

# St. Robert Bellarmine Parish Community Meeting

May 1, 2022



# Welcome

We are glad you're here

Opening Prayer and Remarks

Fr. Gabriel Lee

# Synod Listening Session

Ed Fitzpatrick / Ally Muldoon



- Pope Francis invited members of parishes, schools, religious orders and other Catholic groups and organizations to take part in listening sessions that will culminate in a 2023 Synod of Bishops entitled “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission”.
- St. Robert Bellarmine publicized and held its parish listening session on Saturday January 8, 2022. About fifty members of our parish community, including parishioners, Clergy and Religious, participated in our session. We broke into groups to discuss - not debate - the ten focus areas related to various aspects of our Church/Parish and Faith.



Our dialogue led to recognition that:

- The Church is all of us!
- The need to work together and communicate across all groups, ministries, and communities in our parish, as well as with nearby parishes, the Diocese, and larger Catholic groups.
- The need to reach out to baptized Catholics who no longer join us at Mass as well as non-Catholics, and the importance of sharing our faith with knowledge, pride, and confidence.
- We agreed on the need for more educational and spiritual events to help people of all ages in our parish grow in their faith.
- We need to communicate more effectively about events and other important news in our parish.



- On February 9<sup>th</sup> Father Lee, Father Felicitas and Father Hwang, along with Alyson Muldoon and Ed Fitzpatrick, participated in a Mass and Deanery # 5 Synod Listening Session with Bishop Robert Brennan at Our Lady of the Snows Parish. He plans to meet with every Deanery in the Diocese.
- Again, we broke into groups with other parish representatives to dialogue and we shared what our parishioners spoke of at our St. Robert's session.
- The Bishop listened to each group and took faithful notes of their top concerns and hopes.
- He will bring what he learns from all of us to the worldwide Synod of Bishops in Rome in 2023.



# Finance Committee Update

Bob Aufenanger



|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 125,058 | 154,568 | 95,054  | 124,500 |
| 125,487 | 56,845  | 97,511  | 125,000 |
| 124,000 | 110,000 | 99,011  | 154,000 |
| 150     | 150,000 | 99,216  | 95,000  |
|         | 35,000  | 101,090 | 154,200 |
|         |         | 101,684 | 110,000 |
|         |         | 101,962 | 89,000  |
|         |         |         | 50,000  |
|         |         |         | 700     |



## Parish Finances: Where We Are

- The Parish is expected to lose \$500,000 in the current fiscal year ending August 2022.
- Repair costs represent 60% of the loss - \$300,000.
- The Parish is funding the \$300,000 of repair costs by borrowing from the Dioceses of Brooklyn. The total amount owed to the Diocese is \$2,400,000.
- The Parish continues to require ongoing generosity from its members in terms of weekly contributions to fund its current operational needs.





## Parish Finances: Questions

- Question: Where does all the school rental income go?
  - *Answer – School rental income is required by the Diocese to be used to pay interest and principal on the \$2,400,000 of debt owed by the Parish.*
- Question: When will the \$2,400,000 of debt be repaid?
  - *Answer: The debt will be fully repaid in 2027.*

# Annual Catholic Appeal

---

Ed Fitzpatrick



**Annual Catholic  
Appeal 2022**  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

# Annual Catholic Appeal 2022

- Each year the Brooklyn Diocese asks the faithful to financially support its important Diocesan programs through the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) which is the primary vehicle for funding programs that allow our Church community throughout Brooklyn and Queens to thrive as the body of Christ.
- Every year St. Robert Bellarmine meets and exceeds the goal it is given!
- In 2021 two hundred and four generous parishioners contributed \$97,964, exceeding our goal of \$66,419 by \$31,545.



# Annual Catholic Appeal 2022

- Your generosity in 2021 helped our Diocese provide meals to friends and neighbors, supported our seminarians as they grow in faith, cared for our retired priests living at Immaculate Conception Center residence, supported our school and hospital chaplains, and ensured our Catholic faith is celebrated and passed on to future generations.
- Not only have you helped the greater Church community, you have also helped our parish, because the \$31,545 above our goal comes back to our parish to use as needed!
- In the 2022 ACA campaign, we already have 82 contributors who have donated \$35,131 of our \$66,419 parish goal.



