

# St. Matthew Parish



Website: [www.stmatthewrc.org](http://www.stmatthewrc.org)

## Pastoral Staff

### **Pastor**

Fr. Frank Black

### **Priests**

Fr. Thaddeus J. Abraham

Msgr. Pierre Andre

Pierre

Fr. Ralph Theodat

### **Deacon**

Nickie Colon



## St. Gregory the Great

224 Brooklyn Ave.

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 773-0100

Fax 718- 773-4198

Email: [faithcommstgreg@aol.com](mailto:faithcommstgreg@aol.com)

### **Mass Schedule:**

**First Friday** 10:00am

**Saturday**-5pm

**Sunday 11:30am**

**Saturday:** Reconciliation-4:30 pm

### **Office Staff**

**Secretary:** Rosanne Barber Ext.100

**D.R.E.:** Monica Flemmings

### **Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm

## St. Matthew

1123 Eastern Pkwy.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-6747

Fax 718- 953-4895

Email: [stmatthew1123@aol.com](mailto:stmatthew1123@aol.com)

### **Mass Schedule:**

Monday-Friday 7:30am & 9:00am

**Saturday** 8:00am & 8:00pm

**Saturday:** Reconciliation-7:30 pm  
or by appointment

### **Sunday:**

English-7:30am & 11:30am

Spanish 9:30am; Kreyol 1:30pm

### **Office Staff**

**Secretary:** Sharon Andrews

**D.R.E.:** Charmaine Noel

### **Office Hours:**

Monday:10:00am-4:00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday Friday & Saturday:

10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am-4:00pm

**Monday - Saturday-**

**Closed for lunch 1-2 P.M.**

## Our Lady Of Charity

1669 Dean St.,

Brooklyn, NY 11213

Tel 718- 774-5100

Fax 718- 778-3335

Email: [Olc1669@aol.com](mailto:Olc1669@aol.com)

### **Mass Schedule:**

**Sunday:** Rosary 9:00am

9:30am-Praise & Worship

10am-Mass

### **Office Staff:**

**Secretary:** Patricia Romain

### **Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday:10am-6pm

### **Catholic Cemeteries-**

80-01 Metropolitan Ave.

Middle Village, NY 11379

Tel:718 – 894-4888



## The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord: The Journey

Who were they, these three men we call magi? Were they kings? Popular tradition refers to them as the three kings, and maybe they were. Certainly, their gifts were those one king would offer to another. The title "king" was used rather loosely in the ancient East. They may have been more similar to the medieval counts or dukes. The Hebrew prophets, particularly Isaiah, had foretold that kings would flock to Jerusalem to worship the Lord. So, it would be acceptable to consider them as kings.

Sometimes they are referred to as magi or astrologers. Were they astrologers? Well, not astrologers in the sense of Madame Take-your-money, who says whatever she figures would keep her cash flow solid. But they were astrologers in the sense that they studied the sky looking for the sign that the Golden Age would begin. Perhaps, they were more astronomers than astrologers. The ancient people believed that the birth of the Great One would be accompanied by rejoicing in the heavens. The Hebrew people also believed that nature would respond to the momentous event. Recent studies have shown that those east of Judea would have indeed seen a phenomenon in the sky, a star in their sense of the term, right at the time of the birth of Jesus.

Were the three wise men? Certainly, they were wise, wiser than most men. They were willing to leave their lands, their comforts, and journey to find the great King whose birth was announced by the star

And, how about this King Herod? Who was he? He was to be known as Herod the Great. His son, Herod Antipas, would be the king who would put John the Baptist to death and mock Jesus. The first Herod built up much of Jerusalem, including the new Temple, a wonder of the ancient world. This Herod was a fierce politician. His family came from the Roman province of Idumea, and had been pagan themselves. They became Jewish in order to rule in Palestine under the protection of Rome. So Herod was always suspected by the Jews as being a Jew in name only, but not committed to Yahweh. In 40 BC the Roman Senate declared that Herod was vassal king in Palestine, answering ultimately to Rome.

