

COVER SHEET

Church Name: St. Athanasius

Bulletin # 511245

Date of Publication December 14, 2008

John Fruner, (718) 236-0124 Extension 44

RECTORY EXTENSIONS 718.236.0124

Rev. Msgr. David L. Cassato, <i>Pastor</i>	Ext. 11
Rev. Ron D'Antonio, <i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Ext. 13
Rev. Gabriel Toro, <i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Ext. 14
Rev. Deacon Dante Colandrea	Ext. 23
Mrs. Marie Skroly, <i>Pastoral Administration</i>	Ext. 10
Mrs. AnnaMarie Scuteri, <i>Pastoral Administration</i>	Ext. 19
Mrs. Ann DeVito, <i>Pastoral Administration</i>	Ext. 12
Mr. Steven LaPlante, <i>Music Ministry</i>	Ext. 25
Mr. Joseph Barbieri, <i>Lay Pastoral Leader</i>	Ext. 24
Mrs. Carmela Colandrea, <i>Lay Pastoral Leader</i>	Ext. 24
Mr. John Fruner, <i>Pastoral Associate & Social Worker</i>	Ext. 24
Mrs. Angela Maffei, (Mon.,Wed.,Fri.,9a.m.-2:30p.m.)	Ext. 0
Mrs. Michelle DeStefano (Tues.&Thurs. 9a.m.-2:30p.m.)	Ext. 0

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. Anointing of the Sick at Mass may be celebrated before you go into the hospital. Directly inform one of our priests or call ext.24.(Pastoral Ministry)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**SUNDAY, December 14, 2008 3rd Sunday in Advent**

8:30 Vincent, Giuseppe, Francesca, Doroteo, Grazia Minagro
 10:00 Holy Name
 10:00 Spanish Mass (Lower Church)
 11:30 Purgatorial Society
 11:30 Italian Mass (Lower Church) Nicola, Giuseppe & Caterina Brunetti
 1:00pm 50th Anniversary: Rosalia & Vincenzo Marino
 6:00pm Ateniese & Tagarelli Family

MONDAY, December 15, 2008

7:00 Scianna, Buffa & Colavolpe
 9:00 Pasqualina, Anthony Sr., Vincent Perricone & Family

TUESDAY, December 16, 2008

7:00 Beniamino & Loretta Pesce
 9:00 Nunzia, Pasquale Polizzi

WEDNESDAY, December 17, 2008

7:00 Anna & Santo Ammirabile
 9:00 Frank Bruno

THURSDAY, December 18, 2008

7:00 Michael G. Felcetto (Anniversary)
 9:00 Nina Principae & Regina Principe Auz

FRIDAY, December 19, 2008

7:00 Anthony Alfieri
 9:00 Phyllis Modelfino, Wendy Moncus Pichardo and Edward & Mary Burgess

SATURDAY, December 20, 2008

9:00 John Vonelli, Theresa & Samuel Pane, Josephine & Frank Terranova
 10:30 Memorial Mass- Guy Ateniese
 11:00 Lower Church-Spanish Mass
 5:30 John, Carmella, Anthony Buoncore

SUNDAY, December 21, 2008 4th Sunday in Advent

8:30 Rosary Society
 10:00 Albert, Joseph, Christina Niciforo & Dolores
 10:00 Spanish Mass (Lower Church)
 11:30 Purgatorial Society
 11:30 Italian Mass (Lower Church) Tommaso Gioeli
 6:00pm Marchese Family

MAKE A VISIT TO THE CHURCH AND PRAY IN THE PRESENCE OF JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Don't forget our Upper Church is open Monday-Friday from 6:30a.m. to 3p.m. Saturday & Sunday 7a.m. to 7p.m.

WELCOME, we're glad you're here!

If this is the first time you have been to St. A's, welcome! We promise that if you keep your heart and mind open to God, you'll find what you're looking for. **Would you like to talk to someone?** We're here to listen and help if we can. Just call us at the Rectory when you're ready. In the meantime, remember that you are always prayed for and that it is our hope to pray with you each week.

HOSTS FOR THE WEEK- *donated in loving memory of Joe Schicchi requested by wife Angie Schicchi*

WINE FOR THE WEEK - *donated in loving memory of Giuseppe & Giovanna Giaquinta requested by Tina Giaquinta & Family and donated in living memory of Colomba & Giovemni Tanzi requested by Rina & Nick Sbnogola.*

ALTAR CANDLES FOR THE WEEK - *donated in loving memory of John & Lisa Calia requested by Grace & Lawrence Calia.*

SANCTUARY LAMPS *One sanctuary lamp is donated in memory of Ralph Chirico requested by Mario & Jennie DePinto. The other sanctuary lamp is donated in memory of Doreen Canto requested by Mom & Dad.*

OUR CALL TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

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.

