

THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE



March 29, 2026 | Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

** 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 are entering into the holiest week of the Lenten season. For forty-days through liturgical prayer, self-sacrifice, and charity, we have been preparing our hearts for the celebration of Easter. While these Lenten disciplines are essential, the Church highlights the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) as the cornerstone of this season, offering an encounter with God's mercy and a vital means of spiritual renewal. It is a time when the call to "repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mark 1:15) is most meaningful, encouraging a profound turning away from sin and a renewed dedication to God. In order to help us all come to the sacrament, here in our Tri-Diocesan area we will celebrate Reconciliation Monday on March, 30, 2026. Churches throughout the Diocese of Brooklyn will be open throughout the day and during the evening for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The primary importance of the Sacrament of Penance during Lent lies in its ability to reconcile the penitent with God, restoring grace and healing the soul. Sin, whether mortal or venial, harms our relationship with God and weakens the communal life of the Church. During Lent, this sacrament allows the faithful to "come clean," removing the obstacles—such as selfishness, vice, or negligence—that hinder a deep, intimate connection with our Creator. During the sacrament, believers hear the comforting words of absolution from the priest, lifting the burden of guilt and providing profound peace.

Furthermore, the Sacrament of Penance is essential to Lenten preparation because it facilitates true spiritual transformation. It is not merely a formality or a "torture chamber" of guilt, as Pope Francis has noted, but rather an encounter with the Lord's mercy. By confessing sins aloud, individuals are forced to engage in a "searching and fearless moral inventory," identifying the hidden compromises in their lives. This process of examining one's conscience helps break the patterns of sin and strengthens the will, making it easier to combat temptations. The grace received in the sacrament strengthens virtue, turning the heart from a preoccupation with self to a renewed capacity to love God and neighbor.

Lent is often seen as a spiritual desert, a time of testing and imitation of Christ's 40 days in the wilderness. Regular confession during this time acts as a source of strength, transforming the passive "giving up" of luxuries into an active spiritual exercise of "taking up" virtue. For those burdened by serious sin, the sacrament is necessary for reconciling with the Church and restoring one's spiritual life. Even for those struggling with daily, venial sins, the sacrament offers "spiritual consolation," relieving anxiety and reinforcing the soul's desire to live in greater conformity with the Gospel.

The Church emphasizes this sacrament, with many parishes providing communal penance services, where the faithful can reflect on their collective and individual need for forgiveness. As the season of Lent draws to its conclusion, the sacrament reminds us that true repentance looks to the future, empowering the individual to begin again with a "gladness of a forgiven soul". The ultimate goal is to enter the joy of Easter, not just by having sins removed, but by being transformed from the inside out, having utilized the Lenten season to deepen one's friendship with God.

The Sacrament of Penance is essential during Lent because it brings healing to the "wound" of sin, fosters profound conversion, and prepares the heart for the Resurrection. It is the most natural and direct way to embrace the mercy of God, turning a time of prayer, self-sacrifice, and charity into a fruitful, life-changing experience. By receiving this sacrament, we do not just remember Christ's death—we participate in the restoration of life, allowing God to "wipe the soul clean" and prepare them for the glory of Easter. Please join us this Monday, March 30th at St. James Cathedral-Basilica from 1- 3 PM and at St. Charles Borromeo from 4- 6 PM and again from 7-8:30 PM for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

~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 29 - APR 05

SUNDAY

March 29

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

MONDAY

March 30

Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-7
John 12:1-11

TUESDAY

March 31

Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-6
John 13:21-33, 36-38

WEDNESDAY

April 1

Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Matthew 26:14-25

THURSDAY

April 2

The Lord's Supper

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-15

FRIDAY

April 3

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

SATURDAY

April 4

Easter Vigil

Genesis 1:1-2:2
Genesis 22:1-18
Exodus 14:15-15:1

SUNDAY

April 5

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-9

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24



With the Lord there is mer - cy, — and full-ness of re - demp-tion.

Lent V - A

Open: 561 - From ashes to the Living Font

Offertory: 931 - I am the bread of life

Communion: 907 - O breathe on me, O Breath of God

Anthem: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Recession: 872 - We shall rise again

Erbarm Dich Mein by JS Bach

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

March 29, 2026

"Truly, this was the Son of God!"

