Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, August 18 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Monsignor Stefan Geosits
10:00 A.M. Evelyn Singura
12:00 P.M. For the People of St. Francis

MONDAY, August 19– Saint John Eudes
9:00 A.M. Teresa Polizio

TUESDAY, August 20-Saint Bernard
9:00 A.M. Elvira Martucci

WEDNESDAY, August 21-Saint Pius X
9:00A.M. Mauricio Mesa

THURSDAY, August 22-The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9:00 A.M. Paul Eiaw

FRIDAY, August 23-Saint Rose of Lima
9:00 A.M. Myriam Rocconi (Living)

SATURDAY, August 24-Saint Bartholomew, Apostle
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
John Hovanec
Elizabeth Hovanec
John P.Dugan Jr.
Virginia Timbrook

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

SUNDAY, August 25– Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Maria Samu
10:00 A.M. John Purich
12:00 Noon Mrs. Grace Fulop

Today's Readings

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 9:1-6
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." **John 6:51-58**

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Ezekiel 24:15-23
Matthew 19:16-22

TUESDAY: Ezekiel 28:1-10
Matthew 19:23-30

WEDNESDAY: Ezekiel 34:1-11
Matthew 20:1-16

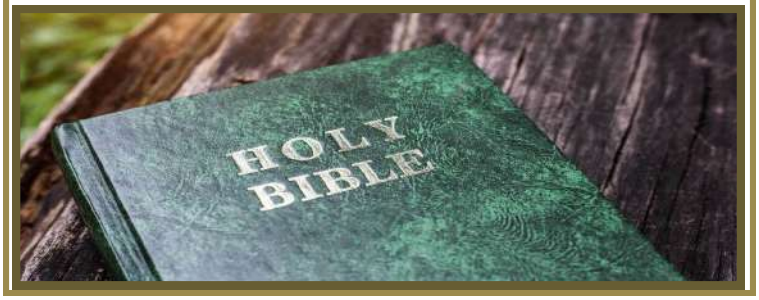
THURSDAY: Ezekiel 36:23-28
Matthew 22:1-14

FRIDAY: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Matthew 22:34-40

SATURDAY: Revelation 21:9b-14
John 1:45-51

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b
Ephesians:5:21-32
John 6:60-69



