

# Church of the Blessed Sacrament Manhattan

Rev. John P. Duffell, *Administrator*  
Rev. Alfredo J. Balinong, S.J., *Associate*  
Rev. Alexis Bastidas, *Associate*  
Rev. Antony Gaspar, *In residence*  
Msgr. Robert B. O'Connor, *Pastor Emeritus*

Tina Silvestro, *Director Religious Education*  
Theo Corbin, *Pastoral Assistant*  
John R. Joven, *School Principal*

Donna De Solis, *Secretary/Office Mgr.*  
Dr. Gregory D'Agostino,  
*Organist & Director of Music*

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

Ph: 212-877-3111

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## **MASSES:**

SUNDAY Masses: Sat. evening at 5:30 PM  
Sunday: 8:30, 10:00 (Family Mass)  
11:00 (Spanish), 12:30 (choir) & 5:30 PM  
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:**

Third Sunday of the Month. Arrangements must be made at the Rectory at least two weeks in advance. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. Parents, and also godparents when possible, must meet with the priest for a Conference before Baptism.

## **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.

## **MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:**

Mondays, before the 12:10 Mass and before the 5:30 pm Mass.  
*Website:* [www.blessedsacramentnyc.org](http://www.blessedsacramentnyc.org)  
*Spanish Programs Website:* [www.nygente.com](http://www.nygente.com)  
*Sunday School Website:* [www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org](http://www.blessedsacramentsundayschool.org)

## **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.

## **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.

## **BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL**

Our School is located at 147 West 70th Street. For information about the school, please call 212-724-7561.

## **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.

## **PARISH BOUNDARIES:**

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



<b>Saturday Eve</b>	<b>March 21st</b>
5:30	George Kaufman +
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>March 22nd</b>
8:30	Fernando Pando +
10:00	Adelaida Suarez +
11:00	Gutierrez Ponce de Leon Family +
12:30	William Austin +
5:30	Olga Peters +
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 23rd</b>
7:30	Intention of Donna de Solis
12:10	Intention of Thomas Middelhoff
5:30	Mary Lumetta+
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>March 24th</b>
7:30	Samuel Lee Purnell +
12:10	Intention of Nicole Henry Briand
5:30	Susan Berko Conde +
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 25</b>
7:30	Intention of Thomas Middelhoff
12:10	Ester Trillana +
5:30	Bud Wandrey +
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>March 26th</b>
7:30	People of the Parish
12:10	Eleuteria Amora +
5:30	Felix Agustin +
<b>Friday</b>	<b>March 27th</b>
7:30	John Hayden +
12:10	America Hidalgo Rodriguez
5:30	Sean Mooney +
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 28th</b>
7:30	Intention of Thomas Middelhoff +
12:10	Marco Robba +
5:30	Giovanni Ianni +

**PARISH NOTES**

Dear Parishioners and Friends;

Next Sunday, March 29, we celebrate Palm Sunday. All Masses will begin on 71st Street in front of the church. There, palms will be blessed and then we will proceed into the church. The 10:00am Mass will begin at 9:45 for Palm Sunday and Easter. Plan to get here early; we are expecting larger than usual crowds.

Trappist Fr. Thomas Merton once wrote, “If you want to identify me, ask me not where I live, or what I like to eat, or how I comb my hair, but ask me what I am living for, in detail, and ask me what I think is keeping me from living fully for the thing I want to live for.” A good measure of Merton’s identity is contained in the exhibition “Seasons of Celebration: Thomas Merton at 100,” which opened February 2 at Columbia University’s Butler Library and runs through May 29. In a dozen glass cases, the exhibit profiles Merton the writer, interfaith dialogue partner, peace and racial justice activist, as well as the photographer, cartoonist, calligrapher and correspondent.

Remember, today at 2:30pm we will celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick with a concert by our parishioner Kitty Sullivan entitled, “Ireland, Once Upon a Time.” Afterwards, we will have a reception in the rectory. I hope to see you there.

As we head towards Holy Week, and Easter now is a good time to prayerfully consider your Easter offering. Your generosity is inspiring. Please offer whatever your means allow.

Are you having a fruitful Lent? There is still time . Praying, fasting and giving alms, the Lenten way Let me know.

Pray for Peace.  
Fr. Duffell



**Fr. Jim Martin, S.J.,** author of “The Jesuit Guide to (almost) Everything” will speak this Thursday night, March 26th at 7:00pm in the Church. Please join us.

**GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS**

Pax Christi Metro New York invites you to its 33rd consecutive Good Friday Way of the Cross as a way to shine God’s light on a sometimes dark and sinful city and world. Commemorating Jesus’ suffering in His own life and in the lives of people throughout the world today, hundreds process together, praying for changes in ourselves and in society. Concluding with a 15th station, we are reminded that we are a Resurrection people in a Good Friday world. The walk begins at 8:30am on April 3rd at 47th Street between First and Second Avenues, proceeds along 42nd Street and ends on 42nd Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues around noon. For more information, please contact Pax Christi Metro NY at 212-420-0250 or info@nypaxchristi.org.



**CRS RICE BOWL—LENT 2015**

This season of Lent, **Blessed Sacrament parish is participating in Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl** as a way of enhancing our Lenten journey. It is also a way for us to live out Pope Francis’ call to end world hunger. **CRS Rice Bowl** invites Catholics to live in solidarity with our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters through the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **870 million people suffer from hunger.** Of this 98% live in the developing world.

