Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

SUNDAY, October 1 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
9:30 A.M. Darrin T. O'Connor (Hili)
11:00 A.M. Emanuel Alongi
12:30 P.M. Grazia Viscoso
Rino Del Carro

MONDAY, October 2-The Holy Guardian Angels
9:00 A.M. Rosemary Z. Conroy

TUESDAY, October 3– Weekday
9:00 A.M. Carmela Messina

WEDNESDAY, October 4 – Saint Francis of Assisi
9:00A.M. **93rd Anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi**

THURSDAY, October 5– St. Faustina Kowalska
9:00 A.M. Ann Lavelli

FRIDAY, October 6 – Saint Bruno
9:00 A.M. Matthew J. Karcic Family

SATURDAY, October 7– Our Lady of the Rosary
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Living & Deceased Members of The Legion of Mary
John McCarthy
Margaret McCarthy
Pat Gravino
Louise McCann
John McCann Sr.
Raquel Fruchter

5:00P.M. Richard Mohr

SUNDAY, October 8– Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Holy Name
9:30 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
11:00 A.M. Steve Fulop
12:30 P.M. Giuseppina Curto
Rino Del Carro

Today's Readings

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11, 27a
Matthew 21:28-32

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Zechariah 8:1-8
Matthew 18:1-5, 10

TUESDAY: Zechariah 8:20-23
Luke 9:51-56

WEDNESDAY Nehemiah 2:1-8
Luke 9:57-62

THURSDAY: Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
Luke 10:1-12

FRIDAY: Baruch 1:15-22
Luke 10:13-16

SATURDAY: Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29
Luke 10:17-24

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures the theme of repentance and conversion is clear. The Law of Moses required the annual day of Atonement on which the Israelites would rededicate themselves to following God's Law, making atonement for their sins. Time and again the prophets called the people to repentance, to turning back to God. Rejecting sin and turning back to God was a goal of one's faith and devotion to God.

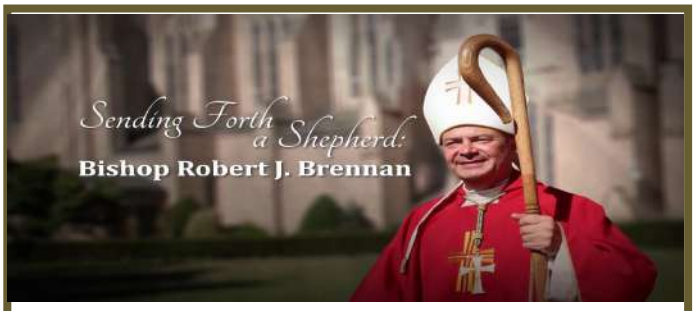
However, at the time of the Gospels, it seems that many of the leaders of the people of Israel had ceased to understand this. The chief priests and the elders seemed to regard sinners, especially serious sinners, as permanently lost. They were quick to point out the need for repentance for other people, but considered themselves as righteous before the Lord. Many centuries later St. John Vianney would say that a parish in which many people go to confession is a holy parish since to repent of one's sins is a gift of the Holy Spirit and where there are many penitents, the Spirit is strong and at work.

The chief priests and elders in today's Gospel did not seem to recognize God at work when the sinners-prostitutes and tax collectors-were moved to a change of heart at the preaching of John the Baptist. Jesus sees this repentance, not only as the work of the Holy Spirit, but he also presents it as proof that he is the Messiah. When some of the leaders of the people ask for a sign, Jesus says no sign will be given except the sign of Jonah. Jonah was the sign of resurrection after three days in the belly of the whale, and also a sign of the necessity of repentance. When the people hear Jesus, many of them repent of their sins. That the Spirit moves people to turn away from sin because of their faithfulness to Jesus proves that he is the Messiah. It is the Father's will that people repent of their sins and turn back to him.

Jesus poses the parable of the two sons to the chief priest and elders. He compares them to the son who says he is going to do the father's will, but in fact does not do it. The chief priests and elders give the right answers to the questions about God and faith, but Jesus implies they do not do what the Father asks. Sinners affront the Father in their refusal to obey his law, but their later repentance and obedience atones for their initial failure.

