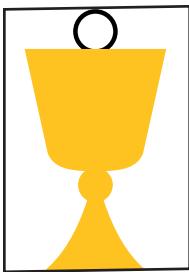


The Saint Barnabas Beacon

JANUARY 2026

100+ Years of Building Faith, Family & Fellowship



WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2026

SUNDAYS:

10:00 AM EUCHARIST
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL

EPIPHANY 2026 (OBSERVED)
SUNDAY JANUARY 4

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MATHEW

SUNDAY JANUARY 4 FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY (OBSERVED)

The twelve days of Christmas end with The Feast of the Epiphany when we celebrate Jesus being made manifest or appearing as Christ to the wise men who travelled from the east.. Although Epiphany falls on Wednesday January 7, we will be observing it on Sunday January 4. Please join us in the sanctuary or by zoom to celebrate this last day of Christmas. Dear People of God, As we prepare to bid farewell to the year 2025 and welcome the year 2026, I wish you all a happy and blessed New Year. While having great hope and joy in welcoming the New Year; at least, some of us share a sense of ambiguity about what the New Year has in store for us. I admit that I certainly do! We all have experienced our share of joys and concerns, our gains and our losses over the years. I believe at some point we have felt a sense of fear or insecurity about what the future holds for us.

However, the good news of Jesus Christ surpasses our fears. The Holy Bible frequently addresses the topic of fear. Whenever and wherever the Word of God approaches us – we hear the words “fear not” or “do not be afraid.” The word of assurance that assures us not to be afraid appears at least 100 times in the Bible. If you try counting, you might be able to count more.

We serve an Almighty God who is able to transform our tears into triumphs and our troubles into trophies. While as human beings we are conditioned in viewing time chronologically in terms of the clock and calendar years, God operates in moments. Each moment of us and our life belongs to God. Let us joyfully welcome the year 2026 or future moments in waiting by embracing the Lord’s assurance and comforting words of courage and hope. Our Lord Jesus tells us, “Do not be afraid.”

Peace,
Varghese Mathew+

SUNDAY JANUARY 4 FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY (OBSERVED)

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In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact
Fr. Mathew 914-572-1568

SUNDAY JANUARY 4 OUTREACH THE MIDNIGHT RUN

We are all familiar with the relief missions of the Midnight Run providing food, clothing, blankets and personal care items to the homeless poor on the streets of New York City. The essence of the missions, however is the human exchange, rather than the exchange of goods. The late-night relief efforts create a forum for trust, sharing, understanding and affection. forging a bond between the volunteers and the homeless people they serve. The homeless are survivalists, not a commodity. Through Midnight Run, volunteers come to see people on the streets as real people with a unique way of living.

St. Barnabas is one of many non-profit religious and civic groups that participates in the weekly runs. The Midnight Run itself is a non-profit organization that needs funds for its operations, organizing the runs, providing basic supplies like new socks, underwear and toiletries, providing clothing for homeless job seekers, etc. This is why they are also in need of funds and why it will be our Outreach for the New Year. If you miss making a contribution on Outreach Sunday January 4, you can also make your donation at any time during the rest of the month.

FRIDAY JANUARY 16 ST BARNABAS MIDNIGHT RUN

Sorting of clothes for the run will take place on Wednesday January 14 starting at 10 AM. On Friday, January 16 lunch bags will be set up starting at 11 AM. Those going on the run load up at 8:30 PM and leave the church at 9:30 PM.

Getting ready for a Midnight Run requires many hands.. We have about 5 people who come on a regular basis starting at 10 AM on Wednesdays to sort clothes. If we had more hands we could finish by noon. The Midnight Run Store supplies us with new socks and underwear that comes in packages. We open the packages and put individual socks and shorts in plastic bags which are stored in bins.

Clothes which have been donated either directly to us or to the Midnight Run store are divided into groups: hoodies, sweat shirts, pants, t-shirts, sweaters, jackets. Most of the clothes are for men as few homeless women are on the streets, however we do pack and take some items for women each run. All of the above items, except jackets, are folded and stored in individual plastic bags and marked by size. The bagged items go into bins also marked by size. Jackets are carried separately in one of the cars going on the run. Lastly shoes and boots are marked with sizes, each pair tied or taped together, and put in bins.

In addition to sorting clothes for each run we also provide small bags of toiletries each. containing a toothbrush, travel size toothpaste, travel size shampoo and conditioner, a disposable razor, deodorant, travel size lotion, and bar soap or travel size body wash. Deodorant is supplied by the midnight run office. The remaining items are either donated or bought by Nancy Gotthelf. Currently Nancy and Awilda Acosta set up the bags the day before the run.

Newsletter Editor: Pat Breinin,
Newsletter Design: Dennis Di Vincenzo

REMEMBER TO BRING DONATIONS FOR THE DOBBS FERRY FOOD PANTRY

If this is a task where you could help, please speak with Nancy, On the Friday morning of the run volunteers pack lunch bags for 60 people, each bag containing an egg, a sandwich, a piece of fruit and a dessert. If you would like to make sandwiches, boil eggs or provide desserts or fruit, let Nancy know

We hope this helps everyone understand the work that goes into each monthly run. If you haven't been participating in any way, please try to pitch in somehow. As the saying goes: it takes a village.

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to Debbie Cooke, for taking on the job of monitoring our paper supplies. It may seem like a minor task, but it is really aggravating to open the supply closet door and find there are no paper towels or toilet paper when these are needed. We don't like surprises, so we are grateful to Debbie for coming to the rescue.

As for our coffee hours, we've managed to always have food as a result of Kathy Wolf's weekly emails, but getting someone to set up seems to be a hardship. The one angel who is getting very tired of setting up (that would be Kathy) needs more volunteers. It's an easy task and can be done on Saturday—just set up the coffee pot, and put out the paper plates, napkins and utensils. Easy, peasy.

DECEMBER 21: LESSONS & CAROLS

Those of us who love to sing Christmas Carols and hear the Christmas story always look forward to Lessons & Carols, which was incorporated into our regular Sunday Eucharist on December 21. In between the singing of carols by the choir and the congregations the St. Barnabas Readers told the story of the birth of Jesus. It was, as always, a beautiful service and a great joy for all those who participated. Our thanks to Larry Wolf and our choir for the music they performed, to our guest flutist, Kristin Gygi, to the St. Barnabas Readers and to Sabina Gaston who produced the beautiful Lessons & Carols service leaflet.



DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE AT ST. BARNABAS

Getting the church ready to celebrate Christmas is a task that takes many hands. Our thanks to the Altar Guild ladies, Sabina Gaston, Carolyn Ricci, and Debbie Cooke who decorated the church so beautifully; to Larry Wolf, the enhanced choir and our guest violinist, April Johnson, for the music that so beautifully enhanced those services.; to our Sunday School for the Christmas Pageant (see below); to Nancy Gothelf, Kathy Wolf, Carolyn Ricci, Sabina Gaston and Pat Breinin who decorated the Undercroft and prepared all the food for our Christmas celebratory coffee hour. following the 5 PM family service on Christmas Eve.. Every contribution towards the celebration of this blessed season is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

Congratulations to our Sunday School members for a charming retelling of the story of the birth of Jesus through, narration, song and pantomime. Pictured here are Francis Mathew, as narrator, Bethsaida Mathew, as Jesus' mother Mary, Timothy Cherian as Joseph, Bethany Cherian as the angel, Fr/ Mathew and Anu Mathew.

