

COVER SHEET

Church Name: St. Athanasius

Bulletin # 511245

Date of Publication December 28, 2008

John Fruner, (718) 236-0124 Extension 24

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
Mr. Joseph Banker, <i>Coordinator of Youth Ministry</i>	Ext. 27
Mrs. Angela Maffai, (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 28, 2008 Holy Family

8:30 Deceased of the La Peruta Family
 10:00 Phil Acciarito
 10:00 Spanish Mass (Lower Church)
 11:30 Purgatorial Society
 11:30 Italian Mass (Lower Church) Felice Seminario, Marella e Francesco Seminario
 2:30pm Wedding Mass- Julianne LoMacchio & Marc Palumbo
 6:00pm Rosa Carmela Barillaro, Saverio Panadrea

MONDAY, December 29, 2008

7:00 Christmas Novena Day # 3
 9:00 Antoinette Comes, Rosa Grisanzio, Filippo Comes, Pasqualicchio & LaSalandra Families

TUESDAY, December 30, 2008

7:00 Christmas Novena Day # 4
 9:00 Brannan, Napoli, Schiavone Family

WEDNESDAY, December 31, 2008 New Year's Eve

7:00 Christmas Novena Day # 5
 9:00 Rocco Natale
 5:00pm Lower Church- Spanish Mass
 5:30pm Elia Navarrete
 7:00pm Lower Church- Spanish Mass

THURSDAY, January 1, 2009 New Year's Day

8:30 Simone & Pauline Oliva
 10:00 Louis Iadanza
 11:30 (English & Italian)- Upper Church – Elia Navarrete
 6:00pm **NO 6p.m. Mass today!**

FRIDAY, January 2, 2009

7:00 Christmas Novena Day # 6
 9:00 Vincenzo, Giuseppe, Francesca, Doretea Minagro
 8:00pm First Friday Italian Mass- Defunti Famiglie Cardinale, Messina, Pietanza, Bolognini

SATURDAY, January 3, 2009

9:00 Christmas Novena, Day # 7
 5:30pm Antoinette La Fortezza (Anniversary)

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.

SUNDAY, January 4, 2009 Epiphany [Three Kings Day]

8:30 Frank Rappa (Anniversary)
 10:00 Elio Palessandolo
 11:30 Purgatorial Society & 1st Anniversary- Yolanda Alvaro
 11:30 Italian Mass (Lower Church) Salvatore DeSimone
 1:00pm Spanish Mass (Upper Church)
 6:00pm Joseph P. Napolitano

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 Antonio Sigona wife, Concetta & daughter Connie.*

WINE FOR THE WEEK - *donated in loving memory of Joseph Romersa requested by Theresa Romersa, wife.*

ALTAR CANDLES FOR THE WEEK – *donated in loving memory of Paolo Pesce & family requested by The Pesce Family.*

SANCTUARY LAMPS *One sanctuary lamp is donated in memory of Joseph LaGreca requested by his family. The other sanctuary lamp is donated in memory of Bernard Gilligan requested by Bobby Myszak.*

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS Did you baptize your child here at St. A's this past year?

If so, we invite you to join us on Sunday January 4, 2009 at the 11:30a.m. Mass. All babies baptized here at St. A's & any church, are invited, with their parents & Godparents, to receive a special blessing. If interested, call ext. 24 of the rectory, our Pastoral Ministry Office, & leave your baby's name.

FRIDAY JANUARY 2 IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH and we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the last funeral and all day in the Upper Church. Benediction at 7:30pm followed by Italian Mass.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS!

We warmly **welcome** all who have come today to celebrate this glorious feast.

We **welcome** the stranger, the traveler and guest!

We **welcome** our students home from college for a good winter's rest!

We **welcome** parishioners who moved far away but join us this night as friends & guests! We **welcome** all who have not been active of late in their Catholic faith and hope they will find new hope and inspiration this Christmas season to come back again and again! We **welcome** our faithful parishioners- joyful and true.

May the Lord bless you for all you do! **Welcome to all!**

May our gathering this season gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds.

We, after all, are one People of God redeemed by LIGHT!

May we walk by light and live by light together in love.

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.