One can never underestimate the power of repentance, not only to change a person's life and redirect it toward God, but as a sign of goodness and faithfulness. Too many approach the sacrament of penance as if God somehow despises them since they are sinners. They fail to understand the reality that Jesus teaches just the opposite. Repentance is a gift of the Holy Spirit and it is good that we have and use this gift. When we ask for forgiveness and receive it from a loved one, it occurs as part of the process of love between us. This is also the case when we repent of our sin because of our love for God. God forgives us because of his passionate love for us. This love was shown most perfectly in the selfless love of Jesus, who died for our sakes on the cross, precisely so that our sins might be forgiven.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca



BISHOP BRENNAN COMING TO St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, October 6th is First Friday. Bishop Brennan will celebrate the 9:00 AM Mass here in St. Francis of Assisi. All are invited to join the Bishop in this celebration.

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.

Welcome New Parishioners

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

Allison Russo
Elona Franeta

Purgatorial Society

The following name have been enrolled in our Purgatorial Society in the month of September 2023.
Please remember to continue to pray For their families.

Evelyn Singura

Recently Deceased

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

Evelyn Singura
Anna Lombardi
Joseph Sciuto

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.

PARISH
MASS
BOOK

2024 Mass Book

The 2024 Mass Book will be opened on Thursday, October 12th, in the Rectory at 10:00AM. Please note that if you come early, you will have to wait until 10:00AM.

In order to accommodate the many requests for Masses, please note the following:

- Each family will only be able to reserve 3 Masses on that day.
- Weekday Mass (Monday through Saturday) 9:00AM.
- Saturday, the 9:00AM Mass is a multiple intention Mass. The first Saturday of the month is the Anointing Mass.
- Sunday, 12:30PM Mass (Italian Mass) is multiple intentions

Cannon Law only permits one name per Mass. We can accommodate you by listing the family name.

All Announced Masses are $15.00
Purgatorial Mass Cards are $30.00
Memorials (Altar Bread, Wine, Sanctuary Lamp and Altar Candles) are $75.00
Altar Flowers are $100.00

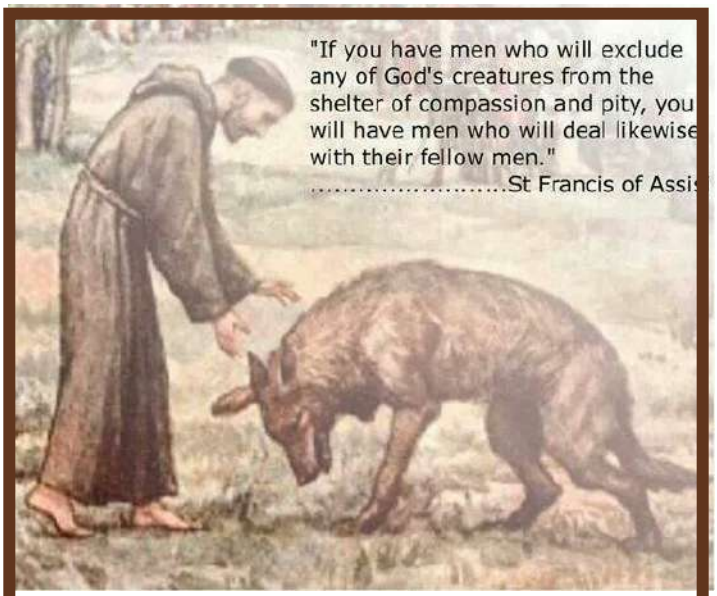
HNS
BLESSED BE THE NAME OF JESUS

Holy Name Society

On Sunday, October 8th, the 8:00am Mass is the Holy Name Mass. The mission of the Holy Name Society is to promote devotion and reverence for the Holy Name of God and Jesus. What better way than to participate in the Holy Name Monthly Mass. All are invited to join in this celebration.

Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

This Wednesday, October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and our 93rd anniversary. All are invited to the 9:00 AM Mass that morning to celebrate our anniversary. What a wonderful opportunity to Thank God for all His Blessings over these years and pray for His continued grace and guidance for the years to come.



The blessing of the animals will take place on Sunday, October 1st, at 1:30PM in the school yard.

All are welcome to bring their pets for a blessing.

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, Pat Gravino, 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.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

October 1, 2023

"Fight the good fight of the faith"

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, October 7, 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:

Turn away from sin and follow Christ.

In Today's Gospel parable there is a model son, who gives honor to his father by verbally assenting to his father's wishes. But his words are hollow, and his virtue is a mirage. Hw does our own reality measure up to our Christian ideals? Hoving our neighbor sounds like a lovely sentiment until they cut us off on the highway. May Christ who calls us always to conversion help us root out any holloness and hypocrisy in our own lives that we may truly confess that Jesus is Lord.

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

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

Dear SFA Friends and Family

We are delighted to offer a new year of scripture study at SFA.

Join us on Thursday, October 5th, at 7:20 to 8:50pm in the St. Joseph Room in the Rectory. This week's study will be on **Luke Chapters 6-7.**

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 the Rectory at **(718) 728-7801.** Please be sure to leave your name and contact information.

Come Join US

Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Wednesday, October 4, 2023
The Feast of
St. Francis of Assisi

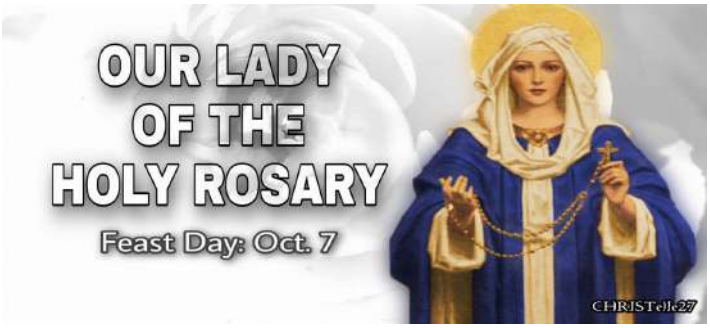
The patron saint of Italy, Francis of Assisi was a poor little man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit, and without a sense of self-importance. Serious illness brought the young Francis to see the emptiness of his frolicking life as leader of Assisi's youth. Prayer—lengthy and difficult—led him to a self-emptying like that of Christ, climaxed by embracing a leper he met on the road. It symbolized his complete obedience to what he had heard in prayer: "Francis! Everything you have loved and desired in the flesh it is your duty to despise and hate, if you wish to know my will. And when you have begun this, all that now seems sweet and lovely to you will become intolerable and bitter, but all that you used to avoid will turn itself to great sweetness and exceeding joy." From the cross in the neglected field-chapel of San Damiano, Christ told him, "Francis, go out and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Francis became the totally poor and humble workman. He must have suspected a deeper meaning to "build up my house." But he would have been content to be for the rest of his life the poor "nothing" man actually putting brick on brick in abandoned chapels. He gave up all his possessions, piling even his clothes before his earthly father—who was demanding restitution for Francis' "gifts" to the poor—so that he would be totally free to say, "Our Father in heaven." He was, for a time, considered to be a religious fanatic, begging from door to door when he could not get money for his work, evoking sadness or disgust to the hearts of his former friends, ridicule from the unthinking. But genuineness will tell. A few people began to realize that this man was actually trying to be Christian. He really believed what Jesus said: "Announce the kingdom! Possess no gold or silver or copper in your purses, no traveling bag, no sandals, no staff" (Luke 9:1-3). Francis' first rule for his followers was a collection of texts from the Gospels. He had no intention of founding an order, but once it began he protected it and accepted all the legal structures needed to support it. His devotion and loyalty to the Church were absolute and highly exemplary at a time when various movements of reform tended to break the Church's unity. Francis was torn between a life devoted entirely to prayer and a life of active preaching of the Good News. He decided in favor of the latter, but always returned to solitude when he could. He wanted to be a missionary in Syria or in Africa, but was prevented by shipwreck and illness in both cases. He did try to convert the sultan of Egypt during the Fifth Crusade. During the last years of his relatively short life, he died at 44, Francis was half blind and seriously ill. Two years before his death he received the stigmata, the real and painful wounds of Christ in his hands, feet and side. On his deathbed, Francis said over and over again the last addition to his *Canticle of the Sun*, "Be praised, O Lord, for our Sister Death." He sang Psalm 141, and at the end asked his superior's permission to have his clothes removed when the last hour came in order that he could expire lying naked on the earth, in imitation of his Lord.

