Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mass Intention

SUNDAY, April 2 – PALM SUNDAY
8:00 A.M. For the People of St Francis
9:30 A.M. Mate Turkovich
11:00 A.M. Romulo Noville
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Giuseppe Carlino

MONDAY, April 3 – Weekday
9:00 A.M. Betancourt/Reyes Family

TUESDAY, April 4– Weekday
9:00 A.M. John Wittekind

WEDNESDAY, April 5– Weekday
9:00A.M. Linda Zuliani

THURSDAY, April 6—HOLY THURSDAY
9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer
7:30 P.M. Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRIDAY, April 7 – GOOD FRIDAY
9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer
2:30 P.M. Stations of the Cross
3:00 P.M. Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7:30 P.M. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

SATURDAY, April 8 HOLY SATURDAY
9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer
7:30 P.M. Easter Vigil-
For the People of St. Francis

SUNDAY, April 9 - EASTER SUNDAY
8:00 A.M. Easter Novena
9:30 A.M. Vito Siletti
11:00 A.M. Maria Assunta Spiteri
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Giuseppe Anna Volpe
Calogero Pina Annibale
Adelina Iocco
Filomena Elia Cinquemani
Salvatore Giovana Cinquemani
Lt Robert B. Cruz
Piraneo Angela Carmela
Gerlando Graci

Today's Readings

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Isaiah 42:1-7
John 12:1-11

TUESDAY: Isaiah 49:1-6
John 13:21-33, 36-38

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 50:4-9a
Matthew 26:14-25

THURSDAY: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-15

FRIDAY: Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
John 10:31-42

SATURDAY: Genesis: 1:1-2:2
Easter Vigil Genesis 22:1-18
Exodus 14:15-15:1
Isaiah 54:5-14
Isaiah 55:1-11
Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4
Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28
Romans 6:3-11
Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-9

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the triumphant welcome by the people of Jerusalem as they hail Jesus as king. Jesus made his way to Jerusalem not as a mighty military messiah; rather, he entered the city in humility, riding on a donkey. The crowds cheered and greeted Jesus enthusiastically, proclaiming him a blessed prophet of God. The victory which Jesus would win for them would come not by force, but through obedience and self-giving love.

Matthew's Passion account recalls what our Lord freely endured to win our salvation. Jesus and his disciples, after having their final meal, at which he blessed the bread and wine, went to the Mount of Olives to pray. The night became filled with betrayal, desertion, false charges, and cruelty. Crowned king with a crown of thorns, Jesus was jeered, spat upon, humiliated, whipped, and then brutally put to death on a cross. The earth quaked and many holy people who had fallen asleep were raised at the moment of Jesus' saving death.

What greater model could we have than Jesus? He was the Son of God; he assumed the role of the Suffering Servant in order to redeem humanity. His obedience to his Father's will restore humanity to God's graces. His suffering and death brought forth forgiveness of sin for all who believed in him. What greater love could Jesus have shown than to offer his life as a ransom for all people?

May we be moved to open our hearts more fully to Jesus. May we be moved to give ourselves more generously in love and service to others. May we come to know more fully the joy that is to be found in taking up our cross and following Jesus. By His stripes we continue to be healed, saved, and made whole. The cross, the instrument of death, was transformed by Jesus into the tree of life and the source of salvation.

As we enter Holy Week, it is a time of reflection, prayer, and grace for us as we re-live in word, ritual, and sacrament here in the sanctuary, the great events of our redemption. I strongly encourage that you make every effort to be here this week to confess Jesus of Nazareth, Messiah, and Lord!

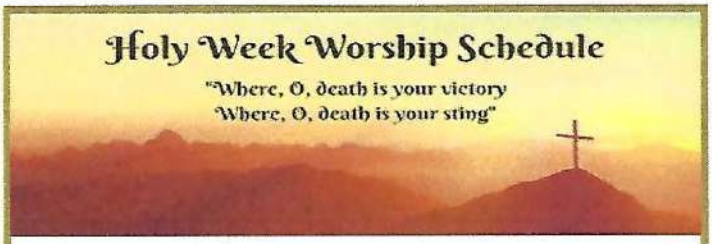
All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

Sunday, April 2, 2023
Palm Sunday
of the Passion of the Lord

In the simplest of terms, Palm Sunday is an opportunity to reflect upon the final week of Jesus' life. Jesus did not deny the image that the crowd expected -- the fulfillment of the hopes of Israel that He would be their earthly king, destroying the Roman government. Instead, Jesus humbly entered Jerusalem to give His life on a cross, saving mankind from sin and death. One day, Jesus will return gloriously as a mighty warrior in battle (Revelation 19:11–16). Palm Sunday serves as a preparation of one's heart for the agony of His Passion and the joy of His Resurrection.

