Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, October 6 – Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Joseph Cseri
9:30 A.M. Ida Pietromonaco
11:00A.M. Nora Sahatdjian
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Domenico Iacobazzi

MONDAY, October 7– Our Lady of the Rosary
9:00 A.M. Marie Guerriero

TUESDAY, October 8-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Richard Oreste

WEDNESDAY, October 9-Saint Denis & Companions
9:00A.M. Vincent P. Tabone

THURSDAY, October 10–Weekday
9:00 A.M. Patricia Hili

FRIDAY, October 11-Saint John XXIII
9:00 A.M. Mary & Vincent Ferrante

SATURDAY, October 12-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
The McHale Family

5:00P.M. Steve Fulop

SUNDAY, October 13– Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 A.M. Holy Name
9:30 A.M. Ferdinand Gambino
11:00 A.M. Manny Alongi
12:30P.M. Rino Del Carro
Domenico Iacobazzi

Today's Readings

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 2:18-34
Hebrews 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16

And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part. For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward. And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea. And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: … **Mark 10:2-16**

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Galatians 1:6-12
Luke 10:25-37

TUESDAY: Galatians 1:13-24
Luke 10:38-42

WEDNESDAY: Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14
Luke 11:1-4

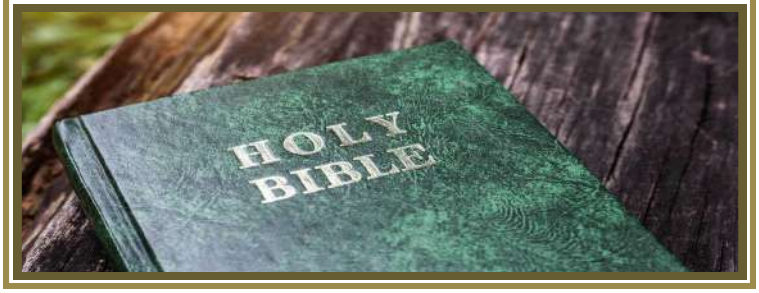
THURSDAY: Galatians 3:1-5
Luke 11:5-13

FRIDAY: Galatians 3:7-14
Luke 11:15-26

SATURDAY: Galatians 3:22-29
Luke 11:27-28

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 7:7-11
Hebrews:4:12-13
Mark 10:17-30



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

Jewish sages wrote the Book of Genesis as a series of meditations on the origin of the universe and the genesis of humankind. A popular form of Jewish writing was employed, setting forth very profound ideas in simple forms of storytelling.

Everything happened, they told us, because a caring and loving creator in the beginning willed it so. All that has happened comes from his personal love and inner drive to share himself. All lovers know of that inner drive. God did not create anything by chance, everything is purposeful, especially man and woman who are created in God's own image and likeness so that he can share himself with them as he does with no other creatures. He breathed his life, Genesis tells us, only into man and woman, not into his other creatures.

Note that the creation of man was prior to the creation of any other form of life. Into man God breathed his Spirit, his very life and love. God then created the garden and all of the other wonderful creations found in the universe and in our world. Then God said that it was not good that man should be alone. So he brought all sorts of creatures to Adam and had Adam name them. But none of them could overcome Adam's aloneness. God did not go back to the soil to create a woman. No. God went into Adam's very nature and from that part closest to his heart, Adam's rib, God fashioned a woman.

In that moment Adam realized that his aloneness had been overcome and that he was now complete. He had found in her the other half of his heart and soul and he gave her a name that identified her as essential to his very own nature. He called her "woman," his other half.

