

Church of the Blessed Sacrament Manhattan

Rev. John P. Duffell, *Pastor*
Rev. D'Angelo Jimenez, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Ernest Izummuo, *Sunday Associate*
Rev. James O'Shea, CP, *Sunday Associate*
Deacon Scott Reisinger

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

CHURCH: 152 West 71st Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10023

Ph: 212-877-3111

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www.blessedsacramentnyc.org

SCHOOL: 147 West 70th Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10023

Ph: 212-724-7561

Fax: 212-724-0735

www.sblsnyc.org

MASSES:

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday evening at 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:30AM, 10:00AM (Family Mass)
11:15AM (Spanish), 12:30PM & 5:30PM (Young Adult Choir)
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM, 5:30 PM
SATURDAYS: 7:30 AM, 12:10 PM
SPANISH WKDAY MASS: Every Other Wednesday of the month
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.

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. First Communion and Confirmation require a two year program.

Sunday School Website: www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org

PARISH NEWS

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Let me begin by offering a word of welcome to Father Thomas Caswell, who returns from his home in Spokane to be with us for the month while Father D'Angelo is vacationing and then I run off for two weeks beginning August 14th. Father Caswell is old friend...many, many years ago we both served on the Board of the National Federation of Priests' Councils.....Tom was the elected representative priests' councils of the dioceses in the northwest, while I represented the 10 councils of New York State.....he has many stories to tell.....chat with him.....

Today is the Feast of the Transfiguration. Thomas Aquinas considered the Transfiguration "the greatest miracle" in that it complemented baptism and showed the perception of Heaven. Today is also the 72nd anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on the City of Hiroshima....and then on the 9th of August the anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki Let each one of us, believers in a God of reconciliation, strive to be witnesses of peaceful resolution whenever and wherever possible. Let us pray today and everyday, that world leaders will work to end the scourge of atomic weapons and help bring about the miracle of peace.

Last Sunday, when I arrived back in my room after the Masses, I found this e-mail from a good friend Joseph McKeller.....I found it very thought provoking and with his permission, I share it with you....

*"Dear Father Duffell,
Thought I share some reflections on a pretty incredible experience I had today:*

1.5 hours ago (at approximately 12:15pm on Sunday July 30), I was with my wife waiting on the downtown platform of the 96th Street B/C train. I was reading The NY Times app on my phone about the national debate over the Affordable Care Act.

With one minute before the train arrived, I heard a loud thud and realized a man, who was black, had fallen onto the tracks. He was not moving. I could see the next C train's lights coming towards us. Myself and a group of people ran towards the man on the tracks. Two white men jumped onto the tracks, and dragged the man to the platform, where two of us stood on the edge and lifted him to safety. The man was conscious but hurt and disoriented.

We placed him sitting upright on the wall, just as the train rolled into the station. We tried to calm the man, who wanted to stand up, urging him to wait until emergency personnel could arrive, but he insisted on standing up and tried to walk towards the platform. We helped him up to his feet - he said he had fallen on the tracks "three other times before" - but he tried again to wobble towards the edge of the platform, which we prevented him from doing. Soon he walked up the stairs to leave the station, and refused medical attention by firefighters who arrived about 5 minutes after the incident. By the time four police officers arrived, the man was gone.

I am struck by a number of reflections and implications by the narrow crisis that was just averted:

1) How, in spite of this hyper-partisan, hyper-polarized, hyper-radicalized period in our country, the needs of a human being and the imminent death that faced him superseded his race, his mistakes, or his poverty. This looked like a man, a black man, similar to so many black men and people of color who have been dehumanized and scapegoated in our country during the past year. That didn't stop two white men from jumping in front of an oncoming subway to save his life. That didn't stop the brown and white people on the platform from lifting him to safety, nor from missing their train in order to sit with him for a while and share words of support and comfort.

2) How, unless we as human beings are confronted face-to-face with the pain and suffering of the most excluded and vulnerable of our society, we can easily fall into believing the caricatures created by those who benefit from their suffering. "The greater distance one is from the problem, the easier it is to philosophize". Why is it that, in that moment of seeing someone about to lose his life, it doesn't matter our race or class or political party (what matters is that he is human, so much so that we are willing to put our lives literally on the line for him), but when it comes to deciding whether or not as a society to provide healthcare to him, we become divided and partisan?

