

Dear Parishioner(s),

We hope this message finds you well. It has been wonderful to see so many of you in church. For those that are unable to attend in person, we hope you are enjoying the recordings on [YouTube](#).

The Parish and Finance Councils meet regularly and continue to find ways to keep St. Robert Bellarmine as a thriving church community, despite the challenges we are all facing. We would love to hear from you - please take a few minutes to complete [this survey](#) and share your thoughts.

We also wanted to let our parish community know how proud we are that two of our members have received Papal honors.

His Holiness Pope Francis has bestowed Pontifical Honors to 57 faithful members of the Brooklyn Diocese. 10 were Knighted into the Order of St. Gregory, 6 were Knighted into the Order of St. Sylvester, 21 received the Benemerenti Medal and 20 received the Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross. These awards were conferred in a prayer service presided by Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio at the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph on September 19.

The Papal Award Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross given to our Eileen Maloney

The papal Award Pro-Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross was founded by Pope Leo XIII on July 17, 1888 to mark his jubilee as a priest. While it began as a way for Pope Leo XIII to honor individuals it continues to be bestowed by the Holy Father. This award is given by the Pope to lay persons and clergy in recognition for the service that they have given to the Church conferring upon them the insignia of the venerable Cross, "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" - For the Church and the Pontiff.

Eileen Maloney was born in County Cavan, Ireland. Eileen began working as a secretary for the Diocese of Brooklyn in August of 1976 at the then Cathedral College and has worked with six of the Rectors. Eileen has performed very well in her role, assisting with administrative or managerial responsibilities, but more importantly has always been the necessary maternal role model for those studying for the priesthood.

A former rector said; "There have been many fine Church workers over the years, however, few have managed to live the mission of our Catholic Church quite effectively as Eileen has - a mission which, correctly understood, is a mission of inclusion, just like the Jesus of the Scriptures".

Congratulations Eileen on this fantastic recognition!

Papal Knighthood in the Order of St. Gregory the Great bestowed on Samuel Romanzo

The Pontifical Order of St. Gregory the Great was established on September 1, 1831, by Pope Gregory XVI. It is named after his namesake Pope Gregory I (590-604). The order is one of the five orders of knighthood of the Holy See and represent one of the highest and most prestigious distinctions which the Pope can bestow on an individual. This award is made to lay men and women, largely of the Roman Catholic faith but also to those of other faith traditions in recognition of the person's pre-eminent service to their faith, community, or the work of the Holy See on a local, national and international level.

Sam Romanzo has been a parishioner of our Parish since 1993. He currently serves as a Lector and has served on the Pastoral Planning Council including terms as President as well as the Parish Lead of the Generations of Faith Capital Campaign. For 25 years he gave his time and talent to youth sports serving as a Coach, Athletic Director and then the Parish Representative to the Diocesan CYO. For his service and accomplishments, he was inducted in the Brooklyn Diocese CYO Hall of Fame in 2018.

Sam has been a board member of the Catholic Foundation for Brooklyn and Queens since 2009, serving as Chair of the Finance Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Cypress Hills Cemetery and the Board of Trustees of the Saint Joseph's Seminary as Chair of the Student Life and Formation Committee. He and his wife Nancy are active members and supporters of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Center for Thought & Culture.

Sam has always been a reliable, hardworking person for our Parish and Diocese. He does not hesitate to volunteer to organize and work on the projects that need to get done. He has not only done many good works for our Parish and Church he has also mentored others to be "doers of the word, not hearers only" an important and lasting legacy.

Congratulations Sam on this well-deserved high honor!

We are a blessed parish. Stay safe and healthy!

Best regards,
The Parish Council