The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, February 9 – The Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:00 A.M. Holy Name
9:30 A.M. Michael Cilia
11:00A.M. For the People of St. Francis
12:30 P.M. Suzanne Diguglielmo
Rino Del Carro
Stefano D'Agrosa

MONDAY, February 10–Saint Scholastica
9:00 A.M. Thomas Cook

TUESDAY, February 11-Our Lady of Lourdes
9:00 A.M. Antonina Kos

WEDNESDAY, February 12– Weekday
9:00 A.M. John Donovan

THURSDAY, February 13–Weekday
9:00 A.M. Raul B. Zulueta

FRIDAY, February 14 -Saint Cyril
9:00 A.M. Suzanne Diguglielmo

SATURDAY, February 15-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Dr. Rosario & Mrs. Stella Gualtieri

5:00P.M. Joseph Colombo

SUNDAY, February 16– The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 A.M. Msgr. Stefan Geosits
9:30 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
11:00 A.M. Suzanne Diguglielmo
12:30P.M. Adelina Sarchese
Concetta & Giuseppe Saracini
Rino Del Carro

Today's Readings

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simo answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.
(Luke 5:1-11)

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Genesis:1:1-19
Mark 6:53-56

TUESDAY: Genesis 1:-2:4a
Mark 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17
Mark 7:14-23

THURSDAY: Genesis 2:18-25
Mark 7:24-30

FRIDAY: Genesis 3:1-8
Mark 7:31-37

SATURDAY: Genesis 3:9-24
Mark 8:1-10

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 17:5-8
1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Luke 6:17, 20-26

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

In today's readings we hear a lot about people being called by God to serve him in special ways. An angel touched Isaiah's mouth with an ember from the heavenly altar purifying the words that the prophet would speak to the people. Paul credits God's favor for his conversion from persecutor of Christians to being a champion for Christ among the Gentiles. In the Gospel, it is Simon, James and John who are called from their tasks as fishermen to become some of the closest friends and followers of Jesus. We could say without a doubt that these readings are about vocations.

Now, some people think that vocation is a word that applies only to those who are becoming priests or deacons or those entering religious life. This is a misconception. Everyone here has a vocation, a call, that came when we were baptized. It is an invitation from God to pursue a holy life. This life has God as its center and Jesus as its guide to unity with God, the perfection of holiness. How is it lived out is a matter of God's gift of grace to you and your response to that gift.

Some people are called and given the grace to serve as ordained priests or deacons. Others are called to follow Christ as vowed sisters or brothers living in communities. In each case, the call to holiness is the primary moving force in their lives and their commitment. Not everyone is attracted to religious life nor would they find it a path leading them to greater holiness.

Most people live out their vocation in the married life. Faith-filled couples who have worked out their relationship over a number of years are usually quite clear about the connection between the call of God, the partnership they share with each other and the resulting grace that has nurtured holiness in their lives. They see Christ as an integral part of the covenant they began with their wedding vows and he remains important to their ongoing commitment as they work through the joys and sorrows that come to every family.

Some people live out their baptismal call in the single state. They may indeed find that being free of a personal commitment to another person they are able to grow closer to God through wider service to many others around them. Christ can become their daily companion through prayer, the relationships they build with family and friends or even through their dedication to making Christ present within their work environment.

Ordained or lay, married or single however God has called us to live out our call to holiness, ***God bless each of us and the vocation that is uniquely ours.***

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

Monday, February 10, 2025
The Feast of
Saint Scholastica

Saint Scholastica was born into a wealthy family around the year 480 AD, in Nursia, Italy, during the political chaos after the fall of the Roman emperor. She and her brother, Benedict are now honored as great saints. As a child, Scholastica dedicated herself to God's service, living modestly despite her wealth. When Benedict left home to become a hermit and eventually to found a monastery, she marveled at his hidden life of prayer and work. His vocation called out to her, and she received permission from the local bishop to enter a home of virgins who adopted Benedict's new monastic rule. Benedict assisted them and made Scholastica the abbess of the home. Benedict focused on forming permanent, self-contained, and self-supporting monasteries that followed a strict regimen of prayer and work. After aspirants' callings were tested for a period of time, they made vows, committing themselves to God and the community. Their lives were structured and ordered under the direction of an abbot or abbess to whom the monks and nuns vowed obedience. Soon after Benedict's humble monastery began to bloom, Scholastica received permission to adopt his rule with a group of virgins, making them the first convent of Benedictine nuns. In the following centuries, their way of life spread far and wide. Though Scholastica's convent was only a few miles from Benedict's monastery, the two met just once a year. Each year, they met and spent the day conversing on holy topics. When the twins were around the age of 63, they met for what would be their final conversation on earth. They spent the day praising God and engaged in spiritual talk. The siblings parted the next day, and three days later, Benedict had a vision of his sister's soul being taken to Heaven in the form of a dove. He had his brothers bring her body to the monastery where she was buried in the grave intended for him. Four years later, Benedict died and was buried with his sister. United by grace and a shared mission in this life, Benedict and Scholastica share a grave. Scholastica and Benedict teach us the value of holy friendships that build each other up and give glory to God..

