

Church of the Blessed Sacrament Manhattan

Rev. John P. Duffell, *Pastor*
Rev. Alexis Bastidas, *Associate*
Rev. Dennis Baker, S.J., *Sunday Associate*
Rev. Msgr. Robert B. O'Connor, *Pastor Emeritus*

Tina Silvestro,
Director Religious Education
Caroline Sliney, *School Principal*

Dr. Gregory D'Agostino,
Organist & Director of Music
Theo Corbin, *Pastoral Assistant*

CHURCH: 152 West 71st Street, New York, N.Y. 10023
SCHOOL: 147 West 70th Street, New York, N.Y. 10023

Ph: 212-877-3111
Ph: 212-724-7561

www.blessedsacramentnyc.org
www.sblsnyc.org

MASSES:

SUNDAY Masses: Sat. evening at 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 (Family Mass)
11:15 (Spanish), 12:30 (choir) & 5:30PM
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 AM; 12:10 PM; 5:30 PM
SATURDAYS: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM
HOLY DAYS & EVES. OF HOLY DAYS: As Announced.

BAPTISM:

Arrangements must be made at the Rectory. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Parents, and also godparents when possible, must attend the Pre-Baptismal conference which is held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm in the rectory.
During Lent the sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated only in an emergency situation.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday afternoons 4:30 to 5:15 pm, and anytime at the Rectory.

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance at the rectory to ensure the date and the hour desired. The Nuptial Mass is the ordinary form of celebrating Christian marriage, and should be strongly considered when making Wedding plans. Attendance at the Pre-Cana Conferences, or the equivalent, is required by the Archbishop.

PARISH BOUNDARIES:

Central Park West to the Hudson River, from the South side of 77th Street down to the North side of 65th Street.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

We welcome new parishioners, and invite them to register at the Rectory. The registration is our only means of certifying anyone as a member of our parish. If you move to another Parish, or change your address within the Parish, please notify us.

FATIMA DEVOTIONS:

The Rosary is said daily after the 12:10 pm Mass. Friday from 6-7 pm there is a holy hour.

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday - Exposition: 12:35 pm.
Adoration: All day; Benediction: 5:15 PM.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:

Mondays, before the 12:10 Mass and before the 5:30 pm Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS:

Classes in Religion for Catholic children/teenagers, Pre-kindergarten - High School take place on Sundays. The Family Mass begins at 10:00 a.m. in the Church followed by class instruction in the school.

Ongoing religious education is important for the religious development of your children. A child must have at least one year of religious instruction before enrolling in the First Communion or Confirmation class.

Spanish Programs Website: www.nygente.com

Sunday School Website: www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org

PARISH NEWS

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

In this Holy Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis! I thought I might begin each letter with some thoughts and questions, please let me know what you think.

Mercy is such a simple word and yet so filled with meaning and dimension that it can leave us dumbfounded. But we all know it's one of Pope Francis' favorite words, and he says it can change everything. What would change if we began thinking of mercy as our guiding principle for life and faith? What would change if we actually *became* mercy for everyone we meet? And what would change if we began by being merciful with ourselves? What would a life based in mercy look like? How will it change you? How will it change the world?

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Wednesday, January 27 at 7:00pm in the rectory.

We are looking for new altar servers. A training session will be held on Saturday, January 30th, at 9:00 am in the church sacristy. Hopefully many young men and women in the parish will be willing to accept this ministry. If you will be coming to the training session, please call the rectory ([212 877-3111](tel:2128773111)) during the week, to let us know.

As I mentioned in my remarks last Sunday, the Parish Finance Council has urged that in order to avoid relying on our reserves to balance our budget, which has been our practice for a good number of years, I eliminate some staff positions (which I will be moving on) and that I take other actions to reduce expenses.....one suggestion was the altar flowers.....I am hoping that people will offer the flowers in memory of a loved one.....I have offered the flowers for next weekend, January 30th, 31st in memory of my dad who died on January 30th, 1997.

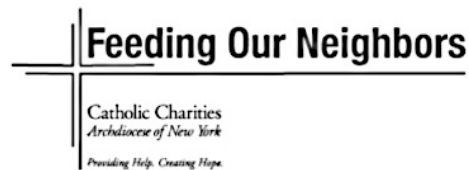
The donation for the flowers is \$200.00. Would you give it some thought to using this memorial? Thank you.

