CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR

611 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 · 718.768.4055 · www.stsaviourchurch.org

WE CELEBRATE EUCHARIST:

WEEKEND MASSES

5:00 pm: Saturday Evening
9:30 am: Sunday Morning
11:30 am: Sunday Morning

WEEKDAY MASSES

8:30 am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism at 1:00 PM on the first Sunday of each month. Arrangements must be made in advance with Sister Mary. Please note that there are no baptisms during Advent and Lent.

Marriages Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance and participation in the Diocesan Pre-Cana Program is required. Please call the Rectory to schedule an appointment with Fr. Frank who will discuss the necessary details.

Sacrament of the Sick In the event of serious illness, please call the Rectory and request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Communion for the Homebound Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to those unable to join us for Eucharist. Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Confessions First Saturday of the month in the church from 4:00-4:30 PM. By appointment for all other times.

ST. SAVIOUR PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank W. Spacek, D. Min., **Pastor**
Rev. Daniel S. Murphy, **Pastor Emeritus**
Rev. Kevin P. Cavalluzzi, D. Min., **In Residence**
Emily SanPietro, **Administrative Assistant**
Sister Mary R. Walsh, CSJ, **Pastoral Associate**
Deacon Paul E. Norman, **Faith Formation**
Dr. Nicholas J. Nicassio, **Music Ministry**

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9:00 AM–4:00 PM
Friday No Office Hours
Saturday & Sunday No Office Hours
To speak with a priest, please call for an appointment.
For sick calls, phone anytime.

ST. SAVIOUR HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Carolann Timpone, **Principal**
TEL 718.768.4406 · WEB www.stsaviour.org

ST. SAVIOUR CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Mr. Dean J. Fusto, M.A.T., M.A., **President**
Mr. Matthew Artigas, **Principal**
TEL 718.768.8000
WEB www.saintsaviourcatholicacademy.org

WHO IS WELCOME IN ST. SAVIOUR CHURCH?

Are you a sinner? Have you been away from the church for a long time? Are you divorced or separated? Are you physically or mentally challenged? Are you from a different culture? Are you not accepted because of your sexual orientation? Are you elderly, a teen or young adult? Are you discriminated against because of your color? Are you feeling broken? Are you poor or out of work? Have you been imprisoned? Have you a feeling that you are left out? **You are welcome here! This is your home, and we are your family!**

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PASTOR

As you walked into church today, chances are you knew something different was going on this week. The presider was wearing vestments that were a bluish hue of violet; the music was somewhat different—more hopeful and penetrating with a flare of joyful expectation; and in our church once again was a wreath with different colored candles. Yes, by now you've probably guessed it—Advent is here once again! Today we not only begin a new church year, but the beginning of our preparations for the birth of the Christ child.

This week I would like to dedicate this column reflecting on the history of the Advent Wreath, which has become a common sight in most churches today. The Advent Wreath originated among German Lutherans during the 16th century. It was then brought over to the United States by German immigrants, and was originally used in the home. As time progressed, it was introduced into both Catholic and Protestant Churches, and today can often be found in both homes and churches.

Customarily, the advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. The candles represent the four Sundays of Advent, and each week another candle is lit. The pink candle is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, otherwise known as Gaudete Sunday.

The Advent Wreath is a public symbol, and it is symbolic in many ways, although many of the prayers that could be used for the blessing of an Advent Wreath tend to focus on the "light" symbolism. For example, the prayer for the Blessing of an Advent Wreath found in the Book of Blessings prays that *"as we light the candles of this wreath, may their light reflect the splendor of Christ..."* and later on prays that *"the candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus the Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to led us into the light of God's glorious kingdom."*

The Advent Wreath is not only a way of "counting down" the weeks until Christmas, but also a sign of Christ's light among us—and may that light continue to grow brighter with each passing week of Advent this year. Remember, we only have four weeks to prepare ourselves for Christ's birth, so let's allow ourselves to be changed by Christ's light! Happy Advent!

Have a great week everyone.

Father Frank

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
"In those days, in that time,
I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and just in the land." (Jer 33:15)

Psalm:
To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:
May the Lord make you increase and abound in love
for one another and for all,
just as we have for you,
so as to strengthen your hearts,
to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.
(I Thes 3:12-13)

Gospel:
"But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand." (Lk 21:28)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
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Live The Liturgy
Inspiration of the Week

Jesus tells us to "be vigilant at all times." Advent is a time of watchfulness. Things are moving and shifting and changing — in our souls, in heaven, on earth. It's a time of great consequence. Great trial. Great hope. So, look to Jesus. He is coming.

Observances for the week of December 1, 2024

Sunday:	1st Sunday of Advent
Tuesday:	St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Wednesday:	St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Friday:	St. Nicholas, Bishop
Saturday:	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	2nd Sunday of Advent

Saint of the week

Blessed Chiara Luce Badano (1971-1990) an ordinary teenager who freely gave her life to Jesus in joy and suffering. She was beatified in 2010, the first member of Generation X to be Beatified. In 2018 she was one of the patrons of the Synod on Youth.

Prayer for Prayer Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Today—Christmas Gift to My Parish
December 8—Maintenance & Repair
December 9—Immaculate Conception
December 15—Retirement Fund for Religious

WeShare allows parishioners a safe and easy way to donate online. If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy!