DECEMBER 7, 2008 \$ 8,311 LAST YEAR 2007 \$8,028

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN sponsored by the Holy Name Society will take place Sunday December 21 in the Parish Auditorium right after the 10:00a.m. Mass. We hear Santa will stop by too!

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP- TODAY, December 14th our Charismatic Prayer Group will sponsor its annual Christmas Party at the Hillcrest Health Care Center at 2p.m. All are welcome to join the group and entertain the residents. The address is 3035 West 24th Street right here in Brooklyn.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINES ARE CHANGED FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS DUE TO OUR PRINTER'S HOLIDAY CLOSINGS If you need any announcements in the parish bulletin, please submit them by these due dates: December 21 Bulletin: deadline Mon. Dec. 15 by 12noon. December 28 Bulletin: deadline Mon. Dec. 15 by 12noon. January 4, 2009 Bulletin: deadline Mon. Dec. 15 by 12noon.

to worship with us. Under any and all circumstances, please remember that to all our celebrations & activities you are welcome.



ADVENT GIVING TREE

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Brooklyn already has an exceptionally large request for new toys for children so this year our Giving Tree will benefit those needy families. **The Giving Tree is next to the St. Joseph & St. Athanasius Altar. ALL GIFTS MUST BE PLACED NEXT TO THE TREE BY SUNDAY DECEMBER 14th.** Any NEW toy or NEW clothing for a child, newborn to 18, is needed. **Choose an angel ornament off of the tree and attach that angel to your UNWRAPPED GIFT with the intended age of the child.**

IN ADDITION TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES, we have received a request to provide some developmentally delayed children in **The William O'Connor Midwood School** with gifts. The children are 3-5 years old and we need: Mega Blocks, Duplo Blocks, Candy Land Games, trouble Games, Hi-Ho Cherrio Games, Dora the Explorer Dolls & Barbie Dolls. **Please place WILLIAM O'CONNOR SCHOOL on the angel ornament and attach it to your UNWRAPPED Gift** so we know that these gifts go to these children.

KEEP THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SHINING THROUGHOUT CHRISTMAS right here in our parish! Did you know that the 12 days of Christmas refer **not** to the 12 days before Christmas but the 12 days **AFTER** Christmas. The 12 days begin on Christmas day and ends on Epiphany, January 6th. It was customary to give your husband, wife, fiancé, girlfriend or boyfriend a gift each day of the Christmas season. In the United States Epiphany is celebrated on Sunday, however, January 6th is a Holy Day of Obligation outside of the United States. **Let us keep our houses decorated and lights turned on until Sunday January 11, 2009, the feast of the Baptism of our Lord, the last day of the Christmas Season.**



PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE CHURCH As you browse through the department stores brightly lit green and red, and you hear Christmas carols over and over in your head... **we ask you to please think about St. A's parish.** As you bake dozens of cookies of angels and trees, and you bundle in woolens so that you don't freeze... **we ask you to please think about St. A's parish.** As you wrap dainty, little packages in silver and gold, and extend Christmas greetings to friends new and old... **we ask you to please think about St. A's parish.** Think about all of the work at St. A's performed lovingly and with care. Think about the many children who count on us, and we're there. Think about the adults, who, through us, can hope for brighter days, better ways, and the ability to cope. If you are not on our mailing list, we invite you to please take **MY CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE PARISH** envelope next to the bulletin. You may return it at any time.



THE PRESEPE IS OPEN – Come to see the beautiful Presepe in our lower church. Bring your family and friends to see this spectacular work of art crafted by our very own Italian Choir Master Anthony Vigilante.

TO THE STRANGER WITHIN OUR GATES We bid you welcome in the Name of Jesus. If you have a church home and are only an occasional worshipper with us, the welcome is just as cordial. If you have no church home and find our celebrations helpful, we invite you to make this church your home and continue

