

# St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

10-08 49th Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 to 12, 1 to 5pm  
718-786-0705  
Email: [stmarylic1008@gmail.com](mailto:stmarylic1008@gmail.com)  
Website: [stmary-lic.org](http://stmary-lic.org)

St. Joseph Center/Religious Education  
10-15 49th Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
917-832-6104  
Email: [dre.stmarylic@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stmarylic@gmail.com)



December 24, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

## Parish Staff

### **Pastor**

Rev. Christopher J. Turczany

### **Director of Music**

Dr. Justin Bischof

### **Director of Religious Education**

Giovanna Varlese

### **Director of Maintenance**

Ray Rychalski

### **Administrative Assistant**

Marie Gabrielle Diharce

## Schedule of Masses

### **Masses:**

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:30 am and 12:00 pm

Monday-Thursday: 12:15 pm

**National Holidays:** Mass at 9:00 am

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:00 pm to 4:40 pm

**Anointing of the Sick:** First Saturday of the month at the 5:00 pm evening Mass.

### **RCI Program:**

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic, or are you a baptized Catholic seeking to complete the Sacraments Initiation?

For an application or any questions, please send an email to [dre.stmarylic@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stmarylic@gmail.com) or call 917-832-6104.

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Wednesday 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

### **Baptism:**

4th Saturday of the month at 1:00 pm. For courtesy please arrive fifteen minutes earlier.

**Please note– For December 2023– Baptism will take place on December 16 at 1:00pm.**

Please call the Rectory for an appointment with the Pastor.

### **Weddings:**

Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance in prior to the wedding date. Please call the Rectory for an appointment with the Pastor. All couples are required to attend the online Pre-Cana and present the certificate when completed.

**Funerals:** Monday through Saturday

**December 24, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Every so often the fourth week of Advent consists only of the fourth Sunday of Advent. This is one of those years. For three weeks we have been encouraged to use this season to prepare for Jesus 'coming. Now it's time for the procrastinators to begin! But seriously, the fact that this Sunday falls on Christmas Eve is a wonderful opportunity for us all. On this day, may the word of God we hear and the Eucharist we share inspire us to prepare a home in our hearts for the Lord.



**Mass Intentions For The Week**

**Saturday December 23, 2023**

5:00 pm Ronnie & Anthony Cavaliere

**Sunday December 24, 2023**

5:00 pm "Vigil Mass of Christmas"  
Antoinette and James Todero

10:00 pm "Christmas Mass at Night"  
Sister Annette  
& Elaine Marie Roeder

**Monday December 25, 2023**

9:30 am "Christmas Mass at Dawn"  
Genevieve and James Roeder

12:00 pm "Christmas Mass at Daytime"  
Mario and Mannelta and Family

**Tuesday December 26, 2023**

12:15 pm Sing-Rai King

**Wednesday December 27, 2023**

11-12 pm Blessed Sacrament  
12:15 pm Paul Crecimanni

**Thursday December 28, 2023**

12:15 pm Richard J. Gallagher

**Friday December 29, 2023**

No Mass

**Saturday December 30, 2023**

5:00 pm Danielle Sileo

**Schedule of Christmas Masses**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

5:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass  
"Vigil Mass of Christmas"  
*Arrive early for good seating*

10:00 pm Christmas Mass at Night  
With Musical Prelude at 9:30 pm  
*Arrive early for good seating*

**Monday, December 25, 2023**

9:30 am Christmas Mass at Dawn  
With Musical Prelude at 9:00 am  
*Arrive early for good seating*

12:00 pm Christmas Mass at Daytime  
With Musical Prelude at 11:30 am  
*Arrive early for good seating*

**December 24, 2023 – December 31, 2023**

**Bread and Wine for :**

Francis and Charles Amodeo  
Josephine and Frank Padula  
(Requested by Rose Amodeo and Family)

**Sanctuary Lamp for:**

Mary Ann and Rosario Mantineo  
(Requested by Rose Amadeo & Family)

**Pray for the sick**

Teresa Ortiz, Joe Sullivan, Martha Catel, Jimmy O'Neil, Robert Keegan, Joan Pacheco, Madelaine Sullivan, Mary Roedner, Tina Stare, Kelly Wallace, Kevin and Stan Wallace

**Pray for the Deceased**

Ines Cano, Salvatore Caiaccia, Elizabeth Crumish DeMartine, Emily Loiacono, Joan O'Brien, Anthony Walsh Jr., William F. Walsh, Antonio Natale, Antonio Magri, Mary and Daniel McCarthy, Stella Bonilla

**Purgatorial Intentions**

Tom DeQuatro, Felino Francisco Alamani, Dorothy, Marinelli, Anna Mangino, Anthony DeFelica, Evarito Sipin, Frank Carrado, Yolanda Sipin, Genevieve Roeder, Pasqual Cafiero, Robert Rohan, Tommaso Valese, Leonardo Antonio, Donna Vova, Vincenza Rios, Mildred Schifano

# Pope: May Advent awaken us to God's presence in our daily lives

Vatican News-December 2023

On the first Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis calls on us to “awaken from our slumber” and to always be aware of the presence of God and to welcome Him in our daily lives.

