The Second Sunday of Lent

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, March 16 – Second Sunday of Lent
8:00 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
9:30 A.M. John Joe Kearns
11:00A.M. Rita & Ralph Maresca
12:30 P.M. Patricia Donato
Rino Del Carro
Antonio & Giustina DiBenedetto
Angelo Rosa Sferrazza

MONDAY, March 17–Saint Patrick
9:00 A.M. Anna Kanakaris

TUESDAY, March 18-Saint Cyril of Jerusalem
9:00 A.M. Victor Di Donato

WEDNESDAY, March 19-Saint Joseph
9:00 A.M. Frederick Jones

THURSDAY, March 20–St. Weekday
9:00 A.M. Rosemarie Scott

FRIDAY, March 21 –Weekday
9:00 A.M. Rocco D'Amelio

SATURDAY, March 22-Weekday
9:00 A.M. Purgatorial Society
Mary Ethel Dugan

5:00P.M. Ralph Borgia

SUNDAY, March 23– The Third Sunday of Lent
8:00 A.M. Mario Esposito
9:30 A.M. For the People of St. Francis
11:00 A.M. Martin Joseph Daly
12:30P.M. Iolanda Babore
Rino Del Carro
Beatrice D'Angelo

Today's Readings

The Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory* and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents,* one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.
(Luke 4:1-13)

Readings for the Week

MONDAY: Daniel 9:4b-10
Luke 6:36-38

TUESDAY: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20
Matthew 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16
Romans 1:16, 16-18, 22
Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

THURSDAY: Jeremiah 17:5-10
Luke 16:19-31

FRIDAY: Genesis 37::3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

SATURDAY: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15
Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

My Dear Parishioners,

In the year 2013, Pope Benedict declared it to be a Year of Faith. He said, "in order to give new impetus to the mission of the whole Church to lead men out of the desert in which they often find themselves, to the place of life and of friendship with Christ". Today's readings seem especially relevant as we focus on this mission.

Our first reading tells of Abram's encounter with God in which he is told his descendants will be as numerous as the stars. Although Abram and his wife have longed for a child, they are getting up in years and Abram sees no way this could ever happen. Still, he trusts God and has faith in his promise.

The reading from Philippians encourages us to keep our faith and remain strong despite the temptations of the world. Paul reminds us that our "citizenship is in heaven", and it is our faith in Jesus and conforming our lives to his teachings that will bring us our eternal reward.

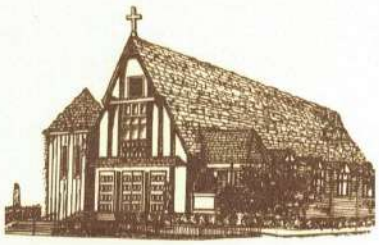
Then the Gospel gives us a beautiful glimpse into what that citizenship will be like. We will see Jesus in his glory. We will walk with the saints and prophets. We will hear the voice of God speaking to us directly. We will be transfigured, made whole and perfect, as God always intended us to be. The Transfiguration gives us a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming (CCC556), when he will "change our lowly body to be like his glorified body", as Paul tells us in today's second reading.

But none of this makes any sense to us; none of it is real for us if we do not have **FAITH!** It is faith that allows us to believe that we will one day be glorified, that heaven is our home. It is faith that makes it possible for us to put our lives into God's keeping, and go wherever he leads us. There will most certainly be challenges and hardships along the way, but the reward of everlasting life in the heavenly Kingdom is a reward worth any sacrifice.

As we continue our Lenten journey and go forth from here today, let us be mindful of the gift of our faith. Let us look for ways to live more deliberately according to the faith we profess. Let us be more open about our faith and let the world know that the Father is our Creator and Provider, Jesus is our Brother and Savior, and the Holy Spirit is our Guide and Sanctifier. Let us try to learn more so that our faith is deepened, maybe by reading Scripture regularly and having conversations about what we read. Maybe make the effort to come to Mass during the week. Maybe praying the rosary each day. Maybe taking time from our schedule to pray every day. If we do these things and others we may think of, what a great way we will deepen our faith and have a fruitful Lent.

