



# HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Fall

[www.fdneyholynamesociety.com](http://www.fdneyholynamesociety.com)

2019

## CHAPLAINS:

Msgr. Marc A. Filacchione (212) 371-1000

Rev. Christopher Keenan, O.F.M. (917) 881-1090

PRESIDENT: Joe Brosi

EDITOR: Susan Hovestadt

## Being a Catholic Christian

I invite us to reflect on our own sense of identity—both as an individual and as part of a collective (Holy Name Society Man)—as you read Howard Thurman’s thoughts on race and relationships:

The burden of being black and the burden of being white is so heavy that it is rare in our society to experience oneself as a human being. It may be, I do not know, that to experience oneself as a human being is ONE with experiencing one’s fellows as human beings. Precisely what does it mean to experience oneself as a human being? In the first place, it means that the individual must have a sense of kinship to life that transcends and goes beyond the immediate kinship of family or the organic kinship that binds him ethnically or “racially” or nationally (or as a firefighter). He has to feel that he belongs to his total environment. He has a sense of being an essential part of the structural relationship that exists between him and all other men, and between him, all other men, and the total external environment. As a human being, then, he belongs to life and the whole kingdom of life that includes all that lives and perhaps, also, all that has ever lived. In other words, he sees himself as a part of a continuing, breathing, living existence. To be a human being, then, is to be essentially alive in a living world (FDNY family).

If being Christian does not demand that all Christians love each other and thereby become deeply engaged in experiencing themselves as human beings, it would seem futile to expect that Christians as Christians would be concerned about the secular community in its gross practices of prejudice and discrimination. If a black Christian and white Christian, in encounter, cannot reach out to each other in mutual realization because of that which they are experiencing in common, then there should be no surprise that the Christian institution has been powerless in the presence of the color bar in society. Rather it has reflected the presence of the color bar within its own institutional life. (“I offer my life to protect the life & property of the people of NYC”).

On the other hand, if Christians practice brotherhood among Christians, this would be one limited step in the direction of a new order among men. Think of what this would mean. Wherever on Christian met or dealt with another Christian, there would be a socially redemptive encounter. They would be like the Gulf Stream or the Japanese Current tempering and softening the climate in all directions. Indeed, the Christian would be a leaven at all levels of the community and in public and private living. Of course, such a situation may lend itself to all kinds of exploitation and betrayals—but the Christian would be one of the bulwarks of integrity in human relations in an immoral society.

Christopher Keenan, OFM, Chaplain.

P.S. My brothers I will be on leave and then retiring from the FDNY this December, 2019. It has been an awesome 18 years with you. All is well with me and I will miss you!

The four dogmas of Immaculate Conception, Perpetual Virginity, Mother of God, and Assumption into Heaven form the basis of Catholic Mariology as revealed in Sacred Scripture, understood through theological reasoning, and taught by Church Tradition. In this article we will examine the historical understanding of Mary as the Mother of God. The Council of Ephesus exhorted that Mary is truly the Mother of God, since she gave birth to the Second Person of the Trinity who became man for our sake. When the disciples became aware that Jesus is the Son of God, it became apparent to them also that Mary is the Theotókos, which means "she who has begotten God." Some may question; how is it possible for a human creature to give birth to God? The Church's teaching is clear: Mary's divine motherhood refers only to the human begetting of the Son of God not Jesus' divine birth. The Son of God was eternally begotten of God the Father and is consubstantial with Him, as we proclaim every Sunday in our Profession of Faith. Mary has no part in His eternal presence she only provided a human body for Jesus, her biological son. The Son of God assumed our human nature 2,000 plus years ago when Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary, who remained a perpetual virgin because she never had sexual relations with any human in fulfillment of her consecration to God Almighty. This is one reason why the Church imposes the discipline of celibacy upon her priest, and why it is a grave sin when clerics abandon that gift of themselves to the Father.

The Church contemplates with awe and celebrates with veneration the honor given Mary by the One who wanted to be her Son. Meditating on the mystery of our Savior's birth led Christians to invoke the Blessed Virgin as the Mother of Jesus, and recognize her as Mother of God. This truth was part of the apostolic deposit of faith from the earliest centuries of Christianity and was solemnly proclaimed at the Council of Ephesus. The title of Mary as Theotokos is found in Alexandrian pious literature composed at the beginning of the 3rd century. Christians of Egypt addressed this prayer to Mary: "We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God: despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us from all evil, O glorious and blessed Virgin" The expression Theotókos appears explicitly in this ancient witness and was validated at the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD in rebuke of heretics who denied the Divinity of Jesus, as the Son of God. In the fifth century when Nestorius cast doubt on the correctness of the title "Mother of God" the Council fathers condemned his theses and, in affirming the subsistence of the divine and human natures in the one person of the Son, proclaimed Mary the Mother of God.

