The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, January 28 –The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Carol McNabb
9:30 A.M. Marie Sylvester Guerriero
11:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Nancy Manganaro
Guiseppe Carlino
Rino Del Carro
Maria N. Scarlatto

MONDAY, January 29
9:00 A.M. Mary Ann Schillinger

TUESDAY, January 30
9:00 A.M. Dana Marusic

WEDNESDAY, January 31– Saint John Bosco
9:00A.M. Samame Wierman (Living)

THURSDAY, February 1
9:00 A.M. Kathleen Greaney

FRIDAY, February 2 –The Presentation of the Lord
9:00 A.M. Lena Busutti

SATURDAY, February 3—St. Blaise
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Ricardo Despojo
Fidela Aviso-Despojo
Stephen DaCorta
DaCorta Family
Living and Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary
John Mc Carthy
Margaret McCarthy

5:00P.M. Rose Sweeney

SUNDAY, February 4– The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Frances Harangozo
9:30 A.M. Paola Civello
11:00 A.M. Mrs. Grace Fulop
12:30 P.M. For the People of St. Francis
Rino Del Carro
Antonio Ciancio
Maria N. Scarlatto

Today's Readings

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
1 Corinthians 7:32-35
Mark 1:21-28

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: 2 Samuel 15:13-14,30; 16:5-13
Mark 5:1-20

TUESDAY: 2 Samuel 18:9-10,14b,24-25a, 30-19:3
Mark 5:21-43

WEDNESDAY 2 Samuel 24:2,9-17
Mark 6:1-6

THURSDAY: 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12
Mark 6:7-13

FRIDAY: Malachi 3:1-4
Hebrews 4:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

SATURDAY: 1 Kings 3:4-13
Mark 6:30-34

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 7:1-4,6-7
1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23
Mark 1:29-39

My Dear Parishioners,

Some people will vehemently claim that they do not need organized religion because they know God in their heart or they fine God in nature, and that is enough. These claims are rooted in the truth, but only partly. God has planted a yearning for him in the human heart, and God's might and power are evident in the magnificence of creation. However, there is a higher order of revelation we must not ignore. This is God's revelation of himself that comes to us through the words of the prophets, and then, most fully, through his Son, Jesus.

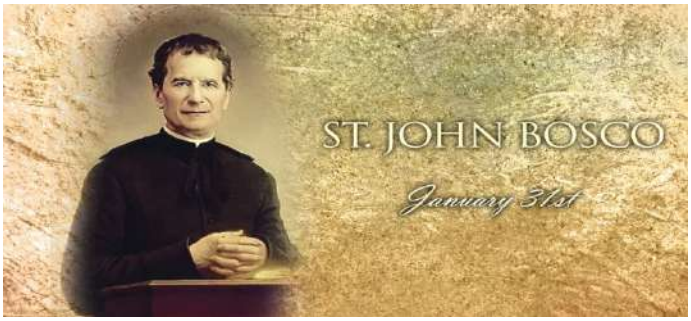
Why should anyone be content with just a whisper from God within oneself, or a shadow of God in nature? Jesus was real, he walked among the people. He extended his hand in healing time and time again, ate with his friends and sometimes with his enemies, and welcomed sinners and strangers into his company. Jesus brought hope to those who were living in sin and relief to those suffering dreadful afflictions. Simple words from Jesus bring about powerful results, such as those we heard today, *Quiet! Come out of him!*

The words of Jesus brought healing and forgiveness, and they also brought comfort and direction in times of uncertainty. He said, *Follow me, I will make you fishers of men; Be not afraid; I will be with you always; Today you will be with me in paradise.* Such powerful words, no one had ever spoken in this manner before. The absolute authority with which Jesus spoke moved many people to follow him and listen closely to his teachings.

To listen closely to the teachings of Jesus is every Catholic's responsibility today. It is easy to hear the Scriptures proclaimed each time we attend Mass, but it can be more difficult to listen with a receptive ear and a willing heart, and harder, still, to put those lessons into practice.

The words of Peter from St. John's Gospel express it well; *Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* We are to listen, believe and live accordingly. This is our task, and the Spirit of God in us will help us accomplish it.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca



Wednesday, January 31, 2024
Saint John Bosco

St. John Bosco (or "Don Bosco"), was a 19th century Italian priest who reached out to young people to remedy their lack of education, opportunities, and faith.

