Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

SUNDAY, August 27 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Sergio Demesa
9:30 A.M. Billy Takos
11:00 A.M. Mrs. Grace Fulop
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Carmela Acquista
Fred Stile

MONDAY, August 28— Saint Augustine
9:00 A.M. Flo Morea

TUESDAY, August 29– The Passion of Saint John the Baptist
9:00 A.M. Paul Eiaw

WEDNESDAY, August 30 – Weekday
9:00A.M. George Johnston

THURSDAY, August 31– Weekday
9:00 A.M. August Rocconi-Smith

FRIDAY, September 1 – Weekday
9:00 A.M. Segundo Ramon Espinosa Marmal

SATURDAY, September 2– Weekday
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Living & Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary
John McCarthy
Margaret McCarthy

5:00P.M. Domenick Borgia

SUNDAY, September 3– Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
9:30 A.M. Carmelo Vella
11:00 A.M. Peter Anselmi
12:30 P.M. Carol Peralo
For All the People of Castrofilippo

Today's Readings

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10
Matthew 23:13-22

TUESDAY: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Mark 6:17-29

WEDNESDAY 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:27-32

THURSDAY: 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13
Matthew 24:42-51

FRIDAY: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
Matthew 25:1-13

SATURDAY: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11
Matthew 25:14-30

The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Romans 12:
Matthew 16:13-20

Monday, August 28, 2023
The Feast of
Saint Augustine

A Christian at 33, a priest at 36, a bishop at 41: Many people are familiar with the biographical sketch of Augustine of Hippo, sinner turned saint. But to get to really know the man is a rewarding experience. There quickly surfaces the intensity with which he lived his life, whether his path led away from or toward God. The tears of his mother, the instructions of Ambrose and, most of all, God himself speaking to him in the Scriptures, redirected Augustine's love of life to a life of love. Having been so deeply immersed in creature-pride of life in his early days and having drunk deeply of its bitter dregs, it is not surprising that Augustine should have turned, with a holy fierceness, against the many demon-thrusts rampant in his day. His times were truly decadent: politically, socially, morally. He was both feared and loved, like the Master. The perennial criticism leveled against him: a fundamental rigorism. In his day, Augustine providentially fulfilled the office of prophet. Like Jeremiah and other greats, he was hard-pressed but could not keep quiet. "I say to myself, I will not mention him/I will speak in his name no more/But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart/imprisoned in my bones/I grow weary holding it in/I cannot endure it" (Jeremiah 20:9).

Augustine is still acclaimed and condemned in our day. He is a prophet for today, trumpeting the need to scrap escapisms and stand face-to-face with personal responsibility and dignity.

Tuesday, August 29, 2023
The Passion of
Saint John the Baptist

The drunken oath of a king with a shallow sense of honor, a seductive dance and the hateful heart of a queen combined to bring about the martyrdom of John the Baptist. The greatest of prophets suffered the fate of so many Old Testament prophets before him: rejection and martyrdom. The "voice crying in the desert" did not hesitate to accuse the guilty, did not hesitate to speak the truth. But why? What possesses a man that he would give up his very life? This great religious reformer was sent by God to prepare the people for the Messiah. His vocation was one of selfless giving. The only power that he claimed was the Spirit of Yahweh. "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11). Scripture tells us that many people followed John looking to him for hope, perhaps in anticipation of some great messianic power. John never allowed himself the false honor of receiving these people for his own glory. He knew his calling was one of preparation. When the time came, he led his disciples to Jesus: "The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus" (John 1:35-37). It is John the Baptist who has pointed the way to Christ. John's life and death were a giving over of self for God and other people. His simple style of life was one of complete detachment from earthly possessions. His heart was centered on God and the call that he heard from the Spirit of God speaking to his heart. Confident of God's grace, he had the courage to speak words of condemnation, repentance, and salvation.

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

Twwenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time.

August 27, 2023

"Make straight paths for your feet"

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

Saturday, September 2, 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.

