

THE SAINT JAMES EXPERIENCE



April 19, 2026 | Third Sunday of Easter

** 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)

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,

It is hard to believe that it has been a year since the death of Pope Francis. As the first anniversary of his passing approaches, April 21, 2025, let's take a look back at some of the events that have occurred. This first anniversary reminds us of the end of a significant era in Church history. Over the past year, the Church has navigated the delicate balance between honoring Francis's reform-minded legacy and addressing the internal pressures that built up during his twelve-year papacy. Since his passing, the Vatican has seen a shift in leadership style, a re-evaluation of key synodal reforms, and a renewed focus on the Church's role in a fragmented international political landscape.

The most immediate event following the mourning period was the Conclave of May 2025. After several days of deliberation, the College of Cardinals elected Robert Francis Prevost, who took the name Leo XIV. The choice was seen as a "bridge" appointment. As an American-born prelate with missionary experience in Peru, leadership roles within the Vatican, and as the former head of the Dicastery for Bishops, Leo XIV represented the combination of Francis's focus on the "peripheries" of society and a more traditional, administrative style.

Unlike the spontaneous and often informal communication style of Francis, Leo XIV has adopted a more measured tone. While he has maintained Francis's emphasis on climate change and social justice—recently publishing an encyclical on digital ethics and artificial intelligence—he has also moved to provide more "doctrinal clarity" on issues that caused friction during the previous era.

One of the biggest questions following Francis's death was whether his hallmark project, the Synod on Synodality, would survive. Francis had envisioned a "listening Church" where laity played a larger role. Under Leo XIV, the formal synodal process has continued, but its focus has shifted from structural reform to "spiritual renewal."

While the radical decentralization some progressives hoped for has slowed, the inclusion of lay voices in Vatican departments has become a permanent fixture. However, a "period of cooling" regarding more controversial topics such as female deacons has taken place and Pope Leo, focuses on the global shortage of priests through localized administrative solutions rather than universal policy changes.

In the year since his death, the Vatican's diplomatic influence has been tested. Francis was often criticized for his "neutrality" in the face of global conflicts, particularly in Ukraine and the Middle East. Since taking office, Leo XIV has maintained the Holy See's role as a mediator but has been more vocal in condemning specific violations of international law. The "Secret Agreement" with China regarding the appointment of bishops, a cornerstone of Francis's eastern diplomacy, remains a point of contention. The new papacy has faced increasing pressure from conservative groups to renegotiate the terms, citing human rights concerns. Nevertheless, the Vatican remains committed to the "Francis Path" of dialogue, recognizing that a total break with Beijing would isolate millions of Chinese Catholics.

A symbolic but significant change has been the physical shift of focus away from St. Peter's Basilica. By choosing to be buried in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore rather than St. Peter's, Francis has asked the faithful to reconsider our relationship with the Holy Father. In the past year, Santa Maria Maggiore has become a site of massive pilgrimage, drawing the "common people" Francis loved. This has allowed St. Peter's to return to its role as a formal liturgical center, while the Roman basilica serves as a more intimate shrine to the "People's Pope."

The year following the death of Pope Francis has been defined by "continuity with a correction." The Church has not retreated from Pope Francis' vision; the doors Francis opened regarding environmental stewardship and outreach to the marginalized remain open. However, the "Leo XIV era" has introduced a sense of institutional stabilization. The Church is currently in a phase of evaluation—taking the radical seeds planted by Francis and attempting to grow them within the sturdy, traditional soil of the Church's teaching. As the world looks toward the 2030s, the Catholic Church remains a reflection of Francis's dream: a "field hospital," though perhaps one with a more disciplined medical staff.

~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

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Nick Martellacci

Creative Director & Sacristan

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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



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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

APR 19 - APR 26

SUNDAY

April 19

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

MONDAY

April 20

Third Week of Easter

Acts 6:8-15

John 6:22-29

TUESDAY

April 21

Third Week of Easter

Acts 7:51-8:1a

John 6:30-35

WEDNESDAY

April 22

Third Week of Easter

Acts 8:1b-8

John 6:35-40

THURSDAY

April 23

Third Week of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

John 6:44-51

FRIDAY

April 24

Third Week of Easter

Acts 9:1-20

John 6:52-59

SATURDAY

April 25

Feast of Saint Mark

1 Peter 5:5b-14

Mark 16:15-20

SUNDAY

April 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Peter 2:20b-25

John 10:1-10

TODAY'S RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11



Third Sunday of Easter A - Gloria

Offertory: 581 - Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks

Communion: 911 - Let us break bread together

Anthem: On the Journey to Emmaus

Recession: 599 - That Easter day with joy was bright

Postlude: Entree des Mages - Jean Philippe Rameau 1683-1764

Erbarm Dich Mein by JS Bach

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 19, 2026

Do you recognize Christ in your life and hope to make Him known to others? Perhaps you are being called to the priesthood or consecrated life. If you are considering this possibility, contact the Vocation Office, Fr. Christopher J. Bethge, at (718) 827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org



