OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

The Mother Church of Queens County

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Msgr. "John" Cuong M. Pham, *Pastor*

Rev. "Joseph" Hung Sy Tran, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Vito Jumao-as, *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Jacob Rodriguez

Celeste Stewart, *Parish Manager*
cstewart@diobrook.org

Nelly Gutierrez, *Religious Ed Coordinator*
ccdmountcarmel@gmail.com

Luis Sanchez, *Parish Secretary*
Lsanchez@diobrook.org

Lucille Mascia, *Music Director*

Dayonel Mejia, *Youth Minister*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." - Mt 5:10-12a

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

Mass Times

Weekend: Saturday Vigil 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM *(English)*, 9:00AM *(Italian- Every 2nd & 4th Sunday in the Chapel)*, 9:30AM *(Bilingual)*, 10:30AM *(Czech-Slovak in the Chapel)*, 11:00AM *(English)*, 12:30PM *(Spanish)*, 3:00 PM *(Vietnamese)*

Weekday: 8:00AM & 12:00PM, Saturday 8:00AM

First Fridays: 7:30 PM *(Spanish)*
Holy Days: 8:00AM & 12:00PM, 7:30PM *(Bilingual)*
Holidays: 9:00AM

Office Hours

Weekday: 9:00am—8:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am—5:00pm

Infant Baptisms & Adult Sacraments: Contact Deacon Jacob Rodriguez for registration.

Confessions: Every Saturday in the Chapel from 3:30pm-4:30pm or by appointment during the week.

Weddings: Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with a priest.

Sweet Sixteen: Celebrated for parish members who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Anointing of the Sick: Available upon need. Hospital patients may ask to see the priest chaplain.

Bautismos Infantiles y Sacramentos para Adultos: Hable con el Diacono Rodríguez para registraciones.

Confesiones: Cada sábado en la capilla de 3:30pm-4:30pm o por cita durante la semana.

Bodas: Arreglos deben hacerse 6 meses en avance con un sacerdote.

Quinceaños: Solamente para miembros de la parroquia que han recibido la Confirmación.

Unción de los Enfermos: Disponible por necesidad. Pacientes de hospital pueden pedir ver el capellán.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 ***(Saint John Bosco)***

5:00pm Maria Nacinovich *(Memorial),* Paul Chin Nyen, Robert Russo, Jr., Francisca Tria *(Death Anniversary)* Sophia Harkins *(22nd Anniversary)*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1 ***(Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time)***

8:00am Joseph Roeder

9:30am The Living & Deceased Members of Our Parish's Rosary Society, Bryan Lobo *(14th Birthday)* Gregorio Perdomo *(11 Aniversario)*, Manuel Ortega & Digna Tito

11:00am Nicoletta Todisco

12:30pm Flora Castillo Castro, José Flavio Santos Zarate, Juana Templos, Consuelo Peña Cordero, María Cortes, Rogelio Raymundo, Johanni Moreno, Constantina Rojas

3:00pm For the People of the Parish

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2 ***(The Presentation of the Lord)***

8:00am Gaspare Barretta

12:00pm Fernando Caballa

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 ***(Saint Blaise, Saint Ansgar)***

8:00am Sebastiano Mont'Etna

12:00pm Maria & Nicola Mancini

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:00am John Thu Pham

12:00pm Antonia & Salvatore Leto

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5 ***(Saint Agatha)***

8:00am Nicolo Sacramone

12:00pm Mr & Mrs Sayeed Khoury

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 ***(Saint Paul Miki)***

8:00am Purgatorial Society

12:00pm All Sous in Purgatory

7:30pm Maria del Rocio Garcia & Pedro Garcia

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:00am Deceased Members of the Carlino Family

5:00pm Vicente Morales, Lucrecia Artieda, Norma Romero, Enriqueta Artieda, Nuri Villaviceno, Elisa Geada

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 ***(Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)***

8:00am Josip Gragas-Strklja

9:00am Gaspare Barretta

9:30am Gregorio Nuñez *(Aniversario)*, Serafina Castillo, Salvador Rivera

11:00am Rose Tavano

12:30pm Starros Timotheatos, Consuelo Peña Cordero, Maria Cortes, Rogelio Raymundo, Constantina Rojas, Armengod Espinoza

3:00pm For the People of the Parish

SECOND COLLECTIONS

We will have second collections taken after communion on the following dates. We thank you for your generosity.