Happy Lent,
Msgr. Maresca

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
21-17 45th Street, Astoria, NY 11105 Phone: 718-728-7801 Fax: 718-728-7853



My Dear Parishioners,

Over the past few years, Bishop Brennan has asked each parish to look at their Mass schedules, the number of people attending Masses, and the priest personnel situation. He has directed us to make changes according to our needs. Here at St. Francis of Assisi, the staff, parish council and I have been reviewing and discussing our parish situation with regards to our Mass schedule.

Our Deanery has also been discussing the Mass Schedule in each parish. Bishop Brennan attended a Deanery meeting with the priests and presented figures and recommendations for our parishes. He spoke about the need to look ahead at the future of our parishes. He also spoke to us about Parish Partnerships and the possibility of merging parishes if needed.

All of these discussions were difficult, but needed, as we look to the future. Bishop Brennan asked that we report the results of our discussions and the revisions we would be making by the end of November, 2024. He would review them and either makes changes or approve what was presented.

I received word from the Bishop of his approval of our revisions. As of July 1, 2025 our Mass Schedule will be as follows:

Monday through Saturday, 9:00am Mass
Saturday evening, 5:00pm Mass
Sunday morning 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00 am
The 11:00 am Mass would have multiple intentions, meaning that more than one intention can be taken for that Mass.

Change is always difficult. Everyone has seen the attendance in the bulletin each week over the past few years. We have seen a decline in Mass attendance and weekly collections. These decisions were not made lightly and are the product of a great deal of prayer, thought and reflection. I ask for your support and cooperation as we move our Parish forward. What is occurring in our Diocese is also taken place throughout the country.

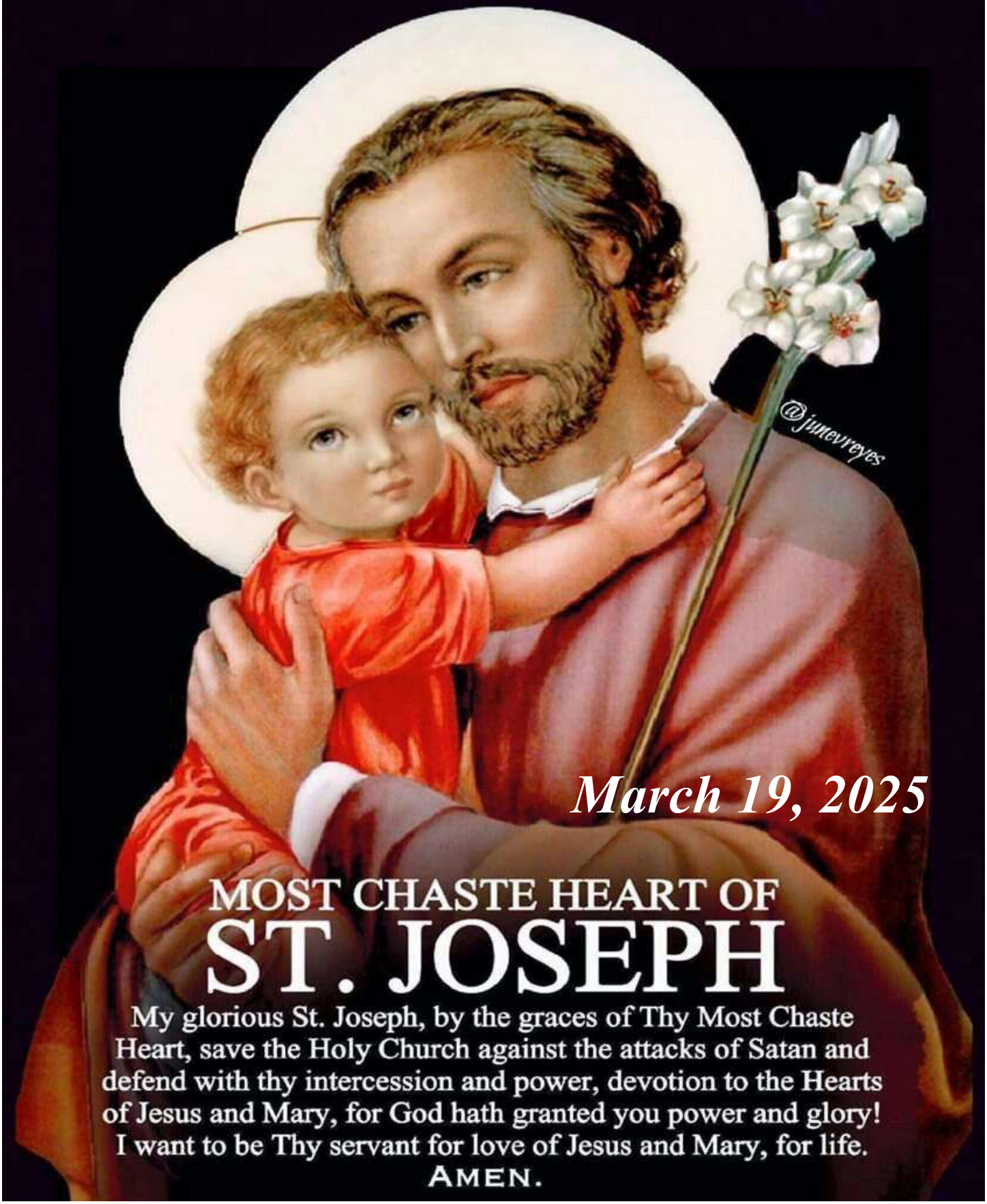
Thank you for all you do in working to keep our parish active and strong. Let us commend ourselves to the love and protection of the Mother of God.

