

Mary Queen of Heaven Church

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A TOUCH OF HEAVEN IN BROOKLYN
CELEBRATING OVER 90 YEARS OF HEAVEN IN BROOKLYN



MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

THE HOLY FAMILY

"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." - Mt 2:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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In Partnership

Mary Queen of Heaven and St. Bernard of Clairevaux

PARISH STAFF

REV. JOHN J. MADURI,
Pastor

REV. PETER PENTON,
Parochial Vicar

REV. MICHAEL G. TEDONE,
Parochial Vicar

REV. THOMAS F. LEACH,
In Residence
(Mary Queen of Heaven)

REV. DOMINIC PEPRAH,
In Residence
(St. Bernard)

DCN. JEAN BAPTISTE
BOURSIQUOT,
Haitian Ministry

DCN. FRANK J. D'ACCORDO
Permanent Deacon

DCN. HERB CABRERA
Permanent Deacon

DCN. CHRISTOPHER WAGNER
Permanent Deacon

ROBERT WESTON,
Music Director

SR. MARY JANE ROLSTON, OP,
Director of Faith Formation
Office: 718-763-2590

MRS. MARY-CASSANDRA
ODENAT,
Parish Secretary



WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

MASS TIME	LOCATION
Saturday, 5:00 pm	St. Bernard of Clairevaux
Sunday, 8:00 am	Mary Queen of Heaven
Sunday, 9:00 am	St. Bernard of Clairevaux
Sunday, 10:00 am	Mary Queen of Heaven
Sunday, 11:00 am	St. Bernard of Clairevaux
Sunday, 12:00 pm	Mary Queen of Heaven
Sunday, 5:30 pm (Life Teen)	St. Bernard of Clairevaux

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

<u>Mary Queen of Heaven</u>	<u>St. Bernard of Clairevaux</u>
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am	Monday - Friday: 8:30 am
Saturday: 9:00 am	Saturday: 9:00 am
<u>HOLYDAYS</u>	<u>HOLYDAYS</u>
Vigil: 7:30 pm	8:30 am, 7:30 pm
Day: 8:00 am, 10:00 am	

CONFESSIONS

<u>Mary Queen of Heaven</u>	<u>St. Bernard of Clairevaux</u>
Saturday: 11:00 am—11:30 am	Saturday: 4:15 pm—4:45 pm



LOVE LIVES HERE

All are welcomed at Mary Queen of Heaven.
Meet us in church or watch us live at the
8:00 am Mass.

Website: maryqueenofheaven-brooklyn.org

Facebook: [Mary Queen of Heaven Church](https://www.facebook.com/MQHRCCCHURCH)
(Search @MQHRCCCHURCH)

Phone: (718) 763-2330, Fax: 718-763-6592

Email: mqhchurch@aol.com

Monday, Tuesday: 9:00 am—12 Noon, 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Wednesday-Friday: 9:00 am—12 Noon, 1:00 pm—8:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am—5:00 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

St. Bernard of Clairevaux Rectory Office: 718-763-5533

Our Mission: We, the parish community of Mary Queen of Heaven, are called to live and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all with whom we come into contact. We are committed to being a vibrant and welcoming community of faith by worshiping God through prayer and sacrament, teaching and sharing our faith, and serving others as Jesus did. We seek to become a faith community that invites people of all races and cultures to become part of our parish family.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
THE JOY OF SELF-GIVING

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. While this particular feast could have easily passed by at one time without much comment much has changed in recent decades. We have heard debates about the definition of family; others have questioned its importance; many particularly among the younger generations have expressed an intention to never marry and/or have children. It must be said at the outset that large numbers of people have unfortunately experienced much heartache in their families. As a very tragic example we saw the tragedy of the murder of Rob and Michele Reiner at the hands of their own son, and this disturbingly is not without precedent. Many families have had to deal with drugs and alcohol addictions among members; others with mental health issues; still others with various levels and causes of disfunction and abuse not to mention family members who do not even speak to each other for one reason or another. To speak then about the joy of family life without noting the difficulties that can go with it is to do a disservice to those who have had struggles and difficulties in their families. This said, we cannot but do what Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Church have set before us as the goal of all family life. That goal of course is for every family to be a small church within its own sphere. It is that place and way of life where we should be learning how to love and care for one another. We celebrate the Holy Family of Nazareth as a feast of the Church due to the fact that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph show us what every family should be striving for.

