St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

December, 28, 2025

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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
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

THE JOY OF SELF-GIVING

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. While this particular feast could have easily passed by at one time without much comment much has changed in recent decades. We have heard debates about the definition of family; others have questioned its importance; many particularly among the younger generations have expressed an intention to never marry and/or have children. It must be said at the outset that large numbers of people have unfortunately experienced much heartache in their families. As a very tragic example we saw the tragedy of the murder of Rob and Michele Reiner at the hands of their own son, and this disturbingly is not without precedent. Many families have had to deal with drugs and alcohol addictions among members; others with mental health issues; still others with various levels and causes of disfunction and abuse not to mention family members who do not even speak to each other for one reason or another. To speak then about the joy of family life without noting the difficulties that can go with it is to do a disservice to those who have had struggles and difficulties in their families. This said, we cannot but do what Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Church have set before us as the goal of all family life. That goal of course is for every family to be a small church within its own sphere. It is that place and way of life where we should be learning how to love and care for one another. We celebrate the Holy Family of Nazareth as a feast of the Church due to the fact that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph show us what every family should be striving for. In Jesus we see love, devotion, respect, and obedience to his mother and to his foster father. We see Jesus taking up Joseph's trade as a carpenter working dutifully along Joseph's side as he is apprenticed. He was attentive to Mary after the death of Joseph as any good son or daughter would be. Even at Calvary He would make sure His Mother is well taken care of, "woman, behold your Son," letting her know she would not be alone but that John would be there for her as she continued her earthly journey. In Mary we see a contemplative but strong woman, faithful to God's will. Mary is the mother and spouse par excellence; unbowed by the evils of the Roman Empire she remains a model of perfect fidelity. She ponders the mysteries of faith bestowed upon her yet she makes time to visit her cousin Elizabeth to assist the older woman in her pregnancy. Mary blends being wife and mother, contemplative and active, in a symphony of love. In Joseph we see faithfulness and manly courage. He would not let any shame come to Mary. He protected her from the outset even when he first thought that she became pregnant by another man. He took her into his home; traveled dangerous roads at the command of the angel. Joseph made his life one of self-sacrifice for love of Jesus and Mary. Like Mary, he was quiet but strong. He was prudent but fearless to protect his family. Every member of the Holy Family found their strength in God, their peace in God's will, their joy in the love they shared with each other. As we have heard it said, "Life happens" and sometimes, perhaps more times than we care to remember, things happen that we would rather forget. The hurts, the betrayals, the loss; the disappointments are all part of family life not in spite of our humanity but because of our humanity. Jesus and Mary had to experience the sorrow at Joseph's death; Mary the even greater sorrow of her Son's. Like many of us she had to say a tearful farewell to her parents and other loved ones. Joseph knew danger. He also knew worry about Mary and Jesus when he realized his time on earth to protect them as a good husband and father was coming to an end. They all experienced misunderstanding from others over the unusual circumstance of their life together. Yet they remained faithful. Faithful in trust that God's will would conquer every sorrow and wipe away every tear; faithful in hope knowing that God would not disappoint them, and even if they could not comprehend everything in their lives they would confidently enter into the mystery of God; faithful in love toward God and each other, no sacrifice too great to make for that love. There are many happy families all around us. It is a responsibility, particularly in this day and time, for these families to continue to strengthen those bonds so that they may give even greater witness to those who believe that family life as we have known it for many millennia, has come and gone. Our society needs witnesses to show that the gift of self to others is the answer to loneliness and isolation, while self-gratification is the death knell of the human spirit. Equally so, the Church is also a family. Like any family there are members with different ideas and goals, different hopes and dreams. There are times of warmth and community and times of disagreements and disappointments. Yet we as a Church have a two-fold responsibility. To those families who are struggling we are called to offer an open heart and encouragement. To the family of the Church, we are called to mutual love and respect no matter how different our lives may be or our place on the journey of faith. The family of the home and the family of the Church are only as strong and faithful as us their members. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph show us the way.

Fr. John Maduri

This weekend's second collection is a Parish Collection for Groundskeeping.

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

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2025

9:00am Happy 75th Birthday Rev. Mario Esposito O. Carm.
by Michele Esposito (Living)

5:00pm Steve Borriello by The Capalbo Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

9:00am Daniel Borriello by The Capalbo Family

11:00am Nicholas Burriesci by Joanna & Carmine Evangelista

5:30pm Lucette Adolphe by Altagrace Foureau
Dorotha & Raymond Foureau by Altagrace Foureau

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

8:30am Lillian Rao by Annette & Richard Hinners

People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025

8:30am Josephine DeLuca by Maureen & Ted DeMarinis

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

8:30am Josephine DeLuca by Tina Moore

4:00pm Dorothy Allen by The Perlowitz Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

11:00am Annette Mastromarino by Sandra, Stephen, Matthew & Christopher
Harry Fallon by Joe Fallon & Family
Josephine DeLuca by The Consolation Ministry

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

8:30am Josephine DeLuca

Purgatorial Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

9:00am Carmela Oddo

5:00pm Pedro Miguel Pereira da Silva by Veronica Obdyke & Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

9:00am Living & Deceased St. Bernard Rosarians
Mary Lisa by Your Loving Husband Frank
Pedro Miguel Pereira da Silva by Nick, Ellie & Tina

11:00am Matthew J. Rao by Roseann & Anthony Cetta

5:30pm Vito Cutrone The Berger & Soma Family

Baby's 1st Christmas

On Sunday, January 4th, 2026 we will have a special blessing at the 11:00 a.m. Mass for all infants baptized in our parish during 2025. If your baby was baptized in another church this year and would like to attend you are also welcome.

