

THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE

The
Saint James Cathedral-Basilica
Second Sunday of Lent
February 25 , 2024



**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. Beeyean 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.org



From The Rector of Saint James Cathedral-Basilica

Dear parishioners and friends of Saint James,

I pray that your Lenten experience so far has been fruitful. Because Lent began very early this year, I have been outside the parish for two Sundays in a row. I was invited to celebrate Mass in two churches in Queens for Black History Month. That's why I have been away.

The readings for last Sunday were setting the stage for a more direct approach this Sunday. Last Sunday, Saint Paul shows that the Flood and the rescue of Noah and his family were precursors to our salvation by Jesus in the sacrament of and the living out of our baptism. Jesus himself is baptized by John and immediately is driven by the Holy Spirit to be tested in the desert. The Gospel of Mark is the pared down, the bare facts version of the temptations of Christ that we find more elaborated in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

This Sunday we encounter three major readings. The "Akedah" or binding of Isaac, a famous Pauline passage on the enduring love of God in Christ Jesus and the Transfiguration of Jesus on a high mountain. Any one of these readings would be fertile ground for fruitful preaching.

To me, the readings together pose the question, "What does it mean to be loved by God?" I believe we tend to limit our understanding of God's love to its comforting and reassuring aspects. Yet, there is a creative and transformative aspect as well. Abraham and Sarah have been through the mill over having a natural born son between them. Way beyond childbearing years, they give up hope and have a surrogate son through Hagar, the house maid. But God does miraculously give them a son, and today he asks Abraham to kill him as a sacrifice? "How much do you love and trust me, Abraham?"

The disciples of Jesus have put all their trust in him becoming the future King of Israel, the Messiah, and them reigning with him. However, to be the true Messiah, Jesus will have to be tortured, severely humiliated and be publicly executed – not what's supposed to happen to the God-man. How will they be able to still believe? How will they be able to still trust after that? Jesus shows them his future glory so that they will be able to 'go behind the scenes' of what they witness in time and space. "O.K. disciples, how much do you love and trust me?"

As followers of Jesus, as his disciples, he has promised us life in its fullness. He has promised us the Resurrection Life. But, when faced with the realities of life, the hardships, disappointments, betrayals and the consequences of our own sins, how can we continue to believe? Paul tells us that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

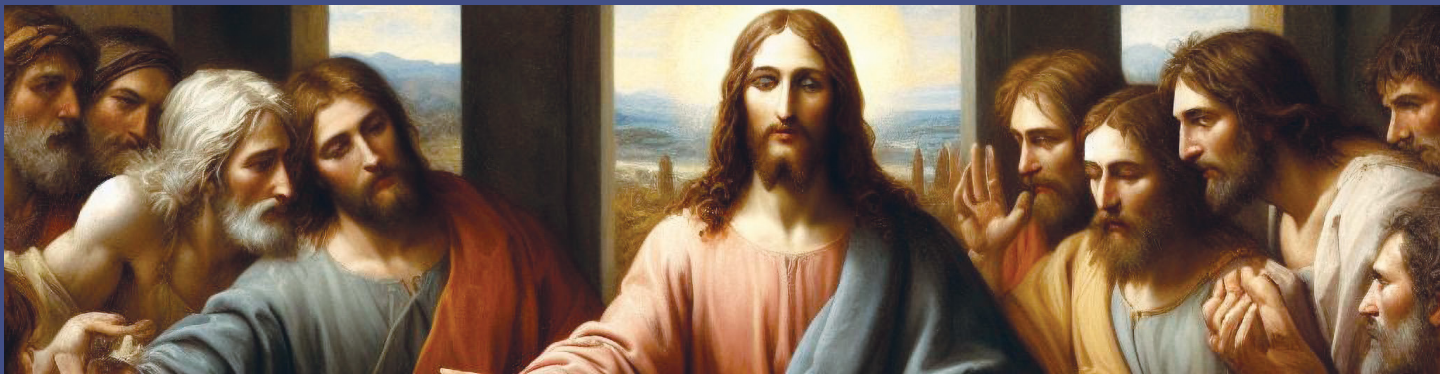
Abraham and Jesus' disciples have to face the brutal, vicious loss of all hope. Despite evidence of total defeat, God makes good on his promises. In our lives, isn't the question always going to be, "How much do you love and trust me?" God makes good on his promises.