February 8, 2026– Parish Maintenance
February 22, 2026– Black & Indian
March 8— Parish Maintenance

SEGUNDA COLECTA

Tendremos una segunda colecta despues se la comunion en las siguientes fechas. Les agradecemos su generosidad.

8 de Febrero, 2026— Mantenimiento Parroquial
22 de febrero, 2026— Misiones Domesticas
8 de Marzo, 2026— Mantenimiento Parroquial

2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

As of January 26, 2026, 185 donors have pledged $86,425 from which $84,695 have been received. We thank all donors for contributing to our parish goal.

In the coming weeks, we will begin our 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal. Together, we can continue to support the various ministries of our diocese and of our parish.

CAMPAÑA CATOLICA ANUAL 2025

A partir del 26 de enero, 2026, 185 donantes han prometido $86,425 de cual $84,695 han sido recibidos. Les agradecemos a todos por contribuir a nuestra meta.

En las próximas semanas, comenzaremos la Campaña Católica del 2026. Juntos, podemos continuar apoyando a los varios ministerios de la diócesis y de nuestra parroquia.

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

Last Week: $3,045 Last Year: $5,616

Faith Direct January 2025: $4,352
Parish Soft January 2026: $7,196

GROUP AND SOCIETY MEETINGS IN OUR PARISH INSTITUTE

Sunday, February 1

9:00am—1:00pm	Rosary Society	*Lourdes A/B*
9:30am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #5	*Assumption*
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #9	*Balcony*
10:00am—12:00pm	Spanish OCIA	*Fatima & Upper Room*
10:00am—12:30pm	Cursillo	*Guadalupe A/B*
1:30pm—3:00pm	Quinceaños Class	*Nazareth*
10:00am—1:00pm	Czech Community	*Guadalupe B*
2:00pm—3:00pm	Grupo de Amistad #14	*Fatima*
2:00pm—7:00pm	Cursillo Meeting	*Guadalupe A/B*
2:30pm—5:00pm	Czech Mass & Fellowship	*Lourdes A/B*
7:00pm—10:00pm	Vietnamese Lion Practice	*Gym*

Monday, February 2

7:00am—5:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
5:00pm—9:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
7:00pm—9:00pm	English OCIA	*Guadalupe B*

Tuesday, February 3

7:00am—4:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
5:00pm—9:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
5:30pm—7:00pm	Mariachi Practice	*Balcony Room*
6:00pm—9:00pm	Marriage Encounter	*Guadalupe A/B +Fatima*
7:00pm—9:00pm	Practica de Coro #1	*Nazareth*

Wednesday, February 4

7:00am—4:00pm	TYWLS	*Gym*
4:00pm—7:30pm	Religious Education	*All Rooms*
7:30pm—10:00pm	CYO	*Gym*

Thursday, February 5

7:00am—5:00pm	TYLWS	*Gym*
10:00am—11:30am	Legion of Mary	*Guadalupe B*
5:30pm—7:30pm	Religious Education	*All Rooms*
7:30pm—9:30pm	OLMC Jornada Group	*Guadalupe A*
7:30pm—10:00pm	CYO	*Gym*

Friday, February 6

7:00am—5:00pm	TYLWS+ Basketball	*Gym*
5:00pm—10:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
6:30pm—9:00pm	OLMC Youth Group	*Guadalupe A/B*
6:30pm—9:00pm	Practica de Niños	*Lourdes A/B*

Saturday, February 7

9:00am—7:00pm	CYO	*Gym*
9:00am—11:00am	Reunion de Amistad #15	*Fatima*
9:00am—1:00pm	AA Meeting	*Guadalupe A/B*
10:00am—12:00pm	Coro de Niños	*Lourdes A/B*
3:00pm—5:00pm	1st Com Session 4	*Guadalupe A/B+ Fatima*
4:00pm—9:00pm	Adult Sewing Group	*Lourdes A/B*
5:00pm—7:00pm	Ministerio de Consolacion	*Fatima*
5:00pm—7:00pm	Bilingual Choir Practice	*Nazareth*
7:00pm—10:00pm	Practica Coro #2	*Guadalupe A/B*