God, in his nature, is not solitude. God, in his nature, is driven to share love. God is so good that he cannot keep it all to himself. In making man and woman with an inner drive to find themselves in each other, each finding their self in the other, God was expressing in our humanity his own inner reality. We are made to belong. In belonging to each other we mirror our belonging to God. In belonging to each other we share in God's love and in his own drive to belong to us.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

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

On October 7, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the yearly feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Known for several centuries by the alternate title of "Our Lady of Victory," the feast day takes place in honor of a 16th century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe. The feast always occurs one week after the similar Byzantine celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, which most Eastern Orthodox Christians and Eastern Catholics celebrate on October 1 in memory of a 10th-century military victory which protected Constantinople against invasion after a reported Marian apparition. Pope Leo XIII was particularly devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary, producing 11 encyclicals on the subject of this feast and its importance in the course of his long pontificate. In the first of them, 1883's "Supremi Apostolatus Officio," he echoed the words of the oldest known Marian prayer (known in the Latin tradition as the "Sub Tuum Praesidium"), when he wrote, "It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troublous times to fly for refuge to Mary." "This devotion, so great and so confident, to the august Queen of Heaven," Pope Leo continued, "has never shone forth with such brilliancy as when the militant Church of God has seemed to be endangered by the violence of heresy … or by an intolerable moral corruption, or by the attacks of powerful enemies." Foremost among such "attacks" was the battle of Lepanto, a perilous and decisive moment in European and world history. Troops of the Turkish Ottoman Empire had invaded and occupied the Byzantine empire by 1453, bringing a large portion of the increasingly divided Christian world under a version of Islamic law. For the next hundred years, the Turks expanded their empire westward on land, and asserted their naval power in the Mediterranean. In 1565 they attacked Malta, envisioning an eventual invasion of Rome. Though repelled at Malta, the Turks captured Cyprus in the fall of 1570. The next year, three Catholic powers on the continent – Genoa, Spain, and the Papal States - formed an alliance called the Holy League, to defend their Christian civilization against Turkish invasion. Its fleets sailed to confront the Turks near the west coast of Greece on October 7, 1571. Crew members on more than 200 ships prayed the Rosary in preparation for the battle - as did Christians throughout Europe, encouraged by the Pope to gather in their churches to invoke the Virgin Mary against the daunting Turkish forces. Some accounts say that Pope Pius V was granted a miraculous vision of the Holy League's stunning victory. Without a doubt, the Pope understood the significance of the day's events, when he was eventually informed that all but 13 of the nearly 300 Turkish ships had been captured or sunk. He was moved to institute the feast now celebrated universally as Our Lady of the Rosary.

"Turkish victory at Lepanto would have been a catastrophe of the first magnitude for Christendom," wrote military historian John F. Guilmartin, Jr., "and Europe would have followed a historical trajectory strikingly different from that which obtained."

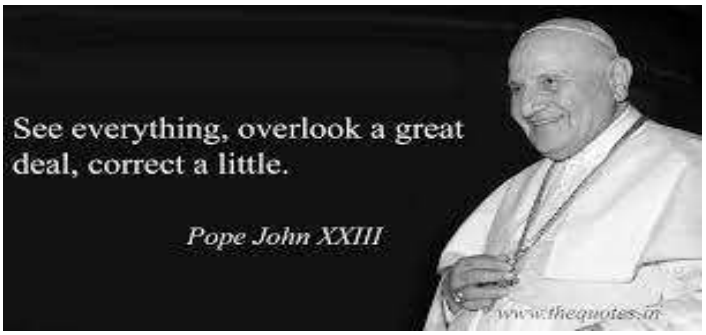
Wednesday, October 9, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Denis & Companions

About the middle of the 3rd century, six Bishops were sent to preach the faith in Gaul by Pope St. Fabian. One of these was St. Denis who brought the faith to Lutetia Parisiorum (the present Paris) and organized a church. In carrying our his duties as the first Bishop of Paris, he was aided by a priest named Rusticus and a deacon called Eleutherius.

So effective were these holy men in converting the people to Christ that the pagan priests became alarmed over their loss of followers. At their instigation, the Roman governor arrested the missionaries, and after a long imprisonment the three servants of God suffered martyrdom together at a place called Vicus Catulliacus, the present St. Denis, during the persecution of Decius (250) of Valerian (258). The site of their death provided the foundation for the Abbey of St. Denis which went on to become the burial place for the King of France. St. Denis is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers invoked for emergencies or afflictions.