In your kindness please pray for those who are sick

Kathy Adams, Catherine Arrighetta, Faith Arent, Kimberly Arent, Patricia Aurigemma, Guy Ateniese, Maria Bogdan, Ann Bricese, Douglas Brock, Catherine Broderick, Aidan Cassidy, Gianna Marie Carlson, Judith Carminette, Cynthia Carponetto, Glenn Carr, Mark Cascio, Michele Cassata, Ann Centorrino, Arthur Chapnick, Sebastian Chiarello, Carmela Colandrea, Vincenzo Coppelivo, Bruce Dalton, Celeste DeLeonardus, Joseph Delgado, Gene DelPrete, Al DeMarco, Jr., Al DeMarco III, Louis DeMarco, Joan DeMarco, Joan Demeyer, Mario DePinto, Rachel DePinto, Catalina Diaz, Barbara Doyle, Maria Esemplare, Frances Falzetta, Helen Felcetto, Anthony Felicito, Marie Ferlazzo, Carole Fruner, Ann M. Fruner, Sunday Giuffanti, Theresa Giuffanti, Gina Giuffanti, Melissa Grondal, Ruth Hoffman, Diana Ingravallo, Francesca Ingravallo, John Jadazeewski, Neil Kelleher, Jean Kelly, Lawrence Klein, Lawrence Klein, Jr. Stephen Kelleher, Marie Liberti, Richard Liberti, John Liberti, Jillian Lasinsky, Sandra Lazinsky, Avdy Llakukic, Ellen Mary MacDougall, Ellen Mackey Fontana, Enise Maignan, Paul Marchese, Eleanor Marando, Rosalie Mazzalla, Catherine Minerva, Lucia Montella, Julie Murray, Joe P., Grace Pecorella, Cathy Petrik, Eric Brandon Pinzon, Christine Remmer, Mercedes Rivas (Fr. Gabriel's mother) Hilda Rodriguez, Ida Russo, Fortunato Salzano, Maria Sassano, Ralph Satriano, Donna Schiavo, Josephine Schiavo, Jada Sciacchitano, Carol Sidoti, Fran Sidorksy, Concetta Sottilaro, Dana Sottilaro, Philip Sottilaro, Lauren Thurgood, William Thurgood, Amalia Vazquez, Rita Verde, Carla Vitucci, Pasquale Visceglia, Catherine Vermericci, Madelon Vitucci, Angelina Vonelli, Leonard Walder, Lucy Wasieleski

TO ADD A NAME, (or keep a name) please call ext. 24 on Monday, spelling the name. **If you wish the name to remain on the list you must call each week.**

**In your kindness, please pray for those who died:
Angelo Lasardo**

PASTORAL MINISTRY

DO YOU NEED A MINISTER OF CARING? Is someone in your family ill, homebound, hospitalized or in a care facility (assisted living or nursing home) & wishes a visit or a phone call from a **MINISTER OF CARING**, please call Bensonhurst Cluster Lay Minister Palma Parmese at 718. 837.1752.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HERE IN ST. A's RECTORY ON WEDNESDAYS from 9a.m. to 4p.m. The Neighborhood Office is an extension of the District Attorney's Office's Citizen Action Center. You can discuss problems that concern you and our community with their staff members. **THE D.A.'s OFFICE IS LOCATED IN THE RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM. You can call them at 718.234.8709.**

SUPPORT GROUPS HERE AT ST. A's

DIVORCED & SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP Are you separated? Thinking about Divorce? In the midst of a Divorce? Already Divorced? Ending a long term relationship? We will meet in the Nazareth Institute on **Tuesday Dec. 16** from 7:30-9p.m. Call AnnaMarie Scuteri at ext. 19 to get contact information of the Director of this support group.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. **WE HAVE A GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS GROUP HERE AT ST. A's, meeting every Friday night at 7:30p.m. in the Nazareth Institute.**

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS Overeaters Anonymous members talk about their struggles with compulsive eating. **WE HAVE AN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS GROUP HERE AT ST. A's, meeting every Wednesday night at 8:00p.m. in the Nazareth Institute.**

IS YOUR LIFE EFFECTED BY SOMEONE WHO IS DRINKING? To help them, you first must help yourself. Al-Anon helps families and friends of alcoholics recover from the effects of living with the problem drinking of a relative or friend. Our **AL-ANON GROUP** meets here at St. A's every Friday at 8-9:30p.m. & Saturday at 7:30-9:30p.m. in the Nazareth Institute.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets twice a month on Fridays from 7:30-9:30p.m. in the Nazareth Institute's Bethany Room. For more information, call Andre at 646.236.4813.

We can longer offer counseling here at St. A's so...

IF YOU NEED COUNSELING, THE ITALIAN BOARD OF GUARDIANS offers counseling to adults, teens, seniors, children, couples, and families. Their services are offered in English and Italian. For more information & cost, call 718.232.4242 or E-mail nvisibg@alo.com.

ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM through Catholic Charities The program provides counseling, support, & treatment for those seeking help. Call 1.800.659.1603.

THE ROSARY SOCIETY Our monthly Mass is on Dec. 21 at 10a.m. Please note our meeting will be MONDAY EVENING Dec. 22 at 7:30p.m. in the Parish Auditorium. It will be our Christmas meeting and our Baby Shower. Time for fun! All women are invited!



