Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, November 24 – Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

8:00 A.M. Michael Rieter
9:30 A.M. Francis Gauci
11:00A.M. Gloria Montell
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Nancy Manganaro
Cesare & Concetta De Grandis
Giuseppe & Concetta Saracini
The Ciccinetti Family
The Zulli Family
The Saracini Family

MONDAY, November 25– St. Catherine of Alexandria

9:00 A.M. John Finity

TUESDAY, November 26-Weekday

9:00 A.M. Baby Sonia Juliana Michael

WEDNESDAY, November 27-Weekday

9:00A.M. Edwin Stanley Walker
7:30P.M. Rocco De Grandis

THURSDAY, November 28–Weekday

9:00 A.M. The Kos Family

FRIDAY, November 29-Weekday

9:00 A.M. Joseph & Marie Salamone

SATURDAY, November 30– Saint Andrew Apostle

9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society

5:00P.M. Richard Mohr

SUNDAY, December 1- First Sunday of Advent

8:00 A.M. Michael Hosey
9:30 A.M. Lucy & Rocco Bova
11:00 A.M. Joseph Spiteri
12:30P.M. Rino Del Carro

Today's Readings

Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 1:5-8
John 18:33b-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters* again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' **(Joh 18:33-37)**

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Revelation 14:1-3; 4b-5
Luke 21:1-4

TUESDAY: Revelation 14:14-19
Luke 21:5-11

WEDNESDAY: Revelation 15:1-4
Luke 21:12-19

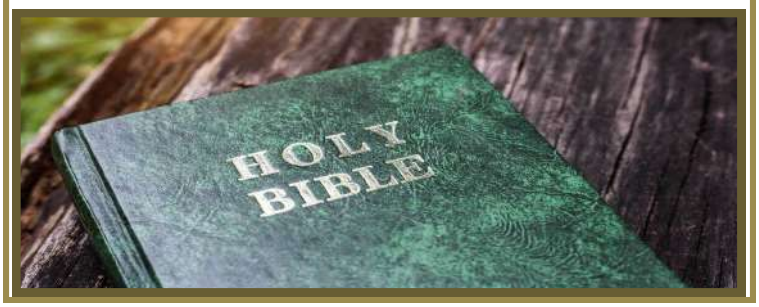
THURSDAY: Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3
Luke 21:20-28

FRIDAY: Revelation 20:1-4, 11-21:2
Luke 21:29-33

SATURDAY: Romans 10:9-18
Matthew 4:18-22

First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

The song *Hungry Heart* written by Bruce Springsteen, is a classic rock song that describes a fundamental aspect of the human heart. In short, each of us has a heart that is hungry and that yearns to be satisfied.

The question is, What will satisfy the hunger of our hearts? Perhaps, as we know all too well, the world offers us a host of substitutes: the accumulation of monetary wealth, the pursuit of fame, the acquiring of material things, or being continually entertained via the possibility of television, a computer or smart phone, video game system, or mp3 player- to name but a few. The list goes on. The satisfaction offered by these substitutes is fleeting, leaving one to simply want more.

So, if the things of this world fail to satisfy the hunger of our hearts to whom or what should we turn? The answer is found in turning to Jesus, who on this Solemnity of Christ the King is praised as the King of the Universe and the Lord of all creation. It is proper and fitting to refer to Jesus in this way for he is the Son of God, who, in humble obedience to the will of his Father and out of love for us, became one of us to gain our salvation.

