

THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE



March 8, 2026 | Third Sunday of Lent

* Parish founded in 1822 * Designated Cathedral in 1853 * Elevated to Minor Papal Basilica in 1982



The CATHEDRAL BASILICA of SAINT JAMES

MASS TIMES

Monday - Friday: 12:00 Noon
Weekday Solemnity: 11:00 AM
Saturday : Closed
Sunday : 11:00 AM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday: 11:00 AM
(Temporarily paused due to construction through April, 2026)

CONFESSION

Friday: Immediately after the Noon Mass

WATCH THE LIVE MASS ON TV

Monday - Friday: 12:00 Noon
Verizon FiOS: channel 48 | Spectrum: channel 97
Optimum: channel 30

LIVE-STREAMED ON THE INTERNET

<https://netny.tv>

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed on Holidays & For Special Events)



FROM THE RECTOR AT SAINT JAMES CATHEDRAL BASILICA

To the faithful parishioners of St. James Cathedral,

We live in a world that moves very quickly and invites us all to be too busy. Our daily lives are defined by instant gratification and a desire for “creature” comfort. Our experience may make it seem as if the ancient Catholic practice of fasting, a sacrifice we all make during the Lenten season, may seem like a holdover from a bygone era. However, within the framework of Catholic spirituality, fasting is far from an empty ritual of deprivation. It is a profound experience designed to fashion our souls, deepen our relationship with Christ, and express solidarity with the suffering. The importance of Catholic fasting does not lie in hunger itself, but in the spiritual growth that hunger creates.

At its core, Catholic fasting is an act of imitation and participation in the life of Christ. The Gospels tell us of Jesus’ fasting for forty days and forty nights in the desert before beginning his public ministry. By fasting, we are not merely “giving something up”; we enter into the wilderness with Christ. Fasting reflects a fundamental theological truth: that human beings do not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Fasting serves as a form of “spiritual Olympics.” Just as an athlete “fasts” from certain comforts to strengthen the body for a race, the Christian fasts to strengthen the will. In the Book of Genesis, Adam and Eve eat the “forbidden fruit” and give into the temptation of a physical appetite and so disobey God. Fasting, therefore, acts as a means of retraining the soul to prioritize spiritual hunger over physical desire.

One of the most practical reasons for fasting is learning how to control greedy desires. In our consumer culture, we are conditioned to satisfy every impulse immediately. If we are hungry, we eat; if we are bored, we look for entertainment. This is a temptation leads to an understanding in which “I” become the center of the universe. Fasting helps break this cycle. It serves as a reminder that we are not slaves to our natural impulses. When a we feel the hunger and consciously chooses to delay gratification for a higher purpose, we are reclaiming our freedom. St. Augustine famously said that fasting “purifies the soul, elevates the mind, and subordinates the flesh to the spirit.” By silencing the clamor of the body, the “still, small voice” of God becomes easier to hear. It is a form of prayer with the body, expressing a physical longing for God that words often fail to capture.

Catholic fasting is also a social responsibility. The Prophet Isaiah challenged those who fasted while continuing to oppress their workers, suggesting that the “true fast” is to “loose the chains of injustice” and “share your food with the hungry.”

For the Catholic, fasting is linked to charity. The logic is simple and beautiful: the money or resources saved by abstaining from a meal should be donated to those who have no choice but to be hungry. In this sense, fasting is an act of solidarity. It bridges the gap between the privileged and the marginalized. It transforms a private spiritual practice into a public act of charity. By experiencing a small measure of physical need, the faithful unite our hearts with the poor, recognizing Christ in the face of the hungry.

The Church organizes the liturgical year around the tension between fasting and feasting. The season of Lent is a time of penance and preparation, leading to the great joy of Easter. This reflects the reality of human experience. We cannot truly appreciate the feast if we have not known the hunger. Fasting heightens our sense of gratitude. When we break a fast, the food is not just nourishment; it is a gift. This perspective guards against the sin of ingratitude and helps us view the world through a lens of sacramental grace, where even the simplest meal is seen as a gift from a loving Creator.

The importance of Catholic fasting goes beyond the mere skipping of a meal. It is a spiritual practice that engages the body, mind, and spirit. It is a humble sacrifice, a bridge to the poor, and a pathway to deeper unity with God. Through the voluntary acceptance of hunger, we find fullness. As the physical body goes without, the spiritual life is strengthened. While we might have an empty stomach, the soul learns to feast on the presence of God, proving that the greatest nourishment is often found in the things we choose to leave behind.