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

Mass in Spanish at 5:00p.m. & 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.

In your kindness please pray for those who are sick

Kathy Adams, Vivian & Antonio Antonelli,
Catherine Arrighetta,
Faith Arent, Kimberly Arent,
Patricia Aurigemma, Maria Bogdan,
Douglas Brock, Catherine Broderick,
Aidan Cassidy, Gianna Marie Carlson,
Judith Carminette, Cynthia Carponetto,
Michele Cassata, Ann Centorrino,
Arthur Chapnick, Sebastian Chiarello,
Carmela Colandrea, Vincenzo Coppolivo,
Bruce Dalton, Victoria D'Errico,
Celeste DeLeonardus, Joseph Delgado,
Al DeMarco, Jr., Al DeMarco III,
Louis DeMarco, Joan DeMarco,
Joan Demeyer, Mario DePinto,
Rachel DePinto, Catalina Diaz,
Barbara Doyle, Maria Esemplare,
Tina Esposito, Frances Falzetta,
Helen Felcetto, Anthony Felicito,
Marie Ferlazzo, Sunday Giuffanti,
Theresa Giuffanti, Gina Giuffanti,
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 Sciacchatano,
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:
Sr. Anita Rosaire

HEALING MASS in honor of
the Infant Jesus

with Fr. John Campoli,
Saturday Jan. 10 at 8p.m.
Rosary begins at 7:30p.m.
Come & get a blessing for the
New Year & experience
Jesus' Healing!

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. 30** 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 nyisibg@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.

WELCOME BACK HOME DEACON BOB MUCCI! Deacon Bob is spending a very short Christmas holiday with us here at St. A's and St. Mary's. He returns back to the Seminary in Rome to complete his studies. Bob will be ordained to the priesthood this June!

K.I.S.S.- Keep it Simple- Stupid!

Msgr. Cassato shared his reflections on Thanksgiving and the upcoming holidays with us at our parish Thanksgiving Mass as well as the Bishop Kearney's Thanksgiving Mass. One of the students at Kearney wrote a reflection on Msgr's message and it is decorating her homeroom door. We want to share it with you:

'Twas the day before Thanksgiving & Kearney went to St. A's to give thanks for our families & friends as we prayed.

It was there that Monsignor found a note that said KISS and explained it meant KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID! We all listened to Monsignor & thought about what he said and those thoughts stayed with us as well went to bed.

Next morning in homeroom there was such a chatter.

Mrs. Maffei had to yell, "Girls, what is the matter?"

into our seats we all flew like a flash

and announced in one voice "We don't want the cash!"

We don't want iPods, Sidekicks, or Masc!

We don't want iPhones! Please take it all back!

Our first wish this year during Christmas time

is to get materialistic things out of our minds.

This year for Christmas we want something more

like jobs for all people and help the poor!

We wish that young would respect the old and children would listen and do as they're told.

We want drugs to stop and all sickness to end and for all to learn it's what we do to help others and not what we spend.

We wish that the homeless could be safe and warm and our soldiers come home so no more will mourn!

We wish that all Kearney girls do well in school

because as every knows- all Kearney girls rule!

Our last wish this Christmas is for peace on earth!

We wish that all have love, hope, and happiness!

And as we end, we want to add this:

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

and to all a big K.I.S.S.!



Ring 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!

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.

How do you show compassion to your family members?

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.

NEWLY INSTALLED EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND LECTORS Thank you Father Ronald D'Antonio and Msgr. David Cassato for your time and effort to train and support us in this parish ministry. We especially thank our parish for their warm welcome given to us on the day of our Installation, Sunday, December 7th, at the 11:30 A.M. Mass.

DID 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.

CHRISTMAS CRIB Don't forget to stop and pray at our Christmas Crib by the Saint Joseph's Altar. Remember Baby Jesus is the reason we celebrate Christmas!

THERE'S A TRUE MEANING TO CHRISTMAS HERE AT ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH!

