

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10TH 2023

## First Reading

*Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11*

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 85:9-14*

The Lord's salvation is near.

## Second Reading

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

## Gospel Reading

*Mark 1:1-8*

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

## Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is taken from the beginning of Mark. Unlike Luke and Matthew, Mark does not include any details of Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins with the appearance of John the Baptist in the desert. On this the Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that he would bring to us.

Mark's description of the appearance of John the Baptist highlights John's continuity with the Jewish prophetic tradition. Mark combines quotations from the Old Testament books of Malachi, Isaiah, and Exodus. Mark's description of John as an ascetic, living in the desert, clothed in camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey, is reminiscent of the description of the prophet Elijah found in Second Kings. The people of Judea and Jerusalem flock to him, listening to his message of repentance and forgiveness; they also come to him to be baptized. Mark's Gospel is clear, however, that John the Baptist's role is only to prepare the way for another who will come, one who is greater than John.

Many scholars believe that the Gospels reflect the tension that likely existed between followers of John the Baptist and disciples of Jesus. Each of the four Evangelists report on John's preaching and baptizing, and they each emphasize the importance of Jesus' baptism by John. The four Gospels also explain that John was sent to preach in preparation for another. In the Gospel of Luke, the question is raised as to whether John the Baptist was himself the Messiah. Just as in today's Gospel, however, John speaks quite explicitly that the Messiah was to come after him.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism, but a preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

John the Baptist is presented to us as a model during Advent. We, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. Like John the Baptist, we are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Our Baptism commissions us to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

## Bible Verse for the Week

"He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint." *Isaiah 40:29-31*

## Pro Sanctity

**You** are invited to join Pro Sanctity

**When:** Monday nights for the Rosary and today's Gospel reflection

Thursday nights for Sunday's scripture readings and reflections

**Why:** To pray, learn and share

**How:** Call 3392073069 on Mondays and/or Thursdays ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Prayer for Vocations

Lord of the Harvest, we petition you as you have instructed us to ask for more laborers to serve in the vineyard of Your Church. You have told us that the harvest is rich and laborers are few and we experience this great need in the face of the challenge of the New Evangelization we ask the Holy Spirit to inspire young men and women to seriously consider vocations for the priesthood and religious life. Help all of us to be effective instruments to encourage and support those whom you are calling to serve and lead the Church of Brooklyn and Queens in the future. Lord, you told the Apostles to put out into the deep. We ask for the grace and courage to accept your call as we pray and work for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

**Every First, and Third Sunday, of the month after each mass Fellowship is followed in the Parish Center all are welcomed**

## PC PROBLEMS? Call Mike

He's the right Technician For All Your PC Issues!  
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For details or to schedule a repair

Call Mike at 718-257-2400

347-942-6770 or mwilkins235@gmail.com



## Weekend Masses in the Canarsie Cluster Parishes:

**Our Lady of Miracles**  
(E. 86<sup>th</sup> St. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)  
Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)  
10:30 AM (Eng.)  
12:30 PM (French/Creole)

**Holy Family**  
(Rockaway Pkwy. & Flatlands Ave.)

Sat. 5:00 PM (Eng.)  
Sun. 8:00 AM (Eng.)  
9:15 AM (Creole)  
11:15 AM (Eng.)  
12:45 PM (Eng.)

**St. Jude**  
(Seaview Ave. & Canarsie Rd.)

Sat. 5:30 PM (Eng.)  
Sun. 8:30 AM (Eng.)  
10:30 AM (Family)  
12:30 PM (Bi-Lingual)  
1<sup>st</sup> Sun ... Eng/French/Creole

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10TH 2023



## Please Pray for ALL Our Sick In Our Parish

Gino Pizzuti, Raymond Abruzzese Deryck Ming, Maureen Ming, Dorthea C Hogarth, Marie Kernizan, Ann Bethany, Sue Vales, Rose-marie Campanilla, Rosamund Gilkes, Dexter Stiell, Joseph Esposito,

*We will keep names on the sick list for three weeks.*

### Our Parish needs your Weekly Support

	TIME	People
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Saturday	5:30 PM	Eng	55
Sunday	8:30 AM	Eng	171
Sunday	10:30 AM	Eng	114
Sunday	12:30 PM	French/Kreyol	168

