

St. Jerome R.C. Church

2900 Newkirk Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11226



January 4, 2026
The Epiphany of the Lord

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Fr. Jean-Augustin Francois, Parochial Vicar
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Formation
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Email: rectory@stjeromercchurch.org

Website: www.stjeromercchurch.org

Rectory Office Hours

Monday through Friday:

9:00AM – 1:00 PM

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM



PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM **MESSE CRÉOLE**
Action de grace a Dieu pour Roselande
Cherubin nan okasyon anivèsè nesans li
- 9:45 AM **ENGLISH MASS**
For the people of the Parish
- 11:30 AM **MISA ESPANOL**
For the people of the Parish
- 1:15 PM **MESSE CRÉOLE**
Repos de l'ame de Mr. et Mme. Jean Marie
Rouchon

MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS
- 9:00 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS
- 9:00 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS
- 9:00 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS
- 9:00 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2026

- 7:30 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS
- 9:00 AM NO MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 2026

- 9:00 AM Messe d'action de grâces et de remerciements
à Dieu Pour Germaine Bellamy

MASS INTENTIONS 2026



We invite all parishioners to consider requesting a daily Mass for their intentions. The Mass is the highest form of thanksgiving, whether you're celebrating an anniversary, expressing gratitude for healing or blessings, or praying for loved ones who have passed. It is always a meaningful way to honor these intentions within the Mass. **The Mass book for 2026 is open.** Please visit the rectory to request a Mass intention.

Monthly Intentions for 2026

January: For prayer with the Word of God



Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The designers of our Church's liturgical, or worship calendar we can presume to work from the best of motives and only after prayer and consultation. And so it is that this Feast of the Epiphany, long celebrated on January 6th, was moved back in 1970 to this Sunday. That is a good thing, I suppose, because the event is most worthy of a celebration on a day when the most faithful Catholics can do it. Sunday, after all, is the Lord's Day.

But sometimes such changes affect the humblest of God's creatures in a hurtful way. I count my own Mom among them. You see, she was a humble person all her life, but she was at the same time proud that her birthday was January 6, and that for a good portion of her life she just happened to live in Epiphany Parish in South Philadelphia. I have no memory of her ever having complained, but I am sure the change was at least a pin prick of her ego.

The Epiphany in its older setting also marked the last of the "Twelve Days of Christmas," memorialized in a Christmas carol that demands explanation of its medieval references. But the chief importance of this feast is that it celebrates the coming of Christ to the wide world of the Gentiles, apart from the narrower confines of the Jewish world. The Jews were then, and remain to this day, God's chosen people. Our Lord came among us as a Jewish man. Our Lady, His Mother and ours was a Jew by birth. So was her beloved spouse, the obedient, brave, and humble St. Joseph. Add in the Twelve Apostles. This fact underlines the awful scandal of antisemitism among some Christians.

The Bible clearly tells us that God became man in Jesus to save the entire world. Nobody is left out of His love. Nobody is exempt from giving Him praise, honor and reciprocal love. Least of all, we sinners. That in itself is always worth celebrating, no matter what the date. I believe that the words of Edna St. Vincent Millay (d.1950) convey the breadth of the Epiphany event.

"The world stands out on either side|
no wider than the heart is wide;
above the world is stretched the sky
no higher than the soul is high.
The heart can push the sea and land
so far away on either hand;
The soul can split the sky in two
and let the face of God shine through."

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE RECENTLY DEPARTED ESPECIALLY:

Alix L. Joseph



MASS ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH, 2025

<u>Mass Time:</u>	<u>Number Of attendees:</u>
7:30 AM CREOLE MASS	231
9:45 AM ENGLISH MASS	100
11:30 AM SPANISH MASS	79
1:15 PM CREOLE MASS	204

COLLECTION FOR THE DIOCESAN MISSION

This weekend, we will take up the Collection for the Diocesan Mission. Your gift to the Collection will be used by Bishop Brennan to support appeals from various missions throughout the world. The support you give today will fund formation programs and provide opportunities for years to come. Please support the Diocesan Mission and be generous in today's second Collection.

Readings for the Week – January 4, 2026

Monday 1 Jn 3:22; 4:6 Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 Tuesday 1 Jn 4:7-10 Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 Mk 6:34-44 Wednesday 1 Jn 4:11-18 Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 Mk 6:45-52 Thursday 1 Jn 4:19; 5:4 Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 Lk 4:14-22 Friday 1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Lk 5:12-16 Saturday 1 Jn 5:14-21 Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Jn 3:22-30 Sunday Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17

VOCATION - JANUARY 4, 2026

"God chose us before the world began to be holy." God has chosen each person in Christ for a particular vocation. If He may be calling you to be holy through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org

PRAY for the SICK

Please pray for the sick & those that care for them

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| - Yvrose Auguste | - Andre Innocent |
| - Giselle Beausoleil | - Amina Joseph |
| - Agatha Bristow | - Mr. and Mrs. Nayel Birotte |
| - Georgette Charles | - Fleurisca Lexius |
| - Melroy Daniel | - Dennese Reddie-Fraser |
| - Umatile Pierre | - T Perard |
| - George Farid Puzo | - Rosalind Wahab |
| - Herma Farrell | - Sister Carmelle Nerette |
| - Jean Harbin | |
| - Ghenane Herbert | |

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Sunday, January 11th, Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast marks the conclusion of the Christmas season. We invite all those who were baptized this past year from January 2025 to 2026 to come to mass in their baptism garment and receive special blessing at all the masses.