Matthew 21:1-11 says,

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away. "This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:"Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,"Hosanna to the Son of David!""Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!""Hosanna in the highest!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023

Palms will be given out as you enter church and will be blessed at the beginning of each mass.

Saturday 5 P.M.

Sunday 8:00 A.M.
9:30 A.M.
11 A.M.
12:30 P.M. (Italian)

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023

Morning prayer - 9:00 A.M.

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 P.M.

Visits to the Repository Until - 10:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023

Morning Prayer - 9:00 A.M.

Stations of the Cross - 2:30 P.M.

Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord:
3:00 P.M.
7:30 P.M.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023

Morning Prayer - 9:00 A.M.

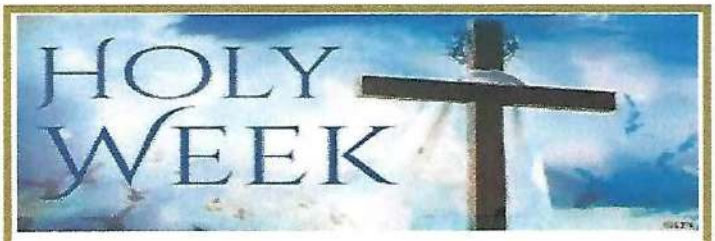
NO CONFESSIONS

NO 5:00 P.M. MASS

Easter Vigil - 7:30 P.M.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

Masses 8:00 A.M.
9:30 A.M.
11:00 A.M.
12:30 P.M. (Italian)



ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICES DURING HOLY WEEK

As we begin the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Jesus showed his love in his desire to remain with us always through the institution of the Holy Eucharist. Jesus invites us to intimacy, the intimacy of eating a meal together, the intimacy of his becoming our very food and drink so that he might share his life with us. The intimacy of remembering Jesus' life, death, and resurrection so deeply that Jesus is present among us.

Jesus invites us into a relationship that is so strong and so deep that it will enable our faith to grow even deeper. This Holy Thursday, let us spend some quiet moments with Jesus present in the Eucharist and tell him of our hearts' desires.

Good Friday is a day of mixed emotions. As we think of the pain our gentle Jesus suffered we cannot help being sorrowful. At the same time, however, we have reason to rejoice. Through his suffering and death on the cross Jesus has completed his mission on earth. He has opened the way for us who believe in him to share in the joy of his resurrection.

As we prayerfully recall Christ's passion, we see in it a reason to hope. Being God's divine son, Jesus could have overcome his oppressors, but he freely took this suffering upon himself out of love for us. If we believe in him and, like him, trust in the love and mercy of his divine Father, we too, can triumph over death.

May this Holy Week be a source of strength, hope, and courage for each one of us as we accompany Jesus through these celebrations.

God Bless, Msgr. Maresca

Welcome New Parishioners

We welcome those who registered in our parish during the month of March 2023.

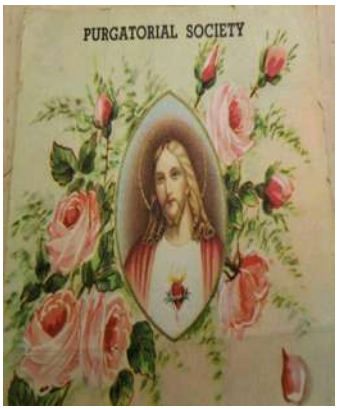
Elida & Lucio Almeida Uruchima
Carmen El Allali
Sergio & Maria Valentini
Justin Borello

Baptisms

We welcome those who were Baptized during the month of March 2023.