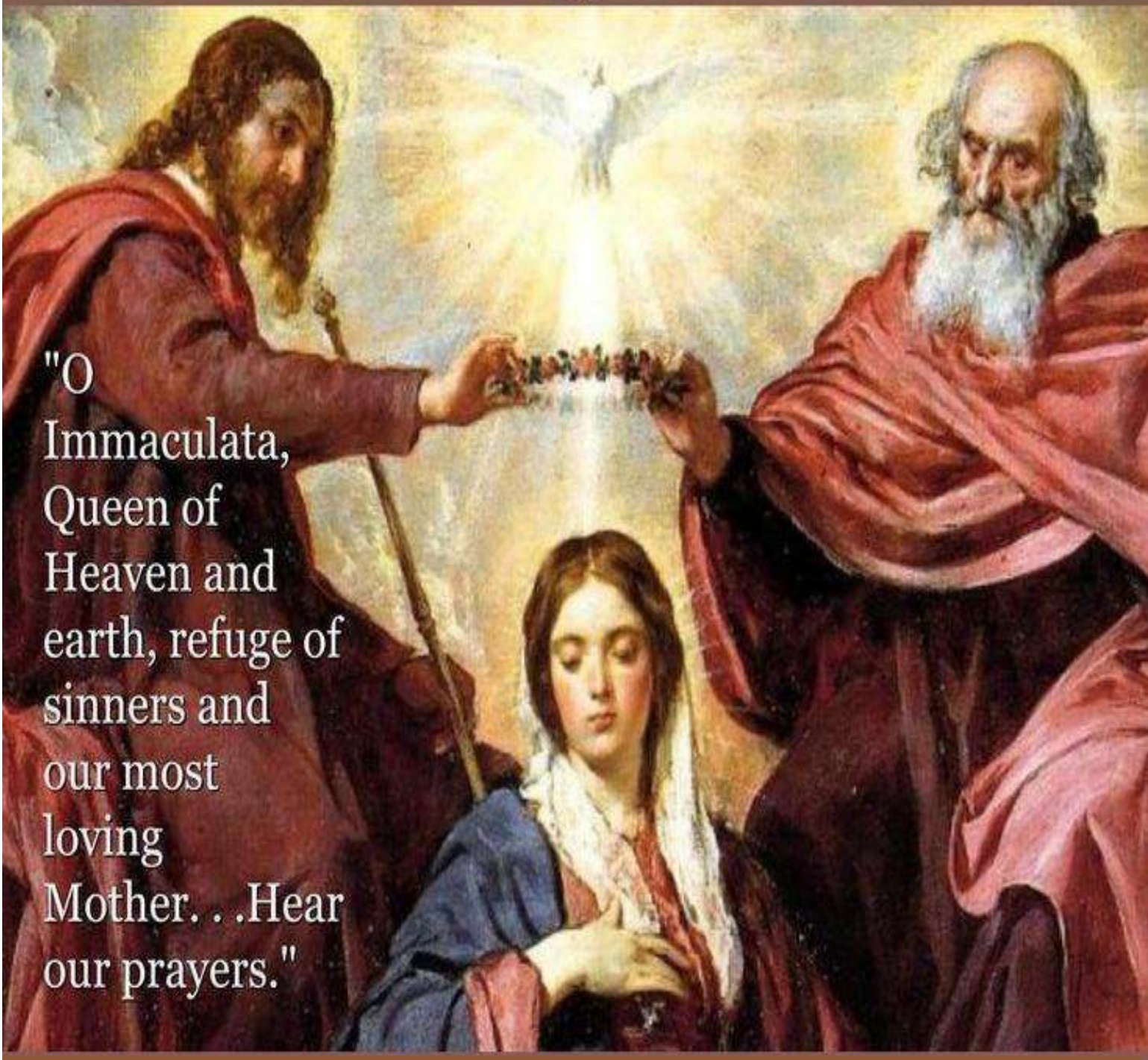
Tuesday, August 20, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Bernard

Bernard was born in Burgundy, France in the year 1090 at Fontaines-les-Dijon - the castle of the Fontaines. He was sent to the best of schools, had a great taste for literature and loved poetry. Entering college at an early age, he studied theology and Holy Scripture. After the death of his mother, he resolved to become a monk. In 1113, at the age of twenty-three, he entered the Cistercian monastery at Citeaux. His superiors soon noticed that Bernard had made great progress in his spiritual life; thus, in 1115, he and twelve other monks were sent to found a new monastery in what was then known as the Valley of Wormwood eventually it became known as the Valley of Light, or Clairvaux. His aged father came also, giving up his wealth and honor for the poverty of a monk. Bernard was a powerful preacher and is reported to have performed miracles, especially in healing the sick. A prolific writer, Bernard led much of the discussion and dialog on reforms and restructuring of the church as it passed through its first millennium. Most of St. Bernard's written records and correspondence have been lost over time, but what has survived has given historians a rich picture of everyday life in the European High Middle Ages. Ultimately he was recognized as the most influential spiritual leader of his time and was largely responsible for the rapid expansion of the Cistercian order. By 1153, the year Bernard died, there were more than 300 Cistercian monasteries, sixty-eight of which were founded directly from the monastery at Clairvaux. In his later years he turned to his writing. His works fall into four categories: 1) letters, 2) treatises, 3) sermons, and 4) hymns. He also had a talent for music. Many of his hymns survive today and are used in both Catholic and Protestant Churches. Bernard died in his monastery at Clairvaux in 1153, at the age of 63. He was canonized a saint by Pope Alexander III in 1174 and named a doctor of the church by Pope Pius VII in 1830. By his life, St. Bernard showed how deeply he cared about God and God's people.

