

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20TH 2020

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16

The Lord promises David that he will raise from his descendents a kingdom that will endure forever.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 89:2-5,27,29

A prayer of praise to the Lord for his faithfulness to his covenant.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Paul praises God for making his revelation known.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her *fiat*, is an example of complete faith and obedience to

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

Pro Sanctity

BIBLE SHARING: PRO SANCTITY MOVEMENT MEETS EVERY THURSDAY AT 7:00 PM IN THE SIMONETTI CENTER: 741 E. 86TH ST STARTS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020 ALL ARE WELCOME. FOR INFO CALL 718-649-0324 or 917-873-1707

Prayer for Vocations

Lord of the Harvest, we petition you as you have instructed us to ask for more laborers to serve in the vineyard of Your Church. You have told us that the harvest is rich and laborers are few and we experience this great need in the face of the challenge of the New Evangelization we ask the Holy Spirit to inspire young men and women to seriously consider vocations for the priesthood and religious life. Help all of us to be effective instruments to encourage and support those whom you are calling to serve and lead the Church of Brooklyn and Queens in the future. Lord, you told the Apostles to put out into the deep. We ask for the grace and courage to accept your call as we pray and work for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. We ask

Every First, and Third Sunday, of the month after each mass Fellowship is followed in the Parish Center all are welcomed

PC PROBLEMS? Call Mike

He's the right Technician For All Your PC Issues!
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For details or to schedule a repair
Call Mike at 718-257-2400



Weekend Masses in the Canarsie Cluster Parishes:

Our Lady of Miracles

(E. 86th St. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)
Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)
10:30 AM (Eng.)
12:30 PM (French/Creole)

Holy Family

(Rockaway Pkwy. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:00 PM (Eng.)
Sun. 8:00 AM (Eng.)
9:15 AM (Creole)
11:15 AM (Eng.)

St. Jude

(Seaview Ave. & Canarsie Rd.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)
Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)
10:30 AM (Family)
12:30 PM (Bi-Lingual)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20TH 2020



Please Pray for ALL Our Sick In Our Parish

Jadranka Knezevic, Frantz Darius, Marie Yvonne Darius, Melanie Peter, Donna Ann Burris, Angelia Agbi, Maureen Ming, Libera Kenia, Beryl Whyte

We will keep names on the sick list for three weeks. After that time, the family should call the rectory

Our Parish needs your Weekly Support TIME People

Saturday	5:30 PM	Eng
Sunday	8:30 AM	Eng
Sunday	10:30 AM	Eng
Sunday	12:30 PM	French/Kreyol

Weather: Sunny Day

Our weekly goal is \$4850.00

This Weeks Total was \$2,685.00

Previous Week \$2,876.00

Your generosity is greatly appreciated

Second Collection

Coming Up This Week



Monday: December 21

8:30 AM Mass

Tuesday: December 22

8:30 AM Mass

Wednesday: December 23

8:30 AM Mass

Thursday: December 24

8:30 AM Mass

12:00 AM Christmas Mass

Friday: December 25

8:30 AM Christmas Mass

12:30 PM Christmas Mass

Saturday: December 26

8:30 AM Mass

5:30 PM Mass English

Sunday: December 27

8:30 AM Mass & 10:30 AM Mass English

12:30 PM Mass French/Kreyol

Our Lady of Miracles Rectory Office Hours

Monday 10AM-5PM, Tuesday 10AM-5PM,

Wednesday Closed, Thursday 10AM-5PM,

Friday Closed, Saturday Closed, Sunday Closed

Saturday December 19

8:30 AM For the safety and protection of all people

5:30 PM Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe & St Lucie by Norma Fequiere

5:30 PM For The Souls in Purgatory by Ann Jacobs

5:30 PM Birthday Blessings For Tarita & Mireya Hinkson by Mom

Sunday December 20

8:30 AM Christmas In Heaven for Concetta & Michael Petrizzo by Michael, Maryanne, & Steve

8:30 AM God's Blessings for my Sister by Letecia Casipe

8:30 AM Thanksgiving for Debbie Jaffier, and Family by Ann Jacobs

8:30 AM In Memory of Maureen Francis by Letecia Casipe

10:30 AM Birthday Blessings For Tarita, & Mireya Hinkson by Mom

12:30 PM In Memory of Anthony Lancelot & Marie Rose Menelas by The Menelas Family

12:30 PM Birthday Blessings for Richard & Billy Augustin by Parents

Monday December 21

8:30 AM Birthday Blessings for Christine Williams by Ann Jacobs

Tuesday December 22

8:30 AM For an increase to the Priesthood

Wednesday December 23

8:30 AM Anniversary In Heaven for Angela Ruocco by Nina Riti, & Family

Thursday December 24

8:30 AM Birthday Blessings for Lennard Hinkson by Tarita, Mireya, & Betty Hinkson

12:00 AM Thanksgiving For Letecia Casipe by Letecia Casipe

12:00 AM Thanksgiving For the Infant Jesus by Norma Fequiere

Friday December 25

8:30 AM Birthday Blessings For Lennard Hinkson by Tarita, Mireya, & Betty Hinkson

8:30 AM Thanksgiving For Marites & Michelle by Letecia Casipe

8:30 AM For The Little Child of Jesus by Anne Marie Leandre

Saturday December 26

8:30 AM For the safety and protection of all people

5:30 PM Happy Holidays to all from O.L.M

You can donate to the parish by using our electronic giving page at <https://givecentral.org/olm-brooklyn> Or simply text the word SUDAY to 646-736-4700 or mail your envelopes to the rectory at 757 East 86TH St Brooklyn NY 11236

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20TH 2020



Pope Francis's Reflection for Sunday December 20th 2020 Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!

