Second Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 A.M. Holy Name
9:30 A.M. Antonio Carlino
11:00A.M. The Szetela Family
12:30 P.M. Rino Del Carro
Giuseppe Carlino
Eleona & Libera Manocchio
Angela & Antonio Iadovito

MONDAY, December 9–Immaculate Conception of the Blessed
9:00 A.M. Florence Drob
11:00 A.M. John Carver
7:30 P.M. Amanda Servevio

TUESDAY, December 10-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Margaret Ferrante

WEDNESDAY, December 11-Weekday
9:00A.M. Esperanza Eiaw

THURSDAY, December 12–Our Lady of Guadalupe
9:00 A.M. Nina Bassar

FRIDAY, December 13-Saint Lucy
9:00 A.M. Maria Taraskiewicz

SATURDAY, December 14-Saint John of the Cross
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Matthew M. Karcic

5:00P.M. Lazar Kcira

SUNDAY, December 15– Third Sunday of Advent
8:00 A.M. James & Josephine Hosey
9:30 A.M. The Dudek Family
11:00 A.M. Bridgit Xanthos
12:30P.M. Rino Del Carro
Fillipo Calogera
Maria Volpe

Today's Readings

Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

(In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas,[a] the word of God came to John[b] the son of Zechariah in the desert. He went throughout [the] whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,"A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" **Luke 3:1-6)**

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Genesis 3:9-15, 20
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
Luke 1:26-38

TUESDAY: Isaiah 40:1-11
Matthew 18:12-14

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 40:25-31
Matthew 11:28-30

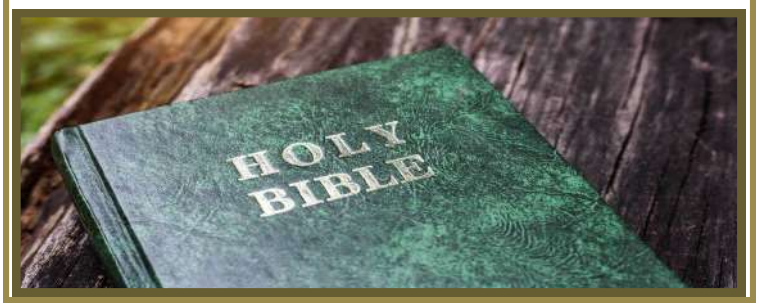
THURSDAY: Zechariah 2:14-17
Luke 1:26-38

FRIDAY: Isaiah 48:17-19
Matthew 11:16-19

SATURDAY: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

Many of us may be living lives that are full but not fulfilling. We may be overwhelmed with responsibilities and worries, consumed by busyness, clutter, or the complex demands society places upon us. What we really yearn for is peace, hope, courage, and simplicity.

We are in the holy season of Advent that unfortunately has been overrun by consumerism. There are many adult children struggling over what to buy for parents, who at this point in their lives, have just about every imaginable object, gadget, trinket, or collectible. There are others who will be buying gifts for those whose toy boxes, closets, and garages are already stuffed full.

Indeed, many people feel trapped by possessions, time, and work. The more possessions they have, the less time they have for themselves and others because of the pressure to get more possessions. This might be a good time to take a few moments of silence, of reflection, and ask ourselves if this is really what we want to keep on doing? There are, no doubt, many who feel that there is a better way to observe this Advent season of waiting and preparing.

Today many people are seeking a spirituality that will free them from the need to have more. It is a spirituality that returns the most precious gift of all: the gift of time! It is a spirituality that gives them a sense of freedom-to free oneself of the desire for more stuff, to have time for others; to have time for service in the parish and community; to have time for family; to have time to nourish one's own spiritual life. Basically, many of us desire to have time for all those things that are the marks of a free person.

These can be encouraging thoughts as we move through the Advent season to the celebration of Christmas. We hear from the Scripture accounts of people like John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah, and Joseph; people whose lives were incredibly simple but seemingly fulfilled. Can we hear the message these people of faith are saying to us across two thousand years of history? *It is in Christ that we are fulfilled.*

Let us turn now to the Lord's table and realize that it is set with the simplest of gifts: bread to be broken, wine to be share. We profess to see in them the richest of all gifts-communion with our God, a sacrament of unity and peace. From this table may we learn the wisdom of this Advent season: that life is fulfilled when it is filled with the gift of God's love for us.