Sunday, February 8

8:00am—11:30am	Italian Community	Lourdes A/B
9:30am—10:30am	Grupo de Amistad #14	*Nazareth*
9:30am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #5	*Assumption*
10:00am—11:00am	Grupo de Amistad #9	*Balcony*
10:00am—12:00pm	Spanish OCIA	*Fatima & Upper Room*
10:00am—12:30pm	Cursillo	*Guadalupe A/B*
12:00pm—10:00pm	Lunar New Year Celebration	*Gym*
2:30am—5:00pm	Czech Community	*Lourdes A/B*

PARISH REGISTRATION

We encourage all who worship with us to consider registering to our parish. Please return this form in the collection or drop it off at the parish office. Your participation will strengthen your sense of belonging in God's family.

Name(s): _____

Address:_____ **Apt**_____

City _____ **ZIP** _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

PLEASE MARK ONE:

[ ] New Registration [ ] Change of Address

PLEASE MARK ONE:

[ ] I prefer envelopes [ ] I prefer E-giving

REGISTRACION PARROQUIAL

Registrarse permite que nuestra parroquia les pueda servir sus necesidades espirituales. Por favor devuelva este formulario en la colecta o déjelo en la oficina parroquial. Su participación fortalecerá su fe y su sentido de pertenencia en la familia de Dios.

Nombre(s): _____

Dirección:_____ **Apt**_____

Ciudad:_____ **Código Postal**_____

Teléfono: _____

E-mail: _____

POR FAVOR MARCAR:

[ ] Nueva Registración [ ] Cambio de dirección

POR FAVOR MARCAR:

[ ] Prefiero Sobres [ ] Donaciones en línea

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

February 1 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time, this Sunday's Scripture readings invite us to reflect on a truth that is both simple and demanding: true happiness is not found in control, stability, or security, but in trusting God when those things are shaken.

I admit that there are moments when I catch myself measuring life the way the world does—by productivity, success, stability, and predictability. There are days when I feel more at ease when everything is organized, planned, and under control. And yet, when I look back honestly, some of the moments when God felt closest to me were not the moments of control, but the moments when I knew I needed Him.

That tension lies at the very heart of the Beatitudes, which form part of what biblical scholars call the *Sermon on the Mount* in the Gospel (cf. Matthew 5:1-12a). When Jesus begins His teaching by saying *"Blessed,"* He is not using a polite or sentimental religious word. In His own language, the word means deeply happy, secure, at peace. And He applies it not to the powerful or successful, but to the poor in spirit, the meek, those who mourn, and those who hunger for justice—people whose lives feel exposed, uncertain, and unfinished.

The prophet Zephaniah, in the first reading, speaks of a humble remnant who take refuge not in themselves, but in the name of the Lord (cf. Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13). The Psalm shows us a God who lifts up the bowed down and protects the stranger (cf. Psalm 146). Saint Paul, the second reading, reminds us that God chooses what the world considers weak, so that trust—not boasting—may take root (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

This is not abstract theology. It is lived reality, and I see it in our own community.

In recent weeks, parishioners have shared their fear with me because of immigration enforcement in our city. Some avoid public transportation. Others hesitate even to come to church, afraid of being stopped or taken away. These are not abstract concerns, but real anxieties carried by parents and families. Nothing about their situation feels stable. Nothing feels under control.

It is precisely in situations like these that the Beatitudes reveal their deepest meaning. Jesus is not describing an ideal world or offering comfort from a distance. He is naming reality as God sees it. He is telling us where God is already present and whom God is already holding close.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Not *will be*. *Is.*

To be poor in spirit is not to be passive or irresponsible. It is to recognize that there are moments when no amount of effort, planning, or strength can guarantee outcomes, and to place our trust not in what can be taken away, but in God alone.