Herod spent most of his reign trying to protect himself from being overthrown. His own family was not safe from his paranoia. He sent his wife and son into exile. When his young brother-in-law was becoming too popular, he had a "drowning accident" in what archaeology has shown to be a rather shallow pool. Herod also had three more of his sons killed when he suspected them of plotting against him. Many modern writers repeat the probably apocryphal story that the Emperor Augustus remarked, "It is better to be Herod's pig than his son." By the way, that was a pun, the word for pig in Greek was hios and the word for son was wehous. Since the Jews did not eat pork, the lives of Herod's pigs were safer than those of his sons.

So when the three magi called on Herod and asked where is the new born King of the Jews was, all that Herod could hear was that once more his power was being challenged. You can understand the phrase,

"He was greatly troubled and all Jerusalem with him." That he would send his soldiers to kill all the children born in the vicinity of Bethlehem is in perfect keeping with how he protected his reign. This Herod would die a year or two after the birth of the Lord.

Herod and the magi offer a study in contrasts. Herod was a man of the political world, fiercely holding onto his power. The magi were men devoted to finding the King announced by the star, even though they did not know who this King was or exactly where the star would lead them. Herod was a Jew in name but a pagan in all things. The Magi were pagans in name, but acted like sincere Jews seeking the One who was the summit of God's Plan for mankind.

Sixteen centuries later, the mystic and doctor of the Church, St. John of the Cross, would reflect on his own life in a way that was similar to the lives of the ancient magi as well as the lives of all who seek the Lord. In "Songs of the Heart..." John of the Cross wrote, "I went without discerning and with no other light except for that which in my heart was burning."

And so, we journey to the Lord. Where exactly are we going to find Him? We really don't know. He may be in marriage. He may be in the priesthood or religious life. He may be in the life of the single determined to spread Christianity. He may be in children and Teens. He may be in a career. He may be in our caring for a sick spouse or relative. He may be in the outcast who reach out for us.

He is in all these and countless more places. If we are wise, we will spend our lives seeking Him out, wherever He is. And yes, we might get sidetracked. Yes, we might find ourselves seeking Him in the wrong place, like in the palace of a hypocritical King Herod. We may start a career that is wrong for us. We may have to break a relationship that is unhealthy for us. But if we are attune to God's Word, He will set us straight and direct us to the course we need to follow. I often come upon our young people who are struggling with the decision of what to do or where to go after high school. I tell them that they should pray over the decision. Then they should consider what would be the way or place that will prepare them to be their best selves and go with that direction.

"Where am I going with my life?" we ask ourselves. Ideally, our answer should be, "I am going to Jesus, wherever He might be." "When will I get there?" we also might ask. And we answer, "I will get there when the Lord decides that the journey of my life is complete." For none of us has arrived at the goal of fully embracing the Lord. We need to keep searching for Him throughout our lives. After all, our lives are journeys of love, There are always new places to find love.

We will all get to our Bethlehem's if we are open to God's call.

And, so, we journey, not alone, but guided, guided by an interior star, the voice of the One we love who calls to us deep within ourselves. And we go "without discerning and with no other light except for that which in our hearts is burning."

We pray today for the wisdom to seek the Lord

WEEKLY READINGS	
Sun Jan 7	Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12
Mon Jan 8	Is 55:1-11; Mt 1:7-11
Tue Jan 9	1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28
Wed Jan 10	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39
Thu Jan 11	1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45
Fri Jan. 12	1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22; Mk 2:1-12
Sat Jan. 13	1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17

**OUR LADY OF CHARITY: MASS INTENTIONS**

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS:** Darrin Clinton , Patricia Alexander , La Shaun Mc Mullen , Lamick Melrose, Wendy Romain , Dunstan Braville , Leselle Belfon , Takeri Coerbell , Monique Brown , Kya Boyea , Tyrone Holas , Kathy Ann Romain , Sally Ann Merius , Ashlee Hernandez , Pamala Blaize , Khalilah Sullivan  
**We pray to the Lord**