FOCUS:

Rely on God for wisdom

Simon Peter didn't figure out Jesus' identity on his own. Rather, God Himself revealed to Peter that Jesus is *the Christ, the son of the living God.* Rather than relying on our own intellect, we must be open to what the Lord is trying to tell us—or else we may miss something crucial.

Please be mindful that there are people who come to church early in order to pray. Please show respect by observing silence.

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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Tuesday, September 5th at 8:00AM to 8:50AM.

PLEASE NOTE that Church will open in the summer at 8:15AM.

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	**$3,626.00**
2nd Collection-Air Conditioning	*$1,213.00*

School parents must use church envelopes.

Thank God for Church air conditioning. Please remember ofter each Mass to close the Church doors, inside and outside to keep the cool air in Church. This action will help keep the Church cool for the following Mass. THANK YOU for your cooperation.

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 August 20th we have pledged **$37,047** and paid **$30,093.36** 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.

Next weekend, September 2nd and 3rd, The second collection will be for The Catholic University of America.

Thank you for your continued support.

A Prayer for Increasing Enrollment in Catholic Schools

O Good and Gracious God, We praise and thank you for the students in our school. It is a sacred privilege to continue the teaching mission of your Son, Jesus. We hear His words in our hearts: "Let the children come to me! Do not hinder them." Lord, we are doing everything we can so that no child is hindered from coming to our school. We advertise, we market; we strategize and plan. Show us what more do we need to do, Lord? Listen to our prayers as we ask you, Lord, to remove whatever hinders parents from choosing a Catholic school for their children. Guide their thinking and their decisions. May our desire to form a partnership with them be a source of hope and encouragement. Bless our efforts to meet funding challenges so that we can fulfill our commitment to be a school for all.

Lord, hold Ms. Reilly, our teachers, staff, our students and their families in Your loving, protective embrace. And thank you for blessing St. Francis of Assisi with a hopeful and promising future. Amen

Sister Anne Marie Beine from Marguerite's Pantry, operating out of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Elmhurst, is in need of used clothing in good condition for the migrant children that have moved into our area.

Please bring any clothing that is in good condition to the St. Francis of Assisi Rectory office. Do **NOT** leave any bags or boxes of clothing at the Church doors, the academy or on the steps of the Rectory. All clothes must be dropped off at the Rectory office during business hours.

Marguerite's Pantry services approximately 500 families each month and with the recent influx of migrants to our area, the number keeps growing.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

The Speech and Hearing Center at St. John's University will be offering **FREE** speech and hearing screenings and **"Hearing Aid Help."**

Please call the center at (718) 990-6480 to schedule at appointment.

The center is located at

152-11 Union Turnpike
Flushing, NY

Cook Position

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

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven

DONATE YOUR AUTO

Running or Not

• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• 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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

August 27 - September 2

Sunday, August 27
1:30PM - Baptisms

Monday, August 28

Tuesday, August 29
6:30PM—AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 30

Thursday, August 31
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR

Friday, September 1

Saturday, September 2
9:00AM - Anointing Mass

NEXT WEEK

September 3 - September 9

Sunday, September 3

Monday, September 4
Labor Day—Rectory Office Closed

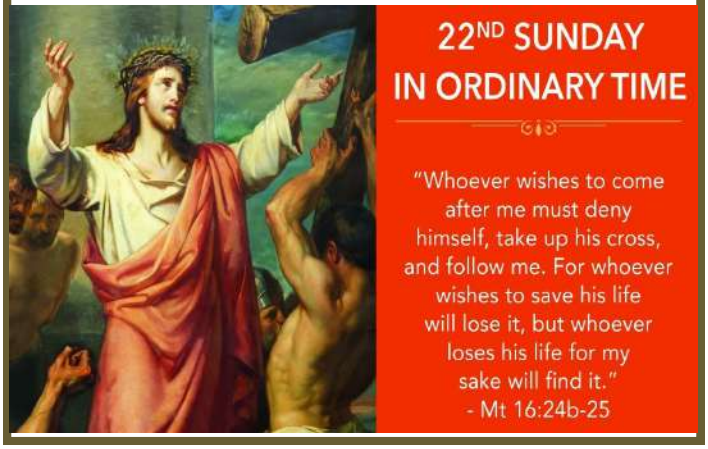
Tuesday, September 5
6:30PM—AA Meeting

Wednesday, September 6
First Day of Classes

Thursday, September 7
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR
6:00PM—I.A.C.A.
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, September 8