Again, we have the case of a saint about whom almost nothing is known, yet one whose cult has been a vigorous part of the Church's history for centuries. We can only conclude that the deep impression the saint made on the people of his day reflected a life of unusual holiness. In all such cases, there are two fundamental facts: A great man gave his life for Christ, and the Church has never forgotten him—a human symbol of God's eternal mindfulness.

O God, who sent Saint Denis and his companions to preach your glory to the nations and strengthened them for their mission with the virtue of constancy in suffering, grant, we pray, that we may imitate them in disdaining prosperity in this world and in being undaunted by any trial. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Spirit, God, for ever and ever*. Amen*



Friday, October 11, 2024
The Feast of
Saint John XXIII

Pope Saint John XXIII was born Angelo Roncalli into a large, humble, rural family in a mountainous region of Northern Italy. He entered the local minor seminary at the age of eleven and persevered in his studies until his ordination in 1904. Angelo had the good fortune to know, serve, and study under a succession of well-educated pastors. Both his formal and informal Church-sponsored education created in him the winning combination of rustic common sense, broad historical vision, and cultural openness. His simple, but not simplistic, farm background, stellar education, profound life of prayer, and total immersion in the rich Catholic life and history of his native region formed and molded him into a great man. After his ordination, Father Roncalli became secretary to his bishop for almost ten years. He also edited a monthly journal, taught theology and history in the seminary, gave priestly guidance to various groups, and served as an army medic and military chaplain during World War I. His engaging personality and deep wisdom left a deep impression. He was, simply, an outstanding priest. In 1921 the Pope called him to Rome to serve the universal church in various roles, including as the Vatican representative in Bulgaria, Turkey, and Greece, and then as the Apostolic Nuncio to Paris near the end of WWII and beyond. In 1953 he was made a Cardinal and the Patriarch of Venice, and thus returned to some of the direct pastoral duties he loved so much. In October 1958 his knowledge and experience were placed at the service of the universal Church, when at the age of seventy-six he was elected pope. He surprised the world soon afterward by calling for an Ecumenical Council, the meeting of all the world's bishops that became known as Vatican II. As pope, he published some important social encyclicals, waded into the dawning theological debates of the Council, and then died in 1963, after reigning for only four and a half years. He had said that he wanted to be like Pope Saint Pius X—to be born poor and to die poor. In his last will and testament he left $20 to each of the surviving members of his family. It was all he had. John XXIII was canonized on the same day as Pope Saint John Paul II on April 27, 2014.

Welcome New Parishioners

We welcome those who registered in our parish during the month of September 2024.

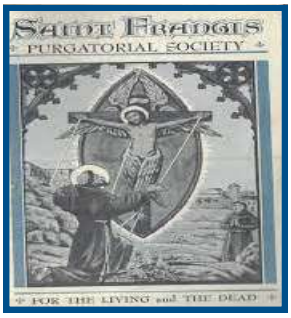
Hector & Lynn Marie Koblas
Andrew & Katerina Beaufort

Baptisms

We welcome those who were Baptized in our parish during the month of September 2024.

Alexander Jerome Sturman
Johana Santa Kubina
Victor Stephen Stupakevich-Pohila

Purgatorials



The following names have been enrolled in our Purgatorial Society for the month of September 2024. Please remember to continue to pray for their families.

Steven Hafner
Evelyn Lomando
Joseph D'Alessandro

Recently Deceased

The following have passed away during the month of September 2024. We continue to pray for the recently deceased members of our parish.

Vincenzo Ponzo
Petra Rodrigues
Maria Caputo
Lisa M. Acquista
Walter Budakowski
Nicola Cicolini
Christina Trivigno
Ciro Sciortino

We ask for your mercy and grace for them, and for all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and enjoy the fullness of your love and presence.

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, Madison Millett and Leonardo Di Marco.

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-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 6, 2024

"Whoever is not against us is for us."

Pray for Vocations

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

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.

