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

I do hope that everyone will have a great time this Christmas with family and friends. Don't forget that while the rest of the world would have us believe that Christmas ends on Wednesday evening (December 25th), in reality, OUR celebration of Christmas has really just begun, and it will continue right through to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (celebrated this year on January 12, 2025). I lament the fact that any inkling of Christmas music on the radio will be history by Christmas night, but we can certainly continue our celebration of Christmas knowing that our Saviour is with us (and we can certainly still make use of our Christmas CDs)! Make the most of this Christmas Season by allowing yourself to become everything our God created you to be. The Christmas Season always brings out the best in people, but that shouldn't end the day after Christmas. As Christians, our belief in Jesus should always bring out the best within us, for we consistently pray that we might be more like Christ. I can think of no better time than the present to continue our spirit of merriment, refreshed in the reality that God is indeed with us! Don't forget, being a Christian is a life-long process. It's not something we do only on special occasions or high holy days like Christmas.

I want to say a great big "THANK YOU" to Father Kevin for putting together our annual Christmas party for all the children in our Faith Formation Program today. I think he did a great job not only setting everything up and decorating the High School Cafeteria, but he also made sure that every child left the party today with a really nice Christmas gift. I also want to thank Sister Mary, Deacon Paul and all our catechists and assistants for helping us in making today's Christmas party a memorable experience for our young people.

Finally on behalf of Father Kevin, Deacon Paul, Sister Mary, myself and the entire Pastoral Staff of Saint Saviour Parish Family, I want to wish you and your family a happy, holy and blessed Christmas! You know the deal—no fighting with the relatives on Christmas! It's the day of our Saviour's birth—a day of peace and love and friendship. We can't pray and sing and celebrate while in church—only to go home and get frustrated and angry at the people who mean so much to us. Allow the Christ-Child to touch your heart this Christmas.

Have a great week everyone.

Father Frank

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:
You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Mi 5:1)

Psalm:
Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

Second Reading:
"Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

Gospel:
"And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43)

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

"Blessed are you who believed," Elizabeth tells Mary. Do we believe? When we hear the voice of God whispering in our heart, do we listen — or do we ignore, out of fear and uncertainty? This last week of Advent, follow Mary's example, and believe.

Observances for the week of December 22, 2024

Sunday:	4th Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. John of Kanty, Priest
Tuesday:	Christmas Eve
Wednesday:	The Nativity of the Lord
Thursday:	St. Stephen, First Martyr
Friday:	St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Saturday:	The Holy Innocents, martyrs
Next Sunday:	The Holy Family

Saint of the week

St. Margaret Clitherow (1556-1586), the pearl of York hid priests and allowed Mass to be celebrated in her home, a criminal offence at the time. She was pressed to death. Margaret was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as one of 40 martyrs of England and Wales.

Prayer for Advent Joy

Dear Jesus,

The news of your coming was met with boundless joy — fill us anew with the wonder of your presence. You are Emmanuel, God with us.

Amen.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Today—Christmas Mass Remembrance
December 25—Christmas Offering/Catholic Charities
January 1—Mary, Mother of God
January 7—Maintenance & Repair

THE CANDY CANE LEGEND

A candy maker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness for his Saviour, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus the Christ. He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. The white symbolizes the Virgin Birth (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-35) and the sinless nature of Jesus (1 John 3:5). The hardness of the candy symbolizes the solid rock (1 Corinthians 10:4), the foundation of the Church (Matthew 16:18), and the firmness of the promises of God (Psalm 18:30-32). The candy maker made the candy into the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Saviour (1 John 3:16-17), and a symbol to represent the staff of the Good Shepherd (John 10:14). The candy maker decided to stain it with red stripes, representing the stripes Jesus received prior to His crucifixion (Mark 15:15-20) for our healing (Isaiah 53:5). The large red stripe represents the shedding of His blood on the cross for our salvation (Romans 5:9;Ephesians 1:7)

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.

Saint Saviour Catholic Academy hosted their annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 7. Our second-graders made handmade ornaments and raised funds for the Parish Brown Baggers Program in the amount of $134.00. The money will go towards food and other items like gloves and toiletries that are needed. We are proud of our second graders!