I am . . .

Prayerfully yours,

Fr. Bryan Patterson

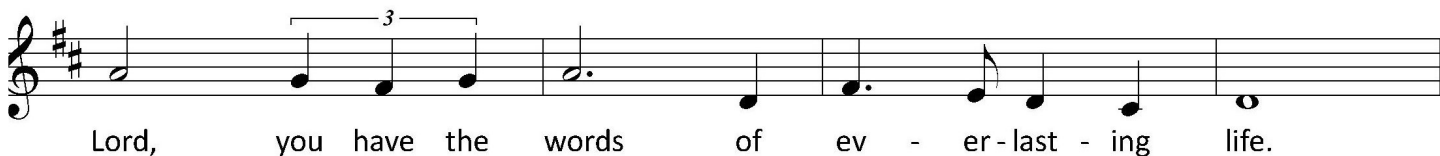




READING I**Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18****(Proclaimed in Spanish)**

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!", "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing – all this because you obeyed my command."

Response: TE ALABAMOS, SEÑOR

RESPONSORIAL PSALM**Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19**

READING II**Rom 8:31b-34**

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died – or, rather, was raised – who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

GOSPEL**Mk 9:2-10**

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

2nd Sunday of Lent B

Open: 791 - Glorious in majesty

Offertory: 773 - When Jesus came preaching

Communion 881: Transform us

Recession: 882 - 'Tis good, Lord, to be here

Postlude: Lamentation - Henry Purcell 1659-1695

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT February 25, 2024

“This is My beloved Son, listen to Him!” Could the Lord be calling you to proclaim His name as a priest or in consecrated life? Listen to Him and talk to your priest or reach out to **Fr. Matt Mason**, the Vocations Director at **603-663-0196** or **mmason@rcbm.org**.

PRAYER OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS February 16 - March 22, 2024

Join us for the Prayer of the Stations of the Cross.
Every Friday during the Lenten Season.

We invite you to participate in the Prayer of the Stations of the Cross. Join us immediately following the noon Mass every Friday, as we journey together in prayerful reflection on the passion and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, seeking renewal and spiritual growth by preparing our hearts for the celebration of Easter.

THANK YOU TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Thank you for making the coffee hour potluck a success with your delicious contributions. Your participation made it special, and St. James is grateful to all those who dedicated their efforts to the preparation and cleanup. Let us carry this positive energy forward and continue building our church community.

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).



“Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that have received only what you have given.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi

MASS INTENTIONS

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| SUNDAY - 11:00 AM February 25, 2024 | MONDAY - 12:00 PM February 26, 2024 | TUESDAY - 12:00 PM February 27, 2024 |
| Terry Jackson | Beatrice Gonzalez | Joseph R. Lyons |
| WEDNESDAY- 12:00 PM February 28, 2024 | THURSDAY - 12:00 PM February 29, 2024 | FRIDAY- 12:00 PM March 1, 2024 |
| Shouriah Karnati | Julia Ayala | Maria Amato |
| LECTORS | February 25, 2024 Chul Lee & Elina Cruz | March 3, 2024 Diane Wilson & Mireyda Reyes |
| COFFEE HOUR | February 25, 2024 Potluck style - Bring a dish & share a smile | March 3, 2024 Potluck style - Bring a dish & share a smile |

O Mary, you were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and with overwhelming love for God. Obtain for me a greater love for God that will overflow in more frequent prayer and a more dedicated Christian life.

Amen.



