

# 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 of Religious Education*  
**Caroline Sliney, *School Principal***

**Dr. Gregory D'Agostino,**  
*Organist & Director of Music*

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**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](http://www.blessedsacramentnyc.org)  
[www.sblsnyc.org](http://www.sblsnyc.org)

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## **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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm in the rectory.

## **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](http://www.nygente.com)*

*Sunday School Website: [www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](http://www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)*

**PARISH NEWS**

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

While we all knew that Father Alexis would be leaving us soon, his sudden departure was quite a surprise both to him and us. The sudden hospitalization of the Pastor of St. Luke’s Church in the Bronx made it imperative that a temporary administrator be appointed. Father Alexis was asked to accept this assignment and he has. We thank him for his 22 years of service here at Blessed Sacrament. We will be planning a celebration in his honor - and I hope you will be able to take part. I’ll keep you posted.

Simon Peter and his companions after fishing all night catch nothing. At dawn as they approach shore, someone on the shore whom they do not recognize directs them to cast out their net. When the net is filled with a large catch, the beloved disciple recognizes Jesus, now risen from death, and says to Peter, “It is the Lord.” When they reach shore, they see a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus invites them to eat with him. He takes bread and gives it to them and in like manner the fish. Jesus then asks Peter three times if he loves him, and says to him in turn, “Feed my lambs...Tend my sheep...Feed my sheep.” Jesus then speaks of the kind of death Simon Peter will undergo, and says to him, “Follow me.”

Friendship with Jesus is the one essential thing of life, regardless of any other circumstance—sickness or health, poverty or wealth, low or high position in society or church. That is the supreme truth John wants to tell us in his gospel. The good news is that Jesus desires our friendship, and offers it to all who welcome him in faith. We can identify with many of the persons Jesus encounters in the gospel—the Samaritan woman, Martha and Mary, Lazarus (at whose death Jesus wept), Peter, Mary Magdalene, the beloved disciple. The gospel also warns us not to identify with those who reject friendship, and even betray friendship with Jesus. Jesus can also call us his friends because he has told us everything he has heard from his Father (Jn 15:15). The titles that we use to address Jesus (Messiah, Lord, Son of God), however orthodox and exalted they may be, are inadequate to express the full meaning of Jesus for us unless they include “Beloved Friend.”

A personal, loving relationship with the Risen Lord clearly was a distinguishing characteristic of John’s community. Sad experience, however, soon revealed that individual relationships with Jesus were not sufficient to hold the community together. We can see from the First Letter of John that various individuals, claiming to speak with the Spirit of Jesus, began to teach false doctrines. Eventually they formed splinter groups that separated people from the community. In our gospel passage today, John shows us that individual friendships with Jesus must be complemented by authority within the community. The Risen Lord commissions Peter to serve that function.

That authority that Jesus gives, however, must be exercised out of deep friendship with him. “Do you love me?” Jesus asks Peter the crucial question three times as he commissions him to tend and to feed his sheep. The principle, of course, applies not only to the successor of Peter, but to everyone who exercises authority in the church, from the family to the chancery. Only in this way does human authority becomes an expression of the authority of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep.

Pray for Peace in this Year of Mercy.

Fr. Duffell



**Saturday Evening, April 9nd**

5:30 Joseph Frangipani +

**Sunday, April 10th**

8:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

10:00 James Delaney

11:15 Marian Chartier Bickel +

12:30 Loreto David Basa +

5:30 Frank August Wandrey +

**Monday, April 11th**

7:30 Remberto Rada +

12:10 Guglielmo and Angela Veltri +

5:30 Robert J. Ross +

**Tuesday, April 12th**

7:30 Leonor de Bravo +

12:10 Marilyn Critelli +

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

**Wednesday, April 13th**

7:30 People of the Parish

12:10 Anne and Stephen Barrera +

5:30 Wilma Rey +

**Thursday, April 14th**

7:30 Cathy Lord

12:10 The Butler Family

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

**Friday, April 15th**

7:30 Cathy Lord

12:10 Gloria Veltri +

5:30 Intentions of Josefina Rodriguez

**Saturday, April 16th**

7:30 Cathy Lord

12:10 Dr. Jose Gregorio Hernandez

### NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

Mientras que todos sabíamos que el Padre Alexis dejaría nuestra Parroquia, su súbita salida nos sorprendió a todos. El Pastor de la Iglesia de St. Luke's en el Bronx fue hospitalizado de emergencia lo que hizo necesario nombrar un Administrador temporal. Padre Alexis acepto esta asignación. Nuestro agradecimiento por sus 22 años de servicio en Blessed Sacrament. Estamos planeando una celebración en su honor y espero que todos puedan asistir. Les mantendré informados.

Simon Pedro y sus compañeros pescan toda la noche sin conseguir nada. Al acercarse a la orilla al amanecer alguien que no conocen les pide tirar la malla otra vez. Cuando esta se llena, el discípulo amado reconoce a Jesús, ahora resucitado y que le dice: "Es el Señor." Cuando alcanzan la orilla encuentra fuego de carbón y en el mismo, pescado y pan. Jesús los invita a comer con él. Reparte el pan y el pescado entre ellos. Le pregunta tres veces a Peter si lo ama, y le dice: "Alimenta a mis corderos...Cuida y alimenta a mis ovejas." Entonces habla de la muerte de Simon Pedro y le dice: "Sígueme."

La amistad con Jesús es una de las cosas esenciales de la vida, no importan las circunstancias- - enfermos o saludables, pobres o ricos, de baja o alta posición en la Iglesia o en la sociedad. Esta es la verdad suprema que el Apóstol Juan nos dice en su evangelio. Lo bueno es que Jesús desea nuestra amistad, y la ofrece a todos aquellos que lo aceptan en su fe. Nos identificamos con muchas de las personas que Jesús encuentra en el evangelio —la mujer Samaritana, Marta y María, Lazarus (Jesús llora su muerte), el Apóstol Pedro, y María Magdalena. El evangelio también nos pide no identificarnos con aquellos que rechazan y hasta traicionan la amistad con Jesús. Él puede llamarnos sus amigos porque nos ha dicho todo lo que ha escuchado de su Padre (Jn 15:15). Los títulos que usamos para dirigirnos a Él (Mesías, Señor, Hijo de Dios) por muy ortodoxos o elevados que sean, son inadecuados para expresar lo que Jesús significa para nosotros a menos que ellos incluyan "Amigo Amado."

Una relación amante y personal con el Señor fue una de las características de la comunidad del Apóstol Juan. Lamentablemente las relaciones individuales con Jesús no fueron suficientes para unir la comunidad. Podemos ver en la Primera Carta de Juan que varios individuos, afirmando hablar con el Espíritu de Jesús, comenzaron a enseñar falsas doctrinas. Eventualmente se formaron grupos separados que dividieron la comunidad. En el Evangelio de hoy Juan nos enseña que la amistad individual con Jesús debe ser complementaria con la autoridad dentro de la comunidad. Y el Señor le pide a Pedro cumplir esa función.

Sin embargo, esa autoridad que da Jesús debe ser ejercitada desde su amistad con Él. "Me amas?" Tres veces hace Jesús esta crucial pregunta a Pedro cuando le pide atender y alimentar sus ovejas. Este principio se aplica no solo al sucesor de Pedro sino también a aquellos ejercitando su autoridad dentro de la Iglesia, desde la familia a la cancillería. Solo de esta manera la autoridad humana se convierte en expresión de la autoridad de Jesús, el Buen Pastor que da su vida por sus ovejas.

Recemos por la paz.

Padre Duffell.

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### COLLECTION

A word of thanks for your generous response to the needs of the parish. Last Sunday \$11,549 was received in the offertory baskets at Mass and \$3,389 was received through parish pay.... for a total Sunday offering of \$14,938. Your goodness toward those in need realized an offering of \$2,070 for the support of the parish soup kitchen.

And additional offerings totaling \$4,533 were received for the Easter collection bringing the total to date to \$51,654. Again, thank you for your generosity and goodness.

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### EMERGENCY BLOOD NEEDED

If you are between the ages of 16-70 years old, please join the social action committee on **April 17, 2016** for our Bone Marrow Registry & Blood Drive! A bus provided by the New York Blood Center will be parked outside the church from **9am – 3pm**. All donors must weigh at least 110 lbs., be feeling well, and all tattoos must be older than 12 months. Appointments can be made at

<http://tinyurl.com/BlessedSacramentGives>, however walk ins are also welcome. Please bring a picture ID, eat before donating, and drink plenty of fluids. If you have any questions on medical eligibility, please call [1-800-688-0900](tel:1-800-688-0900) or email Mia Yabut at [mia.yabut@gmail.com](mailto:mia.yabut@gmail.com).

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### JOY J

The JoyJ initiative is pleased to announce that its next Homeless Outreach is being held on Saturday, April 16, 2016. The packing of the comfort bags will begin at 9:00 A.M. and then all the volunteers will gather at 10:00 A.M. to go out and bring spiritual and physical comfort to our less fortunate Brothers and Sisters who live on the streets of NYC. Please join us in the lower Church down the stairs between the Church and the Rectory. It will do wonders for your soul. Please confirm by email to [JOYJ.BLESSED.SACRAMENT@aol.com](mailto:JOYJ.BLESSED.SACRAMENT@aol.com) or call the Rectory at (212) 877-3111 and leave your name. See you there!