Let us pray for peace in this Year of Mercy.

Fr. Duffell

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With the growing number of students in our Sunday School program the need for volunteers is also growing. Catechists, assistants, and substitutes are needed. All volunteers who work with children will need to complete a background check form and an abuse awareness and prevention class as provided by the Archdiocese. Please call Tina Silvestro at 212-877-3111.



ARCHDIOCESAN - WIDE FOOD CAMPAIGN

This year, Blessed Sacrament Parish is participating in **Feeding Our Neighbors**, an Archdiocesan - Wide Drive to replenish dwindling Food Pantries in our community. From January 23 through January 31, you can Feed Our Neighbors by replenishing the Blessed Sacrament Food Pantry, our sister pantry at the Kennedy Center on West 134 Street and pantries across the Archdiocese. It only takes one small action to feed the hungry. Together we can change lives.

Three simple ways to participate are: (1) Bring non-perishable foods to Saturday and Sunday Masses between January 23rd and 31st (2) Support by donating money during a Mass collection, make an on-line donation at www.catholiccharitiesny.org/feedingourneighbors or make a quick \$10 donation by texting "CCHOPE" to 85944 and (3) Volunteer at a Food Pantry near you.

Members of the Social Action Committee and others will be collecting your donated food in the **BIG WHITE BOXES at the Church entrance**. Pick up a flyer for a food list and more information

COLLECTION

Thank you so very much for your generous response to the needs of the parish. Our collection last Sunday was \$8,072. \$4,205 was received in ParishPay for a total of \$12,277.



**DOWNEY SIDE ADOPTION AGENCY:
MISSION FOR HOMELESS YOUTH**

at Blessed Sacrament Convent on 70th STREET is looking for a volunteer bookkeeper or retired accountant for 4 hours a week (small stipend). Please contact Fr. Paul Engel OFM.CAP at 212-714-2200

NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

En este Año de la Misericordia proclamado por el Papa Francisco quisiera comenzar cada una de mis cartas con algunas ideas y preguntas. Déjenme saber su opinión.

Compasión. Una palabra tan sencilla y al mismo tiempo de tanto significado y dimensión que nos deja asombrados. Pero todos sabemos que es una de las palabras favoritas del Papa Francisco y de la cual dice que puede cambiarlo todo. Que cambiaría si comenzáramos a pensar en la compasión como el principio que guíe nuestra vida y nuestra fe? Que cambiaría si mostráramos compasión a todo el que conocemos? Y que cambiaría si fuéramos compasivos con nosotros mismos? Como sería la vida basándonos en la compasión? Como me cambiaría? Y como cambiaría al mundo?

La próxima reunión del Consejo Parroquial (“Parish Council”) tendrá lugar en miércoles 27 de enero a las 7:00pm en la Rectoría.

Estamos buscando nuevos servidores para el altar. El sábado 30 de enero a las 9:00am tendrá lugar un entrenamiento en la Sacristía. Esperamos que muchos de nuestros jóvenes estén dispuestos a aceptar este ministerio. De estar interesados llamen a la Rectoría (212-877-3111) durante la semana.

Como mencione el ultimo domingo, el Consejo Financiero de la Parroquia me ha pedido que para evitar tener que usar nuestras reservas para balancear nuestro presupuesto, lo cual ha sido la practica durante mucho tiempo, debo eliminar algunas posiciones en el personal (lo cual haré) y que tome otras acciones para reducir los gastos ...sugirieron las flores del altar...Espero que consideren donar las flores en memoria de un ser querido...Donare el costo de las flores para el próximo fin de semana, 30 y 31 de enero en memoria de mi padre quien falleció el 30 de enero de 1997. La donación para las flores es de \$200.00. Les pido consideren esta conmemoración.

En este Año de la Misericordia, roguemos por la paz.