All God's blessings,

Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca, V.F.
Pastor

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH

PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH



March 19, 2025

MOST CHASTE HEART OF ST. JOSEPH

My glorious St. Joseph, by the graces of Thy Most Chaste Heart, save the Holy Church against the attacks of Satan and defend with thy intercession and power, devotion to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, for God hath granted you power and glory! I want to be Thy servant for love of Jesus and Mary, for life.

AMEN.

Lent

Lent has begun. In the hope of assisting the faithful of the Diocese of Brooklyn to celebrate this season of preparation for Easter in a fruitful manner, Bishop Robert Brennan wishes to call attention to the following:

ABSTINENCE: All the faithful who have reached 14 years of age are required to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday (March 5) and on all the Fridays of the Lenten Season.

FASTING: All the faithful between the ages of 18 and 59 (inclusive) are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday (March 29) by limiting oneself to one full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions during the day.

EASTER DUTY: After having been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, the faithful are obligated to receive holy Communion at least once a year, this precept to be fulfilled during the Easter Season, unless it is fulfilled at some other time for a good reason. In the United States, the period for fulfilling this precept is extended from the First Sunday of Lent (March 9) until Pentecost Sunday, (June 8).

THE SOLEMNITIES OF SAINT JOSEPH AND THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: The liturgical solemnities of Saint Joseph (March 19) and the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) are to be celebrated with due solemnity even though they fall within the Season of Lent.

RECONCILIATION MONDAY: Reconciliation Monday is observed in the Diocese on the Monday of Holy Week (April 14th). Observance of this day allows the faithful to experience the grace of forgiveness and mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. Those conscious of grave (mortal) sin are obligated to confess before receiving Holy Communion.

TIME OF CELEBRATION OF THE EASTER VIGIL: Sunset in Brooklyn on Holy Saturday, April 19, is at 7:40 pm. Therefore, the celebration of the Liturgy for the Easter Vigil should begin after that, realistically at 8 p.m. or later, and must end before dawn on Easter Sunday.

