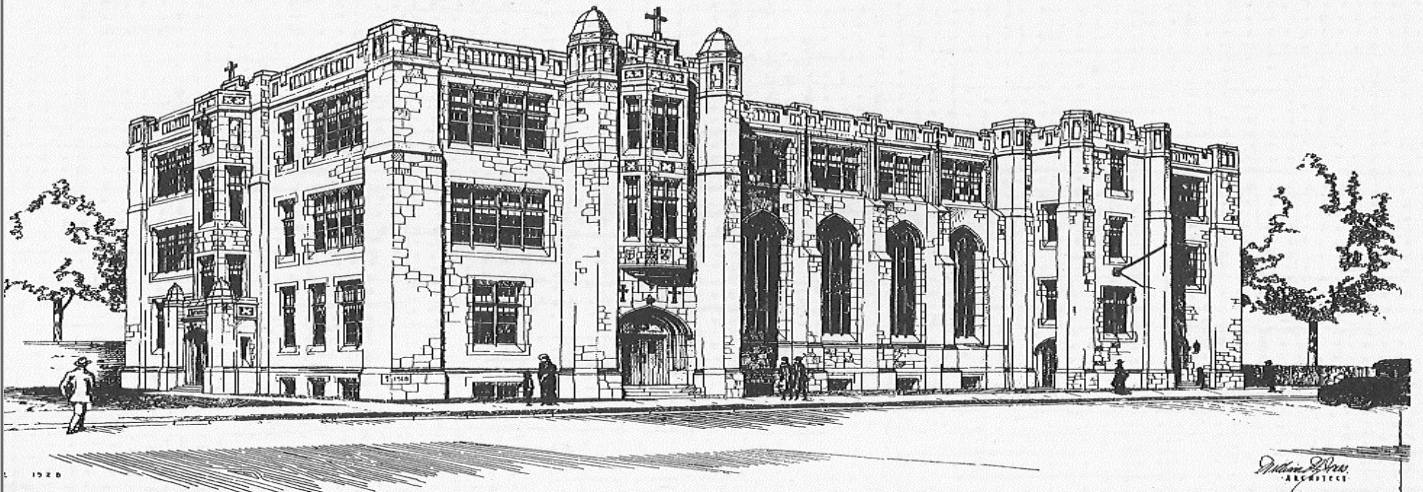


CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

1170 BEACH AVENUE, BRONX, NEW YORK, 10472

Rectory: 718-892-3214 Fax: 718-892-3907 Email: blsacramentchurch@yahoo.com

Blessed Sacrament Webpage: www.blessedsacramentbx.org Religious Education: 718-863-4620



PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Evaristus C. Ohuche, Pastor

Rev. Thomas C. Joseph, Parochial Vicar Mr. Epimegnio Portalatin, Deacon Ms. Brenda Ortiz, Music Director
Mrs. Frances Lopez-Alvarado, Religious Ed. Coordinator Ms. Coleen Bruno, Cantor Mr. Brad Whiteley, Organist

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2015

MASSES

Saturday—9:00 AM, 5:00 PM Vigil

Sunday—8:00 AM (Spanish), 9:30 AM,
11:00 AM (Spanish) & 12:30 PM

WEEKDAYS

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM (Spanish), 9:00 AM

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays - 4:00-4:30 PM,
during Office hours, or by appointment.

BAPTISMS: Parents must be registered parishioners of Blessed Sacrament Parish and must attend a Baptism Preparation Conference before the child is baptized. Arrangements must be made two months in advance of the baptism date by speaking with the Priest or Deacon at the Church Rectory. Baptisms are held once a month in English and in Spanish following the 12:30 PM Mass.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements for the Sacrament of Matrimony must be made at least six months in advance of the date desired. At least one of the parties must be officially registered as a parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Parish. All engaged couples must attend marriage preparation sessions. Please make an appointment with the Priest or the Deacon in the Church Rectory Office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: All children who attend public school must be enrolled in the parish religious education program in order to receive the sacraments. Classes are held on Saturday mornings and each child must be registered. You may call the Religious Education Office for further information.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:

