

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

Website: 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

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.

December 25, 2023

Nativity of the Lord: Christmas

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 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 1:30 pm. For courtesy please arrive fifteen minutes earlier.

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

The NATIVITY of the LORD

*“For a child is born to us,
a son is given us;
upon his shoulder
dominion rests.*

*They name him
Wonder-Counselor,
God-Hero,
Father-Forever,
Prince of Peace.”*

– Isaiah 9:5

Schedule of Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve 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

Christmas Day 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

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 Mannetta 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

Sunday December 31, 2023

- 9:30 am Diane Engel
12:00 pm Marie Ferlazzo

Monday January 1, 2024 "Happy New Year"

- 12:15pm Anna Connors

Schedule of Masses

New Year's Eve, Solemnity of Mary

5:00 pm MASS

New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary

9:30 am MASS

12:00 pm MASS



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 Amodeo and Family)

December 25, 2023 –January 1, 2024

Sanctuary Lamp for:

Estelita and Elias
(Requested Daughter)

Pray for the sick

Teresa Ortiz, Joe Sullivan, Martha Catel, Jimmy
O'Neil, Robert Keegan, Joan Pacheco,
Madeline 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 Valesse, Leonardo Antonio, Donna Vova,
Vincenza Rios, Mildred Schifano

Pope to Roman Curia: ‘Only those who love go forward’

Vatican-12/21/2023

Linda Bordonni

In his annual address to the Roman Curia for the exchange of Christmas Greetings, Pope Francis issues an invitation to listen, discern, and journey, never losing sight of Christ's call to be merciful, loving, and courageous.

Pope Francis's Christmas greetings to the Curia resonated with the spirit of the ongoing Synodal process, which asks the Church to listen, discern, and walk together with the faithful so that everyone can participate in the dynamism of missionary communion.

The Pope began his address highlighting the importance of listening.

Listening with the heart

He drew attention to the exemplary model of the Virgin Mary, and urged those present to listen not only with their ears but with their hearts, echoing the wisdom of Saint Benedict who speaks of listening with "the ear of your heart." Mary's open-hearted reception of the angel's message, he said, serves as a reminder that true listening involves an interior openness that goes beyond mere exchange of information "because more important than any precept is our need to enter into a relationship with God by accepting the gift of the love that he comes to bring us."

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The Pope went on to emphasize the significance of humility in listening and said, "There is no better way to listen than 'on our knees'."

This humble posture, he explained, shows a willingness to set aside preconceived notions and prejudices, allowing us to truly understand the desires and needs of others. Warning against the temptation to be like "hungry wolves," who devour words without genuine understanding, Pope Francis said that "really listening to another person requires an interior quiet and making room for silence between what we hear and what we say." Thus, he encouraged members of the Curia to nurture a culture of listening that transcends daily tasks and positions, giving value to relationships and maintaining an evangelical spirit marked by the ability to listen sincerely and without judgment. "Brothers and sisters, in the Curia too, we need to learn the art of listening. Even more important than our daily tasks and responsibilities, or even the positions we hold, is our need to appreciate the value of relationships," he said.

Discernment

Moving to the second word, discernment, the Pope recalled the story of John the Baptist. Despite the apostle's powerful preaching, he said, he experiences a crisis of faith when confronted with the unexpected mercy and compassion of Jesus. The Baptist, the Holy Father said, realizes that he needs to discern, so as to receive fresh eyes. "In a word, Jesus was not what people had expected, and even the Precursor had to be converted to the newness of the Kingdom. He had to have the humility and courage needed to discern," he said. Discernment, the Pope explained, is necessary in our spiritual journey, as it cautions against the rigid application of rules without a deep understanding of God's will. "Discernment is important for all of us." Discernment, he continued, frees us from the illusion of omniscience and challenges the temptation to perpetuate familiar patterns. "It is a burst of love that distinguishes between good and better, between what is helpful in itself and what is helpful here and now, between what may be good in general and what needs to be done now," he said. **"Discernment is a burst of love that distinguishes between what is good and what is better."** "Discernment ought to help us, even in the work of the Curia, to be docile to the Holy Spirit, to choose procedures and make decisions based not on worldly criteria, or simply by applying rules, but in accordance with the Gospel," the Pope explained.

Journey

The final word, journeying, the Pope said, is illustrated through the story of the Magi, who remind us of the "importance of journeying."

Pope Francis said that embracing the joy of the Gospel leads to discipleship, and calls us to embark on a journey toward the encounter with the Lord. "He sends us on a journey, draws us out of our comfort zones, our complacency about what we have already done, and in this way, he sets us free; he changes us and he enlightens the eyes of our heart to make us understand the great hope to which he has called us," he said. And warning against the dangers of fear, rigidity, and monotony, which lead to immobility and a failure to see the constant newness of God's calling, the Pope said the Curia is called to pursue a constant search for truth and an openness to growth. "In our service here in the Curia too, it is important to keep faring forward, to keep searching and growing in our understanding of the truth, overcoming the temptation to stand still and never leave the 'labyrinth' of our fears," he added. He urged those present to avoid the trap of bureaucracy and mediocrity, and to remain vigilant against "rigid ideological positions" that separate us from reality and prevent us from moving forward. The journey, like that of the Magi, he said, always begins "from above," guided by the call of the Lord and the illumination of God's word.

Call to love and humility

Pope Francis concluded with a call to courage, love, and humility in our journey of faith and service. Sharing an anecdote about a "zealous priest" he acknowledged that it is not easy "to rekindle the embers under the ashes of the Church." "Today we strive to kindle passion in those who have long since lost it. Sixty years after the Council, we are still debating the division between 'progressives' and 'conservatives,' while the real difference is between lovers and those who have lost that initial passion. That is the difference. Only those who love fare forward," he said. "Only those who love fare forward."

"Thank you," Pope Francis said, "especially for all the work that you do in silence Listening, discerning, journeying." And he invoked the Lord to grant the grace to rejoice in humble and generous service: "Please, may we never lose our sense of humour!"



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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



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