Pentecost Sunday

Mass Intention

SUNDAY, May 28 – Pentecost Sunday
8:00 A.M. John Marchassalla
9:30 A.M. Dr. Arthur Gualtieri
11:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Giacinta Giangio

MONDAY, May 29 – The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9:00 A.M. Giuseppina Cinquemani

TUESDAY, May 30-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Maria Ferrara

WEDNESDAY, May 31– Weekday
9:00A.M. Elsa Del Bove

THURSDAY, June 1— Saint Justin
9:00 A.M. Andres Felipe Londono Garcia

FRIDAY, June 2 – Weekday
9:00 A.M. Joseph Hili Sr.

SATURDAY, June 3—Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Living & Deceased Members of
The Legion of Mary
Henri Chiesa
Ricardo Navarro
Frank T. DiDonato
Edwin Kavanagh
John McCarthy
Margaret McCarthy

5:00P.M. For the People of St. Francis

SUNDAY, June 4 - The Most Holy Trinity
8:00 A.M. Anthony Carrino
9:30 A.M. Mary Cilia
11:00 A.M. Vincent P. Tabone
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Maria Ferrara
Serafina Cicolini
Anna Maria Cicolini

Today's Readings

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11
1 Corinthians 13:3b-7, 12-13
John 20:19-23

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Genesis 3:9-15, 20
John 19:25-34

TUESDAY: Sirach 35:1-12
Mark 10:28-31

WEDNESDAY Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Luke 1:39-56

THURSDAY: Sirach 42:15-25
Mark 10:46-52

FRIDAY: Sirach 44:11-26
Mark 11:11-26

SATURDAY: Sirach 51:12cd-20
Mark 11:27-33

The Most Holy Trinity

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
1 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear Parishioners,

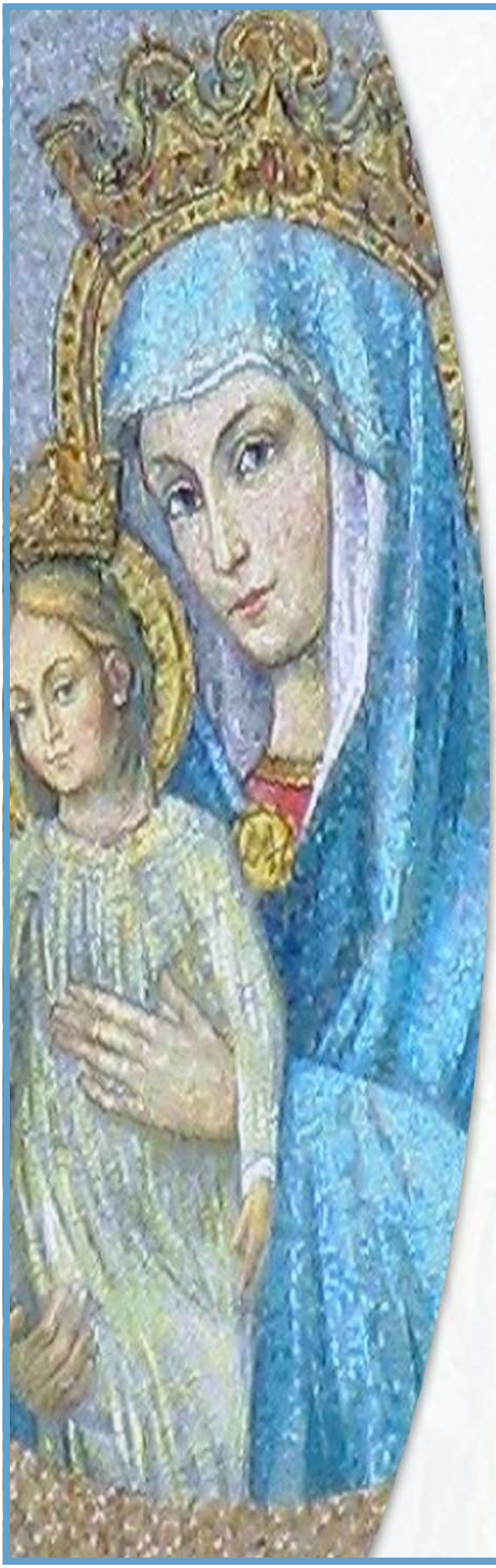
Today we celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost!
Over the centuries artists have expressed their idea of what Jesus looked like to his contemporaries. The most we can say is that they had used their artistic talent to draw a face which they felt represented what Jesus might have looked like. We can know what Jesus was like by reading the Gospels and the writings of the early disciples.