John Bosco was born in August of 1815 into a family of peasant farmers in Castelnuovo d'Asti – a place which would one day be renamed in the saint's honor as "Castelnuovo Don Bosco."

John's father died when he was two years old, but he drew strength from his mother Margherita's deep faith in God.

Margherita also taught her son the importance of charity, using portions of her own modest means to support those in even greater need. John desired to pass on to his own young friends the example of Christian discipleship that he learned from his mother.

At age nine, he had a prophetic dream in which a number of unruly young boys were uttering words of blasphemy. Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary appeared to John in the dream, saying he would bring such youths to God through the virtues of humility and charity.

Later on, this dream would help John to discern his calling as a priest. But he also sought to follow the advice of Jesus and Mary while still a boy: he would entertain his peers with juggling, acrobatics, and magic tricks, before explaining a sermon he had heard, or leading them in praying the Rosary.

In 1841, John Bosco was ordained a priest. In the city of Turin, he began ministering to boys and young men who lived on the streets, many of whom were without work or education.

St. John Bosco died in the early hours of Jan. 31, 1888, after conveying a message: "Tell the boys that I shall be waiting for them all in Paradise." He was canonized on Easter Sunday of 1934, and is a patron saint of young people, apprentices, and Catholic publishers and editors.

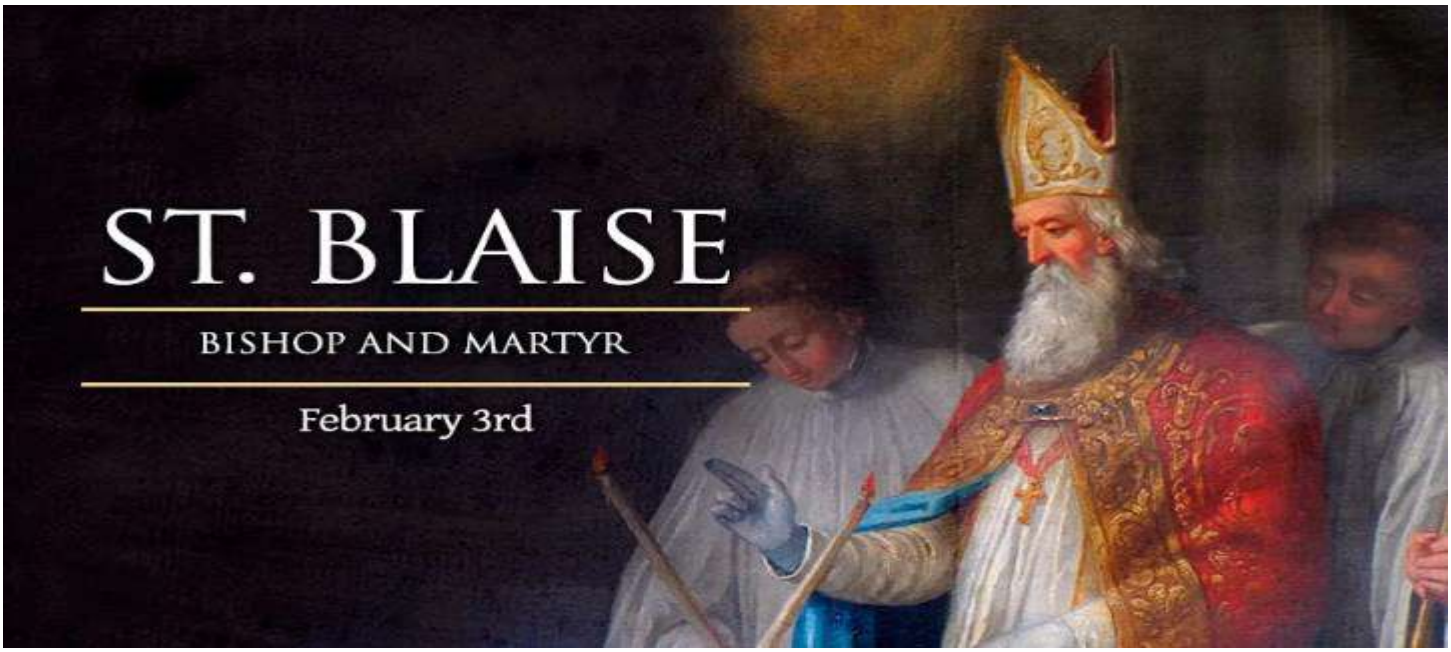
Friday, February 2, 2024
The Presentation of The Lord

At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany (January 6), the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honor of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later—February 15.

This feast day celebrates both the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, as well as the Purification of Mary, which was required by the Mosaic Law forty days after the birth of a child.

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2, also called Candlemas for the custom of using lighted candles. In the early Church it was often celebrated on February 14th, 40 days after the Epiphany, in keeping with the practice of celebrating Christmas on that date in the East. Among the Orthodox it is known as the Hypapante ("Meeting" of the Lord with Simeon).

At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemass.



Saturday, February 3, 2024
Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

St. Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia who suffered martyrdom under Licinius about AD 316. In accord with various traditions, St. Blaise was born to rich and noble parents, and received a Christian education. He was a physician before being consecrated a bishop at a young age.

During the persecution of Licinius, St. Blaise, receiving some divine command, moved from the town, and lived as a hermit in a cave. Wild animals visited, and he healed any that were sick and wounded. One day, a group of hunters gathering wild beasts for the ame in the amphitheater discovered St. Blaise and seized him. As he was being taken to the governor Agricolaus, the governor of Cappadocia and Lesser Armenia, St. Blaise encountered a woman whose pig was being seized by a wolf; St. Blaise commanded the wolf to release the pig, and it was freed unhurt.

While in prison, he miraculously cured a small boy who was choking to death on a fishbone lodged in his throat. Also, the woman whose pig had been saved brought St. Blaise candles so that his cell would have light and he could read the sacred Scriptures.

By the sixth century, St. Blaise's intercession was invoked for diseases of the throat. As early as the eighth century, records attest to the veneration of St Blaise in Europe, and he became one of the most popular saints in the spiritual life of the Middle Ages. Many altars were dedicated to his honor, and even the Abbey of St. Blaise in southern Germany claimed to have some of his relics.
St. Blaise is also venerated as one of the "Fourteen Holy Helpers," a group of saints invoked as early as the 12th century in Germany.

One reason for St. Blaise's popularity arose from the fact he was a physician who cured, even performing miraculous cures. Thereby, those who were sick, especially with throat ailments, invoked his intercession. Eventually the custom of the blessing of throats arose, whereby the priest held two crossed candles over the heads of the faithful or touched their throats with them while he invoked the prayer of the saint and imparted God's blessing. In our present *Roman Ritual*, the priest prays, "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
While we invoke St. Blaise for his protection against any physical ailment of the throat, we should also ask is protection against any spiritual ailment. St. James reminds us, "If a man who does not control his tongue imagines that he is devout, he is self-deceived; his worship is pointless" (1:26) and later, "We use [the tongue] to say, Praised be the Lord and Father'; then we use it to curse men, though they are made in the likeness of God. Blessing and curse come out of the same mouth. This ought not to be, my brothers!" (3:9-10). Therefore, may St. Blaise protect us from all evil, physical and spiritual, which may attack the throat.

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

Jack Orlando, Steven Joyce, Judy Hanley-Brickner, John Wrenn, Augustin Cisneros, Thomas Leiter, James Nunez, Vincent Wytak, John & 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, Alex Human, and Aubrey Madden.

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.

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2024

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you."

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.

FOCUS:

Jesus is calling us today.

Jesus taught as one having authority-having power of his own. When Jesus speaks or teaches, his words have power-for example in today's Gospel by driving out demons. In our lives, Jesus can free us from anxiety and bring us into union with the Father in the kingdom to come. Unlike all the preceding prophets, Jesus does not simply convey God's word and commands, he *is* God's word in the flesh. His power derives from the Father, for he and the Father are one.

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.

Saturday, February 3, 2024, 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.

Saturday, February 3 is the Feast of Saint Blaise.
The Blessing of the Throats will take place after the 9:00AM Mass. All are welcome to join us for this celebration.