Aaron John Monti
Juliette Mia Abraham

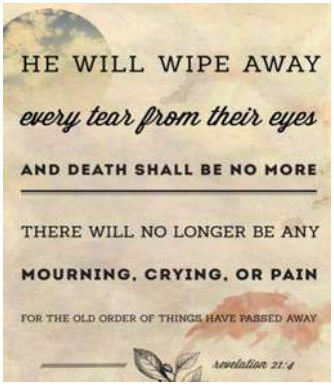
Purgatorials



The following names have been enrolled in our Purgatorial Society for the month of March 2023. Please remember to continue to pray for their families.

Elisabetta Maria Tola
Kim Lee
Michael Rauch
Hank Schreiber

Deaths



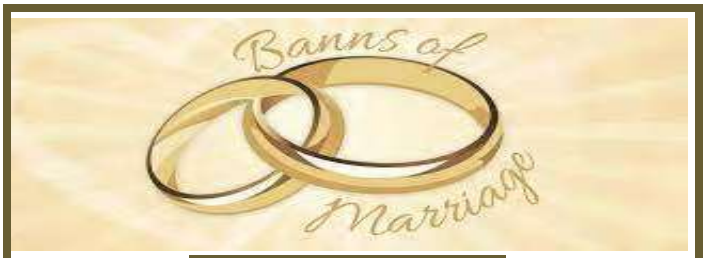
The following have passed away during the month of March 2023. We continue to pray for the recently deceased members of our parish.

Ana Zagljic
Gladys Sanchez
Grace Raffaele
Clorinda Carulla

What are you doing for Lent?

To help us during our Lenten journey, the following opportunities will be taking place in our parish.

1. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each morning at 8:00AM Monday through Saturday.
2. Mass is celebrated each morning at 9:00AM Monday through Saturday.
3. Reconciliation Monday is ***April 3rd***. Every Church in our Diocese, the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre will be hearing confessions. We will be hearing confessions from
   3:00 to 5:00PM and 7:00 to 9:00PM.
   What a wonderful experience to receive the mercy of Christ in this great sacrament.



1st Time:

Claudia Messina
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

And

Antonio Agro
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

Easter Candle

The Easter Candle will burn
In Loving Memory of:

Rose & Denis Sweeney
Lucia & Ralph Borgia
Domenick Borgia
Ralph & Rita Maresca
William LeDone
Ana Zgaljic
Antonina Kos
John Kos
Yolanda Palazzolo
Natale Palazzolo
Marija Kuljanic
John Purich
Louis & Theresa Falco
Nick & Millie Mistretta
Vincenzo & Maria Falco
Frank & Adelina Falzetti
Maria & Domenic Viscovich
Maria Vlacich
Sylvester V. Guerriero
Harold Elmendorf
Raffaele & Lucia Guerriero
Pasquale & Christina Iorio
Vincenzo & Benedetta Iorio
Pasquale & Lugina De Cicco
Carmela Messina

If anyone would like to make a donation or memorialize the
Pascal Candle,
please stop by the rectory and speak with Marybeth.

Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort:

John Ross, Steven Joyce, Judy Hanley-Brickner, John Wrenn, Augustin Cisneros, Thomas Leiter, James Nunez, Vincent Wytak, Carol Ross, Jeffrey Hyans, Marie LoVolpe, Jessica St. Preux, Al Ciani, Alesha Moses, Nancy McCaffrey, Connie Fontano Christopher Wojtalik, Theresa Pacheco, William Goss, Luke Pacheco, Vincenza Papa, Jim Schneggenburger, Anthony Criscuolo, Samantha O'Sullivan, Marilyn Miller, John Carmody, Rosario Duran, Vivian Papa, Joel Steinmann, Anna Governali, Tim Graham, Antonio Postiglione, Mario Tamburello, Christopher Araimo, Charles Principato, Jim Kreitler, Humberto Cordova, John Schakir, Margaret Culhane, Benedicto Randazzo, Angelo Niakas, Peter Lopez, Fr. Emilio Salerno.

Also remember in your prayers all the deceased of the Parish. Please remember to continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and married life.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

April 3, 2023

On Monday, April 3rd, our Diocese will join both the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre in celebrating ***Reconciliation Monday***. On this special day, our parish will offer the ***Sacrament of Reconciliation*** from 3:00PM to 5:00PM and 7:00PM to 9:00PM, in preparation of for the holy days of the Paschal Triduum.