Padre Duffell

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped to make the MLK Peace Walk such a great success! West Side participants were in the hundreds with smaller churches nearing capacity. Over 30 of our parishioners braved the cold to march, and we contributed over 560 letters to members of Congress highlighting the urgent message of Pope Francis on behalf of the environment and the extreme poor. Manhattan Borough President Gail Brewer also helped to close the event, here at Blessed Sacrament, and to thank the group.

CONVERSATIONS WITH “RECYCLED” CATHOLICS

Many people--Catholics, those of other religions and of no religion-- have been struck by the words and actions of Pope Francis. Included among them are former Catholics who have long felt alienated from many of the church’s positions and practices, but now may be considering giving Catholicism a second look. This series is designed for such people—**not for people who are comfortable in their faith and looking for spiritual enrichment.** It is for people in transition, hence the term “recycled,” moving from a style of religion that was found to be unsatisfying to one that is both personally fulfilling and authentically Catholic. In a series of six non-judgmental, open yet focused discussions, Fr. Kevin Madigan will help participants reflect on their lived experience of Catholicism, its positive and negative aspects, in the hope of discovering possible directions for the future. The general approach could be described as a “therapy of the imagination,” an attempt to discover how familiar doctrines, metaphors, and images might be mined for new insights and meaning.

The series will take place in two locations: St. Thomas More Rectory, 65 East 89th St., on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 6th, at 7:00 p.m., and Blessed Sacrament Rectory, 152 West 71st St., on Thursday evenings, beginning January 7th, at 7:00 p.m. To register, please call 212-876-7718. There is no charge and refreshments will be served. The topics for discussion:

- 1/27, 1/28 The Church, who needs it anyway?
- 2/3, 2/4 I would describe myself as “spiritual, but not religious.”
- 2/10, 2/11 Fast-food Catholicism may be dangerous to your health.



34th ANNUAL PAX CHRISTI NY WAY OF THE CROSS

Join several hundred people in one of the largest public Christian peace witnesses in New York City. For over thirty years Pax Christi Metro New York has walked The Good Friday Way of the Cross as a modern-day enactment of the Stations of the Cross, praying for peace and justice on the streets of our city. Pope Francis has declared 2016 as the year of Mercy, join with us as we reflect on Living Lives of Mercy with Care and Compassion.

The Walk will take place from 8:30am to 12:00 noon on Good Friday, March 25th.

We begin at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza (47th and First Avenue) and proceed along 42nd street between Eight and Ninth Avenues. **PLEASE WEAR OR CARRY A CROSS.**

For further information about our work, please contact us at 371 Sixth Ave., New York, NY, 10014; 212-420-0250; info@nypaxchristi.org or www.nypaxchristi.org

Weekly EM and Lector Schedule

Saturday, January 23

5:30 1st Roscoe Orman
 2nd Kimberley LaMarque Orman
 POF Todd Reppert
 EM Kimberley LaMarque Orman, Manuela Marino, Roscoe Orman, Joe Tessitore

Sunday, January 24

8:30 1st Mike Addis
 2nd Mike Addis
 POF John Hunt
 EM JoDell Shields, Hugh Regan, Tony Jalandoni, Mike Addis, John Hunt

10:00 1st Charles Weeks
 2nd Shirley Rodriguez
 POF Belinda Dela Cruz
 EM Andrew Jenkins, Andrew Fitzsimmons, Philippa Cooper, Belinda Dela Cruz, Judy Braun, Diane Brush

12:30 1st Theo Corbin
 2nd Theo Corbin
 POF Jack Going
 EM Elsa Alvarez, Theo Corbin, Ingrid Leacock, Lidia Stempien, Theo Corbin

5:30 1st Mark Murphy
 2nd Elizabeth Kubinski
 POF Mia Yabut
 EM Rosemary Girouard, Patricia Alvarez de Fallon, Rob Porell, Kevin Meskell, Kate Furlong, Allison Oliver Miller, Maria LaMagna



Saturday Evening, January 23th

5:30 Janice Pratt +

Sunday, January 24th

8:30 David Belshaw +
 10:00 Nguyen Thi +
 11:15 Robert Stoberg +
 12:30 Intention of Thomas Middelhoff
 5:30 Donna DeSolis +