We can see the compassion Jesus had for people by the miracles he did. We can see His love by the acts of kindness and thoughtfulness which fill the gospel stories. We can see that Jesus was a leader by the way he was able to attract disciples .We can see that He was a religious person because he kept the Mosaic Law. We can see His commitment to doing good by the actions of his life.
Think of those people in Jerusalem many centuries ago who saw the Apostles and disciples of Jesus come into the streets with great enthusiasm and exuberance, proclaiming the message of the Good News. These people had known Jesus personally and they were on fire with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the truth about Jesus of Nazareth. People were simply amazed because they heard these Galileans speaking in their own languages. Some people, about 3,000 in number, became converts that day because of what they heard and saw.

The greatness of Jesus is expressed in part by what he did for the people. He changed people's lives. The influence of Jesus fell on people like Peter, James, John, the adulteress, the woman at the well, and so many others. We see dramatic changes in their lives, and that gives us an insight into what Jesus was like. Jesus transfigures people when they let him influence them in their thinking, speaking, and acting.

When you see people reconciled and at peace because they follow the command to love one another, then you see something of what Jesus is like. When you see Christians striving to live a chaste life in their relationships, then you see what Jesus is like. When you see people showing compassion for their neighbor or those willing to let others be number one, then you know what Jesus is really like. Jesus promised the Church that after he ascended into heaven he would send the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is the fulfillment of that promise. The Holy Spirit is poured out on every member of the Church. Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians that there are different gifts but the same Spirit; there are different ministries but the same Lord; there are different works but the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone. The Spirit comes to each person for the common good. We are a diverse group of people who gather each week to give worship and praise to the Lord. The talents and abilities which we have are vast and are given to us for the good of all. We must use what we have been given for the benefit of others as well as for ourselves. In this way, the glory of the Lord shines through us, and others will know what Jesus is like as they see the good that we do. In the Gospel we hear Jesus greeting his disciples with the words peace be with you, then he gives them the power to forgive sins. Jesus gives us his peace as he forgives our sins when we are sorry. People can come to know that God loves them and will forgive them because it is so clear in the life of his disciples. Such great love can change the heart of any skeptic.

All the Blessings of the Holy Spirit,
Msgr. Maresca



Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Church and Mother of our Faith

POPE FRANCIS

Mother, help our faith!
Open our ears to hear God's word
and to recognize his voice and call.
Awaken in us a desire to follow in his footsteps,
to go forth from our own land
and to receive his promise.
Help us to be touched by his love,
that we may touch him in faith.
Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him
and to believe in his love,
especially at times of trial,
beneath the shadow of the cross,
when our faith is called to mature.
Sow in our faith the joy of the Risen One.
Remind us that those who believe are never alone.
Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus,
that he may be light for our path.
And may this light of faith always increase in us,
until the dawn of that undying day
which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord!

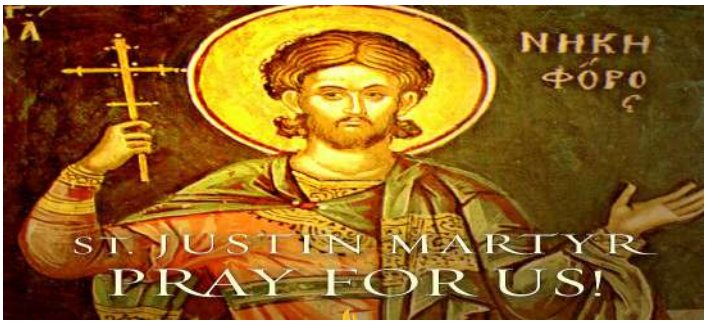
The Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of the Church
Monday
May 29, 2023

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

The Archangel Gabriel, at the time of the Annunciation, informed the Mother of God that Her cousin Elizabeth had miraculously conceived and was soon to be the mother of a son, the destined precursor of the Messiah. The Blessed Virgin in Her humility concealed the wonderful dignity to which She Herself was raised, through the Incarnation of the Son of God in Her womb, but in the transport of Her holy joy and gratitude, determined to go to congratulate and assist the mother of the Baptist. *"Mary therefore arose*" Saint Luke says, *"and with haste went into the hill country into a city of Judea, and entering into the house of Zachary, greeted Elizabeth.*"

What a blessing did the presence of the God-Man bring to this house, the first which He in His humanity honored with His visit! But it is Mary who is the instrument and means by which He imparts His divine blessing. He intends to show us that She is the channel through which He delights to communicate to us His graces, and encourages us to ask them of Him through Her intercession.

