

THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE

The Saint James Cathedral-Basilica Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time August 25, 2024



**SAINT JAMES
CATHEDRAL-BASILICA**

SCHEDULE:

Weekday Mass: Monday to Friday 12:00 PM

Sunday Mass: 11:00 AM

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament: Friday 11:00 AM

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

(Closed on Holidays & For Special Events)

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

Deacon Ronald Rizzuto, Pastoral Administrator

Mrs. Isabel Navarro, Secretary

Mrs. Rosa Paulsen-Williams, Secretary

Nick Martellacci, Music Director

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 SUMMER MINISTRY:
VISITING PRIEST AT SAINT JAMES CATHEDRAL-BASILICA
WHY SHOULD I LOVE THE CHURCH....**

Dear Friends and Parishioners of St. James, Shalom !!

Today, the Church is misunderstood on many areas of the society. Like a family, the Church too is not perfect, but it is created by a perfect God! There may be things that some dislike about the Church on a whole, there may be scandals and aberrations, because it also is a human reality as it is a divine initiative; all may not act as they are expected to, even the authorities, who are entrusted with the task of shepherding the flock, may seem to go astray, there may be occasions of scandalous mismanagement in the temporal administration of Church's properties.... but all the same, there are many things to admire and love about the Church too!

Here are a few points for us to ponder –

- The Church belongs to Jesus. He purchased it with His own precious blood.
- The Church is precious to Jesus. We are the bride of Christ.
- In the Church, a holy God is worshipped (Lk. 4:8).
- In the church, Word of God is preached, God's infallible Book is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy. 2: 16).
- The Church is generous and caring. Church rises up first to communities in need with tangible evidence of Christ's love.
- The Church goes to the entire world spreading the Good News.
- The Church encourages, teaches and builds one another up in the knowledge and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes! There are many reasons to love the Church despite her imperfections, falls and failures. She has withstood many trials, faced many challenges, overcome many hurdles, and still stands after 2000 years, and will remain until Christ returns! For this longevity, I love the church; for the inspirations from great souls of men and women the Church has given birth to, I love the Church. The Church has some of the best people I have come to know, and for this I love the Church!

We have more reasons to love the Church than to dislike it. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, "no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father". This statement of Jesus says it all! Despite her imperfections and faults, the Church is a community gathered together by the Heavenly Father. It is He who has called us, weak and fragile that we are!

As Pope John 23rd says, "IT IS HIS CHURCH, HE WILL TAKE CARE OF IT".

Happy Sunday and Blessed week!

Fr. Joshy Vazhappilly CMI



READING I : Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

(Proclaimed in Spanish)

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: "If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." But the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD for the service of other gods. For it was the LORD, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Response: TE ALABAMOS, SEÑOR

RESPONSORIAL PSALM : 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21



READING II : Ephesians 5:21-32

Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

GOSPEL: John 6:60-69

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time B - Gloria

Open: 849 - All people that on earth do dwell

Offertory: 788 - Servant song

Communion: 925 - Take the bread, children

Recession: 775 - The Kingdom of God vv 3, 4

Postlude: Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott Lässt Walten - Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Postlude: Erbarm Dich Mein - Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 25, 2024

"You have the words of eternal life." Could God be calling you to be a vessel of his eternal love and wisdom that guides and inspires others? Follow Him into a life of service to others as a priest or religious brother or sister. Talk to your priest or reach out to **Fr. Christopher J. Bethge**, the Vocations Director at (718) 827-2454 or vocations@diobrook.org

Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Sacrament of Marriage should be celebrated. All couples regardless of the anniversary year are invited to renew their vows. Bring your family to witness your exchange and the continued commitment to one another.

Saturday, September 28, 2024
11:30 AM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church
1550 Hendrickson Street, Brooklyn

Information is due by September 15, 2024

For More information on registration and payment options
Please email: precana@diobrook.org
Visit: <https://learn.bqfaith.org>



ST. JAMES SUMMER MINISTER REV. JOSHY VAZHAPPILLY CMI August 25, Sunday, 11 AM



We have been truly blessed to have **Rev. Joshy Vazhappilly CMI** as our summer minister throughout the month of August. His dedication and spiritual guidance have touched many hearts here at St. James. As he prepares to return to his mission in India after the Holy Mass on **Sunday, August 25th**, we invite you to join us for Mass today as an expression of our gratitude. Let us come together as a community to wish Fr. Joshy a safe and peaceful journey. We are deeply thankful for his service. We continue pray that, with God's grace, we will have the joy of welcoming him back to St. James next summer. Until then, may his mission in India continue to flourish, bringing hope and light to all those he serves.