The council bishops magisterially acknowledged the importance of Mary as an intercessor for the One Holy Catholic Apostolic Church. Often our Protestant brethren will ridicule Catholic dogma concerning Mary as unbiblical, but in reality that is a false accusation as St. Luke records St. Elizabeth's proclamation, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. How does it happen that the Mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb jumped for joy. Blessed are you who believed what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Lk 1:42-45). Mary's response to Elizabeth's praise was not a denial but an affirmation, as we read in the Canticle of Mary her words to Elizabeth are, "from now on all ages will call me blessed." (Lk 1:48). By the fourth century, the term Theotókos was fre-

quently used in the East and West. In proclaiming Mary "Mother of God", the Church thus intends to affirm that she is the "Mother of the Incarnate Word, who is God". Her motherhood does not extend to all the Trinity, but only to the Second Person, the Son, who, in becoming incarnate took His human nature from her. Blessed Mary has the most complete human relationship with the Holy Trinity by the fact that she is a daughter of the Father, mother of the Son, and spouse of the Holy Spirit. The rest of us can only claim we are children of God by virtue of our adoption when Jesus became human.

Every September the Church celebrates the Virgin Mary's birthday on the 8th and her Holy Name is memorialized on the 12th, but Mary's role in salvation history is recognized throughout the year. In fact of the six Holy Days of Obligation three are Solemnities that celebrate the charism of Mary. Our liturgical year starts the First Sunday of Advent, and soon after we honor Mary's Immaculate Conception on December 8th. The Octave of Christmas ends with the Solemnity, Mary, Mother of God on Jan. 1st. The final Holy Day of Obligation distinguishing Mary, is her experience of personal salvation on Aug. 15th with the Assumption of Mary into Heaven and eternal life, hopefully projecting our own resurrection of body and soul at the end of times. In addition to these feasts celebrating our Mother, we dedicate two months a year to reverence Mary. During October the Church honors Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Victory (changed to Our Lady of the Rosary) for her intercessory protection of Catholic Europe from the Ottoman invasion of the 16th century. In the early 20th century Mary appeared to three shepherd children six times in Fatima encouraging them to pray the Rosary daily for sinners along with other pious acts of reparation. The first apparition was May 13, 1917, which is now celebrated in the liturgical calendar as the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. St. John Newman wrote that May is the most appropriate liturgical season to venerate Mary because the Eastertide occurs during that month whence we celebrate our new life in Christ Jesus, who was brought into the world via the fiat of Mary, as the Blessed Virgin's consent precedes the Son's Incarnation.

Church pronouncements concerning Mary are made to defend the truths about Jesus Christ and God's plan of salvation for the entire human race. In proclaiming Mary "Mother of God", the Church professes her belief regarding the Son and the Mother. In defining Mary's divine motherhood, the council Fathers emphasized their belief in the divinity of Christ. Christians expressing their faith in the divinity of Christ naturally show their love for the Blessed Virgin. The expression "Mother of God" refers to the Word of God, Who in the Incarnation suffered the lowliness of the human condition in order to raise humans to divinity, (Through the mystery of this mingling of water and wine may we come to share in Christ's divinity, Who has humbled Himself to share in our humanity). With the sublime dignity conferred upon the Virgin of Nazareth the title Theotókos also proclaims the nobility of all women and their loftiest vocation: Motherhood. God treats Mary as a free and responsible person (as He does all of us) and does not bring about the Incarnation of His Son until after He has obtained her consent. The doctrine of the divine motherhood of Mary is for the Church a seal upon the dogma of the Incarnation, in which the Word truly assumes human nature into the unity of His person, without cancelling out the divine nature.

- Tom Roche

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS**  
**Father Julian Deeken**  
**Sunday November 10, 2019**  
 9:30 am at  
**St. Francis of Assisi Church**  
**135 West 31st Street, Manhattan**

**The Father Mychal F. Judge**  
**9/11 Walk of Remembrance**

**Sunday September 8, 2019**

9 am Rosary to precede the 930 Mass @ St. Francis of Assisi  
 135 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street, NY, NY

Walk commences from Qtrs of Eng 1 & Lad 24 @ 1030 am

Ends at 230pm @ St. Peter's Church, Barclay St. NY, NY

For more information please call:

**Bill Schillinger (917) 902-6689**

**Annual Harvest Gala**

At the

Bishop Molloy Retreat House

**Wednesday Oct. 16, 2019**

**@ 6:00 PM**

*For Information & Tickets Call:*

**718-739-1229**

**Stand up for LIFE**

***"What Can One Person Do?"***

Coming to Long Island this October ...

Pro-Lifers will have an opportunity to participate with family & friends, with people of all faiths, with people of all ages, in a huge public statement for life.