The Beatitudes are not entrance requirements for the Kingdom of God. They are promises spoken to people whose lives feel fragile or uncertain. They tell us not where we must climb to reach God, but where God has already chosen to stand.

Jesus does not avoid fear, grief, or vulnerability. He names them—and then declares that God's Kingdom is already present there. Not after everything is resolved. Now. This is why the Beatitudes are not sentimental, but courageous. They overturn the world's definition of happiness and proclaim that fear and uncertainty do not have the final word—God does.

As a community of faith, we are called to live with that same confidence, to stand with those who are afraid, and to measure life not by what can be secured or controlled, but by trust in God.

May these readings help us loosen our grip on what cannot save us and live with the quiet strength of those who know that God's Kingdom is already near.

With my prayers and affection,

Msgr. "John" Cuong M. Pham

DEL CORAZON DEL PASTOR

1 de febrero, 2026

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Al comenzar la Cuarta Semana del Tiempo Ordinario, las lecturas de este domingo nos invitan a reflexionar sobre una verdad tan sencilla como exigente: la verdadera felicidad no está en tener todo bajo control, ni en la estabilidad o la seguridad, sino en confiar en Dios cuando todo eso se tambalea.

Les confieso algo muy personal. Hay momentos en los que yo mismo me descubro midiendo la vida con los criterios del mundo: cuánto hago, qué tan exitoso soy, qué tan estable parece todo. Hay días en los que me siento más tranquilo cuando todo está organizado y planeado. Y sin embargo, cuando miro hacia atrás con honestidad, descubro que algunos de los momentos en los que más sentí la cercanía de Dios no fueron momentos de control, sino momentos en los que reconocí que lo necesitaba.

Esa tensión está en el corazón mismo de las Bienaventuranzas, que forman parte del Sermón de la Montaña (cfr. Mateo 5, 1-12a). Cuando Jesús dice *"Bienaventurados",* no usa una palabra sentimental. En su propio lenguaje, esa palabra significa verdaderamente feliz, pleno, en paz. Y Jesús no la dirige a los poderosos ni a los que parecen tener la vida resuelta, sino a los pobres de espíritu, a los mansos, a los que lloran y a los que tienen hambre y sed de justicia.

El profeta Sofonías habla de un pueblo humilde que se refugia en el Señor (cfr. Sofonías 2, 3; 3, 12-13). El Salmo nos recuerda que Dios levanta al que está agobiado y protege al extranjero (cfr. Salmo 146). Y san Pablo nos dice con claridad que Dios elige lo que el mundo considera débil, para que aprendamos a confiar en Él y no en nosotros mismos (cfr. 1 Corintios 1, 26-31).

Esto no es solo teoría. Lo estamos viviendo en nuestra propia comunidad. En las últimas semanas, algunos hermanos y hermanas me han compartido su miedo por la aplicación de las leyes migratorias en nuestra ciudad. Algunos evitan el transporte público. Otros dudan incluso en venir a la iglesia, por temor a ser detenidos o separados de su familia. Son miedos reales, preocupaciones profundas que cargan padres y madres de familia. Para ellos, nada se siente seguro. Nada parece estar bajo control.

Y es precisamente ahí donde las Bienaventuranzas cobran toda su fuerza. Jesús no está hablando de un mundo ideal ni ofreciendo consuelo desde lejos. Está mirando la realidad tal como es y nos está diciendo dónde Dios ya está presente y a quiénes está sosteniendo con amor.

"Bienaventurados los pobres de espíritu, porque de ellos es el Reino de los cielos." No ***será***. ***Es***.

Ser pobre de espíritu no es ser pasivo ni conformista. Es reconocer que hay momentos en la vida en los que ningún esfuerzo, ningún plan ni ninguna fuerza humana pueden garantizar el futuro, y elegir confiar en Dios, que nunca falla.

Las Bienaventuranzas no son condiciones para ganarnos el amor de Dios. Son promesas dirigidas a personas que viven con miedo, con dolor o con incertidumbre. Nos recuerdan que Dios no se ha alejado de nuestras vidas en los momentos más frágiles, sino que se ha acercado aún más.