St. James Cathedral-Basilica

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION HOUR OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

You are invited to join us to spend time with Jesus during Eucharistic Adoration Hour of the Blessed Sacrament.
Every Friday at 11:00 AM
(before the Noon Mass)

Eucharistic Adoration offers a profound opportunity to deepen our faith and share intimate moments with Jesus. In the stillness and silence, we can open our hearts to His grace, seek His guidance, and find solace in His presence. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing in this beautiful time of worship together.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY: August 25, 2024	MONDAY: August 26, 2024	TUESDAY: August 27, 2024
Patricia Cole	Robert Stanislaro	Patricia Borruso
WEDNESDAY: August 28, 2024	THURSDAY: August 29, 2024	FRIDAY: August 30, 2024
Shouriah Karnati	Mary Conely	Joseph R. Lyons
LECTORS	August 25, 2024 Beatrice DiCostanzo & Elina Cruz	September 1, 2024 Beatrice DiCostanzo & Cadidad Perez
COFFEE HOUR	August 25, 2024 (Enjoy your Summer) No Coffee Hour	September 1, 2024 (Enjoy your Summer) No Coffee Hour



YOUR DAILY CAMINO

25th AUGUST - SUNDAY

"There are some of you who do not believe and have faith."

~John 6: 64

26th AUGUST- MONDAY

"Let no one be shaken by these trials, for you know that they are our lot."

~Saint Paul

27th AUGUST- TUESDAY

"Charity is no substitute for justice withheld."

~Saint Augustine

28th AUGUST - WEDNESDAY

"Nothing is far from God."

~Saint Monica

29th AUGUST - THURSDAY

"I would rather see you dead at my feet than guilty of a mortal sin."

~Saint Louis King of France

30th AUGUST - FRIDAY

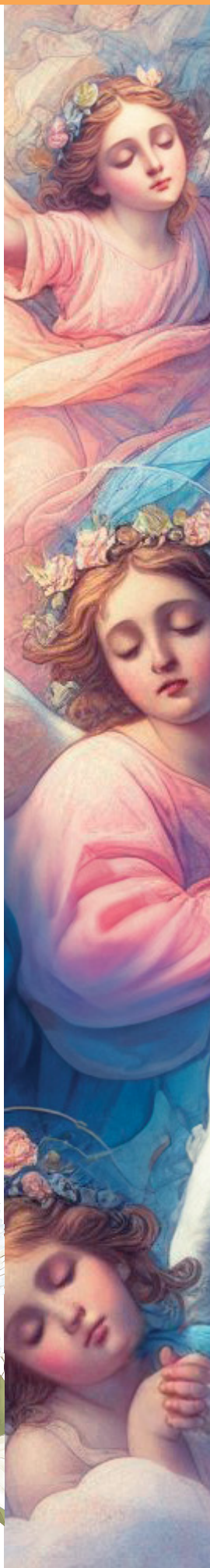
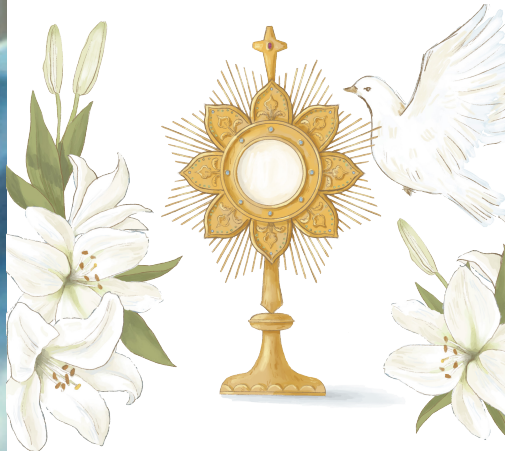
"No man chooses evil because it is evil; he only mistakes it for happiness, the good he seeks."

~Mary Shelley

31st AUGUST - SATURDAY

"We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity."