Saturday, September 9
Rel. Ed. Registration after 5:00PM Mass



SEPTEMBER 2023
LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS

	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	SEPTEMBER 2 - 3	SEPEMBER 9 - 10	SEPTEMBER 16 - 17`	SEPTEMBER 23-24	SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTBER 1
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Edward Kubina
Sunday 8:00 A.M.	Robert Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Andrew Soltesz	Robert Laucella	Robert Laucella
Sunday 9:30 A.M.	Josephine Corso	Patrick O'Toole	Maria Brooks	Martha O'Toole	Josephine Corso
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	Jackie Macchia	Anna Maria Del Carro	Maria Bruno	Anna Maria Tenaglia	Marie Valentini

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

St. Francis of Assisi
Scripture Study

"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD," JESUS SAID. "WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE AND WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS."

Our Creator, the Father, is good to us because he loves us, even if we do not deserve it, and because of evil in the world, he gave us his own son to rescue us. The mission of jesus was to educate us in the will of the Father for us. This guiding light is in the 'Gospels' a word that means: "good news" because Jesus came to bring forgiveness and to teach us the way to a true new good life for us. The price he paid was with his own death and resurrection.

By learning more about our Lord and his message in Holy Scriptures we grow in our personal and spiritual life to build strong families and communities with the rich tradition of our faith, with leadership and a heart felt purpose to protect each other as well as all of God's Creation.

Scripture Study is for anyone who would like to deepen their understanding about the Bible, about life. It follows the Little Rock Scripture Study system, which is a clear and simple system, as in the times of Jesus. Step by step, it reaches everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced. This ongoing group gathers each week. It has an organized itinerary of personal reading. Prayer is followed by sharing a period of question and answers, and a video summary presentation that expands the understanding of the lesson of the day. It is a casual environment that is welcoming to all.

Starting: Thursday, September 7, 2023. We begin a new lesson with the Third Gospel of the Bible, according to St. Luke
When: Every Thursday night: 7:20 PM to 8:50 PM
Where: St. Francis of Assisi Rectory (Basement) - St. Joseph Room

For any question: Please call the SFA Rectory at: (718) 728 7801

Knights of Columbus Celebrate Founder On His Road to Sainthood

PROSPECT HEIGHTS — The Diocese of Brooklyn celebrated its third feast day for Blessed Father Michael McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus who is on the journey to sainthood, on Aug. 13 at the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph. To members of the organization, Father McGivney exemplifies their core values — charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism — and they are optimistic about the potential for their founder to become a saint. There are 15,000 Knights of Columbus in the Diocese of Brooklyn, said Father Michael Gelfant, the associate state chaplain for the New York state Knights of Columbus Council. He also serves as the diocesan liaison of the Knights of Columbus. "This is home, and we surround our bishop with our work, with our prayer, and with our duty as Knights of Columbus," he said.

