

COVER SHEET

Church Name: St. Athanasius

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Marie Skroly, (718) 236-0124 Extension 10
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WE HAVE AN INSERT THIS WEEK, located on page 6 & 7.

RECTORY STAFF PHONE EXTENSIONS

Rev. Msgr. David L. Cassato, <i>Pastor</i>	Ext. 11
Rev. Richard Long, <i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Ext. 14
Rev. Bryan Patterson, <i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Ext. 13
Rev. Paul Chun, <i>Korean Apostolate</i>	Ext. 18
Rev. Godofredo Felicitas, <i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Ext. 19
Mrs. Marie Skroly, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	Ext. 10
Mr. Steven LaPlante, <i>Music Ministry</i>	Ext. 23
Rev. Amiro Jimenez, <i>Apostolado Latino</i>	Ext. 24
Mr. Joseph Barbieri, <i>Lay Ecclesial Minister</i>	Ext. 24
Mr. John Fruner, <i>Pastoral Associate</i>	Ext. 24

PASTORAL CARE Please don't forget to inform us if you are going to be hospitalized so one of our priests can visit. Provide us with your name, hospital, room number, phone number and, when possible, how long you will be hospitalized. If you are unable to attend Mass, due to poor health, illness or advanced age, please call so a Eucharistic Minister can bring Communion to you. Anointing of the Sick may be requested because of scheduled surgery or treatment for a life-threatening illness. Call us prior to your surgery or treatment. Directly inform one of our priests or leave this information on Ext.24

MASSES FOR THE WEEK**SUNDAY, JANUARY 11:**

8:30	HOLY NAME SOCIETY
10:00	Joseph Sacchi
10:00	SPANISH MASS – Lower Church
11:30	PURGATORIAL SOCIETY
11:30	Giacomo Puccio- ITALIAN
6:00	Francesca & Luigi Zuco

MONDAY, JANUARY 12:

7:00	Matthew Ferrigno
9:00	Vito & Petronilla Innamorato and Giuseppe & Isabella Muscatelli, Vito Roca
NOVENA AFTER MASS	

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13:

7:00	Teresa Martori
9:00	Rosa Balzano

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14:

7:00	Deceased of the Urfalino Family
9:00	Ralph Liberti

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15:

7:00	Ella Parmese
9:00	Francesco Di Maggio

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16:

7:00	Frank Bruno
9:00	Nellie & Edward Richter

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17:

9:00	Heather Garcia
ROSARY FOR LIFE – AFTER MASS	
10:30	Angela Barricella, Memorial Mass, ITALIAN
5:30	Joseph Schicchi

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18:

8:30	David Cassato
10:00	ROSARY SOCIETY – For Member Eileen Smyth
10:00	SPANISH MASS – Lower Church
11:30	PURGATORIAL SOCIETY
11:30	Raffael & Carmela Sigona and

WANT OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN EMAILED TO YOU?

Send us an Email (StAPastoralMin@aol.com)

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FROM 6a.m. until 3p.m., Monday through Saturday. The MAIN DOOR on Bay Parkway will be open.

HOSTS & CANDLES FOR THE WEEK – *donated in loving memory of George Bullock requested by Linda Bancker and Susan Fazio.*

WINE FOR THE WEEK – *donated in loving memory of Joseph Sacchi requested by Mary Sacchi and family.*

SUNDAY COLLECTION ENVELOPES Every parishioner is encouraged to use the Sunday collection envelopes. We invite you & your family to register at the rectory by stopping in, up until 8p.m., for a "Welcome Packet."

As each has received a gift, employ it for one another as good stewards of God's grace." (1 Peter 4:10)
CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

COLLECTION – 12/25/2003: Catholic Charities	\$1,650
	12/28/03: \$8,384
	1/1/04: \$3,840
	1/4/04 \$9,024
LAST YEAR – 1/5/03 \$8,805	

AVG. WEEKLY EXPENSES \$10,500

Our weekly expenses reflects what is needed for salaries, insurances, utilities, bills as well as the costs of the many programs, ministries & services we offer here at St. A's.

