

# St. Matthew Parish



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

## Pastoral Staff

### **Pastor**

Fr. Frank Black

### **Priests**

Fr. Thaddeus J. Abraham

Msr. Pierre Andre

Pierre

Fr. Ralph Theodat

Fr. Paul Afetor

### **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 10:00am**

**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



## 18th Sunday: What Makes a Person a Christian?

We continue today with our five week study of the sixth chapter of John. It began last week with the multiplication of loaves and fish with all its Eucharistic implications. Today's Gospel takes place the next day as the people came looking for Jesus. Jesus and his disciples were on the other side of the lake. The disciples crossed over by themselves, but Jesus met up with them walking on the water. That's why the Gospel for this Sunday begins with the crowds saying, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

Jesus responds that they are only looking for him because they ate loaves and fish yesterday and want more today. They were not concerned with the sign that He performed. They were just concerned with free food.

That reminds me of the man I met at a social function a number of years ago. He told me that he goes to my parish, but he doesn't go to Mass. I said to myself, "Well, this is going to be good." So I asked, "What do you mean that you go to my parish but you don't go to Mass?"

He said, "Well, I don't go to Church. But I go to the picnic every year." Too good to be made up.

What makes a person a member of a parish? Deeper than this, what makes a person a Christian? What makes a person a Catholic? Does baptism do it? Perhaps theologically, but if the person does not reaffirm his or her faith with his or her life, then baptism is an act lost in the forgotten past, theologically something that took place, but a life that no longer exists due to the person's refusal to live this life. The Life of God cannot be taken from us, but it can be surrendered by us, given away by us. That is the reason why people feel empty when they commit serious sin. They may fill their lives with all sorts of experiences, or all sorts of things, but they still feel so empty. They sense that they have given away the Life of God within them.

Back to the question: What makes a person a member of a parish, a Christian, a Catholic? Does filling out paperwork make a person a member of a parish? That's easy enough to do. People can download the registration form from the top menu of the parish website. But does that really make a person a member of the parish if that person has no intention of worshiping with the community? We and every parish certainly have plenty of people who register into the parish, people who fill out paperwork to get their children in religious education, or Catholic school, or to have a child baptized. Sadly some of these people have no intention on coming to Church in any sort of a regular basis.

So, then does attendance in Church do it? No, there are plenty of people who wish they could come to Church but who can't due to sickness or age or both. The fragments left over that I spoke about last week refers to the preservation of the Eucharist so we can bring the Eucharistic meal to those unable to attend. Although not in Church, these people are certainly active members of the parish. They pray daily for the parish and for sick members of the parish. On the opposite side of the spectrum, there

Are some people who attend Church but who do not live a Christian life outside of the building. We are all sinners, no doubt, but most of us want to be better, want to fight sin. But those few who are mean, cruel, who cheat others continually and who firmly intend to keep living this way, are they Christians simply because they attend Mass? What makes a person in reality, not in name, a Christian, a Catholic, an active member of a parish?

The answer is simple: Jesus Christ. Everything that matters is about Jesus. All else is bogus. Those who seek Jesus and who worship Him in their daily lives as well as with the community of believers are members of the parish, members of the Church.

They, we, are Christians. They, we, are Catholic.

In the second part of today's Gospel, the people who sought Jesus looking for free food, took a step away from their greed and began considering the history of their ancestor's relationship with God. They spoke about the manna that the ancient Hebrews ate in the desert. The first reading tells the story about the Jews crying out to God for food. Manna had been called the bread of angels. It appeared in the morning on the ground, as though it came down from the sky.

Jesus says that the heavenly Father is providing a bread greater than the manna. Manna was seen as the food of the law of Sinai. Jesus tells the people that God is providing a food greater than manna, a gift infinitely greater than the Law. The people had to be thinking, "How could anything be greater than the Law? How could the people eat any food greater than the manna?" Jesus responds that He is the gift that is greater than the Law. He is the New Manna, the food that gives eternal life. He is the Bread of Life.

That's where the Gospel for this week ends. That's far enough.

Who is this Jesus? He is the Eternal Word of God, the Second Person of the Trinity, became flesh on Christmas Day. He came so He could set the world on fire with the Love of God. In the Gospel of Luke 12:49 Jesus says, "I came to throw fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were set ablaze." "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" ( Luke 24:32 ). The disciples on the road to Emmaus asked this after their encounter with the Risen Lord.

Encounters with Jesus are experiences of His life burning within our lives. These encounters might result from great spiritual experiences like a parish mission or a retreat, or the encounter may come simply from recognizing the touch of the Lord in an everyday experience. Mothers and fathers often have an encounter with the Lord the first time they hold their newborn baby.