**Older Adult Services**  
718.722.6001  
AGING IS JUST ANOTHER WORD FOR LIVING

- If you want to contribute to the ACA or our set up your regular weekly offertory through e-giving, open your smart phone camera and scan QR code below or visit our Parish website at: <https://www.strobertsbayside.org>



- E-giving is a safe, easy and reliable way to support the important programs funded through the Annual Catholic Appeal and the parish we love. Please consider this innovative way to contribute, especially as we plan to be away on summer vacations.



**Annual Catholic  
Appeal 2022**  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN



Grow — Serve - Give

*Live Your Purpose*

Parish Stewardship

---

Ed Fitzpatrick / Ally Muldoon

# Parish Stewardship – Live Your Purpose



- In the spring of 2021, the parish launched the Live Your Purpose stewardship program. Our goal is to have every parishioner live his or her God-given purpose by **growing** in faith, **servicing** others, and **giving** generously.
- As part of this program, a series of videos, verbal announcements, and bulletin board displays were created to encourage participation in parish groups and ministries, as well as increased offertory giving, including our electronic giving program.
- Our Live Your Purpose program will continue with an event next month where parishioners can meet representatives of parish groups and ministries and find out how they can get involved.



# Spirituality / Parish Life

Ally Muldoon



# Spirituality / Parish Life

## What Is Spirituality and Parish Life?

Basically, this covers everything that makes the parish more than just a place to receive the Sacraments and leave – everything that makes us a community of believers.

## What We've Done:

- We've expanded our "Walk in the Word" Lectio Divina group. We now have a group that meets Monday nights on Zoom, and a group that meets in person on Wednesdays after the 9:00 am Mass.
- We held the first in-person Advent program since 2019, including participation from our Priests, Deacon, Lectors, and Music Ministry.
- We added an in-person "Journey through Lent" small group program.
- We continued daily prayer intentions for Advent and Lent, as well as a special Novena for Purpose.
- Re-started hospitality after the 11:00 Mass on April 24.



## Daily Prayer Intentions

Sunday, December 12: That the stress of Christmas preparations does not diminish our joy at the upcoming birth of Jesus.

Monday, December 13: For children, that their joy in the simple gifts of the season will be an example to all.

Tuesday, December 14: For those who do not attend church, that the joy they see in us may lead them to Christ.

Wednesday, December 15: For those finding it hard to be joyful this Advent, that Jesus may bring light into their lives.

Thursday, December 16: For our parish, that we may be a center of joy in the community.

Friday, December 17: For those in need, that our generosity may bring them joy.

Saturday, December 18: For all of us, that we may "rejoice in the Lord always".

## Closing Prayer:

Lord, we thank you for the blessing of reading your word together. We ask that these words of life, truth and hope would continue to impact us in the week ahead.

May your love and grace follow each of us as we return to our daily lives, refreshed and blessed by you.

We ask all this in the wonderful name of Jesus.  
Amen.

# Spirituality / Parish Life

## What's Coming Next:

- We'd like to expand our small faith sharing groups and invite all parishioners to join a small group, where they can grow in faith and community as they discuss the weekly readings. We have a large parish and sometimes it's hard to get to know people – our faith sharing groups are a great way to make our big church feel much smaller!
- The Hospitality Committee intends to continue providing a chance for parishioners and guests to meet each other and share coffee and conversation after Mass!

## Want to Join Us?

- If you'd like to become a part of a small faith sharing group, help serve with the Hospitality Committee, or have any other ideas for how our parishioners can continue to grow in faith while building community, please contact Alyson Muldoon.





# Physical Plant Update

---

Bob Aufenanger / Ed Fitzpatrick

# Physical Plant Update – What's Been Done



- Our church building was built in 1969. Like any other building, our buildings require maintenance to keep them operating well.
- In the past year, we have undertaken the following projects:
  - Replacement of the gym roof.
  - Replacement of the original windows in the Rectory and Convent.
  - Repaving of the Convent parking lot.
  - Reupholstery of the sanctuary chairs, performed by a generous (and handy) parishioner.
  - Installation of touchless holy water fonts (donated by the Knights of Columbus and an anonymous donor).
  - Installation of a new sump pump and piping in the Parish Hall kitchen.