Domingo 11 de enero, Fiesta del Bautismo del Señor. Esta fiesta marca la conclusión de la temporada navideña. Invitamos a todos los que fueron bautizados el año pasado, de enero de 2025 a 2026, a venir a misa con su vestimenta bautismal y recibir una bendición especial en todas las misas.

Dimanch, 11 Janvye, Fèt Batèm Granmèt la. Nap envite tout moun ki te batize ane pase de Janvye 2025 a Janvye 2026, pou vini menm ak rad batem yo si posib pou nou onore yo, lapriyè pou yo, pou yo kontinye grandi nan pelerinaj lafwa-a.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Our Parish School of Religion is now in session, beginning with the 9:45 AM Mass and ending at 12:30 PM. All children in Grades 1 through 8 who attend public school must be registered. Parents who have not yet registered their children are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, as we are still accepting registrations. Youth and adults needing Baptism, Communion, or Confirmation are invited to join our OCIC or OCIA programs. For more information, please contact Mother Vilma, our Faith Formation Director, at 718-462-0223

YOUTH MINISTRY REGISTRATION

We invite all young members of the parish to join the St. Jerome Youth Ministry. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with peers who are eager to deepen their faith, engage in church activities, participate in community outreach, and build meaningful friendships. We also encourage parents to inspire their children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews to get involved. We look forward to seeing them take active roles in our church community. For more information or to register, please contact Ms. Woodlyn Sance, the youth minister at 718-462-0223.

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

"Let the Children come to me," says the Lord. Altar Servers are needed: Parents with children who have already received First Communion are invited to volunteer their children for the ministry of Altar Server. Training will be provided. If interested, call the rectory at 718-462-0223 and leave names and phone number.

PROTECTING ALL CHILDREN SAFE ENVIRONMENT

St. Jerome R.C. Church complies with all Safe Environment mandates set forth by the Diocese of Brooklyn and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. All employees and volunteers who have contact with children must attend a Virtus session, sign a code of conduct and submit to a background search. If you need to register for a Virtus session, please contact Mother Vilma D. Orejola or online at www.virtusonline.org. The Diocese of Brooklyn wishes to do everything possible to see that all people, particularly children, are safe in all pastoral settings. Excuses and rationalizations for such criminal actions will not be accepted. To report sexual abuse involving diocesan personnel, priest, deacons, teachers, ushers (adult & youth), altar servers, employees or volunteers at schools or parishes please call the Diocese of Brooklyn toll-free, confidential reporting number 1-888-634-4499.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE YOUR PARISH ENVELOPES

All parishioners are encouraged to register and to use their offering envelopes as a sign of commitment. If you are not registered, we cannot issue testimonial letters in connection with sponsorship for the sacraments of Baptism, and Confirmation.

We can give character references for positions, schools etc. only to those who have been registered for at least 3 months. Please register at the rectory office if you are new to the parish.

Please also inform us of any change of address. Also, if you are a registered parishioners and NOT receiving the envelopes, PLEASE call the Parish Offices. If you do receive the envelopes, PLEASE USE THEM.

It is important

- ✚ Your Gift to Your God
- ✚ For proving that you attend church
- ✚ For support of your church
- ✚ For tax purposes
- ✚ To be a sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation

SAINT OF THE DAY

*January 4—Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious—Memorial: USA*

Prayer: Saint Elizabeth, God permitted you to endure many trials in life, but through them all you persevered and deepened your trust in Him. Please pray for me when I encounter difficulties. May I have the faith that you had and discover the riches that you discovered. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

How do we pray with Sacred Scripture?

Spiritual reading of Sacred Scripture, especially the Gospels, is an important form of meditation. This spiritual reading is traditionally called *lectio divina* or divine reading. *Lectio divina* is prayer over the Scriptures.

- ✚ The first element of this type of prayer is reading (*lectio*): you take a short passage from the Bible, preferably a Gospel passage and read it carefully, perhaps three or more times. Let it really soak-in.
- ✚ The second element is meditation (*meditatio*). By using your imagination enter into the Biblical scene in order to "see" the setting, the people, and the unfolding action. It is through this meditation that you encounter the text and discover its meaning for your life.
- ✚ The next element is prayer (*oratio*) or your personal response to the text: asking for graces, offering praise or thanksgiving, seeking healing or forgiveness. In this prayerful engagement with the text, you open yourself up to the possibility of contemplation.
- ✚ Contemplation (*contemplatio*) is a gaze turned toward Christ and the things of God. By God's action of grace, you may be raised above meditation to a state of seeing or experiencing the text as mystery and reality. In contemplation, you come into an experiential contact with the One behind and beyond the text. Usccb.org

The Epiphany

At the beginning of the new year we celebrate both Mary, the Mother of God and the Epiphany, which is when the wise men came from far away to worship baby Jesus.