Families in celebration, glowing outdoor trees and our lit up life size Nativity highlight the season, welcoming you and all our neighbors to join us for our Christmas celebrations. Our wonderful lights on Bay Parkway just shout Christmas cheer! Why not rediscover the Christmas story? Find out how it can change your life – forever! Christmas, here at St. A's, can make the true meaning of the Christmas story fresh and real for you and your family! Come and see why we celebrate Christmas! Continue your holiday celebrations with our notably warm **welcome** from St. A's Church Family.

**DID YOU MISS HELPING US DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS?**

If you are not on our mailing list, we envelopes are next to the bulletins. You can return a donation in the Sunday collection. We rely on your donations to purchase all our decorations each holiday season. We haven't yet collected enough money to pay for the flowers and wreaths. Thank you for your help!

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. Joe Banker**. Joe will work with Ken to coordinate activities here. His office will be in the rectory and his phone extension is 27. After the Christmas Holidays, Youth Minister Joe should be all set up. You can ring the bell on the SIDE of the rectory that says: **PASTORAL MINISTRY OFFICE**. (We will get a new sign but until then... you know where Youth Minister Joe is!)

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>)

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 December 29th and restarting in the new year, January 12th.

DID YOU LOOSE SOMEONE THROUGH DEATH?

Our Bereavement Support Group with Sister Barbara Murtha, C.S.J. will resume on Monday January 12 at 7:30p.m. in the Library of the Nazareth Institute. The group continues to meet on Mondays January 19 & 26 and continues on February 2, 9, 16 & 23.

BLESS YOU DOOR ON EPIPHANY- January 4, 2009-

The gospel tells us that the Magi found Christ "on entering the house." The door to your home is your holy threshold. We encourage you to bless those who come in and go out by inscribing above the door in chalk the following:

20+C+M+B+09

Tradition tells us that the letters stand for the names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. This may also mean: "Christus mansionem benedicat." Or "May Christ bless this dwelling." It's appropriate to bless your door in January- janua means "door" and the first month is the door to the new year. After inscribing your door, bless the door with incense & Holy Water saying this prayer: God of Bethlehem and Cana, God of Jordan's leaping waters, in baptism you bring us into your family. You wed us and embrace us as your beloved. May we fill this place with kindness to one another, with hospitality to guests and with abundant care for every stranger. By the gentle light of the star, guide home all who seek you on paths of faith, hope and love. Then we will join the angels in proclaiming your praise: Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever. Amen. Sing "We Three Kings."

MSGR. CASSATO and the entire Parish Staff thanks all who made our CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S, & EPIPHANY CELEBRATIONS another one of St. A's BEST!

TO ALL WHO WORSHIPPED WITH US giving our Liturgy the life the revisions of Vatican II envisioned- thanks!

To those who decorated our church, those who prepared and led us in music & song, those who worked so hard preparing our children to enact the Gospel & brighten our Christmas Eve night with songs of the Angels, those who served as lectors, Eucharistic ministers, servers, sacristans, ushers, greeters, choir members, Folk Group members, cantors, liturgy preparers, all who donated our Christmas flowers & decorations, our Director of Music & all our liturgical musicians, those who set up our outdoor Nativity, our Christmas Trees, and our Tree of Lights, to all who donated our outside Trees, to all who memorialized lights, those who lit up Bensonhurst **and YOU WHO ARE WITH US ON OUR JOURNEY CLOSER TO OUR LORD. As the Magi found and adored Christ, our prayer is that we all may continue to search for Christ in our lives! AMEN!**



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

VEGLIONE DI CAPODANNO - MERCOLEDI' 31 DICEMBRE DIACONO DANTE COLANDREA – 917-602-3793

Dal nostro DIACONO DANTE COLANDREA Riflessione del mese di dicembre

NINNA NANNA AL BAMBINELLO

Ninna-nanna, ninna-nanna
bimbo bello, non tremare,
se non hai una culla calda,
forse un bue e un asinello
scaldan più che un fuocherello.

Ninna-nanna, ninna-nanna
dormi figlio, non pensare,
che un giorno le tue braccia
sulla croce stenderai,
pensa solo che tua mamma
più ti stringe e più s'infiamma.

Ninna-nanna, ninna-nanna
dormi dormi, bambinello,
tu, il re dell'universo,
non hai latte, non hai ori,
solo l'oro dei re magi,
solo il latte dei pastori.