Por eso las Bienaventuranzas no son palabras bonitas sin fuerza, sino palabras valientes. Le dan la vuelta a la manera en que el mundo entiende la felicidad y nos aseguran que ni el miedo ni la inseguridad tienen la última palabra. La última palabra siempre la tiene Dios.

Como comunidad de fe, estamos llamados a vivir con esa confianza, a caminar junto a quienes tienen miedo y a medir la vida no por lo que podemos controlar, sino por la confianza que ponemos en el Señor.

Que estas lecturas nos ayuden a soltar aquello que no puede salvarnos y a vivir con la paz profunda de quienes saben que el Reino de Dios ya está cerca.

Con mis oraciones y mi afecto,

Mons. "Juan" Cuong M. Pham

RECTORY CLOSING

The parish office will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026 in observance of Presidents Day. There will be only one English Mass celebrated in the main Church at 9:00am. The office will reopen on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 and will resume regular office and Mass schedules.

PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

We remember our deceased loved ones by having them prayed for at Mass on every first Friday of the month (the day traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus) as a meaningful way to express our love. Enrollment is $15 per name. Those enrolled the Purgatorial Society will be remembered for a whole year. We have currently enrolled: **Kevin Wooley & Genevieve Gallagher**

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

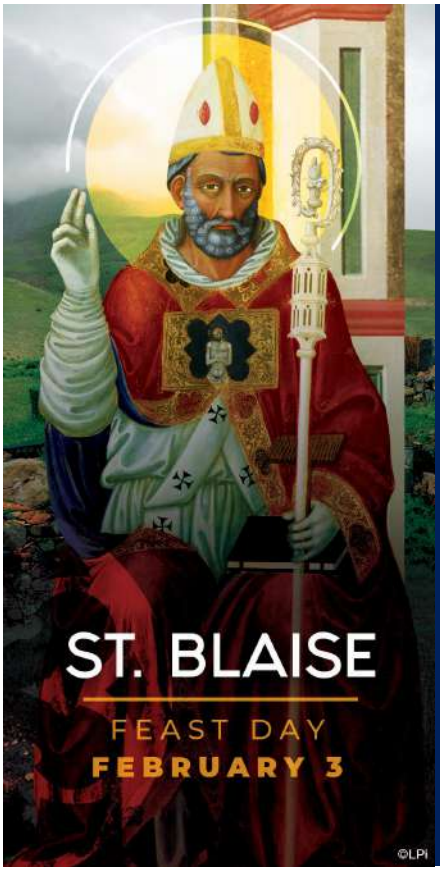
Prayer is one of the most powerful tools we have. It's a way for us to communicate with God and obtain His divine intervention. It can help sick people get well again and also gives us the strength in our own weakness and suffering. To add names to our Prayer List, please contact the parish office. There is no cost for enrolling people onto this list. We are currently praying for: **Maria Aparecida Leier Barretta, Jair Messias Bolsonaro & Dmytro Danyluk.**

INFANT BAPTISM/ BAUTISMOS

Please call the office to make an appointment to speak with Deacon Jacob to register your child for Baptism. You must bring the Birth Certificate of the child and $100 donation.

Preparation Meeting Tuesday-6:00pm-Institute	**Baptism Ceremony 12:00pm-Main Church**
February 24, 2026	February 28, 2026
March 24, 2026	March 28, 2026
April 21, 2026	April 25, 2026
May 19, 2026	May 23, 2026
June 23, 2026	June 27, 2026
July 21, 2026	July 25, 2026
August 18, 2026	August 22, 2026
September 22, 2026	September 26, 2026

Reunion de Preparacion Martes-6:00pm-Instituto	**Ceremonia de Bautismo 12:00pm-Iglesia**
10 de Febrero 2026	14 de Febrero 2026
10 de Marzo 2026	14 de Marzo 2026
7 de Abril 2026	11 de Abril 2026
5 de Mayo 2026	9 de Mayo 2026
9 d Junio 2026	13 de Junio 2026
7 de Julio 2026	11 de Julio 2026
4 de Agosto 2026	8 de Agosto 2026



GOSPEL MEDITATION

A priest I know was once falsely accused of a terrible crime. The claim was wild and easily disproved, but for a while, it didn't matter. In the atmosphere shaped by the abuse crisis of the early 2000s, the public assumption was guilty until proven innocent. His name was dragged through the mud, and his ministry placed on hold. I had the privilege and the burden of walking closely with him during that time.

