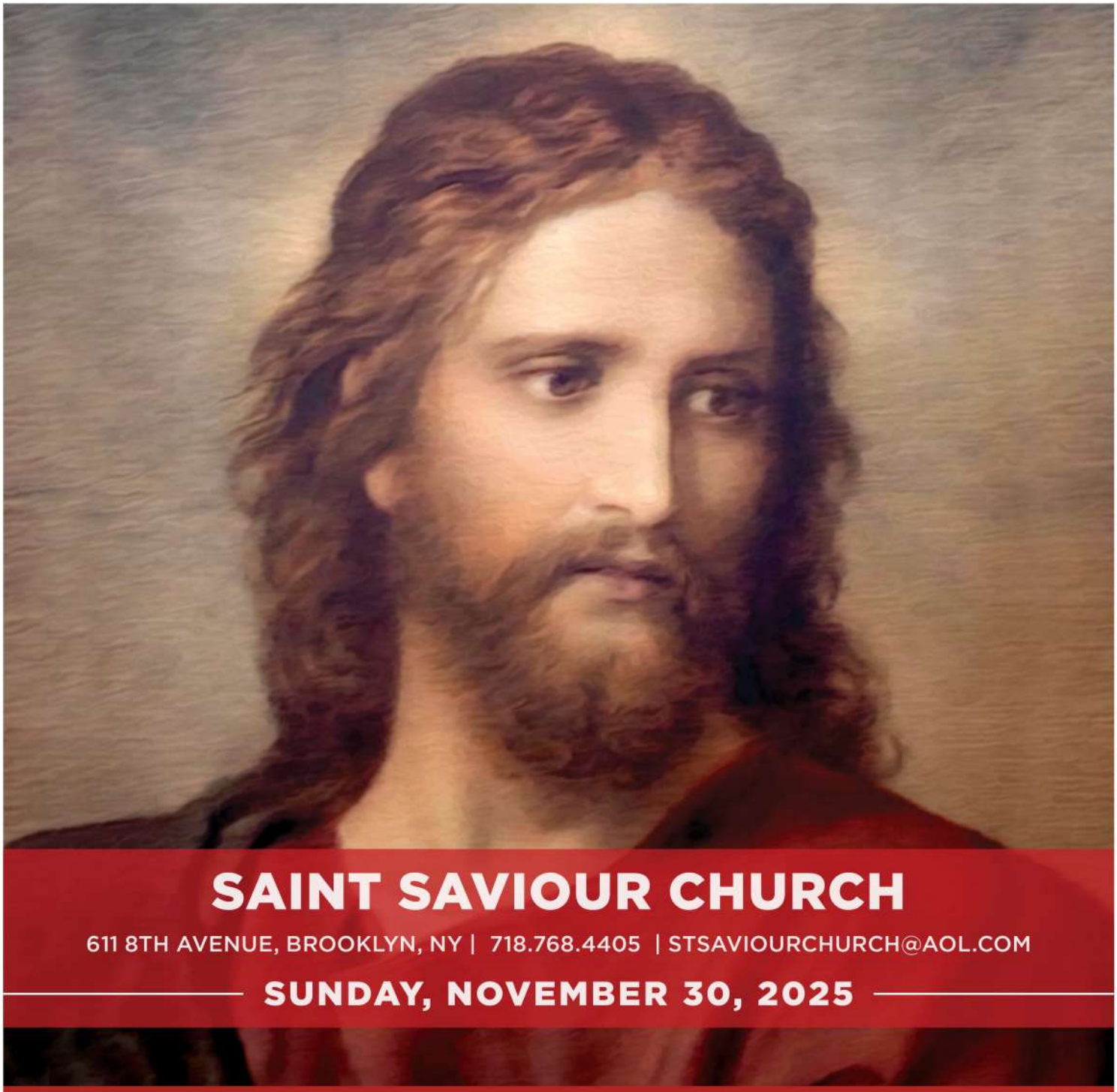

SAINT SAVIOUR CHURCH

611 8TH AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY | 718.768.4405 | STSAVIOURCHURCH@AOL.COM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." - Mt 24:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