Saturdays 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
First Fridays, 12:00 PM

ADULT SACRAMENTAL

PREPARATION: Classes are held for adults who wish to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Classes are held each week in English as well as in Spanish. Please call the Church Office or the Religious Education Office for further information.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Every family in the parish should be properly registered. New Parishioners are asked to register at the Rectory as soon as possible. If you are moving, please notify the Rectory.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:

Tuesdays after the 8:00 AM Mass (Spanish) and after the 9:00 AM Mass (English)

PARISH WEB SITE: visit our web page @
www.blessedsacramentbx.org

PLEASE REMEMBER BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH, BRONX, NY IN YOUR WILL

CHURCH OFFERING: We greatly appreciate your weekly donations to the parish. The collections for the weeks of April 19, 2015 amounted to \$3,329.00 Thank you for your generosity.

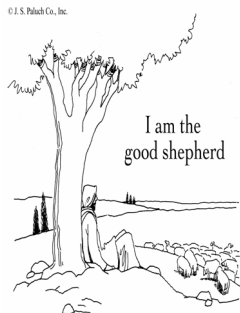
INCREASED GIVING CAMPAIGN: As we continue to SHARE OUR GIFTS through participating in the increased giving campaign of the parish, we are building a much better future for the parish. The success of our campaign to increase the weekly income of the parish continues to show success. So far the contributions continue to be consistent with the amounts that the parishioners have pledged. During these very difficult economic times, it is understandable that all cannot participate. Please be assured that whatever amount you are able to contribute is of help to the parish. **All who have made a pledge to increase their weekly contributions are encouraged to continue to do so. There is much that is yet to be accomplished in the parish and your increased financial contributions will make this a reality.**

UPCOMING EVENTS - PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

- May 02, 2015 - Concert (Chapel Hall) 6:00pm to 10:00pm Donation \$10.00
- May 10, 2015 - Mother's Day
- May 16, 2015 - Confirmation Mass 5:00pm
- May 17, 2015 - Bake Sale Altargracia Group

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: What does it mean to gather together in the name of Jesus? Today's scriptures give us a hint.

Saint Peter tells us that it was in the name of Jesus that the crippled man was healed. The psalm reminds us that Jesus is the stone rejected by the builders that has become the cornerstone. And Jesus himself reminds us in today's Gospel that he is the good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep. So today we gather in the name of the one who is healer, a rejected stone that became the cornerstone, a good shepherd, and ultimately the one who laid down his own life to save us from our sins. Let us absorb the richness of the Lord Jesus made present in the proclamation of today's readings.



THE GOOD SHEPHERD: This Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally referred to as "Good Shepherd Sunday". Today we listen to the words of the Lord as he refers to himself as the "good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep." It is sometimes so difficult for us to grasp the reality that anyone would lay down his or her own life for the sake of someone else. This is especially true in a society that places high value on power and personal advancement, often at the cost of "trampling" on other people in order to climb the ladder. Today's scriptures point to the one we are called to emulate-the one who lays down his life for his sheep. Today's scriptures challenge us to discover ways to bring life to those around us-to build up rather than to tear down.



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION: Many of our customs surrounding critical illness come from antiquity, and yet attitudes have certainly changed. Death was an all-too-familiar presence then, and

SUNDAY'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12 As is often the case when we hear a brief portion of Scripture at Mass, today we find ourselves walking in on the second act of drama. Saint Peter is speaking after having encountered a lame beggar at a gate of the Jerusalem Temple. He told this man that he had "neither silver nor gold" but called him in the name of the risen Jesus to walk; and he did. Peter now addresses an amazed crowd of onlookers.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2 The First Letter of John takes us today into a profound imagining of what God has in store for human beings. It is not sufficient for us to be his "children" even though this destiny seems exalted enough to us. We are promised that we are being ushered into a state of existence beyond our imagining, because we are entering into God's own life.