JANUARY 11 is Holy Name Sunday. All Members are urged to attend our 8:30a.m. Mass. Refreshments & a short meeting following in the Auditorium. Ladies welcome too! St. Athanasius will be host for a Convention kick off celebration for the Brooklyn Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies. The Brooklyn Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies join us today for the 8:30a.m. Mass.

EASTER CANDLE (PASCHAL CANDLE) AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIALIZATION which will be used for all Baptisms, Funerals & every day of the Easter Season from Easter 2004 to Easter 2005. We are accepting 6 donations of \$150 each. Your intention will be printed in the Sunday bulletin for the Entire Easter Season & placed on a plaque located next to the Baptism Font. If interested please come to the rectory to make arrangements for the memorialization.

DAILY MASS AT 7a.m. & 9a.m. WILL TAKE PLACE, MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY, IN THE LOWER CHURCH as the UPPER CHURCH sanctuary is restored and the church is painted. SUNDAY MASSES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THEIR USUAL LOCATIONS.

Ogni mattina dal Lunedì' a Sabato, la Messa delle sette del mattino e la Messa delle nove del mattino, saranno celebrate nella chiesa sottopiano (chiesa di giu') durante il periodo di restauro dell'altare e della Chiesa. Tutte le Messe della Domenica saranno celebrate nei loro posti consueti.

CALLING ALL COOKS! Our **FAITH & FAMILY COOKBOOK** is STILL in need of your recipes. You can submit them in one of these ways: (1) Place your recipe in an envelope marked **FAITH & FAMILY COOKBOOK**, placing it in the Sunday collection (2) Drop off your recipe at the rectory (3) Mail your recipe to the rectory (4) E-mail your recipes to StAPastoralMin@aol.com in the context of an e-mail (or in MS Word). **ATTENZIONE CUOCHI E CUOCHE!** Siete dei bravi cuochi? Parenti e amici accettano con piacere il vostro invito al pranzo natalizio? Avete una ricetta particolare? Se la risposta e' "si", siete pregati di darci la vostra ricetta preferita per il libro di cucina che la nostra parrocchia sta' preparando "FAITH & FAMILY COOKBOOK". Potete fare ricapitarci la vostra ricetta in uno di questi modi: (1) in una busta con scritto sopra "libro di cucina" e metterla nel cestino delle offerte la Domenica. (2) spedirla in rettoria (3) venendo in rettoria (4) via posta elettronica al seguente indirizzo: StAPastoralMin@aol.com (possibilmente scritta con il programma MS Word).

ENGLISH CLASSES will be offered here at St. A's from 7-9:30p.m. on Tuesday & Thursdays beginning January 27, 2004. **Registration** takes place at the rectory on Jan. 12-15 from 7-8:30p.m. Tuition is \$65 cash or money order. For information call the Catholic Migration Office at 718.236.3000.

DIVORCED & SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP meets Wed. Jan 14 in the Nazareth Institute.

A TIME AWAY, A PLACE APART... BUT STILL IN BROOKLYN Lenten Day of Prayer, here at St. A's, Sunday March 7, 12:30-6:30p.m. in our Auditorium. Talks & prayer in English, Italian & Spanish. Retreat Masters include Sr. Mary Claire Rhatigan, O.P., Mr. Jeff Smith (English), Miss Rosanna Furlano (Italian) & Sr. Isabel Bracero, S.S.M. (Spanish). The day includes 2 talks, Midday Prayer, Vespers, Eucharistic Adoration, dinner (pasta, chicken, broccoli, coffee, cookies) & fellowship. Donation is \$20 per person, & must be made by Sunday Feb. 29th. We need a minimum of 50 participants but space will also be limited. To register, place your donation in an envelope with your name, address & phone number (writing Lenten Day of Prayer on envelope), submitting it to the rectory or putting it in the Sunday collection.