The St. Thomas Aquinas Food Pantry is in need of the following items: oatmeal, white or brown rice, pasta, evaporated milk, canned or dried black beans, canned tuna, salmon or chicken, bar soap, and shampoo.

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.

Mass Schedule

Wednesday, January 1st
10:00 a.m.

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, January 12

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.

Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

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 111 donors who have already made a generous commitment to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal.

Parish Goal: $64,900
Raised: $93,429

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.

"For it is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Chistmas, when its mighty founder was a child himself." - Charles Dickens

December 7-8

Offertory $5,677

Religious Retirement $3,600

Children's Collection $208

Attendance 348

The rectory office will be closed for Christmas on Tuesday, December 24th, and Wednesday, December 25th. We will close for New Year's on Tuesday, December 31st and Wednesday, January 1st.

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

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

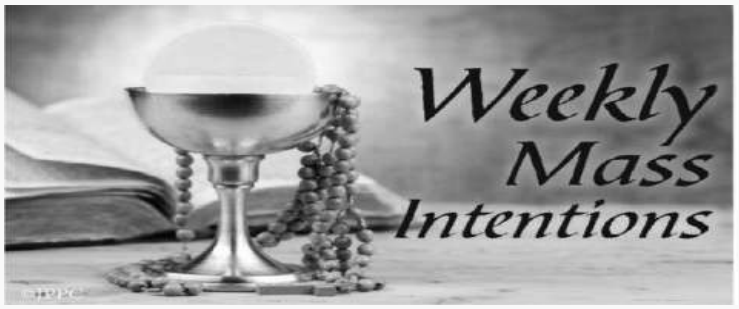
CANDLE MEMORIALS

Blessed Mother Candle

December 20-26

In Loving Memory of

Shirley Radaker



Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Henry O'Meara
11:30 a.m. Jerry Georges/George Boolbol

Monday, December 23, Late Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Joseph Glass

Tuesday, December 24, Late Advent Weekday
5:00 p.m. Christmas Mass Rememrance
12:00 a.m. Christmas Mass Remembrane

Wednesday, December 25, the Nativity of the Lord
10:00 a.m. Christmas Mass Remembrance

Thursday, December 26, Saint Stephen
8:30 a.m. Jerry Georges

Friday, December 27, Saint John
8:30 a.m. NO MASS

Saturday, December 28, The Holy Innocents
5:00 p.m. Christina Greene/Warren Pusz/
Ted Stachow

Sunday, December 29, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
9:30 a.m. Sr. Barbara Hanlon, CSJ
11:30 a.m. Antonio Rivera

This week's Advent candle was donated by

Sophia Romero

In loving memory of her parents

Redentor Romero and Dolores Garcia

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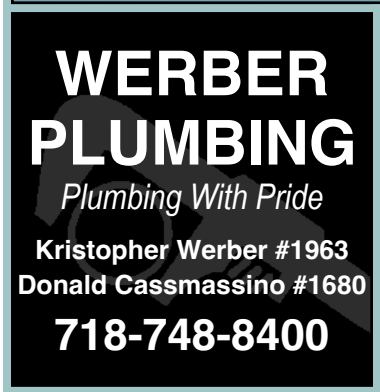

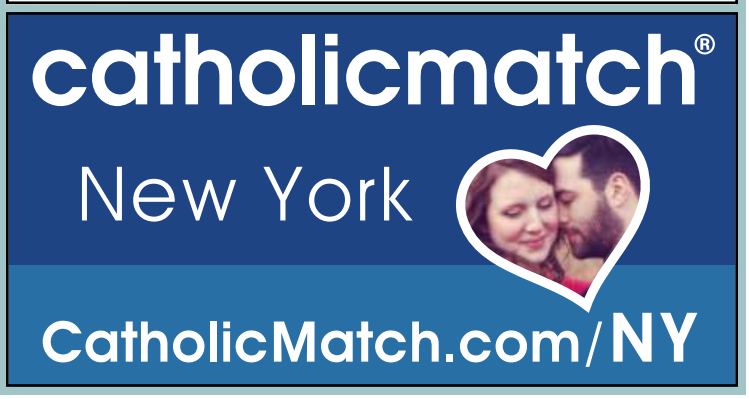

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