~Fr. Joseph R. Gibino



Cathedral Basilica of St. James PARISH STAFF

Bishop

Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, D. D.

Rector

Very Rev. Joseph R. Gibino, STM, Ph.D.

Pastoral Administrator

Deacon Ronald Rizzuto

Business Manager

Alfie Santos

Secretary

Mrs. Isabel Navarro

Secretary & Book Keeper

Mrs. Rosa Paulsen-Williams

Music Director

Nick Martellacci

Creative Director & Sacristan

Mrs. Beeyean Santos

VOCATION OFFICE

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A
PRIEST OR A RELIGIOUS SISTER OR BROTHER?



If you think that God may be calling you to be a priest, religious sister, or brother, please call or email me. I would love to hear from you! Fr. Chris Bethge



For more information please call the Vocation Office
Ph: 718-827-2454 Email: vocations@diobrook.org



FB: Vocations Brooklyn Diocese



Instagram: brooklynpriests

Email: vocations@diobrook.org
www.brooklynpriests.org

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

SERVING BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

VOCATION OFFICE



"For I know well the plans I have
in mind for you, plans for your
welfare and not for woe, plans to
give you a future full of hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

7200 Douglaston Parkway

Douglaston, NY 11362

Vocation Office: 718-827-2454

Rev. Christopher J. Bethge

Vocation Director

READINGS OF THE WEEK

MAR 8 -MAR 15

SUNDAY

March 8

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4:5-42

MONDAY

March 9

Third Week of Lent

2 Kings 5:1-15ab
Luke 4:24-30

TUESDAY

March 10

Third Week of Lent

Daniel 3:25, 34-43
Matthew 18:21-35

WEDNESDAY

March 11

Third Week of Lent

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9
Matthew 5:17-19

THURSDAY

March 12

Third Week of Lent

Jeremiah 7:23-28
Luke 11:14-23

FRIDAY

March 13

Third Week of Lent

Hosea 14:2-10
Mark 12:28-34

SATURDAY

March 14

Third Week of Lent

Hosea 6:1-6
Luke 18:9-14

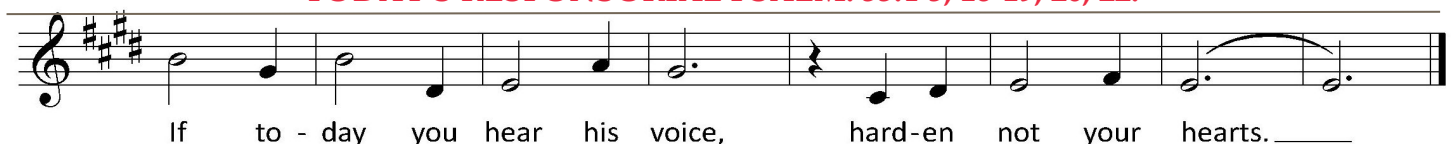
SUNDAY

March 15

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4:5-42

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22.



If to - day you hear his voice, hard-en not your hearts. _____

Lent III - A

Open: 561 - From ashes to the Living Font incl wk 3 verse

Offertory: 768 - I heard the voice of Jesus say

Communion: 920 - Life-giving bread, saving cup

Anthem: Eternal Lord of Love

Recession: 956 - The Master came to bring Good News

Erbarm Dich Mein by JS Bach

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 8, 2026

"But whoever drinks the water I shall give, will never thirst."

Are you thirsting for an understanding of your vocation? If you think Jesus may be inviting you to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office, Fr. Christopher J. Bethge, at (718) 827-2454 or email, vocations@diobrook.org

Join Us for the Rosary

Every Sunday During Lent
February 20th - March 27th, 2026

During the holy season of Lent, the Rosary will be prayed immediately following the **11:00 AM Mass**. All parishioners are warmly invited to remain after Mass and join in this beautiful devotion as we meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life, deepen our Lenten prayer, and prepare our hearts for Easter.

Let us journey together in prayer during this sacred season.