All God's Blessings of the Advent Season,
Msgr. Maresca

Monday, December 9, 2024
The Feast of
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

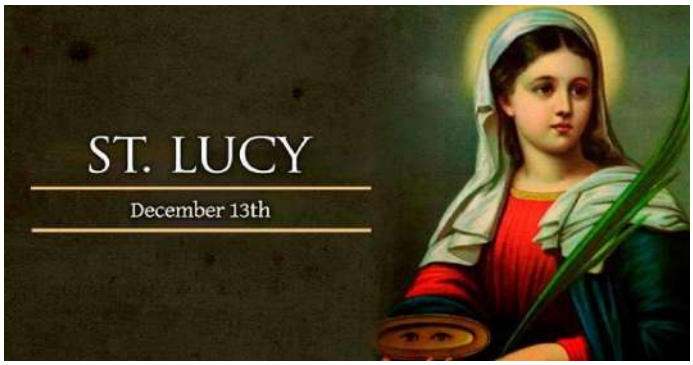
O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, did prepare a worthy dwelling place for your Son, we beseech you that, as by the foreseen death of this, Your Son, You did preserve Her from all stain, so too You would permit us, purified through Her intercession, to come unto You. Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

Join Us for Mass at St. Francis of Assisi
9:00AM, 11:00AM
and 7:30PM

Thursday, December 12, 2024
The Feast of
Our Lady of Guadalupe

With bowed head, brown skin, and wearing a blue-green robe studded with stars, Our Lady of Guadalupe is instantly recognizable and one of the most iconic images associated with Catholicism. Despite the widespread fame of this Marian apparition, its origins are quite humble and deeply connected to the identity of indigenous people in Mexico and beyond. The story begins 490 years ago in 1531 in Mexico City, a New World metropolis recently conquered by the Spanish. Juan Diego, an indigenous man who had converted to Christianity, would make regular visits to a Franciscan mission for religious education, typically passing by Tepeyac Hill. On the morning of December 9, as he walked past the hill, the Virgin Mary appeared before him with a message: Request that the bishop have a chapel built in her name in this location as a place for those in need to pray for her intercession. After two more Marian apparitions—and a demand for proof from Bishop Juan de Zum√°rraga—on December 12, Juan once again encountered Our Lady, who uttered these famous words: "Am I not here, I who am your mother? " She instructed Juan to gather flowers, and when he did, she arranged them in his *tilma*, or cloak. When Juan returned to tell Bishop Zum√°rraga about this latest encounter, he opened his tilma, the flowers fell onto the floor before the prelate, and emblazoned upon Juan's cloak was an image of the Virgin Mary. Being the culmination of the four Marian appearances to Juan Diego, December 12 is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Built with heavy stone in the style of churches of that era, the old basilica slowly began to sink and become unstable, due to Mexico City being built on a dried-out lake bed. The second basilica, built to handle the fluctuating earth underneath, opened its doors in 1976. The original tilma worn by Juan Diego is on display in the new basilica. Well before the construction of the basilicas, the site was already venerated as a place of pilgrimage, even dating back to the year of the apparitions themselves—1531. Now it is the most visited Catholic pilgrimage site in the world, and the third most visited sacred site across all religions. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, around 10 million people visited the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe each year Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. In the context of the sometimes rude and cruel treatment of the Indians by the Spaniards, the apparition was a rebuke to the Spaniards and an event of vast significance for the indigenous population. While a number of them had converted before this incident, they now came in droves. According to a contemporary chronicler, nine million Indians became Catholic in a very short time. In these days when we hear so much about God's preferential option for the poor, Our Lady of Guadalupe cries out to us that God's love for and identification with the poor is an age-old truth that stems from the Gospel itself.