**Sunday, October 6, 2019**

**2:00 PM—3:30PM**

(rain or shine)

Along Route 25 & Route 110 (Huntington, LI)

&

LIE exit 70S & County Road 111 (Manorville, LI)

Signs will be provided at each stie.

**No Graphic Signs Permitted**

Call Jack (516) 724-6821 or Peter (631)289-2095

**High School Scholarship Test**

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

**Commencing 8:30 a.m.**

**All Hallows High School**

**111 East 164th Street**

**Bronx, NY 10452**

**(between Walton Ave. & Grand Concourse)**

High School Scholarship applications will be available only after

**September 30th** from our Scholarship Chairman, Bill Meade,

(718)335-9685, PO Box 525, Maspeth, NY 11378. Completed

applications must be returned by **November 20, 2019.**

**2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!**

L to R : Commissioner Nigro, Luke Menger, Erin Sinkevitch, Luke Dennis, Diana Cavalieri, Sofia Wilson, ScholarshipChairman William Meade, Chief Richardson.



**High School Scholarships Awards**

Our two High School Scholarships are awards for four years to a Catholic High School totaling **\$1500.00 per year for four years.**

The Fordham Prep award will stay the same.

The **Vincent A. McCarthy Scholarship**

**Award for \$2000.00 and the Captain Larry Monachelli Award for \$1500.00 are one time**

**cash awards.** (You will **NOT** be required to attend a catholic high school, but you will be required to take the High School Scholarship Test.) Please visit our web site, go to scholarship and check the Requirements for our Scholarship program. This way there will be no surprises. **[www.fdnynamesociety.com](http://www.fdnynamesociety.com)**

When I was a new firefighter my company was at a large vacant building fire in the Bronx. Harry and I were searching one of the floors which was heavily charged with smoke. At one point, Harry asked, "what are we doing here?" I answered that I was there because he was there. He had the exact same answer. Then, in his wisdom he said "let's get out of here!" At that point the search ended and we and we retreated to a safer area. It was a vacant building.

That incident taught me a very important lesson. I don't know if I had the courage to get to the place we were by myself. I don't think he did either. The important lesson that stayed with me throughout the years was that although I didn't have the courage to always go the extra distance, when I was with someone else, I could. The two of us were able to build on our individual courage by the courage of the other. There was a synergistic effect where the whole was greater than the sum of the parts. Together we could do what we might not be able to do alone.

In the FDNY, there are uncountable operations of extraordinary actions. They happen every day! Firefighters constantly perform brave, resourceful and courageous acts. It happens because of teamwork. Even individual acts of bravery have their root in teamwork. Firefighters are an amazing team. Relying on each other affects every activity firefighters do; the exciting and the mundane.

The same thing applies to our faith. St. Paul states, "Faith is the guarantee of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen." Everyone has a deep yearning to grow in faith. Oftentimes, we suppress it or not realize the depth of the desire. To grow in faith we cannot do it alone. We need others to encourage us and to be an example. We do the same for them. St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians Jesus states, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Like firefighters, faith seekers need a strong team. Believing in what we cannot sense is difficult. This world presents many obstacles to impede our growth. Together, we can overcome any obstacle. In numbers, we realize that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. In unity, we become the Church, the Body of Christ. Experiencing growth in faith isn't a momentary feeling, it has lasting effects that remain with us and bring us lasting joy.


In October, a firefighter "faith team" will be meeting at the Annual Timothy Stackpole Retreat. There will be extraordinary acts of faith to experience. The team consists of brave, courageous, resourceful, and holy firefighters. Jesus and the Holy Spirit will definitely be there. We need you there to help us on our faith journey. You are an integral part of this team.  
-Steve Damato

### **Fall Schedule Meetings**

**Monday, November 4, 2018**

**Hillside Swim Club, 151 Signs Road**

**Staten Island, NY Starts at 8 PM**



## Captain Timothy Stackpole Annual Retreat

at the  
**Bishop Molloy  
Retreat House**  
from **Supper on  
Tuesday Oct. 22, 2019**  
through breakfast  
**Thursday Oct. 24, 2019**

Call now and make your reservations:  
**Bishop Molloy Retreat House**  
**718-739-1229**

Many times when I have seen a religious request in a new letter or writing I have dismissed the article & stopped reading on. Now I see that may have been a mistake. Perhaps I could have learned something from the article....So Read On, is what I would like to say to you today. Read on! Do not stop, as I had did. Perhaps you will find a powerful answer for yourself. I urge you to learn about the firefighters retreat and how it can help you in your lifetime. Your dangerous job holds many difficult moments and we always need Gods help at these times. The retreat is also a time to say "Thank you, God for all those close calls". Knock and His door will open. As the door opens you will find your fellow firefighters and friendly priests who will be so ready to help and guide you. The visit at the Retreat house will fill you with wisdom and remain with you forever. Do not hesitate. Pick up the phone and dial (718) 739-1229 call the Bishop Molloy Retreat House and make your reservation today!