Ninna-nanna, ninna-nanna
su sorridi e non pensare
che la fronte tua bella
un giorno sangue dovrà grondare,
pensa solo ai caldi baci
che la mamma ti sa dare.

Ninna-nanna, ninna-nanna
dormi bimbo, non temere
nella notte così buia
s'ode un canto d'Alleluja
E' un canto che si espande
sopra tutto l'Universo,
dormi figlio, non pensare
il tuo sangue non è perso.

Ninna-nanna, ninna nanna
dormi bimbo, non temere,
in quest'ora tutto tace,
tu hai portato tanta Pace.

IL PRESEPE E' APERTO –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. Veniter a vedere quello che il New York Times lo ha chiamato uno dei cinque migliori presepe nella città di New York.

BUON ANNO - Durante il nuovo anno proponiamoci di recitare la preghiera a Gesu' Bambino affinché il Divino Gesu' si compiaccia di noi, non soltanto a Natale, ma tutti i giorni del nuovo anno. Felice Anno Nuovo. Diacono Dante.

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

31 DICEMBRE, 2008 VEGLIONE DI CAPODANNO– Dinner Dance 8:00pm -2:00am Dinner Dance e musica con DJ. Brindisi di champagne a mezzanotte. \$65 a persona. Diacono Dante 917- 602 – 3793, Maria Perniciaro 718-351-4764, Maria Porcu' 718 - 627-0387.

SPETTACOLO TEATRALE - BROADWAY SHOW - Da ricordare la data di mercoledì, 18 febbraio–spettacolo teatrale - Jersey Boys - \$155. Cena prima dello spettacolo. L'autobus parte da Sant'Atanasio. Per prenotazioni Diacono Dante al 917-602-3793.

OGGI, DOMENICA, 28 DICEMBRE – Festa della Sacra Famiglia - l'orario delle Messe rimano lo stesso di ogni domenica.

MERCOLEDI, 31 DICEMBRE – Messa in Inglese con canti natalizi alle 5:30pm – chiesa superiore.
5:00pm – messa in spagnolo – chiesa sottopiano
8:00pm – messa in spagnolo – chiesa superiore

GIOVEDI', 1 GENNAIO 2008 – Solenita' di Maria, Madre di Dio - **NON CI SARA' LA MESSA IN ITALIANO**
8:30 e 10:00 am – in inglese – chiesa superiore
11:30am – concelebrata – chiesa superiore
NON CI SARA' LA MESSA DELLE 6:00pm

VENERDI', 2 GENNAIO E' IL PRIMO VENERDI' DEL MESE – Come ogni primo venerdì' del mese la Santa messa sara' celebrata alle 8:00pm. Benedizione alle 7:30pm con esposizione del Santissimo Sacramento.

BENEDITE LA VOSTRA CASA NEL GIORNO DELL'EPIFANIA - Il Vangelo ci dice che i Magi incontrarono Gesu' appena entrati in casa. La porta della nostra casa e' la nostra sacra entrata. Vi incoraggiamo a benedire tutti quelli che entrano e escono dalla vostra casa scrivendo sulla porta **20+G+M+B+09**. La tradizione ci dice che le lettere sono le iniziali dei Magi: Gaspare, Melchiorre e Baldassare. Questo puo' anche significare "**Christus mansionen benedicat**" cioè che Cristo benedice questa casa. Gennaio e' il primo mese dell'anno, ossia la porta d'entrata al nuovo anno. Benedite la vostra porta con acqua benedetta mentre recitate una preghiera.



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 28: SAGRADA FAMILIA.**

“ Será escuchado en el día de su oración” (Sirácides 3,5)

La primera Lectura tomada del libro de la sirácida, indica una serie de instrucciones sobre los deberes de los hijos para con los padres. Honrar a los padres es fuente de larga vida, de gozo, de éxito y de prosperidad, pero, sobre todo, de bendición de Dios. Es necesario una revaloración de la unidad de la Familia, para que dentro de su seno se gesten y asimilen los auténticos valores y virtudes que caracterizan a toda persona de bien.