Wednesday, August 21, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Pius X

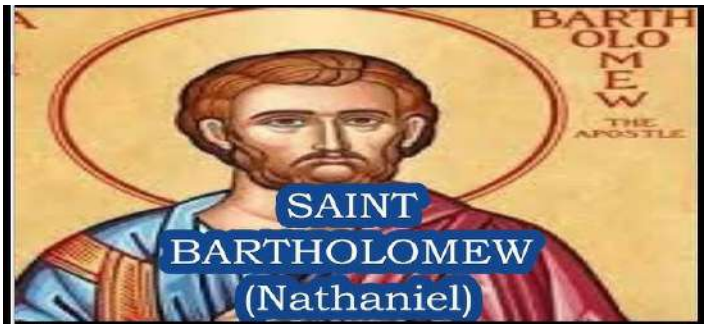
Pope Pius X is perhaps best remembered for his encouragement of the frequent reception of Holy Communion, especially by children. The second of 10 children in a poor Italian family, Joseph Sarto became Pius X at age 68. He was one of the 20th century's greatest popes. Ever mindful of his humble origin, Pope Pius stated, "I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor." He was embarrassed by some of the pomp of the papal court. "Look how they have dressed me up," he said in tears to an old friend. To another, "It is a penance to be forced to accept all these practices. They lead me around surrounded by soldiers like Jesus when he was seized in Gethsemani." Interested in politics, Pope Pius encouraged Italian Catholics to become more politically involved. One of his first papal acts was to end the supposed right of governments to interfere by veto in papal elections—a practice that reduced the freedom of the 1903 conclave which had elected him. In 1905, when France renounced its agreement with the Holy See and threatened confiscation of Church property if governmental control of Church affairs were not granted, Pius X courageously rejected the demand. While he did not author a famous social encyclical as his predecessor had done, he denounced the ill treatment of indigenous peoples on the plantations of Peru, sent a relief commission to Messina after an earthquake, and sheltered refugees at his own expense. On the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, Europe was plunged into World War I. Pius had foreseen it, but it killed him. "This is the last affliction the Lord will visit on me. I would gladly give my life to save my poor children from this ghastly scourge." He died a few weeks after the war began, and was canonized in 1954.His humble background was no obstacle in relating to a personal God and to people whom he loved genuinely. Pius X gained his strength, his gentleness and warmth for people from the source of all gifts, the Spirit of Jesus.

August 22 Queenship of Mary



Friday, August 23, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Rose of Lima

The first canonized saint of the New World has one characteristic of all saints—the suffering of opposition—and another characteristic which is more for admiration than for imitation—excessive practice of mortification. She was born to parents of Spanish descent in Lima, Peru, at a time when South America was in its first century of evangelization. She seems to have taken Catherine of Siena as a model, in spite of the objections and ridicule of parents and friends. The saints have so great a love of God that what seems bizarre to us, and is indeed sometimes imprudent, is simply a logical carrying out of a conviction that anything that might endanger a loving relationship with God must be rooted out. So, because her beauty was so often admired, Rose used to rub her face with pepper to produce disfiguring blotches. Later, she wore a thick circlet of silver on her head, studded on the inside, like a crown of thorns. When her parents fell into financial trouble, she worked in the garden all day and sewed at night. Ten years of struggle against her parents began when they tried to make Rose marry. They refused to let her enter a convent, and out of obedience she continued her life of penance and solitude at home as a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. So deep was her desire to live the life of Christ that she spent most of her time at home in solitude. During the last few years of her life, Rose set up a room in the house where she cared for homeless children, the elderly, and the sick. This was a beginning of social services in Peru. Though secluded in life and activity, she was brought to the attention of Inquisition interrogators, who could only say that she was influenced by grace. What might have been a merely eccentric life was transfigured from the inside. If we remember some unusual penances, we should also remember the greatest thing about Rose: a love of God so ardent that it withstood ridicule from without, violent temptation, and lengthy periods of sickness. When she died at 31, the city turned out for her funeral. Prominent men took turns carrying her coffin.