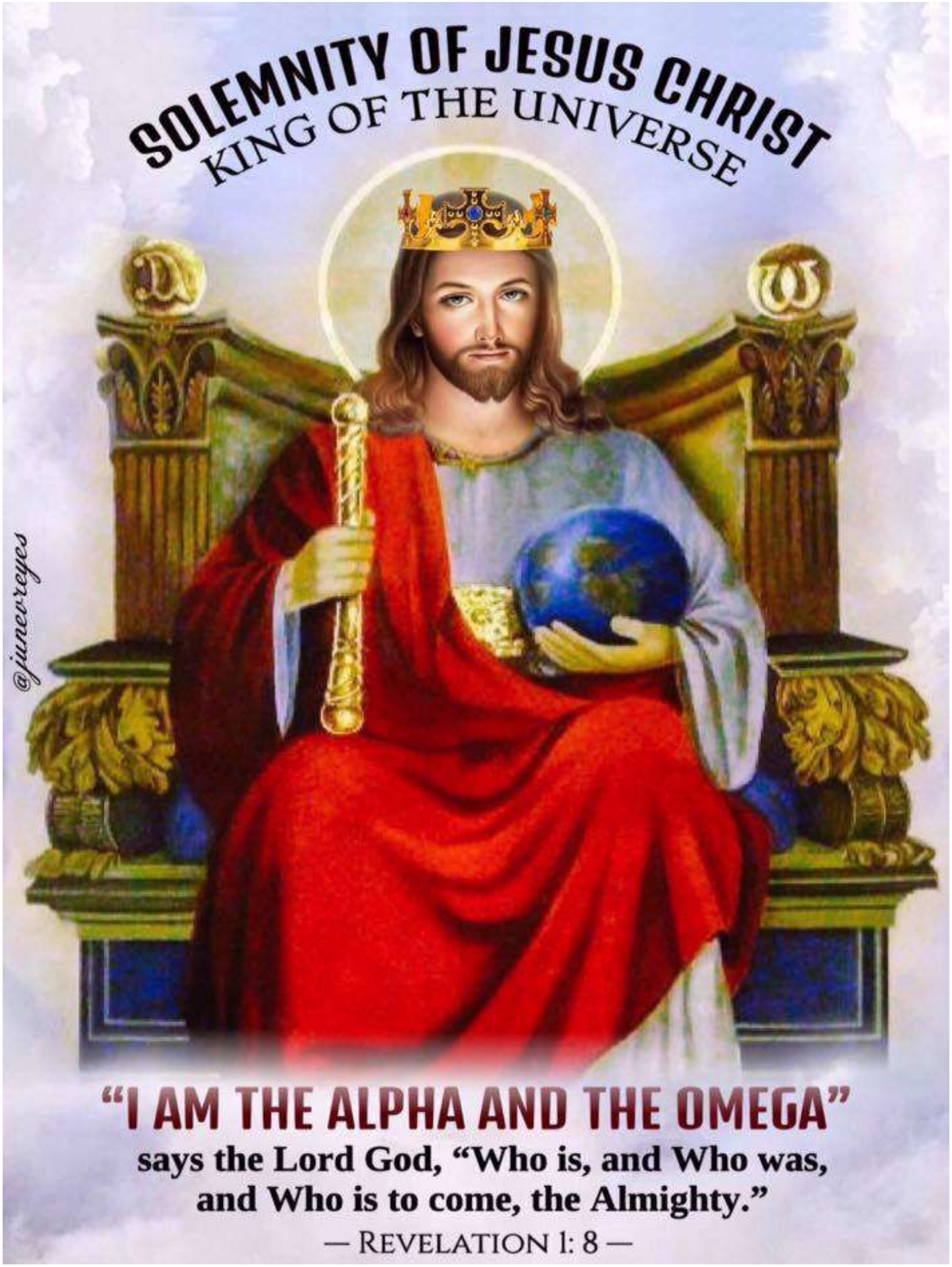
One of the primary ways that Jesus worked throughout his life to bring about our salvation was touched upon in today's gospel reading in one of the responses he gave to Pontius Pilate. As we heard, Jesus declared to Pontius Pilate that he came into this world to testify to the truth and that everyone who belongs to the truth listens to his voice. Jesus also testified to the truth in that the example of his life, and his teachings reveal the way one needs to live to be saved.

Ultimately, Jesus won our salvation in the manner that he had predicted. He willing gave his life on the Cross for the forgiveness of our sins. He was raised from the dead to destroy the power of death, sin, and evil and to open the way to eternal life. He then ascended into heaven where he is now enthroned as King of the Universe and Lord of all creation. He will one day return in glory to fully establish God's Kingdom over all the earth.