ORACION POR LA FAMILIA: Señor Dios, toda familia en el cielo y en la tierra toma su nombre de Ti... tu eres amor y vida. A través de Tu Hijo, Jesucristo, nacido de una mujer, y por el Espíritu Santo, fuente de caridad divina, concede que toda familia en la tierra sea, en cada generación sucesiva, un verdadero santuario de vida y amor. Te pedimos en esta fiesta de hoy, cuando nos reunimos alrededor del pesebre, pidiendo tu Bendición para todos y cada uno de los miembros de nuestro hogar, que tu gracia guíe los pensamientos y las acciones de los esposos, hijos y de todas las familias del mundo.

Oramos, **para que los jóvenes encuentren en la familia firme apoyo para su dignidad humana y para crecer en la verdad y en el amor. Amén.**

TARDE PARA COMPARTIR EN FAMILIA:

Hoy les esperamos a los esposos en el Auditorio de nuestra Escuela de 3 a 6 pm, para que a través de la revisión de vida y del proyecto familiar, podamos juntos sacar algunas conclusiones básicas sobre la educación y crianza de los hijos.... Será una experiencia muy especial para todos.

B i e n v e n i d o s a compartir y pedir la bendición de la Sagrada Familia para todos nosotros.

Los jóvenes y niños tendrán película y compartir en el Instituto nazareth (Convento).

AÑO NUEVO VIDA NUEVA...

*Entramos ya en la recta final de este 2008 y nos disponemos a iniciar otro año más. Por eso les invitamos para que vengamos a despedir el Año con la Eucaristía del día 31 de Diciembre a las 7:30 pm y les esperamos el **Viernes 2 de Enero** para la **Eucaristía en honor a la Virgen, Madre de Dios, a quien le consagraremos el Año que iniciamos.***

F e l i z Año 2009 para todos y muchas bendiciones.

Próximo Domingo tendremos la fiesta de los Reyes magos: *Procesión a las 12:30 pm saliendo de la Iglesia y la Misa a la 1:00 pm en la Iglesia de arriba.*

No habrá misa de 10 a.m. En la iglesia de abajo.

Y luego tendremos la entrega de regalos en la escuela, para todos los niños. Les esperamos vestidos de pastores, reyes, Ángeles, papá Noel, etc.



CREW / TROOP / PACK



Of St. Athanasius Roman Catholic Church

Do your children watch too much television?
Do they spend too much time playing video games?
Are you looking for a way to get them away from that?
Looking to spend more time with your son?
Try Scouting!!!



Camping
Hiking
Leadership Skills
Communication Skills



And so much more

Come see what we have to offer your child



Join us on
January 7, 2009 - 7:30 P.M
For an **Open House**
St. A's School Auditorium
2154 61st Street
Brooklyn, New York 11204



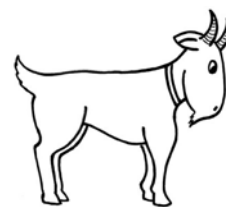
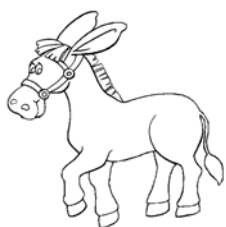
**“Brother and sister birds, you should praise your Creator and always love him: He gave you feathers for clothes, wings to fly and all other things that you need.” —
Saint Francis of Assisi**

Did you know that St. Francis created the First Nativity?

In Francis' time, many people could not read. Francis wanted to re-create the Nativity so people could understand the meaning of Christmas, so, in 1223, on a hill near a church in Greccio, the first Nativity re-enactment was conceived. Francis and his friars took an ox, donkey and a trough filled with hay and re-enacted the scene. Soon after, the tradition of a living Nativity spread across Italy and all of Europe. Thanks to Francis, the Nativity scene is brought to life every year from every corner of the world and now here at St. A's!

JOIN US ON THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday December 28
from 10a.m. until 1:00p.m.
*next to our outdoor Nativity,
in our Parish Parking Lot.*



Come and meet our Christmas donkey, chickens, sheep, and goats!
Take a picture or video as a family, in the Nativity.
Sit on our life size camel, stand next to our Wise Men,
(who got to Bensonhurst a little early!)
and experience the Nativity as Saint Francis intended!

