# St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church

## Third Sunday of Advent

## December 14, 2025

## Parish Staff

**REV. JOHN J. MADURI**
*Pastor*

**REV. MICHAEL G. TEDONE**
*Parochial Vicar*

**REV. DOMINIC PEPRAH**
*In Residence*

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**MRS. HELENE CIRRINCIONE**
*Youth Minister*

**MRS. SANDRA ARCATI**
*Office Manager*

**MRS. ANGELA ZITO**
*Receptionist*

## Mass Schedule

### Sundays

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sundays: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.
Spanish-Once a Month on Saturday's at 7:00 p.m.

### Weekdays

Monday - Friday at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

### Holy Days

8:30 a.m. and Evening Mass at 7:30 p.m.

### Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

## Rectory Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.-7:00p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
**NATIONAL HOLIDAYS - RECTORY CLOSED**

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## Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word
### Third Sunday of Advent

### THEY WILL SEE THE GLORY OF OUR GOD

When many people hear these words from the Book of Isaiah which we hear and read extensively during the Advent season, a sense of expectation and joy fills the hearts of the faithful. Those who struggle with doubt find hope in these words because, as in so much of Sacred Scripture, they are truly words of life and peace. As I have noted on many occasions, a mistake that many Christians make is to take teachings like this one and relegate them to the next life where God will be seen in the fulness of His glory. Though it is true that we can never see, let alone comprehend, the totality of God's glory, we can still see glimpses of it if we have an attentive "ear" of the heart. St. Paul reminds us that even in this life, in this moment, we are called to move "from glory to glory." What then does this glory look like? We can perhaps best understand it as being consciously aware of the beauty, majesty, power, and grace of God. The beauty and majesty of God's glory is seen in His creation from the smallest flower to the mightiest mountain, the universe around us, and of course in the mystery of human life. The power of God continues to manifest itself in and through the Holy Spirit who comes in the power of love and in the fire that purifies and makes of us new creations. The grace of God is found in His indwelling in the soul of every man and woman who seeks the Lord with sincerity of heart, who seeks after truth, and who strives for true charity and justice. As I mentioned at Mass on the first Sunday of Advent, we can become so preoccupied by so many distractions, and not just during those weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Daily life itself is full of distractions as we all know. Yet in the midst of all this reality, our Lord continues to invite us to see His glory. From Abraham to Moses to the prophets to our Lord, this gift of seeing God's glory is held out to us as a reality even in the times and moments of this life. We just need to be attentive. Beyond being attentive, we must want to see the glory of God. This wanting or desire is not just a matter of words that we utter in prayer and then forget about the next minute as we can all easily do. Rather it is an invitation to eliminate serious sin from our lives that God's glory may more fully shine in us, through us, and for us. It is also an invitation to take stock of our lives and to ask ourselves how we can develop that interior life of inner solitude even in the midst of the noise and grind of daily life. There are no easy solutions to the hectic lives that most people live. However, we are not left in some kind of catch-22 situation where we want what God wants yet have no way to get there. Our Lord shows us the way: a sincere desire coupled with action, and much more importantly, by asking God for that grace and gift of beholding His glory even in the present moments of our lives.

Fr. John Maduri

### Monthly 50/50 Raffle

Contribution is $25 and the proceeds will be used for the ongoing renovation and rebuilding of the parish facilities. Winner takes home half the amount collected for the given month. Simply drop your entry at the rectory or in the weekly collection basket. The next winner will be picked on January 7th, 2026

**This Month's Winner of $237.50 is Mr. & Mrs. George Marinello**

### Offertory Procession

If you or your family has an announced Mass intention for a loved one and you would like to bring up the Communion gifts **PLEASE** see one of the ushers before Mass begins. Thank you!

### Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve**
Wednesday, December 24th
4:00 p.m. Family Mass,
8:00pm Spanish Mass &
Midnight Mass at
10:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day**
Thursday, December 25th
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**New Year's Eve**
Wednesday, December 31st
4:00 p.m.

**New Year's Day**
Thursday, January 1, 2026
11:00 a.m.

This weekend's second collection is a Diocesan Collection for Religious Retirement.

**Thank you always for your generosity! It is greatly appreciated!**

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025** | |
| 9:00am | Lucy Capalbo by St. Bernard Friends on this Feast of St. Lucy |
| 5:00pm | Louis Poggioli by Lisa Poggioli |
| **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025** | |
| 9:00am | Gina Ferranti by Terry & Thomas Sorrentino<br>Nicholas Burriesci by Stephanie Puleo<br>Peter Magliulo by Your Loving Father<br>Carmela Magliulo by Your Loving Husband |
| 11:00am | Anthony Cincotta by his wife Helene |
| 5:30pm | Biagia & Francesco by Ilene & Frank |
| **MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025** | |
| 8:30am | Mary Grossi by Teresa & Thomas Sorrentino<br>People of the Parish |
| **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025** | |
| 8:30am | Giovanni Oliveri by The Taylor Family |
| **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025** | |
| 8:30am | Martin Mulligan by Eileen & Robert Magnavito & Family |
| **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025** | |
| 8:30am | Deceased Members of The Magliulo Family by Joseph Magliulo |
| **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025** | |
| 8:30am | Patrick Morris |
| **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025** | |
| 9:00am | Jennie Maduri |
| 5:00pm | Kaitlyn Bernhardt Love Pop Pop (Happy Birthday in Heaven)<br>Happy Birthday Kristin Love Dad (Joe Fallon)<br>Stephen Ruggiero by his Family |
| **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025** | |
| 9:00am | Francis X. by Michele Esposito |
| 11:00am | Nicholas Burriesci by Teresa & Thomas Sorrentino<br>Joanne Sieja by Ivonne Rojas<br>Eric Simonsen by Your Loving Family |
| 5:30pm | Francesca & Angelo Incorvaia by Your Loving Granddaughter Tiffani |