He was angry. He was confused. He felt abandoned and deeply disoriented. The last thing on his mind was the words of Jesus in today's Gospel: "Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me... Rejoice and be glad" (Matthew 5:11-12). Rejoice? He felt anything but.

And yet... something holy slowly grew in him. Not overnight, and not without pain. But as the truth came to light and his name was cleared, I watched him become more Christ-like, more patient, more compassionate, more detached from human approval.

Maybe you haven't faced something so dramatic. But where do you feel judged? Misrepresented? Overlooked? Maybe someone else got the credit or the promotion. Maybe someone you love isn't getting their due. In those moments, the Cross of Jesus is near. When we feel accused, that's when we ask him for the grace not just to endure, but somehow, mysteriously, to rejoice and be glad..

Father John Muir

COMITÉ SANTIAGO APOSTOL INVITA A LA CENA BAILE

CELEBRANDO DIA DEL AMOR Y LA AMISTAD.

SABADO **14** DE FEBRERO, 2026.

BOLETOS $15. DLS.

PUERTAS ABREN 6:30 PM.

INSTITUTO DE MONTE CARMELO.

23-20 NEWTOWN AVE ASTORIA NEW YORK

EL SONIDO DEL FUTURO !!
ADICXION
PABLO FLORES

DJ, YAKO.
Para información.
(347) 453-7139.

Festival del Amor y la Amistad

FONDOS EXCLUSIVAMENTE

Para la celebración de San Santiago Apóstol.

VENTA DE BOLETOS EN LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL. PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN

TEL: Oficina (718) 278- 1834. - (347) 617- 5353.

El comite
Via Crucis
Les invita a participar en la dramatización de la pasión del Señor.
Si desea participar, por favor visite la oficina parroquial or llame al 718.278.1834 y deje su nombre y telefono.
OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL
MOTHER CHURCH OF QUEENS COUNTY

NOCHE DE REFLEXIÓN

CON EL DIÁCONO JORGE CASTILLO

TEMA: AYUNO, PENITENCIA Y CARIDAD

SÁBADO, 21 DE FEBRERO, 2026

A LAS 7:00PM

EN LA IGLESIA PRINCIPAL

TERMINANDO CON LA

EXPOSICIÓN DEL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO

NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL MONTE CARMELO

23-25 NEWTOWN AVENUE, ASTORIA | 718.278.1834

THE ART OF SELF-KNOWLEDGE

"The unexamined life is not worth living," Socrates famously said. He really meant it, too, as he also said that a man must "interrogate his own nature" and "work precisely" or else he will "miss what is good and become involved in what is bad."

Every Christian man consistently should be asking himself, "What kind of man am I? What are my strengths and weaknesses?"

That sounds like a pretty serious exercise, and it is, but it can also be very satisfying. The poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote about the thrill of discovering the "the dearest freshness deep down things."

Discerning your vocation, at base level, is discovering the deepest truth about yourself. It is the journey of self-knowledge par excellence. It is glimpsing the built-in purpose given to you by the Creator of the universe, eons before you existed.

How could that discovery not be thrilling?

Self-knowledge is a life-long work, and it involves many different aspects of your emotional, spiritual, and psychological make-up. You could spend a lot of time in prayer, for instance, just evaluating your own virtue of patience (or lack thereof).

But our purpose here is to examine your vocation—your mission in life—and whether or not you could be called to the Catholic priesthood. Of course, to determine that, you'll need to gather good information, talk to a priest you trust, and be committed to prayer.

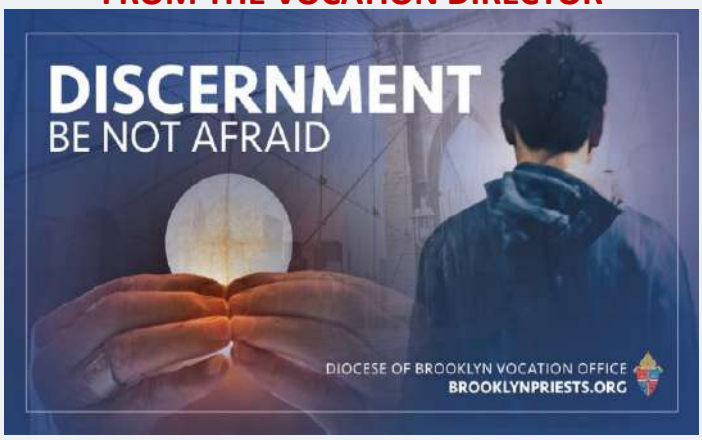
Below is a self-evaluation exercise which may help. For each item, consider how it applies to you. The perfect man would say "yes!" resoundingly to each of these items. However, none of us is perfect. This is not a list which should make you feel badly about yourself; rather, it should help you to know your strengths and weaknesses so that you can have a better idea whether God may be calling you to serve Him as a priest, or what you may need to work on more if you think He is.

Don't be too lenient or too hard on yourself. Just be completely honest with yourself as you consider each point.

1. I love Jesus Christ and I have a thirst to bring Jesus and his teachings to the world.
2. I am endeavoring to be a believing, practicing Catholic Christian.
3. I am trying to live a life of prayer and I desire a life of prayer.
4. I am trying to serve others and I desire a life of service to others.
5. I feel a desire to be a priest, though it is sometimes stronger than at other times.
6. I have had others tell me that I should be a priest or that I would make a good priest.
7. Prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture leads me to believe I might be called to be a priest.
8. I am endeavoring to live virtuously.
9. I like to be around people and I have sufficient social skills to engage others.
10. I have enough intelligence to complete graduate-level coursework and function as a priest.
11. I think that I have the physical, emotional and psychological stability to become a priest.
12. I am joyful and I have a good sense of humor.
13. I think that I have a "priest's heart".
14. I believe that I have the self-mastery to be a good priest.
15. Generally speaking, I have demonstrated stability in life.
16. People who know me would say I am Christian gentleman.
17. I have had events happen in my life that seem to be signs pointing towards priesthood.
18. I am usually able to accept both success and failure without losing my peace.
19. I believe that I have healthy sexual maturity and orientation.
20. I am trying to be truly open to the will of God for my life.

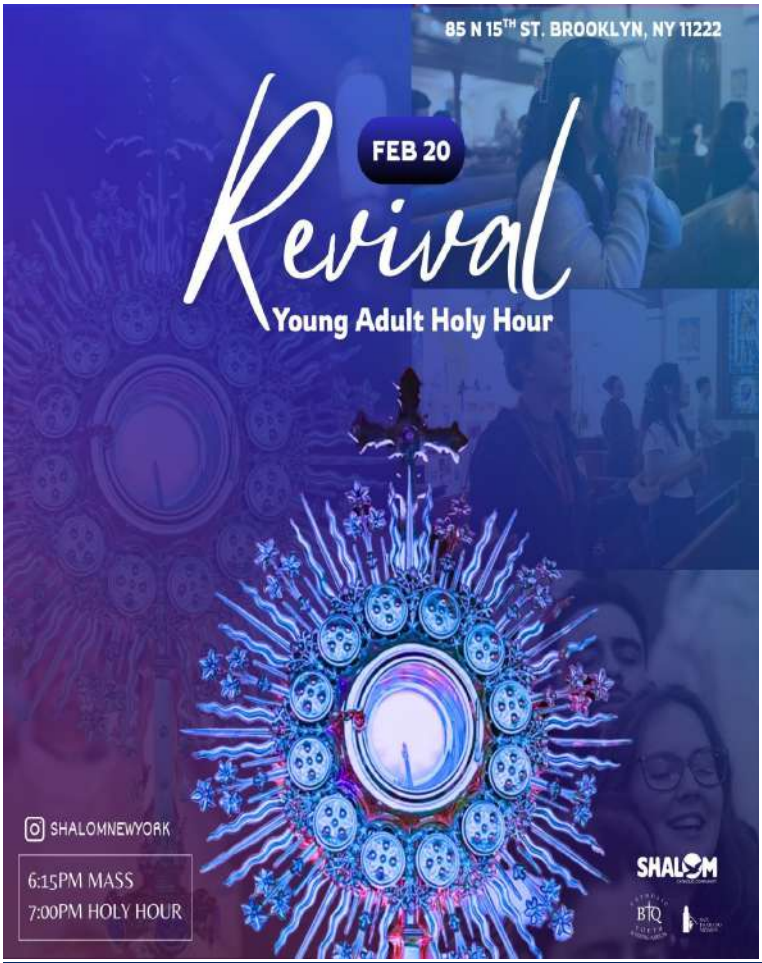
Reflecting on each of these points will take you a long way down the road of self-discovery. Finding the areas that need strengthening — then actually taking steps to improve — will make you a much better Catholic man, even if you are not called to become a priest. Keep in mind, however, that this list is by no means a sure way to discern your vocation — it's simply a tool which can be very helpful to give perspective to your discernment.