Though we know not the day nor the hour when Jesus will return in glory, let us open ourselves to him so his light and love may reign more fully in our hearts. Filled with Christ, our hearts may know more fully the love, peace, and joy for which they yearn and by which they are satisfied. Set free from the shackles of sin and doubt, we are able to give ourselves more fully to the work of helping to build up God's Kingdom on earth.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST
KING OF THE UNIVERSE

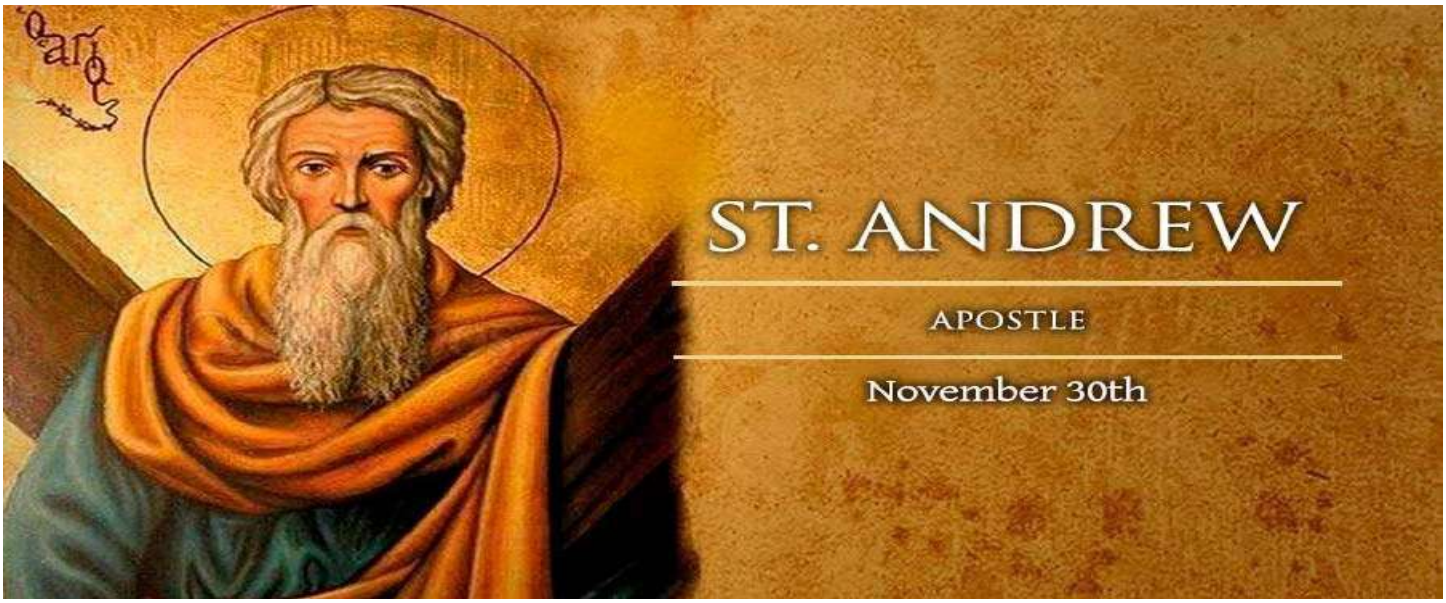


@junevreyes

"I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA"

says the Lord God, "Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come, the Almighty."

— REVELATION 1: 8 —



Saturday, November 30, 2024
The Feast of
St. Andrew the Apostle

"We have found the Messiah", expresses the great joy of the apostle Andrew. Those are the words we find in John's Gospel when Andrew rushes to meet his brother Simon Peter to tell him what he has discovered and to share his joy at being the first one called by Jesus. A fisherman from Bethsaida of Galilee and a disciple of John the Baptist, Andrew recognizes the "Lamb of God" in the son of Joseph the carpenter. The disciple recalled the time of this encounter at the Jordan river that would mark his life forever, "it was about four in the afternoon".