In Jesus we see love, devotion, respect, and obedience to his mother and to his foster father. We see Jesus taking up Joseph's trade as a carpenter working dutifully along Joseph's side as he is apprenticed. He was attentive to Mary after the death of Joseph as any good son or daughter would be. Even at Calvary He would make sure His Mother is well taken care of, "woman, behold your Son," letting her know she would not be alone but that John would be there for her as she continued her earthly journey.

In Mary we see a contemplative but strong woman, faithful to God's will. Mary is the mother and spouse par excellence; unbowed by the evils of the Roman Empire she remains a model of perfect fidelity. She ponders the mysteries of faith bestowed upon her yet she makes time to visit her cousin Elizabeth to assist the older woman in her pregnancy. Mary blends being wife and mother, contemplative and active, in a symphony of love.

In Joseph we see faithfulness and manly courage. He would not let any shame come to Mary. He protected her from the outset even when he first thought that she became pregnant by another man. He took her into his home; traveled dangerous roads at the command of the angel. Joseph made his life one of self-sacrifice for love of Jesus and Mary. Like Mary, he was quiet but strong. He was prudent but fearless to protect his family.

Every member of the Holy Family found their strength in God, their peace in God's will, their joy in the love they

shared with each other.

As we have heard it said, "Life happens" and sometimes, perhaps more times than we care to remember, things happen that we would rather forget. The hurts, the betrayals, the loss; the disappointments are all part of family life not in spite of our humanity but because of our humanity. Jesus and Mary had to experience the sorrow at Joseph's death; Mary the even greater sorrow of her Son's. Like many of us she had to say a tearful farewell to her parents and other loved ones. Joseph knew danger. He also knew worry about Mary and Jesus when he realized his time on earth to protect them as a good husband and father was coming to an end. They all experienced misunderstanding from others over the unusual circumstance of their life together. Yet they remained faithful. Faithful in trust that God's will would conquer every sorrow and wipe away every tear; faithful in hope knowing that God would not disappoint them, and even if they could not comprehend everything in their lives they would confidently enter into the mystery of God; faithful in love toward God and each other, no sacrifice too great to make for that love.

There are many happy families all around us. It is a responsibility, particularly in this day and time, for these families to continue to strengthen those bonds so that they may give even greater witness to those who believe that family life as we have known it for many millennia, has come and gone. Our society needs witnesses to show that the gift of self to others is the answer to loneliness and isolation, while self-gratification is the death knell of the human spirit.

Equally so, the Church is also a family. Like any family there are members with different ideas and goals, different hopes and dreams. There are times of warmth and community and times of disagreements and disappointments. Yet we as a Church have a two-fold responsibility. To those families who are struggling we are called to offer an open heart and encouragement. To the family of the Church, we are called to mutual love and respect no matter how different our lives may be or our place on the journey of faith.

The family of the home and the family of the Church are only as strong and faithful as us their members. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph show us the way.

Fr. John Maduri, Pastor

Masses for the New Year 2026

NEW YEAR'S EVE, Wednesday, December 31, 4:00 pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Thursday, January 1, 10:00 am, Noon

RECTORY OFFICE - CLOSED

at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, December 31

for the day on **January 1 & Friday, January 2, 2026**



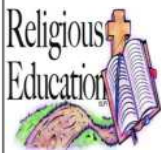
NIGHT WATCH MASS

St. Thomas Aquinas, 1550 Hendrickson Street, will be hosting a Holy Hour at 10:00 pm on New Year's Eve, **December 31**, followed by Mass at 11:00 pm to ring in the New Year.