Gospel Introduction: John 10:11-18 "One fold and one shepherd" - in our awareness of the multiplicity of human beliefs, this goal proclaimed by Jesus may seem too exalted to be attainable. But we know that truth is one, and that humanity has a common origin in God. We trust in the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep and is able to pasture us effectively.

people tended to see it as a natural and unavoidable part of life, not a personal catastrophe. People tried to review their lives, settle their affairs, say farewell to their dear ones, and welcome the deathbed vigils and prayers that assured them of God's love and forgiveness. What people most feared was sudden death. It was dreaded and never discussed. The faithful filled the catacombs with consoling images of the good shepherd carrying the sheep to safe pasture, or the faithful in glory seated at banquet tables. The prayer texts from the time are consoling and positive, and many inspired our modern prayers. The care of the dying flowed directly from Roman pagan practice; it was home-based and family-centered. Pagans didn't especially fear death, but they were terrified by the dead. Christians, on the other hand, consoled their sick with psalms of joy and faith in the Resurrection. The goal was to assure the sick person of God's love, and that the ties that bind the dead and the living would endure.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- MONDAY:** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
- TUESDAY:** Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
- WEDNESDAY:** Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
- THURSDAY:** Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
- FRIDAY:** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6 or (for the memorial) Gn 1:26-2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Ps 90:2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58
- SATURDAY:** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
- SUNDAY:** Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

CONCIERTO DE ALABANZA:

The Circulo de Oración is hosting a Blessed Sacrament Gran Encuentro "**Bendiciendo La Familia**" this Saturday the 2nd of May 2015; from 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Please join us; come and experience God's mercy, love and grace. Guest musicians include Mr. Genry Batista and Mr. Luis Alberto Bare.



PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Gene Lacorbiniere
Helen Anthony
Juan & Melissa Valdez
Gladys & Fernando Stgo
María Cristina León
Michelle Reyes
Isabel Soza e Isabel Elter
Lisa Rivera
Jacob Thompson
Dolores Dávila

Domenica Liggio
Andrea Ortiz
Cleofe Morales
Marcos Cuevas
Florene Scott
Audrey Ávila
Encarnación Lugo
Johnny López
Nicolasa Fernández
Ofelia Álvarez
Raúl Rivera

Trinidad Vargas
Edward Victoria
Stephanie Merenda
Christian Tobar
Antonia Pérez
Altagracia Vázquez
Ángel Luis Rodríguez
Marisol Singer
Bernice Jones
Juan Torres
Bernie Hamilton



MONDAY:

8:00AM +ANTONIA & JOSEFA BALBUENA
9:00AM +GABRIEL LUNA

TUESDAY:

8:00AM +SALLY CRUZ+
9:00AM +ANGELA MORA+

WEDNESDAY:

8:00AM +ANGELA MORA+
9:00AM +SALLY CRUZ+

THURSDAY:

8:00AM PRO POPULO
9:00AM +MIKRE AKOWE

FRIDAY:

8:00AM +MIGUEL & PETRA ANDRADE
9:00AM +ÁNGELA SOTO

SATURDAY:

9:00AM +FAMILIA LUGO ROMÁN
5:00PM +MARÍA IRMA TORRES

SUNDAY:

8:00AM +GABRIEL LUNA
9:30AM +ONIETA AROMI
11:00AM +LUISA & LUIS PONCE JR.
12:30PM +IRIS DEL VALLE

CONTRIBUCIÓN A LA IGLESIA: Estamos muy agradecidos por su generosa contribución que hacen a nuestra parroquia semanalmente. Las colectas total de la semana del 19 de abril de 2015 fue de \$3,329.00 Gracias por su generosidad.