CHRISTMAS TREE OF LIGHTS IN FRONT OF THE PARISH RECTORY All members of our parish are invited to purchase lights on the **TREE OF LIGHTS** as a special gift for family and friends or for that "difficult to shop for" someone. Gifts can be in honor of someone or in memory of a loved one or be in celebration of a Marriage anniversary or engagement. Lights can also be in Thanksgiving to God or a special Saint. **Lights may be purchased up until Friday Dec. 19, 2008 for your intentions to be posted on the plaque by our tree.** The Tree will be lit until January 11, 2009. Each light is \$7. **THE TREE OF LIGHTS IS LOCATED ON 61st STREET TO THE LEFT OF THE RECTORY BY OUR SAINT JUDE STATUE.**

ST. ATHANASIUS SPORTS-O-RAMA PROGRAM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS GRADES 2ND TO 6TH every Wednesday Night 7p.m. to 8:30p.m. in St. A's Gym Registrations Fee \$15. For more info call Donna 718.331.8906.

THE ROSARY SOCIETY'S CHRISTMAS FAIR SUNDAY Dec. 7th. In our Parish Hall! Come see our great selection of goods. Great Christmas ideas!

Ringing in 2009!



DEACON DANTE INVITES YOU TO SAY: HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009! December 31, 2008 – New Year's Eve Party in our Parish Hall! 8p.m. to 2a.m. Dinner, Dancing & Lots of fun! Donation is \$65 per person but we only have space for 280 people! Call Deacon Dante at 917.602.3793 to make your reservations now!

ANIMALS OF THE NATIVITY

are coming to
St. A's Parish Yard



Sunday, December 28 for the
Feast of the Holy Family.

Come see & pet the LIVE animals that were in the manger with infant Jesus from 10a.m. to 1p.m.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT JOINING THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY? A society made up of men dedicating their efforts towards serving God, allegiance to our country, and protecting our families. We need men who can help us feed the hungry & homeless, coach in the Sports Programs, coordinate our blood drive, help with the Holy Name Society Halloween Party, Christmas Party and Dinner Dance, serve as an usher, maybe experience the parish Bible Sharing group, Scouting Program?

Call Ed DiGiacomo the Holy Name Society President to learn more! 718.836.7917

FAITH SHARING QUESTION OF THE WEEK

We encourage you to talk about the readings & reflection question in the car on the way home from Mass, at dinner on Sunday, or at parish meetings. Faith sharing opens the door for us to meet, know & walk with Christ in our everyday lives.

Share about a specific work of kindness you could do to bring someone joy.

THURSDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE REFLECTION & FAITH SHARING GROUP meets every Thursday, after the 9a.m. Mass, in the Nazareth Institute to discuss the upcoming Sunday's Scriptures. Join Lay Pastoral Leader Joe Barbieri for spirited discussions on next Sunday's Bible readings.

G.I.S.A. Gruppo Italiano Sant'Atanasio – Christmas Party – Sunday, December 21 at 4:30pm in Parish Hall. Everyone welcomed. Coffee and refreshments. Join us for a delightful afternoon with a visit from Santa. Freddy Felletti, President - 718- 614 – 9683.

SOCIETA' CULTURALE PUGLIESE FIGLI MARIA SANTISSIMA ADDOLORATA – annual Christmas Show - Saturday, December 20 in our Parish Hall at 7:00pm. Children dressed in their angel costumes are welcomed. Sandwiches, coffee and panettone will be served. Donation \$20 per person. Children free. Gifts from Santa to all. For information and reservation **Lucrezia Nardulli** at **917-509-2803**

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN WE BEGIN OUR PREPARATION FOR OUR CHRISTMAS season and our wonderful decorations in St. Athanasius Church. In order to have a more parish family centered Christmas we are asking our family parishioners to bring in ornaments of balls, tear drops, angels or stars in colors **GOLD, or RED** in any style of glass, satin or velvet. The colors stand for GOLD-love-RED-warmth! Please leave your decorations by the Shrine of the Blessed Mother where our parish tree will be displayed.



PLEASE HELP US DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS Christmas decorations are being prepared, we have ordered our Christmas trees, poinsettia plants, wreaths, and garlands to decorate our church. If you are not on our mailing list, we invite you to take an envelope next to the bulletins and return it in the Sunday collection. We rely on your donations to purchase all our decorations each holiday season. Thank you for your continued generosity. It's so inspiring!



WELCOME TO THE STAFF! WE HAVE A COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY HERE AT ST. A's WHO WILL WORK WITH OUR CLUSTER DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES. We welcome **Mr. John Banker**. John will work with Ken to coordinate activities here. His office will be in the rectory and his phone extension is 27.