MOH GIFT SHOP

will be open every Sunday after all Masses.





FAITH FORMATION

The Religious Ed. 2025-2026 School Year

Classes are held 8:30 am in the Parish Center downstairs meeting room (entry from 57th Street gate). Students and Parents/Guardians attend the 10:00 am Mass.

Should you still need to register, registration forms are available at the Rectory Office. Please contact

Sr. Mary Jane (718-763-2590) for more information. (Student's baptism certificate is required. The fee is \$150.00 for each student. Discount for additional students in the same family.)

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN

INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)



Do you know someone who longs to have a closer relationship with our Heavenly Father? Can you plant the seeds of hope as you speak to them about our Father's loving care and His everlasting promises fulfilled in the sending of His Son, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit? Contact Fr. John, Fr. Peter, or Sr. Mary Jane regarding OCIA inquiry sessions for those who are not Baptized, are of other Faiths, or are adult Catholics who are not Confirmed or have not received their First Communion.

Instructions will be given by Dcn. Frank D'Accordo at St. Bernard Parish.



TEEN CLUB

All teens are invited to join the Teen Club Friday evenings 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Parish Center Basement Meeting Room. Please bring a friend. Contact Sr. Mary Jane for more information.

SICK LIST

To add a name to the sick list, you must call into the Rectory Office on Mondays only, before 3:00 pm. The name will appear on the list for 4 weeks.

Larry Anderson	Adonis Louis
Yves Augustin	Anne Maccaro
Terry Barile	Joseph Martino
Doug Bontempo	Kendall Matthew
Arline Brack	Alicia Maxwell
Mitzi Brown	Richard Maxwell
Louis Coppola	Maria Rosa
Sal Coppola	Carmela Rose Meo
Dana Croom	Margaret Moffat
Elisa Croom	Phil Spezio
Sal Cuciti	Mary Francis Whalen
John Hansen	Sal & Doreen Zaccheo
Michelle Leighty	

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL (ACA) - 12/15/2025



Diocesan Goal: 63,708 Pledged: \$63,529
Donors: 151 Diocese received: \$58,085

We thank all those who have made a pledge to the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal at Mary Queen of Heaven.

We are \$5,623 away from meeting our diocese goal. If we fail to meet goal, we will still need to pay the difference to the appeal.

If you have not done so already, please prayerfully consider your donation.

All monies received over the goal by **December 31, 2025, just 3 days away**, will be returned to Mary Queen of Heaven Parish to aid in sustaining our parish.

Thank you for supporting our parish!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Readings: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14, Col 3:12-21, Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



8:00 am Fred Wilken—
1st Anniversary
10:00 am Special Intention
12:00 pm Msgr. John Burns

Requested by:
The Wilken Family

MCO

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2025

*Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Feast of St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr*

Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35

8:00 am People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Readings: 1 Jn 2:12-17, Lk 2:36-40

8:00 am Marie Louise St. Fleur Kaneau St. Fleur

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2025

*Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Feast of St. Sylvester I, Pope*

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18

8:00 am Joan Sieja Carol Battaglia
4:00 pm Special Intention

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

*THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD,
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, New Year's
Day, World Day of Prayer for Peace*

Readings: Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21



10:00 am Memorial Tree of Lights
12:00 pm Special Intention

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 2026

Feast of Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28, Jn 1:19-28

8:00 am Special Intention

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

Christmas Weekday, Feast of The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Readings: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6, Jn 1:29-34

9:00 am Gary Levesque Sr. Bernadette Izzo

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Readings: Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3.5-6, Mt 2:1-12



8:00 am Sal & Lucy D'Esposito The Cuciti Family
10:00 am Special Intention
12:00 pm The Rosary Society

Memorial Masses Special Intention



REST IN PEACE

to all of the deceased members of the parish and our relatives and friends.

THE PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

Thomas John Guarrera, Serge Guervil, Marie Martin,
Bruce Rauert, Ana Maria Rodriguez



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