Saturday, August 24, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Bartholomew

In the New Testament, Bartholomew is mentioned only in the lists of the apostles. Some scholars identify him with Nathanael, a man of Cana in Galilee who was summoned to Jesus. Jesus paid him a great compliment: "Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him"(John 1:47b). When Nathanael asked how Jesus knew him, Jesus said, "I saw you under the fig tree"(John 1:48b). Whatever amazing revelation this involved, it brought Nathanael to exclaim, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel"(John 1:49b). But Jesus countered with, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this" (John 1:50b). Nathanael did see greater things. He was one of those to whom Jesus appeared on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias after his resurrection (see John 21:1-14). They had been fishing all night without success. In the morning, they saw someone standing on the shore though no one knew it was Jesus. He told them to cast their net again, and they made so great a catch that they could not haul the net in. Then John cried out to Peter, "It is the Lord." John relates that although they knew it was Jesus, none of the apostles presumed to inquire who he was. This, John notes, was the third time Jesus appeared to the apostles. Bartholomew or Nathanael? We are confronted again with the fact that we know almost nothing about most of the apostles. Yet the unknown ones were also foundation stones, the 12 pillars of the new Israel whose 12 tribes now encompass the whole earth. Their personalities were secondary to their great office of bearing tradition from their firsthand experience, speaking in the name of Jesus, putting the Word Made Flesh into human words for the enlightenment of the world. Their holiness was not an introverted contemplation of their status before God. It was a gift that they had to share with others. The Good News was that all are called to the holiness of being Christ's members, by the gracious gift of God. Humanity, made holy with God's own holiness, becomes the most precious creation of God.

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

Awyn Profit, Jack Orlando, Steven Joyce, Judy Hanley-Brickner, John Wrenn, Augustin Cisneros, James Nunez, Vincent Wytak, John & Carol Ross, Jeffrey Hyans, Marie LoVolpe, Jessica St. Preux, Al Ciani, Alesha Moses, Nancy McCaffrey, 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, Alex Humen, Rick Simonsen, Aubrey Madden and Madison Millett.

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.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 18, 2024

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven."

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:

The Eucharist is essential to life in Christ.

Jesus preaches that those who eat His flesh and drink His blood will remain in Him and He in them. It is through our participation in the Eucharist that we are united most intimately to Christ. We need to eat to sustain our bodily life. We need to consume the bread of life to sustain our spiritual life with Christ.

VOCATION PRAYER

In this Year of Prayer, the Parish Council has suggested that we as a parish pray the prayer for Vocations found on the back cover of the missalette.
We will pray the prayer every Sunday before the final blessing of Mass.
Vocations to the priesthood are needed throughout the country. Here in our own Diocese of Brooklyn, vocations are vital for the continuation of the Eucharist which is central to our lives as Catholics.

Let us pray to the Lord that men will respond to the call of the Lord to give their life in service to the Church as a priest.

PRACTICAL TIPS ON FINDING A CATHOLIC CHURCH WHILE ON VACATION

One of the most reliable places online to find a Catholic church is MassTimes.org. You are able to enter in any address in the world and find the nearest church. Included in the results is the ability to search by a specific Mass time if you have a limited window when you can attend Mass. They also have an app for mobile devices that is extremely helpful.

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 8/3-8/4: $4,028.00

2nd Collection—Maintenance & Repair *$1,504.00*

Sunday 8/10-8/11: $3,794.00

School parents must use church envelopes.

Golden Age Meetings resume on Monday, September 9th, at 12:00 noon to 3:30pm. We meet in Msgr. Campbell Hall which is located in the basement of the church. Use the entrance on the 45th Street side.

Anyone 60 years or older are welcome to join us. Members pray together, play cards and Bingo. Each week refreshments are served. Why not join us and bring a friend.

Summer is winding down. May I ask you to please continue your weekly offering. Your support is essential for the parish during this time. As you know, like yourselves, we still have our monthly bills to be paid. I appreciate your attention to this important matter. For your information our fiscal year ends August 31st and the new fiscal year begins September 1st.

I hope each of you found time to rest and relax during these months.

THANK YOU for all you do in supporting our parish.

Msgr. Maresca

Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Thank you to all who have supported the Annual Catholic Appeal. I appreciate your sacrifices and generosity in the appeal. As of July 31st, we have pledged $28,856.76 towards our goal of $41,679.00. If you have not contributed to the appeal please prayerfully consider a gift to help us reach our goal. To this date, 80 parishioners or 27.34% of our parish have supported the appeal.