Weather: Sunny Day

Our weekly goal is \$4850.00

This Weeks Total was \$4,710.00

Previous Week \$3,800.00

Your generosity is greatly appreciated

Second Collection

## Coming Up This Week



**Monday: December 11**

8:30 AM Mass

**Tuesday: December 12**

8:30 AM Mass

**Wednesday: December 13**

8:30 AM Mass

**Thursday: December 14**

8:30 AM Mass

**Friday: December 15**

8:30 AM Mass

**Saturday: December 16**

8:30 AM Mass & 5:30 PM Mass

**Sunday: December 17**

8:30 AM Mass & 10:30 AM Mass English

12:30 PM Mass French/Kreyol

**Our Lady of Miracles Rectory Office Hours**

Monday 10AM-5PM, Tuesday 10AM-5PM,

Wednesday 10AM-5PM, Thursday 10AM-5PM,

Friday 10AM-5PM, Saturday Closed, Sunday Closed

**Our Lady of Miracles Rectory office is now open from**

**Monday-Friday 10AM-5PM**

### Saturday December 9

8:30 AM In Memory of all deceased OLM Parishioners by OLM

5:30 PM Thanksgiving In Honor of Mary The Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Guadalupe, & Saint Lucie by Norma Fequiere

5:30 PM In Thanksgiving for The Immaculate Conception by Norma Fequiere

### Sunday December 10

8:30 AM In Memory of Celestino Sr & Esperanza Mallare by Letecia Casipe

10:30 AM For The Peace & Safety to all people by OLM

12:30 PM Birthday Blessings for Ronald Edouard by Ronald Edouard

12:30 PM For The Souls of Denis Armante Pierre by Alette Pierre

12:30 PM For the souls of Wilson & Liliane Rene by Alette Pierre

12:30 PM Birthday Blessings for Rosiette Lucie Prophete, & Alain Prophete

### Monday December 11

8:30 AM For an increase to the Priesthood by OLM

### Tuesday December 12

8:30 AM In Memory of Giordani Desir by Immacula Desir

8:30 AM For The Repose of the souls of The Laguerre & Bongout Families by Mirlande Francillon Alexandre

8:30 AM For All Souls for St Gela Dumervil by Anne Emmanuel

### Wednesday December 13

8:30 AM In Memory of Porcia Norgaisse by Solange Lope Delorme

### Thursday December 14

8:30 AM Birthday Blessings for James St-Jean by His Mom Jeannine St-Jean

### Friday December 15

8:30 AM For The Repose of the souls of the Francillon & Alexis Families by Mirlande Francillon Alexandre

### Saturday December 16

8:30 AM In Memory of Francoise Dorice Jasmin by Chela Lopez

5:30 PM Birthday Blessings for Richard Augustin by His Mom

You can donate to the parish by using our electronic giving page at <https://givecentral.org/olm-brooklyn> Or simply text the word SUDAY to 646-736-4700 or mail your envelopes to the rectory at 757 East 86TH St Brooklyn NY 11236

From February 2023 All Mass Intentions are now \$20 each

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10TH 2023

Pope Francis's Reflection for Sunday December 10th 2023  
Second Sunday Of Advent

*Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!*

Today, the [First Sunday of Advent](#), a new liturgical year begins. In it, the Church marks the **passage of time with the celebration of the main events in the life of Jesus and the story of salvation.** In so doing, as Mother, she illuminates the path of our existence, supports us in our daily occupations and guides us towards the final encounter with Christ. **Today's liturgy invites us to live the first "important Season", which is that of Advent, the first of the liturgical year, Advent, which prepares us for Christmas, and therefore it is a time of expectation and a time of hope. Expectation and hope.**

Saint Paul (see *1 Cor 1:3-9*) indicates the **object of our expectation.** What is it? The **"manifestation of the Lord"** (v. 7). The Apostle invites the Christians of Corinth, and we too, to **focus our attention on the encounter with Jesus. For a Christian the most important thing is the continuous encounter with the Lord, being with the Lord. And in this way, accustomed to staying with the Lord of life, we prepare ourselves for the encounter, for being with the Lord for eternity. And this definitive encounter will come at the end of the world. But the Lord comes every day, so that, with His grace, we might accomplish good in our own lives and in the lives of others. Our God is a God-who-comes, do not forget this: God is a God who comes, who continually comes. Our waiting will not be disappointed by Him! The Lord never disappoints.**

**He will perhaps make us wait, He will make us wait a few moments in the dark to allow our expectation to ripen, but He never disappoints. The Lord always comes, He is always by our side.** At times He does not make Himself seen, but He always comes. He came at a precise moment in history and became man to take on our sins – the feast of the Nativity commemorates Jesus' first coming in the historical moment -; **He will come at the end of times as universal judge; He comes every day to visit His people, to visit every man and woman who receives Him in the Word, in the Sacraments, in their brothers and sisters. Jesus, the Bible tells us, is at the door and knocks. Every day. He is at the door of our heart. He knocks. Do you know how to listen to the Lord who knocks, who has come today to visit you, who knocks at your heart restlessly, with an idea, with inspiration?** He came to Bethlehem, He will come at the end of the world, but every day He comes to us. Be careful, look at what you feel in your heart when the Lord knocks.

We are well aware that life is made up of highs and lows, of lights and shadows. Each one of us experiences moments of disappointment, of failure and being lost. Moreover, the situation we are living in, marked by the pandemic, generates worry, fear and discouragement in many people; we run the risk of falling into pessimism, the risk of falling into closure and apathy. How should we react in the face of all this? Today's Psalm suggests: **"Our soul waits for the Lord: he is our help and our shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name"** (Ps 33:20-21). That is, **the soul awaiting, confidently waiting for the Lord, allows us to find comfort and courage in the dark moments of our lives. And what gives rise to this courage and this trustful pledge? Where do they come from? They are born of hope. And hope does not disappoint, that virtue that leads us ahead, looking at the encounter with the Lord.**

**May Mary Most Holy, the woman of expectation, accompany our steps at the beginning of this new liturgical year , and help us to fulfil the task of Jesus' disciples, indicated by the Apostle Peter:. And what is this task? To account for the hope that is in us (see *1 Pet 3:***



## Scriptures For The Week

**Monday December 11**  
*Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26(181)*

**Tuesday December 12**  
*Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38(690A)*

**Wednesday December 13**  
*Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30(183)*

**Thursday December 14**  
*Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15(184)*

**Friday December 15**  
*Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19(185)*

**Saturday December 16**  
*Sir 48:1-4; 9-11 Mt 17:9a; 10-13(186)*

## Our Lady of Trust Catholic Academy

up coming events

Open House for Pre-3, Pre – K4 & Pre K  
9:00 to 11 AM

For more information call 718-241-6633

### Record of PARISH contributions

If you use our church envelopes and need to have a record of your contributions to Our Lady of Miracles Church for the past year(2022) for income tax purposes, please contact the rectory during office hours or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to

Our Lady of Miracles Church, 757 East 86th street, Brooklyn, New York 11236. We will be happy to forward the information to you.

**Due to the Corona Virus we will not be serving the Precious Blood we will let you know when we will be serving the precious blood.**

**Haitian Prayer group meet every Monday night at 7:00 Pm in the church. All are welcomed**

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10TH 2023

## Office Of Faith Formation News

Registration for Religious Ed classes for 2023-2024 is closed. Thanks to all parents and guardians who enrolled their children for this year. Remember classes begin with the 8:30 mass after which the children will proceed to the school auditorium for the continuation of class.

**Adults** who are interested in learning more about Catholic Faith, please contact Sr Francesca at 718-649-1006

## Our office Days and Hours

Tuesday: 9:30AM-4:00PM

Friday: 9:30AM-4:00 PM

Email: dre101163@diobrook.org

All children beginning the first grade in Public or Catholic school must register their child for the 2 year communion preparation program. After communion all public school children must register for on-going classes till the 7th grade at which time all Public and Catholic school children must register for the 2 year confirmation preparation program.

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## **Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

Every Friday, from 9:30 AM till 12:00 Noon, we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and Benediction. We are looking for people to sit in church while the Blessed Sacrament is on the altar. Please come to the rectory to put your name down for an hour or two.

*The only time we will not have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is if we have a funeral*

## **Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 CATHOLIC APPEAL PRAYER**

Loving Father, through Baptism you have made us members of the Body of your Son and His Priestly People. You have enriched us with the outpouring of the gift of your Holy Spirit. You continue to make your Son present among us through the Sacrament of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

We are ever grateful for what you do for us and we seek to respond by revealing your goodness through the witness of our lives.

Help us to nourish and support those members of the Body of Christ who are in need of our generous sharing of our time, talent and treasure.

We make this prayer through Christ our High Priest and Lord. AMEN

***Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 Goal at Our Lady of Miracles R.C is \$35,000***

Thank for your generous support.

God bless you!

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE WHEN YOU ARE ENTERING THE CHURCH. THIS IS QUITE DISTRACTING TO THE PRIEST AND OTHER PARISHIONERS THANK YOU.**



## Bible Puzzle

# Adam and Eve Crossword

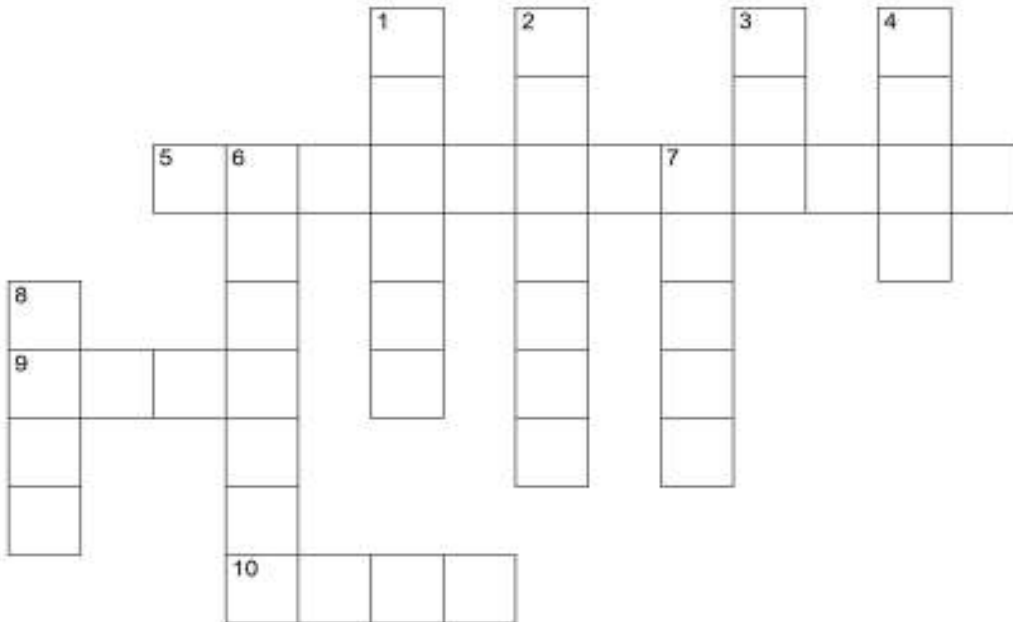
Work the puzzle to review what you know about Adam and Eve and their sons.  
Look up the verses to be sure of your answers.

### Across

- At first Adam and Eve lived in the \_\_\_\_\_ (3 words). (Genesis 2:8)
- The first man was \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 3:20)
- Adam and Eve's third son was \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 4:25)

### Down

- God told them not to eat the fruit of the tree in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the garden. (Genesis 3:2-3)
- After Adam and Eve sinned, they were \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words) of the garden. (Genesis 3:23)
- The first woman was \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 3:20)
- God was pleased with \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 4:4)
- Adam named all the \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 2:20)
- Adam and Eve sinned by eating the \_\_\_\_\_. (Genesis 3:6)
- \_\_\_\_\_ was jealous of his brother and killed him. (Genesis 4:8)



Adam, Eve, and Cain all sinned against God. What should you do when you sin?