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
The Feast of
Our Lady Of Lourdes

On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception." Bernadette was a sickly child of poor parents. Their practice of the Catholic faith was scarcely more than lukewarm. Bernadette could pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Creed. She also knew the prayer of the Miraculous Medal: "O Mary conceived without sin." During interrogations Bernadette gave an account of what she saw. It was "something white in the shape of a girl." She used the word *aquero*, a dialect term meaning "this thing." It was "a pretty young girl with a rosary over her arm." Her white robe was encircled by a blue girdle. She wore a white veil. There was a yellow rose on each foot. A rosary was in her hand. Bernadette was also impressed by the fact that the lady did not use the informal form of address (*tu*), but the polite form (*vous*). The humble virgin appeared to a humble girl and treated her with dignity. Through that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions and authorized the cult of Our Lady of Lourdes for the diocese. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907. Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, but even more of faith. Church authorities have recognized over 60 miraculous cures, although there have probably been many more. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles—now performed at the intercession of his mother. Some would say that the greater miracles are hidden.

Many who visit Lourdes return home with renewed faith and a readiness to serve God in their needy brothers and sisters. There still may be people who doubt the apparitions of Lourdes. Perhaps the best that can be said to them are the words that introduce the film *The Song of Bernadette*: "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe, no explanation is possible."

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, 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.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 9, 2025

"Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures."

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:

In the spotlight of the angels I will sing Your praises.

Both Isaiah and Simon Peter stand in awe of the Lord. Isaiah declares his lips unclean and Peter calls himself a sinful man. They recognize their own lowliness in the face of the Lord's majesty. Paul reminds us that Christ died for our sins and was raised. When we confess our sinfulness, we also acknowledge God's power to forgive 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.

Memorials for the Week of February 9, 2025

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Loving Memory of

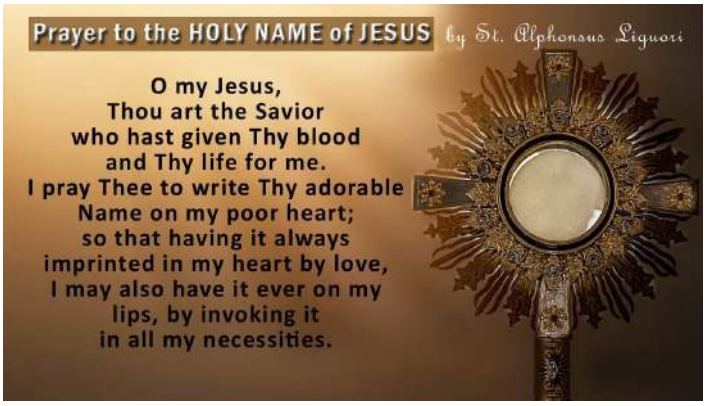
Dr. Rosario and Mrs. Stella Gualtieri

Requested by

The Thompson Family

Holy Name Society

On Sunday, February 9th, 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.



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

"All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of the field; the grass withers, and the flower wilts; but the word of the Lord remains forever"
"This is the word that has been proclaimed to you" (Peter 1:24-25) (Isaiah 40:6-8)

Dear SFA Friends and Family

The SFA Scripture Study Group will meet on Thursday, February 13th from 7:20-8:50 in the St. Joseph room of the rectory. This week's study is on the First Letter of Peter 1:1-3:7.
We hope you will join us.

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.

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 2/1-2/2	**$4,584.00**
2nd Collection-Churches in Need	*$465.00*

School parents must use church envelopes.

Mass Attendance for February 1/2, 2025

5:00PM	**102**
8:00AM	**42**
9:30AM	**225**
11:00AM	**100**
12:30PM	**75**
	Total: 544

BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION OFFICE EST.1884

Next weekend, February 15th and 16th, the second collection will be for the Black and Indian Home Missions. Please be as generous as your means allow. Thank you for your continued support.