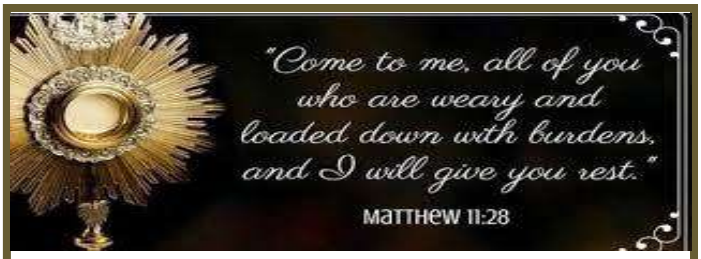
Vocations to the priesthood are needed throughout the country. Here in our own Diocese of Brooklyn, vocations are vital for the continuation of the Eucharist which is central to our lives as Catholics.

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.

FOCUS:

God desires for us to love and be loved as He loves.

From the very beginning, the Lord made us to not be alone: we were created for relationship with Him and with on another. There is something truly worthy of awe-*awesome*-in knowing that God, the Creator of the Universe and all things, desires for us to love and be loved, as He loves. We are not just His creation, we are His children. His only Son is our brother. The kingdom belongs to us, if we embrace it with the childlike wonder it deserves.



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. 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 to Our Church

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

Mass Attendance for September 28/29 , 2024:

5:00PM	68
8:00AM	44
9:30AM	124
11:00AM	78
12:30PM	38

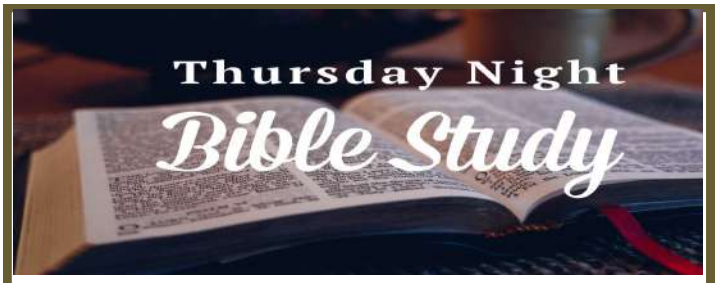
Total: 352

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.

Holy Name Society

On Sunday, October 13th, 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.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
(John 6:68)

The Gospel according to John

Dear SFA Friends and Family

We are delighted to offer a new year of scripture study at St. Francis of Assisi.

All are Invited … ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us on Thursday, October 10th, at 7:20-8:50pm in the St. Joseph room of the Rectory. This week's study will be from the Book of Signs, John 6.

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

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 9/28-9/29: $3,170.00

School parents must use church envelopes.

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!

Have an idea or question for our St. Francis of Assisi Parish Council?
Email us at
sfaparishcouncil@sfaacademy.org
We look forward to hearing from you!

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 September 4th, we have pledged $31,051.76 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, 30.22% of our parishioners have supported the appeal.

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

Msgr. Maresca

50/50 September 2024 Winners

First Prize
Ms. Diane Hubert

Second Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Elia Garcia

Third Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gavila

Congratulations!

Catholic Youth Organization
Children are at the heart of our mission

Weekend Soccer Scores

Due to the weather only one game was played this weekend.

On Sunday, September 29th, the Novice Boys played St. Luke and showcased their skills winning 8-0. Goals were scored by Giogio Marchesi (2), Matthew Coka (4), Ales Coka (1), and Adrian Norkunas (1).

The team showed their flexibility by playing multiple positions and worked on their skills

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

October 6-October 12

Sunday, October 6
9:30 Children's Liturgy
10:40AM-CCD
1:30PM-Blessing of the Animals

Monday, October 7
12:00-3:30PM Golden Age-MCH
3:00PM Children's Choir
7:00PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, October 8
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, October 9
3:00PM Drama Club-MCH
7:00PM-Baptism Class

Thursday, October 10
10:00AM—Legion of Mary
3:30PM Jiu Jitsu-MCH
6:00PM IACA
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, October 11