At the voice of the Mother of God, by the power and grace of Her divine Son in Her womb, *Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit;* and the infant in her womb, sanctified at that moment, conceived so great a joy as to leap and exult. By the infused light of the Spirit of God Elizabeth understood the great mystery of the Incarnation which God had wrought in Mary, whose humility prevented Her from disclosing it, even to a Saint and an intimate friend. In raptures of astonishment Elizabeth pronounced Mary blessed above all other women, and cried out, "How is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" The Virgin, hearing Her own praise, sank yet lower in the abyss of Her nothingness, and melting in an ecstasy of love and gratitude to God, She burst into Her admirable canticle, the *Magnificat: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and My spirit rejoices in God, My Saviour."* What marvels of grace and light God reveals to us in the souls of His Saints! Mary stayed with Her cousin almost three months, after which She returned to Nazareth.



Thursday, June 1, 2023
The Feast of
Saint Justin, Martyr

Justin was born circa 105 AD. He was a Palestinian of Greek parentage, beginning his life in present day Nablus, 40 miles north of Jerusalem. In Jesus' time, the area had been a part of Samaria. A well educated young man, Justin tried various schools of thought and experimented with several different philosophies of his day. Eventually, he met one of the early Christians and began a study of the Hebrew and Christian scriptures at Ephesus. At the age of 30, he accepted the gift of faith and was baptized.

Continuing in his chosen vocation as a philosopher, Justin traveled from place to place, thinking, writing, speaking, arguing and defending Christian beliefs. Unfortunately, only fragments of his many writings have survived. Among these are brief descriptions of the Mass and Baptism.

In the custom of his time, Justin, as an established philosopher and teacher, founded a school at Rome. Hew was eventually denounced as a Christian by Crescens, a pagan philosopher whom he had beaten in debate.

Justin and six other Christians (five men and a woman) were put to death in 165 by beheading, after they refused to offer sacrifice to the gods at Rome. His response to the command of Rusticus the Prefect to worship the idols was a simple statement: "No right minded person forsakes the truth for false-hood."

The emblems of St. Justin are a quill pen and an ax or sword, denoting his writer's vocation and his martyr's death. His feast day is June 1st and his proper Scripture is 1 Corinthians 1:18-25. He is

Saturday, June 3, 2023
The Feast of
St. Charles Lwanga & Companions

St. Charles and many other martyrs for the faith died between November 15, 1885 – January 27, 1887 in Namugongo, Uganda. St. Charles and his companions were beatified in 1920 and canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1964.

In 1879 Catholicism began spreading in Uganda when the White Fathers, a congregation of priests were peacefully received by King Mutesa. The priests soon began preparing catechumens for baptism and before long a number of the young pages in the king's court had become Catholics. However, on the death of Mutesa, his son Mwanga, a corrupt man who ritually engaged in pedophilic practices with the younger pages, took the throne. When King Mwanga had a visiting Anglican Bishop murdered, his chief page, Joseph Mukasa, a Catholic who went to great length to protect the younger boys from the king's lust, denounced the king's actions and was beheaded on November 15, 1885. The 25 year old Charles Lwanga became the chief page and protected them from the kings advances. On the night of the martyrdom of Joseph Mukasa, realizing that their own lives were in danger, Lwanga and some of the other pages went to the White Fathers to receive baptism. Another 100 catechumens were baptized in the week following hias death. The following May, King Mwanga learned that one of the boys was learning catechism. He was furious and separated the Christians from the others. The Christians, 15 in all, between the ages of 13 and 25, stepped forward. The King asked them if they were willing to keep their faith. They answered in unison, "Until death!" They were bound together and taken on a two day walk to Namugongo where they were to be burned at the stake. When they reached the site where they were to be burned, they were kept tied together for seven days while the executioners prepared the wood for the fire. On June 3, 1886 Charles Lwanga was separated from the others and burned at the stake. His companions were all burned together the same day.

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 Fontana 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 & Catherine Caravana.

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.