The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering **"Hearing Aid Help"** from January 29, 2024 through April 25, 2024.

This is a free service and is available for anyone who has a hearing aid and may be experiencing some difficulty caring for it or using it.

Please call the Center at (718) 990-6480 to schedule an appointment. The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike Flushing, NY.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"The Words I have spoken to you are spirit and life." John 6:64

Dear SFA Friends and Family

The Scripture Study group will meet on Thursday, February 1st from 7:20-8:50pm in the St. Joseph Room of the Rectory. This week's study is on St. Paul's Letters to the Galatians 2:1-3:14.
Join us as we **Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture**.

"Scripture, which saw in advance that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, foretold the good news to Abraham, saying "Through you shall all the nations be blessed." **(Galatians 3:8)**

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.

Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture.

All are Invited … **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

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.

Sunday1/20-21/24:	**$3,842.00**
2nd Collection:	**$739.00**

School parents must use church envelopes.

Mass Attendance for the Weekend of January 20 - 21, 2023:

5:00pm	97
8:00am	48
9:30am	160
11:00am	85
12:30pm	308

Total in Attendance: **698**

Congratulations to
Lawrence Divittorio
on achieving the Honor Roll
during the first trimester
at Chaminade High School!

Annual Catholic Appeal 2023
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

THANK YOU to all who supported the Annual Catholic Appeal. I am so grateful for your sacrifices in helping us reach our goal. As of January 22nd, we have pledged $44,442 and paid $43,527 towards our goal of $41, 679. We have surpassed our goal and so the monies over goal will come back to the parish and will be deposited in the operation account of our parish.
The appeal was supported by 108 families of our parish which is 22.78% of our parish.
Please know each of you will be remembered in prayer.

Msgr. Maresca

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

January 28—February 3

Sunday, January 28
11:00AM-Catholic Schools Week Opening Mass
1:30pm Baptisms

Monday, January 29
No Golden Age Meeting
3:00-3:45PM Children's Choir-Church
7:00PM Adult Choir-Church

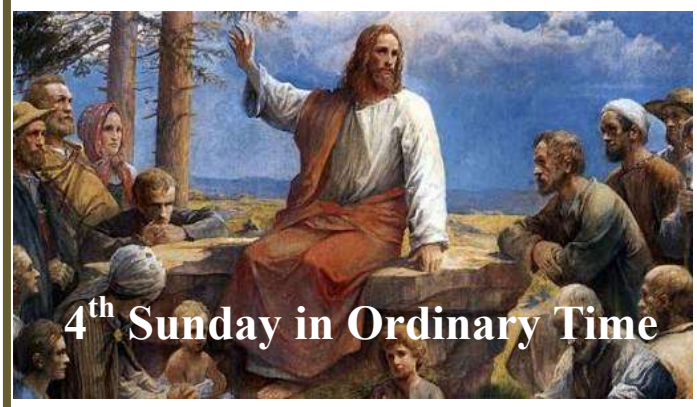
Tuesday, January 30
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 31
3:00-4:30PM—Drama Club—MCH

Thursday, February 1
10:00-11:30AM-Legion of Mary
3:30-4:30PM Jiu Jitsu-MCH
6:00PM-I.A.C.A.
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, February 2
11:00AM-Catholic Schools Week Closing Mass

Saturday, February 3
9:00AM—Anointing Mass
Blessing of the Throats after the 9:00AM Mass
6-7:30pm—Youth Group



NEXT WEEK

February 4—February 10

Sunday, February 4
9:30AM-Pre-Communion Mass
10:40AM-12:00 Noon—CCD

Monday, February 5
12:00-3:30PM - Golden Age Meeting—MCH
3:00-3:45PM Children's Choir-Church
7:00PM Adult Choir-Church

Tuesday, February 6
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, February 7
3:00-4:30PM—Drama Club—MCH
7:00PM—Baptism Class—Rectory

Thursday, February 8
10:00-11:30AM-Legion of Mary
3:30-4:30PM Jiu Jitsu-MCH
6:00PM-I.A.C.A.
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, February 9
Winter Blast—MCH