What is the food that we need? The food is Jesus Christ. The Eucharist is the sacramental expression of this food. The Eucharist is our union with the Lord loving us to death on the cross. The Eucharist is the most significant of the many ways that we receive the Bread of Life.

WEEKLY READINGS	
Sun Aug 4	Ex 16:2-4,12-15; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35
Mon Aug 5	Jer 28: 1-17 ; Mt 14:13-21
Tue Aug 6	Dn 7: 9-10,13-14; 2 Pt 1: 16-19; Mk 9:2-10
Wed Aug 7	Jer 31:1-7; Mt 15:21-28
Thu Aug 8	Jer 31: 31-34 ; Mt 16:13-23
Fri Aug 9	Na 2:1,3,3:1-3,6-7; Mt 16:24-28
Sat Aug 10	2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 19:24-26

**OUR LADY OF CHARITY: MASS INTENTIONS**

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS :** Glenda Hunter , Harmony Gianna Lee , Khiya Harris , Ashley Hall/ Lawson, Terrance T. Daniel Jr. , Noah Griffith , Denyse Holloway , Kevin Leyasth , Shantel Huggins , Latisha King , Brendan Huie , Marlon Huie , Christian Rojas , Adriana Catus ,  
**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 :** For the month of July **We pray to the Lord.**

**SANCTUARY CANDLES :** For the month of July & August is donated by the Haynes family  
**We pray to the Lord.**


**ST. GREGORY : MASS INTENTIONS**

	Sanctuary Lamp for Marlene Saunders, Rest In Peace and Birthday Blessings In Heaven
<b>First Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	5 PM Vigil Mass for Francisco & Gregorio A. Lopez, R.I.P., Requested by Marjorie Lopez
<b>Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10 AM Mass for Elnora Fontenelle, R.I.P., Requested by The Fontenelle Family
<b>Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup></b>	5 PM Vigil Mass for Theresa Milburn, Birthday Blessings

**ST. MATTHEW: MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday August 3	<b>8:00pm</b> – In thanksgiving for new beginnings & God’s unwavering provision by Tai Lambert
Sunday August 4	<b>7:30am</b> – Altar Rosary Society <b>9:30am</b> – a. I.L.M. of Tyrone Peter Jr. by Fulvia Parris b. B’day blessings in heaven Alfonso Rochez by the Rochez family c. R.I.P. Ramona Ananalis Abreu by children & grandchildren d. R.I.P. & I.L.M. of Francisca Salazar de Gondola by Yariel & Viera Salazar de Gondola & family <b>11:30am</b> – Birthday blessings for Edmund Williams <b>1:30pm</b> – B’day blessings Alexandra Desdunes by grandma, Yolette Desdunes
Monday August 5	<b>7:30am</b> – I.L.M. of Joseph Osnel Ambroise by children <b>9:00am</b> – I.L.M. of Andrea Jean Paul by Lyonette Tribie
Tuesday August 6	<b>7:30am</b> – I.L.M. of Antonia Rey Cybulska by Kenneth Cybulska <b>9:00am</b> – Asking God for blessings & prosperity to open doors by Alana Frederick
Wednesday August 7	<b>7:30am</b> – I.L.M. of Cynthia Beddeau by Floe & the Ferguson family <b>9:00am</b> – R.I.P. Manuel Estrella Francisco Gonzalez by Juana Estrella
Thursday August 8	<b>7:30am</b> – Asking God for blessings & prosperity to open doors by Alana Frederick <b>9:00am</b> – Birthday blessings for Aerolyn Edwards
Friday August 9	<b>7:30am</b> – Asking God for blessings & prosperity to open doors by Alana Frederick <b>9:00am</b> – Asking for protection & peace from St, Michael & St. Gabriel by Tamarah St.Louis Smart
Saturday August 10	<b>8:00am</b> – Asking God for blessings & prosperity to open doors by Alana Frederick