Every Friday During Lent PRAYER OF THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS February 20th - March 27th, 2026

Join us at St. James Cathedral Basilica **Every Friday** during Lent for the Stations of the Cross, as we prayerfully meditate on the Passion and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. This sacred devotion takes place **immediately following the Noon Mass**, offering a meaningful time for spiritual reflection and preparation for the joy of Easter. All are warmly invited to walk this journey of faith together.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 3/08/2026	Birthday Wishes for Fook Chin Yong
MONDAY 3/09/2026	Leema Rose Karnati
TUESDAY 3/10/2026	Fr. Mark Beard
WEDNESDAY 3/11/2026	Miguel Angel Rodriguez
THURSDAY 3/12/2026	Armando Ballesteros
FRIDAY 3/13/2026	For the Special Intentions of Teresa Sanderson

LECTORS	COFFEE HOURS
3/08/2026 Lindia White Elina Cruz	Coffee Hour Potluck style Bring a dish & share a smile
3/15/2026 Mireyda Reyes Candida Perez	Coffee Hour Potluck style Bring a dish & share a smile

Liturgy, Music, Art, and Architecture
Commissions Diocese of Brooklyn

DIOCESAN LITURGICAL MINISTERS TRAINING WORKSHOPS 2026

**MAY
2**

ST. EDMUND PREP HS

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion,
Lectors, and Ministers of Hospitality, and
Altar Server Moderators
9 AM - 3:30 PM

Scan QR Code
for registration or go to:
<https://bqfaith.org/>



Tenebrae Evening Prayer

HOLY WEDNESDAY
The Cathedral Basilica of St. James
April 1, 2026
7pm



On Wednesday of Holy Week we will hold a Service of Tenebrae at 7 o'clock in the evening. Tenebrae is a "service of darkness" that takes place in a dimly lit church. As the service draws to a close the altar candles are gradually extinguished. This Vespers service will have the traditional evening psalms and chants with responses sung by the congregation. Fr. Joe will preside and offer a brief meditation. Deacon Ron will assist. Our professional schola will sing the chants and anthems. Please consider joining us for this calm prelude to the high drama of the Triduum.

SUPPORT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL BASILICA ONLINE

Thank you for your
support and generosity!



SCAN THE QR CODE



ONLINE GIVING

CALLING ALL CATHOLIC MEN
18 AND OLDER TO CONSIDER
JOINING THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS

JUST GO TO
www.kofc.org
AND HIT (JOIN US)



CANDLELIGHT WAY OF THE CROSS

Uniamoci per la bellissima devozione della Via Crucis
pregato in italiano per le strade di Bensonhurst, Brooklyn.

Unámonos todos a participar en la hermosa
devoción del Via Crucis, rezado en italiano en las
calles de Bensonhurst, Brooklyn.
Para más información, llame.

让我们相聚一起，在布鲁克林宾臣墟的街道上，用意大利语共同诵念这美好的苦路敬礼。详情请咨询南神父。

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3, 2025
beginning at 7:30pm

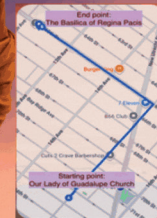
Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio
Bishop Emeritus of Brooklyn presiding



All are welcome to the beautiful Italian devotion
of the Candlelight Way of the Cross
through the streets of Brooklyn.
We ask all participants to carry a candle.

The procession will **begin** at
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church at
7201 15th Ave, 718 236 8300

The procession will **end** at
The Basilica of Regina Pacis
1230 65th St, 718 236 0909



Sponsoring Parishes:

St. Athanasius - St. Dominic, St. Bernadette, The Basilica of Regina Pacis, Our Lady of Guadalupe,
St. Mary, Mother of Jesus, St. Finbar, St. Simon & Jude - Most Precious Blood

THE BRIDGE TO LIFE

34th Anniversary Gala

Honoring:

- *Monsignor Sean Ogle
- *DeSales Media
- *Rev. Father Krystian Piasta
- *Teresa Kalliath, Esq.
- *JFK Terminal 4 Executive Team Members
- *Knights of Columbus Chaplain / St. Joan of Arc #441

SATURDAY **21** 12:00 PM
MARCH

LEONARD'S PALAZZO
555 NORTHERN BLVD
GREAT NECK, NY 11021

*Early Bird Tickets\$125 (Ends 2/28/26) Individual Tickets\$150 (Starts 3/1/26)

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Journal Ad

RSVP: 3/7/25 events@thebridgetolife.org

14-02 124th Street, College Point, NY 11356 718-463-1810



Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn

Pro Vita Mass

Sponsored by the Long Island Chapter Knights of Columbus

Join the Knights of Columbus of Kings and Queens Counties as we
celebrate the gift of life and pray for a respect for life at all stages.