As you can see our statues have been covered and will remain so until Holy Saturday night.

This is done, as it was done in the past, to allow the faithful when they pray, no distractions in reflecting and mediating on the Crucifix. Let us in this last week of Lent remain close to the Lord as He journeys to Jerusalem, to take up His cross, to suffer and die for us.

Pray for Vocations

Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

"The Lord God has opened my ear and I was not rebellious."

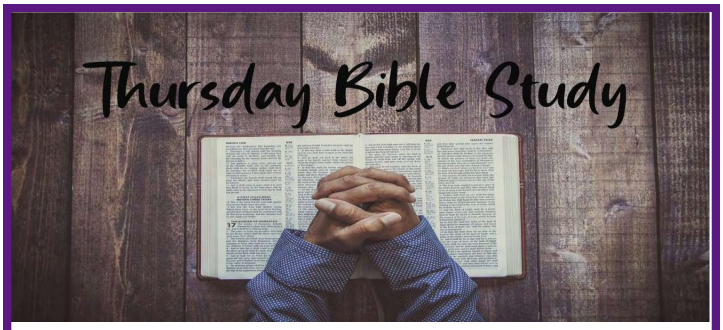
Consider a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life.

Contact the Vocation Office at (718) 827-2454 or email:vocations@diobrook.org

FOCUS:

Truly, Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

The congregations last words in today's communal Gospel reading are those of the centurion: Truly this was the Son of God! This is the central proclamation of our faith that we strive to profess more fully this Holy Week—that the one whom we follow is God's own Son, and God Himself. May His name be praised forever.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

Dear Friends, the Scripture Study Group will be on Easter Recess until April 20, 2023 when we will be on **Isaiah Chapters 47-50**.

The Gospel readings and study will be conducted using the Little Rock Scripture Study program. Study booklets will be provided.

If you are interested in joining the study group or would like further information, please contact us through our email at sfascripturestudy@gmail.com or call the rectory at **(718) 728-7801.** Please be sure to leave your name and contact information.

Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture.

HAPPY EASTER

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 9:00AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00AM each morning, Monday through Saturday, giving parishioners an opportunity for private prayer before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:30AM the rosary will be prayed by parishioners before the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:50AM the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed. Jesus calls us to perseverance in prayer. "Pray without ceasing." "Watch and pray." Eucharistic adoration helps us discover the Real Presence of Christ.

What a wonderful way to begin our day praying before the Blessed Sacrament in silence or praying the Holy Rosary.

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday.

Exposition will resume on Easter Monday.

Memorials for the Week of April 2, 2023

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Loving Memory of
Maria Assunta Spiteri
Requested by:
The Spiteri Family

Parish Mission Statement

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Catholic community that is centered in Jesus, gathers in worship and witnesses the Gospel message. The parish values and welcomes each person's gift of time, talent and treasure. As a faith-filled community, we are committed to minister to the spiritual, educational and material needs of all people.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Weekly Offering

Thank you for your continued generosity of giving each week. Your weekly offering helps us pay our monthly bills.

Sunday Collection **$4,368.00**

School parents must use church envelopes.

Collections This Week

On April 6th, (Holy Thursday), there will be a collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

On April 7th, (Good Friday), there will be a collection for support of the Holy Land.

Thank you for your support.

Easter Mass Remembrance envelopes can be returned in any collection before Easter. The names of your loved ones, living or deceased, will be remembered at the Easter Novena of Masses.

Easter Flower Offering envelopes can be returned in any collection.

Please clearly **print** the names as we will be listing the names in our Bulletin.

Next weekend, April 8th and 9th, the second collection will be the **Support of Senior Priests.**

Your donation will help support our retired priests who have done so much for us.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

MASS COUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

The average attendance for the month of March (4 weekends) is as follows:

5pm	**100**
8am	**40**
9:30am	**197**
11am	**110**
12:30pm	**53**

50/50 Winners March 2023

<u>First Prize</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Toole

<u>Second Prize</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Nick D'Angelo

<u>Third Prize</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Claude Vella

Congratulations!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

April 2 - April 8

Sunday, April 2
PALM SUNDAY
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40 CCD

Monday, April 3
12:00-3:30PM-Golden Age
Reconciliation Monday
Confessions 3:00 to 5:00PM & 7:00 to 9:00PM