# Physical Plant Update – What's Next



- Upcoming projects include:
  - Repair of the church and rectory roofs and convent parapet
  - Caulking of the stained glass windows in the church
  - Repair of the gym doors
  - Repair of convent chapel windows
  - Costs of the above projects is approximately \$250,000 which will be funded by borrowings from the Diocese of Brooklyn.

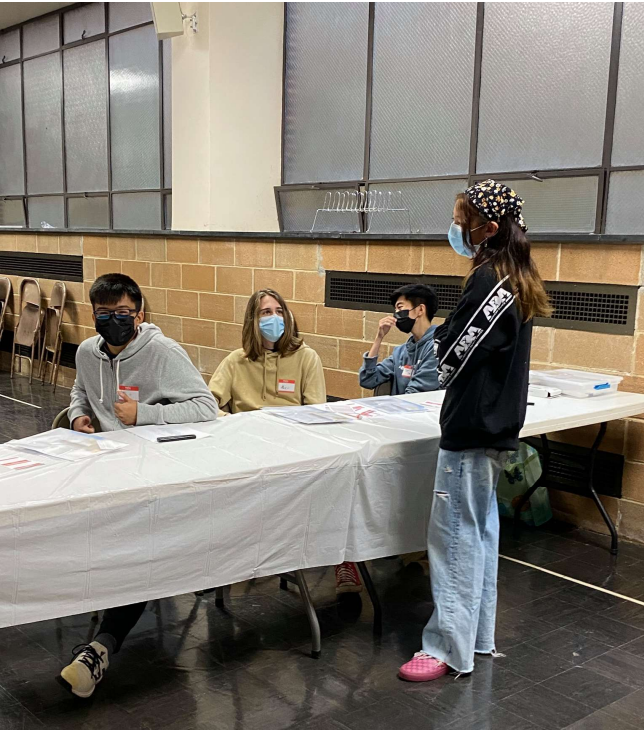


# Religious Education

Sr. Colette Moon



- We currently have 76 children from Kindergarten to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade in our Religious Education program. The program meets on Sunday mornings, and our dedicated teachers and teaching assistants work to bring our kids into a relationship with Jesus that we hope will last long after their school days, while having fun!
- We were thrilled to be able to do a live Christmas Pageant in 2021! Due to COVID restrictions, only students and family members could attend, but we're hoping to invite the entire parish for Christmas 2022!
- Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, assisted by the Youth Group, presented the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. A great crowd came out for this prayerful presentation of Jesus' walk to Calvary.
- Our Confirmation Retreat was held on April 23, and our First Communion Retreat and First Reconciliation was held on April 30. Pray for the children receiving Sacraments this year!
- Children in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up who have received First Communion can become Altar Servers! If you know anyone interested in being a part of this important ministry, please let us know.
- We are also planning ahead for the 2022-2023 school year. If you would like to be a teacher or teacher's assistant, please contact Sister Colette. You don't need to be a professional teacher or even a parent – if you love Jesus, love kids, and can pass a background check, we can help you to teach!