I appreciate all of your support and assure you of my prayers.

Msgr. Maresca

Mass Attendance for August 3/4, 2024:

5:00PM	77
8:00AM	57
10:00AM	99
12:00PM	67

Total: 300

August 10/11, 2024

5:00PM	90
8:00AM	52
10:00AM	105
12:00PM	73

Total: 320

Cook Position

Immaculate Conception Rectory is looking for a weekend cook, Saturday and Sunday. It is part time. If you are interested please call the rectory at 718-728-1613.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

August 18-August 25

Sunday, August 18
2nd Collection—Air Conditioning

Monday, August 19

Tuesday, August 20
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 21

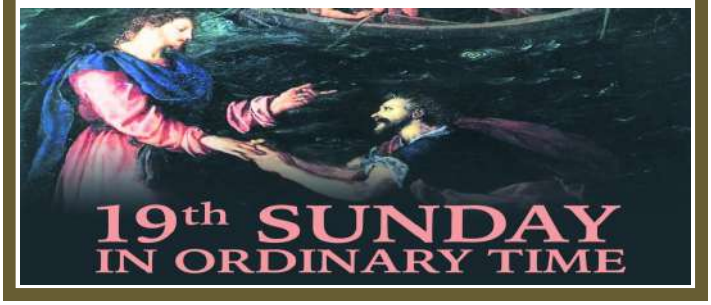
Thursday, August 22
10:00AM—Legion of Mary

Friday, August 23

Saturday, August 24

PLEASE NOTE

BAPTISMS FOR AUGUST WILL BE SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH AT 1:00PM.



NEXT WEEK

August 26-August 31

Sunday, August 25
1:00PM Baptism

Monday, August 26

Tuesday, August 27
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, August 28

Thursday, August 29
10:00AM—Legion of Mary

Friday, August 30

Saturday, August 31

1st Time:

Tracy Martin
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

And

Andrew Sacramone
St. Joseph Church
Astoria, NY

Discover the Faces Behind Our Parish!

Greetings, beloved parish family!

We are excited to introduce a new bulletin series, **"One Tree, Many Branches,"** where we highlight the dedicated staff, employees, and laity who keep our parish thriving.

Each month, we'll feature a different team member, sharing their personal stories and contributions.

Join us in celebrating the incredible individuals who make our parish a vibrant and welcoming place. Look for these inspiring stories every second week of the month.

In gratitude,
The St. Francis of Assisi Parish Council

St. FRANCIS of ASSISI
SUMMER SCHEDULE

Beginning June 24th until September 3rd

Adoration

Adoration will resume on September 4, 2024

Church Hours

Church Opens

Monday thru Saturday—8:00am
Sunday—7:30am

Mass Schedule

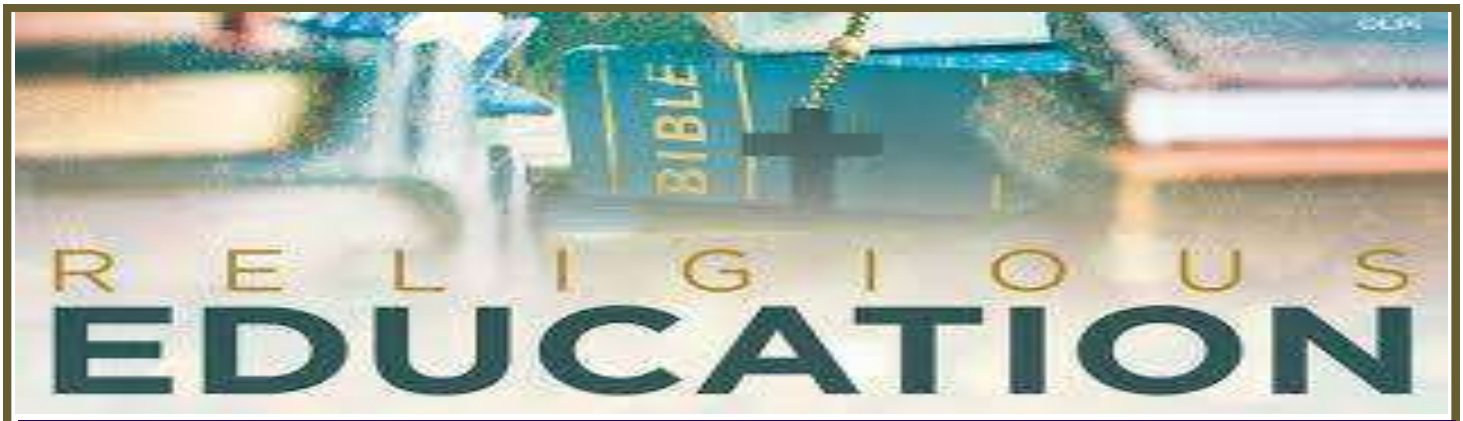
(July & August)