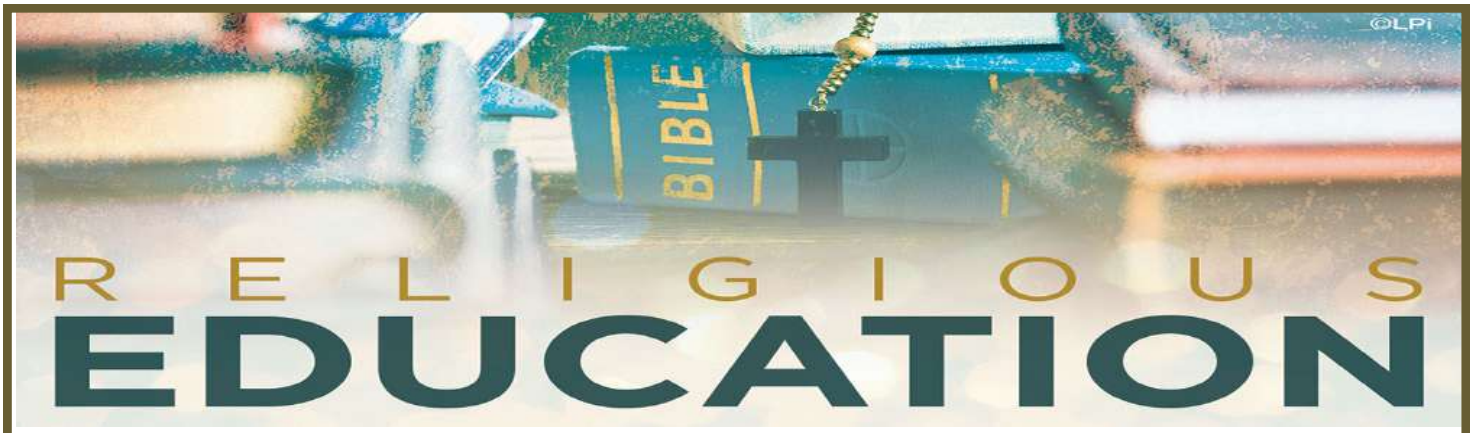
Father McGivney was officially declared as "blessed" on Oct. 31, 2020, with an apostolic letter from the Vatican crediting him for his "zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for his brothers and sisters." The Catholic Church selected Aug. 13 as his feast day because it falls one day after the anniversary of his birth and one day before the anniversary of his death.

To Louis Pepe, grand knight of the Bishop Thomas V. Daily Council Knights of Columbus Council, located at the Cathedral Basilica of St. James in Downtown Brooklyn, Father McGivney is more than just the founder. He personally credits him for the liver transplant he received on Aug. 15, 2020, during his battle with cirrhosis of the liver, which he had been diagnosed with three years prior. "I started to pray faithfully to Blessed McGivney — who at the time was Venerable McGivney — asking for an intercession for him to cure me," he said. "Unfortunately, that wasn't cured with the miracle of the cirrhosis going away, but he did give me an intercession by giving me a liver." Pepe still faithfully prays to Father McGivney daily. Now, he's made a promise to himself to have a statue of Father McGivney erected at every cathedral in New York state. That project is currently underway, with the support of Father Gelfant, and it is accepting donations for the statues. It begins the conversation of someone asking about him," said Father Gelfant. "That's what the goal of the statues are. Our goal is to have them in place so that people can be informed."

Following the Mass, the veneration of a first-class relic of Father McGivney — a bone fragment — gave the Knights the opportunity to honor their founder and to offer prayers for his canonization. Parishioners were invited to come forward and touch the relic. The Knights of Columbus are in possession of it, and the diocese is looking to acquire a Father McGivney relic of its own. Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Octavio Cisneros defined the Knights of Columbus as "an expression of the love of God through neighbor." In Father McGivney, Bishop Cisneros sees the virtues of heroism, charity, and compassion — what he calls "the fruits of the spirit." While his youth afforded him a certain level of energy, it is not what drew people to his mission. "Holiness has no age. Just because you are a young man doesn't mean that you're going to bring about the presence of God. It's something deep about that. When you are young, you have a certain dynamism, but faith is beyond all that," said Bishop Cisneros.

There are three steps to sainthood in the Catholic Church. The first is when a candidate becomes "venerable" — this is when a deceased person is formally recognized by the pope as having lived a virtuous life. The second step is to be recognized as "blessed," which is when a miracle acquired through the candidate's intercession is confirmed by the Church.

An intercession officially attributed to Father McGivney involved an unborn child in Connecticut who in 2015 was healed in utero of a life-threatening condition. For Father McGivney to become a saint, a second, a second miracle must be attributed to him, and a few are being investigated now, Father Gelfant said. . Father Christopher Heanue, the rector of the Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph, applauded the good works of the Knights of Columbus and described how they encourage Catholics "to be patriotic and be cheerleaders for our faith.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER NEEDED

St. Francis of Assisi Religious Education Program is in need of a 2nd Grade teacher.