# Youth Ministry

JP Muldoon

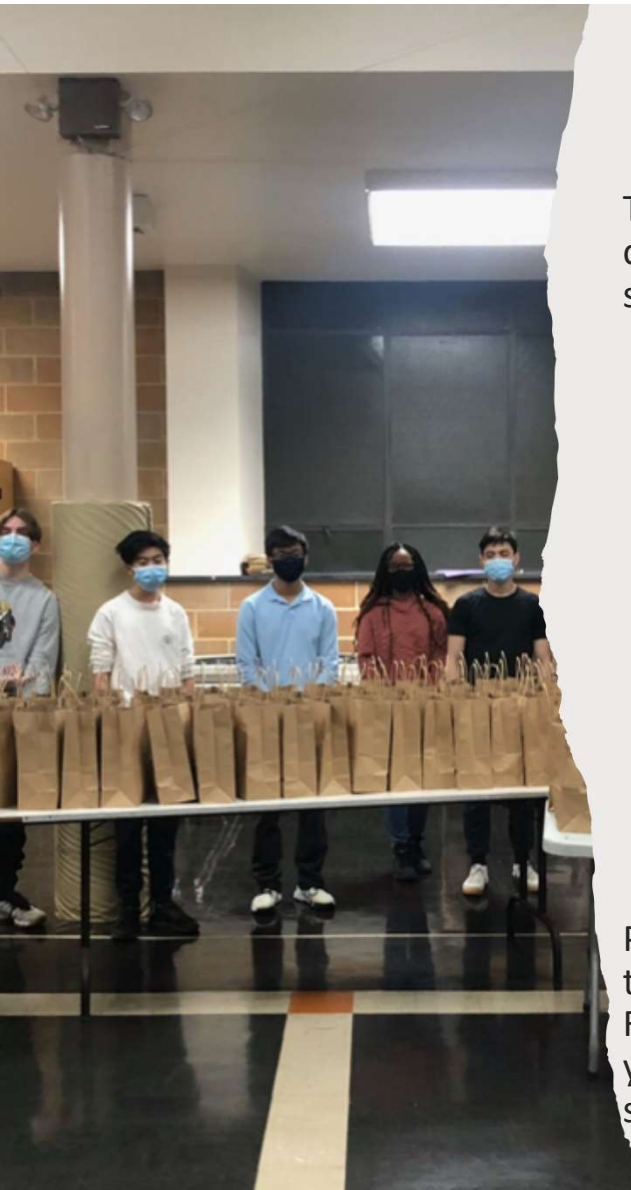


# Youth Ministry

The Youth Group is for teenagers who have been confirmed. Together, they participate in spiritual, service, and social activities. In the past year, we have:

- Resumed weekly in-person meetings.
- Had several sandwich making drives, providing bag lunches to over 300 people.
- Had a baby goods drive, collecting two carloads of kids' clothes, toiletries, and toys for Bridge to Life.
- Organized the Christmas Giving Tree, collecting toys for the children of incarcerated or recently released mothers through Hour Children.
- Planned, organized and operated a successful retreat for our middle school students.
- Had a movie night, where our friends were invited for a showing of "The Princess Bride".

Participants in the Youth Group are active in the life of the parish as lectors, altar servers, members of the Folk Group, and in other ministries, and work with younger students as teachers' assistants and on special projects.



# Youth Ministry

The Youth Group is planning more service, spiritual, and social activities in the months ahead:

- May will bring the second annual Baby Goods Drive, benefiting Bridge to Life.
- We are also having a Youth Holy Hour in May, where our teens can spend time in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
- We're considering going to a Mets game, a barbecue, and/or a trip to Sight & Sound Theater in Pennsylvania.
- We're working on ideas for other service projects.

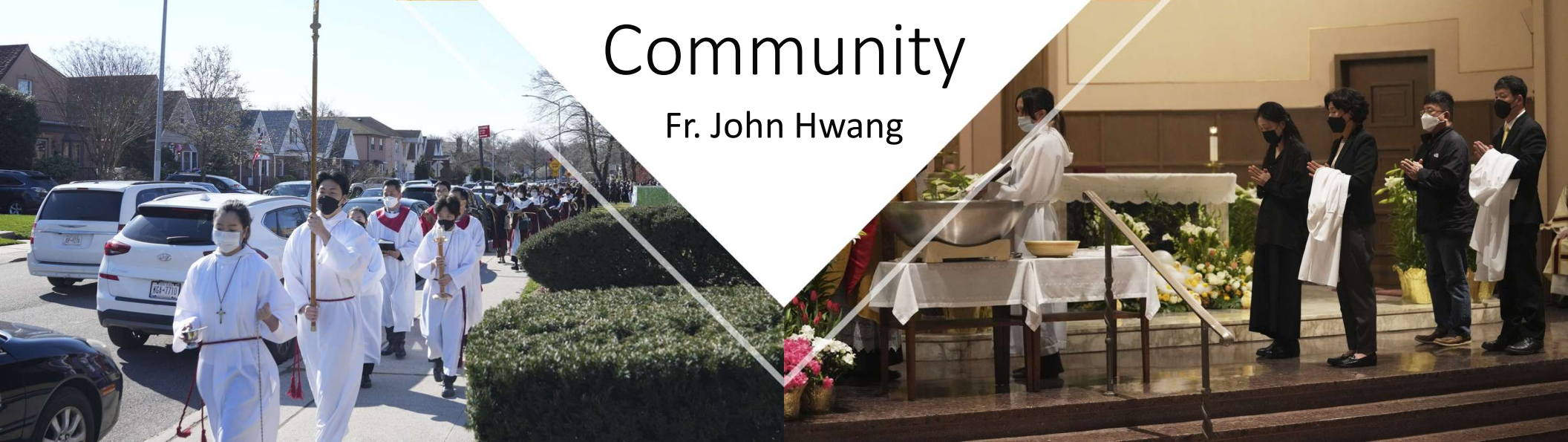
If you know someone who'd like to get involved with the Youth Group, contact JP Muldoon.