On this Fourth Sunday of [Advent](#), the Gospel tells us about the events preceding the birth of Jesus, and the Evangelist Matthew presents them from the point of view of [St Joseph](#), the betrothed of the [Virgin Mary](#).

Joseph and Mary were dwelling in Nazareth; they were not yet living together, because they were not yet married. In the meantime, Mary, after having welcomed the Angel's announcement, came to be with child by the power of the Holy Spirit. When Joseph realized this, he was bewildered. The Gospel does not explain what his thoughts were, but it does tell us the essential: he seeks to do the will of God and is ready for the most radical renunciation. Rather than defending himself and asserting his rights, Joseph chooses what for him is an enormous sacrifice. And the Gospel tells us: "Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly" (1:19).

This brief sentence reveals a true inner drama if we think about the love that Joseph had for Mary! But even in these circumstances, Joseph intends to do the will of God and decides, surely with great sorrow, to send Mary away quietly. We need to meditate on these words in order to understand the great trial that Joseph had to endure in the days preceding Jesus' birth. It was a trial similar to the sacrifice of Abraham, when God asked him for his son Isaac (cf. Gen 22): to give up what was most precious, the person most beloved.

But as in the case of Abraham, the Lord intervenes: he found the faith he was looking for and he opens up a different path, a path of love and of happiness. "Joseph," he says, "do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 1:20).

This Gospel passage reveals to us the greatness of St Joseph's heart and soul. He was following a good plan for his life, but God was reserving another plan for him, a greater mission. Joseph was a man who always listened to the voice of God, he was deeply sensitive to his secret will, he was a man attentive to the messages that came to him from the depths of his heart and from on high. He did not persist in following his own plan for his life, he did not allow bitterness to poison his soul; rather, he was ready to make himself available to the news that, in a such a bewildering way, was being presented to him. And thus, he was a good man. He did not hate, and he did not allow bitterness to poison his soul. Yet how many times does hatred, or even dislike and bitterness poison our souls! And this is harmful. Never allow it: he is an example of this. And Joseph thereby became even freer and greater. By accepting himself according to God's design, Joseph fully finds himself, beyond himself. His freedom to renounce even what is his, the possession of his very life, and his full interior availability to the will of God challenge us and show us the way.

Let us make ourselves ready to celebrate Christmas by contemplating Mary and Joseph: Mary, the woman full of grace who had the courage to entrust herself totally to the Word of God; Joseph, the faithful and just man who chose to believe the Lord rather than listen to the voices of doubt and human pride. With them, let us walk together toward Bethlehem.



Scriptures For The Week

Monday December 21

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a Lk 1:39-45(197)

Tuesday December 22

1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56(198)

Wednesday December 23

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66(199)

Thursday December 24

Morning 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79(200)

Friday December 25 The Nativity of The Lord

Vigil Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25

Saturday December 26

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22(696)

Our Lady of Trust Catholic Academy

up coming events

Open House for Pre-3, Pre – K4 & Pre K

9:00 to 11 AM

For more information call 718-241-6633

Record of PARISH contributions

If you use our church envelopes and need to have a record of your contributions to Our Lady of Miracles Church for the past year (2019) for income tax purposes, please contact the rectory during office hours or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to

Our Lady of Miracles Church, 757 East 86th street, Brooklyn, New York 11236. We will be happy to forward the information to you.

Due to the Corona Virus we will not be serving the Precious Blood we will let you know when we will be serving the precious blood.

Haitian Prayer group meet every Monday night at 7:00 Pm in the church. All are welcomed

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20TH 2020

Office Of Faith Formation News

Virtual classes have begun for All Faith Formation Classes formerly called CCD

See schedule below for Days and Times for each grade.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Day and Time</u>
1,2	Thur @7PM
3	Sat @ 10 AM
4	Tue @7PM
5	Sun @1PM
6	Sat @3PM
7	Sun @12PM
8	Sun @11AM
RCIA	Wed & Thurs @7PM

If you have not registered your child please come to my office located at 741 East 86th St Brooklyn NY 11236 and provide the following information

Child's full name and address
Public school attending and grade
Copy of Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate
Parents Name and Address
Telephone: Home, Cell, Work
Email Address

If there any questions please call the Religious Ed office on Tuesday or Friday at the number below. Or email me at dre101163@diobrook.org

Our office hours and contact: 718-649-1006

Tuesday: 10:00AM-4:30PM
Friday: 10:00AM-3:00 PM

OLM Spiritual Journey Program (OSJP)

Olm Spiritual Journey English Bible Study meets every Friday at 7:30 PM Via Zoom. The Zoom id to join is 79745894054 and the password is WdF5b7

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday, from 9:30 AM till 12:00 Noon, we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction. We are looking for people to sit in church while the Blessed Sacrament is on the altar. Please come to the rectory to put your name down for an hour or two.

The only time we will not have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is if we have a funeral

Annual Catholic Appeal 2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL PRAYER

Loving Father, through Baptism you have made us members of the Body of your Son and His Priestly People. You have enriched us with the outpouring of the gift of your Holy Spirit. You continue to make your Son present among us through the Sacrament of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

We are ever grateful for what you do for us and we seek to respond by revealing your goodness through the witness of our lives.

Help us to nourish and support those members of the Body of Christ who are in need of our generous sharing of our time, talent and treasure.

We make this prayer through Christ our High Priest and Lord. AMEN

Annual Catholic Appeal 2020 goal at Our Lady of Miracles R.C is \$33,494

Thank for your generous support.
God bless you!

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE WHEN YOU ARE ENTERING THE CHURCH. THIS IS QUITE DISTRACTING TO THE PRIEST AND OTHER PARISHIONERS THANK YOU.