Classes are on Sunday mornings following the 9:30am Mass. Class begins at 10:30am and concludes at 12 Noon. If you are interested in helping form our young people in our Catholic Faith, or have any questions, please call Msgr. Maresca at the rectory, 718-728-7801 or Sister Francesca at 718-278-0259.

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The *Role of a Religious Education Teacher* is to bring our young people closer to Jesus and grow in their faith as Catholics. Through their service the catechist nurtures and mentors the faith and spiritual growth of the children they teach so that they may form a firm commitment to follow Christ. A catechist must be at least 18 years old, a practicing catholic in good standing who attends weekly Mass regularly, has a love for children, the desire to grow in faith and share that journey with young people, the ability to relate well to others, and a willingness to be of service to the Church.

Please prayerfully consider this wonderful opportunity.

It is never too early to register or re-register for Religious Education.
Classes for all 1st through 8th Grade Public School students.
Call the Religious Education office for more information at (718) 278-0259 or email us at **dre@sfaacademy.org**.

The registration form can be found in the back of the church and in our weekly Bulletin.

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Classes begin on Sunday, September 17th for all grades.

Keep in mind that Diocesan guidelines require ***two years*** of instructions prior to the reception of a Sacrament.

St. Francis of Assisi Office of Faith Formation
REGISTRATION FORM – 2023-2024

Registration remains open all year. *If you have any financial questions or scheduling conflicts, please do not hesitate to call our office so we can discuss your situation and work together to find a solution.*

Tuition for the 2023-2024 year

Tuition for Grades 1-7: **1 child** $100 **2 children or more** $175

Additional Fees: First Communion Fee $150 Grade 8 Confirmation Fee $150

Family Last Name: _____

Father's Name: _____ Living/Deceased *(circle one)* Religion: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Living/Deceased *(circle one)* Religion: _____
Include maiden name

Student Address _____
Street Town State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Work: _____

Cell (Mother): _____ Cell (Father): _____

Email: _____ School: _____

Are you registering a NEW or Grade 1 student: Yes: _____ No: _____
If you are registering a new or Grade 1 student you must include a copy of the child's Certificate of Baptism.

	Student Name	Date of Birth	Grade in Sept 2023
1.			
2.			
3.			

EMERGENCY CONTACT: In case of emergency who should we contact other than Parent/s.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Contact Number: _____

Is there any additional information we should know? (family situations, medical conditions, allergies, special needs, etc.) If "NO" please write "NONE".

_____
_____
_____

Are you registered in the Parish? _____

☐ I am interested in volunteering as a catechist, hall monitor, office assistant, or class parent. Please contact me.

Office Use ONLY

Date: _____ Amount: _____ Form of Payment: _____

Office Notes: _____

SUMMER Schedule

Summer Rectory Office Hours - 2023

Summer Rectory office hours are listed below.
Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, September 5th.

Summer Hours:

Monday—Thursday	9:00am to 12 Noon * 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Friday	9:00am to 12 Noon * 1:00pm to 3:00pm
Lunch Hour	12:00 Noon to 1:00pm
Saturday	9:00am to 2:00pm
Sundays and Holidays	Closed

Summer Weekly Collections

As the nice weather provides us with weekend opportunities to get away, please remember the importance of your weekly offerings. While the summer months bring a dip in our Mass attendance and weekly offerings, it is important that we try to meet our normal operating expenses. Those expenses do not change with the summer season.

Please consider submitting your summer envelopes before you leave for vacation. Those monies help us pay our summer bills and keep our budget balanced. As you know our fiscal year ends August 31, 2023, so it is important we maintain a balanced budget. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter. As always, thank you for you understanding, your generosity and your spirit of sacrificial giving.