**PARISH PRAYER:** For our parish, that the three communities of St. Matthew, St. Gregory the Great and Our Lady of Charity, learn how to merge and grow together spiritually and become financially sound as three and yet one,  
**We pray to the Lord.**

**TODAY’S MASS :We pray to the Lord.**

**ALTAR BREAD : We pray to the Lord.**

**SANCTUARY CANDLES :** For the month of November is donated for , **We pray to the Lord.**

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY : We pray to the Lord.**


**ST. GREGORY : MASS INTENTIONS**

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**ST. MATTHEW: MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday <b>January 6</b>	<b>8:00pm</b> – In loving memory of Beryl & Vilna St. Louis–Smart by Tamarah St. Louis-Smart
Sunday <b>January 7</b> <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	<b>7:30am</b> –Altar Rosary Society <b>9:30am</b> – a. R.I.P. Maria Santos Gutierrez & Leopoldo Santos by Ana Ligia Molina b. In loving memory of Laura Reyes by Miriam Rochez C. Birthday blessings Romina Sevilla by Mom & Dad <b>11:30pm</b> –Abundant blessings in 2024 for our parishioners <b>1:30pm</b> –R.I.P. Celian Simon & Immaculee Jn. Pierre by Armelle Amilcar
Monday <b>January 8</b>	<b>7:30am</b> –Healing for the sick of the parish <b>9:00am</b> – Action de grace et de remerciement pour Myrtha Jules Ulysse at ses enfants
Tuesday <b>January 9</b>	<b>7:30am</b> -That the healing power of Jesus' blood fall on Karen & Sherise <b>9:00am</b> –Thanksgiving to God by Carmen Edouard
Wednesday <b>January 10</b>	<b>7:30am</b> – Thanksgiving to God for my many blessings by Letitia Pavy <b>9:00am</b> – B’day blessings & healing for Juliet Williams by children & grandchildren
Thursday <b>January 11</b>	<b>7:30am</b> –B’day blessings in heaven Jamal Joseph by mom, Barbara & family <b>9:00am</b> – Birthday blessings for Helena O’Brien
Friday <b>January 12</b>	<b>7:30am</b> –Healing & thanksgiving for the Williams family <b>9:00am</b> – For the Daughters of Wisdom especially Sisters, Mary & Christine
Saturday <b>January 13</b>	<b>8:00am</b> –Healing & blessings for Althea & family

**CANDLE FOR January 7– January 13**

 Thanksgiving to God requested by Lucesca Francis

**BREAD & WINE FOR JANUARY**

 **BREAD** - Thanksgiving to God requested by Princess Frank  
**WINE** - In memory of my mom, Lucile & dad Constant requested by Evelyn Barreau

## REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

### **For the homebound, hospitalized and sick**

Judith Adams, Rita Antomez, Marie Augustine, Armelle Amilcar, Loraine Quash– Antoine, Marie Augustin, Al Barnett, Monica Belfon, Marque & Yael Barber-LaFon, Melona Barber, Jason Bascom, Ruby Bowman, Silvestre Brathwaite, Ismay Brewster, Recy Brown, Patricia Burrowes, Yolande Cadet, Diana Codogan, Cathleen Charles, Catilda Charles, Delcia Charles, Marcel Charles, Maria Clouden Cecilia Clovie, Nelia Collins, Marilyn Coates, Diana Codogan, Virginia Cox, Daphne Critchlow, Theresa Cudjoe, Veronica Dale, Angela Daniels, Shirley Daniels, Joseph Drew, Stephen Duncan, Dorothy Edwards, Una Europe, Stella Emmanuel, Elardo Flemmings, Carrie Frasier, Doriel Gabriel, John Gale, Doriel Gabriel, Ryan Gee, Sybil Geoffroy, Catherine & Deacon Roy George, Bernadette Gilbert, Muriel Gomez, Trina Gonzalez, Kellon Hagley, Kelly Hagley, Gwendolyn Harding, Pat Harris, Bruno Henry, Beverly Hillyer, Pierre & Elreta Hinds, Florence Holder, Danielle Huie, Orson Hutchings, Kerlyne Hyppolite, Anasha Inniss, Carlyn Jabouin, Donna James, Nellie James, Diane John, Alsie Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Magdalena Joseph, Ian Kellman, Lucy King, Albert Kirton, Kanelle Lang, Rhoda Lewis, Sampson Lewis, Marjorie Lopez, Luis Manuel Lorenzo, Madelin Lorenzo, Vivian Boykin Lott, Norberto Lovell, Jean Lubin, Gloria Lynch, Hubert Lynch, Mamita, Barbara Manuel, Virginia Marcellin, Judith Matthew, Tom McCafferty, Laura McDonald, Mavis McDonald, Leticia McDowell, Vernita McDowell, Gemma Mejias, Isai Munoz, Marta Munoz, Nelson Munoz, Suzanne Neil, Ronald Nethersole, Claudette Norde, Mother Dolores Olf, Keena Ollivierre, Ronaldo Nano Paul, Sharon Perry, Andre Perry, Chung Peters, Mary James Peterson, Marie Pierre, Melody Pink, Sonia Prescott, Ann Primo, Val Quash, Len Quash, Dorothy Irons Reid, Catherine Richards, Melissa Richards, Elizabeth Rivera, Cornelia Robergeau, Randolph Romain, Carlos Rudas, Lidia Saunders, Marlene Saunders, Pamela Smith, Pema Smith, John Spellman Sr., Lisa Scott Spencer, Delores Sykes, Kevin Maynard, Basil Suarez, Antonio Sultan, Violet Sylvester, Brenda & Javier Talango, Angela & Edris Thomas, Lyonette Tribie, Janet Throne, Amparo Torres, Malik Wellington, Hazel Williams, Karen Williams, Terrance Williams, Octavio Willis, Leandro Wilson, Hazel Williams, Reynold Williams, Christine Wright, Joan Wright, Natasha Wright, James P. Young

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR :** Yvonne Lacy, Dean Jackson, Wendy Romain, Vaughn Haynes, Georgeann Campbell, Maura Chisam, Danielle Huie, Cotilda Charles, Anthony Hepburn Jr., Lawrence Latimer, La Mar Mc Nabb, Lisa Colone, Krystal Chinalbert, Christine Hudson & family, Conrad Lord, Glenda Hunter, Livingston Holloway, Jaden Bell, Nathan Ford Sr. & family, Isabella Bugett, Sabrina Guess, Daphne & Golda Critchlow, Gwen & Helena Pugh, Hannah Penny, Kendall Wilson, Almarie Mc Coy, Raymond Jorsling, all families represented here today,

All students, teachers and principals, President Joseph Biden & his family, Vice President Kamala Harris & her family, our Government, prayers and petitions in our prayer basket, for the all Priest especially those who serve here at Charity, Religious Vocations, and an increase in Religious Vocations, all men and women serving our country, the elders, all who are incarcerated, and unexpressed prayers, for immigrants, a successful solution to the pandemic, the mentally sick, the unemployed and under employed, end to gun violence and for world peace,

**We pray to the Lord.**

## WEEKLY MEETINGS - St. Matthew

**St. Matthew weekly meetings have commenced. Please contact your ministry to find out the time and date of the meetings.**

**WEEK OF SUNDAY 01/07/2024 @ ST. GREGORY**

**COLLECTION 12/23– 12/24/2023**

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**ST. MATTHEW**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
8 PM	20	570.00	168.55	738.55
7:30 AM	56	2,725.00	378.35	3,103.35
9:30 AM	48	784.50	291.63	1,076.13
11:30 PM	57	1,285.00	646.42	1,931.42
1:30 PM	45	763.00	283.00	1,046.00
L.I.R.	68	2,260.00	—	2,260.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>8,387.50</b>	<b>1,767.95</b>	<b>10,155.45</b>
Catholic Charity		3,435.75	—	3,435.75

