



THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE

The
Saint James Cathedral-Basilica
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10 , 2023



**SAINT JAMES
CATHEDRAL-BASILICA**

MASS TIMES:

Weekday Mass: Monday–Friday 12:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 11:00 AM

Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, D. D., Bishop

Reverend Bryan D. Patterson, S.T.L., Rector

Deacon Ronald Rizzuto, Pastoral Administrator

Mrs. Isabel Navarro, Secretary

Mrs. Rosa Paulsen-Williams, Secretary

Mrs. Bee Y. Santos, Creative Director

**PARISH FOUNDED IN 1822 | DESIGNATED CATHEDRAL IN 1853
ELEVATED TO MINOR PAPAL BASILICA IN 1982**

250 Cathedral Place, Brooklyn, NY 11201 (718) 852.4002 www.brooklyncathedral.net



From The Rector of Saint James Cathedral-Basilica

Dear parishioners and friends of Saint James,

Here we are already at the Second Sunday of Advent. In God's word from the Prophet Isaiah, we hear "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem . . ." I hear these words and I struggle with this notion of 'comfort'. I must admit, and even though you may find it unseemly, I find myself fascinated with a twenty-five-year-old from Barcelona. I know, terrible. She is a model and influencer based in Barcelona, pink hair, a gamer and interested in fitness. She is a hard worker and earns up to \$12,000 a month. A passionate Scorpio, I read she is "a strong determined woman, independent in her actions and generous in her willingness to help others." She has 211,000 followers on Instagram.

While I may be fascinated and you might by now be alarmed, I'm not fascinated for what you may be thinking. Her name is Aitana López and she isn't a real person, at all, 100% fabricated. She is the first AI generated Latina model and was developed by the company called "The Clueless". For where I am about to go with this, that is an apt name for the company.

We pray in Night Prayer on Saturdays from Psalm 4, "O men, how long will your hearts be closed, will you love what is futile and seek what is false?" We tend to project all manner of desirable or undesirable qualities on friends, neighbors, movie stars, musicians, lovers and even God. We fall in love all the time with objects of our minds and are devastated when their reality finally confronts us. The old-fashioned word for this is 'idolatry'.

God is constantly calling his people from false ideas and false images to the truth. When our idols don't measure up to our expectations and our world is falling apart all around us, God is there trying to comfort us, bring us hope, lead us to the truth, reassure us with his love. Imagine that, God is true love and calling us to love each other truly, but . . .

It's a constant rescue mission on God's part. That's why God sends prophets, that's why God came to us in Jesus. During Advent we have yet another chance to let go of all that is false and come to the true light that is Christ. Some might crudely say, "Snap out of it." Despite our addiction to idols, Jesus comes as a remedy to build up what we have broken down, in ourselves and in others.

This Aitana López should come as a serious warning about where we are heading. This death-wish of ours is fascinating in that we know God is right but we keep falling for the Evil One and his empty promises. Advent is a time to give it another try. We can choose God and live, not love what is futile and seek what is false.

Peace,

Fr. Bryan Patterson

**READING I****IS 40:1-5, 9-11****(Proclaimed in Spanish)**

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Response: TE ALABAMOS, SEÑOR**RESPONSORIAL PSALM****PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14****READING II****2 PT 3:8-14**

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out. Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

GOSPEL**MK 1:1-8**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

ADVENT II B**Open: 487 - When the King shall come again****Offertory: 497 - The King shall come when morning dawns vv 3 - 5****Communion: 488 - Comfort, comfort, O my people****Recession: 479- O come, divine Messiah****Postlude: Psalm XVIII - Benedetto Marcello 1686-1739**

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

“A voice is calling.” Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to **Fr. Matt Mason**, the Vocations Director at (603) 663-0196 or mmason@rcbm.org.

CHRISTMAS TOY COLLECTION November 26 - December 11, 2023

Unwrapped gifts appropriate for infants to 17 years old are needed for **Brooklyn Catholic Charities Toy Campaign**.

Age appropriate gifts 3 yr. to 12 yr. old are up to your generosity. Gift cards are acceptable, especially for the teenagers ages 13-17.

With grateful hearts...

We are the Cathedral Basilica of St. James!