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. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Brooklyn



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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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 4/19/2026	Jose Malachais
MONDAY 4/20/2026	Albert Munday
TUESDAY 4/21/2026	Jose Figueroa
WEDNESDAY 4/22/2026	For the Special Intentions of John Bate
THURSDAY 4/23/2026	Francisco Navarro Sr. and Nellie Navarro
FRIDAY 4/24/2026	Birthday Wishes for Dorothy Olesak

LECTORS

4/19/2026
Lela Medoo
Candida Perez

4/26/2026
Beatrice DiCostanzo
Mireyda Reyes

COFFEE HOURS

Coffee Hour Potluck style
Bring a dish & share a smile

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
30**

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

SPECIAL THANK YOU

With sincere appreciation, St. James thanks all who so generously supported our Easter flower collection, enhancing the beauty and warmth of our cherished Cathedral. Your generosity is a beautiful expression of the faith, unity, and love that define our parish community.

Special thanks to:

MS. ELENA ANDERSON
JACQUES BIEN-AIME
JOSEPH & KAREN COROZZO
BEATRICE DiCOSTANZO
CAMILLE FERDINAND
ALICE FLATEAU
FAMILY ISOM
ALTHEA FORD JOBO
ANNA KING

LINDIA WHITE
VALERIE LATIMER
IMELDA KARNATI
ALFIE & BEEYEAN SANTOS
GARTH & ROSA WILLIAMS
HALCYONE BULLEN-THOMAS
ISABEL NAVARRO
MARY PRADT
DOROTHY OLESAK

THE ROSARY FOR PEACE

St. James Cathedral Basilica
SUNDAY
APRIL 26th, 2026, 10:30AM

In response to the call of Pope Leo XIV to pray the Holy Rosary for peace, a Rosary for Peace will be recited at **10:30 AM next Sunday**. Each decade will be offered in a different language, reflecting the unity of our universal Church. All are warmly invited to join us in praying for peace in our city and across the world.

SUPPORT
ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL BASILICA
ONLINE

Thank you for your
support and generosity!



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ONLINE GIVING



CROWNING OF MARY

Join us as the Legion of Mary at Our Lady of the Presentation Roman Catholic Church celebrates its 54th annual Crowning of Mary during the 9 am English Mass. Light refreshments will be served.

May 3, 2026: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Our Lady of the Presentation Roman Catholic Church
11677 Saint Marks Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11233

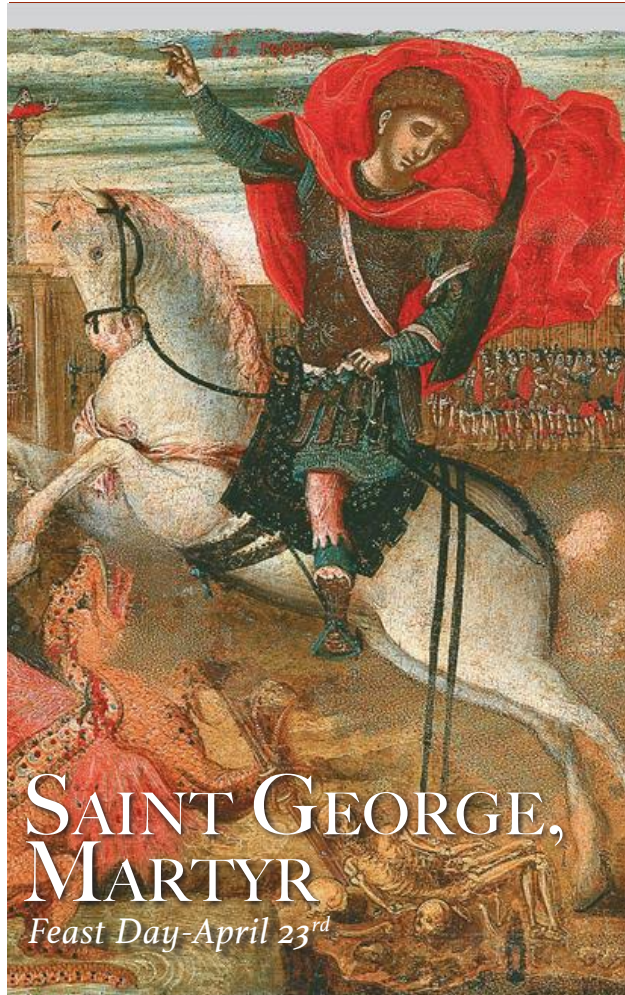
Visitation of NOTRE DAME DU CAP

Close out the month of Mary with a morning Marian devotion, candlelight procession, and mass.