IN ORDER FOR ONE OF OUR DESIGNATED PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS TO RESERVE ONE OF OUR ROOMS HERE AT ST. A'S we require you to fill out our **PARISH CALENDAR & ROOM REQUEST FORM**. THE ROOM REQUEST FORM is available in the rectory or can be downloaded from our website & there you have the option of e-mailing your request. Otherwise, you can e-mail Joann Rubino at JRubino215@hotmail.com To check for available space, our parish calendar is online. Visit our parish website (<http://StAthanasiusNY.tripod.com>), The same parish calendar is also in the Rectory Office. **This is the ONLY way to reserve a room here at St. A's. Whatever group is listed on the parish calendar is the group that has the right to use that space. If you are not a designated ministry of our parish,** permission must be granted from our Pastor, Msgr. Cassato, a rental fee is paid, & a lease agreement completed in order to use space.

SUNDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES The Sunday Bulletin must be e-mailed to our printer by 5p.m. Monday. **All announcements must be submitted in WRITTEN form only** (handwritten, typed, computer, fax, e-mailed, etc) **by 12 noon Monday.** Announcements received after the deadline will be published the following week. **No one on the parish staff will assume the responsibility for your ministry's articles.** Include your bulletin articles in your advance planning for your event. **ALL FLIERS NEED TO BE APPROVED BY A STAFF MEMBER, and MUST BE SUBMITTED ON DISC or E-mailed ONLY** to StAPastoralMin@aol.com. A submission form is also on our website on the **BULLETIN** tab. (<http://StAthanasiusNY.tripod.com>)

St. Athanasius Prayer Group is celebrating an Advent Mass to get ready for the Christmas Season. **Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.**
In the **Lower Church** with
Rev. Ronald D'Antonio
Rosary begins at 7:30 PM
All are Welcome!

DO YOU LIKE OUR NEW ADVENT ALTAR CLOTH? THE ALTAR CLOTH IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIALIZATION for a donation of \$500. We will place a memorial tag with your intention on the cloth so we will pray for that intention each time we celebrate the Mass with that cloth. Speak to AnnaMarie Scuteri or Marie Skroly.

WHY NOT CONSIDER DONATING A LEAF OR STONE ON OUR ST. ANTHONY-ST. JOSEPH TREE OF LIFE? 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. Please come in to the rectory and speak to **Marie Skroly, AnnaMarie Scuteri** or **Msgr. Cassato** to reserve your Tree of Life memorial

CALLING ALL ST. A'S SCHOOL ALUMNI - WE NEED YOUR HELP! We want to form an Alumni

Association that can help keep St. A's School going strong! Anyone who is interested in forming a committee to get this going is asked to contact Msgr. Cassato at 718.236.0124. Ext. 11 or email him at StAthanasiusNY@hotmail.com In order to form a data base, we ask that you fill out this tear off and return it to the RECTORY. You may place it in the Sunday collection.

**ST. A'S SCHOOL ALUMNI**

Name: _____ Class of _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell: _____
 E-mail: _____

**WONDER AND AWE IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

As we try to offer a refuge from the business and confusion of the world, we ask all our parishioners to **PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES BEFORE ENTERING CHURCH.** Likewise, we ask all to please refrain from **TEXT MESSAGING** anyone, especially those who are already here in St. Athanasius Church! Finally, **GUM CHEWING** is not acceptable at Mass or in church, even when it is removed just before Communion. The Church requires us to fast for one hour before receiving Communion (Catechism of the Catholic Church # 1387), and we are to refrain from eating before we receive Communion. Gum chewing shows a lack of respect for the celebration of the Eucharist. **WE DO NOT BRING COFFEE, OTHER DRINKS, & FOOD into church.**

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Our Cluster Youth Ministry Office has a website.

Visit <http://brooklynym.tripod.com>

To contact *The Bensonhurst Cluster Youth Ministry Office* email KenWodz@optonline.net. By phone call 718-234-0614. In person visit The Libutti Center at 2001 Bay Ridge Pkwy, next to St. Dominic's Rectory.

YOUTH DRAMA GROUP-THE PASSION PLAYERS 7-9PM at ST. FINBAR'S (Bay 20th and Bath Ave.) **EVERY OTHER MONDAY-** This drama group learns skills and performs mainly short plays throughout the year; new members are always welcome and needed. The next meeting is, Dec 15th, not meeting on December 29th and restarting in the new year, January 12th.

May the angel of the Annunciation bless you, inviting you to awaken to the life of God within in you.