1. Visit our website: www.stsaviourchurch.org and click "Give Online."
2. Click on the collection you wish to donate to.
3. Click Recurring Donation, then enter your donation amount and frequency.

Once you've added your information, donations will automatically deduct from your account.

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We still have Mass Intentions available for both weekday AND weekend celebrations of Eucharist. Please consider having a Mass celebrated for a loved one or family member—either living or deceased. We are ALL in need of prayers, and there is no greater prayer than the celebration of Eucharist. Each Mass Intention is only $15.00. If you are interested in having a Mass celebrated in memory of a deceased loved one, or in honor of someone who is living, please call Emily at the Rectory and she will be more than happy to assist you.

The Giving Tree

Christmas is the time of year when we begin to turn our thoughts to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Beginning today the **Giving Tree** will be decorated with "gift tag ornaments" that are marked with gender, age and gift suggestions. This year the gifts are being collected for Providence House.

The **unwrapped** gifts with the tags taped to them should be placed under the Giving Tree no later than **Sunday, December 15th**.

God Bless you & Happy Advent

Annual Catholic Appeal 2024
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Called to **Communion, Participation** & **Mission**

As a committed parishioner, friend, and Catholic, we need your support to uphold our mission. We are grateful to the 108 donors who have already made a generous commitment to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal.

Parish Goal: $64,900
Raised: $92,579

You may also make your gift online now at **annualcatholicappeal.org** or text **DONATE** to **917-336-1255** or call 718-965-7375 and have a pledge card mailed to your home.

"Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return." - *Pope Francis*

Brownbaggers Homeless Outreach

The Brownbaggers project serves the poor in NYC during the winter months. Since 2009 we have delivered thousands of lunches. Meeting monthly in the Parish Hall at 12:30pm, we assemble 100 brown bag lunches with food and clothing items donated by our volunteers. We then travel via subway to multiple Manhattan parks to distribute our lunches to those most in need, returning to Brooklyn by 3:30 pm. Dave Beaudry is the current director of our Brownbaggers Homeless Outreach Program.

Please RSVP now for Sunday, December 8

Children under the age of 18 must to be accompanied by an adult. Please wear comfortable shoes and have your metro card charged.

Twenty-five volunteers are needed for this event.

RSVP to: davebeaudry@gmail.com

Please consider donating warm socks, hats or gloves into the Brownbaggers Donation Box which will be located in the vestibule of the church after every Mass. Any donations received will be distributed at that month's Brownbagger event. Also, financial donations used to purchase food items can be made in the Parish rectory.
Thank you for your support.

***Just a reminder that all adults must be VIRTUS trained to attend.**

UPCOMING PARISH COLLECTIONS

CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCE

Included with the monthly contributions envelopes is a special envelope for the Christmas Mass remembrance. Please use this envelope for your special intentions, which will be remembered at each of our celebrations of Eucharist this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS GIFT TO MY PARISH

At this time of the year we all receive many requests from worthy charities and soon realize that we can't respond to them all. However, one appeal that hopefully everyone will respond to is the annual Christmas Gift to My Parish Collection. A year-end Christmas gift is your chance to go beyond the day-to-day support of your parish that you fund through your weekly support in the Sunday collection.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Each year we take great pride in the beautiful Christmas decorations in our church. Contributions to help defray the expense of decorating the church for the holiday season may be made in memory of deceased relatives or friends, or in honor of the living. There are envelopes for this purpose in the set of monthly envelopes or you may obtain one in the vestibule of the church. Please help the Altar Guild in creating a beautiful setting for our liturgical celebrations during the Christmas season.

Dear friends,

According to our records we have collected donations from St. Saviour five times in 2024, including in both October and November. Our average distribution for those two months is 198 bags. So many families are grateful for what you provide. May Thanksgiving be a time of blessing for your families as well.

November 23-24

Offertory $5,225

Children's Collection $234

Christmas Flowers $732

Attendance 344

CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24
5:00 p.m.
12:00 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY 12/25
10:00 a.m.

This week's Advent candle was donated by Fr. Frank, Charlie, Denise, Charles Michael & Emily Rose Spacek

In loving memory of
their parents & grandparents
Elaine & Frank Spacek

Sunday, December 1, First Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Lamy & Winn Families
11:30 a.m. Ken Corey

Monday, December 2, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Bisshop Joseph Sullivan

Tuesday, December 3, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Dennis & Grace Loyal

Wednesday, December 4, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Margaret Poliseo

Thursday, December 5, Advent Weekday
10:00 a.m. Julia Rybacki

Friday, December 6, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. NO MASS

Saturday, December 7, Advent Weekday
5:00 p.m. Edward & Catherine Lombardi/ Shirley Radaker/Jerry Georges

Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. People of the Parish
11:30 a.m. Marguerite Gephardt

CANDLE MEMORIALS

Blessed Mother Candle
November 29-December 6th
In Loving Memory of
Shirley Radaker

FEAST DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 9th

8:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

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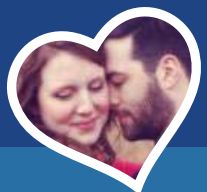

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