~Dr. Maria Montessori



WEEKLY PRAYERS

(SAINTS OBVIOUS AND UNFAMILIAR)

PRAYER OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

O God, who hast made to be honorable in our eyes Saint John the Baptist, grant unto Thy people the grace of spiritual joy, and direct the minds of all Thy faithful into the way of everlasting salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, That my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, That my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, That I love but what is holy. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT MONICA

God, Comforter of the afflicted, You accepted St. Monica's tears to bring about the conversion of her son St. Augustine. Through their intercession, grant that we may have contrition for our sins and experience the grace of Your pardon. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT LOUIS KING OF FRANCE

St. Louis King of France, you saw your kingly role as being the lieutenant of God on earth. Please bring my petitions before God Whom you sought to glorify! Pray for me, that I may always serve God as He calls me to in my life. Pray that I may always seek to glorify God in my worldly work. Amen.

PRAYER OF POPE SAINT ZEPHYRINUS

O almighty God, grant, we beseech Thee, to us who rejoice in the merits of blessed Zephyrinus, Thy martyr and bishop, that we may profit by the example of his life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT MOSES THE BLACK

Almighty God, whose blessed Son dost guide our footsteps into the way of peace: Deliver us from paths of hatred and violence, that we, following the example of thy servant Moses the Black, may serve thee with singleness of heart and attain to the tranquility of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reign with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

ST. AUGUSTINE

BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Feast Day - August 28

He would follow various philosophers, only to become disillusioned with their teachings. For nine years he was associated with the Manichean sect. But he gradually became aware that Manicheism was unable to provide satisfactory answers to his probing questions.

At this time, Augustine was teaching rhetoric in Milan. He went to hear the preaching of Saint Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan. At first he went only to hear Ambrose's eloquent style of speaking. But the Bishop's preaching led Augustine to a new understanding of the Bible and the Christian Faith.

Some time in the year 386, Augustine and his friend Alypius were spending time in Milan. While outdoors, Augustine heard the voice of a child singing a song, the words of which were, "Pick it up and read it. Pick it up and read it." He thought at first that the song was related to some kind of children's game, but could not remember ever having heard such a song before.

Then, realizing that this song might be a command from God to open and read the Scriptures, he located a Bible, picked it up, opened it and read the first passage he saw. It was from the Letter of Paul to the Romans. Augustine read:

"Not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual excess and lust, not in quarreling and jealousy. Rather, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." --Romans 13: 13-14

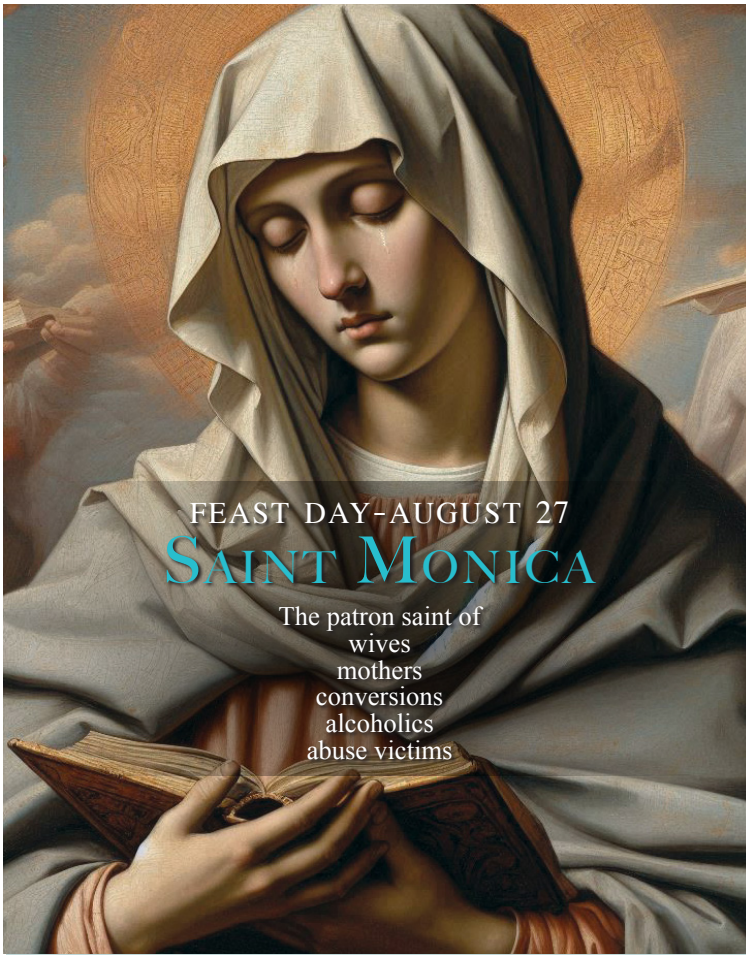
Reading this scripture, Augustine felt as if his heart were flooded with light. He turned totally from his life of sin. He was Baptized by Ambrose during the Easter Vigil April 24, 387. His friend Alypius and his son Adeodatus were Baptized at the same time.