# Korean-American Community

Fr. John Hwang





- Our Korean-American Community is celebrating 25 years as part of St. Robert Bellarmine! In that time, we have celebrated all the milestones of parish life together.
- Our Community has been blessed by the presence of our Korean and Korean-American Priests, by the unfailing practical help and spiritual support of the Sisters of the Blessed Korean Martyrs, and most of all, by our parishioners.

—

# Filipino- American Community

---

Ceres Foronda





© Andrew Televandos 2011 - 2025



# OSCAR NIGHT IN BAYSIDE

Lights...Cameras...  
Action!  
Walk the Red Carpet  
and have your picture  
taken by a  
Paparazzi!

DATE ----- SATURDAY, NOV. 9, 2013  
 TIME ----- 7:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.  
 PLACE --- ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE  
 PARISH HALL  
 56-15 213th St Bayside  
 NY 11354 Tel # 718-229-6465

DONATION--\$35.00  
 ATTIRE-----SEMI FORMAL

DJ MUSIC BY ERNIE SANTOS  
 FOR INFORMATION LOREN SOTO JANE BABES CAMARA  
 PLEASE CALL 718-229-7345 917-387-0728







  
FILIPINO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY  
OF ST. ROBERT BELLARMINO  
**18th Annual Dinner Dance**  
★  
Come have fun and join us again  
for another memorable evening of dancing,  
dining and entertainment.  
★  
**LET'S PARTY LIKE GATSBY**  
★  
★  
★  
★  
**THE ROARING 20'S**





Bob Aufenanger

Knights of Columbus



# Who Are the Knights of Columbus?

- The largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the World – 1.9 million members
- Founded on the principals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism in 1882 by Fr. Michael J. McGivney
- The St. Robert's Council was founded 37 years ago
- Empowers Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their parish, and in their community
- One of the largest Insurance Companies in the U.S. – life, term, long term care, disability insurance & financial products such as retirement annuities and mutual funds. Profits are used to fund charitable activities.





# St. Robert's Council Activities

- Food Pantry
- Annual Veterans Day Drive
- Ronald McDonald House Dinners
- Bridge to Life – financial and manpower support
- Basketball Free Throw Contest & Soccer Contest
- Easter Bunny Breakfast
- Breakfast with Santa/Keep Christ in Christmas Banners
- Maintenance of Church Flower Garden
- Sanitize our Church during Covid crisis
- Social Events for our members
- Knights are members of St. Robert's Finance Committee and Parish Council



## Become a Member!

- Looking For a Few Good Men
- You Can Make a Difference
- “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give”, Winston Churchill





# Mature Adult Parishioners

Ed Fitzpatrick

# Mature Adult Parishioners

- Started in 2018 for mature parishioners (55 years and older).
- The purpose of the Mature Adult Parishioner group is to respond to the spiritual and social interests of mature parishioners.
- The MAP group was publicized in parish bulletin items and in a blast e-mail to parishioners.
- Based on a parish-wide survey conducted by the MAPs group, a Movie Forum was organized that showed movies of interest that dealt with aspects of our faith, as well as subjects covering the moral and ethical issues of our age.
- Three movies were shown for the MAP group and two movie nights were hosted for all parishioners. Over 50 parishioners participated in these combined events.