Monday thru Friday—9:00am
Saturday—9:00am & 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00noon
(NO Italian Mass During July & August)

Rectory Hours

Monday thru Thursday—9:00am—12:00pm
1:00pm—5:00pm
Friday 9:00am –12:00pm * 1:00pm—3:00pm
NO EVENING OFFICE HOURS

CLOSED SUNDAY



If you have a child beginning first grade in public school, it is time to register for Religious Education. Diocesan guidelines require ***two years*** of instructions prior to the reception of a Sacrament. If your child is already in the first grade and missed this year, call the Office of Religious Education to set up an appointment to discuss the options.

Sister Francesca, Director of Faith Formation,
(718) 278.0259 or dre@sfaacademy.org

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO…

Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not
celebrated the Sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation?

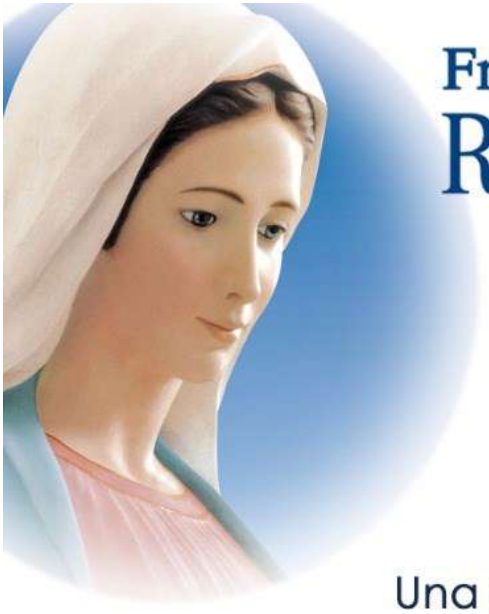
Then **RCIA** (**R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults) is what you're looking for! Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church as well as prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

For information please contact our
Director of Faith Formation, Sister Francesca at
(718) 278.0259 or dre@sfaacademy.org

PRE-K FOR ALL

Openings available for our 2024-2025 Free Pre-K for All Program
for children living in NYC and born in 2020.
For more information, contact the Program Director,
Mrs. Nancy Annunziata at:
NAnnunziata@sfaacademy.org or 718-726-9405 ext. 3

@sfaca3kprek



Friends of RADIO MARIA New York

(718)417-0550

Sitete tutti invitati alla nostra

Giornata di Spiritualita'

SABATO 24 AGOSTO, 2024
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Una giornata di preghiera e riflessione per portare Pace, Amore, Gioia, e Speranza in ogni cuore!
Presentazione della vita di Mother Cabrini, visita al museo e negozio ricordi della Santa.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Shrine

701 Fort Washington Ave., New York, NY 10040
Tel: (212) 923-3536

PROGRAMMA

10:00 am - Rosario
11:00 am - Santa Messa
12:00 pm - Consacrazione dei giovani e delle famiglie al Cuore Immacolato di Maria e di Gesù
12:30 pm - Pranzo al sacco
2:00 pm - Adorazione Eucaristica
3:00 pm - Benedizione Finale

Natale Tumminia animerà le celebrazioni con la sua bella voce

«Io posso tutto in Colui che mi dà forza!» - Saint Frances Cabrini

St. Francis of Assisi

Fall Festival

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 28, 2024