Monday, January 25th

7:30 Yvette Arce +
 12:10 Ann Casey +
 5:30 Mrs. Lucille Cutrone +

Tuesday, January 26th

7:30 Anne Antonelli +
 12:10 David Hillman +
 5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Wednesday, January 27th

7:30 Julie Spense +
 12:10 Intentions of Peggy Darnell
 5:30 Julie Spense +

Thursday, January 28th

7:30 Anne M. Duffell +
 12:10 Julie Spense +
 5:30 Anne M. Duffell +

Friday, January 29th

7:30 Rita McCarthy +
 12:10 DeDe Burns +
 5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Saturday, January 30th

7:30 Caroline Campochiaro +
 12:10 Natividad Enriquez +

Forum on Human Trafficking: Analysis and Action Plan

“Human Trafficking is a scourge upon the body of Christ.”
 – Pope Francis

Join members of Holy Trinity Parish for a forum discussion on human trafficking in the sex and agricultural industries as evidenced on local and international levels. The event will take place on February 2nd and will focus on the systems leading to trafficking with particular emphasis on what individuals and corporations can do legislatively and personally to combat the problem. The evening will end with a short small-group session on developing an action plan involving interested attendees.

Where: Holy Trinity Catholic Church Murphy Center
 213 West 82nd Street 10024
 Time: 7pm – 9pm - Date: Tuesday, February 2nd, 2016
 RSVP: Friday, January 29, holytrinityreled@earthlink.net
 Cost: free/ good will offering

ABC'S OF CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

This week - CRS & Farmers: Cell phones help poor African farmers track local commodity prices. That’s just a start. CRS in many African countries uses cell phone technology to help CRS and government agents improve business planning and market analysis. fast. A cell phone is often the first purchase after water is brought to a village. Last week - CRS/Egypt. Next week - CRS/Guatemala. For more info visit: www.crs.org.



If you have not registered in the parish and attend our mass regularly, please fill the following form out and return it to the Rectory office. *All information will be kept confidential*

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

Date _____

Your Name _____

Your Spouses Name _____

(Only if BOTH are Registering)

Address _____

Apt. # _____ **City** _____ **State** _____

Zip _____ **Telephone** _____

Email _____

Your Occupation _____

Your Spouses Occupation _____

How should we address you? (Check One)

Mr. & Mrs. _____ **Mr.** _____ **Mrs.** _____ **Ms.** _____

Would you like to receive weekly offering envelopes?

Yes _____ **No** _____

PARISH PAY

Parish pay will collect monthly contribution from your checking, savings or credit card account and send it to the parish. There is no cost to you to participate in the program. You may log onto www.parishpay.com or call 1866-727-4741 ext.1 to sign up.



TOURING TUESDAYS

The best investment in your child’s future is in a Catholic School Today.

- More than 98% of Catholic school grads pursue post-secondary education
- Moral development and self-discipline are emphasized
- Community service is always part of the curriculum
- More than 7500 scholarships are available for eligible students

February 2 & 23, March 8, April 12 from 9:00 – 11:00 am.
Reservations are required. To RSVP, call 646-794-2885 or visit www.buildboldfutures.org

BLESSED SACRAMENT WOMEN’S GROUP

We will celebrate the New Year Sunday, January 24th after 5:30 p.m. mass in the upstairs of the rectory. Wine and treats will be provided! We will play games and discuss the National Geographic piece on the importance of the Virgin Mary, as "The Most Powerful Woman on Earth."

INTERNATIONAL THOMAS MERTON SOCIETY

On Saturday, January 30th, the Corpus Christi Chapter of the **International Thomas Merton Society** will close the Merton Centennial Year. Fr. Daniel Horan OFM will speak on “The Christ of Thomas Merton & Julian of Norwich”. Other speakers will discuss the women who shaped Merton’s thought and spirituality, especially Baroness Catherine de Hueck Doherty and Sister Therese Lentfoehr.

From 2:00 – 7:00pm. Mass will be celebrated at 5:00, followed by a Gala Reception. Corpus Christi Church 529 West 121st Street, NY 10027.

Free to Chapter members and students with ID.
 Non-members \$10. For information call 212-666-9350 or Email: mertonnyc@yahoo.com.
 Website: thomasmertonsociety-nyc.org