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!

Part Time Cook
The Blog Of A Full Time Teen

Anyone interested in a cooking position part time, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 4:00pm to 7:00pm, please contact the rectory at 718-728-7801.

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven

DONATE YOUR AUTO
Running or Not

• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• Any Condition • Any Model

718-491-2525

Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over $400,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org
Leave a Review on Google &
Like us on
Follow us on

With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,
Jim Shea
Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

February 9-February 15

Sunday, February 9
8:00AM Holy Name
9:30AM Pre-Communion Mass
10:30AM Parents' Eucharist Meeting
10:40AM CCD
10:40AM Confirmation Class

Monday, February 10
12:00-Golden Age
3:00PM Children's Choir
7:00PM Adult Choir
7:00PM CYO Training

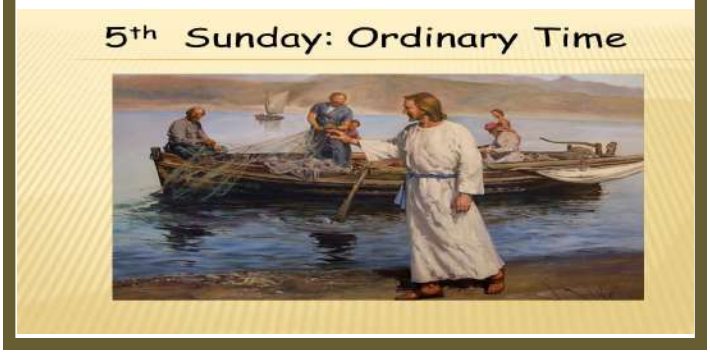
Tuesday, February 11
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, February 12
3:00PM Drama Club
7:00PM Baptism Class

Thursday, February 13
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
3:30PM-Jiu Jitsu
6:00PM-IACA
7:30PM-Scripture Study

Friday, February 14
1:00PM-Sprinkled With Love-MCH

Saturday, February 15



NEXT WEEK

February 16-February 22

Sunday, February 16

Monday, February 17
President's Day
Rectory Office & School Closed

Tuesday, February 18
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, February 19

Thursday, February 20
10:00AM-Legion of Mary

Friday, February 21

Saturday, February 22

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.
~ Romans 12:4-7

Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca: A Beacon of Faith, Stability and Strength

Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca has been the beloved pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish for 20 years. From the moment he arrived, he was welcomed with open arms by a community he describes as "instruments of Christ's Peace." His dedication and love for the parish are evident in every aspect of his service.

Msgr. Maresca starts his day at 5:15 am, finding solace and strength in the early morning hours through prayer and spiritual reading. He cherishes the time spent in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which he considers a source of strength in his life. His commitment to his faith is unwavering, as he celebrates Mass every morning, even on his days off and during vacations. "It is the gift that I received at Ordination and I cherish it dearly," he says.

One of the many ways Msgr. Maresca connects with his parishioners is through his weekly bulletin column, where he shares his spirituality and insights. His hope is to bring his parishioners closer to Christ and help them keep their faith alive and active. "Our goal is to reach heaven and we can only do that by following in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd," he writes.

Despite the challenges of low attendance and rising costs, Msgr. Maresca remains inspired by the generosity of the St. Francis community. Over the years, the parish has raised funds for numerous projects, including replacing the church roof, renovating the church, and installing a new ramp. He attributes these accomplishments to the unwavering support and generosity of the parishioners.

The Annual Fall Festival is a testament to the community's love for the parish and school. This event not only raises funds but also brings everyone together, showcasing the true spirit of the parish. "We have a lot of fun and it is hard work but in the end the results are worth it!" he exclaims.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Msgr. Maresca wears many hats. He serves as the Dean of Astoria/Long Island City Parishes, the Chairman of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy School Board, and a member of the Bishops' task force on parish assessments. He also mentors new pastors and attends meetings with the Bishop.

Msgr. Maresca's journey has not been without its trials. He battled cancer 21 years ago and attributes his remission to the prayers of many, the grace of God, and the dedication of his doctors.

As he approaches his 47th anniversary of Priestly Ordination this month, he reflects on his vocation with gratitude, guided by the words of the prophet Micah: "You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: only to do the right and to love goodness and to walk humbly with your God."

Through his unwavering dedication and love, Msgr. Maresca continues to be a beacon of faith and service to the St. Francis of Assisi Parish, illuminating the path for his parishioners.

Welcome to our bulletin series, "One Tree, Many Branches," where we highlight the dedicated staff, employees, and laity who keep our parish thriving. Have a suggestion for someone we should highlight? Please send us an email to sfaparishcouncil@sfaacademy.org

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
cordially invites you to our
95th Anniversary Dinner Dance
October 19, 2025

Russo's on the Bay
162-45 Cross Bay Blvd.
Howard Beach, NY 11414

Cocktail Hour 12:30pm, Dinner immediately following until 5:30pm
Tickets: Adults: $150, Children: ages 5 to 12- $75, Toddlers: ages 2-4 $30

Please reserve a seat(s) at the Dinner Dance for:

1. _____

or

We would like to make up a table:

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

6. _____

Tables of 10 or 12 are available but smaller groups will be accommodated and incorporated.

Please complete this form, enclose your **check** made payable to St. Francis of Assisi Parish and return it to the academy or rectory by September 2, 2025.

Name: _____

Address _____

email_____ Phone # _____

Bus service will be available at an additional cost of $20 per person
Bus departs from the front of school at approximately 11:30am

☐ Yes, I am interested in bus service for #_____ people

95th Anniversary Mass Program

We are offering you an opportunity to have your name, **In Thanksgiving,** or the name of a loved one, **In Memoriam,** printed in our **95th Anniversary Mass Program.**

The cost is $25 **per name**. Please PRINT the names clearly on the lines below and return to the rectory by September 2, 2025.

Please circle

_____ In Memoriam *In Thanksgiving*

_____ In Memoriam *In Thanksgiving*

_____ In Memoriam *In Thanksgiving*

_____ In Memoriam *In Thanksgiving*

Name _____

Telephone Number _____

Email _____

Return form in any collection basket or at the rectory.

Dear Parishioners,

As you know on Sunday, October 19, 2025, we will be celebrating the 95th Anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Our planning committee is hard at work to make this day an enjoyable experience for all.

Our day begins as we gather for the 9:30 Family Mass. During this special Liturgy we will have an unveiling of a statue of Mother Theresa. The statue of Mother Theresa will be hung on the wall opposite the Holy Family by the Baptismal Font. It will be mounted in the same manner as the Holy Family. It is a full body statue and is 36" in length. The total cost of the statue, along with the mounting, shipping and Memorial Plaque is $ 15,000. Opportunities to memorialize the statue will be available. A plaque of donor's names will be placed next to the statue. Donations to memorialize the statue begin at $500.

If you would like to donate kindly stop by the rectory and speak to Marybeth.

CLINIC

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS IN YOUR HOME

All people in the United States, ***including undocumented immigrants***, have Constitutional rights and protections. Neither immigration nor the police will assume you want to exercise your rights. You are in charge of asserting them by showing your Know Your Rights card or by telling the officer you are exercising your rights.

If you are home and ICE (immigration officer) knocks on your door, you have rights that protect you.

You do not have to open the door.

If ICE comes to your door, generally there are only two ways in which they can lawfully enter your home:

1. With your permission or the permission of someone in your home: or
2. With a search warrant issued by a judge.

You should not invite the officer into your home.

If ICE tells you they are there to arrest someone or search the home, do ***not*** open the door or invite them into your home. Opening the door may give them permission to enter. It is important to also tell this to others in your home, including children. If your child opens the door, that may give ICE permission to enter the home.

If the ICE officer says they have a warrant, ask for their identification and review the warrant. It must be issued by a judge and not just the agency.

ICE cannot enter your home without a valid search warrant. Talk with the officers through the door and ask them to show you their identification and the warrant. Review the warrant to determine if it is valid:

The warrant must be a search warrant.

There are search warrants and arrest warrants. ICE cannot enter your home with an arrest warrant. They must have a search warrant.

The warrant must have the correct address.

If the address on the warrant is incorrect, ICE cannot search your home, unless you grant them permission.

The warrant must have a judge's signature.

To be valid, search warrants must be signed by a ***judge***. If an ***immigration officer*** signs the warrant, it is ***not*** a valid search warrant. Without a warrant signed by a ***judge***, ICE cannot search your home, unless you grant them permission.

You have the right to remain silent.

If ICE has a valid warrant and enters your home, you can choose to remain silent. If you must speak, tell the agent that you would like to speak to a lawyer before answering questions.

- **Only provide your identification when the law requires you to do so.***
- **Do not tell the officer your country of nationality.**
- Do not answer questions.
- Do not sign paperwork.
- Do not carry false documents.
- Do not physically interfere with the search.

*Talk to a local advocate about whether and when you must produce identification. For example, in most states, you must show a driver's license if you have one and you are pulled over; you also must show your immigration identification to an immigration officer who requests it if you have lawful status and are not a U.S. citizen.

CLINIC

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK

All people in the United States, ***including undocumented immigrants***, have Constitutional rights and protections. Neither immigration nor the police will assume you want to exercise your rights. You are in charge of asserting them by showing your Know Your Rights card or by telling the officer you are exercising your rights.

If ICE (immigration officers) come to your work, they generally must have a search warrant or the consent of your employer to search non-public areas. If ICE approaches you, you have rights that protect you.

You should ask if you are free to leave.

If ICE approaches you in public, you may ask if you are free to leave. If the answer is "yes," calmly, slowly, and quietly walk away. Do not run or speak. If they say "no," do not walk or run away. Stay where you are.

You have the right to refuse a search.

You do not have to consent to a search of yourself or your belongings or provide proof of employment authorization. State clearly that you do not consent. Refusing consent may not stop the officer. If the officer proceeds to search your person or your belongings, stay calm, do not resist the inspection, and keep your hands where the officer can see them. Stating your objection preserves your rights.

You have the right to refuse to form a line.

If officers tell you to form a line based on immigration status, you have the right to stay where you are or move to a place that is not designated for a particular group of employees. You can tell officers that you are invoking your right to remain silent. If you are forced to move, do not resist.

You have the right to remain silent.

You do not have to answer any questions without the presence of your legal representative. (In some states, you may be required to state your name if an officer asks you to identify yourself and an officer may arrest you for refusing to do so.) You can show the officer your Know Your Rights card or tell the officer you are exercising your right to remain silent. If you must speak, only say that you would like to speak to your legal representative before answering questions.

- **Only provide your identification when the law requires you to do so.***
- **Do not tell the officer your country of nationality.**
- Do not answer questions.
- Do not sign paperwork.
- Do not carry false documents.
- Do not physically interfere with the search.

You have the right to speak to a lawyer.

If the officer tells you that you cannot walk away, you have been detained. You should ask to speak to a lawyer and then remain silent. You have the right to speak to a legal representative. It is okay if you have not hired a legal representative; you still have the right to consult with one.

*Talk to a local advocate about whether and when you must produce identification. For example, in most states, you must show a driver's license if you have one and you are pulled over; you also must show your immigration identification to an immigration officer who requests it if you have lawful status and are not a U.S. citizen.

CLINIC

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS IN PUBLIC SPACES

All people in the United States, ***including undocumented immigrants***, have Constitutional rights and protections. Neither immigration nor the police will assume you want to exercise your rights. You are in charge of asserting them by showing your Know Your Rights card or by telling the officer you are exercising your rights.

If you are in a public space, such as a street or sidewalk, and ICE (immigration officer) approaches, you have rights that protect you.

You should ask if you are free to leave.

If ICE approaches you in public, you may ask if you are free to leave. If the answer is "yes," calmly, slowly, and quietly walk away. Do not run or speak. If they say "no," do not walk or run away. Stay where you are.

You have the right to refuse a search.

You do not have to consent to a search of yourself or your belongings. State clearly that you do not consent. **Refusing consent may not stop the officer.** An officer may pat you down above your clothes if they suspect, for example, you have weapons or drugs in your possession. If the officer proceeds to pat you down or conduct a full search, stay calm, do not resist the inspection, and keep your hands where the officer can see them. Stating your objection preserves your rights. Thereafter, the officer cannot arrest you without a warrant or proof you have committed a crime.

You have the right to remain silent.

You do not have to answer any questions without the presence of your legal representative. (In some states, you may be required to state your name if an officer asks you to identify yourself and an officer may arrest you for refusing to do so.) You can show the officer your Know Your Rights card or tell the officer you are exercising your right to remain silent. If you must speak, only say that you would like to speak to your legal representative before answering questions

- **Only provide your identification when the law requires you to do so.***
- **Do not tell the officer your country of nationality.**
- Do not answer questions.
- Do not sign paperwork.
- Do not carry false documents.
- Do not physically interfere with the search.

You have the right to speak to a lawyer.

If the officer tells you that you cannot walk away, you have been detained. You should ask to speak to a lawyer and then remain silent. You have the right to speak to a legal representative. It is okay if you have not hired a legal representative; you still have the right to consult with one.

*Talk to a local advocate about whether and when you must produce identification. For example, in most states, you must show a driver's license if you have one and you are pulled over; you also must show your immigration identification to an immigration officer who requests it if you have lawful status and are not a U.S. citizen.

The Little Sisters of the Poor

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION

Our First Annual

Dinner Dance in honor of
Saint Joseph Feast Day

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

FULL COCKTAIL HOUR
DELICIOUS DINNER
Cash Bar – Raffles

Music by the fabulous
"THE SECOND STREET BAND"

Antun's of Queens Village

96-43 Springfield Boulevard
Queens Village, NY 1429

$75 per person - No Tickets Sold at Door - No Refunds
Business Attire

RSVP by Monday, March 3, 2025

Questions? Please contact the Development Department at 718-464-1800

Thank you for your generosity!

Dear Msgr. Maresca and parishioners of St. Francis Assisi Parish,

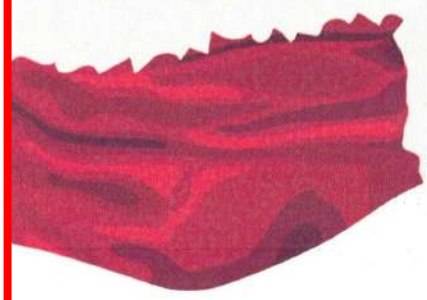
This Christmas season we are filled with deep gratitude for your ongoing amazing support of Marguerite's Pantry. Thanks to your kindness, many families were able to experience a beautiful Christmas with their children with lots of toys and food.

Your donations brought immense joy and warmth to these families, creating memories that will be cherished for years to come. It is through the compassion and generosity of individuals like you that we can continue to support those in need and make a meaningful difference in our community. We've included letters, texts of thanks, and photos from the families here, so that you can see just what an incredible impact you've had. Some letters have been translated from Spanish, but you will still be able to understand their heartfelt thanks.

As the light from that star in Bethlehem illuminated the sky the night Jesus was born, may his light illuminate your life with much peace and many blessings in the coming year.

May you be blessed abundantly for the love and joy you have shared.

With sincere gratitude,
Sr. Anne Marie, GSH
Sister Anne Marie Beirne,
the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart,
volunteers, and the poor served at Marguerite's Pantry



2024 Christmas Toy Drive

Marguerite's Pantry

2024 TAX CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

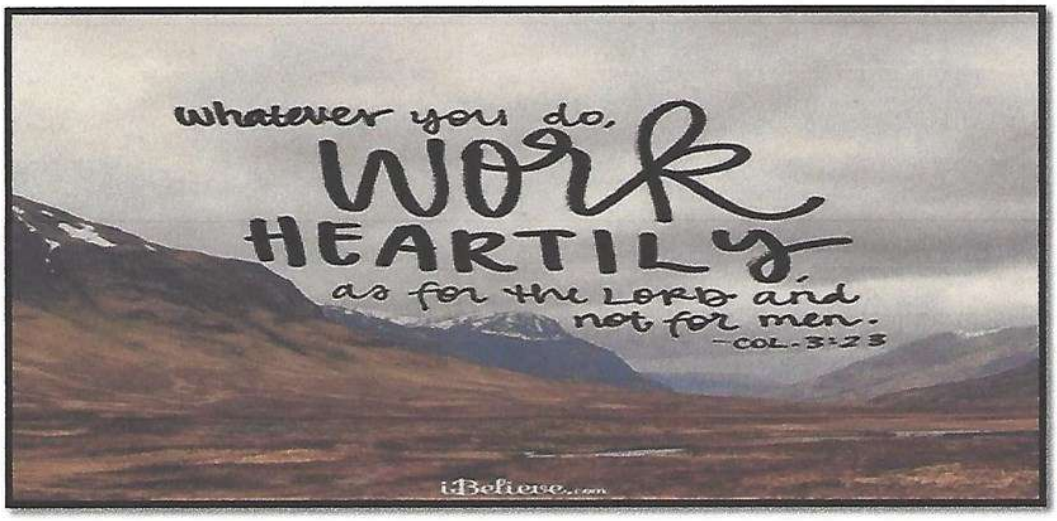
All Parishioners who wish to receive a copy of their 2024 Tax Contribution statement must complete the attached form.

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____

ENVELOPE # _____