**BREAD & WINE FOR AUGUST**

 In loving memory of Pascual Rodriguez requested by the Dorsinville family

## REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Judith Adams, Carmen Allen, Rita Antomez, Armelle Amilcar, Loraine Quash- Antoine, Marie Augustin, Al Barnett, Monica Bel-fon, Marque & Yael Barber-LaFon, Melona Barber, Jason Bascom, Silvestre Brathwaite, Ismay Brewster, Jahonah Brown, Recy Brown, Patricia Burrowes, Yolande Cadet, Eslyn Canning, Diana Codogan, Cathleen Charles, Catilda Charles, Delcia Charles, Marcel Charles, Maria Clouden, Cecilia Clovie, Mahalia Clunis, Nelia Collins, Marilyn Coates, 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, Sherwin Fung, John Gale, 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, Janice & Orson Hutchings, Kerlyne Hyppolite, Anasha Inniss, Car-lyn Jabouin, Donna James, Nellie James, Alsie Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Magdalena Joseph, Ian Kellman, Lucy King, Albert Kirton, Tai Lambert, 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, Judith Matthew, Wilma Maynard, Tom McCaf-ferty, Laura McDonald, Mavis McDonald, Leticia McDowell, Ver-nita McDowell, Gemma Mejias, Marcelina Morales, Grant Nelson Jr., Isai Munoz, Marta Munoz, Nelson Munoz, Suzanna Neil, Ronald Nethersole, Claudette Norde, Mother Dolores Olf, Keena Ollivierre, Ronaldo Nano Paul, Sharonie 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, Elizabeth Rivera, Carlos Rudas, Lidia Saunders, Pamela Smith, Pema Smith, Robert Smith, Lisa Scott Spencer, Delores Sykes, Kevin Maynard, Basil Suarez, Antonio Sultan, Brenda & Javier Talango, Angela & Edris Thomas, Jean Thornhill, Allison Thorpe, Lyonette Tribie, Janet Throne, Amparo Torres, Malik Wel-lington, Karen Williams, Terrance Williams, Octavio Willis, Lean-dro Wilson, Reynold Williams, Christine Wright, Joan Wright, Natasha Wright, Vilma Zuniga

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR :** Yvonne Lacy, Dean Jackson, Wendy Romain, Vaughn Haynes, Georgeann Campbell, Maura Chisam, Danielle Huie, Cotilda Charles, Anthony Hepburn Jr., Lawrence Latimer & family, La Mar Mc Nabb, Conrad Lord, Christine Hudson & family, Glenda Hunter, Livingston Holloway, Jaden Bell, Nathan Ford Sr. & family, Sabrina Guess, Gwen & Helena Pugh, Golda & Daphne Crithlow, Leon Richards, Kendall Wilson, Almarie Mc Coy, Raymond Jorsling, Judith Prosper, Lisa Scott/ Spencer, Carla Martin, Hermelene Thomas, Marge Holas, Althea Gordon, Maureen Walter, Khalilah Saleem, Quarless family, Kato Pollydore, 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 suc-cessful 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 08/04/2024 @ ST. GREGORY**

+ **9:30 AM Sunday school CLOSED -Will resume in October**

+ **10 AM Mass – (Live Stream)**

+ **CREDIT UNION-OPEN**

### **MONDAY 08/05/24**

+ **7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal-Church**

### **FRIDAY 08/09/24**

+ **7:30 PM Bible Study-meets Via Zoom (Studying the Book of Exodus)**

### **SATURDAY 08/10/24**

+ **4 PM Confession**

+ **4 PM Vigil Choir Rehearsals**

+ **5 PM Vigil Mass-Church**

+ **4 PM Light Fest Prayer Group mtg. via Zoom**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362442148?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362442148?pwd=MGVNMWFFQcVdrQktXeTh0YjRadC9Mdz09)

[pwd=MGVNMWFFQcVdrQktXeTh0YjRadC9Mdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362442148?pwd=MGVNMWFFQcVdrQktXeTh0YjRadC9Mdz09)



**COLLECTION 07/27- 07/28/2024**

**ST. MATTHEW**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
8:00 PM	30	798.00	186.81	984.81
7:30 AM	64	2,531.00	542.85	3,073.85
9:30 AM	61	1,143.05	274.35	1,417.40
11:30 AM	61	1,762.00	590.00	2,352.00
1:30 PM	38	539.00	109.00	648.00
L.I.R.	26	1,805.00	—	1,805.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>8,578.05</b>	<b>1,703.01</b>	<b>10,281.06</b>

**ST. GREGORY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
5 PM	17	1,362.00	163.00	1,525.00
10:00AM	26	690.74	152.97	843.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2,052.74</b>	<b>315.97</b>	<b>2,368.71</b>

**OUR LADY OF CHARITY**

Mass	Envelopes	Envelope Collection	Loose money	Totals
10:00AM	51	2,570.00	—	2,570.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>2,570.00</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,570.00</b>

