



# HOLY NAME SOCIETY

♦ MANHATTAN ♦ BRONX ♦ STATEN ISLAND

Fall

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

2018

## CHAPLAINS:

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

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

PRESIDENT: Joe Brosi

EDITOR: Thomas Roche

## THE DIGNITY OF ALL THAT EXISTS

Each person is created according to the image of Christ in the body and according to His likeness in the Spirit.

Together image and likeness are present in each human.

The journey from image to likeness is the path of our spiritual and moral development.

We are each born with the image and grow in likeness throughout our lives.

The end of our journey is “christ-ification” or our transformation into Christ.

Jesus Christ’s expression of divine activity, as one of us sharing our flesh, is self-emptying love and generous presence. His deepest Divine Desire is to be lovingly and intimately present to each of us and our world.

As members of the Society of the Holy Name of Jesus living the Gospel Life, your human activity is also to be one of self-emptying love and generous presence in the world. In your commissioning as a firefighter, the witness of your life made alive, believable and flesh Jesus’ self-emptying love and generous presence: “I offer my life to protect the life and property of the people of New York City”.

Each of you are full collaborators with Jesus Christ. As the Second Vatican Council declared in the 1965 Decree on the Laity: you are “the People of God” participating in “the priesthood of all believers”.

You are the “laborers in the vineyard” continuing the work of Jesus’ Incarnation, by bringing Christ to birth in our world in your own flesh.

This is how Jesus sees you. Is this how you see yourself? What difference does it make to you that your Lord’s deepest desire is to be intimately present to your life?

Christopher Keenan, ofm, Chaplain

### *The Upcoming Youth Synod: A Chance to Change the World*

Next month, from October 3-25, 2018, pre-selected Cardinals, Bishops, professional theologians, and laity from around the world will meet in Rome to discuss the Church's outreach to the world's Youth. Young adults were invited to Rome in the Spring for preliminary discussions and surveys about what the young need, expect, and want from the Church; and their insights were used to produce a summation on Youth issues to be contemplated at the Synod of Bishops. This preliminary document issued by the Vatican was used to compose a working document for guiding the discussions at the Synod.

This may very well be the most important Synod in Pope Francis' five year pontificate thus far. Notwithstanding all the controversies surrounding the promulgation of the Encyclical *Amoris Laetitia* after the last Synod of Bishops, there is no doubt that the Youth are the future of the Church, and they cannot be very impressed at the state of un-holiness being exposed in the episcopacy at the current time. After decades of gradual decline, the percentage amount of youth abandoning the Church, and religion altogether, nowadays is astounding, with the rise of NONES being the fastest growing segment of people in their twenties.

This is not the usual relaxing of practicing their faith when young adults first leave their parent's home, only to return to the Church in their late twenties/early thirties when they start families of their own. No these young adults, Generation Y, are not even getting married in the Church (they find the \$1000 fee an unnecessary burden, even though they may pay over \$25k for their Reception), and they have no plans on baptizing their children into the Faith either. That fact is a real change from the norm of Baby Boomers, and even Generation X, where parents may not have taught their children true Catholic precepts nor brought them to Sunday worship, but they did baptize their children and continued the sacrament process in parish religious education programs, at least creating a link to the Church, and more importantly allowing children to receive the Holy Spirit. Discussing how we got here is futile. What the Church needs to do now is formulate an authentic plan to revert generations of lost Catholics. By bringing the fallen away back into the fold we will automatically be evangelizing non-Catholics, because who would be interested in joining a Church where its own followers are no longer proponents? This is not going to be easy, and is going to take commitment, determination, and hard work, especially from the clergy, who will have to spearhead what Pope Francis initially envisioned as a field hospital caring for wounded warriors. That analogy works well with the reality of this 21st Century conflict between good and evil. We are all in a fight for the very salvation of our souls. The Church has always referred to the Communion of Saints on earth as the Church militant, because we are required to constantly choose between what Christ has taught us, to benefit our soul, and what the world tempts us to want. Unfortunately the lure of the world is great, and we need a balancing act where we don't tear ourselves out of the world, but learn to live in the world respectful of each other and the Laws of Nature. The Church does not have to lower her standards by relaxing doctrine, but we do need to recognize that we are human beings in a Divine institution, which can help us overcome the obstacles of the world if we cooperate with her dispensing of grace.

I can assure you I lose this battle on a daily basis, but I refuse to give up, and I will not ask the Church to change her teaching so I can feel better about myself, because if she did, I wouldn't, and neither would you, because in your heart you know God is calling you to be better, by being closer to Him!

