

# Good News!

Douglaston/Little Neck, New York

Saint  
**Anastasia**  
Church

**Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**

**June 29, 2025**



When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.

For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." — Matthew 16:13-19



## Saints Peter and Paul

By Bartolomeo Manfredi, 1620s  
On view at The Met

45-14 245th St. (Rev. John J. Gribbon Way)  
Douglaston, NY 11362-1135

**StA.NYC**  
St. Anastasia Church

Phone: (718) 631-4454  
Fax: (718) 631-1774

Website: [www.sta.nyc](http://www.sta.nyc)  
Email: [info@sta.nyc](mailto:info@sta.nyc)

# saint Anastasia church

Established 1915

## Rectory Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

(718) 631-4454

## Parish Mission Statement

To Proclaim the good news of Christ's love through our active involvement, as a Parish community, in works of Charity, Faith, Worship and Justice.

### All Are Welcome!

NO MATTER what your present status is in the Catholic Church;  
NO MATTER your family situation;  
NO MATTER where you are in the practice of faith;  
NO MATTER what your personal history, age, background;  
NO MATTER what your self-image may be;  
YOU are invited, welcomed, respected & loved at St. Anastasia

## Parish Directory

**Rev. David J. Dettmer**  
PASTOR

**Deacon Joseph Chu**  
ASSOCIATE STAFF MEMBER

**Rev. Msgr. George J. Ryan**  
PASTOR EMERITUS

**Rev. Anthony Rucando**  
IN RESIDENCE

**Mrs. Eula Buckley**  
SECRETARY

**Mrs. Mary Burns**  
BOOKKEEPER

## Faith Formation & School of Religion

PHONE (718) 225-5191  
EMAIL [dff@sta.nyc](mailto:dff@sta.nyc)

**Mrs. Rose Ruesing**  
DIRECTOR

## Music Ministry

**Mrs. Stephanie Larkin**  
DIRECTOR

## Divine Wisdom Catholic Academy

**Mrs. Miriam Bonici**  
PRINCIPAL  
45-11 245th Street (Rev. John J. Gribbon Way)  
Douglaston, NY 11362-1134

PHONES: (718) 631-3153, (718) 631-3155  
WEB SITE: [www.dwcaonline.org](http://www.dwcaonline.org)  
EMAIL: [dwisdom@dwcaonline.org](mailto:dwisdom@dwcaonline.org)

## Flocknote



Receive text messages to stay connected to our parish. Go to [stanyc.flocknote.com](http://stanyc.flocknote.com) to register, or text **stanyc** to 84576.  
- This is a free service but your carrier's text and data rates may apply.  
- Text STOP to 84576 to stop texts.

## Parish Membership

All new families are welcome to the Parish and every family should be properly registered. Registration forms are available at the Rectory or in the rear of the church.

Use of the electronic giving (Faith Direct) or envelope system is required if statement of contribution is sought for tax purposes. All parishioners should use either one of the donation forms. If you move or change your address, please notify the Rectory by mail.

## Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Rectory or Faith Formation Office for dates of baptisms. No more than four families will be scheduled for a Baptism at one time. Please call the Rectory at 718-631-4454 or the Faith Formation Office at 718-225-5191. After the initial intake, you will be asked to go to the Rectory to pick up a checklist and handbook. You will also have to schedule a private class and will need a copy of your child's birth certificate.

## Sacrament of Matrimony

Time available: Saturday 11 AM—3 PM and Sunday 2:30 PM—3 PM. Couples must make arrangements six months prior to the selected date of their marriage and fully participate in the Pre-Cana program.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

It is the process for adults wishing to become Catholic, complete their sacramental initiation, or attain full membership in the Church. For further information, please contact Mrs. Rose Ruesing.