**If you don’t have a Rice Bowl** pick one up at the back of the church and take a flyer for more information.

**What you give up for Lent changes lives.**

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

*On Saturday, March 28th*, we will have the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at the 12:10pm Mass. All who feel the need for God's healing power in their lives are invited to take part.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Each Friday in Lent we have Stations of the Cross after the 12:10pm and 5:30pm Masses

**LENTEN SIMPLE SUPPERS**

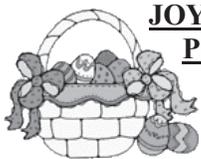
The Spirit Sunday and Young Adults groups are pleased to co-sponsor this year's Lenten Simple Suppers. Please join us on Wednesday 3/25, for prayer, meditation, and a supper of soup, salad, and bread. 7PM-8:15PM in the rectory dining room. This is a wonderful way to enrich your Lenten experience. For all questions, please call John Gasdaska at 646-345-7350. We hope to see you there.

**COLLECTION**

Our collection for March 15th was \$6,715. – And through ParishPay: \$1,891. – for a total of \$8,606. – We also received \$2,977. – for the Catholic Relief Services. We are grateful for your support.

**VISITING FRIENDS PROGRAM**

Our new Visiting Friends Program is up and running with great success. Volunteers are visiting homebound people in the neighborhood, bringing the comfort of companionship and social interaction. Flyers are available in the back of the church with information on the program. If you know of someone (friend, relative or neighbor) who might benefit from and welcome a visitor, please email us at joyj.blessed.sacrament@aol.com. – be sure to put "Visiting Friends Program" in the subject box. You can also leave the information at the Rectory.

**JOYJ INITIATIVE—Easter Egg Lenten Project**

JoyJ is once again sponsoring an Easter Egg Lenten Project. On March 28th a basket of eggs will be placed on the Blessed Mother's altar on the right side of the church. Inside each egg are requests for t-shirts, toothpaste, McDonald's or Subway gift cards, socks, wipes, protein fruit bars, etc. We ask that gift cards not exceed \$10.00 per card. Donations will be collected on Saturday, April 11th and Sunday, April 12th. Many thanks for your continued generosity.

**PATH TO THE STILL CENTER**

Come join us every Thursday at 5:30pm in the Rectory. We are following the teachings of **Dom John Main, OSB** and Fr. Laurence Freeman, OSB, Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation. The meeting includes a short taped talk, a silent meditation of 30 minutes and a time for questions or another short reading. It ends at 7:00pm.

**NOTICIAS PARROQUIALES**

Queridos Feligreses y Amigos;

El proximo 29 de Marzo celebramos el Domingo de Palmas. Todas las Misas comenzaran en el frente de nuestra parroquia. Allí se bedeciran las palmas y luego entraremos a la iglesia. Las Misas de las 10:00 y 11:00am comenzaran a las 9:45 y 10:45 respectivamente ese dia asi como el Domingo de Resurreccion. Esperamos mas feligreses de lo acostumbrado, asi que les sugiero llegar temprano.

El Sacerdote Trapista Thomas Marton una vez escribio: "Si quieren identificarme, no me pregunten donde vivo, que comida prefiero, o como me peino el cabello. Preguntenme en detalle para que vivo y que me impide vivir mejor para conseguir aquello por lo cual quiero vivir. Parte de la identidad de Merton puede ser encontrada en la exhibicion "Seasons of Celebrations: Thomas Merton at 100." la cual abrio el 2 de febrero en el Butler's Library de Columbia University y que concluire el 29 de mayo. Cerca de una dozana de vitrinas conteniendo varios articulos nos dan una idea de Merton, el escritor, el activista para la paz y la justicia social, asi como el fotografo, el experto en caligrafia, y corresponsal.

Recuerden que hoy a las 2:30pm celebramos la Fiesta de St. Patrick con un concierto de Kitty Sullivan titulado: "Ireland, Once Upon a Time". Despues ofreceremos una recepcion en la rectoria. Espero verlos alli.

Estamos a pocos dias de la Semana Santa y pienso que es un buen momento para considerar cual sera su oferta Pascual. Apreciamos su generosidad y esperamos puedan contribuir lo que sus medios les permita.

Y como observan la Cuaresma? Con plegarias? Ayuno? Limosnas?

Roguemos por la paz.

Fr. Duffell

**FATIMA**

**PLEASE JOIN US! Every Friday at 6:00pm or immediately after the 5:30pm Mass our parish has a Fatima Blue Army Cell prayer group in the rectory. The Rosary is the heart of our meeting. We also recite the special Fatima prayers and we pray for each other's petitions. During Lent we will meet immediately after the Stations of the Cross..** In 1917, our Blessed Mother appeared at Fatima, Portugal to three little children to inform them of God's displeasure with the sins of the world. She predicted the destruction of cities and countries and the countless loss of souls, and urged that everyone should do penance and pray the Rosary for peace in the world and for the salvation of mankind. **Please come and bring a friend.**

**BOOK CLUB**

**"The Last Monk of Tibhirine", a True Story of Martyrdom, Faith and Survival by Freddy Derwahl.** An account of Brother Jean-Pierre Schumacher, the last survivor of the seven Trappist monks of Tibhirine who were massacred in 1996 during the Algerian Civil War. The popular movie "Of Gods and Men": was based on the monks's deaths

**Join us on March 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory for a discussion of this great work**