Tuesday, April 4
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, April 5

Thursday, April 6
HOLY THURSDAY
9:00AM Morning Prayer
7:30PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday, April 7
GOOD FRIDAY
9:00am Morning Prayer
2:30PM Stations of the Cross
3:00PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7:30PM Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 8
HOLY SATURDAY
9:00AM Morning Prayer
7:30PM Easter Vigil Mass

NEXT WEEK

April 9 - April 15

Sunday, April 9
EASTER SUNDAY
NO Children's Liturgy
No CCD

Monday, April 10
The Rectory Office Closes at 5:00PM

Tuesday, April 11
The Rectory Office Closes at 5:00PM

Wednesday, April 12
The Rectory Office Closes at 5:00PM
7:00PM-Baptism Class

Thursday, April 13
The Rectory Office Closes at 5:00PM

Friday, April 14
The Rectory Office Closes at 5:00PM

Saturday, April 15
The Rectory Office is Open 9:00AM to 2:00PM

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

April 2023

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

The God-shaped hole

St. Augustine wrote, "You have made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee," (*Confessions*, Saint Augustine). Humans are created with a longing for something good, true, and beautiful. We long for God. We can try filling that void with things of the world. Unless we fill that longing with God, however, we can never be satisfied.

Grow in love

Having received the gift of divine life, we must give it to others. "*Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another*" (1 John 4:11). When we share God's life and love, we grow in that very life and love.

"But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay'" (Matthew 28:5-6).

Powerful gifts of Eucharistic devotion

As the "the source and summit of our faith," the Eucharist is the greatest of God's gifts. During the Easter season, resolve to look at the Eucharist with new eyes of gratitude and strengthened devotion:

Return love for Love: The Eucharist is not a symbol; it is Jesus Christ. He loves us beyond imagining — personally, closely, sacrificially, and tenderly. In adoring, receiving, and loving the Blessed Sacrament, we're returning love for Love.

Fuel for the fight: The Eucharist nourishes and strengthens our souls. "How can we last...without hearing Jesus say, 'I love you' – impossible..." (Mother Teresa). The Eucharist strengthens against temptation and protects from mortal sins.

Source of joy: The Eucharist is a glimpse of Heaven, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and a pledge of future glory. St. John Vianney commented, "If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy."

Wisdom and guidance: As Chancellor of England, St. Thomas More received Communion daily for "light and wisdom" in his administrative decisions. We can turn to the Blessed Sacrament for guidance whenever we have weighty decisions, questions, or doubts.

Communion empowers us to love: *"Even as I have loved you...you also love one another"* (John 13:34). Jesus specifically told his followers to love others as we've been loved. Receiving the Eucharist worthily empowers us to love like Him.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Holy Week?

Holy Week is a sacred time, specially devoted to celebrating the work of our redemption – the suffering and Death of Jesus on the Cross. The events honored during Holy Week, especially on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, remind us of an amazing truth: God loved us first, even when that love cost Him everything. On Easter, He rose gloriously from the dead, offering redemption. This event is so tremendous we need a week to prepare our hearts to receive it.

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Choose new life at Easter

"... I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice, and cleaving to him; for that means life to you and length of days ..."(Deuteronomy 30:19-20).

When the Israelites were poised to enter the land God had promised them, Moses wanted all to understand what was at stake. He didn't want them to just enter the Promised Land, Moses wanted them to remain there with God's blessing. So Moses put the choice facing all of God's people in the clearest possible terms. When we choose to follow God, we choose life over death.

The choice is still ours. We can say "yes" or "no" to God's love. While our choices lead to consequences, it is still up to us.

When we live within God's laws, we choose life. Honesty over lies and deceit, self-control over sinful pleasure, generosity over selfishness. This is how we choose new life with God.

from Scripture — John 10:1-10; Trusting the Good Shepherd

In this Scripture passage, Jesus used the image of a shepherd to reveal who He is, how He cares for us, and more importantly, how He wants us to relate to Him. The image of a shepherd was a powerful choice.

A good shepherd knew each sheep in his care individually. He never left his flock. Many sheep-pens didn't have doors, so the shepherd would sleep in the entry way to prevent enemies from getting to his flock. Predators would have to go through him first. If a sheep got lost, hurt, or was attacked, the shepherd took care of it, even risking his life for the sheep.