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.

Memorials

Altar Wine:

In Loving Memory of Fosco Lenzini
Donated by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hinners

Church Bells:

In Loving Memory of Josephine DeLuca
Donated by Sandra & Angela

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
Rocco Gabriel DiMaggio
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

ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS

We welcome back all our college students who have been away for the semester and those still here for college who have just finished the semester.

New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve
Wednesday, December 31, 2025
at 4:00 p.m.

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1, 2026
at 11:00 a.m.
This is a Holy Day of Obligation
Rectory will be closed New Year's Day

Dear Parishioners:
On behalf of Fr. Michael Tedone, Fr. Dominic Peprah, Fr. Tom Leech, Fr. Peter Penton, our Deacons, Seminarian Aiden & our entire parish staff I extend to you and your loved ones many prayers for a very happy and blessed new year filled with all good gifts from heaven.
Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. John Maduri
Pastor

I would like to take a moment to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for your kind words, generous gifts, cards and donations sent to St. Bernard, as well as to Fr. Mike, Fr. Dominic, Fr. Leech, Fr. Penton, Deacon Frank, Deacon Chris, Deacon Herb, Seminarian Aiden & the Parish Staff.
It is truly appreciated more than words can express!
Fr. John Maduri
Pastor

Happy New Year!

May the light of Christ fill your homes with peace, joy, and renewed hope. Thank you for entrusting us with the faith formation of your children. What a blessing it is to walk with them as they grow in God's love.

Mrs. Veronica Obdyke, Ms. Katie Mossbarger,
Mrs. Sandra Arcati, Mrs. Angela Zito & Mrs. Sonia Palmeri

The School of Religion will resume on Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Commitment Mass for Confirmation Candidates and Communion Children will be on Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 12:00pm Mass-brunch to follow in the Parish Hall.
Please return your RSVP form to sbchurchbrooklyn@aol.com
or to the rectory, thank you

The Giving Tree

We would like to express a huge THANK YOU to the secret "*Elves*" who work tirelessly behind the scenes to arrange, organize, sort and pack the overwhelming amount of gifts that our generous parishioners donate to those less fortunate. Preparations began in September with the making of the ornaments to hang on the trees and coordinating with organizations. We all know that many hands make light work and we give thanks to the "Official" Elf Team **Kait, Sophia & Claire DiMaiolo and all the elves before them** who work quietly and selflessly.
In addition **Michael & Sheri Dogali & Josephine DeLuca** ❤ and many anonymous parishioners who all pitched in to help keep everything running smoothly. Of course, there always has to be a Chief Elf, so we also extend our appreciation to **Ellen Morris** who coordinates everyone year after year to help those in need.
We collected 36 full black bags filled with toys and 60 gift cards.
God Bless you all for your kind and giving hearts!

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**

Active Parish Campaign Summary

We have received from 9.6 % of Members of our Parish- there are

OVER 1,000 FAMILIES REGISTERED IN OUR PARISH

There are only a couple of 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! PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

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

Feast of the Three Kings

The Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas and is the time when we remember the three Wise Men (or three kings) who visited Jesus. The Three Kings found baby Jesus by following a star across the desert to Bethlehem. The three kings named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar followed the star of Bethlehem across the desert to meet the baby Jesus. They offered symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gold representing his royal standing; the frankincense his divine birth; and the myrrh his mortality.

In Honor of ***El Día de los Tres Reyes*** we will have a special Mass in Spanish
Saturday, January 3, 2026 at 7:00pm

Matthew 25 ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE

Our Annual Clothing Drive will be
Saturday, January 3rd & 4th ONLY.

CHILDRENS CLOTHING ONLY
AGES NEWBORN -12YRS.
& WOMENS COATS
NO MEN'S CLOTHING!

All donations will be going to BRIDGE TO LIFE".
An organization for women & families facing unexpected pregnancies, they provide evidence-based, life-affirming information on pregnancy options. Their hope is that through honest and compassionate counseling, women & families are empowered to choose life for their babies.
Thank you for always being so generous!

Stewardship Thought

"And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

COLOSSIANS 3:17

Giving thanks to God and using our words and actions to give all glory to God is the foundation of living a stewardship lifestyle. We were made in God's image and likeness; gratitude and generosity are in our DNA. As beloved sons and daughters of God, we are all part of God's family. Using our gifts to help others is our gift back to God and helps grow the Body of Christ here on earth and establishes a pathway to Heaven for each of us.

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.
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Thank you for your participation

St. Bernard Weekly
Mass Attendance

Weekend of December 13th & December 14th, 2025
Saturday, December 13th 5:00pm-423
Sunday, December 14th 9:00am-88
Sunday, December 14th 11:00am-98
Sunday, December 14th 5:00pm-20
Total-629

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!
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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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