Friday, December 13, 2024
The Feast of
Saint Lucy

Every little girl named Lucy must bite her tongue in disappointment when she first tries to find out what there is to know about her patron saint. The older books will have a lengthy paragraph detailing a small number of traditions. Newer books will have a lengthy paragraph showing that there is little basis in history for these traditions. The single fact survives that a disappointed suitor accused Lucy of being a Christian, and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. But it is also true that her name is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer, geographical places are named after her, a popular song has her name as its title, and down through the centuries many thousands of little girls have been proud of the name *Lucy*. One can easily imagine what a young Christian woman had to contend with in pagan Sicily in the year 300. If you have trouble imagining, just glance at today's pleasure-at-all-costs world and the barriers it presents against leading a good Christian life. Her friends must have wondered aloud about this hero of Lucy's, an obscure itinerant preacher in a far-off captive nation that had been destroyed more than 200 years before. Once a carpenter, he had been crucified by the Romans after his own people turned him over to their authority. Lucy believed with her whole soul that this man had risen from the dead. Heaven had put a stamp on all he said and did. To give witness to her faith she had made a vow of virginity. What a hubbub this caused among her pagan friends! The kindlier ones just thought her a little strange. To be pure before marriage was an ancient Roman ideal, rarely found, but not to be condemned. To exclude marriage altogether, however, was too much. She must have something sinister to hide, the tongues wagged. Lucy knew of the heroism of earlier virgin martyrs. She remained faithful to their example and to the example of the carpenter, whom she knew to be the Son of God. She is the patroness of eyesight.

Saturday, December 14, 2024
The Feast of
Saint John of the Cross

Ordained a Carmelite priest in 1567 at age 25, John met Teresa of Avila and like her, vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. As partner with Teresa and in his own right, John engaged in the work of reform, and came to experience the price of reform: increasing opposition, misunderstanding, persecution, imprisonment. He came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God. Yet, the paradox! In this dying of imprisonment John came to life, uttering poetry. In the darkness of the dungeon, John's spirit came into the Light. There are many mystics, many poets; John is unique as mystic-poet, expressing in his prison-cross the ecstasy of mystical union with God in the *Spiritual Canticle*. But as agony leads to ecstasy, so John had his *Ascent to Mt. Carmel*, as he named it in his prose masterpiece. As man-Christian-Carmelite, he experienced in himself this purifying ascent; as spiritual director, he sensed it in others; as psychologist-theologian, he described and analyzed it in his prose writings. His prose works are outstanding in underscoring the cost of discipleship, the path of union with God: rigorous discipline, abandonment, purification. Uniquely and strongly John underlines the gospel paradox: The cross leads to resurrection, agony to ecstasy, darkness to light, abandonment to possession, denial to self to union with God. If you want to save your life, you must lose it. John is truly "of the Cross." He died at 49—a life short, but full.

John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: "of the Cross." The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery—through death to life—strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet, and theologian-priest.

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, Rick Simonsen, Aubrey Madden, Madison Millett, Leonardo Di Marco and Michelle Yashita and the Polychronakis Family & Victor Di Donato.

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.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

"Like a shepherd, He feeds His flock"

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

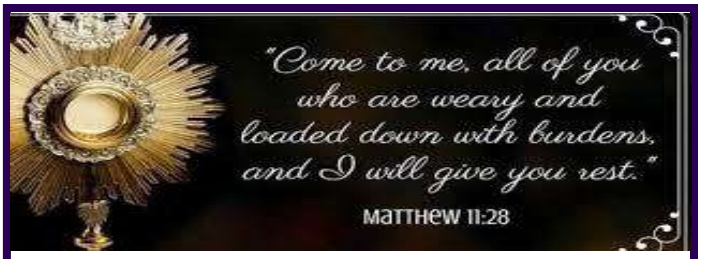
Parish Mission Statement

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:

We are made *pure and blameless* through Jesus Christ.

When the path to salvation feels rocky, we can be assured that God will lower mountains and level depths to lead the faithful into His glory. This holy season, we rejoice to be remembered by God because He draws near and unites Himself to us through Emmanuel—God with us.



