**Parish Mass Intentions**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 2024**

5:00 PM   For the people of the Parish

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2024**

7:30 AM     LOWER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE

 Action de grace a Dieu anniversaire de

 naissance de Sophia Vincent

10:00 AM   UPPER CHURCH– ENGLISH MASS

 For the people of the Parish

11:00 AM   LOWER CHURCH – MISA ESPANOL

     For the People of the Parish

1:00 PM      UPPER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE

 Action de grace a Dieu anniversaire de

 Naissance de Rosette Jean-par, Angie Dostaly

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 2024**

7:30 AM  No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM  No Mass Intentions

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH, 2024**

7:30 AM   No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM  No Mass Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 2024**

7:30 AM  No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM  No Mass Intentions

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 2024**

7:30 AM  No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM  No Mass Intentions

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 2024**

7:30 AM    No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM Repos de l’ame de Carole Bernard Elysee

 -par Espa Elysee

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024**

8:00 AM  Thanksgiving to God in honor of the Blessed

 Mother -by Naika Joseph

9:00 AM  No Mass Intentions

**The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2024**

**FEBRUARY: *For the terminally ill***

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK ESPECIALLY**

Yvrose Auguste, Giselle Beausoleil, Agatha Bristow, Georgette Charles, George Farid Puzo, Herma Farrell, Jean Harbin, Andre Innocent, Amina Joseph, Elisa Quashie Lawrence, Fleurisca Lexius, Dennese Reddie-Fraser, Rosalind Wahab

***PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE RECENTLY DEPARTED ESPECIALLY:***

Josette Perrin

 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

Out in the woods, I turn a corner. I stop suddenly. On the leaves in front of me, a red-tailed hawk is perched on the body of a squirrel. His beak snatches at its red flesh. The hawk's black eyes stare at me. He goes back to picking at his meat, predator eating prey.

 In the desert, Jesus was meat. How did he not get eaten by Wolves in the Judean wilderness? Bears and lions roamed the hills. Jackals howled at nighttime. For forty days, by Mark's account, the son of the carpenter dwelt among them. He was weak. He was exposed. He was vulnerable. He could have been picked to pieces. In that stark space—stripped of human support—the Savior of the world started his earthly ministry.

 Lent is the season of the desert. We have forty days to ponder our vulnerability; wolves and hawks could eat us as well. We could be picked to pieces by the lions outside of ourselves or ripped to shreds by the jackals of our own minds and hearts. How are we to make it through this life? Is our own strength enough? In reality, in our emptiness, exposed and vulnerable, we are as defenseless as squirrels.

 The Holy Spirit thrust Jesus into the immenseness of the desert. The Holy Spirit thrusts us into this season of penitence to recognize our need for God, to find God and to seek God. The goal of Lent is to strip away anything that keeps us from belonging to God alone.

 The Creator of the universe is trustworthy. In today's Genesis story, the Almighty creates a covenant of care for all creatures. In the wilderness story, the angels tend to Jesus. In our own littleness, we too are protected. Our God is vast and good, and yet remembers us. Under the divine wings, we find shelter. We will not be eaten.

 Jesus, Savior of the world, you know what the wilderness is like. you have been there. We also have days when we feel the hot sun down hard; we also fear the cries of wild animals in the night – they make us afraid. Strengthen our trust and help us to cling to Almighty God, show us that you are with us. Strip away our delusions of self-sufficiency and help us to be willing to serve you and you alone. Holy Spirit, grant us the courage of the desert this Lent.

****Sunday, February 11th:**

 **\* Regular Contributions** $ 5,176

 \*\***Online Offerings**  ---

**Weekly budget** -10,525

 **Difference -5,349**

**\*Give to God with love by placing your gift inside the offering envelopes. May God continue to bless you.**

**\*\*To be reported at the end of the month**

**Black and Indian Mission Collection**

The Black and Indian Missions Collection exists to help communities build the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God. Every year, it is the amazing generosity of Catholics faithful just like you who enable the Black and Indian Mission Office to support the important priorities. Please give generously in this week’s Collection.

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Please be aware that the rectory office will be closed on

**Monday, February 19, 2024**

in observance of Presidents’ Day

**DONATION STATEMENTS**

We greatly appreciate your generosity to our parish over the past year. Please call the rectory office at

**718-462-0223** if your total contribution for 2023 is **$250** or more to request a donation statement. We are thankful to you for all that you do.

**FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION**

Registration for Religious Education is ongoing. Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 646-664-6738 or via email: stjeromeff@outlook.com to make an appointment to register. You can also register online at: [www.givecentral.org/stjb-ff](http://www.givecentral.org/stjb-ff)

**RCIA-Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults New RCIA**

classes for the preparation of adults to become members of the Catholic Church Family has begun. St Jerome's Church welcomes all non-Catholic adults who are currently attending church and are interested in becoming members of our family. Please call the rectory during business hours at 646-664-6738 to register.

**TRILINGUAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Please join your parish family on Friday, February 16th, and on every Friday of Lent:

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS: LOWER CHURCH:**

**7 PM (TRILINGUAL)**

Please note that due to refurbishment of the pews in the upper church, Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday in the lower church until further notice.

**VOCATION**

“The Kingdom of God is at hand.” If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS**



Lent is that season where we as Christians experience our own self-imposed discomfort in hopes of becoming closer to Jesus, who became closer to us.

Pope Francis invites us to walk with those who struggle; to feel the pain and allow our human emotions to cause us to act. In the ["Joy of the Gospel"](https://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html), he says:

**"Sometimes we are tempted to be that kind of Christian who keeps the Lord's wounds at arm's length. Yet Jesus wants us to touch human misery, to touch the suffering flesh of others. He hopes that we will stop looking for those personal or communal niches which shelter us from the maelstrom of human misfortune and instead enter into the reality of other people's lives and know the power of tenderness. Whenever we do so, our lives become wonderfully complicated and we experience intensely what it is to be a people, to be part of a people." *USCCB.ORG***

**ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?**

In order to better serve you as a parishioner, we are asking you to register your family. To fulfill baptism requests, arrange a wedding Mass, or get a sacramental sponsor certificate, you must be registered as a parishioner in the parish. To register, you can stop by the rectory during business hours and fill out a registration form.

**Readings for the Week –February 18TH,2024**

**Monday**Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46
**Tuesday**Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15
**Wednesday**Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32
**Thursday**1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt 16:13-19
**Friday**Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26
**Saturday**Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48
**Sunday**Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10