Second Collection For RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND December 10, 2023

Proceeds from the second collection on Sunday, December 10 will go to the **Religious Retirement Fund**. Please consider fostering the seeds of faith with your continued generosity.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING... AND SO IS NATE! December 10, 17, and 24 (morning service only)

Long-time CBSJ Cantor Nate Irvin will be adding his voice to our holiday celebrations. Nate will be singing in the choir on Christmas Eve and serving as Cantor on Christmas morning. At both services his powerful voice will proclaim the Birth of Christ at the start of the Mass.



FAITH LEADS TO FAITHFULNESS

We are all being called to serve God and are in need of candidates interested in liturgical formation as Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers), Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, and Altar Servers at Saint James Cathedral-Basilica.

If you are interested in serving at St. James and meet the requirements for Liturgical formation listed below, please see **Fr. Bryan** or **Deacon Ron** after mass or e-mail at: rector@brooklyncathedral.net

LITURGICAL FORMATION

The process for determining the suitability of candidates for service at the Altar involves:

- * *Observation* : Candidates should express by words and actions that they are reasonably living their baptismal call to service.
- * *Discernment*: Prayer is an integral part of continuing to discern their service and the type of service they will offer.
- * *Collection of information*: Candidates must provide sacramental certificates of baptism, confirmation, and marriage (if applicable).



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY - 11:00 AM December 10, 2023	MONDAY - 12:00 PM December 11, 2023	TUESDAY - 12:00 PM December 12, 2023	
Shouriah and Rajamma Pudotha	Dr. Fathalla Magaal	Julio Ayala	LECTORS December 10, 2023 <i>Diane Wilson & Miryeda Reyes</i> December 17, 2023 <i>Chu Lee & Elina Cruz</i>
WEDNESDAY- 12:00 PM December 13, 2023	THURSDAY - 12:00 PM December 14, 2023	FRIDAY - 12:00 PM December 15, 2023	
Robert Chirico	Pat Chirico	Charles Chirico	COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: December 10, 2023 <i>Rosa Paulsen-Williams, Isabel Navarro</i> December 17, 2023 <i>Lynn Clement</i>

O Mary, help me to meditate often on your life in the Mysteries of Christ. May I come to appreciate the true glory that is yours.

Amen.





YOUR DAILY CAMINO

10th DECEMBER - SUNDAY

“As he preached he said, “The real action comes next: The star in this drama, to whom I am a mere stagehand, will change your life. I’m baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. His baptism—a holy baptism by the Holy Spirit—will change you from the inside out.”

~ **Gospel of Mark 1:7-8**

11th DECEMBER - MONDAY

“He who walking on the sea could calm the bitter waves, who gives life to the dying seeds of the earth; he who was able to loose the mortal chains of death, and after three days darkness could bring again to the upper world the brother for his sister Martha; he, I believe, will make Damasus rise again from the dust.”

~ **Saint Pope Damasus I**

12th DECEMBER - TUESDAY

“Let not your heart be disturbed... Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything.”

~ **Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego**

13th DECEMBER - WEDNESDAY

“If now, against my will, you cause me to be polluted, a twofold purity will be gloriously imputed to me. You cannot bend my will to your purpose; whatever you do to my body, that cannot happen to me.”

~ **Saint Lucy of Syracuse**

14th DECEMBER - THURSDAY

“In the evening of life, we will be judged on love alone.”

~ **Saint John of the Cross**

15th DECEMBER - FRIDAY

“I have noticed (and this is very natural) that the most saintly Sisters are the most loved. We seek their company; we render them services without their asking . . . We may apply to them these words of our Father Saint John of the Cross, ‘All goods were given to me when I no longer sought them through self-love.’”

~ **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**

16th DECEMBER - SATURDAY

“Your most precious, valued possessions and your greatest powers are invisible and intangible. No one can take them. You, and you alone, can give them. You will receive abundance for your giving. The more you give—the more you will have!”

~ **W. Clement Stone**



WEEKLY PRAYERS

PRAYER OF SAINT LUCY

Saint Lucy, your beautiful name signifies light. By the light of faith which God bestowed upon you, increase and preserve this light in my soul so that I may avoid evil, be zealous in the performance of good works, and abhor nothing so much as the blindness and the darkness of evil and of sin.

Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

Almighty Father, you endowed John of the Cross with a spirit of self-denial and a love of the Cross. By following his example, may we come to the eternal vision of your glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

PRAYER TO SAINT DAMASUS I

Father, as Saint Damasus loved and honored martyrs, so may we continue to celebrate their witness for Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT NINO

God, through St. Nino, Your Virgin, You enabled those without the Faith to pass from darkness to the light of truth. Grant us through her intercession to stand fast in the Faith and remain constant in the hope of the Gospel which she preached.

Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT ADELAIDE

God, You gladden us each year by the feast of St. Adelaide. Grant that as we honor her in such festivities that we may also imitate her example in our conduct.

Amen.

The Season of Advent

WEEK 1

Hope

Remind us
Jesus is Coming



Remind us
The joy of the coming
birth of Jesus

WEEK 2

Peace

Remind us
to prepare the way
of the Lord

Remind us
of the gift of
God's love, Jesus

WEEK 3

Joy

WEEK 4

Love

Nick's #1 Musical Pet Peeve



One of the most beautiful Catholic Advent hymns is "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Sung in the original, the word endings would help a Latin scholar understand exactly who should rejoice and why. But the way the text is set in English hymnals, we're led to think that Emmanuel is the one being told to rejoice. Emmanuel doesn't need to be told to rejoice. He's God, no? Israel is the one who should be rejoicing at the coming of the long-awaited Messiah.

Some hymnals/congregations try to overcome this by pushing through the whole refrain without stopping for a breath at the end of the first phrase of the refrain. Doing so only works if you have the breath control of an opera singer. Also, barging through the refrain breaks the underlying pulse of the music: HEAVY - light - light HEAVY - light - light (Thank you, Dr Alexander Peloquin, for your eye-opening hymn workshop back in 1976!)

A tiny change could keep me from wailing and gnashing my teeth for the four weeks of Advent:

Rejoice! Rejoice, O Israel! To you shall come Emmanuel.

If only they'd asked me... Bah! Humbug!

Nick Martellacci
Music Director of St. James



THE FEAST DAY
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
DECEMBER 12TH

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

On 9th December 1531 Juan Diego saw The Virgin Mary on the Hill of Tepeyac, near Mexico City, who asked him to build a church there. He told the Spanish Archbishop of Mexico, who advised him to return to the hill to ask the "lady" for a sign to prove her identity. First Mary healed Juan's sick Uncle, and then, on 12th December 1531, she told him to gather flowers from the top of the hill - where he found roses growing on the barren ground. She gathered up the roses in his cloak (tilma) for him to take back to the Archbishop. When he opened his tilma to show the roses, they fell to the floor and this image of Our Lady was imprinted upon it.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of Holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my prayer offered with deep-felt confidence to beg this favor... O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of "Guadalupe" the virgin who crushed the serpent. Queen of Martyrs, whose Immaculate heart was pierced by seven wounds of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns thrown across my pathway. Queen of Apostles aid me to win souls for the Sacred Heart of my Savior. I plead this through the merits of your merciful Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Coffee Hour

HIGHLIGHT

DECEMBER 03, 2023



SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION



BAPTISM

Parents are requested to contact the Rector to make the necessary arrangements for the Baptism of their child.



FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education is provided for children from 1st to 8th grade in preparation for the Sacraments and adult classes are also available. Please contact the office for more information.



MARRIAGES

Couples are requested to make arrangements at least six months before the actual date of the wedding.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for a Holy Hour each Friday from 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon.



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

When we sin, the Holy Spirit calls us to conversion, to turn away from sin and to turn toward God. Friday: 12:40-1:00 P.M.



VISITS TO THE SICK

Please call the office 718-852-4002 to notify us if any one is in the hospital or ill at home so that a pastoral visit can be made.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends: Sunday 11:00 A.M.
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 12:00 Noon

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

WATCH THE MASS ON TV

Mass is broadcast live from The Saint James Cathedral-Basilica at 12:00 Noon Monday-Friday and at 11:00 A.M. on Sundays via NET TV. You can watch us via Verizon FiOS (channel 48), Time Warner Cable (channel 97), and Cable Vision (channel 30), and live-streamed on the Internet at <http://netny.tv>