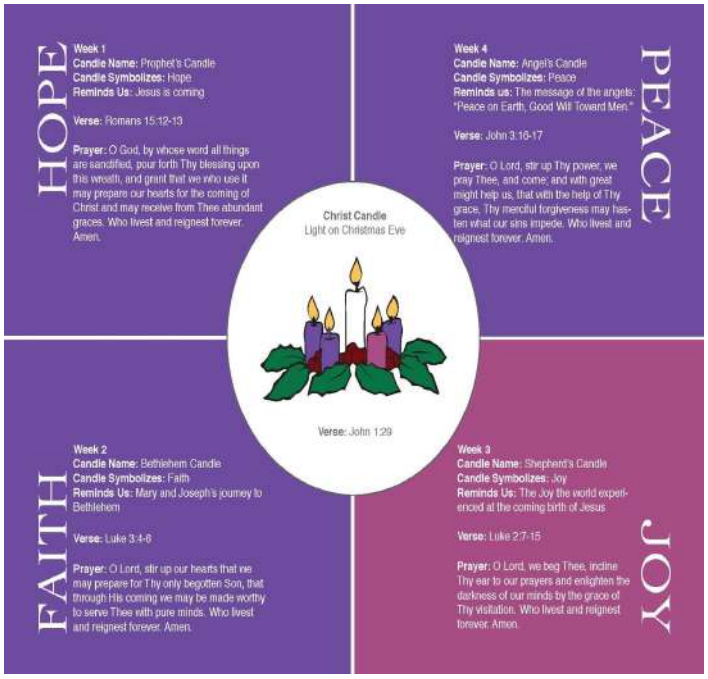
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 9:00AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00AM each morning, Monday through Saturday, giving parishioners an opportunity for private prayer before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:30AM the rosary will be prayed by parishioners.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

ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

The Advent Wreath Candle will burn in memory of :

Rose & Denis Sweeney
Lucia, Ralph & Donny Borgia

December 8: 2nd Sunday of Advent

In a world often marked by turmoil, we yearn for Your gift of peace. May Your peace dwell in our hearts, bringing calm to our troubled spirits and foster unity and community.

We pray for those who are burdened by conflicts, both near and far. During unrest and uncertainty, we ask for Your guidance and grace to be a beacon of peace to those in need. Amen.

Help us to remember that the birth of Your Son, Jesus, represents the ultimate gift of peace to the world. In His light, may we find the path to reconciliation, understanding and harmony.

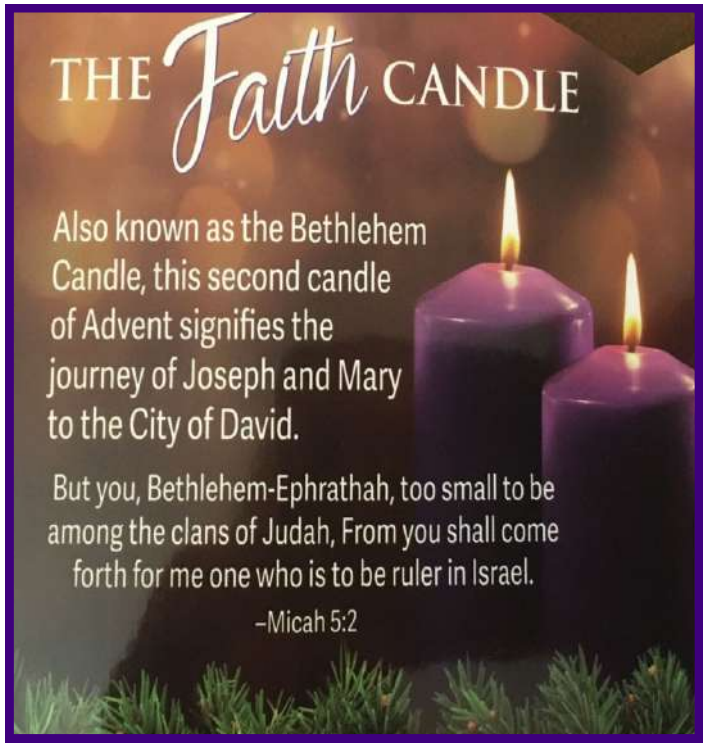
We wait along this path. We wait in hope. Amen.