Monday, October 2, 2023
The Feast of
The Holy Guardian Angels

"For he hath given his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." - Psalm 90:11

The truth that each and every human soul has a Guardian Angel who protects us from both spiritual and physical evil has been shown throughout the Old Testament, and is made very clear in the New. It is written that the Lord Jesus was strengthened by an angel in the Garden of Gethsemane, and that an angel delivered St. Peter from prison in the Acts of the Apostles. But Jesus makes the existence and function of guardian angels explicit when he says, "See that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say to you, that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 18:10). In saying this Jesus points out that all people, even little children, have a guardian angel, and that the angels are always in Heaven, always looking at the face of God throughout their mission on earth, which is to guide and protect us throughout our pilgrimage to the house of our Father. As St. Paul says, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14). However, they guide us to Heaven only if we desire it. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote that angels cannot act directly upon our will or intellect, although they can do so on our senses and imaginations – thus encouraging us to make the right decisions. In Heaven our guardian angels, though no longer needing to guide us to salvation, will continually enlighten us. Prayer to the guardian angels is encouraged, and the habit of remembering their presence and support leads to friendship with them. The prayer to the guardian angels has been present in the Church since at least the beginning of the 12th century:

Angel of God, my Guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.



Saturday, October 7, 2023
The Feast of
Our Lady of the Rosary

Saint Pius V established the feast of Our Lady of Victory to thank God for the Christian defeat of the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to praying the rosary. Pope Gregory XIII changed the name to Feast of the Holy Rosary–originally celebrated on the first Sunday in October–in 1573. Pope Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716. And in 1913, Saint Pius X set the date for the feast that we know today of October 7. The development of the rosary has a long history. First a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms. Then there was a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Marys. Soon a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving of the rosary to Saint Dominic is recognized as a legend, the development of this prayer form owes much to the followers of Saint Dominic. One of them, Alan de la Roche, was known as "the apostle of the rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15th century. In the 16th century, the rosary was developed to consist of 15 mysteries: joyful, sorrowful and glorious. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added the five Mysteries of Light to this devotion. The purpose of the rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, and resurrection. The "Our Fathers" remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The "Hail Marys" remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was and is intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of his earthly and heavenly existence. The "Glory Bes" remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity. The rosary appeals to many. It is simple. The constant repetition of words helps create an atmosphere in which to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus and Mary are with us in the joys and sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.

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 9/24/23:	**$3,980.00**
2nd Collection-Maui	***$1,047.00***

School parents must use church envelopes.

Next weekend, October 7th and 8th, the second collection will be for Maintenance & Repair.

Thank you for your continued support.

ATTENTION!

Fr. Del is looking to buy a second hand car. If any parishioner knows someone who can help Fr. Del with this, please call the rectory. Please be sure the car has been well cared for and is in excellent condition.

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 **$37,887** and paid **$31,858.70** 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.

50/50 September 2023 Winners

First Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Marchesona

Second Prize
Mary Alice Behringer

Third Prize
Mrs. Mary Loud

Congratulations!

Do You Enjoy Singing?

Then use your voice to praise the Lord!
Join the St. Francis of Assisi Choir.
We meet every Monday evening at 7:00PM in the choir loft in church.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

October 1—October 7

Sunday, October 1
9:30-Children's Liturgy-MCH
10:40-12:00 Noon—CCD First Day of Class
1:30 Blessing of the Animals
1:30 Baptisms

Monday, October 2
12:00-3:30PM Golden Age—MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir-Church

Tuesday, October 3
6:30PM—AA Meeting

Wednesday, October 4
St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day
93rd Anniversary-9:00AM Mass
3:00-4:30PM-Drama Club MCH

Thursday, October 5
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR
6:00PM—I.A.C.A.
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, October 6
First Friday
9:00AM School Mass-**Bishop Brennen to Celebrate the Mass**