## Liturgies

### Weekend Masses

- 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday
- Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12 noon

### Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Saturday at 8:30 AM

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:30 PM in the Church

## Holy Days and Special Liturgies

- Mass schedules for holy days are printed on Sundays before the feasts and solemnities occur. For advance information, please call the Rectory Office

## Devotions

- Miraculous Medal Novena: Mondays after the 8:30 AM Daily Mass
- Rosary: Before the Daily Mass Monday - Saturday.

## Circle of Friends

### SENIOR SOCIAL GROUP

EVERY TUESDAY  
11AM TO 1PM  
PARISH CENTER

Socialize with friends, play board or  
card games and enjoy time with  
others.

Coffee, tea, and water will be there.  
Bring snacks to share!

## Pray the Rosary

Before the 8:30 a.m. Daily Mass  
at 7:45 a.m.



Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Church

### Tuesday Rosary Themes

July 1st

Feasts of the Sacred Heart of  
Jesus and the Immaculate  
Heart of Mary

July 8th

St. Benedict

July 15th

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

July 22

St. Bridget of Sweden

July 29th

Sts. Joachim and Anne



## ST. ANASTASIA PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Classes for children from PreK through Grade 8  
(High School classes upon request)

Wednesday in-person and monthly Sunday Family Catechesis options available  
PreK to Level 4 meet at 4pm  
Level 5 to Level 8 meet at 7pm

\$100 Annual Registration fee, \$50 per child

New registrations must have the child's baptismal certificate

Those who have previously attended another religious education program must  
provide a letter of transfer.

**Registration is NOW OPEN!**

Contact the office at the information below or scan  
the QR code to register.



**Contact: Rose Ruesing, Director of Faith Formation**  
Call 718-225-5191 Email [dff@sta.nyc](mailto:dff@sta.nyc) [www.sta.nyc](http://www.sta.nyc)



## Grow+Go



June 29, 2025

Solemnity of Saints  
Peter and Paul, ApostlesWritten by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

Acts 12:1-11 | 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18 | Mt 16:13-19

**GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE**

Too often, we conceive of our earthly pilgrimage as a convoluted maze we must travel by ourselves. Consequently, many of us either ignore the question altogether or become overwhelmed by how ill-equipped we are for the task. But in today's Gospel, Jesus indicates that confusion was never part of his plan. Responding to Peter's profession of faith, Jesus says, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church." From the mouth of Eternal Wisdom comes words which establish a Church on Peter's God-given faith. Already a leader among the disciples, Peter now receives his vocation to be the foundation of unity among the Apostles. Their successors, the bishops, would be recognizable by their union with Peter's successors, the popes. Over time, the Church's understanding of Peter's authority would mature and deepen. From the beginning, however, Peter's role as shepherd meant that navigating the path to heaven was not something we were to do in isolation. We aren't asked to decipher the meaning of the Scriptures ourselves or to untangle centuries of theological speculation in order to follow Jesus. God, who knows we cannot make the journey alone, has given us a visible Church to be our guide.

**GO EVANGELIZE****PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Jesus established the Church so that we would have a sure and safe means of transit on our earthly pilgrimage. Convinced though we may be of this truth, we nevertheless have to contend with the storms that buffet her from within and without. Yet we can rest in Jesus' assurance to Peter: "the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." The Church has survived for millennia as empires have risen and fallen around her. Even in her darkest hours, Christ has continued to speak through her and, by his sacraments, to touch us intimately with his love.

**PRAY**

Today's first reading, which takes place when Peter is in prison, contains an interesting detail: "Prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God on [Peter's] behalf." As members of Christ's Church on earth, we are not meant to be passive players. This week, pray for *Peter* — that is, for his successor, the pope — that he may fulfill his lofty and difficult vocation to lead the world to Christ.

## Reflections



# Evangelization 101

## *Implicit and Explicit Evangelization*

The Church identifies two dimensions to evangelization, implicit and explicit, both of which are necessary for complete and effective evangelizing. In the words of Pope St. Paul VI,

*"...even the finest witness will prove ineffective in the long run if it is not...made explicit by a clear and unequivocal proclamation of the Lord Jesus. The Good News proclaimed by the witness of life sooner or later has to be proclaimed by the word of life."*

*- Evangelii Nuntiandi 22*

### Implicit Proclamation of the Gospel – The *Witness* of Life

*Implicit* proclamation is the proclamation of the person of Jesus Christ through the witness of one's life. Let people see in the way you live the difference that Christ makes! Examples:

- **Do the people around you know that you are Catholic?** Include the practice of your Catholic faith in daily conversation. For example, after the weekend, it is typical of co-workers to ask, "What did you do this weekend?" Be sure to include what you did in the area of faith as well. You can respond, "On Saturday, I went to a barbeque and then Saturday evening, I went to Confession, which really took a load off! Sunday morning, the whole family went to Mass and in the evening we hung out and watched a movie."
- **Let your trust in God animate your behavior.** The sons and daughters of God should live with a sense of God's providential Fatherhood, letting it infuse their actions. We can witness to this by rushing around less, not getting stressed over petty things, moderating our work hours and responding to difficulties calmly. This communicates to others the great peace that comes from being a child of God and may cause some head-turning among co-workers, family members and classmates.

### Explicit Proclamation of the Gospel - The *Word* of Life

*Explicit* proclamation is the use of our words to proclaim the person, life and teachings of Jesus Christ as found in the life and teachings of the Church. Examples:

- **Sharing our faith goes much deeper than communicating information.** Our words about our faith need to be *personal*, showing that we believe in realities that we have personally experienced. The best way to do this is to tell stories of ways Christ has acted in your life, how much the sacraments have helped you find peace, how praying about something brought you answers and direction, etc... In this way, we are not only communicating information, but inviting others to consider a personal friendship with the Savior.
- **Do we know how to talk to others about Jesus?** Along with sharing your personal stories about how the Lord works in your life, we must also be comfortable and prepared to talk about the core, central message of our Faith, called the kerygma – that the Son of God became man, died on the Cross for love of us, rose from the dead, and now invites us into a relationship with him through the life of the Catholic Church. Do some prayerful study on the "Catholic kerygma" and this will strengthen your outreach to those who do not yet know the love of Christ!



## This Week



Thursday, July 3, 2025  
Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle

## This Week on formed™

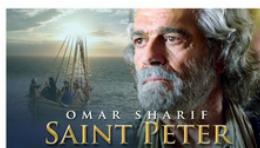
Forming Catholics for *Life*.

Use "st. anastasia ny" to signup at [formed.org](https://formed.org)



### Peter: Keeper of the Keys

When a young Christian girl is arrested and imprisoned in ancient Rome, she hears stories of martyrs like St. Catherine of Alexandria and St. Lawrence the Deacon—will she find the strength to make the ultimate sacrifice for her faith?



### Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.



### Paul the Apostle | The Bible Collection

The church's greatest enemy became Christ's most prolific messenger. Beautifully shot in the Moroccan desert, Paul the Apostle is a sweeping saga of the man who brought the Gospel to the Western world.



## Love and Serve



### Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

On this Sunday, we celebrate the pillars of our Church, two figures who, despite their different paths, converged in their unwavering faith and dedication to spreading the Gospel. Peter, the Galilean fisherman, and Paul, the highly educated Roman citizen, came from different backgrounds but made parallel yet distinct contributions to the early Church. They were united in their devotion to Jesus Christ and their commitment to spreading the Gospel. Their lives, marked by dramatic conversions and tireless ministry, offer profound lessons for all of us.