Later, reflecting on this experience, Augustine wrote his famous prayer: You have made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. He went on to become a powerful influence on the spirituality and theology of the Christian Church.

(Courtesy of midwestaugustinians.org)



The Conversion of St. Augustine



FEAST DAY-AUGUST 27
SAINT MONICA

The patron saint of
wives
mothers
conversions
alcoholics
abuse victims

The Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St. Monica on Aug. 27. She is the mother of Doctor of the Church Saint Augustine of Hippo and is particularly known for her perseverance in prayer. Here are some facts about this incredible saint, which will surely inspire your faith in God's omnipotent power!

1) Saint Monica's example converted her husband and mother-in-law. Even though this fourth-century saint was a Christian, her parents gave her away to a man named Patritius. Both he and his mother were pagans with violent tempers. Saint Monica endured this with patience and kindness, and her example eventually led to their conversion to Christianity.

2) She prayed for Saint Augustine for 17 years before his conversion. Saint Monica is most known for her perseverance in prayer. Her son, Saint Augustine of Hippo, lived a life of immorality, most notably that of lust and impurity, before converting to Catholicism. Throughout these years, she endured tremendous suffering. Augustine rejected her on multiple accounts, but she continued to love, pray, and nurture her son throughout his wayward time.

3) She felt discouraged but never gave up. Saint Monica cried many times over her son's transgressions but received affirmation from God on several accounts. Saint Monica had a dream of herself weeping over her son, and a figure told her that he was still with her. In his autobiography, "The Confessions of Saint Augustine," St. Augustine wrote, "that it was my soul's doom she was lamenting..." The figure told St. Monica to have peace, and "see that where she was there I was also." Saint Monica also received encouragement from a local bishop, who told her that "God's time will come." He added, "Go now, I beg you; it is not possible that the son of so many tears should perish."

4) She knew her purpose in life. Saint Monica wept, prayed, and sacrificed for her son for many years. Her greatest desire in life was to see her son's conversion to Catholicism, and once this happened, she believed she fulfilled her purpose. She said to Augustine just a few days before she contracted a fever, which resulted in her death: "My son, speaking of myself, nothing earthly delights me any longer. I do not know why I am still here or why I should remain here. I have no further earthly desires."

(Courtesy of churchpop.com)

SAINT MOSES THE BLACK

After many years of monastic exploits, Saint Moses the Black was ordained deacon. The bishop clothed him in white vestments and said, "Now Abba Moses is entirely white!" The saint replied, "Only outwardly, for God knows that I am still dark within."

Through humility, the saint believed himself unworthy of the office of deacon. Once, the bishop decided to test him and he bade the clergy to drive him out of the altar, reviling him as an unworthy Ethiopian. In all humility, the monk accepted the abuse. Having put him to the test, the bishop then ordained Saint Moses to the priesthood. Saint Moses labored for fifteen years in this rank, and gathered 75 disciples around himself.

When the saint reached the age of 75, he warned his monks that soon brigands would descend upon the Skete monastery and murder all those who remained there. The saint blessed his monks to leave, in order to avoid violent death. His disciples begged the saint to leave with them, but he replied: "For many years now, I have awaited the time when the words spoken by my Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, should be fulfilled: 'All who take up the sword, shall perish by the sword'" (Matt. 26: 52). After this, seven of the brethren remained with Saint Moses, and one of them hid nearby during the attack of the robbers. The robbers killed Saint Moses the Black and the six monks who remained with him.

(Courtesy of oca.org)



FEAST DAY-AUGUST 28
THE PATRON SAINT OF
NON-VIOLENCE