Jesus' illustration is clear. Without the constant care, guidance, and protecting presence of the shepherd (God), the sheep (us) wouldn't survive. That's uncomfortable because it means we're dependent and vulnerable. But the deeper truth is that Jesus, our Shepherd, knows us each personally, individually. Our Shepherd heals us, provides for us, and protects us, even to offering up His own life. He asks us to trust Him and ultimately, lead us Home.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 2 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century). On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by crowds waving palms and cheering. This Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

April 9 – The Resurrection of the Lord (1st Century). Easter, the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection of the dead, is the holiest day of the year. The Season of Easter lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday until Pentecost.

April 13 – Pope St. Martin I (665). St. Martin was elected to succeed Theodore I as pope. He was arrested and dragged to Constantinople after censuring the Byzantine Emperor Constans II for heresy. He died in exile.

April 16 – Divine Mercy Sunday (1931). Jesus asked St. Faustina to ensure that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." He promised that anyone who honors Him as the King of Mercy and prays The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will receive special graces and great mercy.

Q & A — Am I wrong to have doubts?

There is good doubt and bad doubt. Bad doubt that says, "I won't believe this unless you prove it," can become sinful and should be avoided. Good doubt ("I'm struggling to understand this") is a sign you're ready to go deeper into the faith.

Sometimes doubts arise from genuine or incomplete understanding of Church teaching. Archbishop Fulton Sheen famously said, "There are not one hundred people in the United States who hate The Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be." With questions, turn to the Catechism, reference the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (usccb.org), ask your priest.

If, after all that, something still doesn't make sense, then it really is a mystery and that's the point at which we humbly allow Christ to conform our ways of thinking to His (not the other way around). Entrust everything to God, and He will resolve it, in His own way, in His own time. *"Lord, I believe, help my unbelief!"* (Mark 9:24).

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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APRIL 2023
LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS

	PALM SUNDAY	EASTER VIGIL	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
	APRIL 2-3	APRIL 8-9	APRIL 15-16	APRIL 22-23	APRIL 29-30
Saturday 7:30 P.M.					
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	Edward Kubina	***EASTER SUNDAY***	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Debbie Skinner
Sunday 8:00 A.M.	Robert Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Robert Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Robert Laucella
Sunday 9:30 A.M.	Josephine Corso	Patrick O'Toole	Josephine Corso	Marta O'Toole	Maria Brooks
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	Eterna Bruno	Anna Maria Del Carro	Jackie Macchia	Anna Maria Tenaglia	Concetta D'Angelo

Please Note: Deacon John will contact the Lectors assigned on Palm Sunday. There will be a spearate schedule for Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil.

LECTORS

You can take part in decorating St. Francis of Assisi Church by memorializing a Palm Cross during the Easter Season.

The Palm Crosses will adorn the walls inside of the church from Palm Sunday April 1 & 2 until Divine Mercy Sunday April 15 & 16

Small messages of dedication will be attached to each cross.
ie: In Loving Memory of…….
In Thanksgiving for ……..

Donations to memorialize a cross: $50

Please submit payment to the rectory or in any collection by March 24th.

PALM CROSS

Requested by_____

In Loving Memory of_____
OR
In Thanksgiving for _____

Amount enclosed $_____

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Come and see what becoming a Catholic is about!

Do you think that God might be calling you to Baptism?
Have you always wanted to complete your first Sacraments of
Holy Communion or Confirmation?