WE CELEBRATE SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Arrangements must be made in advance with either Emily SanPietro or Father Frank. Please note that we do no celebrate 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. Kevin P. Cavalluzzi, D. Min., **In Residence**
Emily SanPietro, **Administrative Assistant**
Deacon Paul E. Norman, **Faith Formation**
Dr. Nicholas J. Nicassio, **Music Ministry**

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 11:00 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

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Today—Christmas Flowers
December 7—Maintenance & Repair
December 14—Christmas Mass Remembrance
December 8—Immaculate Conception
December 21—Religious Retirement Fund
December 25—Christmas Offering

CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Believe it or not, next week we begin a new church year with the celebration of Advent. This year, we would like to offer YOU the opportunity to memorialize our Christmas Candles, which will grace our sanctuary here in church for the entire Christmas Season. Each Christmas Candle in the church can be memorialized in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor of someone who is living for an offering of $75.00. Please remember we only have (4) candles available. If you are interested in memorializing a Christmas Candle this year, please call or email Emily at the Rectory at stsaviourchurch@aol.com

ONLINE GIVING By WeShare

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
2. and click "Give Online."
3. Click on the collection you wish to donate to.
4. Click Recurring Donation, then enter your donation amount and frequency.

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

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 2025
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

As a committed parishioner, friend, and Catholic, we need your support to uphold our mission. We are grateful to the 103 donors who have already made a generous commitment to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal. This represents only 39% of our parish family.

Parish Goal: $58,410
Raised: $87,858

You may also make your gift online now at annualcatholicappeal.org

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

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

THANK YOU!

Father Frank and Ministry Leaders

Plus! Emily and everyone who helped or attended our St. Saviour Ministry Fair.

We should all be proud of the results!

We received 35 names from volunteers and 26 ideas and recommendations in our Suggestion Box.

Be on the look-out for new and familiar faces as our minister-volunteers step up!

FEEL THE CALL TO GET MORE INVOLVED!

Saint Savior's MINISTRY

Questions, Ideas: SaintSaviourMinistry@gmail.com

Please remember the poor today as you leave church by perhaps giving alms and placing a donation in one of our poor boxes. Everything collected is given to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, which assists those in need of food or clothing.

Brownbaggers Homeless Outreach

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

Please RSVP now for Sunday, December 14

Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
Please wear comfortable shoes and bring a credit or OMNY card for the subway.

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 located in the vestibule of the church. Any donations received will be distributed at a Brownbagger event.

Financial donations 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.

OFFERING FOR ALTAR MEMORIALS

$25 per week

Church Sanctuary Lamp
Blessed Mother Candle
Saint Joseph Candle
Altar Hosts & Wine

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern." – Mother Teresa

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 8th

8:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

Christmas is the time of year when we begin to turn our thoughts to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Beginning this Sunday, November 30th 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 14th**.

God Bless you & Happy Advent

This week's Advent candle was donated by
Sophia Romero and Family

In loving memory of
Redentor Romero and Dolores Garcia

Sunday, November 30, First Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Elaine & Frank Spacek
11:30 a.m. Janice & Andrew Loyal

Monday, December 1, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Louise Mattina

Tuesday, December 2, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Carmen Morales

Wednesday, December 3, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Jason Winn

Thursday, December 4, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. Robert Duffy

Friday, December 5, Advent Weekday
8:30 a.m. NO MASS

Saturday, December 6, Advent Weekday
5:00 p.m. John & Elinore Flynn/
Shirley A. Radaker

Sunday, December 7, Second Sunday of Advent
9:30 a.m. Ewert Seales
11:30 a.m. Geraldine Valea

CANDLE MEMORIALS

Blessed Mother Candle
December 12-December 18

In Loving Memory of
Shirley Radaker

PLEASE PRAY *for the*
SICK & HOMEBOUND

- **Nelista Skerrett**
- **Xiao Xiao Pan**

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