Saturday, October 7
9:00AM Anointing Mass

NEXT WEEK

October 8—October 14

Sunday, October 8
8:00AM Holy Name Mass
No Children's Liturgy
No CCD

Monday, October 9
Columbus Day
School & Rectory Office Closed

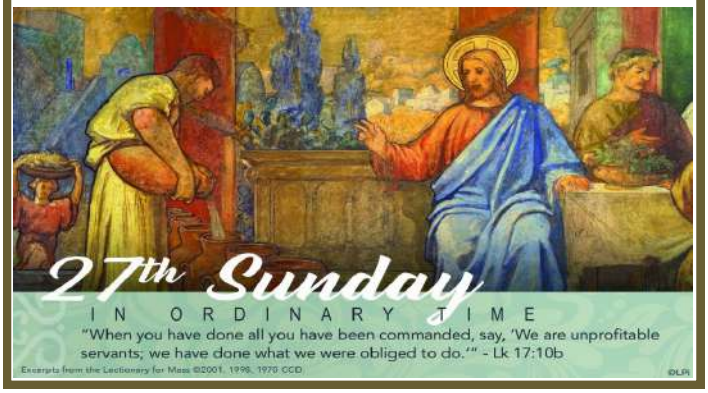
Tuesday, October 10
6:30PM—AA Meeting
8:00PM-Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, October 11
7:00Pm-Baptism Class

Thursday, October 12
10-11:30AM-Legion of Mary—SFR
6:00PM—I.A.C.A.
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, October 13

Saturday, October 14
6:00PM-Youth Group Meeting



OCTOBER 2023
LECTOR ASSIGNMENTS

	THE TWENTY-SEVENTH IN ORDINARY TIME	THE TWENTY-EIGHTH IN ORDINARY TIME	THE TWENTY-NINETH IN ORDINARY TIME	THE THIRTIETH IN ORDINARY TIME
	OCTOBEER 7-8	OCTOBER 14-15	OCTOBER 21-22	OCTOBER 28-29
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	*Dolores Ratkowski*	*Dolores Ratkowski*	*Edward Kubina*	*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*	*Maria Brooks*	*Marta O'Toole*
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	*Jane Di Donato*	*Carol Hickey*	*Jane Di Donato*	*Carol Hickey*
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	*Anna Maria Tenaglia*	*Marie Valentini*	*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

Growing in FAITH™

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

October 2023

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca V.F., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. John XXIII

Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born to a poor farming family in Bergamo, Italy. His ordination as a priest in 1904 began a lifetime serving the Church as the bishop's secretary, a military chaplain, cardinal-patriarch of Venice, and finally, as pope. He often visited the poor, the sick and prisoners. He also spent his brief papacy working to improve relations with the Eastern Church. He is most remembered for opening the Second Vatican Council. He died in 1963.

Choose entertainment carefully

A steady diet of violent entertainment, objectifying media, or explicit reading helps us to become comfortable with violence and sex. We begin to see people as characters rather than humans. Sinful behavior becomes normalized. In our journey toward holiness, it is critical that we are choosy about what we watch and read.

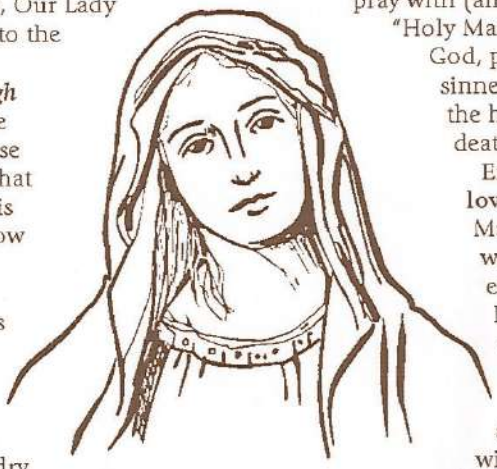
"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing." (St. Therese of Lisieux, *Story of a Soul*)

His Mother for our own

While He was on Earth, Jesus gave all of Himself for us – even His life – out of love. He even gave us His own mother to be our true mother (John 19:26-27). In turn, Our Lady works to bring us to the heart of her Son.

"To Jesus, through Mary." St. Louis de Montfort used these words to explain that devotion to Mary is the best way to grow closer to Jesus, because Mary herself will lead us to her Son if we ask for her help. When we are under temptation to sin, spiritually dry or discouraged, let Mary take you by the hand and lead you to Jesus.

Our path to Jesus. We have one mediator in Christ (1 Timothy 2:5). Yet, what loving son refuses his mother's requests? In His generosity, God is pleased to answer Mary's prayers for us. We can ask Mary to pray with (and for) us: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death."