Please take note of the following, as well:

MUSIC: During Lent, the "Alleluia" is not sung or said. Musical instruments are to be used at liturgical celebrations only to give support to the singing.

CHURCH DECORATIONS: The church should not be decorated with flowers during Lent.

HOLY WATER: Holy Water is not removed from the fonts during Lent. It is only removed immediately before the Celebration of the Lord's Supper and replaced at the Easter Vigil with water blessed at that celebration.

FUNERALS: Funeral masses are not permitted during the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday,

What are you doing for Lent?

To help us during our Lenten journey, the following opportunities will be taking place in our parish.

1. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each morning at 8:00AM Monday through Saturday.
2. Mass is celebrated each morning at 9:00AM Monday through Saturday.
3. Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 7:30PM and will conclude with Benediction.
4. Confessions are heard every Saturday from 4:00 to 4:30PM.
5. Reconciliation Monday is ***April 14th***. Every Church in our Diocese, the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre will be hearing confessions. We will be hearing confessions from
   2:00 to 4:00PM and 6:00 to 8:00PM
   What a wonderful experience to receive the mercy of Christ in this great sacrament.
6. The Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Council will be hosting our Lenten Supper & Stations on Friday April 4th. Supper will be at 6:00PM in Msgr. Campbell Hall followed by the Stations of the Cross at0 7:30PM in Church. Free will donation.
7. All are welcome to join the St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study Group on Thursday nights at 7:20PM. The group is for anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of the Bible.
8. Our Parish Lenten Mission will take place from Monday, March 24th, to Thursday, March 27th. The Mission will take place at the 9:00AM Mass in the morning and again at 7:30PM. Fr. Lee Havey will be giving the Mission. All are invited.

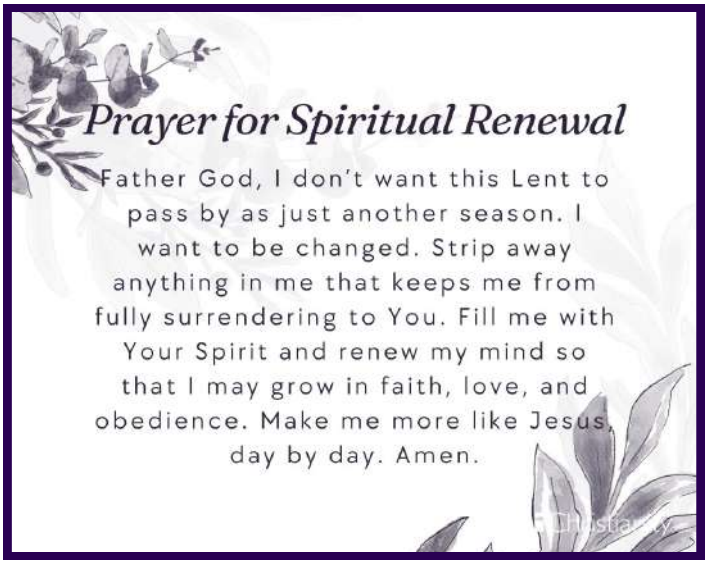
Easter Candle

If anyone would like to make a donation or memorialize the ***Pascal Candle,*** please stop by the rectory and speak with Marybeth. As you know, the Pascal Candle is blessed and lighted at the Easter Vigil and remains in the sanctuary until the feast of Pentecost. It is then used for all our funerals during the year.

Please mark your calendars for our
Parish Lenten Mission
which takes place beginning Monday, March 24th, to Thursday, March 27th.

The mission will take place at the 9:00AM Mass in the morning and again at 7:30PM Prayer Service.
Fr. Lee Havey will be giving the mission.

All are invited to join us.



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, Michelle Yashita, and the Polychronakis Family.

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 Lent

March 16, 2025

"This is My chosen Son listen to Him."