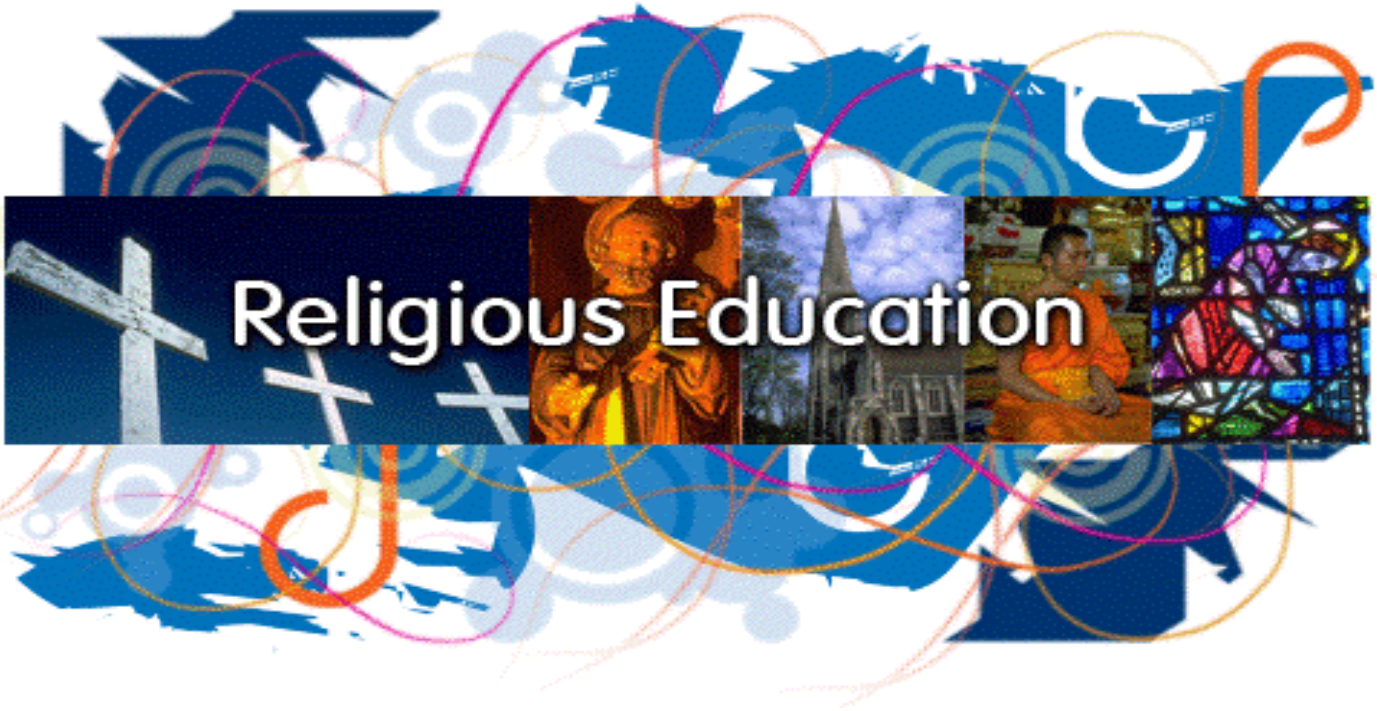
Please consider joining our RCIA program with Sister Francesca Mumbua,
our new Director of Religious Education.

Please call or visit the Religious Education Office on Monday or Thursday.

Registration is in progress.

JOURNEY OF FAITH

**YOU are the reason we are HERE! Come and talk to us.
We will help you get started or Complete you
Sacramental Journey.**



Has your child completed the three Sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation?

Please bring him/her for Religious Education at St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

Religious Education will lead to reception of these Sacraments.

Please consider enrolling him/her in our school of Religious Education.
Classes are held on Sunday morning from 10:30 to 12:00 noon,
September to May.

Hurry! Registration phase for the Class of 2023/2024 is taking place NOW!

You can obtain the registration forms from the Bulletin, parish Office or the Religious Education Office.

The Faith Formation Team of St. Francis of Assisi is waiting for your child!

YOUR child's faith is important to US.

Let the children come to me.

MATTHEW 19:14

ITALIAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC ACTION
44th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday April 30, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi Church
21-17 45th Street
Astoria, NY 11105

Mass of Thanksgiving at 12:30 PM
Dinner at 2:00 PM
Msgr. Campbell Hall (lower church)

HONORING

DEACON NICOLINO SCARLATTO

&

DEACON GIOVANNI MESSINA

Basket Raffles, 50/50 $ 75.00 per person

RSVP April 15, 2023

For more information contact Maria Bruno 917 943-7156 or Josephine Sferrazza 718 808-2097

_____Number of tickets @ 75.00 each

Names of guests: _____

__ I can't attend but I wish to donate Amount_____

Total payment: _____

Name_____

E-mail address_____Phone:_____

Please make checks payable to I.A.C.A
Thank You