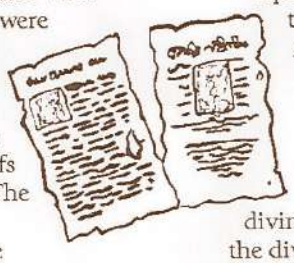


Entrust all we love to her. St. Maximilian Kolbe wrote, "Let us entrust to (Our Lady) all of those close to our hearts, and she, the best among mothers, will help them in the best way possible." There is no safer place for all those we love than our Mother's arms.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics have two versions of the Creed?

Both creeds summarize what Catholics believe but were written at different times for different purposes. The Apostles' Creed is the summary of the beliefs of the early Church. The Nicene Creed is the expanded form of the Apostles' Creed, stemming from two Church councils (Nicaea, AD 325; Constantinople, AD 381) to combat Arianism, which proposed Jesus was not God but a kind of super-saint. The Nicene Creed emphasizes Jesus' divinity, His divine Sonship, and the divinity of the Holy Spirit.



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"Angel of God, my guardian dear ..."

"Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life," said St. Basil. The Church teaches that we each have a guardian angel, assigned to guide and protect us until death (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #336). Jesus said: *"In heaven their angels always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven"* (Matthew 18:10). Tap your angel's powerful protection to grow in virtue and holiness:

Confide in your guardian. Guardian angels aren't mind-readers, but they do observe us carefully. The more we tell them, the better they can help us make good choices, avoid sin, and keep us safe.

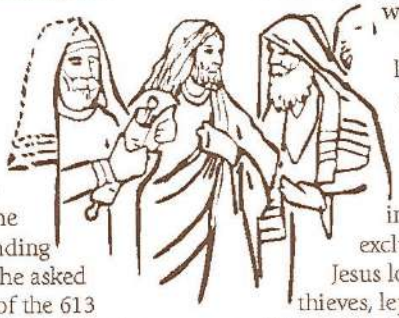
Ask for help. Our guardian can help make tough decisions, resolve conflicts, offer protection especially for our souls. They intercede for us, and help to prepare our souls for the moment when we stand before God.

Respect guardian power. Angels are powerful creatures, created by God to care for us. They aren't answerable to us but stand ready to help us get to Heaven.

from Scripture

Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus has the right answers

In their first meeting with Jesus, the Pharisees wanted to trap Him by getting Him to say something that contradicted Jewish law. Then He could be arrested and silenced. The lawyer they sent was aware that generations of Jews had debated fruitlessly about which law was the most important. Pretending to seek Jesus' opinion, he asked Jesus to choose which of the 613 commands of the Jewish law was the most important.



Jesus silenced them all by saying everything starts and ends with love – love of God and love of others. To love God is to love one another. These laws are at the heart of all the other laws.

Even the Pharisees couldn't argue with that.

While it is easy to love God, loving others is more difficult. It means including people when the natural inclination is to exclude or avoid them. Jesus loved prostitutes, thieves, lepers, even his political enemies. True love of neighbor is measured by how we treat the poor, the vulnerable, and our enemies. This is how God loves and He calls us to do the same.

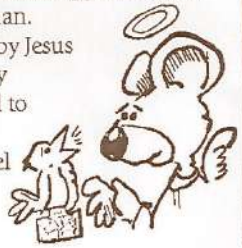
Feasts & Celebrations

October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary. Pope Gregory XIII named this feast because it was believed that Christians won a critical victory at the Battle of Lepanto after praying the Rosary.

October 9 – St. John Leonardi (1609). Born in 1543 in Lucca, Italy, St. John spent his priesthood ministering in hospitals and prisons and teaching the Faith. He established the Clerks Regular of the Mother of God, and helped found the Congregation of Christian Doctrine.

October 16 – St. Hedwig (1243). Born to the Duke of Croatia, St. Hedwig married the Duke Henry of Silesia. They founded a convent, h ospitals, and monasteries. After his death, St. Hedwig became a Cistercian nun, donating her fortune to charity.