**FAITH DIRECT: \$1,405.00 collected**  
July 1 to July 24, 2024

**ST. MATTHEW EXPENSES**

	Apr - Jul 20	Apr - Jul 19	% Change
<b>Income</b>			
Collections	168,288.50	344,182.28	-51.11%
Rent	199,829.29	217,167.84	-7.98%
Programs	0.00	10,369.20	-100.0%
Donations/Fundraising	1,366.00	18,115.47	-92.46%
Other	25,491.52	24,792.07	2.82%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>394,975.31</b>	<b>614,626.86</b>	<b>-35.74%</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Employee Compensation	302,582.87	291,549.37	3.78%
Maintenance	69,276.57	33,706.71	105.53%
Office Expenses	28,460.39	19,601.93	45.19%
Programs	3,351.36	6,028.70	-44.41%
Altar Supplies	6,099.33	16,602.28	-63.26%
Utilities	28,261.46	27,878.02	1.38%
Miscellaneous Expense	2,032.03	3,230.79	-37.1%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>440,064.01</b>	<b>398,597.80</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(45,088.70)</b>	<b>216,029.06</b>	<b>-120.87%</b>

**The Widow's Offering**

*Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.*

*But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.*

*Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."*

**ST. GREGORY THE GREAT**

*ALL ARE INVITED to join St. Gregory the Great **BIBLE STUDY** meets on zoom every Friday from 7:30PM to 8:30PM with Catherine Abdullah Eastern Time (US and Canada)*

**Bible Study is beginning the Book of Exodus**  
*(A Book of the Bible is picked (By the Group) alternatively, from the Old Testament, followed by The New Testament.)*

**Link for Bible Study** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85498875775?pwd=Nk4zY3BVOUFmVzRUSDJodlJWSDArUT09>

*. Dial 929-205-6099 using meeting ID 782362442148 and pass code 424370. (Please contact any member for information on book currently being read.) (ALL ARE WELCOME!)*

**(SEE CHANGE) LIGHT FEST PRAYER GROUP Meets In Person at St. Gregory R.C. Church every "SECOND SATURDAY" of the month in the Rectory'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.**

**UPCOMING MTGS. & EVENTS @ ST. GREGORY**

**St. Gregory the Great – Religious Education**

Sunday school Closed. Will resume October, 2024  
Parents we encourage the children to attend Mass on Saturdays or Sundays during the break, unless they are traveling.

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St. Gregory the Great R. C. Church Worship Site of St. Matthew Parish **BUILDING REPAIR RAFFLE**. Drawing September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 on The Feast of Saint Gregory the Great after the 11:30AM Mass. Donation: \$25.00 – Checks payable to St. Gregory the Great R. C. Church. **ONLY 500 TICKETS SOLD. PLEASE RETURN TICKET STUB** with necessary information requested along with **MONEY** by August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. If you decide that you would support our efforts in another way, you may send a contribution to St. Gregory the Great Church with memo "Building Fund".

Thank you for your continued support.

**Grand Prize: \$1,000.00;**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: \$300 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: \$100.00**

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You are all invited to attend a Crime Prevention Workshop with a Focus on Scam coordinated by Ms. Catherine Abdullah together with the New York Police Department on Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Location: St. Matthew Parish Center, 1345 Lincoln Place, Brooklyn (bet. Schenectady & Utica Aves.)

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You are all invited to attend a **MEMORIAL MASS for Bishop Guy Sansaricq** for the Repose of His Soul 3 years of his passing hosted by The Haitian Apostolate on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 12 Noon here at St. Gregory the Great R. C. Church.

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**ST. GREGORY'S USHER BOARD ANNUAL BUS OUTING**

**Atlantic City Resort's Casino** on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Bus leaving at 7 AM from St. Gregory's Church. COST: \$60, play and earn \$10 in slot play.

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**Evenings of Inquiry scheduled for men that are interested in the Diaconate-Fall 2024**

**Brooklyn:** Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7PM  
St. Thomas Aquinas, 1550 Hendrickson St., Brooklyn, NY 11234  
& **Queens:** Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7PM  
Holy Family at 175-20 74<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

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**Heritage Committee of St. Gregory the Great Luncheon** on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at St. Teresa of Avila Church located at 555 Sterling Place (Franklin & Classon Aves.) Time: 12pm to 5pm Tickets Adults: \$40 and Kids: \$20

There will be music by DJ Page, our very own Ms. Nicole Davis and the Internationally Renowned Opera and Concert Singer, Mr. Everett Suttle

## 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

Registration forms for the School of Religion for new and returning students are now available at the doors of the Church, in the Parish Center & in the Rectory. For new students, please attach a copy of your child's baptism certificate, if not baptized attach a copy of their birth certificate.