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:

Stand firm in faith.

The season of Lent prepares us for Easter, when we will celebrate the Lord's resurrection. In today's Gospel Peter, John and James get a glimpse of Jesus' glorified body. This is the type of body that Paul tells the Philippians we will one day have, as long as we stand firm in our faith—not only in Christ's resurrection, but also in His cross.

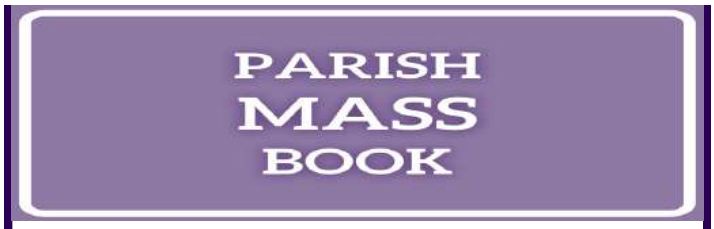
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place before the 9:00AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 8:00AM each morning, Monday through Saturday, giving parishioners an opportunity for private prayer before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At 8:30AM the rosary will be prayed by parishioners.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

Mass Attendance for March 8/9, 2025

5:00PM	**117**
8:00AM	**30**
9:30AM	**243**
11:00AM	**114**
12:30PM	**62**
	Total: 566



2025 Mass Book

The 2025 Mass Book is now open for the remainder of 2025.

All Announced Masses up to June 30th are $15.00. After July 1, 2025 Masses will be **$20.00.** **Beginning July 1, 2025, the 11:00AM Mass will have multiple intentions.**

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

"… that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise as some regard "delay", but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:8-9)

Dear SFA Friends and Family

The SFA Scripture Study Group will meet on Thursday, March 20th from 7:20-8:50 in the St. Joseph room of the rectory. This week's study will be on the Letter of Jude vv. 14-24 and the Second Letter of Peter 2:17-3:18. 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 3/8-3/9 **$4,013.00**

School parents must use church envelopes.

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

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!

Annual Catholic Appeal 2025

DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

The Annual Catholic Appeal for 2025 has begun in our Diocese. Our goal this year has been lowered to **$37, 511.** Most of you should have received information regarding this Appeal. This year the theme is: **JUBILEE OF HOPE, RENEWAL OF FAITH AND CHARITY.**

I ask you to prayerfully reflect on what you can contribute to help us reach our goal. The Annual Appeal allows Bishop Brennan to continue to carry out the mission of the Church here in Brooklyn and Queens.

I am grateful to those who have contributed in the past and thank you for your generosity and support. If you have not contributed, I ask to make every effort to help us reach our goal.

I share with you the words of Jesus to his followers: "The measure you measure with will be measured back to you."

Thank you for all your effort.
God Bless,
Msgr. Maresca

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

March 16-March 22

Sunday, March 16
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD
10:40AM Confirmation Class

Monday, March 17
12:00PM Golden Age
3:00PM Confirmation Rehearsal
3:30PM Children's Choir
7:30PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, March 18
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 19
3:00pm Drama Club

Thursday, March 20
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
6:00PM IACA
7:00PM Confirmation Rehearsal
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, March 21
7:30PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 22

NEXT WEEK

March 23-March 29

Sunday, March 23
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD
3:00PM Confirmation

Monday, March 24
PARISH MISSION
12:00PM Golden Age
3:30PM Children's Choir
7:30PM Adult Choir

Tuesday, March 25
PARISH MISSION
6:30PM AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 26
PARISH MISSION
3:00PM Drama Club

Thursday, March 27
PARISH MISSION
10:00AM-Legion of Mary
3:30PM Jiu Jitsu
6:00PM IACA
7:20PM Scripture Study

Friday, March 28
7:30PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 29

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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