I think many people misunderstand the mission of the Church, otherwise they would never leave her, and many more would be joining her ranks every day. Many people look at Church goers and think we should be perfect because we have chosen to publicly proclaim our Christian Faith, and should we fail, which we do, they then claim we are hypocrites. Nothing could be further from the truth. Jesus would not have established the Sacrament of Reconciliation if He thought we would live sinless lives once we were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

While never ceding the revealed truth, I can concede that if I truly believe in the One Holy Catholic Apostolic Church and what she teaches about herself, in regard to the Holy Spirits' protection of same, I must separate the Divine Institution we fondly call Mother Church, and the human beings who were called by God to serve Him in His Church from the other less pure fellows, who just found the priesthood convenient for hiding their objectionable lifestyle (think Judas). "When Pope Benedict was elected to the Papacy, during his address to the crowd in St. Peter's Square, he said, "I am comforted by the fact that the Lord knows how to work and act even with insufficient instruments." He was obviously referring to himself. Jesus never said that the Church would be sinless. This follows a consistent pattern in the Church's history, because look at the Apostles themselves. He chose the most unlikely group of people to lead the Church that would change the course of human history. The fact that God chooses insufficient instruments should reinforce our faith that He is leading and sustaining His Church. If you expect your priests and bishops to be immaculate, then you're idolizing and not practicing real Catholic Christianity. This tribulation is an opportunity to recalibrate our faith so that it resembles the actual state of affairs of the militant Church." (from a Brian Holdsworth 2018 blog).

Whenever I find myself judging a minister of the Church I quickly look in the mirror and that brings me back to reality. God refuses to take away our free will. He calls us, blesses us, gives us supernatural grace, yet we fall back to our selfish inclinations, and unfortunately, there are as many vices as virtues. Making our spiritual success harder is the fact that growth in virtue takes work and patience. The more we strive to live pure lives the greater the virtue of our character. On the other hand, for most of us, vice is usually an inordinate desire for the gift of pleasure, which seems to come into our lives quite readily, developing into bad habits, and finally, if not curbed through discipline and mortification, rapidly becoming addictions.

Recently Archbishop Charles Chaput quoted Leon Bloy, the great French Catholic convert, who once said, that — in the end — the only thing that matters is to be a saint. That's the ultimate task of a place like Notre Dame. It's not to help you get into a great law school, or to go to a great medical school, or to find a great job on Wall Street, as good as those things clearly are. It's to help you get into heaven — which is not some imaginary fairyland, but an eternity of life in the presence of a loving God. Life is a gift, not an accident. And the point of a life is to become the kind of fully human person who knows and loves God above everything else, and reflects that love to others. That's the only compelling reason for a university that calls itself Catholic to exist. And it's a privilege for Notre Dame to be part of that vocation." I would compare these words of Archbishop Chaput about the role of a university and apply them to serving the Church and the upcoming Synod. Our true goal is to help people achieve heaven through Jesus, especially those who need the help most, sinners, repentant and unrepentant alike. Excusing bad behavior only stymies that journey to God. May God help us all find peace and joy! - Tom Roche

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS**  
**Father Julian Deeken**  
**Sunday November 11, 2018**

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 9, 2018**

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. 17, 2018

@ 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 7, 2018**

**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 1, 2018**

**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 21, 2018.**

**2018 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!**

L to R : Nicole Cavalieri, Liam Dennehy, Caitlin McNulty, Hannah Kilduff, Thomas Breslin, and Nicholas Bifone



**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)

**The 95th HNS Jubilee Mass and Communion Breakfast**

**is April 28, 2019.**

**Price and Honorees to be announced**

**(think 35+ year President)!**

I recently had the wonderful experience of attending the Diocesan Youth Day of Brooklyn and Queens. It was held in the arena at St. John's University and was attended by 3,000 teenage boys and girls. Initially, I was hesitant to accept the invitation because I wasn't sure of what the day would be like. I accepted after realizing that it was an opportunity being presented to me to open myself to something new and I should take it. I was a chaperone for 10 teenage boys, which also caused some concern. It was a powerful event. There were motivational speakers, a Mass celebrated by a bishop, food and a very good five piece band. The band had the place rocking!

At one point, they wanted everyone up and moving to the music. In my particular area, the only person to get up was another chaperone in front of me. None of the teenagers felt comfortable enough to get involved. Because I was an example, I felt that I would have to get up and move. Reluctantly, I did and began to slowly sway. I was really feeling uncomfortable, but persevered. I prodded my group and a group of teenage girls in front of me to do the same, but none of them did, although I could see that their excitement level was up. As I continued to move, I became more comfortable and not only really started to move, but began to sing out loud as well. Before long, I was having a better time than all of them. I hope I get the invite again next year.

Afterwards, I realized that opening myself to a new experience and allowing myself to overcome my hesitancy to join in allowed me to experience a great day. I was really moved by the Spirit and I didn't get in the way as it worked on me.