**ST. GREGORY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
<b>5 PM</b>	9	300.00	85.00	385.00
<b>10:00AM</b>	24	615.00	320.00	935.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>915.00</b>	<b>405.00</b>	<b>1,320.00</b>
Catholic Charity		816.00	—	816.00

**OUR LADY OF CHARITY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
<b>10:00AM</b>	44	1,980.00	—	1,980.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1,980.00</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,980.00</b>

**COLLECTION 12/30– 12/31/2023**

**ST. MATTHEW**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
8 PM	25	993.00	156.00	1,149.00
7:30 AM	75	2,421.00	319.00	2,740.00
9:30 AM	48	706.00	226.25	932.25
11:30 PM	62	1,753.00	601.00	2,354.00
1:30 PM	30	895.90	301.00	1,196.90
L.I.R.	65	2,742.00	—	2,742.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>9,510.90</b>	<b>1,603.25</b>	<b>11,114.15</b>
New Year's		2,985.75	—	2,985.75

**ST. GREGORY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
<b>5 PM</b>	18	1,202.00	153.00	1,355.00
<b>10:00AM</b>	31	2,053.00	325.00	2,378.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3,255.00</b>	<b>478.00</b>	<b>3,733.00</b>
New Year's	16	374.00	—	374.00

**OUR LADY OF CHARITY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
<b>10:00AM</b>	56	2,693.00	—	2,693.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>2,693.00</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,693.00</b>

**ST. GREGORY THE GREAT**

*St. Gregory the Great* **BIBLE STUDY** with Catherine Abdullah @ 7PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every week on **FRI-DAYS**

Bible Study back in Session @ 7:15 PM

**Link for Bible Study** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUfMvZjRUSdJodllWSDArUT09>

To Join Zoom Meeting please use Meeting ID: 854 9887 5775  
Passcode: 374738

On tap mobile

Dial 929 205 6099 using Meeting ID and the passcode

**Bible Study** (All Are Invited) Meets on zoom every Friday from 7:30PM to 8:30PM A Book of the Bible is picked (By the Group) alternatively, from the Old Testament, followed by The New Testament.

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**LIGHT FEST PRAYER GROUP** (ALL ARE WELCOME!) Meet-In-Person at St. Gregory R.C. Church every First Saturday of the month, I the Church's dining room. The remaining Saturdays of the month, Light Fest Prayer Group meets on zoom in the Light Fest Reading Room from 8PM to 9PM. The zoom link is mentioned above. Please contact any member for information for telephone number and pin number to access this prayer line. (This enables us to discuss confidentiality protocols to New Participants)

**UPCOMING MTGS. & EVENTS @ ST. GREGORY MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

MARCUS GARVEY SERVICE ONCE A MONTH ON THE SECOND SUNDAY AT 2PM

St. Gregory the Great – Religious Education

Starting date: Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Time: 9:30am. Registration fee: \$60 per candidate

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**JESSIE TREE PROJECT BEGINS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023 UNTIL SUNDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2024.**

Details to follow.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 AT 5PM AT ST. MATTHEW CHURCH, 1123 EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN, NY.**

**TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE \$20 PER PERSON. See Ms. Lorna, Mr. Jack or Senior Choir Members.**

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**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WREATH 2023**

As we prepare for **"THE COMING OF THE LORD"** we would like to enhance the beauty of our church during the Advent/Christmas season in such a way that our place of worship may be more beautiful and our prayers more fervent.

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WREATH 2023 FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INFORMATION TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**

**CUT OFF DATE FOR SUBMISSION**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!**

## SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

### PARISH REGISTRATION:

All are welcome! Any letter concerning sponsorship for the sacraments or testimonial letters will only be issued to registered parishioners of 6+ months. Please register in the rectory.