LENT 2025

= a day of fasting and abstinence from meat

= a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"Lent is the liturgical season of forty days which begins with Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of the Paschal Mystery (Easter Triduum). Lent is the primary penitential season in the Church's liturgical year, reflecting the forty days Jesus spent in the desert in fasting and prayer" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). **March**			5 *Ash Wednesday* Attend Mass and receive ashes as a sign of penance. Ask the Lord to help you grow closer to Him this Lent.	6 Prayerfully choose meaningful but achievable practices of prayer, penance, almsgiving.	7 Wake up five minutes early to dedicate your day to God's service.	8 Offer to pay for coffee, fast food, or groceries for the person in line behind you.
9 *"Each tree is known by its own fruit"* (Luke 6:44). After Mass, ask God what "good fruit" He wants your life to bear this Lent.	10 Practice true charity: "Have patience with all things, but, first of all with yourself" (St. Francis de Sales).	11 Take fifteen minutes today for silent prayer. Don't worry about finding the right words. Just be still and let Him love you.	12 Enjoy pretzels, a traditional Lenten snack invented by monks. They thought the folded loops resembled arms crossed in prayer.	13 Skim the glossary of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* until something strikes your interest, and dive deeper.	14 Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy today, especially for the dying. You can find more information here: https://www.usccb.org/prayers	15 Write a note of encouragement to someone you think needs cheering up.
16 Stay after Mass today to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.	17 *St. Patrick's Day* In honor of St. Patrick's missionary work in Ireland, offer extra prayers for those who teach the Faith.	18 Listening well is a small but meaningful act of courtesy. Give the gift of your full attention.	19 *St. Joseph's Day* In honor of St. Joseph, focus on the Joyful Mysteries today, reflecting on St. Joseph's role in each event.	20 Lent and Holy Week are busy times in a Catholic parish. Call or stop by your parish office and ask how you can help.	21 "There is no such thing as innocent slander." (Pope Francis). Today, practice the penance of not complaining about anyone.	22 Contact Catholic Relief Services (877-435-7277 or www.crs.org) to see how you can support any of their projects.
23 Write down three points you remember from Father's homily. Choose one you want to put into practice this week.	24 Honor your word, even to yourself. Perform a chore you've been putting off.	25 *The Annunciation* Happy Solemnity! Today, we celebrate that God became man (John 1:14). Attend daily Mass or have a dessert—or both!	26 Make a small sacrifice today: No cream in your coffee, no butter on your toast, no music in the car.	27 Ask God to show you whatever keeps you from fully experiencing His love. Resolve to deal with it before Lent ends.	28 Counter pride with authentic humility. Pray, "O Jesus, I surrender myself to You, take care of everything!"	29 *"Return, O Israel, to the LORD, your God; you have collapsed through your guilt."* (Hosea 14:2) Pray the Act of Contrition and ask for forgiveness.
30 *Laetare Sunday* Today marks the halfway point to Easter! Have a dessert to celebrate that you have made it halfway to Lent.	31 Renew your commitment to your Lenten resolutions.	1 **April** Examine your conscience, using the Ten Commandments as a guide (Exodus 20:1-17).	2 Go to Confession and experience God's mercy. Thank Him for His love and resolve to avoid future sin.	3 Instead of spending time on your screen, read a good spiritual classic.	4 Attend daily Mass or visit the Blessed Sacrament sometime today. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice of love.	5 Choose to forego a financial luxury, such as online shopping or eating out. Abstain from it until Easter and donate the extra money.
6 Extend fellowship. Invite friends to brunch after Mass, either at a restaurant or at your home.	7 Loving others well starts with knowing we are loved. Ask God to reveal His love to you today.	8 Read the Passion Narrative from the Gospel of Luke (Luke 22-23). What areas of your life and heart need His grace?	9 Reduce the contents of your closets. If you used or worn something in a year, donate it to charity.	10 Go for a walk and look for signs of Spring.	11 Observe a (recreational) screen fast, from 12:00pm to 3:00pm, the time Jesus hung on the Cross.	12 Pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, mediating on Christ's Passion through the eyes of His mother.
13 *Palm Sunday* When listening to the Gospel readings at Mass, imagine yourself in the scene. How would you respond?	14 Pray for all those coming into the Church at Easter Vigil.	15 Forgive anyone who has hurt you. Ask forgiveness of anyone you have harmed.	16 Reflect on your Lent: where did you grow? What graces did you receive? What habits would you like to continue after Easter?	17 *Holy Thursday* Make a Holy Hour today in a church or chapel to console Jesus for the abandonment, indifference, and sacrilege He suffers by us.	18 *Good Friday* Reread Luke 23. Jesus carried His Cross out of love for you. Resolve to imitate Him more faithfully this year.	19 *Holy Saturday* Light a candle and renew your baptismal vows to remain committed to Christ.