Saturday, October 12

NEXT WEEK

October 13-October 19

Sunday, October 13
9:30 Children's Liturgy
10:40AM-CCD

Monday, October 14
COLUMBUS DAY
Rectory Office & School Closed

Tuesday, October 15
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, October 16
3:00PM Drama Club-MCH

Thursday, October 17
10:00AM—Legion of Mary
3:30PM Jiu Jitsu-MCH
6:00PM IACA
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, October 18

Saturday, October 19

LECTOR & MINISTER SCHEDULE
OCTOBER 2024

	30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 5/6, 2024	31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 12/13, 2024	32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 19/20, 2024	33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 26/27, 2024
LECTOR				
5:00PM	Debbi Skinner	Dolores Ratkowski	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski
8:00AM	Andrew Soltesz	Andrew Soltesz	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella
9:30AM	Martha O'Toole	Maria Brooks	Patrick O'Toole	Josephine Corso
11:00AM	Jane Di Donato	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Carol Hickey
12:30PM	Maria Bruno	Jackie Macchia	Anna Maria Tenaglia	Anna Maria Del Carro
MINISTER				
5:00PM	Ray Conlon	_____	_____	Ray Conlon
8:00AM	Cindy Hirt	Connie Soltesz	_____	Maria Mistretta
9:30AM	_____	Theresa Mincone	_____	_____
11:00AM	_____	_____	Jane Esposito	_____
12:30PM	*Jackie Macchia*	*Anna Maria Tenaglia*	*Anna Maria Del Carro*	*Maria Bruno*

Growing in FAITH™

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

October 2024

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca V.F., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Teresa of Avila

Born in 1515, St. Teresa joined the Carmelites—over family objections—in 1535. Soon after, she became so ill that the sisters dug a grave for her. St. Teresa recovered and wrote a book on prayer called *The Interior Castle*, based on her suffering. In 1562, she founded a stricter order whose nuns wore rough brown habits and sandals instead of shoes. Despite initial resistance, she founded several convents of Discalced Carmelites and helped reform the Carmelite friars.

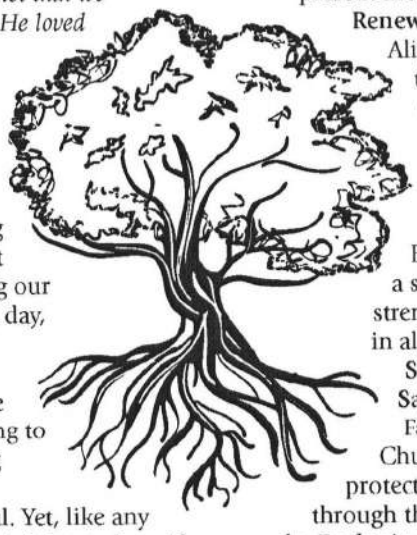
"I need all eternity to love them."

Jesus confided these words to Gabrielle Bossis referring to us. By spending time with God, we get vital graces and limitless love. God wants to spend all eternity with us. Can you give five minutes to Him today?

"Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people" (Psalm 125:1-2).

Holiness grows from deep roots in God's Love

God is crazy-in-love with each of us: *"In this is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us"* (1 John 4:10). Holiness begins when we accept His "crazy love" (John 15:9) and return it. We can do this by meeting God in the present moment, renewing our "Yes" to Him each day, and receiving the Sacraments:



Meet God in the "now." It's tempting to delay approaching God until life is wonderful or awful. Yet, like any loving parent, He delights to be with us always (Proverbs 8:31), even when life is messy, unfinished, or imperfect. He knows we can't change ourselves without His grace. Give Him your heart "as is," and receive the grace of the present moment.

Renew your "yes" daily. Aligning with God's teachings and Commandments, as revealed in Scripture, affirms our "yes" to Him, showing trust in His plan over our own. Beginning each day with a sincere "yes" in prayer strengthens us to say "yes" in all areas of life.

Stay close to the Sacraments. Living the Faith is a battle, and the Church encourages us to protect ourselves with grace through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist (in the Mass) and monthly Confession. In the Sacraments, God pours His grace and love into us, empowering us to share His love with others.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics wear saints' medals?