Saturday, February 10
11:00AM-3:00PM—GS World Thinking Day

FEBRUARY 2024
LECTOR SCHEDULE

	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
	FEBRUARY 3 - 4	FEBRUARY 10 - 11	FEBRUARY 17 - 18	FEBRUARY 24 - 25
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Dolores Ratkowski	Dolores Ratkowski
Sunday 8:00 A.M.	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz
Sunday 9:30 A.M.	Josephine Corso	Martha O'Toole	Maria Brooks	Patrick O'Toole
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey
Sunday 12:30 P.M.	Anna Maria Del Carro	Eterna Bruno	Jackie Machia	Anna Maria Tenaglia

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

During the Catholic Schools Week Mass on Sunday, January 28th at 11:00am, the **second collection** will help bring a new Robotics Program to SFACA and enhance our science lab.

We believe a Robotics Program will help our students build the foundation and prepare them for an understanding of abstract concepts. Robotics encourages innovative ideas and creativity. What they can envision mentally or on their virtual robots can be brought to life with the physical robots and prepare them for the future.

Please be as generous as your means allows.

Thank you,
The Students of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

There will be NO CCD on Sunday, January 28, 2024 because Catholic Schools Week begins with a Mass at 11am.

As required by the Diocese, the Child Lures program will be taught on Sunday, February 4, 2024.
A link for accessing this material will be sent to all parents, guardians, and teachers on Monday, January 29, 2024. Please familiarize yourself with this material in order to help your child understand.
Should you wish to opt-out of this program, please send me an email at DRE@SFAACADEMY.ORG and perhaps let me know your reason for this decision.

Thank you and God Bless you all!
Sister Francesca, DRE

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy
21-18 46 Street
Astoria, NY
718 726-9405
www.sfaacademy.org

Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Celebrates Catholic Schools Week
January 28th – February 2nd 2024

Our national theme for Catholic Schools Week is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community." Catholic schools have an irreplaceable role in the Church's evangelizing mission. Building on the central goal of Catholic schools to form saints, Catholic schools teach and embrace the whole person, body, mind and spirit. The fact that all members of a Catholic school community share the Christian vision of faith that Christ is the foundation of Catholic education is what unites the school as a faith-filled community.

While faith is the binding element in Catholic schools, the Church reiterates that parents are the first teachers of their children. Holding this tenet, Catholic school communities expand beyond the walls of school buildings to envelop the family as an integral part of the school community. Together teachers, administrators, staff, students and parents fuel the light of faith by integrating culture with faith and faith with living. The CSW logo symbolizes the united community of Catholic schools – not a building or an institution, but people of faith serving God and others. Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community is a theme on which to build a spirit of the gospel to benefit the human family.

Our own SFACA theme for Catholic Schools Week is ***Color Our World***. Each class has adopted a specific life enhancing attribute that makes the world a more peace filled and colorful place. Plan on visiting us at one of our Open Houses and see all the wonderful things our students are involved in. We look forward to celebrating and sharing our school and students with you.

Sunday, January 28

We begin Catholic Schools Week with Sunday Mass bringing together members of the parish and school communities. SFACA benefits all year long from the religious guidance, prayers, and support our parish provides. **Please attend our CSW Opening Liturgy at 11:00 a.m. as we honor this year's Distinguished Graduate, Ms. Kristina Soltesz, Class of 2010.** The funds received from the second collection today will be used to introduce our new Robotics Program and enhance our Science Lab. Please be as generous as your means allow. Students who join us today at Mass, in their school uniform, will enjoy a special dress down day just for them. **Immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass, please join us at our school's Open House from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Enjoy some light refreshments and visit the *Color Our World* display in Msgr. Maresca Center which focuses on specific life enhancing attributes chosen by each class. Also, immediately following Mass, new families can meet the principal, Ms. Reilly, in Msgr. Campbell Hall for brief informational session and tour the school with a Home and Academy Representative.**

Monday, January 29

A central aspect of Catholic Education is learning the importance of service to others. When students take part in service activities – both local and beyond – they demonstrate the values and faith they gain through their Catholic education and learn how to make the world a better place.