Are you being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? If you think this may be so, contact the Vocation Office,
Fr. Christopher J. Bethge, at (718) 827-2454 or email, vocations@diobrook.org



SAVE THE DATE
100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA
SUNDAY, MAY 24TH, 2026
6.00 PM
EL CARIBE COUNTRY CLUB CATERERS
5945 STRICKLAND AVENUE, BROOKLYN, N.Y.
CONTACT THE RECTORY FOR TICKETS
Church: 4402 Avenue D, Bklyn, N.Y.
Rectory: 824 East 45th Street, Bklyn, N.Y.
(718) 451-1500

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/>



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT :
7200 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, NY 11362
Tel: 718-281-9612 · E-mail: liturgy@diobrook.org

GOOD FRIDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE!

April 3, 2026

ABSTINENCE

(obliges one to abstain from flesh meat.)

"If prayer is a spiritual weapon, fasting is the spiritual whetstone on which it is sharpened. It's the spiritual muscle that, when exercised regularly, strengthens the thrust of that weapon to pierce the Enemy and drive him away."

Paul Thigpen - The Manual of Spiritual Warfare

Under the current Canon Law, fasting is obligatory at age 14 until death on Good Friday and recommended on Holy Saturday but not required.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 3/29/2026	Shouriah Karnati
MONDAY 3/30/2026	Innatiamma and Chinnaiyah Pothacamury
TUESDAY 3/31/2026	Anne Karnati
WEDNESDAY 4/01/2026	Erlinda Ramiscal
THURSDAY 4/02/2026	Holy Thursday Mass 7:30PM
FRIDAY 4/03/2026	The Lord's Passion 3:00PM (<i>No Mass</i>)
SATURDAY 4/04/2026	Louis Mallavarapu

	LECTORS	COFFEE HOURS
3/29/2026	Beatrice DiCostanzo Candida Perez	NO COFFEE HOUR (Palm Sunday Brunch)
4/02/2026	Lector (St. Charles) Elina Cruz	-
4/04/2026	Lector (St. Charles) Chul Lee, Candida Perez	-
4/05/2026	Diane Wilson Mireyda Reyes	NO COFFEE HOUR (HAPPY EASTER)

NO COFFEE HOUR

Sunday of April 5, 2026,
in observance of the **Easter Sunday**.

Coffee Hour will resume the following Sunday. Thank you for your understanding, and we invite everyone to join us in worship as we gather together to celebrate these holy and joyful occasions.

SUPPORT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL BASILICA ONLINE

Thank you for your
support and generosity!



SCAN THE QR CODE



ONLINE GIVING

The Legend of the Donkey's CROSS

It is said that the young donkey who carried Jesus through the cheering crowds into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday also followed him on his journey to Calvary.

When the Lord was crucified, the little donkey was so grief stricken that he had to turn his back but the loyal donkey could not leave.

The shadow of the cross fell across his back and shoulders and there it has always remained.



Join Us For Our Lenten Events

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Wednesdays at 7pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Sung chaplet, Silent Adoration & Benediction

Feb 25, March 4, 11 & 18

St. Athanasius Church

Lenten Lectio Divina

On the Sunday Gospels

7pm Fridays of Lent via ZOOM

Email stamusic100@gmail.com to receive the link



TAIZÉ PRAYER EVENING

Join us for a candlelit evening of sung prayer and silent meditation as we prepare for the Passion of Christ and the joy of the Resurrection.



Wednesday, March 25 at 7:30pm

St. Athanasius Church

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.