## Reconciliation Monday

**On Monday, December 22nd, there will be reconciliation for parishes in the New York Area. We will have confessions from 9:00am -10:00am & 4:00pm - 7:00pm**

# Memorials

## Altar Bread:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Altar Wine:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Altar Candles:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Tabernacle Candle:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Tabernacle Candle:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Church Bells:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## Altar Flowers:
*In Loving Memory of Kaitlyn Bernhardt*
*Donated by Her Family*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Justin Andrickson
Jourdanna Barton
Jim Bellard
Margaret Bracco
Morelda Brown
Michael C. Thomas Caliendo
Carmine Carriero, Jr.
Domenic Carriero
Nick Codella
Daniel Commisso
Janet Commisso
Irma Cruz
Francine Danza
Maureen DeMarinis
Donna Donzella
James Donzella
Rose Esposito
John Fahey
Teresa Fornaro
Jonathan Gan
Carole Gibbons
Tina Giberti
Mark Gottlieb
Robin Gottlieb
John Gullo
Ryan Hoefel
June Honovich
Micha Edmond Jordan
Jennifer Karayeanes
Ann Klauss
Greyson Livia
Eddie Boy McCarthy
Christine McCartney
Kelsey McCartney
Tannya Ortiz
Angela Pollio
William Prussing
Corinne Ramaglia
Gasper Sacco
Robert Sansone
Joanne Sarnicola
Stephanie Sheetz
Alberta Sirett
Shawn Anthony Smith
Gene Stark
Maureen Stewart
Cigdem Tanriverdi

*Perform a Random Act of Kindness During Advent*

Offer words of encouragement to someone struggling.

For the third week of Advent, the Advent Candle of Joy has been memorialized
In Memory of

# Pedro Miguel Pereira da Silva

By St. Bernard Friends

If you would like to add to any of our Christmas decorations "In Memory of" or "In honor of" your loved ones, forms are available in the church & Rectory.

## Faith Formation News

**First Holy Communion 2026**

Saturday, May 9, 2026
11:00am-St. Bernard Catholic Academy
1:00pm-St. Bernard Religious Education Program

### Visit The Kids Korner

- Mass intention cards for all of the children in our parish community.
- Weekly envelopes as part of a Stewardship effort for the children to understand and participate in the gift of giving.
- Reading material and resources for children and families.
- Take a look each week for activities or reading material and other little surprises that will reinforce the message of the Gospel. Imagine the conversation on the way home from church.
- **Please only take one and leave one for a friend, thank you**

YOUNG ADULTS 18-30

Mary Queen of Heaven & St. Bernard Parish
Young Adults

December 19th, 2025
7:00pm - 10:00pm
Hudson River Yacht Club
Avenue U & Bergen Avenue U
Please call the rectory to respond
718-763-5533

Matthew 25 Ministry

## Advent is here!

That means our **GIVING TREES**

are up and decorated with "ornaments" for children and families in need. The Christmas Elves have worked behind the scenes and we are so thankful to have their continued help. This year gifts need to be back **by December 14th**. Tags will be marked accordingly. Please check the back of the tag for return by date. Among the recipients of the generous gift of our parish community are *Hour Children* (children of incarcerate women), *Mercy First* (foster children), *Catholic Charities, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel* (Deacon Ruben & Deacon Jorge), *Sisters of Life* (unwed/homeless pregnant women), *some other organizations that have reached out to us and some neighborhood residents.* Our gifts will brighten the lives of many ranging from the yet unborn and their moms through children of all ages and the adults of Mercy Home. Please feel free to purchase a gift now, at your leisure, if the timing is better for you. The sales will be starting quickly. If you choose to purchase a gift ahead of time, please **just label the gift with the age and gender** so we can sort them easily. Many of the requests we receive are not specific so you can get a jump on your Christmas shopping if you like! Additionally, we always receive many requests for teens especially from MERCY FIRST and HOUR CHILDREN. **Gift cards** are always a great idea for that age group! Please remember to bring your gift **UNWRAPPED** and attach the ornament from the tree to it.

### *Stewardship Thought*

"You too must be patient. Make you hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."

JAMES 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

# CHRISTMAS NEWS

## Christmas Wreath Sale

Friends of Scout Troop 76
will be selling
FULLY DECORATED
CHRISTMAS WREATHS
Great Price: $25.00

## Knights of Columbus Christmas Party

Thursday, December 17th
6:30pm in the Parish Hall
Food, fun and Christmas cheer! Free to all.
There will be a visit by Santa Claus!
All are welcome!