Why is it difficult for us to make the metaphoric leap to see all the many ways in which so many of our neighbors are laying helpless on the proverbial train tracks of life, desperate for their sisters and brothers to rescue them, to help them to their feet, to accompany them in their suffering, to share with them the abundance of economic, cultural, and social gifts our country produces?

3) How many falls onto the subway tracks could we prevent if as a society we provided for the mental and physical health needs of everyone? How many of the 168 people who were struck by trains, leading to 48 deaths in New York City in 2016, might never happen if our public policies matched the empathy and compassion shown by a small, diverse group of people on the 96th St B/C subway platform on a warm afternoon in late July?"

This week we have some powerful examples of faith to call upon. Monday is the feast day of a Pope and martyr, Sixtus II, who along with four deacons were arrested and put to death while celebrating Mass in the year 258. Tuesday we remember St. Dominic, who founded the Order of Preachers. The Dominicans devote their lives to contemplation, study, preaching and ministerial work, and they have always been a great presence here in our city. Have you ever visited St. Vincent Ferrer or St. Catherine of Siena over on the east side? Wednesday we honor St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein). Born to Jewish parents in Poland in 1891, Edith, through her philosophical studies, eventually embraced the Catholic Faith and became a Carmelite Nun, put to death by the Nazis at Auschwitz in 1942.

I hope you are enjoying the summer....and please, everyday, pray for peace....

Father Duffell

NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

En el 2016 **168** personas en la ciudad de Nueva York fueron atropelladas por trenes, lo que provocó 48 muertes. Estoy seguro de que todos hemos visto los anuncios de la MTA en el subterráneo relacionando con esta aterradora realidad, pero las frecuentes estadísticas pueden seguir siendo sólo eso ... información, un número. La semana pasada recibí un correo electrónico de un amigo relatando una situación angustiada pero hermosa que tuvo lugar en el metro. Joseph estaba esperando en la plataforma de los trenes B y C en la calle 96. Cuando el tren se acercaba a la estación, un hombre cayó sobre las vías y de inmediato la gente entró en acción, con dos hombres saltando a las mismas para ayudarlo a levantarse. Justo a tiempo todos llegaron a la cima de la plataforma. Quisiera compartir con ustedes solo algunos pensamientos de mi amigo Joseph sobre lo que él experimentó en ese momento:

Cómo, a pesar de este hiper-partidista, hiper-polarizado, hiper-radicalizado período en nuestro país, las necesidades de un ser humano y la muerte inminente a la que se enfrentó superaron su raza, sus errores o su pobreza? Este era un hombre, un hombre negro, similar a tantos hombres negros y gente de color que han sido deshumanizados y convertidos en chivos expiatorios en nuestro país durante el último año. Eso no impidió que dos hombres blancos saltaran delante de un subterráneo para salvar su vida. Eso no impidió que la gente de color, marrón y blanca, en la plataforma lo pusieran a salvo, ni les preocupó perder su tren con tal de sentarse con él durante un tiempo y compartir palabras de apoyo y humanidad.

¿Por qué, en ese momento de ver a alguien a punto de perder su vida, sin importar su raza, clase social o partido político (lo que importa es que él es humano, tanto que estamos dispuestos a perder nuestra vida por él), pero cuando se trata de decidir si si o no proporcionarle seguros médicos, nos dividimos y nos convertimos en partidistas?

¿Por qué es tan difícil para nosotros ver las muchas maneras en que tantos de nuestros vecinos se encuentran impotentes en los caminos de nuestras vidas, desesperados por rescatar a sus hermanos/as, y ayudarlos y acompañarlos en su sufrimiento y en compartir con ellos la abundancia de nuestros dones económicos, culturales y sociales que produce nuestro país?

Esta semana tenemos algunos ejemplos poderosos de fe a los que emular. El lunes es la fiesta de un Papa y mártir, Sixto II, que junto con cuatro diáconos fueron arrestados y condenados a muerte mientras celebraban la Misa en el año 258. El martes recordamos a Santo Domingo, que fundó la Orden de Predicadores. Los dominicos dedican su vida a la

contemplación, al estudio, a la predicación y al trabajo ministerial, y siempre han sido una gran presencia aquí en nuestra ciudad. ¿Has visitado alguna vez a San Vicente Ferrer o a Santa Catalina de Siena en el lado este de la ciudad? El miércoles honramos a Santa Teresa Benedicta de la Cruz (Edith Stein). Nacida de padres judíos en Polonia en 1891, Edith, a través de sus estudios filosóficos, finalmente adoptó la Fe Católica y se convirtió en monja carmelita. Murió asesinada por los nazis en Auschwitz en 1942.