Pray for Vocations

Pentecost Sunday

May 28, 2023

"You will be My witnesses to the ends of the earth"

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

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.

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 make every effort to take advantage of this time with the Lord. We are living in challenging times and we all need the Lord to strengthen our faith and give us the courage to live each day.

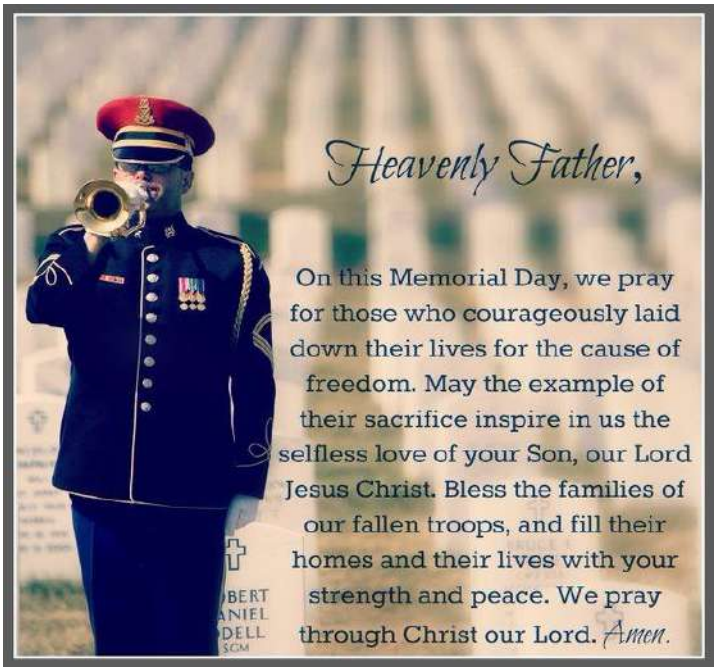
FOCUS:

Easter isn't just about Jesus' resurrection from the dead, but our rising to new life.

The first Easter-that day in human history where Jesus Christ was raised from the dead-is not simply a historical fact, but a theological and spiritual reality in which we continue to live. We are immersed in the life that was created for us in his rising, and we celebrate that "little Easer" in every Sunday Eucharist. Through the grace received there and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we are sent as workers in the kingdom, helping to renew the face of the earth.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

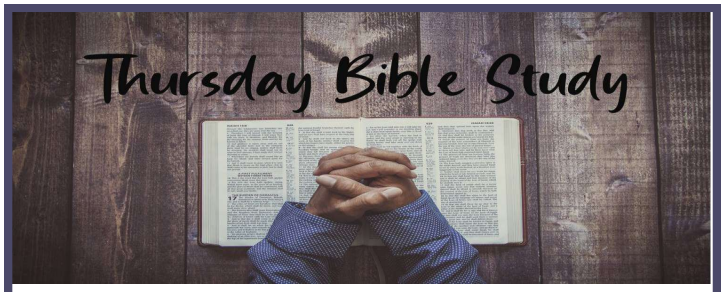
Saturday, June 3, 2023, the 9:00am Mass will be an anointing Mass. All those who wish to receive the Sacrament of the Sick are asked to participate in this Mass. All are invited to join us in prayer as we remember to pray for all those who are in need of God's healing power.



The month of May is dedicated to our Blessed Mother.

Let us find the time to pray the rosary each day or a least a decade.

Let us show our love for Mary, our Mother, who loves us, her children.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn while you speak to us. Luke 24:32

Dear SFA Friends & Family,

The SFA Scripture Study Group has completed a productive study year ending with our study of the Book of Isaiah. We are delighted to report that several new members joined us, who shared their enthusiasm and love of scripture with the group.

We look forward to having you join us in **September** as we begin a new study with the Gospel of Luke.

May God bless your summer days with rest, relaxation and His peace.

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.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Welcome to Our Church

If you wish to register as a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church, please stop by the Rectory Office during regular business hours. There you can pick up a census card which can be filled out at that time or returned by mail or in the Sunday Collection Basket. You can even download the census card on line. Just check our website at: ***stfrancisofassisiastoria.org***
You will then begin to receive weekly offering envelopes.

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 **$4,186.00**

Second Collection-
Catholic Communications ***$506.00***

School parents must use church envelopes.

In observance of Memorial Day, the Rectory office will be closed all day Monday, May 29th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, May 30th, at 9:00AM.