PRESENTING

THE FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY MEDAL FOR LIFE
VERY REVEREND PATRICK J. KEATING, ESQ.

THE BISHOP THOMAS VOSE DAILY PRO VITA AWARDS
DEACON JAMES J. GIORGIO (KINGS COUNTY)
SIR KNIGHT BORIS MUSICH (QUEENS COUNTY)

Sunday, April 26, 2026, 11:00am Mass
St. James Cathedral-Basilica, Brooklyn

home of the BISHOP THOMAS V. DAILY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #17000



S.K. Fr. Michael L. Gelfant, PGK, New York State Chaplain
S.K. Paul Eggert, Chairman, Long Island Chapter
S.K. Louis Pepe, PGK, FDD, PFN, NYS Religious Activities Director
For More Information: 718.634.6357

f /KofCBklynQns



DIOCESAN LENTEN PILGRIMAGE 2026

FOR QUESTIONS:

ILGRIMAGE@DIOBROOK.ORG

718-965-7313

TAKE A PILGRIMAGE
TO PARISHES
THROUGHOUT THE
DIOCESE OF
BROOKLYN THIS
LENTEN SEASON.

The pilgrimage invites people to visit a different parish each day, except Sundays, during Lent. This year, parishes are designated for specific days on the itinerary where people can visit to experience the church's beauty and the community's beauty. At each stop, pilgrims can join local parishioners at Mass, or in Eucharistic Adoration, prayer, and reflection.

APPLE APP STORE



GOOGLE PLAY STORE



FEBRUARY

- 18- St. James Basilica, Bk - **Ash Wednesday**
- 19- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Qns
- 20- Our Lady of Miracles, Bk
- 21- Our Lady of the Cenacle, Qns
- 23- Mary Queen of Heaven, Bk
- 24- St. Thomas the Apostle, Qns
- 25- Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bk
- 26- St. Joan of Arc, Qns
- 27- Mary, Mother of the Church (at St. Gabriel), Bk
- 28- St. Elizabeth, Qns

MARCH

- 2- St. Anastasia, Qns
- 3- St. Gabriel, Qns
- 4- Holy Cross, Bk
- 5- Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, Qns
- 6- St. Catherine of Alexandria
- 7- St. Edmund, Bk
- 9- St. Columba, Bk
- 10- St. Mary, Mother of Jesus, Bk
- 11- St. Martin of Tours (at St. Peter Claver), Bk
- 12- St. John Vianney, Qns
- 13- St. Margaret, Qns
- 14- St. Catherine of Genoa, Bk
- 16- Queen of All Saints, Bk
- 17- St. Patrick, Qns- **St. Patrick's Feast Day**
- 18- St. Thomas Aquinas, Flatlands
- 19- Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph, Bk- **Feast of St. Joseph**
- 20- San Damiano Mission, Bk

- 20- St. Vincent Ferrera, Bk
- 21- Holy Child Jesus-St. Benedict Joseph Labre, Qns
- 23- Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bk
- 24- Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Qns
- 25- St. Helen, Qns
- 26- St. Athanasius-St. Dominic (at St. Athanasius), Bk
- 27- Our Lady of Mercy, Bk
- 28- St. Francis of Assisi, Astoria, Qns
- 30- **RECONCILIATION MONDAY**
- 31- St. John the Baptist (at Our Lady of Good Counsel), Bk

APRIL

- 1- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary-St. Stanislaus, Qns



Palm Sunday Brunch

To help us prepare,
your gracious RSVP is
requested by

March 22, 2025

Hosanna in the Highest!

St. James Cathedral Basilica

250 Cathedral Place
Brooklyn, NY 11201

\$15 Per Person

Date: March 29, 2026

Time: After 11:00 am Mass

Location: Pavilion across Jay Street

Palm Sunday Brunch RSVP

Full Name: _____

Number of People: _____

Phone: _____

\$15 per person

RSVP required to help us prepare. Please submit your completed form & payment to the parish staff. Deadline: Sunday, March 22, 2026