This is an example of what every one of us has the possibility of experiencing each day. Each day, invitations are given to us to open ourselves past our comfort zone. When we take the opportunity, we are always surprised at the joy we experience.

On October 23rd, there will be another opportunity to experience something that we might have thought of joining, but felt uncomfortable doing. It is the Holy Name Retreat at Bishop Molloy Retreat House which starts at supper on 10/23 and ends shortly after breakfast on 10/25. Every new attendee has stated that it was a great experience. The Spirit works if you allow it to do so.

If you have ever considered attending the retreat, don't miss this opportunity. There is a saying, "Lost opportunities never return". Experience the joy! -Steve Damato

## **Fall Schedule Meetings**

### **Monday October 15, 2018 : New Location**


**Downey's Bar & Grill, 5790 Mosholu Ave., Bronx, NY 10471**

*(Please note this meeting starts at 7:30 PM)*

### **Monday November 5 2018:**

**Hillside Swim Club, Staten Island**

**Starts at 8 PM**



## **Captain Timothy Stackpole Annual Retreat**

at the  
**Bishop Molloy  
Retreat House**  
from Supper on  
**Tuesday Oct. 23, 2018**  
through breakfast  
**Thursday Oct. 25, 2018**

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

Have you ever attended a "RETREAT"? Maybe this would be a wonderful time for you to set aside some time to share it with your fellow firefighters both active & retired. The Chinese have a saying which goes "May you live in changing times." These are indeed changing times & we as Catholics must in some instances adapt to these changes. Many times we have to go into more detail as to what these changes mean to each of us. Some look at it with fear, others with expectations, some with hope, & others with despair. "Where are we going? Is heard over & over with no answer. One of the most useful ways of retaining one's stability, one's religious balance & sanity in a fast changing world, is that period of recollection, of thinking & praying that is traditionally called a RETREAT. How often have all of us said "Thank goodness it's Friday" as you near the end of a hectic week? Yes, we all long for a chance to stop, relax, rest up & think. This is what a retreat offers each of us. This is what we can give ourselves at least once. With retreat conferences, liturgy, & sacraments, prayer & reflection, you can be renewed in your religious life, which will better equip you to live in today's world. You may surprise yourself & others with your calmness, cheerfulness, & strength as you go back to a demanding world of daily work, inside & outside of home, in the midst of change & Crisis. (Buffalonian Newsletter)

**\$15.00 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**

Hi Brothers, another BBQ was held this summer on Lake Mahopac at the Veterans of Foreign Wars post. I do hope you look into joining us at the Mid-Hudson Valley Firefighters on the 3rd Thursday of each month. I enjoyed the day with Jim McDermott, Bill Dunlevy, John Laughfity and many others. We all enjoyed the usual fire stories told. In the late 1960s, my company was relocated to a fire house in Manhattan. I went upon the roof to get a view of all the tall buildings. I discovered one of the firefighters was growing tomatoes. Yes, it really was tomatoes on the roof in lined milk crates. Ladder 49 & Engine 68 were in one of the few remaining wood firehouses in the city. I mention this because the only access to the roof was a vertical ladder and our kitchen was on the top floor with a two-pole slide to the apparatus floor. I got the idea it would be fun to grow tomatoes on the roof in milk crates that were easy to find, lined with cardboard or something. The big problem was finding soil—not easy to find in the Bronx. Everything was filled with broken brick and glass. I enlisted the brothers to bring from home 5-gallon pails of garden soil. I wound up with 8 to 10 milk crates and a tomato plant in each. I received a lot of ribbing. To water the plants, we hoisted a garden hose up the vertical ladder onto the roof and left it there, just dropping the end down to hook up maybe by engine 68s MPO since they were used to hooking up and looking up. Just kidding! Happy to say the brothers enjoyed our garden and took care of it when I was off. Sure, tricks were played: tying cans and various things to the plants, never to harm just to break ba\*\*s. I was used to that.

I inherited the job of taking care of two 20-gallon fish tanks and found various items in the tanks that I said okay, but nothing harmful to the fish. A side note: one day while watering the tomatoes, a backyard neighbor on the fourth floor was watering his not-so-strange looking plants outside his window. I said, "how's your garden doing?" He embarrassingly said "...Ok."

I had been injured in 1979, wound up on light duty, and guess what? I was assigned to watch over the new Firehouse two blocks from our quarters. It had been built in 1898. The work on the new

house was complete, just waiting for inspection. The big joke I hear is I would balance a halligan tool against the door so if someone opened the door the halligan would hit the floor and wake up the dead. In the meantime, I slept on the kitchen table and across the street no more than 75 feet from the wall surrounding the firehouse. A second alarm blazed away in the hardware store and guess what? I slept through it. In the early morning, the brothers came in to use the rest room, get a drink of water etc. The bang of the halogen scared the crap out of me it got me up in a flash. Boy, did I take a ribbing on that one. I started to feel like a PROBE!