Annual Catholic Appeal 2023
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

THANK YOU to all who have supported the Annual Catholic Appeal. Our goal this year is **$41,679.**
As of May 22nd we have pledged **$28,547** and paid **$19,250.34** towards our goal.
If you have not contributed to the Appeal, I ask you to prayerfully consider what you are able to give to help us reach our goal.
Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

St. Francis of Assisi Class of 1973

The St. Francis of Assisi Class of 1973, 50 Year Reunion, is June 17, 2023 at 3:00PM. Invitations were sent to all 1973 alumni and faculty. Please contact John Ruehl (520) 481-8587 or ruehl247@gmail.com if you have and questions/concerns. Thank you.

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven

DONATE YOUR AUTO
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• Any Condition • Any Model

718-491-2525

Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over $400,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org
Leave a Review on Google &
Like us on
Follow us on

With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,
Jim Shea
Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator

Cook Position

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RECTORY NEEDS A COOK: FULL OR PART TIME. MONDAY TO FRIDAY. BENEFITS INCLUDED. CONTACT MSGR. FERRARESE AT 718-728-1613.

The Parishes of Astoria invite you:

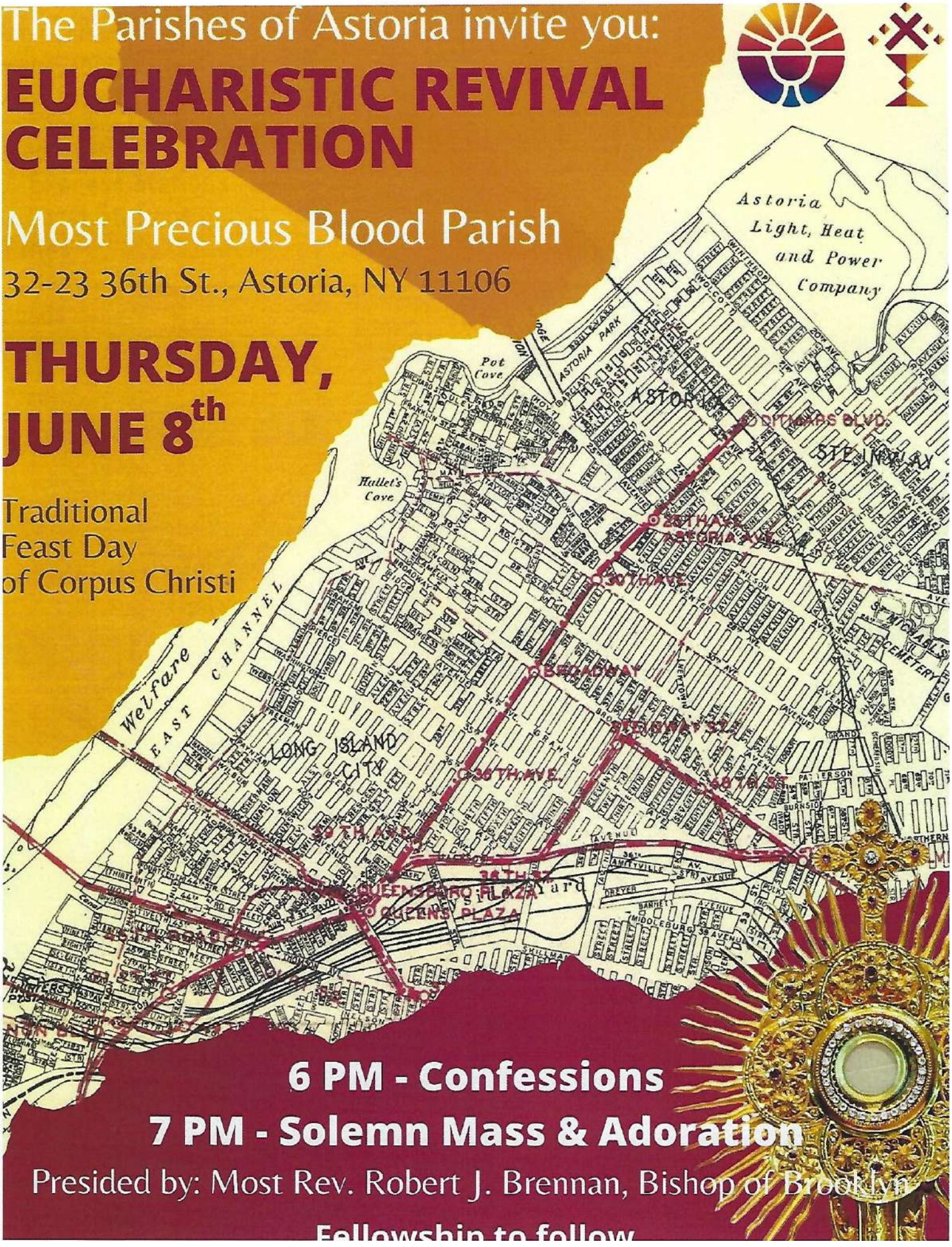
EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL CELEBRATION