St. Bernard Parish & Our Life Teen Ministry
Invite Our 8th - 12th Graders to a

Sunday, December 21st
5:30pm Mass
Followed by the
Merry Christmas Party
Hudson River
Yacht Club
Until 9:00pm
Bergen Avenue
& Avenue U
Permission forms MUST be handed in for entry, thank you.

## Active Parish Campaign Summary

We have received from 86 Donors- there are

**OVER 1,000 FAMILIES REGISTERED IN OUR PARISH**

**There are 7 weeks left in the year. If each additional Family gave $100**
**WE WOULD REACH OUR GOAL AND HAVE AN EXCESS TO USE FOR OUR PARISH MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS!**

***IF WE DO NOT REACH OUR GOAL, WE WILL NEED TO PAY THE DIFFERENCE!***

*If you have already made your pledge – Thank you!*

*If you have not - Please support the*
***2025 Annual Catholic Appeal. Thank You!***
No gift is too large or too small!

***Give WHAT YOU CAN When you can!***
***Watch the ACA video and see our own Deacon Chris Wagner talk about how the ACA helped with his Formation!***
**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0H-QNBivn9I**

**MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN & ST. BERNARD PARISH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST**
**1:30PM-4:30PM**

**HOT FOOD & DESSERT PLATTERS**

**ST. BERNARD PARISH HALL**
**2030 EAST 69TH STREET**
**PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY IF ATTENDING BY WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH.**
**LIMITED SPACE TO 300 PEOPLE**
**718-763-5533**

## For the Military

If you would like to add a loved one that is in active duty in the military, please call the rectory with their name and branch of service and we will add them to a list of military members to pray for. Thank you. Almighty & eternal God, protect these men & women as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Shane Cawthon (Army)
Frank Gargano (Army)
Michael Gargano Jr. (Navy)
Marcello Gargano (Army)
Andrew-Jude Lao (SPC 2 Space Force)
Joseph Milone (Marines)
Ryan Moravcik (Army-Cavalry Scout)
Liam O'Connell (Navy)

ASSOCIATED VINCENTIAN CHARITIES OF BROOKLYN GIVES BACK

"My Car Went To Heaven"
For each car, truck or van running or not the Associated Vincentian Charities will give back to your parish $75/$200 per vehicle.
If you, a family member or friend have an old or neglected vehicle that is not being used, please call (718) 491-2525
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IRS TAX DEDUCTION-FREE TOWING-ANY CONDITION
Thank you for your participation

St. Bernard Weekly
Mass Attendance
Weekend of November 29th
& November 30th, 2025
Saturday, November 29th 5:00pm-162
Sunday, November 30th 9:00am-106
Sunday, November 30th 11:00am-262
Sunday, November 30th 5:00pm-18
Total-548

The Knights of Columbus council #14269 completed its annual donation to St Bernard Church & Academy on Sunday September 21st. The annual donation totaled $26,500.00.
DOING GOOD WHILE HAVING FUN!
ARE YOU A KNIGHT WHY NOT?
***USE THE QR CODE TO JOIN US!***

Membership

## Parish Phone Numbers

**RECTORY OFFICE**: 718-763-5533 **FAX**:718-763-0224
**EMAIL**: sbchurchbrooklyn@aol.com
**ACADEMY OFFICE**: 718-241-6040
**SCHOOL OF RELIGION**: 718-763-5533

## Gift Shop Hours

Weekdays 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

## Devotions

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**
**MONDAYS**
Novena after the 8:30 a.m. Mass
**ROSARY**
Monday - Friday after 8:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday after 9:00 a.m. Mass
**FIRST FRIDAYS**
Exposition: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Chapel

## Baptisms

Scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. Parents are required to schedule an appointment with a Priest or Deacon at least six weeks prior to Baptism.

## Marriages

Arrangements must be made with a Priest or Deacon at least 6 months before the wedding.
**Pre-Cana** information can be found at **www.pre-cana.org.**

## Sick Calls

Please call the Rectory to arrange a Communion call to the sick or elderly, or a pastoral visit to a hospitalized loved one.

## Vocations

Anyone seeking information regarding the Priesthood, Permanent Deaconate, Religious Life or to serve in our Parish as a Lay Minister should speak to Fr. Maduri, Fr. Mike, Dcn. Frank, Dcn. Chris or Dcn. Herb.

## Parish Membership

All new families are welcome to the Parish and encouraged to become actively involved in parish societies and activities. New parishioners should register at the Rectory as soon as possible. Parishioners are asked to use the weekly envelopes in making their contributions.

## Catholics Come Home

Please feel free to invite those who have been away from our parish to attend Mass with you. If there is anyone you know of that is upset with the church and feels that my speaking to them would be of help, please let me know so that I may speak with them. Fr. Maduri.

## Consider Leaving a Legacy of Faith

Remember Our Parish in Your Will
When you next update your estate plans, please consider continuing your lifelong stewardship by leaving a bequest to St. Bernard. For more information please see Fr. Maduri.

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