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### "THE ORIGINAL IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY: THE UNTOLD STORY OF AN UNKNOWN MASTERPIECE"

Holy Trinity parish (213 West 82nd Street), will present a new documentary about the rediscovery of the original image of Divine Mercy, on **Sunday, April 24, at 3:30**. Admission is free.

This is the painting commissioned by Saint Faustina Kowalska in 1934 and the only image she ever saw.

You can learn more about the documentary here: <http://www.divinemeracyfilm.com/>

**Weekly EM and Lector Schedule****Saturday, April 9**

5:30	1st	Vincent Gardino
	2nd	Anita Pearl
	POF	Jerry Becker
	EM	Joe Tessitore, Jerry Becker, Ginetta LaBianca

**Sunday, April 10**

8:30	1st	Brendan Contant
	2nd	Brendan Contant
	POF	John Hunt
	EM	Terry Naglack, Hugh Regan, Vivian Villaluz, Brendan Contant, John Hunt
10:00	1st	Anna Piazza
	2nd	Kamila Palka
	POF	Shirley Rodriguez
	EM	Mary Bradley, Philippa Cooper, Shirley Rodriguez, Nancy Kearney, Judy Braun, Andrew Fitzsimmons, Anna-Sophia Leone
12:30	1st	Ingrid Leacock
	2nd	Ingrid Leacock
	POF	Francesca DiPaola
	EM	Thomas Alexander, Elsa Alvarez, Francesca DiPaola, Ingrid Leacock, Lidia Stempien
5:30	1st	Elizabeth Kubinski
	2nd	Mark Murphy
	POF	Rebecca Painter
	EM	Brian Fallon, Patricia Alvarez de Fallon, Elisa Dragu, Joyce Polistena, Joe McKenna, Kevin Meskell, Kate Furlong

**PILGRIMAGE OF NEW YORK 2016 – YEAR OF MERCY**

Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The top of Manhattan to the bottom of Manhattan! We will be walking the length of Manhattan, visiting churches in honor of the Year of Mercy. We will visit two churches named after two saints who are examples of God's Mercy: Saints Peter and Paul. In addition, we will visit two churches that have been designated Holy Doors for this jubilee year: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine and St. Patrick's Cathedral. This walk is a total of 13.5 miles! Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Rain Date: Saturday, September 17, 2016) 9:00am Opening Prayers at the Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, 701 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, NY 10040. 6:15pm – Pilgrims Mass at the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 7 State Street, New York, NY 10004. You must register in advance at [www.pofnyc.org](http://www.pofnyc.org) in order to participate in this event.

**ST. GIANNA MASS**

This year's St. Gianna Mass for couples suffering infertility and recurrent miscarriage will be on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – the feast of St. Gianna – at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Catherine of Siena, 411 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street. Couples suffering infertility, as well as their families and friends are cordially invited to attend. Following the Mass there will be veneration of the relics of St. Gianna; an opportunity to meet with Creighton physicians and practitioners who specialize in assisting couples with infertility; and a light reception. For further info please call Sr. Shirley Ann at the Family Life/ Respect Office at (212) 371-1011 x 3195 or email [sr.shirleyann@archny.org](mailto:sr.shirleyann@archny.org).

**THE BODY-SUBJECT: WORKSHOPS FOR WOMEN**

*The Body-Subject* is a workshop for women who wish to foster compassion toward self and body. Sadly, we live in a consumer society saturated with messages that we must have a 'perfect' body. In order to achieve the 'perfect' body we are encouraged to take steps that drive profits for body-related industries but also require us to see ourselves as lacking and unacceptable. *The Body-Subject* therefore invites women to come together to think about how our culture shapes our experience and how we might gently pave the way for a kinder, non-judgmental relationship with ourselves.

Approved by the Women's Therapy Center Institute (WTCI) and Endangered Bodies New York, the *Body-Subject* is a six-week psycho-educational workshop facilitated by Alison Afra PhD. Activities include doing media analysis, discussing psychological research, exploring the philosophy of embodiment, personal reflections, sharing stories if desired, bodily meditations, yoga, and more. For further details or to register, contact [alisonafra@gmail.com](mailto:alisonafra@gmail.com). Alternatively, leave your number at the rectory to have Alison call you.

The six-week workshop is recommended over the intensive one-day workshop. However, the latter is on offer to those who cannot commit to six weeks. Places are limited so register fast!