Most Precious Blood Parish

32-23 36th St., Astoria, NY 11106

THURSDAY, JUNE 8th

Traditional
Feast Day
of Corpus Christi



6 PM - Confessions

7 PM - Solemn Mass & Adoration

Presided by: Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan, Bishop of Brooklyn

Fellowship to follow

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

May 28—June 3

Sunday, May 28
Pentecost Sunday

Monday, May 29
Memorial Day-School & Rectory Office Closed

Tuesday, May 30
6:30 AA Meeting

Wednesday, May 31

Thursday, June 1
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR
6:00PM—I.A.C.A.

Friday, June 2
First Friday

Saturday, June 3
9:00AM-Anointing Mass
6:00-7:30PM-Youth Group Meetin

NEXT WEEK

June 4—June 10

Sunday, June 4
The Most Holy Trinity-Solemnity

Monday, June 5
12:00-3:30PM—Golden Age-MCH
Adult & Children's Choir Party

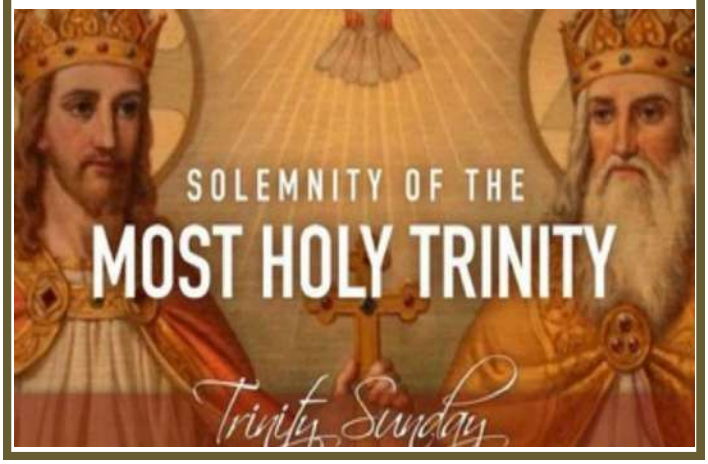
Tuesday, June 6
6:30 AA Meeting

Wednesday, June 7

Thursday, June 8
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR
6:00PM—I.A.C.A.