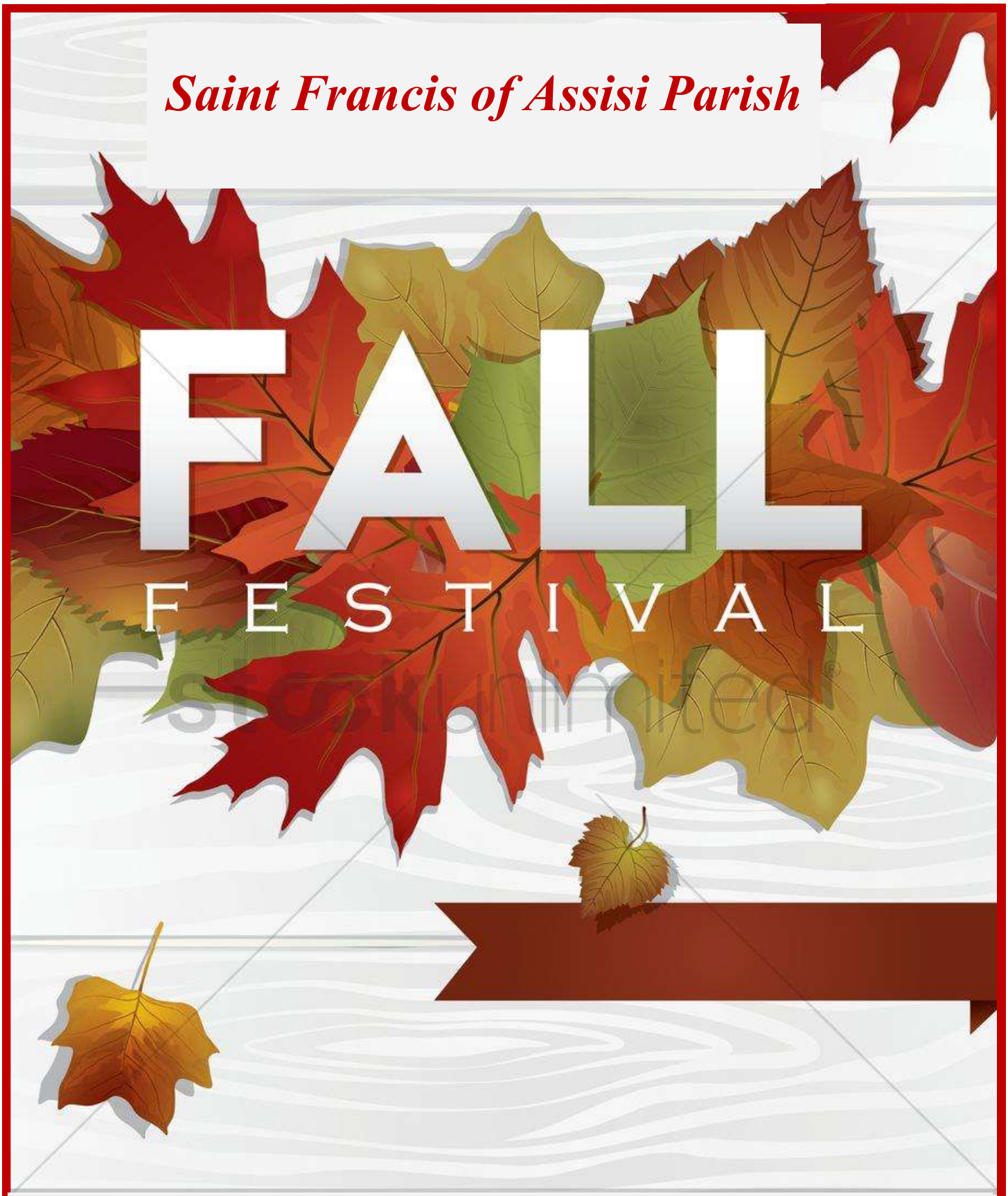
Have a peaceful, prayerful, enjoyable and safe summer!

When going on vacation and you need to know the nearest Catholic Church, www.masstimes.org Will assist you.

SUMMER WEATHER

We are blessed to have air conditioning in our church to keep us cool. Unfortunately, it is not easy to please everyone.
Some say it is too cool, others say it is not cool enough. A suggestion that you bring a sweater might help to solve the situation if you feel the cold. Also, if it is sunny, you may want to sit on the schoolyard side of church where it is usually warmer from the suns rays coming through the windows. THANK YOU.

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish



Save the Date
Saturday, September 30, 2023