El 6 y 9 de agosto, respectivamente, nos enfrentamos de nuevo a las atrocidades de la Segunda Guerra Mundial y los atentados atómicos de Hiroshima y Nagasaki. Que cada uno de nosotros, creyentes en un Dios de reconciliación, se esfuerce por ser testigo de una resolución pacífica siempre y cuando sea posible.

Recemos por la paz.

Padre Duffell.

CATHOLIC FAMILIES GROUP

Please join our Blessed Sacrament Catholic Families Group! We offer a range of events to help each other in raising our children as Catholics and becoming better in our own practice of the faith. We also host a monthly moms' group. Sign up at www.meetup.com/NYC-Catholic-Families/ - free to join and events are free.

HAITIAN PRAYER GROUP

The Companions of Jesus are a charismatic Haitian prayer group, and all are welcome to attend. The group meets every Friday in the Rectory from 7-9PM. Prayers are held in French, Creole, and English.

AUGUST CAMPAIGN AND REPAIR UPDATE

We are grateful that the repairs to the exterior of our beautiful church continue to progress. The Eastern wall of the church has been completely raked and repointed and the work on the Western wall is almost complete. We have just received the third invoice in the amount of \$91,620 for the completion of this phase of the work. The architect and contractor are now turning their attention to both of the church's apse roofs as well as the stone facade. Those roofs will be replaced, and, where damaged, the facade's heavy cast stones will have to be disassembled before being repaired or replaced. Whatever stones need full replacing will be recast most likely during the winter months. The steel framework of the facade, which holds the stones in place, will also be examined for its structural integrity. The Capital Campaign to support this work remains vital for its completion. Many of you have been faithfully making payments towards your pledges and we thank our over 300 donors for their support.



LATE SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION WILL CONTINUE UNTIL AUGUST 23 FOR UNFILLED CLASSES!

REGISTRATION WILL BE COMPLETELY CLOSED AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 10 AND REOPEN ON SEPTEMBER 11 FOR UNFILLED CLASSES.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR 2017-2018 will begin on Sunday, September 10. Religious instruction is held in the school from 11:00 -12:15.

Re-registration forms have been emailed to current students and posted on the Sunday School website. Students must register each year. For students who will be new to the program please send your email to: tina@blessedsacramentsundayschool.org or pick up a packet at the rectory or go to the Sunday school website: blessedsacramentsundayschool.org

DO NOT EMAIL THE COMPLETED FORMS BACK!!!

Please send by postal mail or drop off completed forms with a \$150 check per family at the rectory office.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Are you Catholic but have not received Communion or Confirmation? Inquiry discussions for adults will begin on Monday, September 25 at 6:30 pm. Please call Tina Silvestro at the parish office (212-877-3111) to register or seek information.

Music and stories combined: The Elsewhere Ensemble is performing Chekhov Triptych – three Chekhov stories in concert. It's on Tuesday, August 8th @ 8pm in the theater downstairs. Powerful, tender, funny and heartbreaking... for string trio and two actors. Featuring Broadway veteran MacIntyre Dixon. All the proceeds will be given to Doctors Without Borders. Suggested donation: \$20. Reservations and info at: www.elsewhereensemble.com

This weekend, members of the Climate Team will host a letter signing in the foyer of the church. The letters are requesting various elected officials to use the power of their office to create the framework that will help begin to move the country forward under the guidelines of the Paris agreement, specifically OFF Fossil Fuels towards clean energy solutions. We are partnering with Food and Water Watch on this national campaign, which asks elected officials to pledge to address climate change.

We welcome your assistance before/after whichever Mass you attend, to help man the table at the entry to the church. Thank you so much for any help you can provide!
Kindly let me know which Mass you can help out at.

This weekend's second collection

Soup Kitchen. Blessed Sacrament's Soup Kitchen meets every Sunday at 2PM on 70th Street. Staffed by many wonderful parish volunteers, the Soup Kitchen prepares delicious meals for locals in need.