October 28 – Sts. Simon and Jude (1st century). St. Simon was a Zealot – Jews who believed the Messiah would free them from political oppression. St. Jude was a fisherman. After being called by Jesus to be apostles, they eventually traveled to Persia where they preached the Gospel until they were martyred.



Q & A Can Catholics celebrate Halloween?

Catholics can celebrate Halloween as a holiday with Christian roots. In 835, Pope Gregory IV moved the commemoration of All Martyrs (later All Saints Day) from May 13 to November 1. The night before became known as All Hallow's Even or "Holy Evening," and eventually Halloween. Villagers visited local homes to gather contributions for the feast to be held the next day, All Saints Day. Those who didn't contribute might be subject to a prank or "trick."

Catholics enjoy donning creative costumes and giving out candy, but it's important to avoid glorifying evil, death, and the Devil. Consider using the holiday to learn about a saint you didn't know or collecting food for the poor.

In short, Halloween is a chance to celebrate generosity, friendship, and community. It's the threshold of a time to remember the believers who have gone to Heaven before us and the hope we have of following. We also pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory to strengthen them during their purification before entering Heaven.

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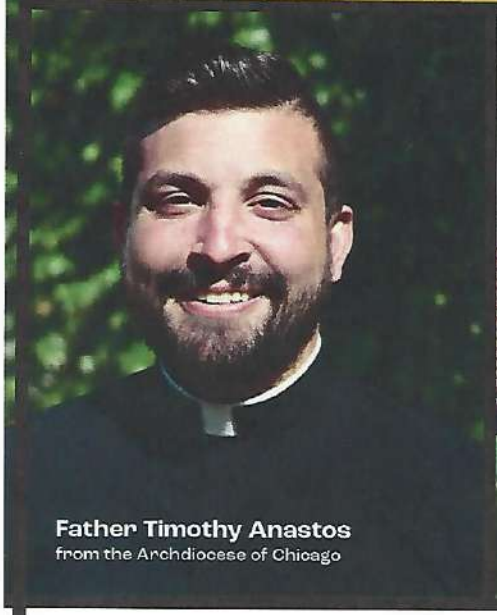
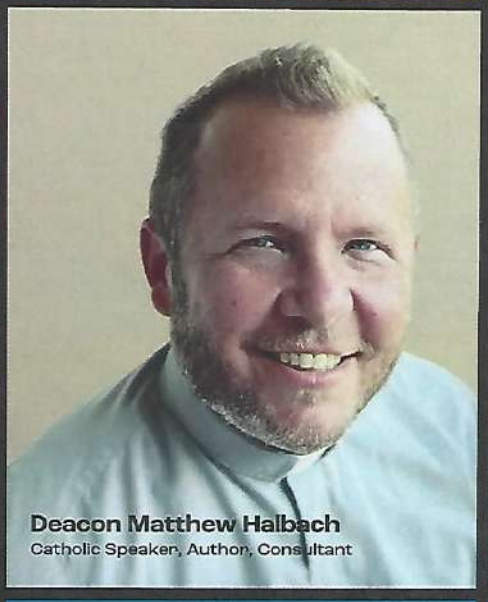
"WHOEVER EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOREVER"



Father Timothy Anastos
from the Archdiocese of Chicago

Alverlis Sanacion
Vocalist, Guitarist, Singer, Songwriter, Worship Leader



Deacon Matthew Halbach
Catholic Speaker, Author, Consultant

Diocesan Eucharistic Revival

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL 2022 2025

Saturday, October 7, 2023
Maimonides Park, Brooklyn

8:00 AM	Gates Open (greetings by Jornada Movement Music Ministry)
8:30 AM	Praise and worship with Alverlis Sanacion followed by the rosary
9:45 AM	Liturgical Procession and Eucharistic Liturgy
11:15 AM	Eucharistic Procession to Eucharistic Chapel
11:35 AM	Break/Lunch
12 Noon	Angelus and Youth and Young Adult Praise and worship with Alverlis Sanacion
1:00 PM	Break
1:15 PM	Family Catechesis with Deacon Matthew Halbach
2:15 PM	Break
2:30 PM	Vocations Talk and testimonials with Fr. Timothy Anastos
3:00 PM	Benediction and Dismissal

Join the Diocese of Brooklyn for a day of Prayer and Worship

With appreciation to: Jornada Music Ministry

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