One way to recognize a Catholic is the crucifix or saint medal he or she may wear. Often blessed by a priest or deacon, these symbols represent the protection of God, Our Lady, or the saint depicted. Rather than being "good luck charms," they are sacramentals—consecrated objects meant to open the wearer's heart to God's grace. More than just adornments, they serve as constant, holy reminders to live out the values of the Catholic Faith in everyday life.

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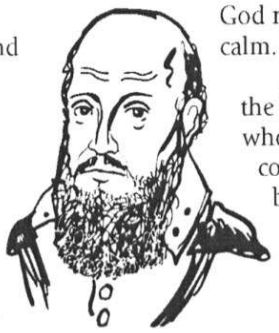
Advice on patience from a saint with a temper

St. Francis de Sales, usually known for his meekness and patience, also had a fiery temper, and struggled against it all his life. Here are his tried-and-true tips for staying patient in a bad moment:



Avoid speaking while angry. St. Francis said, "It is better to drive it away quickly than to start a discussion with it." Even if you're right, what is said in anger is rarely effective. Most of the time, you end up apologizing anyway.

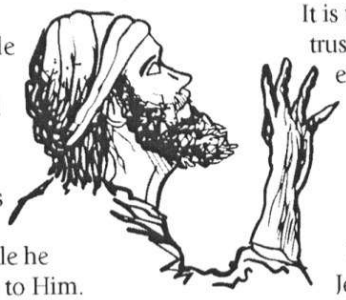
Regain self-control "quietly and simply." Only God never has "bad hair days." Focus on staying calm. Be patient with everyone, including yourself.

Prayer always helps. St. Francis said to call on the Lord as the apostles did in the storm. Jesus, who calmed the wind and the waves, "will command your passions to cease and there will be a great calm."

Apologize quickly. If your anger does get the better of you, offer an act of gentleness towards the person right away (or as soon as you're feeling better). The sooner, the better.

from Scripture — Mark 10:46-52, a blind man leads

Bartimaeus was a blind beggar who saw Jesus clearly. When he heard Jesus was near, he cried out, "Son of David," a title reserved for the Messiah. Although people tried to quiet him, Bartimaeus persisted until Jesus noticed him and called him over. Immediately, Bartimaeus threw off his cloak and ran to Jesus. Even the little he had was discarded to get to Him.



Bartimaeus stood before Jesus humbly, but he was confident that Jesus had the power to do whatever he asked. The only person in Mark's Gospel to call Jesus, "Master," Bartimaeus asked Jesus for his sight. When his prayer was answered, Bartimaeus followed Jesus as His disciple.

It is this faith, this profound trust, that Jesus wants to elicit from the crowd and from us. The difficulties of being Christian in the world can blind us to the joys of following Him. Like Bartimaeus, approach Jesus with excitement and humble confidence. When we throw off our fear and doubt, we become true disciples who can tackle the difficult task of leading others down the road to God.

Feasts & Celebrations

October 1 – St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1897). At the age of 15, Thérèse Martin became a Carmelite nun in Lisieux, France, and served others with "quiet acts of love." Her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, includes her "Little Way" to holiness in daily life.

October 2 – Feast of the Guardian Angels. All of us have a guardian angel, in charge of protecting us and watching over us. Remember to thank the Guardian Angels for the work they have done in helping us.

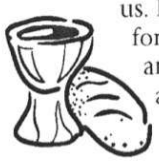
October 9 – St. Denis (258). Originally born in third-century Italy, St. Denis was sent with two companions, Rusticus and Eleutherius, to Christianize Gaul (modern day France). St. Denis became the first bishop of Paris. The three men were martyred by the pagan authorities for their success in converting souls to Christ.

October 18 – St. Luke the Evangelist (1st Century). St. Luke was a Christian physician from Antioch. His Gospel and Acts of the Apostles were probably written between 70AD and 85AD.

Q & A — How can I fully experience the Body and Blood of Christ at Communion?