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)

**ENSKRISYON YO AP FÈT KOUNYE A  
BATÈM, PREMYÈ SENT KOMINYON  
AK KONFIMASYON.**

Pou plis enfòmasyon sou kondisyon enskripsyon oswa lòt keksyon ou ta genyen, kontakte nou nan: (215) 576-4124  
Email: [stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org](mailto:stmatthewreledu@stmatthew-brooklyn.org)

✂

Full Name _____
Address 1 _____
Address 2 _____
Telephone Number _____
Email Address _____
Were you registered before _____
If yes, registration # _____
Today's Date _____

## GIFT SHOP

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

## VOCATIONS

“The Bread of Life is that which comes down from heaven.” If simplicity of life and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience especially attract you, discover that life as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: [vocations@diobrook.org](mailto:vocations@diobrook.org)

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Adoration in the Church on  
**Wednesdays and Fridays after 9:00  
am Mass until 12:00 noon and  
First Fridays from 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

+ **August 10th** - A walk with Fr. Paul in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden – Meet 9:30am at 150 Eastern Parkway and 990 Washington Ave entrance. Garden opens at 10:00am.

### **Admission**

- o Adults: \$22
  - o Students (12+ with ID): \$16
  - o Seniors (65+ with ID): \$16
- Children under 12 attending with an adult: Free

+ **Thursday, August 15th** is the Feast of the Assumption. It is a Holy day of Obligation. We will have Mass at **7:30 AM, 9 AM and a Tri-Lingual Mass at 7:30 PM.**

+ **Tuesday, August 13th—1000 Hail Mary's after the 9 A.M. Mass**

+ **First Friday, September 6th - Exposition after the 9 A. M. Mass to Noon & 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.**

+ **Friday September 13th - Exposition, Praise & Worship from 7 P.M. to Midnight**

+ **Saturday, September 14th** - Holy Name Society Bus Trip

+ **REVIVAL—Tuesday, September 17th—Thursday, September 19th**

## PRAYER by Msgr. Joseph Pellegrino

Teach us how to pray,” the disciples asked Jesus. This is the longing of our souls. We want to pray. We want to be with God.

Prayer is what we are about, not just here in Church but as people committed to Jesus Christ. We need to nurture our dialogue with him, our prayer Life. We come to Mass to pray the Lord's Supper as a community and to reverence the Lord within us in communion. We call out to the Lord throughout our day whether it is simply grace before meals, or speaking to the Lord the three meditations: God loves me unconditionally, God forgives me and God is with me, or whether it is devotional prayers like the Rosary, or night prayer. Our days are meant to be united to God in prayer. Prayer expresses who we are, the People of God.

We need each other for our prayer life to grow. We need each other so we can really celebrate God's presence to such an extent that He becomes present on the altar through the gift of Holy Orders. Sometimes, I come upon people who say that they don't attend Church, but they pray on their own. I think it is great that they are praying, but I also know that they are depriving themselves of the greatest prayer, the prayer of Jesus Christ at the Last Supper, on the Cross and at Easter. It is great that they are praying alone, but by refusing to join the community they are depriving themselves of the Eucharist.

Maybe we all need to reflect a bit about the mystery of the Eucharist. We go to communion so often that it is easy for us to forget what we are doing and whom we are receiving. When we receive communion, Jesus Christ comes inside of us. He is closer to us than our skin. When we receive communion, we worship Him within us with our whole being. All of us love Eucharistic Adoration. All of us love reverencing the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, when the Lord is exposed in the monstrance or processed around the congregation.

Eucharistic adoration is wonderful. But there is something infinitely better than Eucharistic Adoration. That is receiving communion. No Eucharistic service is better than receiving communion. In a few moments and every time we receive communion we take Jesus within ourselves.

He is there at the Last Supper, looking at each person here and saying this is my body, this is my blood, take and eat, take and drink. When we receive communion Jesus is present on the cross saying, “My body is given up for you. My blood is yours. Even if you were the only person to ever live, I would still accept the cross for you. I want to be inside you. I want you to have my body and blood.” When we receive communion, Jesus is present within us at the Resurrection. This is the food of the new life of the Kingdom, the food of eternity, the bread of angels.

Jesus once told the story about a jewel merchant who came upon a valuable pearl. When he found it, he sold everything he had so he could possess it. We have the Pearl of Great Price offered to us every day. The Eucharist, Holy Communion, the Presence of the Living Lord at the Last Supper, on the Cross and at the Resurrection is within us whenever we receive communion.

“Teach us to pray, Lord,” the apostles asked. He taught them the Lord's Prayer, and He gave us the Eucharist. I invite you today, I challenge you today to enter into deep adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every time you receive communion.