For our service project this year, SFACA will collect **used** crayons which will be shipped to ***The Crayon Initiative***. This noteworthy cause takes the used donated crayons, recycles them and ships them to children's hospitals across the United States. If you choose you may also make a monetary donation. Please support this noteworthy cause which will continue for the entire week. See specific details on our Crayon Initiative flyer. **Today, current families may join us for an Open House for all grades from 9:05 - 9:35am to visit their child's classroom for next year.**

Tuesday, January 30

Today is National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. We pray for the continued success of Catholic Schools across our nation. In a special way, we pray for our own Catholic School as we strive to prepare students to appreciate the value of service to others. Please support our fund raising efforts this week as we continue to accept donations in support of *The Crayon Initiative*. Also today, come and see our Middle School students shine! **Grades 6, 7, and 8 will share their Living Wax Museum creations in Msgr. Campbell Hall. Friends and families can view the exhibit from 1:45 – 2:20pm.** We also welcome Sr. Maryann Lopiccolo, Episcopal Delegate for Religious in the Diocese of Brooklyn, to tour our school and visit our Wax Museum.

Wednesday, January 31

Today, Student Appreciation Day, Catholic schools prepare children to succeed by using their God-given talents to the fullest extent throughout their lives. CSW offers an opportunity for students to explore the many life paths that enable them to use their talents well.

To encourage our students to dream big and reach their full potential, we will be hosting a visit from the NYPD and other first responders. Students will have the opportunity to meet and ask questions of our own NYC heros. Students will also be treated to a Rainbow Bagel lunch and may dress down in their grade specific color in support of The Crayon Initiative. Please remember to send in your donation. In celebration of Student Appreciation Day students in all grades enjoy a day of No Homework!

Thursday, February 1

Today, we encourage our students to shine by participating in meaningful activities planned by their teachers. **Please join us in Msgr. Campbell Hall at 10:00 a.m. for our Poetry Presentation. Grades 1-5 will be presenting poems based the attributes that *Color Our World*. All are invited to attend. We also invite NEW FAMILIES, grades K-8, to come and Meet the Principal, Ms. Reilly, and tour our school. For your convenience, there are 2 sessions available. The morning session is 8:30-9:30 and the same information will be shared in the afternoon from 1:30-2:30. Please call the school to reserve your spot.**

Friday, February 2

Today, we celebrate our teachers and assistants who are the backbone of Catholic Schools. On this day, schools honor teachers, as well as staff, who support the school in its all important work. We thank God for our talented and dedicated faculty and staff. **Please join us today at the 11:00 a.m. Mass as we pray for our faculty and staff, and the growth and prosperity of our school. We also pray, in a special way, for Msgr. Maresca as he celebrates 46 years of priesthood. Dismissal, for grades K-8, will be at 12:30 p.m and dismissal for 3K and PreK will be at 1:00.** We thank the many parents, grandparents, alumni, parishioners, and Academy Board Members who provide volunteer service. We are all so grateful for each one of you.

New student registration for the 2023 - 24 school year is
Tuesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 8th 10:00 - 11:00am and 1:00 - 2:00pm
or call the office for an appointment

REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

Necessary documents include: Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, and current Immunization Record. A copy of the student's current report card, June 2023 report card, and most recent NYS Test scores and standardized test scores, IEP or IESP are also required, if applicable.

REGISTRATION FEE REQUIRED

$275.00 non-refundable registration fee for the first child and $125.00 for each additional child.
This fee includes application processing, Home Academy dues, and student insurance.
This fee is payable by check or money order to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy.
Cash cannot be accepted.

Registration for St. Francis of Assisi Free 3K For All Full Day Program
Children must be born in 2021 and turn 3 years old by 12/31/2024
Kindly create an account now on
NYC DOE WEBSITE: MySchools.nyc.
The portal is currently open for registration.

Registration for St. Francis of Assisi Free Pre-K For All Full Day Program
Children must be born in 2020 and turn 4 years old by 12/31/2024
Kindly create an account now on
NYC DOE WEBSITE: MySchools.nyc.
The portal is currently open for registration.

SFA
Success For All
www.sfaacademy.org

Catholic Schools Week
Annual Service Project

THE Crayon INITIATIVE

This year, the theme for Catholic Schools Week is
"Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community"
We would like to show our children that helping our
community is part of our Catholic faith.