Memorials for the Week of December 8, 2024

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Loving Memory of
Joseph Spiteri

Requested by
The Spiteri Family



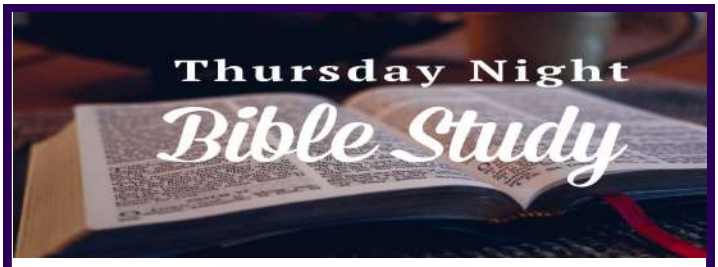
Monday, December 16th, is
Reconciliation Monday.
Confessions will be heard from
3:00-5:00PM
6:00-8:00PM.

All are encouraged to make use of the wonderful Sacrament to experience the Mercy of God.

Mass Attendance for
November 30/December 1, 2024:

5:00PM	91
8:00AM	45
9:30AM	88
11:00AM	83
12:30PM	50

Total: 357



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God" (John 1:11)

The Gospel according to John

Dear SFA Friends and Family

Join us on Thursday, December 12th, at 7:20-8:50pm in the St. Joseph room of the Rectory. This meeting will conclude our study of the Gospel According to John, We will begin a new study in January on the Gospel Letters written by James, Peter and Jude.

All are Invited … ALL ARE WELCOME!

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.

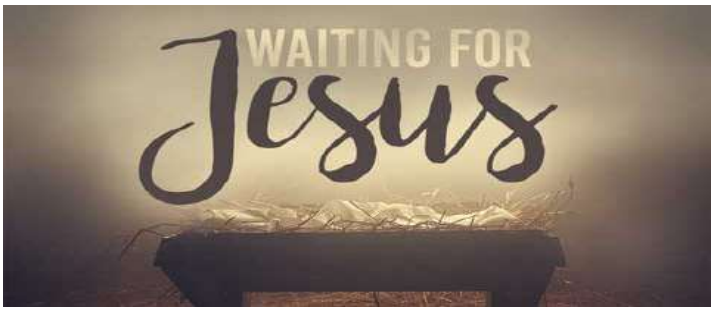
Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture

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 can be found on the front of the bulletin.

Thank you.



Christmas Tree Lighting

Our parish Christmas tree will be lit after the 5:00PM Mass on Saturday, December 21st.
This year pushing the button to light our tree will be Alice Santelli.

Please join us for this festive celebration.

Parish Office Schedule

Saturday, December 21st– 9:00AM to 2:00PM

Tuesday, December 24th–Close at 5:00PM
Wednesday December25th Closed
Thursday, December 26th –Closed
Friday, December 27th–TBD

The office will be open on Saturday, December 28th 9:00AM-2:00PM

Please Note: There will be no evening hours on December 24th, 30th and 31st.

Wednesday, January 1st–Closed

The Rectory will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd at 9:00am.

Please Note: There will be no evening hours on January 2nd.

Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 6, 2025.

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 Parish Weekly Offering

Thank you for your continued generosity of giving each week. Your weekly offering helps us pay our monthly bills.

Sunday 11/30-12/1	**$2,909.00**
Thanksgiving	***$1,170.00***

School parents must use church envelopes.

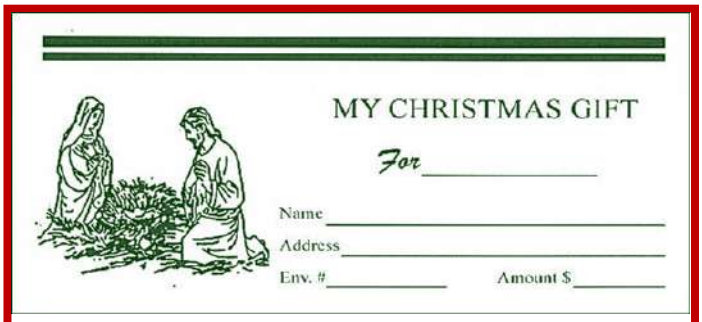
50/50 November 2024 Winners

First Prize
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonsus Conlon

Second Prize
Mrs. Antonio Bruno

Third Prize
Ferdinando Prete

Congratulations!



Next weekend, December 14th and 15th, the second collection will be for My Christmas Gift to My Church.

In the past, you have been most generous in supporting our parish and the many programs and services we offer. God has blessed us in so many wonderful ways. We have received many gifts, but the BEST gift we have been given is the gift of JESUS.

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

Christmas Flower Envelopes can be returned in any collection. Please be sure to write the name(s) legibly. The list of names will be printed in the Bulletin. Thank you.

Christmas Mass Remembrance Envelopes can be returned in any collection. Please mark the envelope with the name(s) of those you want remembered, living or deceased, in the Christmas Novena of Masses. Those envelopes will be placed on the altar for the Novena of Masses.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

December 8-December 14

Sunday, December 8
8:00Am Holy Name
9:30AM Pre-Communion Banner Mass
10:40 CCD

Monday, December 9
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION-SOLEMNITY
Masses at 9:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:30PM
12:00PM Golden Age
7:00PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, December 10
3:00PM SFA Singers
6:30PM-AA Meeting

Wednesday, December 11
3:00PM Drama Club
6:00PM Girl Scout Caroling
7:00PM Baptism Class

Thursday, December 12
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
1:00PM 3K Winter Celebration
3:30PM Jiu Jitsu
6:00PM IACA
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, December 13
1:00PM PreK Winter Celebration

Saturday, December 14
10:00AM Pancakes & PJ,s

NEXT WEEK

December 15-December 21

Sunday, December 15
9:30AM-Children's Liturgy
9:30AM Pre-Confirmation Name Mass
10:40 CCD

Monday, December 16
3:00PM Children's Choir
7:00PM Adult Choir

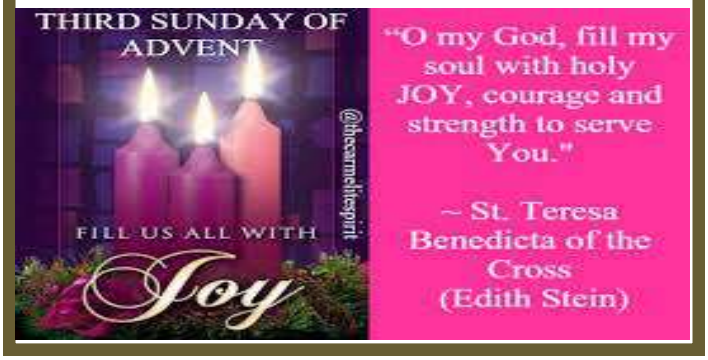
Tuesday, December 17
6:30PM-AA Meeting
6:30PM Christmas Show-MCH

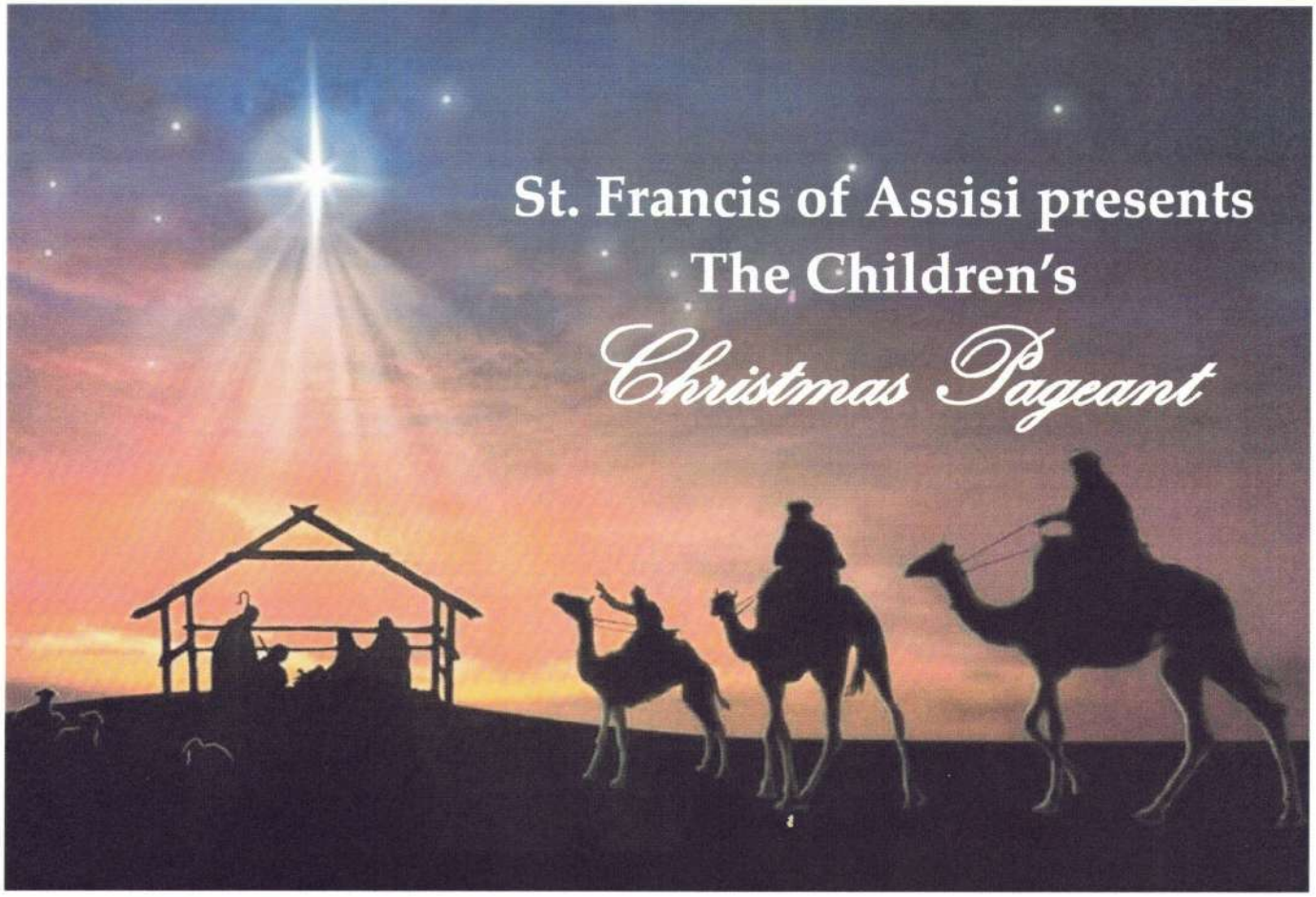
Wednesday, December 18

Thursday, December 19
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
6:00PM IACA-Christmas Party
6:30PM-Christmas Show-MCH

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21
Parish Christmas Tree Lighting after 5:00PM Mass





Pageant Performed at Christmas Eve Family Mass
Celebrated by Bishop Robert Brennan
December 24th at 4:00pm

If you would like your child to take part in this special liturgy, please email Mr. Dan Higgins at DHiggins@sfaacademy.org by **Monday, December 9, 2024**

Make sure to leave your child's name, grade & parent's cell number.

We are also in need of narrators (Grade 6 and above) for our pageant.

REHEARSALS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 3 - 4:00pm

Wednesday December 18, 2024 3 - 4:00pm

All school age children, including Pre-K 3 and 4 year-olds, are welcomed to participate!

Rehearsals will be held in the church.

"And you will have joy and gladness; and many will rejoice at His birth"

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

Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **December** Light the first violet candle in the Advent wreath, symbolizing Hope. Reflect on God's faithfulness and the hope of salvation. (See 1 Peter 3:15 for inspiration.)	2 How will you draw closer to Christ during Advent? Will you deepen your faith through intentional prayer, heartfelt penance, generous almsgiving, or a renewed focus on the Sacraments?	3 Practice the Heroic Minute as proposed by St. Josemaría Escrivá. Get out of bed immediately when you wake (don't press the "snooze" button) and offer the day to God.	4 Set out the stable and the empty manger from your Nativity scene. Slowly add the figures throughout Advent.	5 Advent is a busy time for Catholic parishes. Call or email your parish office and ask how you can help.	6 Attend First Friday Mass, in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart. Pray, "O Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours." And He will.	7 Perform a thorough examination of conscience today. Then attend Confession to ready your soul to greet the Savior.
8 Light two violet candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sit in silence and enjoy the quiet. Read Luke 2:1-7.	9 *Immaculate Conception* God preserved Mary from sin to be Jesus' mother. Attend Mass and pray a Rosary in her honor.	10 A loving gaze is one of the kindest gifts we can offer. Today, Look at everyone through eyes of compassion and kindness, letting love illuminate each encounter.	11 Ask Jesus to heal whatever keeps you from experiencing God's bountiful love.	12 *Our Lady of Guadalupe* To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase and pray for expectant mothers.	13 St. Francis de Sales said, "Have patience with all things, but... chiefly with yourself." Practice patience with everyone today, especially yourself.	14 Gather friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling at a nursing home or homeless shelter.
15 *Gaudete Sunday* Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy to mark the halfway point of Advent.	16 Reach out to your parish office to find out how you can make Christmas brighter for a family in need. Your kindness could be their Christmas miracle.	17 Put a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ Child. Light it every night until Christmas.	18 Today, offer a small sacrifice out of love, just for God.	19 Visit the Blessed Sacrament, where Jesus promises to remain with us (Matthew 28:20). Renew your faith in His steadfast love.	20 Refusing to forgive can destroy our interior peace. Ask for the grace to let go and move on.	21 The King is coming! Tidy up your home and prepare to welcome Him.
22 Light all four candles in the wreath, including the last one for peace. Remember we are awaiting Christ and the peace He brings to those faithful to Him (Luke 2:14).	23 Read Luke 2:1-19 and decide how you can make room in your heart for Christ. What steps will you take to welcome His presence and live out His love each day?	24 Meditate on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary or pray Evening Prayer tonight to ready your heart for the birth of the Messiah.	25 *Rejoice!* Place the Christ Child in the manger and rejoice!	*"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn"* (Luke 2:1-7).		

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Worship Schedule

Confessions- Monday, December 16th
3:00-5:00PM
6:00-8:00PM

Saturday, December 21st
4:00-4:30PM

Schedule of Masses

Christmas Eve-Tuesday, December 24th

9:00AM
4:00PM ~ Family Mass
6:00PM ~ Christmas Mass

Christmas Day-Wednesday, December 25th

8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM & 12:30PM (Italian)

New Year's Eve -Tuesday, December 31st

9:00AM and 5:00PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day-Wednesday, January 1st

9:00AM & 11:00AM

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.

You can take part in decorating St. Francis of Assisi Church by memorializing a Christmas wreath during the Christmas season.

Wreaths will adorn the walls inside of the church and fences outside that surround the Church.

Small messages of dedication will be attached to each wreath.

ie: In Loving Memory of Jane Doe

Donations required to memorialize a wreath:

Outdoor Christmas Wreath:	***$65***
Indoor Christmas Wreaths:	***$80***

Payments should be submitted to the rectory by December 10, 2024

Friends of RADIO MARIA New York

(718)417-0550
Anna Maria (347)448-1136

Siete tutti invitati ad una

GIORNATA DI SPIRITUALITA'

SABATO 14 DICEMBRE, 2024
10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Sara' una giornata di preghiera e di riflessione in preparazione per il Santo Natale

PROGRAM

10:00 am - Rosario
11:00 am - Santa Messa
12:00 pm - Pranzo al sacco
1:30 pm - Adorazione Eucaristica
2:30 pm - Presepe Vivente

Durante la celebrazione ci saranno sacerdoti a disposizione per le confessioni

Celebranti: Sua Eccellenza Vescovo Emerito **Nichola Di Marzio**
Rev. Tarcisio Andro, Parroco

Basilica of Regina Pacis

1230 65th St, Brooklyn 11219
(718) 331-3870

Preghiera e contemplazione sull' arrivo di Gesu' nei nostri cuori