**By Thaddeus Jones**

Welcoming pilgrims in Saint Peter's Square on the first Sunday of Advent, Pope Francis offered his customary **reflections and catechesis** before leading the recitation of the Angelus prayer. Today's Gospel, he recalled, reminds us that the Lord is coming to be with us, marking the “foundation of our hope,” a fact that should give us consolation even in the most difficult times of our lives.

## **The Lord close to us**

The Pope pointed out that the Lord always visits us in our lives, “makes Himself close, and will return at the end of time to welcome us in His embrace.” But we naturally ask ourselves, how will the Lord come to visit us and how will we recognize and welcome Him?

## **The Lord visiting us**

The first question the Pope asked requires us to reflect more deeply, as we often hear the Lord is present in our daily lives, accompanying us in our journey. This reality may get lost at times, he observed, as we become “distracted” by the many concrete aspects of our daily lives; or perhaps we only look for spectacular and miraculous signs of the Lord's presence. The Pope pointed out how Jesus in today's Gospel reminded His listeners that God will come when we least expect it and in our normal, everyday lives, as in “the days of Noah.”

## **God's presence in our daily lives**

The Pope underscored that “God conceals Himself in the most common and ordinary situations in our life,” and we need to be constantly aware of this reality, not awaiting extraordinary events. This can be when we face someone in need, a chance encounter, or even in what might seem quiet or dull moments of daily life. “It is right there that we find the Lord, who calls to us, speaks to us, and inspires our actions.”

## **Recognizing and welcoming the Lord**

The Pope said the second question regards how we can recognize and welcome the Lord.

The Pope recalled how Jesus spoke about the people in the time of Noah, who were living their ordinary lives until they were swept away by the floods, as they were absorbed in their own matters. We need to always discern God's presence in our daily lives and not miss this big picture, as can happen when we are distracted by earthly matters only.

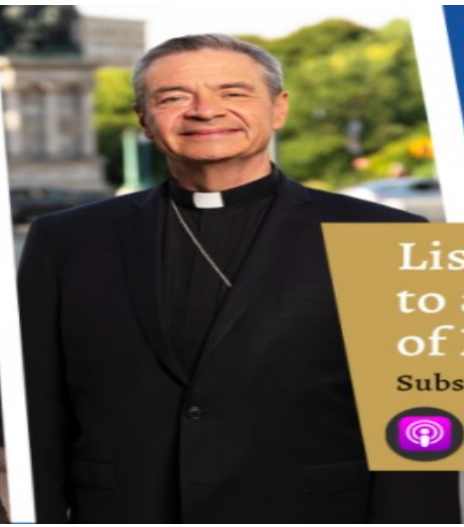
*“We must be awake, alert, vigilant. Jesus warns us: there is the danger of not realizing His coming and being unprepared for His visit. I have recalled on other occasions what Saint Augustine said: ‘I fear the Lord who passes by’... that is, I fear that He will pass by and I will not recognize Him!”*

The Pope recalled how Jesus spoke about the people in the time of Noah, who were living their ordinary lives until they were swept away by the floods, as they were absorbed in their own matters. We need to always discern God's presence in our daily lives and not miss this big picture, as can happen when we are distracted by earthly matters only.

## **Be alert and vigilant**

The Pope said Advent is the time we can be “shaken out” of our lethargy and awakened “from our slumber” to be vigilant always. We can ask ourselves if we are alert and vigilant, and if we “recognize God's presence in daily situations,” saying that if we are unaware of this reality today, we will be unprepared when He arrives at the end of times.

*“May we be helped by the Holy Virgin, Woman of waiting, who knew how to perceive the passing of God in the humble and hidden life of Nazareth and welcomed Him in her womb.”*



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**St. Mary's**  
10-15 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
917-832-6104

We encourage parents to attend **every Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m.** alongside their children.

Following the Mass, we invite parents to let their **kids explore and grow in their faith** by attending our

**Catholic faith classes for all ages**, which commence at **10:30 a.m.**

**If you have any questions, please reach out to:**

**Ms. Giovanna Varlese 917-832-6104 [dre.stmarylic@gmail.com](mailto:dre.stmarylic@gmail.com)**



May God bless you and your family abundantly. Yours in Christ, Giovanna Varlese, Director.

**Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

**St. Mary Parish Choir**  
**12:00 pm Sunday Mass weekly**  
**11:15 am–11:40 am Rehearsal in the church**



Do you like to sing? If so, we would like to hear from you!

Our Parish Choir is up and running with 5 dedicated parishioners helping to lead the congregation in song (along with our Cantor) at the Sunday Noon Mass every week.

There is a painless and quick audition with Dr. Bischof our Director of Music to sing through a hymn and is discuss the Parish Choir commitment.

To sign up for an audition, please contact Dr. Justin Bischof at 646-206-7638 or [justin@justinbischof.com](mailto:justin@justinbischof.com)