Obedience in Faith

YOUR DAILY CAMINO

25th FEBRUARY - SUNDAY

“Just then a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and from deep in the cloud, a voice” “This is my Son, marked by my love. Listen to him.”
~**Gospel of Saint Mark 9:5-6**

26th FEBRUARY - MONDAY

“When there is no enemy within, the enemies outside cannot hurt you.”
~**African proverb**

27th FEBRUARY - TUESDAY

“Hate is too great a burden to bear. It injures the hater more than it injures the hated.”
~**Coretta Scott King**

28th FEBRUARY - WEDNESDAY

And now, compassionate God, I pray for your mercy, as you instructed in your own words, “Make offerings in the name of God’s salvation and you shall be made holy, for I want contrition not sacrifice.” Be exalted anew in remembrance of this offering in incense, for everything is in you, and everything is from you. To you glory from all.

~**Saint Gregory of Narek**

29th FEBRUARY - THURSDAY

“Won’t it be wonderful when black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of U.S. history is taught from one book. Just U.S. history.”

~**Maya Angelou**

1st MARCH - FRIDAY

“Racism is man’s gravest threat to man – the maximum of hatred for a minimum of reason.”

~**Abraham Joshua Heschel**

2nd MARCH - SATURDAY

“How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.”

~**George Washington Carver**

WEEKLY PRAYERS

PRAYER OF SAINT WALBURGA

St. Walburga, by your blessed life of love, God blessed you with the power to heal to make whole the soul as well as the body. Beg for us what we cannot obtain for ourselves and heal our world of sickness and sorrow. May God hear you who lived so graciously for His glory and send us the healing grace we need through your powerful intercession. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

(Indulgence of 300 days)

O God, Who didst teach blessed Gabriel to have the sorrows of Thy most dear Mother in perpetual remembrance, and through her didst glorify him with the fame of holiness and miracles; grant unto us, by his intercession and example, so to share the sorrows of Thy Mother that we may be saved by her maternal protection: Who live and reign world without end. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT ALEXANDER

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we may venerate fittingly the memory of the Bishop blessed Alexander, and, as you willed that his word and example should benefit those over whom he presided, so may we always experience the support of his intercession before you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT CHAD

Almighty God, whose servant Chad, for the peace of the Church, relinquished cheerfully the honors that had been thrust upon him, only to be rewarded with equal responsibility: Keep us, we pray, from thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, and ready at all times to step aside for others. Amen.





SAINT GABRIEL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

(FeastDay - February 27)

Born in Italy into a large family and baptized Francis, Saint Gabriel lost his mother when he was only four years old. He was educated by the Jesuits and, having been cured twice of serious illnesses, came to believe that God was calling him to the religious life. Young Francis wished to join the Jesuits but was turned down, probably because of his age, not yet 17. Following the death of a sister to cholera, his resolve to enter religious life became even stronger and he was accepted by the Passionists. Upon entering the novitiate he was given the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows.

Ever popular and cheerful, Gabriel quickly was successful in his effort to be faithful in little things. His spirit of prayer, love for the poor, consideration of the feelings of others, exact observance of the Passionist Rule as well as his bodily penances—always subject to the will of his wise superiors—made a deep impression on everyone. His superiors had great expectations of Gabriel as he prepared for the priesthood, but after only four years of religious life symptoms of tuberculosis appeared. Ever obedient, he patiently bore the painful effects of the disease and the restrictions it required, seeking no special notice. He died peacefully on February 27, 1862, at age 24, having been an example to both young and old. Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows was canonized in 1920.

SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL

(FeastDay - March 1)

In 1891, Saint Katharine Drexel left her life as an heiress behind when she became a nun. She subsequently founded the order of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and used her fortune to create new schools for Native Americans and African Americans across the United States. Drexel was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 26, 1858. Her father, Francis Anthony Drexel, was a business partner of financier J.P. Morgan. Her mother, Hannah Jane (née Langstroth) Drexel, died a month after Drexel's birth; in 1860, her father was married again, to Emma Bouvier. In addition to their great wealth, her parents were known for their philanthropic endeavors. Drexel was raised as a young heiress in Philadelphia and was educated at home. However, having traveled throughout the United States,

she was aware of the difficult circumstances faced by Native Americans and African Americans across the country. Drexel — who lost her stepmother in 1883 and her father in 1885 — wanted to use her inherited wealth to help these groups.