"Rabbi, where are you staying?" Jesus responded immediately to this question of Andrew and the other disciple, saying, "Come, and you will see". That clear invitation foreshadowed the following, more explicit call Jesus made on the shore of the Sea of Galilee to Simon, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men". The two disciples were still taken aback, but did not have any hesitation following Jesus, as the evangelist Matthew writes, "At once they left their nets and followed him".

From that first exchange with each other, a journey of faith began in following Jesus in his daily ministry. Andrew is one of the twelve apostles, whom the Son of God chose as one of his closest friends. He must have been amazed when he witnessed the multiplication of the loaves of bread and fish. Before the miracle, when he turned his gaze on the hungry crowds and saw only five loaves of bread and two fish, he asked "what good are these for so many?"

The preaching of the Good News continued tirelessly throughout Achaea and in Patras by around the year 60 AD. He was martyred there and crucified on a diagonal cross which he requested as a way to evoke the Greek initial used for the name of Christ. According to the Golden Legend, before giving his last breath, he was to have pronounced these words: "Cross, sanctified by the body of Christ. Good Cross, long desired always, I loved you and wished to embrace you. Welcome me and bring me to my master".

As in the case of all the apostles except Peter and John, the Gospels give us little about the holiness of Andrew. He was an apostle. That is enough. He was called personally by Jesus to proclaim the Good News, to heal with Jesus' power and to share his life and death. Holiness today is no different. It is a gift that includes a call to be concerned about the Kingdom, an outgoing attitude that wants nothing more than to share the riches of Christ with all people.

We Cordially Invite All of Our Parishioners to Celebrate Thanksgiving on Wednesday Evening, November 27th at 7:30P.M.

OR

Thursday, November 28th at the 9:00A.M. Mass

Please Note: At each Mass we will be collecting non-perishable goods to give to Marguerite's Pantry. Baskets will be in front of the sanctuary for you to place your goods. The collection taken up at each Mass will go to the St. Vincent DePaul Society to assist the poor and needy.

Thank you for your generosity.

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, Leonardo Di Marco and Michelle Yashita.

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.

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 24, 2024

"My kingdom does not belong to this world"

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

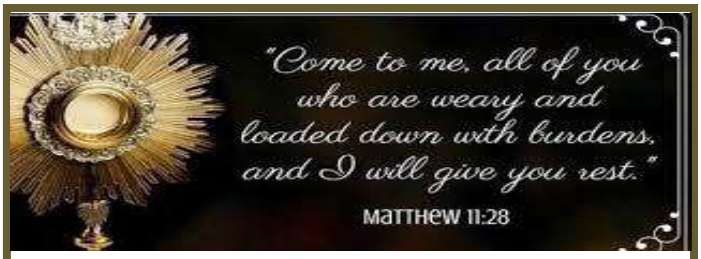
Parish Mission Statement

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 the King and Lord of all both now and forever.

The readings from Daniel and the Book of revelation share an apocalyptic vision of the Son of Man coming on the clouds to rule over all peoples. In John's Gospel, on the other hand, Jesus is already king. His everlasting authority comes from God. For His disciples - those who listen to His voice - eternal life is already possible.



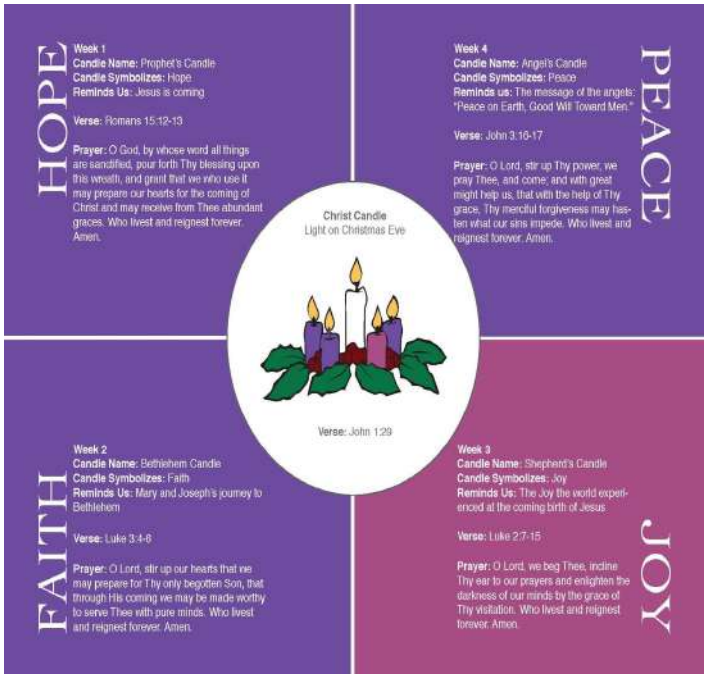
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 9:00AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00AM each morning, Monday through Saturday, giving parishioners an opportunity for private prayer before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:30AM the rosary will be prayed by parishioners. 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.