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



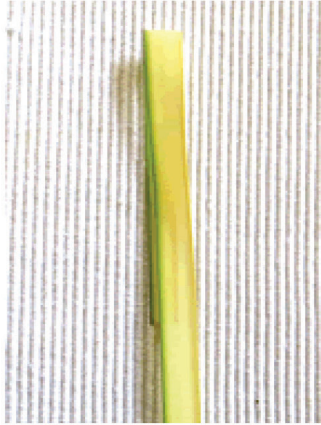
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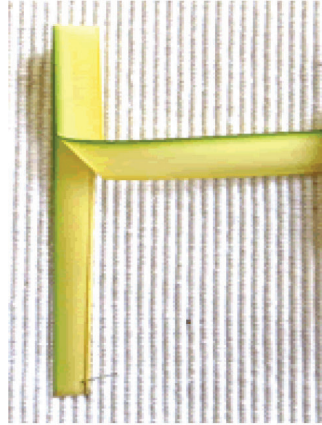
MAKE PALM CROSSES

Everyone always wants to know how to make palm crosses. Here is a simple way—a little tricky, perhaps, but once you've mastered it, it will be easy to do. Enjoy!

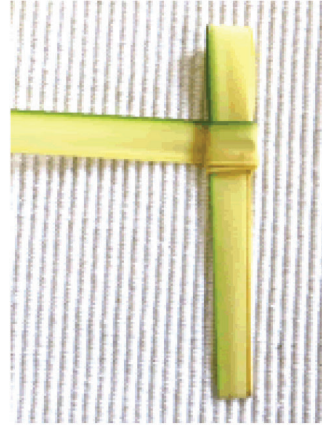
Most palm fronds are actually double; split the frond into two long separate strips. Remove any stringy bits.



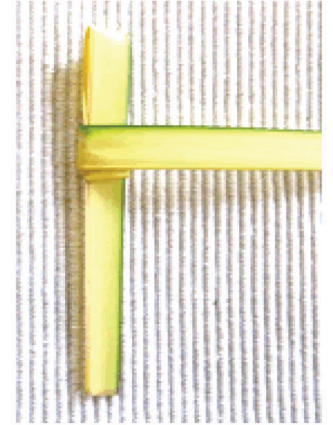
1. Hold palm pointing up; about 5-6 inches from the bottom, fold top over keeping the long part toward you.



2. About 1½-inches from the top, fold long end on the diagonal to the right, making a right angle.



3. Wrap the long end around the upright 2½ times; this is important!



4. Flip it over.



5. Make an arm about 1½–2-inches, folding the long end toward you.



6. Make second arm, folding on the left.



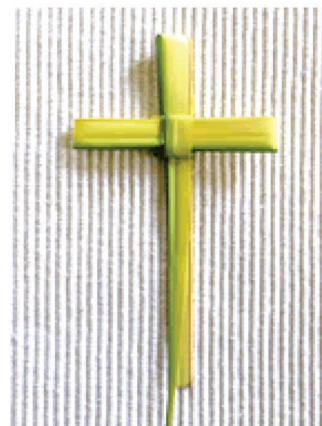
7. Make a diagonal fold so the long end points up.



8. Slip the point of the long end behind the center loops.



9. Loop the long end a 2nd time behind the center loops; pull taut to secure the cross. The top piece may be adjusted by pulling on the base.



Finished cross!

HOLY WEEK

Schedule 2026

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 29
SUNDAY MASS-ST. JAMES 11AM

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

MARCH 30
CONFESSION
ST. JAMES 1-3PM
ST. CHARLES 4-6PM
ST. CHARLES 7-8:30PM

HOLY WEDNESDAY

APRIL 1
TENEBRAE EVENING PRAYER-ST. JAMES 7PM

HOLY THURSDAY

APRIL 2
HOLY THURSDAY MASS-ST. JAMES 7:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3
THE WAY OF THE CROSS PROCESSION- ST. JAMES 10AM
(OVER THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE)
THE LORD'S PASSION-ST. JAMES 3PM
THE LORD'S PASSION-ST. CHARLES 3PM

EASTER VIGIL

APRIL 4
EASTER VIGIL MASS-ST. JAMES 7:30PM

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5
EASTER SUNDAY MASS-ST. JAMES 11AM
EASTER SUNDAY MASS-ST. CHARLES 9AM

NO NOON MASS ON HOLY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY
AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL



SAINT JAMES
CATHEDRAL BASILICA



St. Charles
Borromeo
Church
A Catholic Community
in the Heart of Brooklyn Heights