A fond memory just prior to moving in our new home was when Jim O'Donnell cooked a wonderful dinner in the new kitchen. We ate out on the apparatus floor if I recall.

Jim has written a wonderful and poignant book called Sons of Valor Parents of Faith. Check it out on the internet. Back to the Tomatoes: I had to wait a year for our new quarter's final inspection before I could set up a new garden. We had a machine room on the second floor and it had a door leading out on to the roof of an attached EMS building. It was a perfect place for our proposed garden. After a lot of help and persuading, we set up a roof garden of two 8' x 12' x 3 railroad ties high beds. It took months to get that great amount of soil from our homes. Each time we came to work we brought a few more pails of good soil. We grew everything in the garden: tomatoes, eggplant, string beans, cucumbers. I tell you it brought our firehouse members a little closer. Brothers would say, "might I help or do something?" I would say, "it's your garden, do what you feel needs to be or just ask."

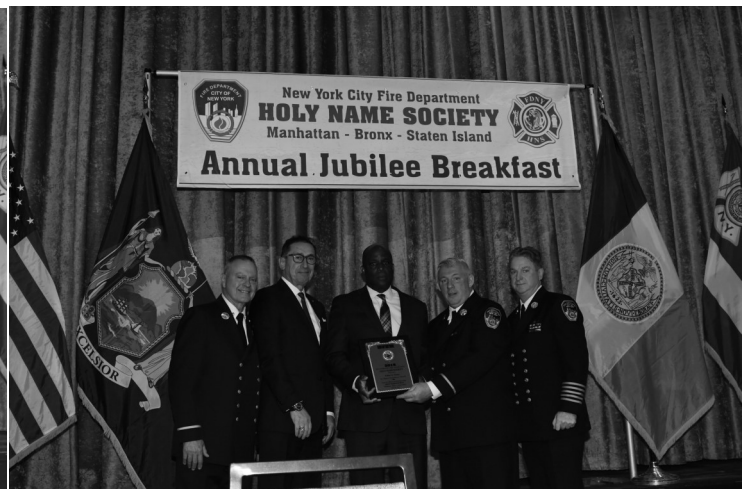
Heavenly Father let us join in and pray for those lost, and to the many we spent so many hours with. When names are remembered and spoken they never truly die.

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 [wppwhitmore126@gmail.com](mailto:wppwhitmore126@gmail.com)

## **Congratulations Once Again to Our 2018 Men of the Year!**

Picture from Left to Right: Pres. HNS Chief Joe Bryant (Retired), Commissioner Daniel Nigro, Men of the Year Lt. James McCarthy and Deputy Commissioner Robert Turner (respectively) Chief Joe Brosi, and Chief of Department James E. Leonard .



**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

**Greetings from Joe Bryant**

By this time, most of you are aware that I am no longer president. I have been at the leadership of the Holy Name Society, Manhattan, Bronx and Staten Island for almost 40 years. I stayed on as president after I retired because no one would take over the reigns. The last few years have been difficult, keeping up with all our activities. A number of our workers have moved away and some have reached their final reward. This meant more work to do with less people. I also have been doing more road trips at all times of the year which leaves less time to accomplish our goals. After much soul searching I finally decided it was time that I stepped aside. I would stay on as Treasurer so that the continuity of business would not be interrupted. During our meeting of April 30th, I informed the members present that I would not be president after June 30th and I would take over as Treasurer. After a general discussion of the members present Joe Brosi agreed to take over the Presidency of the Holy Name Society, Manhattan, Bronx, and Staten Island as of July 1, 2018.

Hopefully with Joe Brosi taking over as president we will see an influx of new younger members stepping up to take over some of the Board positions. The society was established in 1911 and incorporated in 1970. The Holy Name Society has a long history and tradition. It will be a great loss to our members and the Department if the Holy Name Society should falter.

Please send all correspondence to our new **President: Joe Brosi, 23-37 207th Street, Bayside, NY 11360. Text or phone 917-685-4685. Email [fdnyholynome@aol.com](mailto:fdnyholynome@aol.com).**

Have fun and stay safe, Joe

**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](http://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](http://fdnyholynamesociety.com) We need your help to keep our records up to date! Remember to include your Name, Address, Phone Number, Rank, & Assigned Unit!

**Also for our members who are using automatic deductions, please feel free to send a donation to our Fr. Mychal Scholarship Fund with your updated contact sheet to help ensure scholarships for the future generations!**