# Mature Adult Parishioners

- We had our first in-person meeting since the pandemic started, on November 4, 2021, and had a short field trip on February 17, 2022 to neighboring St. Josephat Parish to see an exhibit that traces our religion from its roots in the Garden of Eden up to modern times that was created by one of our members.
- We met this past week on April 27<sup>th</sup> and the group is planning to visit a field trip, possibly to Old St. Patrick's in lower Manhattan
- We have also discussed other field trips to other churches, art exhibits and other places of interest.
- MAP group members also participate in a wide variety of other parish activities and ministries.
- Anyone interested in joining the MAP group please call Ed Fitzpatrick at 718-224-7799





**St. Robert Bellarmine Roman Catholic Church**  
 56-15 213th Street • Bayside New York 11364 • 718-229-6465  
 E-Mail: Strobweb@strob.org Website: strob.org/bayside.org

*St. Robert Bellarmine parish thrives as a spirit-filled community of diverse individuals and families deeply committed to selfless love and personal sacrifice. As good stewards of God's gifts, we strive to be a caring and compassionate congregation dedicated to doing whatever is needed to enrich our community.*

**Rev. Gabriel Lee, Pastor**  
**Rev. Godofredo Felicitas, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. John Iwang, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Msgr. Martin T. Geraghty, Senior Priest**  
**Deacon Michael Brainerd, Permanent Deacon**

**Rectory**  
 Rectory Phone: 718-229-6465  
 Rectory Fax: 718-229-8126

**Rectory Hours**  
 Mon-Fri: 9am - 12 noon; 1-4pm

**Mass Schedule**  
 Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 pm (English)\* 8:45pm (Korean)  
 Sunday: 8:00am (English), 9:15 (Korean), 11:00am (English)

**Weekday Masses**  
 Monday - Friday 9:00 am Saturday 9:00am

**Parish Membership**  
 Every parishioner must register at the Rectory upon

**Confessions**  
 Saturdays: 4-4:45pm

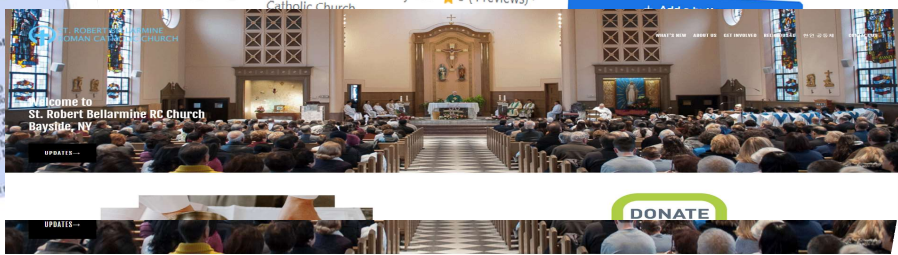
**Holy Day of Obligation**  
 Vigil Mass the night before at 7:30PM  
 Holy Day Masses: 9:00AM

**Baptism**  
 1st Saturday of the month at 12:30  
 Diocesan Instructions Obligatory for  
 Godparents are encouraged to attend  
 provide Baptismal, Confirmation &  
 certificates - Class 1st Thursday of  
 7:00 pm. All Godparents MUST be  
 Catholics. NO Baptisms during  
 Lent.

**Marriages**  
 Arrangements must be made at



**St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church - Bayside, NY**  
 @strob.org/bayside • 5 (4 reviews)  
 Catholic Church



YouTube channel page for St. Robert Bellarmine Church. The page shows a video player with a thumbnail of a church service. Below the player are video thumbnails for 'SRB Journey Through Lent', 'SRB Synod Follow Up', 'St. Robert Bellarmine Synod', 'Live Your Purpose This Advent', and 'Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time'. The channel name is 'SRB Bayside NY' with 807 subscribers. A 'Parish Updates & Survey!' video is also featured. The page includes navigation tabs for HOME, VIDEOS, PLAYLISTS, CHANNELS, and ABOUT.

# Communications

Teresa Carrano



Questions / Comments

---

A silhouette of a woman with her hair in a bun, shown in profile with her hands clasped in prayer. She is set against a warm, golden sunset sky. A dark grey semi-transparent banner is overlaid at the bottom, containing the text "Closing Prayer".

# Closing Prayer