May the angel of Joseph's dream bless you, stirring your spirit to trust the many ways God whispers to you!

May the angel of Bethlehem bless you, tickling your soul with laughter and joy, heralding hope and good tidings to you!

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION WITH THE CHINESE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BENSONHURST AT ST. ROSALIA'S 2:30 pm – 9:00 pm, Saturday, December 20. Cost: Adults \$10, Children \$5. Dinner included. Please register with Fr. Do at 718.236.0909.

曠野中有人大聲呼喊說：

「你們當預備上主的道，修直祂的路。」

降臨期反省日

下午二點半到九點

十二月二十日(星期六)

聖柔夏禮雅天主教堂

Saint Rosalia Church

6301 14th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11219

電話：718-236-0909

經費：大人10元 小孩5元(包括飲食)

請向杜神父登記

當日的(暫定)時間表如下：

02:30 歡迎 介紹 03:00 電影

05:00 休息 05:15 反省 分享

06:00 晚餐 休息 07:30 玫瑰經 告解

07:45 主日彌撒 08:45 點心 結束

ADVENT MEMORIALS

Our New Advent Pulpit Hanging was donated in Memory of Phyllis & John Crawford requested by Lillian Ristuccia.

The Advent Wreath Candles in the Upper Church were given as a gift from Theresa Romersa & Sons in memory of Joseph Romersa, Michael & Anna Mealli, Anna Marie Porter & Theresa Teta.

The Advent Wreath Candles in the Lower Church were given as a gift from Genevieve & Josephine DePinto,

also donated by Anna Metcalf in memory of Mario DelBianco & Michelina Lubrano, given as a gift from Gregory, Tara, and Danielle Rincones

in memory of Don Petrik and Jack & Dorothy Rincones, and in memory of Helen Touloumis from the 8th Grade Class of St. Margaret Mary School.



Messa in Italiano ogni Domenica alle 11:30am (Chiesa di giu')

MERCOLEDI', 24 DICEMBRE - MESSA DI MEZZANOTTE IN ITALIANO CANTI NATALIZI CON INIZIO ALLE ORE 11:30PM

Dal nostro DIACONO DANTE COLANDREA

Riflessione del mese di dicembre

GESÙ BUSSA AL TUO CUORE - Forse siamo tutti un po' come Giovanni Battista in carcere: quando sorgono i dubbi, le ansie, abbiamo bisogno di conferme. Noi facciamo il nostro dovere: lavoriamo, studiamo, intratteniamo relazioni, diamo qualcosa di noi stessi agli altri; poi sentiamo bisogno di qualcos'altro, qualcosa di cui non sappiamo dire il nome... Sarà troppo, sarà esagerato pensare che quel "qualcosa", quel "qualcuno" è Dio?

Si tratta di un'esigenza profonda, intima, viscerale.

Quando non capiamo cosa sia, riempiamo, copriamo, quasi annebbiamo questa esigenza.

La "imbottiamo" - per tenerla buona e al suo posto - e la ricopriamo di cose da fare. A volte la riconosciamo, questa benedetta esigenza di Dio, ma è "troppo impegnativo" seguire le sue indicazioni.

Meglio rimandare a domani, alla prossima settimana, o meglio: alla prossima adorazione, al prossimo ritiro, al prossimo incontro associativo e di gruppo, al prossimo rosario, alla prossima condivisione spirituale, alla prossima confessione, al prossimo silenzio. Cioè lontano, dopo, mai.

In fondo il "poi" è o non è - nei proverbi e nella realtà - parente del "mai"? È la nostra natura, siamo fatti così...

Signore, ci devi proprio capire, noi abbiamo bisogno di segni, di essere scossi, di vederTi... sennò non Ti seguiamo. "Hai capito, Signore?" diciamo dentro di noi.

Ed il Signore non capisce. Fa il testardo Lui.

Noi gli chiediamo se ne vale davvero la pena e Lui risponde a modo Suo. Arriva, passa, bussa al cuore, continua a camminare.

A volte ci destiamo, facciamo in tempo ad alzarci dalle comode poltrone dei nostri interessi, a spoltrirci dai comodi divani dei nostri divertimenti e narcisismi; a volte facciamo in tempo ad affacciarsi dalla finestra del nostro cuore e Lo vediamo. Lui, Gesù, che ci passa accanto ed opera prodigi: alcuni vedono con occhi diversi la realtà, altri sentono finalmente la Sua Parola, i poveri in spirito si dicono beati, chi si dimenava negli stagni fangosi del peccato trova il coraggio e la forza di rialzarsi, di ripulirsi, di andare oltre.

A volte ci viene la tentazione di andare alla porta, spalancarla, uscire per strada e gridare: "Aspetta, Gesù, aspettami! Faccio ancora in tempo a seguirTi? ".

E Lui si volta da lontano, guarda con tenerezza infinita dentro i nostri occhi. E si ferma.

OGGI, DOMENICA 14 DICEMBRE, 2008 - SOCIETA' CULTURALE PUGLIESE FIGLI MARIA SANTISSIMA ADDOLORATA- festa di Natale nell'auditorium delle nostra scuola. Cena e musica con DJ. Offerta \$60. Per informazioni telefonare Lucrezia Nardulli al 917-509-2803.

G.I.S.A. Gruppo Italiano Sant'Atanasio - FESTA BABBO NATALE – La riunione generale G.I.S.A. Gruppo Italiano Sant'Atanasio si terrà domenica, 21 dicembre alle 4:30 pomeridiane nell'auditorium della nostra scuola. A questa

riunione avremo la visita di Babbo Natale che porterà i doni ai soci della G.I.S.A. Ospite il cantante Salvatore Spatola che allieterà la serata con canti natalizi. Come sempre la riunione si concluderà con caffè e dolci. Sarà un piacevole pomeriggio. Venite numerosi. Freddy Felletti, Presidente - 718- 614 – 9683.

SOCIETA' CULTURALE PUGLIESE FIGLI MARIA SANTISSIMA ADDOLORATA – terra' l'annuale recita di Natale, sabato, 20 dicembre alle ore 7:00pm nell'auditorium della nostra scuola. Portate i vostri bambini vestiti da angioletti. Panini, panettone e caffè. Offerta \$20 a persona. Per bambini entrata gratis. Babbo Natale porterà doni a tutti i bambini. Regalo di Natale per tutti. Per informazioni **Lucrezia Nardulli al 917 – 509 - 2803**

DUE SPETTACOLI TEATRALI - BROADWAY SHOWS
mercoledì, 17 dicembre – Irving Berlin's White Christmas.- \$160. L'autobus parte da Sant'Atanasio.
mercoledì, 18 febbraio–Jersey Boys - \$155. Cena prima dello spettacolo. Diacono Dante al 917-602-3793.

MARTEDI' DI DICEMBRE - (dicembre 2 -9 -16 e -23) incontro di preghiera in occasione dell'anno Paolino nel basement della rettoria dalle 8 di sera alle 9pm.

31 DICEMBRE, 2008 VEGLIONE DI CAPODANNO A SAN ATANASIO – i biglietti per il veglione di capodanno sono in vendita. Dinner Dance con inizio alle ore 7:00pm. Cibo caldo e musica con DJ. Brindisi di champagne a mezzanotte. \$65 a persona. Per informazioni e prenotazioni telefonare al **Diacono Dante 917- 602 – 3793, Maria Perniciaro 718 - 351-4764, Maria Porcu' 718 - 627-0387. Soltando 280 biglietti sono disponibili.**

ALBERO DI NATALE NELLA NOSTRA CHIESA – ogni anno la nostra chiesa viene decorata con bellissime decorazioni natalizie. Per l'albero nella chiesa superiore chiediamo di donare palline da appendere all'albero di colore rosso oppure dorato. Grazie.

GLI ANIMALI PER IL PRESEPE VIVENTE arrivano nel cortile di San Atanasio domenica, 28 dicembre, Festa della Sacra Famiglia. Venite a vedere gli animali che erano nella magiatioa insieme a Gesù'.

IL PRESEPE E' APERTO – la tradizione continua – come ogni anno il presepe nella chiesa sottopiano e' aperto. Da ricordare che sono stati molti scritti articoli su giornali importanti sulla bellezza di questo capolavoro d'arte.



Parroquia de San Atanasio
Boletín Parroquial Hispano

Misa en Español cada Domingo en la Iglesia de Abajo a las 10 de la mañana

BOLETIN PARROQUIAL HISPANO

Diciembre 14 - 2008

‡ **3º Domingo Adviento: “Yo salto de gozo con el Señor” (Is 61,10)**

“El profeta Isaías invita a la esperanza a todo el pueblo que retorna del destierro, y que han visto que las promesas con que esperaban ver cumplidas en su tierra no son tan ciertas. La acción de Dios es efectiva y eficaz. La Jerusalén que ahora ven arruinada será en futuro centro de peregrinaciones y a ella acudirán todas las naciones de la tierra. Es una realidad muy dura de pobreza, de tristeza y de cautiverio

Oración de reflexión:

Señor Jesús que estás pronto a Nacer en esta navidad, ayúdanos con tu Luz para que en Ti todos podamos irradiarnos de tu Amor, de tu Paz y de la Armonía que el mundo de hoy necesita, empezando por cada hogar, para que en el Seno de la Fraternidad de María y de José, acogamos a estos lindos huéspedes en cada uno de los miembros de la familia humana, te lo pedimos por los méritos de tu infancia, por Cristo Nuestro Señor, Amén.

La **FIESTA DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE** ha venido fortaleciendo la Unidad y el Amor en nuestra Comunidad... Que el Agradecimiento que doy al Comité Organizador y todas las personas y familias que se solidarizaron para lograr este éxito, siga dejando en alto el nombre de María, Reina de la Iglesia en cada uno de nosotros alrededor del mundo. FELICITACIONES Y GRACIAS A TODOS LOS QUE PARTICIPARON. DIOS LES PAGUE!

Avisos pendientes:

1. compartir navideño: Diciembre 19 (Viernes) a las 7:30 – 9:30pm

En este día les invito a todas las familias de nuestra comunidad y a todos los servidores de nuestros Grupos, para que nos reunamos en la Iglesia de abajo en torno al pesebre y hagamos nuestra POSADA NAVIDEÑA con las características y costumbres de nuestros Países. **Tendremos Dulces propios y algo que ustedes traerán de sus casas para compartir con los demás. Es nuestra Navidad Hispana! Gracias.**

2. MISA DE NAVIDAD: Diciembre 24 a las 7:30 pm iniciando con Novena. No habrá Misa en Español el día 25 de Diciembre. Les esperamos a todos!

3. BAUTISMOS EN DICIEMBRE 27 (SABADO): Ese mismo día será la Clase a la 1pm y la Ceremonia a las 2:00 pm. Favor registrar los niños con tiempo.

4. DOMINGO 28 DIC: FIESTA DE LA SAGRADA FAMILIA: Les invito a todas las parejas casadas y no casadas, para que con los hermanos que se están preparando para el Matrimonio, vengan y celebremos juntos en el AUDITORIO de la Escuela de 3 a 6 pm, donde Mi hermano Sacerdote, el Padre Jorge Luis Toro nos dará una conferencia importante para todas las familias... Favor traer algo para compartir con todos. Los niños que vengan en ese día los llevaremos a ver una Película en el Instituto Nazareth para que no interrumpan y podamos hablar ampliamente del tema entre adultos.

St. Athanasius Roman Catholic Church
Bay Parkway and 61st Street
Bensonhurst Brooklyn, New York 11204

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2008-2009

Advent Confessions in Preparation for Christmas

The last opportunity for Advent Confessions is on Saturday December 20 from 4-5p.m.
There are no confessions on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Wednesday December 24, 2008 *Christmas Eve* NO CONFESSIONS TODAY.

Family Mass with Children's Christmas Pageant at 4:30p.m. in Upper Church (Folk Mass)
Spanish Mass at 8:00p.m. in Lower Church (Choir)

MIDNIGHT MASS 2008

Christmas Carols in English with the Choir at 11:30p.m. in Upper Church (Choir & Organ)
Mass in English begins at 12:00a.m. Midnight in Upper Church
Christmas Carols in Italian with the Choir at 11:30p.m. in Lower Church (Choir & Organ)
Mass in Italian begins at 12:00a.m. Midnight in Lower Church

CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday December 25, 2008

No masses in the Lower Church today.

8:30, 10a.m., 11:30a.m.

No 10a.m. Spanish Mass today. No 11:30a.m. Italian Mass today.

The 11:30a.m. Mass in the Upper Church is in English & Italian.

NO 6p.m. Mass today.

All masses include Christmas carols with organ & cantor.

Sunday December 28, 2008 *The Feast of the Holy Family*

Saturday Mass: 5:30p.m.

Sunday Masses in our Upper Church: 8:30a.m., 10a.m., 11:30a.m. & 6p.m.

Lower Church: 10a.m. (Spanish) 11:30a.m. (Italian)

LIVE ANIMALS OF THE NATIVITY

will be in the Parish Parking Lot from 10a.m. to 1p.m. today.

New Year's Day 2009 *The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God*

Wednesday December 31, 2008

Mass in English at 5:30p.m. in the Upper Church with Christmas Carols

Mass in Spanish at 5:00p.m. in the Lower Church with the Ecuadorian Community

Mass in Spanish at 7:00p.m. in the Lower Church

Thursday January 1, 2009

Masses in the Upper Church: 8:30a.m., 10a.m., 11:30a.m.

The 11:30a.m. Mass in the Upper Church is in English & Italian.

No 10a.m. Mass in Spanish today.

NO 6p.m. Mass today.