UN GIORNO FUORI, UN POSTO DA PARTE MA SEMPRE A BROOKLYN L'ufficio dell'istruzione religiosa e gli uffici del ministero pastorale offrono un giorno di preghiera durante la Quaresima, qui a Sant'Atanasio Domenica, 7 Marzo, dalle 12:30-6:30p.m. nell'auditorio della nostra scuola. Colloqui e preghiere in Inglese, Italiano e Spagnolo. Le guide di questo giorno di preghiera includono Suor Mary Claire Rhatigan, O.P., il Signor Jeff Smith (Inglese), la Sig.na Rosanna Furlano (Italiano) e Suor Isabel Bracero, S.S.M.. (Spagnolo). Si terranno 2 colloqui, la Preghiera Di Mezzogiorno, Vespi, e L'Adorazione del Santissimo Sacramento. Seguirà' il pranzo (pasta, pollo, broccoli, caffè, e biscotti) e uno spazio di tempo per poter conoscere e far amicizia con gli altri partecipanti. L'offerta è di \$20 a persona, e deve essere fatta entro Domenica, 29 Febbraio. Abbiamo bisogno di un minimo di 50 partecipanti e i posti sono limitati. Per l'iscrizione, disponete la vostra offerta in una busta con il vostro nome, indirizzo e numero di telefono (gentilmente scrivete sulla busta "Giorno di Preghiera"), portandola in rettoria o semplicemente metterla nel cestino delle offerte la Domenica.

In your kindness please pray for those who are sick

Grace Albano, Jenny Annarumma, Louise Antrinoro, Carmela Atanasio, Carol Brooks-Fruner, Steven Bruntetti, Rosa Calabrese, Cameron Calderon, Jose Camacho, Herbert Calderon, Frank Cambria, Marie Carante, Carmine Cava, Erica Cavallieri, Thomas Chicchetti, Peter Cianciotta, Judy Cuda, Bruce Dalton, Giavonna Marie Darcy, Mary Dowgiallo, Doreen Ganley, Rose Gaccicone, Olga Garbat, Michael Grieco, Julia Iachetta, Marie Jensen, Jean Kelly, Lawrence Klein, Rose Kinnard, Scott Liell, Matthew Liberti, Rosemarie Liberti, John Henry Loria, Mary Ellen O'Keefe, Rev. John McCullough, Trudy McGranaghan, Beatrice McKenna, Lucia Montella, James Nolam, Cathy Petrik, Silvana Pintielli, Margaret "Rita" Pinckney, Oronzo Pistanza, Robert Presstia, Pablo Rivera, Caterina Ruggeri, Frances Ryan, Elisa Sciascia, Mildred Scimeca, Ryan Shaughnessy, Francesco Sale, Maria Solitto, Rose Varano, Maria Verfenstein, Ana Williams, Susan Yacovelli

In your kindness please pray for those who have died...

Theda Melchionne, Carmela Esposito, Angelina Bertuccil, Hugo Congeda, Maria Noto

We send our prayers & condolences to the deceased's family.

IF YOU WISH SOMEONE TO BE ADDED TO THE SICK LIST, leave their name on extension 24 of the rectory, spelling it slowly, no later than Monday of each week. **In order for us to keep our list up to date, we ask you to call each week with the name of the sick person.**

THE ITALIAN MASS BOOK OPENS TODAY, Sunday January 11, after the Italian Mass in the CONVENT BASEMENT/ Nazareth Institute. Reservations for Mass intentions can be made Sunday even if you do not have the money for the mass stipends.

PLEASE READ OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN when you are home, not during Mass. We encourage you to listen to God's Word as it is proclaimed in the Scriptures & homily. Please save the "Tablet" for home reading as well.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL BEEPERS, PAGERS & CELL PHONES IN ORDER TO BE IN PREPARATION FOR PRAYER & WORSHIP.

ROSARY FOR LIFE is prayed every Saturday after the 9a.m. Mass for an end to abortion. **THIS WEEK'S INTENTION:** That God who calls us to remove all oppression will enable our nation to restore equal protection to the lives of children still in their mother's wombs, we pray to the Lord.

THURSDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP is held every Thursday after the 9a.m. Mass, in the Nazareth Institute.

PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS THE ELIJAH CUP: Praying for vocations is the most powerful way to support vocations. A vocation is a call from the Holy Spirit, a gift from God that is nurtured in prayer. When we pray for vocations, we lift up those women and men whom God is calling. We hope that those who bring the Elijah Cup home will continue to pray for vocations daily. To schedule your week, please call the Pastoral Ministry Office at 718-236-0124, Ext. 24 or email StAPastoralMin@aol.com.

Louise Melillo accepts the cup at the 5:30pm Mass.

CELEBRATE ST. VALENTINE'S WEEKEND WITH A BLESSING OF MARRIED COUPLES & ENGAGED COUPLES HERE AT ST. A's. All married & engaged couples are invited to join us for mass at 11:30a.m. on Sunday Feb. 15th. Married couples are invited to call the Pastoral Ministry Office (at Ext. 24 of the rectory) and leave their full names (first & last), wedding anniversary date (including the year) & how many years they are married (as of Feb. 15, 2004). Engaged couples are invited to leave their full names & intended wedding date.

Why not consider DONATING A LEAF OR STONE ON OUR ST. ANTHONY-ST. JOSEPH TREE OF LIFE? It's a wonderful way to maintain a family legacy for those individuals who mean so much to you. Memorials & tributes have been made to honoring friends & loved ones, both living and deceased. A gold leaf is available for a donation of \$1,800, a copper leaf for \$1,000 and small stones for \$10,000. All memorials can be paid on an installment plan.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD WILL BEGIN ON MARCH 7 AT THE 10a.m. MASS. Children will leave the Upper Church during the sung Lord Have Mercy & go to the Lower Church Narthex (Vestibule) to listen to the Scripture Readings from a Children's Bible, then return to the Upper Church during the Presentation of the Gifts. **WE STILL NEED LEADERS, ASSISTANTS & THOSE WILLING TO PREACH TO THE CHILDREN.** Training continues **WED. JAN 21** at 7:30p.m. in the Religious Education Office

CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY BEING FORMED, which hopes to give Catholics more of a political voice in order to better influence the future of Bensonhurst & the Borough of Brooklyn. Interested? Leave your name & phone # for Don Clark on the Pastoral Ministry Extension. (24) Read our newsletter for specifics.

CELEBRATING CANDLEMASS DAY: Candlemass day is Monday Feb. 2, commemorating Jesus' presentation in the Temple. **On Sunday Feb. 1, at all our masses,** we will **bless candles to be used during the year at St. A's.** We invite you to bring some new candles to mass that day to be blest. If you forget, small candles will be offered for a \$1 donation. Bring your special dinner candles to church for the blessing! Bring your birthday candles to be blessed!

HAVE "FUN" at ST. A's FUND RAISER Trip to Atlantic City, Tues. Jan. 27, 2004 \$30 per person/return of \$13. Front of St. A's School at 9:30a.m. Bus departs at 10a.m. Phone Vinnie 718.331.5316 or Rocky 718,331.9159.

THE NAZARETH INSTITUTE

THE GOSPEL OF MARK This 5 session Thursday evening class meets from 7:30p.m. to 9:30p.m. in the Nazareth Institute and introduces participants to the Gospel of Mark. Attention is given to the writer's literary style, theology, pastoral purpose and message for the church and the world. Classes meet on **January 22, 29 February 5, 12, & 19.** Fr. Godofredo Felicitas will teach this course. Fr. Godofredo has a Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Religious Education & a Licentiate in Sacred Theology (STL), majoring in Scripture.

SPRING BOOK DISCUSSION: "HOW CAN I FIND GOD? The famous and not so famous consider the quintessential question." This book is a selection of reflections from people of many religious traditions. From the scholarly educator to the prisoner jailed for substance abuse, all share their own very personal views on how they managed to find God, or how God found them. We will read in our homes & discuss the book on 4 Thursday night sessions from 7:30-9p.m., May 6, 13, 20 & 27 in the Nazareth Institute. Books can be ordered in the rectory for \$15 but all orders must be submitted by Sunday Feb. 15, 2004. Books will be distributed by March 1.