Simon Peter was born in Bethsaida, a town in ancient Galilee, situated on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, near the Jordan River. Known as Simon, son of John (or Jonah), and brother of Andrew. Jesus later gave him the name Cephas, meaning "rock" in Aramaic, translated to Peter in Greek. Simon Peter, along with his brother Andrew, were Jews and followers of John the Baptist before becoming disciples of Jesus. Simon lived in Capernaum with his wife and mother-in-law. He worked as a fisherman in Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee, owning a boat, and in business with the sons of Zebedee, James and John. Andrew, Peter's brother, brought Simon to Jesus, and their initial encounter suggests that Jesus already had a special purpose for Simon. In Matthew 16:13-20, we learn of a pivotal moment in the life of Simon, which occurred near Caesarea Philippi, when, through divine revelation, he proclaimed Jesus as *"the Christ, the Son of the living God."* In response, Jesus declared that Peter was the rock upon which He would build His Church, promising him the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Saul of Tarsus, a Jew from the tribe of Benjamin and the town of Giscalis in Judea, along with his family, moved to Tarsus (modern-day Turkey), the capital of the province of Cilicia, after the Romans took control of Giscalis. Saul was educated by the respected teacher Gamaliel and became a zealous Pharisee. He viewed the emerging Christian movement as a threat to Jewish traditions, leading him to persecute the Church and approve the stoning of Stephen, its first martyr. Saul's encounter with the risen Christ on the road to Damascus led to a radical transformation. He became God's chosen instrument to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles. While the Book of Revelation depicts the Church as the Bride of Christ, and the Gospel writers presented the Church as a unified body with Christ as its head, Paul is the primary source for the theology of the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ, the spiritual union of all Christians with Christ as their head, forming one body, the Church. It's not merely a metaphor, but a living, organic connection. Paul extensively wrote of this in his letters, emphasizing the unity and interdependence of believers within the Church, with Christ as its head. He taught that each member has a unique role and function, contributing to the overall health and growth of the body.

Let us reflect on the readings for this day and the lives of Peter and Paul to be reminded of the transformative power of faith and the call to each of us to follow Christ with courage and conviction.

**Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord.**

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## Bread & Wine Memorial



**Connie Quiambao**  
June 29 — July 5, 2025

## Holy Father's Prayer Intentions



**July 2025**

**For formation in discernment**

Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

## Prayer Intentions



In the kindness of your prayers, remember our recently deceased parishioners and friends.

Also remember the homebound, sick and those who have asked for our prayers:

Geraldine Armenio  
Eva Bedell  
Fred Bedell  
Ann Cavaseno  
Joyce Daino  
John Dietzler  
Carmela Digregorio  
Ralph DiScala  
Jo Ann Ferrari

Josephine Finocchiaro  
Victoria Guerra  
Theodore Koumou  
Anthony Logerfo  
Alfina Manca  
TJ McSherry  
Antoinette Taub  
Gregory Wiehl



## St. Anastasia Parish Registration



**Thank you for attending Mass with us today.**

If you have not previously registered or are considering registering with our parish, please complete a **Parish Registration Form** located in the rear of the church then return it to the rectory.

**Parish Family: Why Register?**

If you have not already registered, it is important to do so. If and when you are asked to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, you will need a letter from the parish. Letters cannot be given to those who are not registered parishioners. Please be sure to keep your information updated with the parish, especially with changes to address and phone number.

## Mass Intentions



Sunday, June 29, 2025  
5:00 p.m. Vigil Umberto Savocchi  
Paul Nardozi

8:00 a.m. People of St. Anastasia Parish

10:00 a.m. Irene Mulhall  
Doris Winter

12:00 noon Rafael Garcia  
Michael Mescall

Monday, June 30, 2025  
8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 1, 2025  
8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 2, 2025  
8:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 3, 2025  
8:30 a.m. Sofia, Loreto & Ruggerio Taglienti

Friday, July 4, 2025  
8:30 a.m. Alicia Guevara  
Mario Duras

Saturday, July 5, 2025  
8:30 a.m. Rosa Badala

Sunday, July 6, 2025  
5:00 p.m. Vigil Estelle Chatterjee (Living)  
Jean Morrissey

8:00 a.m. People of St. Anastasia Parish

10:00 a.m.

12:00 noon



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