Imagine that you are living a long time ago in Bethlehem and your parents have invited a poor family to stay at your house: a mother, a father and a new baby.

One day something amazing happens: some rich men from a far away country come to see the baby and bring expensive treasures for him! Do you know who the family is now? Who is the baby?

The baby is Jesus, of course, and the mother is Mary. She holds Jesus on her lap so the wise men can bow down to Him and worship Him. Mary cooperated with God to bring Jesus into the world so that we could all see and love and worship Him.

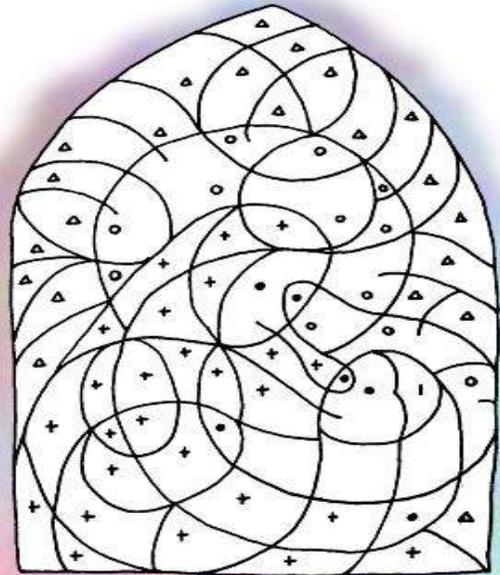


Can you thank Mary today for bringing Jesus to us?

Answer to Celebrate Christmas Word-Find:
Mary the Mother of God
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God: Jan. 1
& Feast of the Epiphany: January 4 or 6, 2026



Whose feast is it on New Year's Day?
Colour in the spaces to see! Here's the code:

- + Blue
- ▲ Pink
- Yellow
- ! Brown
- Skin colour

Saint John Neumann January 5

JOHN NEUMANN WAS BORN IN BOHEMIA IN 1811. HE STUDIED FOR THE PRIESTHOOD BUT THE BISHOP WOULD NOT ORDAIN HIM BECAUSE THEY HAD SO MANY PRIESTS!

I'm sorry. All the parishes have enough priests.

FR. JOHN WORKED IN A COUNTRY CHURCH THAT HAD A DIRT FLOOR AND NO STEEPLE.

We can't afford to build it better!

IT TAKES US TWO HOURS TO GET HERE. CAN YOU COME TO OUR HOUSE NEXT?

HE TRAVELED FROM VILLAGE TO VILLAGE, OFFERING MASS IN PEOPLE'S HOUSES.

ONCE WHEN VISITING ONE OF HIS PARISHES, BISHOP JOHN HAD TO TAKE A RIDE ON A MANURE WAGON!

Your Excellency, could you hear my friend's confession in French?

Sure!

SO JOHN WAS ORDAINED IN NEW YORK WHERE ONLY 36 PRIESTS HAD TO LOOK AFTER 200,000 CATHOLICS!

There will be much work for all of you.

AT AGE 41 JOHN WAS CHOSEN TO BE BISHOP OF PHILADELPHIA. HE STARTED 100 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

The children need an education!

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SAINT JOHN NEUMANN WORKED TIRELESSLY TO HELP THE POOR PEOPLE WHO WERE SETTLING IN AMERICA. HE DID NOT LET HIS OWN POVERTY SLOW HIM DOWN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS EXAMPLE TO USE OUR TALENTS TO BRING GOD TO THE WORLD NO MATTER HOW MUCH OR HOW LITTLE WE HAVE.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

Octave of Christmas Word-Find



Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below?
Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

- | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|
| ANGELS | GLORY | PRAISE |
| ANIMALS | GOD | SAVIOUR |
| BABY | HOLY | SHEEP |
| BARN | JESUS | SHEPHERDS |
| BETHLEHEM | JOSEPH | SING |
| BORN | MANGER | SKY |
| COLD | MARY | STABLE |
| FIELDS | MOTHER | WONDER |
| FOUND | NIGHT | WORSHIP |

W P M S I N G N I G H T
O R A T A N I M A L S B
N A S A N G E L S R H E
D I A B M O T H E R E T
E S V L A D J O S E P H
R E I E R Y E L T H H L
G L O R Y E S Y M O E E
F B U T H E U S K Y R H
O A R W O R S H I P D E
U B A R N F I E L D S M
N Y R M A N G E R O F G
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