Drexel supported several schools, including one that was located on a reservation in South Dakota. During a trip to Europe in 1887, she met Pope Leo XIII and asked him to recommend a religious order that could send missionaries to the institutions she was funding. He suggested that Drexel might undertake the missionary work herself. In 1889, Drexel entered religious life as a novice under the training of the Sisters of Mercy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She took her final vows in 1891. With the help of a few other nuns, she founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People (later known simply as the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament). The order would use Drexel's fortune to fund its work. Drexel and 15 of her fellow sisters set up a school for Native Americans in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 1894. This was followed by the creation of other schools throughout the Southwest, including ones on reservations. Drexel's order also opened many schools for African-American children. She founded a secondary school for African Americans in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1915. Ten years later, the institution became Xavier University.

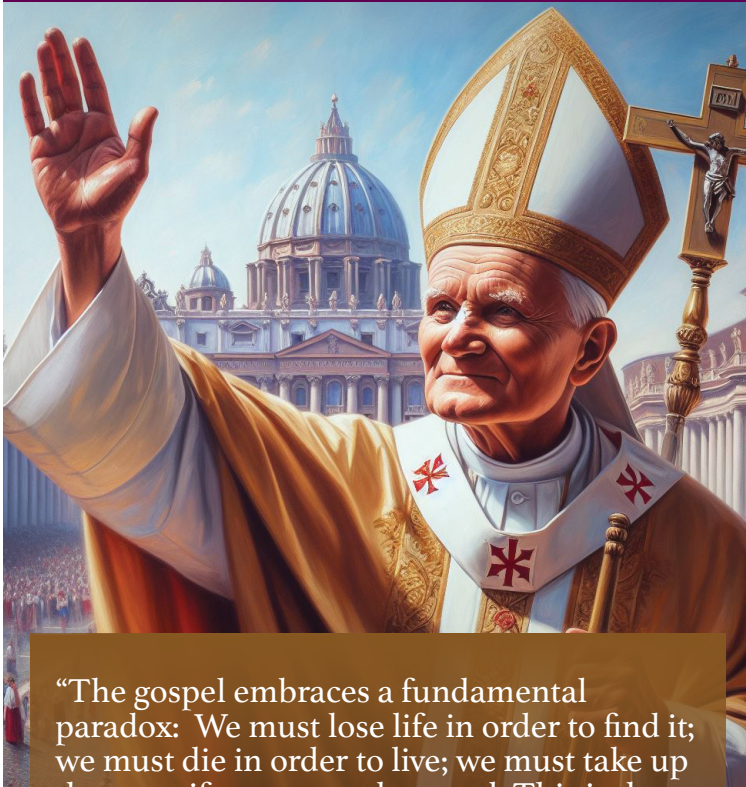
Drexel suffered a heart attack in 1935; two years later, she gave up the leadership of her order. She died at the age of 96 on March 3, 1955, in Cornwell Heights, Pennsylvania. During her life she had given approximately 20 million dollars to help people in need. Drexel's order had more than 500 members at the time of her death. With her assistance, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament had opened 145 missions, 49 elementary schools and 12 high schools. Today, the order continues its missionary and educational work. In the 1960s, the Catholic church began the process of considering Drexel for sainthood. She was beatified in 1988 after the Vatican found that prayers to Drexel had restored a teenager's hearing. In 2000, she was credited with a second cure; Pope John Paul II canonized her as Saint Katharine Drexel later that same year.





Weekly HIGHLIGHT

Saint James Cathedral-Basilica



“The gospel embraces a fundamental paradox: We must lose life in order to find it; we must die in order to live; we must take up the cross if we want to be saved. This is the basic truth of the gospel, yet we continue to rebel against it.”

~ Pope John Paul II



BAPTISM

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



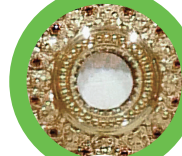
FAITH FORMATION

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.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION