

## From the Pastor's Desk



### I Am Humbled by Your Support

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

Having just returned from the Ad Limina visit of the Bishops of Region II to the Holy See, I wish to report to the people of the Diocese of Brooklyn. Our visit included meetings with the Offices of the Holy See and most importantly, our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

Our Holy Father was keenly aware of the individual problems each one of his bishops faces. As we left the meeting, I was amazed that the false accusation made against me was already known to him. Pope Francis thanked me for my work in being the Apostolic Visitor to the Diocese of Buffalo and expressed his hope that the matter presented against me would be cleared up quickly for the good of the diocese of Brooklyn.

This allegation is humiliating. I have never abused anyone in my life. In my nearly 50-year ministry as a priest, I have never done anything illegal or inappropriate and I look forward to my exoneration in this false accusation. I categorically deny this allegation and will vigorously defend myself against this claim. I have devoted my episcopacy in Brooklyn and Queens and in Camden before that, to fighting sex abuse and putting in the reforms needed to ensure the protection of children. Never would I have thought that as I am coming to the end of my time in active ministry, I would face such an allegation.

I am humbled by all the support I have received from you, the faithful of Brooklyn and Queens, during this difficult time. You have a right to more information on this matter and I pledge to you continued transparency in a future column.

My visit to Rome was previously scheduled as part of the Ad Limina visit which normally takes place every five years. However, since the change of pontificates, it has been almost eight years since we have been in Rome to present our statistical and qualitative report on the Brooklyn Diocese.

The word "Ad Limina" literally means "to the doorstep of the apostles." One of the highlights of our visit is that we celebrate the Eucharist together at the four major basilicas; St. Peter's, St. Paul's Outside-the-Wall, St. Mary Major, and St. John Lateran. I was privileged to be the main celebrant at the Basilica of St. Mary Major, where, by tradition, the pope in the fourth century dreamed that wherever it snowed in the middle of August, that is where Our Lady wished the first basilica dedicated to her in Rome, to be built, and, in fact, it was.

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## Masses For The Week

### Sunday, December 1 First Sunday of Advent

- 7:00 Joseph Liu
- 9:00 Dovey Peoples
- 10:30 Leticia Luna (anniversary)
- 12:00 Luis Horacio Ossa
- 1:30 Javier Alberto Mercado (living-birthday)
- 3:30 Yang Xiu Hu (living)
- 5:30 People of the Parish

### Monday, December 2

- 8:30 My Grandparents
- 12:10 Joseph Liu

### Tuesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

- 8:30 Javier Alberto Mercado
- 12:10 Catherine Lynch

### Wednesday, December 4 St. John Damascene

- 8:30 Jeff & Zenaida Iglesias
- 12:10 All Souls

### Thursday, December 5

- 8:30 Special Intention
- 12:10 Iluminada Rivera
- 7:30 Novenario de los Difuntos

### Friday, December 6 St. Nicholas

- 8:30 James Wong
- 12:10 Joseph Lin
- 7:30 Divino Niño

### Saturday, December 7 St. Ambrose

- 8:30 Yang Xiu Hu (living)
- 5:15 Those enrolled in St. Michael's Purgatorial Society
- 7:00 Joseph Zheng

### Sunday, December 8 Second Sunday of Advent

- 7:00 Rev. Antonius Ho
- 9:00 Iluminada Rivera
- 10:30 In thanksgiving
- 12:00 Grace Dadula (living-birthday)
- 1:30 Gabriel Alexander Gandeca
- 3:30 Sai Ying Pan
- 5:30 People of the Parish

The **Bread & Wine** for the week of December 1st has been offered in memory of **Lin Kao Ng** from his wife Margarita Ng.

### Pray For Those Who Are Ill Ruegan Por Los Enfermos

Evelyn Ortega, Stela Guazon Porcalla, Lolita R. Nugued, Venus C. Hargett, Amelia Rodriguez, Josefina Arencibia, Sofia Robles, Tracy Chen, Beatriz Singer Barreto, John Gay, Thomas J. Hurlman, Marie Boehm, Ricardo Wong, Archbishop Paul Pei, Angela Flori, Sue Chu, Teo David Torres, Thomas Vesey, Ana Dolores Gomez, Christina Liao-Gooding, Maria Liu, Margaret Mack, Elena Cata, Alejandro Irlanda, Matteo Sweet, Matthew Raible, Raul Argueta Barahona.

**PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED  
RUEGAN POR LOS FALLECIDOS**

## Mission Statement

*In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, St. Michael's Parish community welcomes all to be united with us through the Eucharist and to share the fruits of a caring Catholic Christian community of faith.*

*We, the parishioners of St. Michael's, shall proclaim the Gospel of Jesus by being His disciples. We will be inclusive in this diverse community to inspire, renew and serve each other through lively worship, life-long formation, community building, evangelization and the sharing of our time, talent and treasure.*

### 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

As of 11/18/2019, the Campaign Office reports that they have received 256 pledges totaling \$76,684.50. To date \$68,666.50 has been paid. If you have not yet made a pledge, please pick up an envelope from the church radiators today and give what you can according to your means. The fact that you participate is very important to us.

### Generations of Faith Campaign Update

As of 11/15/19 486 donors have paid \$635,358.99 towards pledges of \$1,145,431.78. The remaining money due is needed to help complete the many projects that are being done. There is a little more than 1 year left on the Generations of Faith Campaign. If you still have a balance due we ask that you continue to pay your pledge according to the arrangements you made. Thank you for your help and generosity.

**St. Mary's Hospital for Children Holiday Drive** sponsored by Martin A. Gleason Funeral Home will be held November 11th through December 14th. St. Mary's will gladly accept gift cards, checks (payable to St. Mary's Foundation) or new clothing (pjs, socks, underwear, sneakers) or toys (arts and craft supplies, musical books, rattles, et.). Please **DO NOT WRAP THEM**. Please bring your donation to one of the three Gleason Funeral Home locations.

### PARISH CENSUS REGISTRATION

We urge all Parishioners to be registered in the Parish Census. This census is used for letters of recommendation, sacramental sponsor forms etc. The Parish cannot give permission, sponsorship or recommendation letters to anyone who is NOT already registered as a Parishioner. To register, please come to the Rectory Office to pick up a form.

### Rachel's Helpers

There is hope after abortion. Are you burdened with memories of your abortion? Do you suffer with flash-backs? Take this opportunity to experience a beautiful plan of healing by sharing with others in a very sensitive manner with prayer and scripture reflections. This will help foster the joy of healing in the mercy of Christ. Your experience is completely confidential. Please call 347 702-2352 (all calls are confidential).

**American Martyrs Church in Bayside is holding a New Year's Eve Celebration on December 31 from 7:30PM to 12:30AM.** \$65 per person includes appetizers, dinner and dessert plus professional DJ. BYOB. For information contact Theresa @718 428-5308 or Jovie at jovie212@yahoo.com

**English Mass Lectors**—If you have not yet picked up your new Lector Workbook please do so as soon as possible at the Rectory Office during office hours. Thank you.

### NYC Police Officer Exam

The Recruitment Section would like to inform you that the Police Officer exam is currently being offered by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. The exam is being offered until December 14, 2019. Begin your journey by pre-registering for the NYPD Police Officer exam at [nyc.gov/dcass](http://nyc.gov/dcass). Pre-registration is required and began on 10/29/19. The exam will be held from 11/01/19 to 12/14/19. Pre-register early to secure a spot. Need more info call #212 RECRUIT or visit [NYPDRECRUIT.COM](http://NYPDRECRUIT.COM)

### High School News

We have been notified by **Holy Cross High School** that **Samantha Rodriguez** has achieved **Honor Roll** status for the first marking period of this school year. Congratulations!

**Our UPK is having an OPEN HOUSE on Wednesday, December 4th from 9:30AM to 11:30AM.** For more information call #718 961-0246 or visit [kherrera@stmichaelsca.org](mailto:kherrera@stmichaelsca.org) or [www.stmichaelsca.org/pre-k-for-all](http://www.stmichaelsca.org/pre-k-for-all). Please help us spread the word.



**ST. MICHAEL'S  
PURGATORIAL SOCIETY  
SATURDAY 5:15PM MASS**

**Saint Atkin, Thomas Barron.**

*Intentions listed for this week are those received before the bulletin for this week was printed. Intentions for this week received after that time are published in the following week's bulletin.*

## From the Pastor's Desk



### Estoy Humilde por Su Apoyo

Monseñor Nicholas DiMarzio  
Obispo de Brooklyn-Queens

Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas en el Señor, Acabo de regresar de la visita de Ad Limina de los Obispos de la Región 2 a la Santa Sede, deseo informar a la gente de la Diócesis de Brooklyn. Nuestra visita incluyó reuniones con las Oficinas de la Santa Sede y lo más importante, nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco.

Nuestro Santo Padre estaba muy consciente de los problemas individuales que enfrenta cada uno de sus obispos. Me sorprendió que el ya supiera sobre la falsa acusación hecha en mi contra. El Papa Francisco me agradeció mi trabajo de ser el Visitador Apostólico de la Diócesis de Búfalo y expreso su esperanza de que el asunto presentado en mi contra se aclare rápidamente por el bien de la Diócesis de Brooklyn.

Esta acusación es humillante. Nunca he abusado de nadie en mi vida. En mis casi 50 años de ministerio como sacerdote, nunca he hecho nada ilegal o inapropiado y espero mi exoneración en esta falsa acusación. Niego categóricamente esta acusación y me defenderé en gran medida contra esta afirmación. He dedicado mi episcopado en Brooklyn y Queens, y en Camden antes de eso, a combatir el abuso sexual y poner en práctica las reformas necesarias para garantizar la protección de los niños. Nunca hubiera pensado que al llegar al final de mi tiempo en el ministerio activo, enfrentaría tal acusación.

Me siento honrado por todo el apoyo que he recibido de ustedes, los fieles de Brooklyn y Queens, durante este momento difícil. Tiene derecho a obtener más información sobre este asunto y le prometo una transparencia continua en una columna futura.

Mi visita a Roma estaba previamente programada como parte de la visita de Ad Limina, que normalmente toma lugar cada cinco años. Sin embargo, desde el cambio de pontificados, han pasado casi ocho años desde que hemos estado en Roma para presentar nuestro informe estadístico y cualitativo sobre la diócesis de Brooklyn.

La palabra "Ad Limina" significa literalmente "a las puertas de los apóstoles". Uno de los aspectos más destacados de nuestra visita es que celebramos la Eucaristía juntos en las cuatro basílicas principales; San Pedro, San Pablo Extramuros, Santa María la Mayor y San Juan de Letrán. Tuve el privilegio de ser celebrante principal en la Basílica de Santa María la Mayor, donde, por tradición, el Papa en el siglo IV soñaba que donde nevaba a mediados de Agosto, allí era donde Nuestra Señora deseaba la primera basílica dedicada a ella en Roma, para ser construida, y, de hecho, lo fue. evaluación.

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### Llamamiento Católico Anual 2019

A partir del 11/18/2019, la Oficina de Campaña informa que han recibido 256 promesas por un total de \$76,684.50. Hasta la fecha se han pagado \$68,666.50.

Si aún no ha hecho una promesa, recoja un sobre de los radiadores de la iglesia hoy y dé lo que pueda, de acuerdo con sus medios. El hecho de que participe es muy importante para nosotros.

La segunda colección el próximo fin de semana es el Fondo de Retiro anual para la Colección Religiosa. Únase para agradecer a los miles de hermanas católicas, hermanos y sacerdotes de orden religiosa que trabajaron incansablemente para educar a los jóvenes y servir a los necesitados. Que Dios te bendiga por tu generosidad. Los religiosos retirados te recordarán en sus oraciones.

### Actualización de la campaña Generaciones de Fe

A partir del 15 de noviembre del 2019, 486 donantes han pagado \$635,358.99 para compromisos de \$1,145,431.78. Se necesita el dinero restante para ayudar a completar los muchos proyectos que se están realizando. Queda poco más de 1 año en la Campaña Generaciones de Fe. Si aún tiene un saldo adeudado, le pedimos que continúe pagando su compromiso de acuerdo con los arreglos que hizo. Gracias por su ayuda y generosidad.

### REGISTRO DEL CENSO PARROQUIAL

Instamos a todos los feligreses a registrarse en el censo de la parroquia. Este censo se utiliza para cartas de recomendación, formularios de patrocinio sacramental, etc. La parroquia no puede dar permiso, patrocinio o cartas de recomendación a nadie que **NO** esté registrado como feligrés. Para registrarse, por favor venga a la Oficina de la Rectoría para recoger un formulario.

**Por favor apague sus teléfonos celulares mientras está en la iglesia.**

**ADVERTENCIA** - NO deje objetos de valor en los bancos cuando no esté allí, incluso durante la hora de la Comunión.



### NOVENARIO DE DIFUNTOS JUEVES A LAS 7:30PM

**Juan Polanco Cruz, Gabriel Lope, Gerardo Lope, Lucila Bernuy, Grimaldo Rivera Palacin, Antonieta Mauricio Marcelo, Lidia Guerrero, Agpita Deocute, Raul Martinez, Catalina Escobar, Julia Isabel Guzman, Segundino Gomez, Manuel Jesus Camas, Estanislau Tenezaca, Carmen Tenezaca, Nube Mauricaca, Juan Jesus Guerrero.**

*Intenciones alistadas son las que hemos recibido antes de imprimir el boletín. Las intenciones recibidas después de este momento se publicarán en la semana siguiente.*

**Weekly Gospel Readings**

<b>Monday/Lunes</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>8:5-11</b>
<b>Tuesday, Martes</b>	<b>Luke/Lucas</b>	<b>10:21-24</b>
<b>Wednesday/Miercoles</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>15:29-37</b>
<b>Thursday/Jueves</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>7:21, 24-27</b>
<b>Friday/Viernes</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>9:27-31</b>
<b>Saturday/Sabado</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8</b>
<b>Sunday/Domingo</b>	<b>Matthew/Mateo</b>	<b>3:1-12</b>



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**BAPTISM**

The sponsors or godparents chosen for baptism should be fully-initiated, practicing Catholics who have received baptism, confirmation and holy communion and participate in the Sunday Eucharist in their own parish. Both the parents and God parents must participate in the pre Baptism class. When the parents arrange for the baptism of their child they will receive a form for the Godparents which they must bring to their own pastor so that he can certify that the Godparents are faithful members of their parish. The priest who interviews the parents arranging for baptism will provide you with a form of this letter.

Baptisms (**for children 2nd grade & younger**) are usually celebrated in English one Saturday each month at 12:45 PM. Mandatory instructions for both parents and Godparents are on the Wednesday before the Baptism at 7:15PM in the Rectory Basement. Make arrangements with one of the priests at least **ONE MONTH** before the Baptism.

**BAUTISMO**

**Los patrocinadores o padrinos escogidos para bautismo** deberán estar completamente iniciados en la Iglesia. Esto significa que ellos están bautizados, confirmados y han recibido la primera comunión y que participan en la Eucaristía Dominical. Los padres y los padrinos deben participar en el cursillo Bautismal. Cuando los padres vienen para fijar la fecha del bautismo de su hijo/a recibirán un formulario que los padrinos deben llevar a su cura párroco. El sacerdote debe certificar que los padrinos son practicantes. El sacerdote que entrevista a los padres que solicitan bautismo les proveerá el formulario para los padrinos.

Los Bautismos (**para niños de Segundo grado y más pequeños**) usualmente son celebrado dos Sábados cada mes a las 12:45 PM. Es necesario que inscriban al niño/niña **UN MES** antes de la fecha del Bautismo. La familia deberá estar registrada o presentar permiso de su parroquia. Los Padres y los padrinos deben acudir a la instrucción el Miércoles antes del Bautismo en el Salón Padre Mooney. (sótano—la entrada de 41st Ave) a las 7 PM.



**MARRIAGE**

Arrangements **MUST** be made at least **SIX (6) MONTHS** before the wedding.

**MATRIMONIOS**

Los novios deben tener la primera entrevista en la rectoría SEIS (6) meses antes de la fecha de su boda. El novio o la novia o ambos deben ser feligreses.



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My homily that day on the Feast of St. Martin of Tours, a bishop of the fourth century, who was very diligent in working against the Arian heresy of that day which did not recognize that Christ was both God and man. He was known as a warrior bishop since his former life as a soldier carried on to his episcopal ministry, not with a sword but rather with his wisdom and holiness of life. I mentioned to the Bishops there that this is exactly what we need to do. Becoming cultural warrior is not the way to present the gospel to the world today. My confrères seemed to agree with that assessment.

During the rest of the week we usually had three or four visits each day with the various offices of the Vatican, the Office for Bishops, the Office for Clergy, Doctrine of the Faith, New Evangelization, and the Office for the Promotion of Catholic Education. In addition, we met with the new Dicastery of Integral Human Development which combines the work of the former Migration Dicastery and that of Justice and Peace.

The reform of the Curia was very evident as many offices have been combined and staff has been distributed among the offices. One of the rules that Pope Francis made in the reorganization of the Curia was that no one should lose their job except if they were going on to retirement. The tone of the meetings this time in comparison to the last, especially with the Vatican offices, was one of pleasant collaboration. In the past, we were brought to task for various things seen as deficiencies from the Roman Offices. But the Holy Father has told these officials that they work for us and we do not work for them bluntly and that they are to be helpful to us. That was clearly the message they gave us in all the meetings we attended.

The highlight of the visit was of course, our meeting with the Holy Father. After taking pictures with us we dialogued for about 2 hours in the middle of a busy day for him, about anything we wished to bring up. He simply said, “The floor is yours. I will respond to anything you wish me to comment on.” Almost every bishop, including our auxiliary bishops, had an opportunity to state something that was important to them and to our work in the State of New York, as well as for the universal Church.

Bishop John Barres of Rockville Centre took the role of moderator and called upon each one of us for discussion of a different topic. Because of my work on this issue, I obviously was asked to comment on the migration situation. I thanked the Holy Father for his championing for migrants and refugees around the world, and spoke of his experience as a child of migrants in Argentina. He feels dedicated to those who find themselves in a new ambience and he wishes that the Church’s presence be their champion and advocate.

He also commented on the new bronze statue that has been placed, at least temporarily in St. Peter’s Square depicting 164 immigrants on a boat. The statue, 16’ high, was donated by a foundation that employed the Canadian artist to depict the immigrants.

The statue truly shows the stance of the Church in regard to migrants today. I did not get a chance to speak with the Holy Father about our own efforts to raise a statue of Mother Cabrini, however, in future columns I will explain that situation more fully.

Each time we, as bishops, go to Rome we recognize that we are part and parcel of the universal Church. We do not put out into the deep waters of that Church that encompasses the world which is the Body of Christ Himself. We are not CEO’s of institutional franchises. Rather, we are collaborators with the Holy Father who for us is the Vicar of Christ on earth. Please pray for us bishops as we struggle amidst a world that seems not to want to hear the message we bring; a message that you, as the faithful, also must bring to the world today.

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Mi homilía ese día en la Fiesta de San Martín de Tours, un obispo del siglo IV, que fue muy diligente en trabajar contra la herejía arriana de ese día que no reconocía que Cristo era Dios y hombre. Era conocido como un obispo desde su antigua vida como soldado que continuó con su ministerio episcopal sino con su sabiduría y santidad de vida. Les mencione a los Obispos que esto es exactamente lo que debemos hacer. Convertirse en guerrero cultural no es la manera de presentar el evangelio al mundo de hoy. Mis hermanos parecían estar de acuerdo con esa evaluación.

Durante el resto de la semana generalmente teníamos tres o cuatro visitas diarias con las diversas oficinas del Vaticano, la oficina de los Obispos, la Oficina del Clero, la Doctrina de la fe, la Nueva Evangelización y la Oficina de Promoción de la Educación Católica. Además, nos reunimos con el nuevo Dicasterio de Desarrollo Humano Integral que combina el trabajo del antiguo Dicasterio de Migración y el de Justicia y Paz.

La reforma de la curia fue muy evidente ya que muchas oficinas se han combinado y el personal se ha distribuido entre las oficinas. Una de las reglas que el Papa Francisco hizo en la reorganización de la curia fue que nadie debería perder su trabajo, excepto si se iban a jubilar. El tono de las reuniones esta vez en comparación con el anterior, especialmente con las oficinas del Vaticano, fue una de las colaboraciones agradables. En el pasado, fuimos llevados a la tarea por varias cosas vistas como deficiencias de las oficinas romanas. Pero el Santo Padre les ha dicho a estos funcionarios que ellos trabajan para nosotros y que nosotros no trabajamos para ellos sin rodeos y que deben ser útiles.

Lo más destacado de la visita fue, por supuesto, nuestra reunión con el Santo Padre. Después de tomar fotos con nosotros, hablamos durante aproximadamente dos horas en medio de un día ocupado para él, sobre cualquier cosa que quisiéramos mencionar. El simplemente dijo: “El piso es suyo. Responderé a cualquier cosa que desee que comente.” Casi todos los obispos, incluidos nuestros obispos auxiliares, tuvieron la oportunidad de declarar algo que era importante para ellos y para nuestro trabajo en el Estado de Nueva York y también para la iglesia universal.

El obispo John Barres del Rockville Center asumió el papel de moderador y nos llamó a cada uno de nosotros para discutir un tema diferente. Debido a mi trabajo en este tema, obviamente me pidieron que comentara sobre la situación migratoria. Le agradecí al Santo Padre por su defensa de los migrantes y refugiados en todo el mundo, y me contó su experiencia como hijo de migrantes en Argentina. Se siente dedicado a quienes se encuentran en un nuevo ambiente y desea que la presencia de la iglesia sea su defensor.

También comentó sobre la nueva estatua de bronce que se ha colocado, al menos temporalmente en la plaza de San Pedro, que representa a 164 inmigrantes en un bote. La estatua, de 16 pulgadas de alto, fue donada por una fundación que empleó al artista canadiense para representar a los inmigrantes. La estatua realmente muestra la posición de la Iglesia con respecto a los migrantes de hoy. No tuve la oportunidad de hablar con el Santo Padre sobre nuestros propios esfuerzos para levantar una estatua de la Madre Cabrini, sin embargo, en el futuro explicare esa situación más completamente.

Cada vez que nosotros como obispos, vamos a Roma reconocemos que somos parte integral de la Iglesia universal. Salimos a las aguas profundas de esa Iglesia que abarca el mundo que es el Cuerpo de Cristo mismo. No somos CEO de franquicias institucionales. Más bien, somos colaboradores con el Santo Padre, quien para nosotros es el Vicario de Cristo en la tierra. Por favor ore por nosotros obispos mientras luchamos en medio de un mundo que parece no querer escuchar el mensaje que traemos; un mensaje que ustedes, como fieles, también traen al mundo hoy.