- Group A  
06/14/2016 to 07/19/2016  
Tuesday evenings from 6.30 to 8pm
- Group B  
06/16/2016 to 07/21/2016  
Thursday mornings from 10am to 11.30am
- Group C  
07/01/2016  
Saturday from 9.30am to 5.30pm

Location: Upstairs in the rectory.

Fee: Individuals are welcome to decide how much they want to / are able to donate. All proceeds go toward the work of Church of the Blessed Sacrament.

Who?: *The Body-Subject* is open to women from all walks of life.

**A PRESENTATION OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI CHAPTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL THOMAS MERTON SOCIETY**

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, 2:00 – 4:30pm the Corpus Christi Center of the International Thomas Merton Society will present Thomas Merton & the Environment: "Their Inscape Is Their Sanctity." Well known Merton writers and scholars Sister Monica Weis, SSJ, and Dr. Patrick O'Connell will speak on "Challenging Voices: Rachel Carson and Pope Francis" and on "The Sources of Thomas Merton's Environmental Theology". Mass will be celebrated at 5:00.

Corpus Christi Church, 529 West 121 Street, NY 10027

Free to Chapter members and students with I.D. Non-members \$10. For information call (212) 666-9350, email: [mertonnyc@yahoo.com](mailto:mertonnyc@yahoo.com) or visit: [www.thomasmertonsociety-nyc.org](http://www.thomasmertonsociety-nyc.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** \_\_\_\_\_

**If not, would you like us to sign you up for ParishPay?**

**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](http://www.parishpay.com) or call 1866-727-4741 ext.1 to sign up.



School of the Blessed Sacrament is accepting applications for grades 1 - 8, with financial aid opportunities for qualified families! School of the Blessed Sacrament is a pre-k through eighth grade Catholic elementary school in the heart of the upper west side. Our well-rounded curriculum incorporates love of God, self, and others. We integrate technology, the arts, music, and physical education to provide a liberal arts education for the whole child. We seek to develop saints and scholars through innovative, personal learning experiences. Contact us today at 212-724-7561 or [www.sblsnyc.org](http://www.sblsnyc.org).

**NYC CATHOLIC FAMILIES MEETUP GROUP**

Parents are invited to join our NYC Catholic Families Meetup Group. We are +130 families striving to raise our children in the love and knowledge of Christ. In addition to seasonal events, we host "night out" events for mothers and fathers here at the rectory.  
For more info: [www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families/](http://www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families/)

**MARGARET F. GRACE LECTURE**

"Where Do I Find Hope?"  
Dorothy Day and the Solution of Love:  
A Conversation with Robert Ellsberg, John L. Allen Jr., and Sr. Simone Campbell  
April 12, 2016  
7pm – Smith Hall  
College of Mount Saint Vincent  
6301 Riverdale Avenue, Riverdale, New York 10471

For more information and to register, visit: [www.mounsaintvincent.edu/grace](http://www.mounsaintvincent.edu/grace)

**"WHAT NEXT?" EXPLORING THE TRANSITIONS THAT DEFINE WHO WE ARE** *A Retreat for Young Adults*

April 15-17, 2016  
\$260 per person (financial aid and payment plans available)  
Mariandale Retreat Center, Ossining, NY (Accessible via MTA/MetroNorth & Amtrak)

Are you starting a new job? Not sure where your relationship is headed? Contemplating a change in your life? You're not alone! Join other 20- and 30-year-olds for a peer-led retreat weekend to explore transitions that define who we are and who we will become, as well as the faith that can carry us through.

For more information or to register today, visit [www.Charis.nyc](http://www.Charis.nyc).

Questions? Contact us at [CharisRetreatNYC@gmail.com](mailto:CharisRetreatNYC@gmail.com).

**NEW YORK CATHOLIC YOUTH DAY**

Witness Mercy (Mt. 5:7)  
Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 9:00am – 5:00pm  
St. Joseph's Seminary – 201 Seminary Ave.  
Yonkers, NY 10704

Come join and meet over a thousand Catholic youth from all over the Archdiocese for a day of faith, fun, great music and speakers, and Mass with his Eminence Cardinal Dolan. Register online at [www.OYMNY.org/NY-Catholic-Youth-Day](http://www.OYMNY.org/NY-Catholic-Youth-Day). Entrance fee is \$20 before April 9<sup>th</sup>, \$25 after. It includes: T-shirt, backpack and lunch. For more information, call Cynthia Psencik at the office of youth Ministry at 914-367-8329 or email [Cynthia.Psencik@archny.org](mailto:Cynthia.Psencik@archny.org).