This year we have chosen *"The Crayon Initiative" (TCI)* as our service project.
We will collect **used** crayons and send them to TCI.
The crayons will then be recycled and shipped to
children's hospitals across the United States.

In addition to collecting crayons, we will be accepting
monetary donations to help this important cause.
Please fill out the reverse of this form and bring to school during Catholic Schools Week.
$5, $10, $15, $20 or $50 or more.

We encourage researching The Crayon Initiative to learn about
the great work they do.
THANK YOU for your continued support and cooperation.

Catholic Schools Week
Annual Service Project

THE Crayon INITIATIVE

Every contribution helps collect, sort, and distribute crayons,
spreading happiness and nurturing young imaginations.
All monetary donations will be displayed on the main floor
with your family name on the crayon you choose.

This is my donation to help *"The Crayon Initiative"*.

Student's Name: _____ Grade:_____

Donation Amount: $5 _____ $10 _____ $15 _____ $20 _____ $50+_____

$5

$10

$15

$20

$50+

"When you're coloring, what kind of things are you thinking about?"

"Nothing. That's exactly why I color."
– from NBC Nightly News interview of pediatric patient

OUR MISSION

We bring happiness to children who are facing the stress of hospitalization by giving them the freedom that comes with creative play.

Every dollar makes a difference!

2023 TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

All Parishioners who wish to receive a copy of their 2023 Tax Contribution statement must complete the attached form.

The forms can be returned by dropping them in the contribution basket during Mass or they can be dropped in the box on the front door of the rectory. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

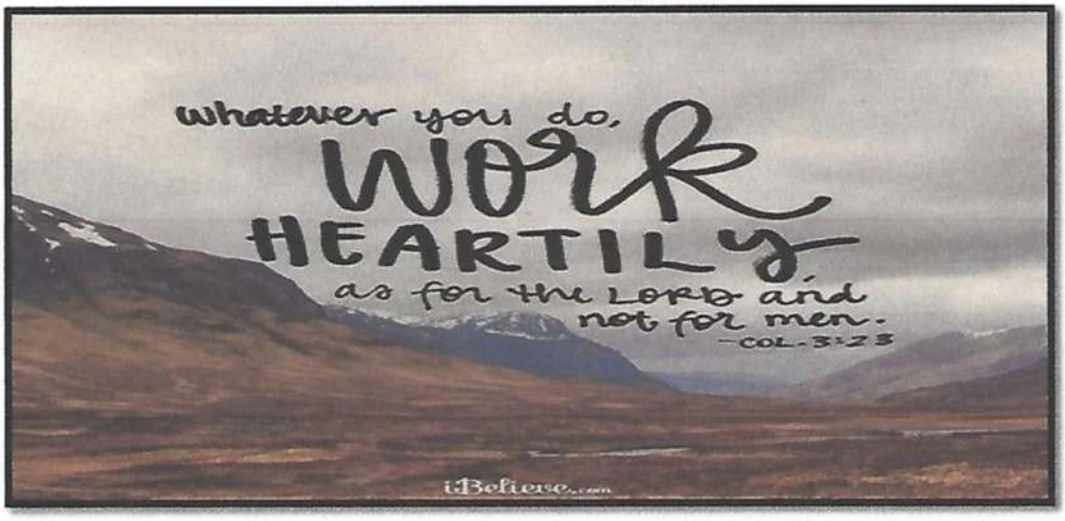
NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____

ENVELOPE # _____



SFA WILDCATS FLAG FOOTBALL

2023 Pee Wee Division Champions
Registration Open / Scan QR Code

PRACTICE WINNING EVERY DAY

OUR TOWN - OUR PARISH - OUR TEAM

Co-Ed Sign Ups Now Open / Spring 2024 Season

CYO Travel Teams Grades 4 through 8 / $200 Registration Fees

PARENT LIKE A CHAMPION

Volunteer Coaches Needed /Sponsorship Opportunities / Other Volunteer Opportunities

Contact Football Athletic Director Jonathan Hili / SFAWildcatsAstoria@gmail.com

SFA travel teams participate in CYO athletics. Games are played throughout Queens typically on the weekends. Players are expected to commit to practice one day a week. If younger than 4th grade it is recommended to have some football experience.