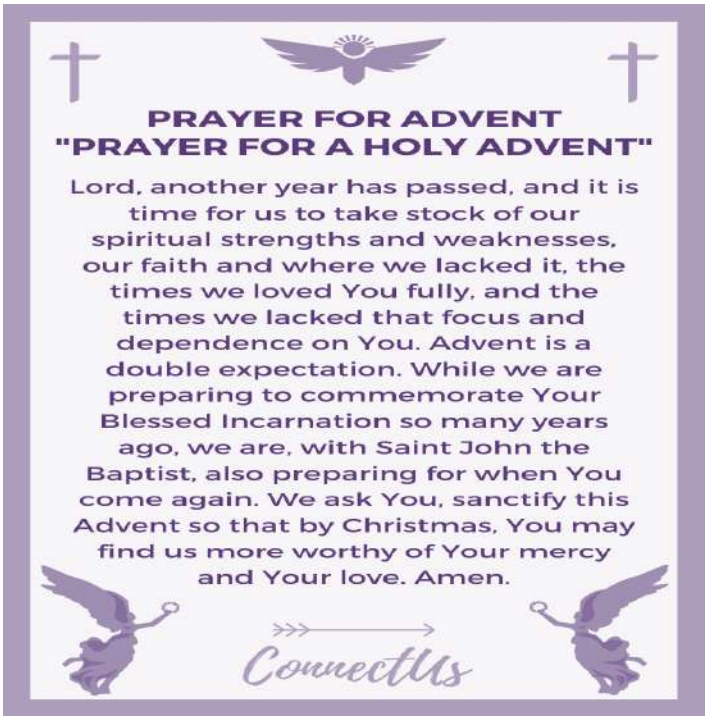
What a wonderful way to begin our day praying before the Blessed Sacrament in silence or praying the Holy Rosary.

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.

If anyone would like to memorialize the Advent Wreath Candles please stop by the Rectory.

The donation is $75.00 per candle.





The season of Advent will begin on the weekend of November 30th/ December 1st. It is a 4-week period of waiting and preparing for the feast of Christmas. During the Season of Advent, on of the beautiful signs we have in our church is the Advent Wreath. The wreath, which has 4 candles, is placed in the church and each week a candle is lit to remind us of our waiting and preparing for the birth of Christ.

This year, you are invited to be part of the candle lighting ceremony. You can sign up as a family or individually. The candle lighter(s) would sit toward the front of the church and at the beginning of each mass, the priest will call you up to light the candle(s) for that week of Advent.

There will be a sign in the back of the church this weekend. Any families, individuals or groups are invited to sign up at any of the masses to light the advent wreath. Please sign up for one of the weekend Masses to participate in the Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony.

Join us as we renew our desire, anticipation and hope for Christ's coming again.

Come Home to St. Francis of Assisi for Christmas

JOIN OUR PARISH FAMILY AS WE CELEBRATE MASS EACH WEEKEND

Masses: Vigil on Saturdays 5pm

Sunday: 8am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm (Italian)

Let us worship together and give thanks and praise to God.

Memorials for the Week of November 24, 2024

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Loving Memory of
Francis Gauci
Requested by
The Spiteri Family

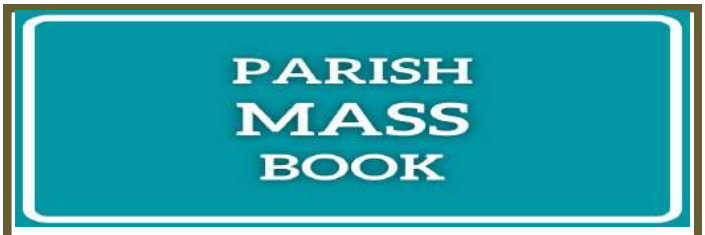
ALTAR FLOWERS

In Loving Memory of
John Finerty
Requested by:
The Finerty Family

Mass Attendance for November 23/24, 2024:

5:00PM	97
8:00AM	51
9:30AM	273
11:00AM	86
12:30PM	35

Total: 542



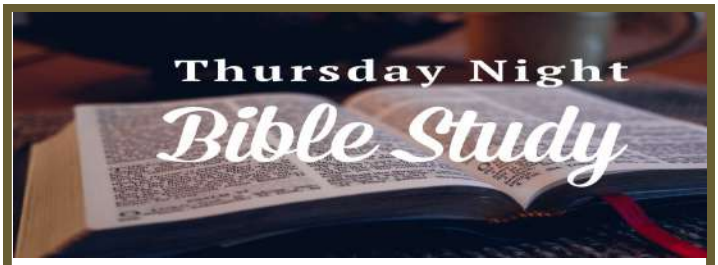
2025 Mass Book

The 2025 Mass Book is now open. Per Bishop Brennan's instructions, we will be taking Mass Intentions from January 1 to June 30, 2025.

All Announced Masses are $15.00
After July 1, 2025 Masses will be **$20.00**
Purgatorial Mass Cards are $30.00
Memorials (Altar Bread, Wine, Sanctuary Lamp and Altar Candles) are $75.00
Altar Flowers are $100.00

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.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures forever!"
(Psalm 118:1)

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Dear SFA Friends and Family

All are Invited … ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us on Thursday, December 5th, at 7:20-8:50pm in the St. Joseph room of the Rectory. This week's study will be from The Passion Narrative, John 19:38-21:25.

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 11/16-11/17	$5,473.00
2nd Collection—Human Development	*$ 713.00*

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!

Thank you so much to all our parishioners for showing your support of our Youth Group and the gratitude bracelets that were sold earlier this month. Because of your generosity we raised $427 to continue our mission and efforts with our youth. We are so grateful for your support.

Also, thank you to the following members of Youth Group who helped decorate the Advent Giving Trees in Church.

Valentina, Declan, Johnny, Ben, Mason, Siobhan, Sofia, Fiona and Colette.

Thank you for supporting Youth Group
Kara Clauss
Youth Minister

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 November 4th, we have pledged $33,411.76 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, 34.17% of our parishioners have supported the appeal.

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

Msgr. Maresca

Advent

A Season of Hope & Expectation

OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Adult classes have begun for those who need the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you need to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or need to be fully initiated into the Church (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) please call Sister Francesca Monday or Thursday, from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Her number is on the front of the bulletin.

Thank you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

November 24-November 30

Sunday, November 24
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40 CCD
1:30PM Baptism

Monday, November 25
12:00PM Golden Age Meeting
3:00PM Children's Choir
7:00PM Adult Choir

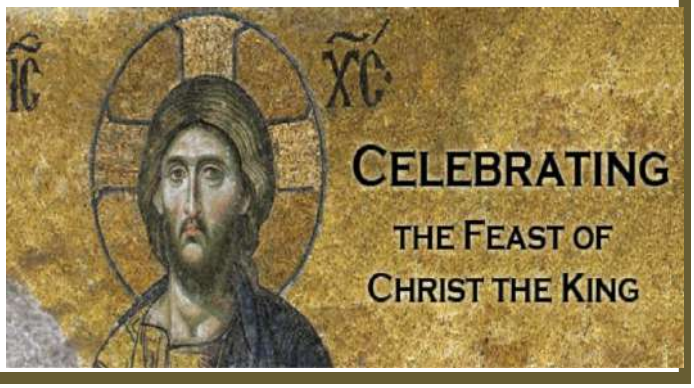
Tuesday, November 26
3:00PM SFA Singers
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, November 27
11:00AM—Thanksgiving School Mass
7:30PM-Thanksgiving Vigil Mass

Thursday, November 28
SCHOOL & RECTORY OFFICE CLOSECD
9:00AM Thanksgiving Mass

Friday, November 29
SCHOOL & RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, November 30



NEXT WEEK

December 1-December 7

Sunday, December 1

Monday, December 2
7:00PM HAA Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 3
3:00PM SFA Singers
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 4
3:00PM Drama Club

Thursday, December 5
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
6:00PM IACA
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, December 6

Saturday, December 7
9:00AM Anointing Mass
1:00PM Day of Prayer

DECEMBER 2024
LECTOR and MINISTER SCHEDULE

	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
	NOVEMBER 30 DECEMBER 1	DECEMBER 7-8	DECEMBER 14-15	DECEMBER 21-22	DECEMBER 28-29
LECTORS					
Saturday 5:00PM	Dolores Ratkowski	Debbi Skinner	Edward Kubina	Dolores Ratkowski	Debbi Skinner
Sunday 8:00AM	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella
Sunday 9:30AM	Josephine Corso	Martha O'Toole	Maria Brooks	Josephine Corso	Patrick O'Toole
Sunday 11:00AM	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Jane Di Donato	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey
Sunday 12:30PM	Anna Marie Del Carro	Jackie Machia	Anna Maria Tenaglia	Concetta D'Angelo	Maria Bruno
MINISTERS					
Saturday 5:00PM					
Sunday 8:00AM	Sharon Costanza				Mininster Needed
Sunday 9:30AM	Theresa Mincone				
Sunday 11:00 AM		Kelsey Mistretta	Jane Esposito	Kelsey Mistretta	Jane Esposito
Sunday 12:30 PM		Antonella Tomosella	Giuseppina Sferazza	Nicolette Cosentino	

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

Join the Junior Legion of Mary Our Lady of Grace

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

21-17 45 TH Street, Astoria , New York 11105

Open to all children ages 7-17 and all schools. The Junior Legion of Mary is information. One hour, one day a week after school; all parents are welcome.

If you are interested please contact Marybeth at the rectory at (718) 728-7801. Please leave the name of parent, the name of the child and the child's grade and contact information. Objective; to enrich spiritual life and serve Jesus through Mary.

If you are 18 or above, you are welcome to join the Adult Legion of Mary. We meet every Thursday, at 10;00 o'clock in the rectory basement In the St Francis of Assisi room.

Save the Date

October 19th ,2025

95th Anniversary Celebration

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Come celebrate
"95 Years of Faith and Family"

Join us as we honor
Mrs. Maria Bruno and Mr.& Mrs. Phil Mincone

Our celebration begins at the 9:30 Family Mass and continues with a Dinner Dance at Russo's on the Bay!

RUSSO'S ON THE BAY

Contact Co Chairs: Nancy Annunziata, Nannunziata@sfaacademy.org or Maria Kyriakopoulos, MKyriakopoulos@sfaacademy.org for additional information.

Advent Giving Trees

The Advent Giving Trees have been setup in the front and back of church and decorated with colored Tags.

Each color Tag identifies the charity that will receive the gifts.
Please tape the Tag to the ***unwrapped*** gift purchased and place it under the Giving Tree before or after any one of the Masses.

Yellow Tags—Catholic Charities
Blue Tags— Hour Children
Green Tags—Marguerite's Pantry
Purple Tags—Transfiguration

ALL GIFTS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024.

We thank you for always being so generous and helping.

Oh Holy Night

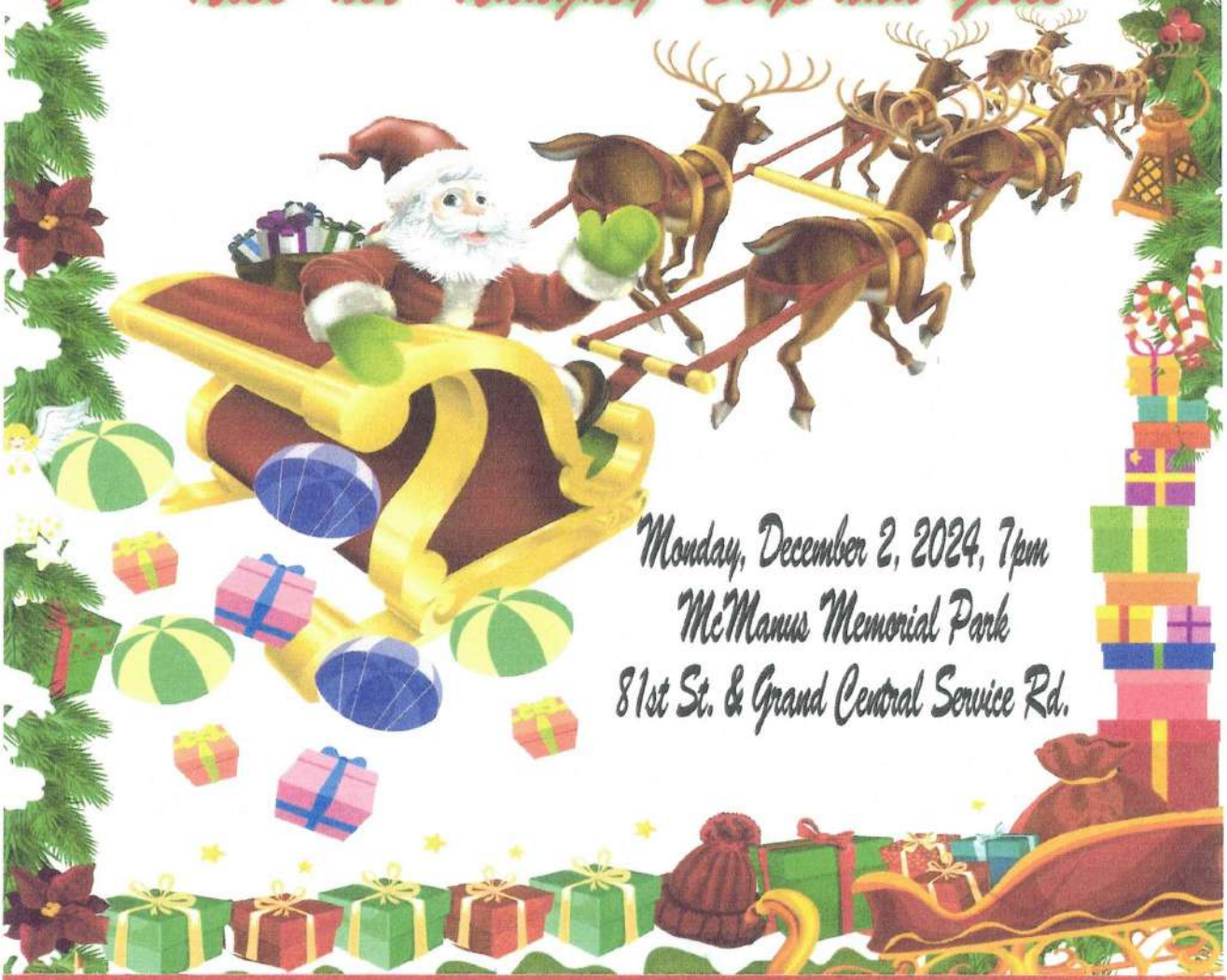
Join Us on Saturday,
December 21st at 2:00 pm
Christian World Center
722 Deer Park Avenue, Dix
Hills NY

Ticket Price $150.00 includes Transportation, Show, and Dinner. Don't hesitate to contact Giuseppina Sferazza at (718) 808-2097 or Maria Bruno (917)943-7156. Only 40 tickets available. Tickets are non-refundable! All money is due the latest December 1st, 2024

United Community Civic Association

HO! HO! HO!

Santa Has Christmas Presents For All "Nice" not "Naughty" Boys and Girls



Monday, December 2, 2024, 7pm
McManus Memorial Park
81st St. & Grand Central Service Rd.

Rain Date: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 At 7 PM