Can't sing? ... then DING! JOIN OUR EASTER SUNDAY HAND BELL CHOIR for April 11th. Students in 3rd grade & older are invited to join. Don't read music? You don't have to! Rehearsals held Thursdays from 3:30-5p.m. beginning Feb. 26. If interested, leave your name, phone #, Email & age at the Pastoral Ministry Office (Ext. 24).

LENTEN BOOK FAIR, sponsored by Alba House, FEB. 28 & 29th, in our Upper & Lower Church narthex. This is an opportunity to get some good Lenten reading & spiritual Easter gifts for friends & family. Books in English, Italian & Spanish.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS are reminded to pick up their schedules in the SACRISTY. **Lectors who have not picked up their LECTOR'S WORKBOOK** are encouraged to do so this weekend.

BENSONHURST VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE at 8161 New Utrecht Ave is in danger of closing. The Volunteer Ambulance Service is having a Tupperware Party on Sat. Jan. 31 at 7p.m. in St. Mary Mother of Jesus Church. You can also pick up a catalog at the office on New Utrecht Ave. For info call 718.837.5032 Ext. 208.

ENGLISH CLASSES

St. Athanasius — Brooklyn

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DATES: — January 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 2004
7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

REGISTER IN PERSON:
St. Athanasius Parish Rectory,
2154 61 Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11204

TUITION: — \$65 cash or money order

INFORMATION: — **718-236-0124**

EVENING CLASSES

Winter 2004

WHERE: Saint Athanasius School
6120 Bay Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11204

CLASS DAYS: January 27, 29
February 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 26,
March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 2004

TIME: 7:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.
Tuesday and Thursday



Catholic Migration Office
1258 65 Street
Brooklyn, NY 11219
(718) 236-3000

A Message from our Pastor, Msgr. Cassato

ABOUT THE RESTORATION OF THE SANCTUARY & THE WORK BEING DONE IN THE CHURCH

What are we doing?

My Dear Parishioners,

As you enter the church today, you see that we are celebrating the Eucharist in a dusty, yet sacred place!

The sanctuary is being slightly enlarged in order for us to relocate the Main Altar closer to the assembly (congregation). This will enable us to have more room around the altar.

The main altar will be reformed out of our two side altars of the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph. The present altar we are using is a temporary altar that was placed in the sanctuary on the First Sunday of Lent in 1966 to facilitate Mass facing the congregation. These temporary altars were to be used until each parish made plans for a permanent altar facing the congregation. We are also using some parts of the High Altar for the new Main Altar.

The Ambo (Pulpit) will be brought out from the side wall of the sanctuary, to enable it to be in a more prominent place, giving honor to the Word of God that we proclaim and preach. This too enables us to have more room around the Ambo to honor the Scriptures with incense and candles.

The High Altar will be made a little smaller and a little higher as a throne for the Tabernacle. The remnants of the Communion Rail, presently in front of the Blessed Mother Altar and St. Joseph Altar, will be removed and placed in front of the steps leading up to the new Tabernacle throne. Here you are invited to kneel and pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The Communion Rail also sets apart this area of the sanctuary for private prayer devoted to Our Lord in the Eucharist.

All restorations and renovations to the sanctuary will not look like the church was altered but will blend in with its architecture. The terrazzo will be removed and placed over the new sanctuary floor, which is also being made higher to improve the visibility of the altar.

The entire church will be painted. The original Baptistry in the Narthex (Vestibule) will be restored and converted into an additional devotional area for prayer, similar to those in the back of the church where our former Confessionals were located. We will relocate our cantor music stand for better visibility and slightly enlarge our music space to provide more room for wheelchairs.

In the early Spring, Bishop DiMarzio will come and rededicate our church. During the week, Mass will be celebrated in the Lower Church but on Sundays, we will always gather in the Upper Church for Mass on Saturdays at 5:30p.m. and on Sundays at 8:30, 10, 11:30a.m. & 6a.m.

Even though the sanctuary is in shambles today, pieces of marble have been removed, we assure you that we are using all these pieces in our new design. Hopefully, by the first week of Lent, we will be using our new sanctuary, ready to celebrate Easter and the sacraments of Initiation.