God's grace is powerfully at work in this most accessible of Sacraments. To fully embrace this grace-filled experience, try these simple practices:

Prepare your heart. Just like medicine works best when taken correctly, being spiritually ready helps the Sacrament work more deeply in us. Dress respectfully, fast for one hour from food and drink, and confess any serious sins beforehand. These actions open us to fully receive this healing medicine for our souls.



Be real with God. If you're struggling, don't hold back. Talk to Him! Echo the words of Scripture, *"I believe; help my unbelief"* (Mark 9:24). God welcomes your honesty, doubts, and questions. Ask Him to reveal His love to you in a personal way.

Say "Thank you!" We're taught to thank a giver for a gift, even when it's not what we expected, because the real gift is the love behind it. At Mass, we receive Love Himself. Thank God for this life-changing gift, trusting that the joy of His presence will grow within you over time.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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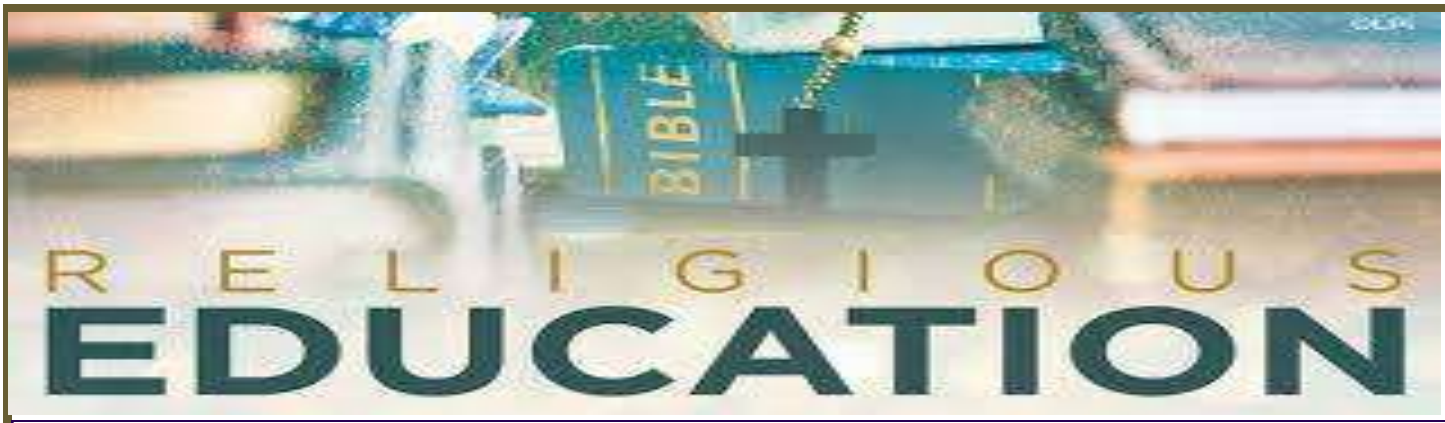
Fall Festival

THANK YOU to all who supported our Fall Festival. Even though the weather was not the best, we still had people who came out to support all our efforts.

I want to thank all our workers, who sacrificed their time in working at the Festival. I am so proud and appreciative of all you did. Your dedication is truly an expression of your love for our parish and academy. In particular I want to express my gratitude to Dominick Grimaldi for Chairing this year's Festival. He did a great job in making our Festival successful. Please know all of you are in my prayers.



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

APOSTOLATO ITALIANO
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Processione e Messa in onore di

Madonna del Rosario di Pompei

Messa celebrata da S. E. Mons. Nicholas DiMarzio,
Concelebrazione dai sacerdoti dell'Apostolato!
VENITE NUMEROSI!

20 ottobre 2024
Processione alle 3 pm - S. Messa alle 4 pm

Procession and Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii

Celebrated by
His Excellency Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio

October 20, 2024

Procession at 3 pm begins at St. Francis of Paola Church, 219 Conselyea St.
Mass at 4 pm at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 275 N 8th St.