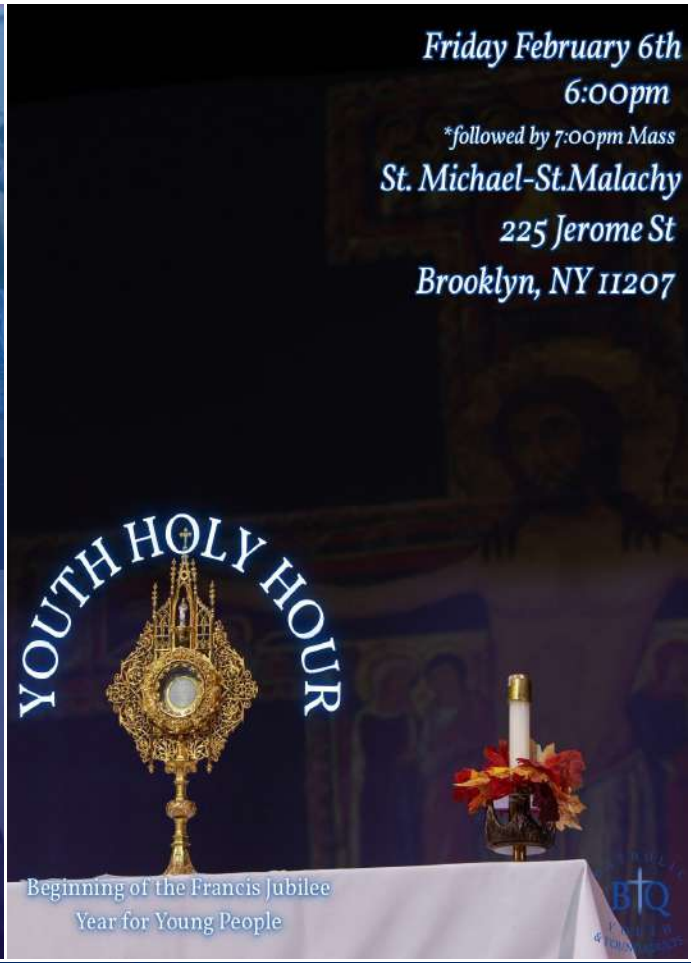
FROM THE VOCATION DIRECTOR



I'm here to help as you seek to discover God's call for your life! If you have questions, need to talk through your discernment, or want to make an appointment, please feel free to contact me.

Fr. Chris Bethge, Vocation Director
718-827-2454 or email me at
cbethge@cathedralprep.org





CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

CATHOLIC CHARITIES Brooklyn & Queens

Clases Presenciales de Ingles Gratis

Segundo Idioma (ESL) Clases!

Iglesia Santa Rita

Martes & Jueves 9:30am-12:30pm
Martes & Jueves 6pm-9pm

Direccion: 36-25 11th Street
Long Island City NY 11106

Para más información y registración por favor contáctese con:

Susan.torres@ccbq.org

Cell: 929-343-2005

Kelly.ortizonofre@ccbq.org

Cell: 929-481-2204

Para aplicar necesita ser mayor de 18 años