Friday, June 9

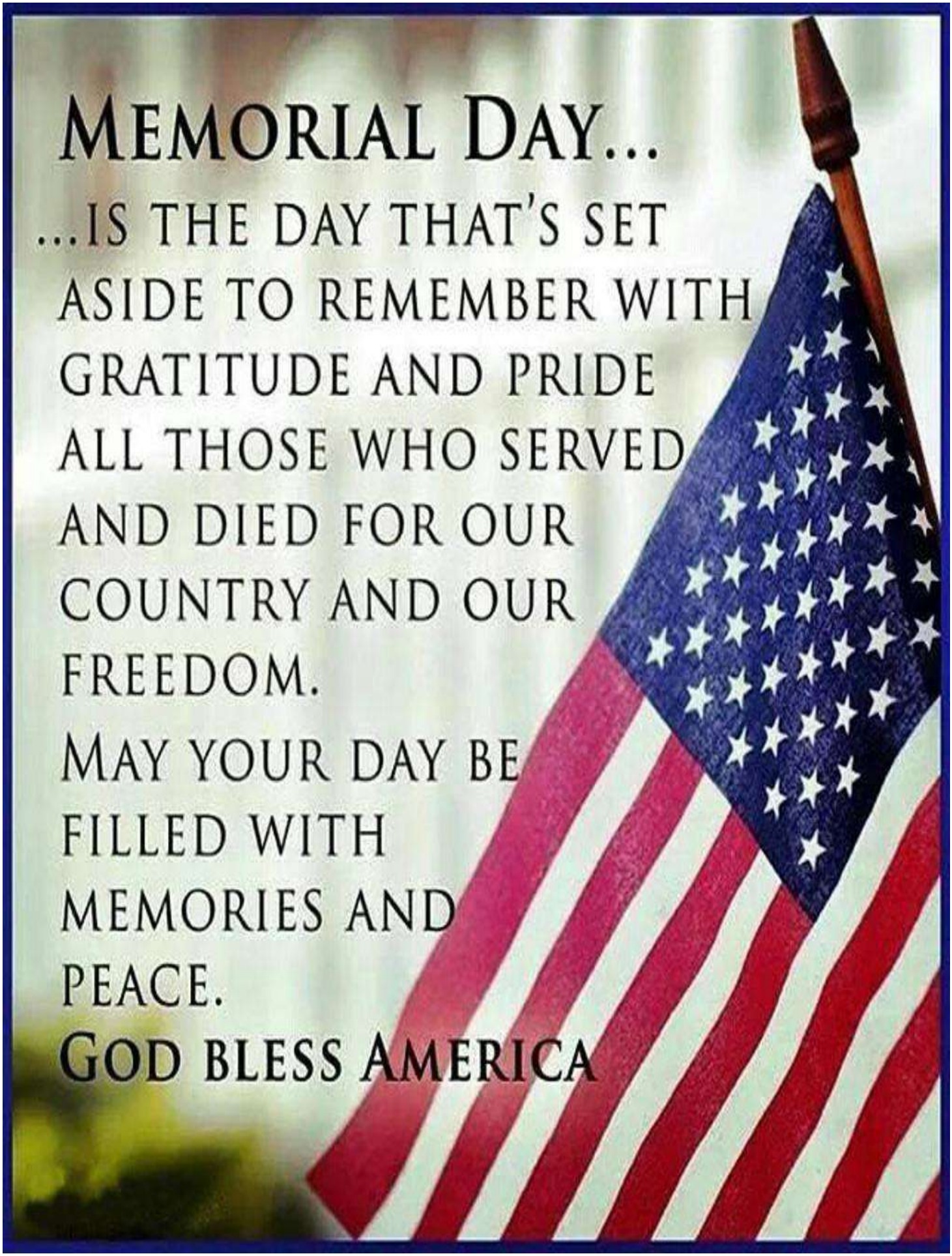
Saturday, June 10



JUNE 2023
LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS

	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY	MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST (Corpus Christi)	THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	JUNE 3-4	JUNE 10-11	JUNE 17-18	JUNE 24-25
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	*Debbi Skinner*	*Dolores Ratkowski*	*Debbi Skinner*	*Dolores Ratkowski*
Sunday 8:00 A.M.	*Robert Laucella*	*Andrew Soltesz*	*Robert Laucella*	*Andrew Soltesz*
Sunday 9:30 A.M.	*Josephine Corso*	*Patrick O'Toole*	*Marta O'Toole*	*Maria Brooks*
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	*Jane Di Donato*	*Carol Hickey*	*Jane Di Donato*	*Carol Hickey*
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	*Anna Maria Tenaglia*	*Eterna Bruno*	*Jackie Machia*	*Anna Maria Del Carro*

***** REMINDER *****
Once you are scheduled, if you cannot fulfill your assignment, please make every effort to call and get a replacement. Thank you


MEMORIAL DAY...
...IS THE DAY THAT'S SET ASIDE TO REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE AND PRIDE ALL THOSE WHO SERVED AND DIED FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM.
MAY YOUR DAY BE FILLED WITH MEMORIES AND PEACE.
GOD BLESS AMERICA

2023

Fall Festival

We are planning for our Fall Festival.
The day will be Saturday, September 30th.
There will be a general meeting on Tuesday, June 6th at 7:00PM in the rectory basement for all who are interested in working at the Festival. Please enter by the steps in the rear of the rectory.
We need many volunteers to make the Festival successful and hope that many of our parishioners will come forward to support our efforts.
Dominick Grimaldi is our new Chairman. The Co-Chairs are Ted Kyriakopoulos, Plinia Sarchese and assisted by Cathy Grimaldi.
All proceeds go to the parish and the academy. It's a fun day that brings our parish and school communities together. Plan to join us for a fun filled day.

Hope to see you on the 6th of June.