Bring your bible and your rosary.

Bring a flower to place at the feet of our Blessed Mother...

Saturday, May 30, 2026 | 10:00 AM



SAINT GEORGE, MARTYR

Feast Day-April 23rd

It is uncertain when Saint George was born and historians continue to debate to this day. However, his death date is estimated to be April 23 303 A.D.

The first piece of evidence of George's existence appeared within the works of the Bollandists Daniel Papebroch, Jean Bolland, and Godfrey Henschen's Bibliotheca Hagiographica Graeca. George was one of several names listed in the historical text, and Pope Gelasius claimed George was one of the saints "whose names are justly revered among men, but whose actions are known only to God."

George was born to a Gerontios and Polychronia, a Roman officer and a Greek native of Lydda. Both were Christians from noble families of the Anici and George, Georgios in the original Greek, was raised to follow their faith.

When George was old enough, he was welcomed into Diocletian's army. by his late 20's, George became a Tribunus and served as an imperial guard for the Emperor at Nicomedia.

On February 24, 303 A.D., Diocletian, who hated Christians, announced that every Christian the army passed would be arrested and every other

soldier should offer a sacrifice to the Roman gods.

George refused to abide by the order and told Diocletian, who was angry but greatly valued his friendship with George's father.

When George announced his beliefs before his peers, Diocletian was unable to keep the news to himself.

In an effort to save George, Diocletian attempted to convert him to believe in the Roman gods, offered him land, money and slaves in exchange for offering a sacrifice to the Roman gods, and made several other offers that George refused.

Finally, after exhausting all other options, Diocletian ordered George's execution. In preparation for his death, George gave his money to the poor and was sent for several torture sessions. He was lacerated on a wheel of swords and required resuscitation three times, but still George did not turn from God.

On April 23, 303 A.D., George was decapitated before Nicomedia's outer wall. His body was sent to Lydda for burial, and other Christians went to honor George as a martyr.

YOUR DAILY CAMINO

19th APRIL- SUNDAY

"Then their eyes were suddenly opened by God and they clearly recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight."

~Luke 24: 31

20th APRIL- MONDAY

"The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as his liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty. Plainly, the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon a definition of liberty."

~Abraham Lincoln

21st APRIL- TUESDAY

"For St George knew very well what all real soldiers know; that the only way to be even approximately likely to kill a dragon is to give the dragon a heavy chance of killing you. And this method, which is the only one, is much too unpleasant to be talked about."

~G.K. Chesterton

22nd APRIL- WEDNESDAY

"It is because of faith that we exchange the present for the future."

~Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen

23rd APRIL- THURSDAY

"Mark's Gospel is a narrative proclamation that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God, whose death and resurrection paid the penalty for our sins and achieved victory over Satan, sin, and death. With this joyful announcement comes the call to all believers for faith and cross-bearing discipleship."

~Mark L. Strauss

24th APRIL- FRIDAY

"The Jesus way wedded to the Jesus truth brings about the Jesus life. Jesus as the truth gets far more attention than Jesus as the way. Jesus as the way is the most frequently evaded metaphor among the Christians with whom I have worked for fifty years as a North American pastor."

~Eugene H. Peterson

25th APRIL- SATURDAY

"Negligence in prayer withers the inner man. Nothing can be a substitute for it, not even Christian work. Many are so preoccupied with work that they allow little time for prayer. Hence, they cannot cast out demons. Prayer enables us first inwardly to overcome the enemy and then outwardly to deal with him."

~Watchman Nee

WEEKLY PRAYER (SAINTS OBVIOUS AND UNFAMILIAR)

PRAYER OF SAINT MARK

O Glorious St. Mark through the grace of God, our Father, you became a great Evangelist, preaching the Good News of Christ. May you help us to know Him well so that we may faithfully live our lives as followers of Christ. Amen.