Saturday Evening, August 5th

5:30 Frances & John Monaghan +

Sunday, August 6th

8:30 Intentions of Jean Squeri

10:00 Paul Kiley +

11:15 Joseph E. Caceres +

12:30 Mariano Anaya Leyva +

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Monday, August 7th

7:30 Joseph Kim +

12:10 Aida George Smith +

5:30 Laurence Egar +

Tuesday, August 8th

7:30 Intentions of Cathleen Carmody

12:10 Rafael Guillen +

5:30 Josefa Grillo +

Wednesday, August 9th

7:30 Estela Nuñez +

12:10 Maria Arlia +

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Thursday, August 10th

7:30 People of the Parish

12:10 Msgr. Martin Portelli +, Lucy Zimeck Camilleri +

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Friday, August 11th

7:30 Margie Weidner +

12:10 Veronica & Ramon Tirol +

5:30 Intentions of Thomas Middelhoff

Saturday, August 12th

7:30 Mario Ward Marlow +

12:10 Intentions of Augustine Waters

Finance Committee Corner

Last Sunday \$7,755 was received in the offertory baskets at Mass and \$5,397 was received through Parish Pay, for a total of \$13,152. Thank you for so generously giving to our regular collection.

Esquina Financiera

La suma de la colecta durante las Misas del domingo pasado fue \$7,755. Recibimos \$5,397 a través de ParishPay para un total de \$13,152. Gracias por dar tan generosamente a nuestra colección regular.



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)

Children _____

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** _____

What is Parish Pay?

With ParishPay, it's simple to make online donations to Blessed Sacrament using a credit or debit card. Simply go online at www.parishpay.com or call 1866-727-4741 ext.1 and--just like your monthly mortgage or other bills--the money will simply be debited from your account and go directly to Blessed Sacrament.

We will be starting a children's choir to sing at the 10:00 family mass for the summer. Beginning this weekend, July 30, children who would like to sing for part of the mass can meet Rob and Hayden at the piano at 9:30 on Sunday mornings to learn some of the music to sing at the 10:00 Mass. As many of us travel during the summer, this will be an informal "come when you can" group, so feel free to sing any week your family is able. All that's required is a love for singing! Feel free to email Rob (mcclimans@gmail.com) with questions or we will see you on the 30th!

Weekly EM and Lector Schedule

Saturday, August 5

5:30 pm	1st	Anita Pearl
	2nd	Elizabeth Hutton
	POF	Vincent Gardino
	EM	Elizabeth Hutton, Ginetta LaBlanca

Sunday, August 6

8:30 am	1st	Damian Begley
	2nd	John Hunt
	POF	Tom Caffrey
	EM	JoDell Sheilds, Vivian Villaluz, Damian Begley, John Hunt, Tom Caffrey
10:00 am	1st	Shirley Rodriguez
	2nd	Shirley Rodriguez
	POF	Eddie Litton
	EM	Shirley Rodriguez, Julie Tom, Judy Braun, Nellie Gonzalez-Arce, Patricia Caffrey
11:15 am	1st	Glenda Luzuriaga
	2nd	Lucytania Bruno
	POF	Cindy Ochoa
	EM	Junior Santiago, Oscar Henk, Celia Navarro
12:30 pm	1st	Jack Going
	2nd	Jack Going
	POF	Ed Casey
	EM	Thomas Alexander, Lidia Stempien, Raul Garcia-Moncada, Elsa Alvarez, Jack Going, Ed Casey
5:30 pm	1st	Alfred Alitheia
	2nd	Elizabeth Kubinski
	POF	Anita Faherty
	EM	Deacon Scott, Helena Maria Lim, Adriana Gonzalez, Suzy Xiong, Elizabeth H. Brooke Murray, Maria LaMagna, Jennie Lynch

THEATRE AT BLESSED SACRAMENT SEEKS STAGE TECHNICIANS

The Theatre at Blessed Sacrament is seeking stage technicians to assist with rental projects. Applicants must have a background and experience in technical theatre, especially lighting and sound. These are hourly paid positions; work is part-time and occasional, and can often fit into varying schedules. If interested, contact Jack Going, JEGoing@AOL.com (or leave contact information at the Rectory) for further information and application procedures. Thank you!