Retired Battalion Chief Jim Schuppel

**2019 DUES \$15.00**

*Reminder to Members*

*Please forward your **\$15.00** dues to:*

**Active Member:**

**FDNY Holy Name Society**

**PO Box 604633, Bay Terrace, NY 11360**

**Retired Members:**

Tom Martin

111 Kimball Terrace, Yonkers NY 10704

## WALT'S RETIREE CORNER

If you have a message, joke or wish to contact an old friend  
call me at 914 779-1826  
write: Walter Whitmore126 Windermere Drive, Yonkers  
New York 10710 or  
Email: wpwhitmore126@gmail.com

**SAVE THE DATE: Ticket prices and honorees to be  
announced in the Spring!**



New York City Fire Department  
HOLY NAME SOCIETY

**JUBILEE**  
**97<sup>th</sup>**  
**2016**

Communion Mass & Breakfast

*In Memory of Our Fallen Firefighters*

Sunday, April 26, 2019

St. Patrick's Cathedral

Communion Mass &

Breakfast immediately following at the

New York Hilton Hotel

Avenue of the America's & 53rd Street

## *In Memory of Our Fallen Firefighters*

JOHN "JACK" BOYLE

*November 25, 1941—August 24, 2019*



Retired FDNY Firefighter John "Jack" Boyle of Rescue 1 died of World Trade Center-related illness on August 24, 2019. He was a 30-year decorated veteran of the FDNY who worked during the recovery efforts after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. He was also a United States Army veteran with the 82nd Airborne Paratroopers Division. He also served on the Board of the FDNY HNS for many years. He will be truly missed.

## **Congratulations Once Again to Our 2019 Award Recipients!**

Picture on the left: HNS Men of the Year :Commissioner Daniel Nigro, Man of the Year DC Ginty (Retired) , Man of the Year BC Joe Bryant (Retired), Detective Desmond Stokes NYPD, Pres. HNS BC Joe Brosi, and AC Richardson.

Picture on the right : Commissioner Nigro, Nurses of the FDNY Our Father Mychal Judge Humanitarian Award Recipients, and AC Richardson.



**N.Y. FIRE DEPARTMENT  
HOLY NAME SOCIETY**

4 MAPLE DRIVE  
NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Hicksville, NY  
PERMIT NO. 823

We would like to formally announce that the **Holy Name Society is now officially city wide, (all 5 boroughs)!** There are no longer 2 separate societies with in the FDNY. The HNS of Manhattan, Bronx, and Staten Island has officially merged with the HNS of Brooklyn and Queens. With that being said we are hoping for greater involvement from all of our members! We still need our members help in the following areas; Memorial Mass Chairperson, Organization Chairperson, Breakfast Committee members, Journal Ad Chairperson, Meeting Chairperson, Sponsor Chairperson. If you can help give us a shout! Please send all correspondence to our new president: **Joe Brosi, 23-37 207th Street, Bayside, NY 11360. Text or phone 917-685-4685. Email: fdnyholyname@aol.com.**

**FDNY Holy Name Society ALASKA 2020 Princess Cruise Line**

Land tour & Cruise Packages starting at \$6,438.34 for 2 people

(Land Tour Only: \$3,852.34 for 2 people) (Cruise Package Only: \$2,586.00 for 2 people)

Airline prices not available until the end of September and are not included in above prices.

Embark from **Anchorage Alaska** on: Land Tour : **August 8, 2020** Cruise : **August 15, 2020**

Disembark in Vancouver on **August 22, 2020**

You can take both the land and sea package or just one of the individual tours—Land only or sea only.

For more information call: Claire Wood, 29 A Merrick Ave., Merrick, NY 11566

Direct # 516-362-2379 Cell# (516) 319-9247

**PAYROLL DUES DEDUCTION CHECK-OFF**

The Holy Name Society, Manhattan, Bronx, & Staten Island is a tax exempt, Catholic & fraternal organization which has served the FDNY for nearly 100 years, both uniform and civilian. We are starting to go green by providing **ACTIVE MEMBERS ONLY** with a **PAYROLL DEDUCTION**. To enroll go to **www.nyc.gov/ess**, **CLICK:** Payroll & Compensations, **GO TO:** Deduction Information, **CLICK:** Inquiries, **FIND:** FDNY Fraternal Organizations, **CLICK ON:** Holy Name Society.

New Members or members who have moved, transferred, or retired please notify us at **fdnyholynamesociety.com** We need your help to keep our records up to date! Remember to include your Name, Address, Phone Number, Rank, & Assigned Unit!