PRAYER BY SAINT ANSELM

Look upon us, Lord; hear us, enlighten us, show yourself to us. Give yourself to us that it may be well with us, for without you it goes so ill for us. Have pity upon our efforts and our strivings towards you, for we can avail nothing without you. Teach me to seek you, and reveal yourself to me as I seek, because I can neither seek you if you do not teach me how, nor find you unless you reveal yourself. Let me seek you in desiring you; let me desire you in seeking you; let me find you in loving you; let me love you in finding you. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT GEORGE

O God, who didst grant to Saint George strength and constancy in the various torments which he sustained for our holy faith; we beseech Thee to preserve, through his intercession, our faith from wavering and doubt, so that we may serve Thee with a sincere heart faithfully unto death. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT ZITA

Dear St. Zita, patron saint of domestic workers, teach us to perform our daily tasks with diligence, and to find joy and meaning in even the simplest work. May we always carry out our duties with a loving heart, and may our work bring glory to God and serve our neighbors. In moments of frustration and weariness, grant us the patience and strength to persevere, just as you did throughout your life. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT EUPHRASIA

Saint Euphrasia, dearly beloved daughter of Mother Mary, we entrust to you, each one of us, Mother Church and the whole world. Help us to offer our sufferings at the foot of the cross, and to progress in life's journey trusting in divine providence. Teach us to seek the Kingdom of God and his justice. Amen.





10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SAINT MARK

(Feast Day April 25th)

Author of the Gospel

Saint Mark is traditionally believed to be the author of the Gospel of Mark, one of the four canonical Gospels in the New Testament.

Companion of Saint Paul and Saint Peter

Mark is mentioned in the New Testament as a companion of both Saint Paul and Saint Peter. He accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journey and later served as Peter's interpreter.

Founder of the Church in Alexandria

According to tradition, Mark traveled to Alexandria in Egypt, where he founded the Christian community and became its first bishop. The Coptic Orthodox Church considers him the founder of their church in Egypt.

Martyrdom

Tradition holds that Saint Mark was martyred in Alexandria around the year 68 AD. He was reportedly dragged through the streets and killed during a pagan festival.

Symbolism of the Lion

Saint Mark is often symbolized by a winged lion, representing courage, strength, and royal authority. This symbol is derived from his Gospel's emphasis on Jesus as the powerful and triumphant Son of God.

Patron Saint

Saint Mark is the patron saint of Venice, Italy, where his relics are believed to be housed in the famous Saint Mark's Basilica. He is also venerated as the patron saint of notaries and lawyers.

Legacy

Saint Mark's Gospel is valued for its vivid storytelling, its emphasis on Jesus' miracles and actions, and its portrayal of Jesus as the suffering servant and Son of God. It continues to be studied and revered by Christians worldwide.

Papias' Testimony

The early Christian writer Papias, who lived in the 2nd century AD, is one of the earliest sources to attribute the authorship of the Gospel of Mark to Saint Mark. He describes Mark as Peter's interpreter and states that Mark accurately recorded Peter's teachings about Jesus.

Missionary Work

Saint Mark played a significant role in spreading the Christian faith, both through his writing of the Gospel and through his missionary activities in Egypt and beyond.

St. Mark's Burial

While St. Mark was martyred in Alexandria, he is currently buried in the Italian city of Venice. Today, his relics are venerated in St. Mark's Basilica.

DEVOTIONS

The virtue of fortitude actually requires, first and foremost, the feeling of fear.

In order to grow in fortitude, one must face a thing which frightens him, doing so specifically in pursuit of the good.

PRACTICING CATHOLIC

Within Thy Wounds

The prayer I love best in the world is the Anima Christi. This private, devotional litany of supplication begins with the phrase "*Anima Christi, sanctifica me*" ("Soul of Christ, sanctify me") and continues on to appeal individually to each aspect of our Lord's crucified flesh: "*Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from Christ's side, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me.*"

Then comes my favorite part: "*Within Thy wounds hide me.*"

The Anima Christi is a prayer traditionally said after receiving Holy Communion. The ancient Celts spoke of *liminal places*, where the veil separating this world from the next is particularly thin, and I believe the moments immediately following the reception of Holy Communion, when the Host is dissolving on my tongue, create a liminal place. When I am in that place, I am as intimately connected to God as I can be while my heart is still beating.

And when I am there, holding God within me, what are the words that I speak? It's overwhelming to think about. What could possibly be right to say?

There is no right or wrong answer, I suppose. But the best words I can think of are these: "*Within Thy wounds, Lord, hide me.*"

There is a reason Christ showed His wounds as He said the words, "*Peace be with you.*" It was not just a means of identifying Himself—it was a catechism lesson. Here, He was saying, *Here is the peace you will not find anywhere else.*

~ Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman