeting to follow in the Parish Center Meeting Room.

FROM THE PASTOR

Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary as an example of "womanhood, virtue, goodness and example" are simple metaphors for the Mother of God a model of faith, hope and love for all women and men alike.

Among the outstanding women of our age, of which there are countless examples, are women who dedicate their entire lives to serving god's people in poverty, chastity and obedience. For centuries, among so many dedicated congregations have been the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Amazing and unbelievable is the current controversy over the HHS Contraceptive Mandate currently under consideration by the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

The following is an excerpt by Sister Constance Veit, L.S. P., Guest Columnist in The Tablet entitled:

Why Little Sisters Can't
'Just Sign The Form'

A few weeks ago, I received a New Year's card that read, "This will be the best year yet." We Little Sisters of the Poor are fervently praying that 2016 will be remembered as the year we were able to return to our quiet lives at the service of the elderly after a happy resolution to our long legal struggle over the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Contraceptive Mandate.

Although we had never before involved ourselves in politics, in March of 2012 we felt compelled to publicly voice our opposition to the HHS' Contraception Mandate. Since then our convictions, based on Catholic teaching, have taken us from the District Court of Colorado to the

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U.S. Tenth Circuit Court, and finally the U. S. Supreme Court, where our case will be heard in oral argument this March.

Along the way, we have received hundreds of very supportive notes, along with more than a few negative comments, including the following, often voiced with a note of disdain: "Why don't you stop being so stubborn and just sign the form?" This question refers, of course, to the so called "accommodation," which the federal government hoped would silence all the conscientious objections to the mandate.

Form 700, more commonly called "the form" or "the piece of paper," is not what a lot of people think it is. Contrary to how it is often presented, Form 700 is neither a simple declaration of conscientious objection, nor an "opt out" regarding the HHS Contraceptive Mandate. Form 700 is a permission slip. Signing it would allow HHS to commandeer the infrastructure of our health care plan in order to use it to distribute abortifacients and contraceptives to our employees. In other words, signing Form 700 would involve us in formal cooperation with wrongdoing, which is never permissible under Catholic doctrine.

Not only would such cooperation with moral evil constitute grave sin on our part, but it would likely also cause scandal, leading others to sin as well. This is serious stuff, especially for women like us who are devoted to the service of the Church. Through our vow of hospitality we are bound, in the eyes of God and the Church, to upholding the sanctity of human life, from the moment of conception until natural death. Very simply, Form 700 involves the taking of innocent human life. That is why we cannot "just sign the form."

Throughout the four years of this legal journey I have found courage by turning to the great cloud of witnesses that surrounds us on our earthly pilgrimage. Specifically, I often think of St. Thomas More, and of the Old Testament figure Eleazar.

The story of St. Thomas More is well known, thanks in part to the classic movie, "A Man for All Seasons." Thomas More was imprisoned for refusing to sign an oath acknowledging Anne Boleyn as King Henry VIII's legitimate wife and recognizing the king's authority as head of the newly formed Church of England. A year later he was beheaded after famously proclaiming that he was "the king's good servant but God's first."

Each time I watch "A Man for All Seasons" I am inspired by Thomas More's responses to those who tried to persuade him to "just sign the oath." Using the proverbial "everyone else is doing it" argument, the Duke of Norfolk suggests, "Why can't you do as I did and come with us, for fellowship?" Refusing to compromise his convictions, Thomas responds, "And when we die, and you are sent to heaven for doing your conscience, and I am sent to hell for not doing mine, will you come with me, for fellowship?"

St. Thomas More's daughter then pleads with him to consider the impact of his actions on the family, suggesting that he "take this oath with your lips, but think otherwise in your heart." Again he resists the temptation to fall into dissimulation. "Daughter," he responds, "what is an oath but words you speak to God?"

Obviously, St. Thomas More couldn't "just sign the form."

St. Thomas More's integrity is indeed inspiring, but my favorite martyr of religious liberty is Eleazar, described in the Second Book of Maccabees as "one of the foremost scribes, a man advanced in age and of noble appearance."

As he faced torture and death because he refused to defile himself by eating the king's food, friends of the old man pulled him aside and tried to persuade him to "fake it" by secretly eating his own provisions. But Eleazar feared the scandal he might cause the younger men by compromising the prescriptions of their faith, so he died honorably, proving himself worthy of his old age and "leaving in his death a model of nobility and an unforgettable example of virtue." (2Mac 6:31)

I hope that these reflections help to clarify why we cannot "just sign the form" with regard to the HHS Contraceptive Mandate's so-called accommodation. To do so would allow the federal government to commandeer our health plan. It could cause scandal by giving the example that it's okay to ignore clearly stated Catholic doctrine. And it would no doubt lead to the taking of innocent human life through the use of abortifacient drugs.

Inspired by Eleazar and St. Thomas More, we feel compelled to affirm that we wish to be good citizens and servants of our nation's elderly, but faithful daughters of the Church first.

God bless you
MSGR. FINN