### BAPTISM:

To have your child baptized in the

Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens, you must show:

1. Proof that you live in the geographical boundaries of the Church you wish to have the baby baptized.(e.g. electric bill). If you live outside the boundaries of the Church you wish to have your baby baptized , you must get a permission letter from the Catholic church closest to where you live granting you permission to have your baby baptized outside of the geographical area .
2. Your baby is allowed one God mother and one God father, one must be Catholic, practicing their faith (letter from the Church stating this), and have their confirmation certificate. The baby can be baptized with one Catholic god parent.
3. One parent must be baptized Catholic and have their baptism certificate, First Communion or Confirmation as proof.
4. Once these requirements are fulfilled, we encourage you to call and set a date. Children 7 & under can be baptized w/o CCD classes.

### RCIA

RCIA stands for RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS and is composed of a series of sessions bringing people together to experience the prayer life of the church as well as learn about its doctrines and teachings. Using the readings from the Bible which we hear daily at Mass, the Sacred Liturgy as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church, teens and adults who have not yet done so prepare themselves to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Eucharist.

**RCIA is offered in Spanish, Kreyol & English and is for people who:**

- ◆ Were baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the sacrament of Confirmation, First Holy Communion or First Confession
- ◆ Were baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to join the Catholic Church
- ◆ Were never baptized & wish to fully worship in the Catholic Church
- ◆ Wants to know more about what it means to be Catholic?

The sessions begin in October. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the rectory.

## SACRAMENTS & REGISTRATION

### School of Religion @ St. Matthew

***After receiving First Holy Communion, It is essential for your child to continue each year in our program, until they complete their initiation with the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.***

For more information about registration requirements or other questions you might have, contact us: Phone: 215-576-4124; email: [stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org](mailto:stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org)

***Después de recibir la Primera Comunión, es esencial que su hijo continúe en nuestro programa cada año, hasta que complete la iniciación con la recepción del Sacramento de la Confirmación.***

Para más información acerca los requisitos para registración u otras preguntas que usted pueda tener, comuníquese al Tel: 215-576-4124; email: [stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org](mailto:stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org)

***ENSKRIPSYON YO AP FÈT KOUNYE A  
BATÈM, PREMYE SENT KOMINYON AK KONFI-  
MASYON.***

Pouplisenfòmasyon sou kondisyon enskripsyon ou swalòtkek-  
syon ou ta genyen kontaktenounan: Phone: 215-576-4124;  
email: [stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org](mailto:stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org)



## ST. MATTHEW EVENTS

### GIFT SHOP

Located @ the back of the Church, selling an array of religious articles including rosaries, open on weekends before & after Mass.



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration in the Church on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** after **9:00 am Mass until 12:00 noon**. Fridays from **7 P.M. to 9 P.M.** The Divine Mercy is recited during the reposition.

Your hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament will repair for evils of the world and bring about peace on earth. "Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Jesus and ready to make reparation for the great evils of the world.

Let your adoration never cease."

-Pope John Paul II -

### VOCATIONS

"Rise up in splendor! Your light has come." Is God calling you to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, deacon or priest? Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: [vocations@diobrook.org](mailto:vocations@diobrook.org)

### FAMILY MASS

Our monthly Family Mass will be held on Saturday, January 20th, at 5 P.M. All students in the School of Religion are asked to attend this Mass with their family.

### WOMEN'S BRUNCH RETREAT

Heart to Heart Ministry will have a retreat for women on Saturday, February 10th from 9:45 a.m. until noon.

The address is American Martyrs Parish, Sullivan Hall, 79-43 Bell Blvd, Bayside, New York.

For additional information you can contact Sister Ave Clark at 718-428-2471.

## Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany

When all have gathered, a suitable song may be sung. The leader makes the sign of the cross, and all reply, "Amen."

The leader greets those present in the following words: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.

R/. Blessed be God forever.

In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Matthew 2:1-12:

The intercessions are then said:

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him.

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory.

We pray:

R/. Stay with us, Lord.

After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.

The leader says the prayer of blessing with hands joined:

Lord God of heaven and earth,  
you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation  
by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house  
and all who inhabit it.

Fill them (us) with the light of Christ,  
that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

*The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:*

May Christ Jesus dwell with us,  
keep us from all harm,  
and make us one in mind and heart,  
now and forever.

R/. Amen.