LA CARTA DEL PASTOR: ¿Qué significa reunirnos en nombre de Jesús? Las Escrituras de hoy nos dan una pista. San Pedro nos dice que fue en nombre de Jesús que el parálitico fue curado. El salmo nos recuerda que Jesús es la piedra que desecharon los constructores y que es ahora la piedra angular. Y el mismo Jesús nos recuerda en el Evangelio de hoy que él es el buen pastor que da la vida por sus ovejas. Así es que hoy nos reunimos en el nombre de aquel que cura, que es la piedra fundamental, el buen pastor y finalmente el que ha dado la vida para salvarnos de nuestros pecados. Absorbamos toda la riqueza del Señor Jesús, que se ha hecho presente en la proclamación de las lecturas de hoy.



EL BUEN PASTOR: El Cuarto Domingo de Pascua tradicionalmente se conoce como el “Domingo del Buen Pastor”. Hoy escuchamos las palabras del Señor cuando se llama a sí mismo “el buen pastor que da la vida por sus ovejas.” A veces es tan difícil para nosotros comprender la realidad de que

LITURGIA DE LA PALABRA DOMINICAL: Hechos 4:8-12; Salmo 118; 1 Juan 3:1-2; Juan 10:11-18 Hoy escuchamos de nuevo la voz de san Pedro en la lectura de los Hechos de los Apóstoles. En este memorable pasaje el nos dice que no hay otro nombre como el nombre de Jesucristo, por lo cual somos salvados. En el evangelio Jesús nos dice cuan profundo es su amor por nosotros, tan profundo que dio su vida por nosotros. Al escuchar hoy la palabra sagrada de Dios seamos agradecidos por tener este Buen Pastor que nos cuida y nos salva.

alguien esté dispuesto a dar su vida por alguien. Esto es muy cierto en una sociedad que pone tanto énfasis en el poder y en el avance social, con frecuencia a expensas de “pisotear” a otra gente para escalar a la cima. Las Escrituras de hoy nos muestran a quién debemos imitar –al que da su vida por las ovejas. Las Escrituras de hoy nos retan a descubrir la manera de llevar vida a los que están a nuestro alrededor –a construir y no a destruir.



TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE: Imágenes antiguas de Cristo lo mostraban como un pastor joven cargando una ovejita en sus hombros. Él mismo se presenta como el buen Pastor (Juan 10:11). Esta imagen que nos conforta con el amor de Cristo, es en realidad una imagen radical. Hay que saber dos cosas sobre el pastor palestino de aquella época: 1) los pastores eran considerados sucios, peligrosos y ladrones, y 2) cuando cargaban una ovejita era porque ellos mismos le habían quebrado la pierna. ¿Porque Jesús se describe como uno de ellos? Jesús ve más allá de las apariencias y los estereotipos, y se asocia con aquellas personas que la sociedad de su tiempo odiaba y marginaba. Por voluntad propia decide estar entre los pobres y despreciados. Si Jesús viniera a la tierra en nuestro tiempo, se describiría a sí mismo como el buen inmigrante. En cuanto a la ovejita sobre el hombre: en casos extremos, de ovejas rebeldes que se alejaban del rebaño, los pastores tenían que quebrarles la pierna para cargarlas sobre los hombros. De esta manera las amansaban para que no se alejaran de él. Dios no hace esto en nosotros, pero tampoco nos evita el sufrimiento. Antes bien, nos ayuda a llevarlo de manera heroica, como lo hizo con el santo Job.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

LUNES: Hch 11:1-18; Sal 42 (41):2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
MARTES: Hch 11:19-26; Sal 87 (86):1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
MIÉRCOLES: Hch 12:24 — 13:5a; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
JUEVES: Hch 13:13-25; Sal 89 (88):2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
VIERNES: Hch 13:26-33; Sal 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6 o (por la memoria) Gn 1:26 — 2:3 o Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Sal 90 (89):2-4, 12-14, 16; Mt 13:54-58
SÁBADO: Hch 13:44-52; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 14:7-14
DOMINGO: Hch 9:26-31; Sal 22 (21):26-32; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8



Concierto de Alabanza “**Bendiciendo la Familia**”
Fecha: Sábado 2º de Mayo de 2015
Lugar: Blessed Sacrament Chapel Hall
Hora: 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM