

COVER SHEET

Church Name: St. Athanasius

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Marie Skroly, (718) 236-0124 Extension 10  
John Fruner, (718) 236-0124 Extension 24

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Thank you for the wonderful printing of the Newsletter. You did a fantastic job!

The parishioners will love it!

We are not taking advantage of the special Christmas bulletin but instead are increasing the number of bulletins for this Sunday which we will also have out in church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Merry Christmas!

**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

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK****SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21:**

8:30 Viola Sarno  
 10:00 ROSARY SOCIETY  
 10:00 SPANISH MASS – Lower Church  
 11:30 PURGATORIAL SOCIETY  
 11:30 Giuseppe Giampiccolo - ITALIAN  
 6:00 Deceased of Ateniese & Tagarelli Families

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22:**

7:00 Edgar Zorn  
 9:00 Maria & Nicola Moreno  
 & Carmela & Andrew Serao  
 NOVENA AFTER MASS

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23:**

7:00 Nina Principe & Regina Principe  
 9:00 Giovanni Furio

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24:**

7:00  
 9:00 For the health of Carole Brooks-Fruner  
 4:30pm Christmas Family Mass (Upper Church)  
 Andrew Harckness  
 8:00 Spanish Mass (Upper Church)  
 10:00 Korean Mass (Lower Church)  
 Midnight Mass (English- Upper Church)  
 In Memory of Cesario Riccio  
 Midnight Mass (Italian-Lower Church)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25:**

8:30 Catherine & Frank DiSalvo  
 10:00 Argentina & Enrico Pezza  
 11:30  
 NO 6p.m. Mass tonight!

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26:**

7:00 Christmas Novena Intentions  
 9:00 Carmela Serao- Anniversary

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27:**

9:00 Christmas Novena Intentions  
 ROSARY FOR LIFE – AFTER MASS  
 4:30 (Lower Church) Misa en Honor de  
 El Niño Jesús [Spanish]  
 5:30 Thomas & Jennie Tanzi  
 Francesco & Giovanna Gentile

**Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2003**

**4:30p.m.** Family Mass with Christmas Pageant

**No 5:30p.m. Mass tonight**

**8p.m.** Mass in Spanish (Upper Church)

**10p.m.** Mass in Korean (Lower Church)

**Midnight Mass** (English) Upper Church

(Italian) Lower Church

Christmas Carols are sung beginning at 11:30p.m.  
 in both Upper & Lower Churches.

**Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 2003** UPPER CHURCH ONLY

8:30a.m. (Eng), 10a.m. (Eng), 11:30a.m. (English & Italian)

No 10a.m. Spanish Mass today & NO 6p.m. Mass today

**Holiday  
 Schedule  
 2003**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28:**

8:30 William J. Finn  
 10:00 John & Ann Maria Franco  
 10:00 SPANISH MASS – Lower Church  
 11:30 PURGATORIAL SOCIETY & Christmas Novena  
 11:30 Giovanni & Rosina DiGiacomo - ITALIAN  
 6:00 Joseph Cardella

**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 Michael Maffai requested by wife  
 Angela & children*

**WINE & CANDLES FOR THE WEEK** – *donated in  
 loving memory of Charlotte Lynch requested by  
 husband Walter.*

**SANCTUARY LAMP**- *donated in loving memory of  
 Antonio Sigona by wife Concetta & daughter Connie.*

**ADVENT WREATH CANDLES**

**For faith, love & peace**- the greatest gifts of life,  
 requested by Enza Messina.

**In loving memory of MICHAEL CHIARINI.** We love  
 you & miss you. You will forever be in our hearts. Love  
 Lisa, Matt & Brian Donlon.

**In loving memory of FRANCESCA & LUIGI ZUCO**  
 from the Zuco Family.

**For LOVE & PEACE and those Families who are  
 affected by war.** May God pour love & peace on the  
 world. From the Religious Education Program's  
 students.

**ADVENT WREATH WHITE CANDLES**

In memory of the deceased members of Gerrard &  
 McGill Families requested by M. Gill Family

**ADVENT PULPIT & PROCESSIONAL CANDLES**

In memory of RICHARD MICHAEL FELCETTO  
 requested by Helen & Michael Felcetto.

**MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE FOR...**

Wed. Dec. 24 at 7a.m. (\$15), 8p.m. (\$50),  
 Midnight Mass in Italian, Lower Church (\$50)  
 Thurs. Dec. 25 at 11:30a.m., Upper Church (\$50)

**MASSES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY 2004** Wed. Dec. 31, 5:30p.m. (English)  
Thursday Jan. 1, Masses at 8:30a.m. (English) 10a.m. (English & Spanish)  
11:30a.m. (English & Italian) No 6p.m. Mass today!

### TO THE STRANGER WITHIN OUR GATES AT THE HOLIDAYS

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

**CALLING ALL COOKS!** Our **FAITH & FAMILY COOKBOOK** is **DESPERATELY** 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](mailto:StAPastoralMin@aol.com) in the context of an e-mail (or in MS Word). We only have 76 recipes & need 300!!!

**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](mailto:StAPastoralMin@aol.com) (possibilmente scritta con il programma MS Word).

**G.I.S.A. – BABBO NATALE** Domenica, 21 Dicembre alle ore 4:30PM la G.I.S.A. (Gruppo Italiano Sant'Atanasio) terra' la sua riunione generale per il mese di Dicembre nell'auditorio della scuola. A questa riunione avremo con noi Mr. Joseph che ci allietera' la serata con musica da ballo e con canti natalizi. Avremo anche Babbo Natale che portera' i regali ai soci della G.I.S.A. E come ogni Natale ci scambieremo gli auguri di un Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo prendendo un un po' di caffe', panettone e champagne. Tutto e' gratis. Vi preghiamo di partecipare numerosi, soci e non soci.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY SPONSORED BY G.I.S.A.** Sunday, December 21 at 4:30PM in the school auditorium during the G.I.S.A. general meeting we will have live music and Christmas carols by Mr. Joseph. Santa Claus will also visit us. It will be a nice afternoon. We will have coffee, cake and champagne.

**ENTERTAINMENT 2004 BOOKS ARE BEING OFFERED BY SR. CHARLOTTE TO ASSIST IN THE CARE OF THE ELDERLY SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH IN BRENTWOOD.** The books are only \$20 & are packed with 50% off & two-for-one offers. Call Sr. Charlotte at 718-236-2800 to order a book for a friend or yourself. **This is a way we can thank the Sisters for all the years of service!**

**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. 5-9 from 7-8:30p.m. Tuition is \$65 cash or money order. For information call the Catholic Migration Office at 718.236.3000.

*From Msgr. Cassato, our Pastor:*

**THANK YOU to Brian Long & John DeLosa** for preparing this year's new life size Christmas Nativity. Thanks to Conrad Fronterre for making sure the lights are on each night & the Boy Scout Peace Light remains lit. **Thank you to all our parishioners** for your generosity in responding to the Advent Giving Tree. **We received over 350 Christmas Cards** to our service people in Iraq. What a support you are! **Sarah Rubino** restored our Infant of Prague Statue in the rectory in time for our Christmas visitors. Thanks Sarah! **Thank you to all well wishers** who sent candy, cookies, & flowers to the rectory.

**In your kindness please pray for those who are sick**

Grace Albano, 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, Rachel DePinto  
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 Pintieilli,  
Margaret "Rita" Pinckney,  
Oronzo Pistanza, Robert Presstia,  
Mary Re, Caterina Ruggeri,  
Frances Ryan, Elisa Sciascia,  
Mildred Scimeca, Ryan Shaughnessy,  
Eileen Smyth, Francesco Sale,  
Rose Varano, Maria Verfenstein,  
Ana Williams

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

Natalina Fava

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

**WE ARE CALLED TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER.** Please keep in your prayers the sick, those who have died & those grieving. **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.**

**THANK YOU AMALIA ANZALONE** for making our St. Athanasius Banner which will be used in the Diocese's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration in January. The Banner will be in our Cathedral. Thanks so much!

**DID YOU SEE OUR OUTSIDE NEW LIFE SIZE NATIVITY?** Bottles labeled PENNIES FROM HEAVEN have been placed at the doors of the church, so we can raise the money to pay for this set. Of course, we will accept all types of change and paper currency as well.

**SCHOOL NEWS:** Our Christmas Boutique was a wonderful success, the children had a wonderful time being able to purchase gifts for all the special people on their Christmas shopping list. I sincerely appreciate all of the effort and time our chairperson, Mrs. Gina Auricchio devoted in preparing the boutique for our children, many adults also found the boutique a worthwhile experience. Special thanks also to those who helped, thank you to Mrs. Fasano, Mrs. Gugliara, Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Kushner, Mrs. Vaccarelli. Sparkling white lights ushered in the Christmas spirit here in our parish community. The beautiful Christmas trees and magnificent Christmas nativity scene serve as symbols to remind us of the foundation of our faith. Mr. and Mrs. Long spent many hours coordinating this wonderful display, that is a delight to so many, thank you. The craftsmanship of the gentleman employed by Long and DeLosa, certainly went a long way in having everything look just so! We thank all of those who sponsored a tree, the benefactors of our school are most greatly appreciated. Once again we had a special visit from our friend from the North Pole. Santa and his elves came to visit at our Breakfast, took pictures, sang carols and was his fun loving self. Thank you, Santa for stopping by Saint Athanasius School to spread your Christmas cheer along with your elves. At this time of year the children, faculty, staff and I wish everyone in Saint Athanasius Community a very blessed Christmas, a Happy and Healthy New Year and a special thank you, it is through the benevolence, good wishes, acts of kindness and most especially prayer that enable our students here at Saint Athanasius School to learn the true meaning of a good education, grounded in faith. Merry Christmas to all! Sincerely,

**Mrs. Lorraine Garone – Tesoro, Principal**

**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."

#### **CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

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

COLLECTION – 12/014/2003:	\$6,106.00
Last Year	\$7,798.00

**AVG. WEEKLY EXPENSES \$10,500**

**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 the joy of Christians at the birth of Christ may be reflected in our willingness to welcome very child, born & unborn, even in difficult circumstances, we pray to the Lord.

**THURSDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP** resumes Thursday Jan. 8, 2004 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](mailto:StAPastoralMin@aol.com).

**This week LOUISE MELILLO accepts the Cup.**

**CSJ RETREAT FOR WOMEN IN COLLEGE, GRADUATE SCHOOL, & 20 SOMETHING** Explore the charism of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Jan 9-11 at St. Joseph's Renewal Center, Brentwood NY, Friday 7pm to Sunday Jan. 11 at 1p.m. Donation is \$125. College Students \$ 65. Scholarships available. Register with Sr. Mary Walsh by calling 516-536-0551 or e-mailing [vocationscsj@aol.com](mailto:vocationscsj@aol.com)

**ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE AS A DEACON?** The Diocese will present the requirements & expectations of the educational & spiritual formation to all men who are interested in beginning the preparations in the Fall of 2004. **If you are interested, please speak to Msgr. Cassato.**

#### **ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS HERE !**

#### **SUNDAY DEC. 21 at 4p.m. in the Upper Church**

Combined choirs from St. Finbar's, St. Mary Mother of Jesus and St. Athanasius will enhance our Advent & Christmas Season. This is an event not to be missed, especially that it is here at St. A's!

**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.

**SEASONAL MISSALETTE, TODAY'S MISSAL MUSIC ISSUE & THE HERRITAGE MISSAL ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIALIZATION.** Intentions can still be placed on all three worship books, for the period of one year, for a donation of \$25. Memorialization forms are located next to the bulletins.

**BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS** will be celebrated with all who were baptized here at St. A's this year on Sunday Jan. 4, 2004 at the 11:30a.m. Mass. If interested in participating, please leave the family name & the child's name with your phone # on Ext. 24 of the rectory.

**PLEASE HELP US DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS.** Flower envelopes have been included in the mailing of weekly envelopes. Please consider taking an envelope from next to the bulletins.

**MY CHRISTMAS GIFT TO THE PARISH** can be returned on Sunday Dec. 21, but you will be able to give during the holiday season. Please do not forget the financial needs of the parish. We ask you to please consider giving a generous gift, using this special envelope.