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293180

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.

ST.FRANCIS OF ASSISI PROUDLY PRESENTS

RADIO BINGO

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

DOORS OPEN 6:00PM
BINGO STARTS AT 7:00PM

ADVANCED TICKETS SALES ONLY $45

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH, 6:30-8:30PM & MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 10:30A-12:30PM
@SFACA MSGR. MARESCA CENTER

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI LOWER CHURCH - MSGR. THOMAS P. CAMPBELL HALL

21ST AVENUE & 46TH STREET - ASTORIA - 718-726-9405

VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM @STFRANCISOFASSISIPARISHASTORIA

Join us for the best party in town! There's awesome music, people, raffles and games that are guaranteed to get you in your party mood . Don't miss out and we will see you there!

"COURAGE IS CONTAGIOUS" MARCH 25, 2025

Fr Chris Alar, MIC
Hosts EWTN "Living the Divine Mercy", Director, Association of Marian Helpers.

2025 WALK's. GUEST SPEAKER

Rebecca Kiessling
International Pro-Life Speaker and Attorney, Conceived in Rape.

2025 WALK's. GRAND MARSHAL

Fr Fidelis Moscinski, CFR
*General Procurator, among the 23 pro-lifers who were unjustly prosecuted by Biden DOJ who unconstitutionally weaponized the FACE ACT. Pardoned by President Donald Trump Jan. 23, 2025 * LUNCH GUEST SPEAKER*

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PERSONHOODEDUCATIONNY.COM

2 EVENTS-SAME DAY

2025
INTERNATIONAL
GIFT OF LIFE WALK-NYC

REGISTER HERE:

FOLLOWED BY

LUNCH WITH A FRIAR
FR. FIDELIS MOSCINSKI,

RESERVE YOUR early bird SEAT Here:

2025 INTERNATIONAL GIFT OF LIFE WALK-NYC

This year will be the 9th Annual pro-life walk in NYC. Every year we honor the vision of St. John Paul II when he designated March 25, as the International Day of the Pre-born Child. The mission of this Walk is claim the Personhood of all humans at the moment of conception. With that carries the recognition of the worth and dignity of every human being, from conception to natural, true death.

GRAND PRO-LIFE MARSHAL Rebecca Kiessling International Pro-Life Speaker, Conceived In Rape

Rebecca Kiessling has been an international pro-life speaker and adoption speaker since 1995, speaking for various pro-life organizations, including right to life groups, crisis pregnancy center fundraisers, 40 Days for Life events, rallies, churches, high schools, universities, Students for Life, women's conferences, attorney conferences, adoption events, etc., throughout North America, Europe, and Latin America about 50 - 75 times/year. legislators across the U.S., Canada, Europe and Latin America.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER, FR. CHRIS ALAR, MIC is a priest with the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. Father Chris wrote and produced the popular "Divine Mercy 101" and "Explaining the Faith" DVD series. He is an international speaker and is a regular host and guest on EWTN.Watch his talks and programs on DivineMercyPlus.org.

RALLY & WALK LOCATION:
11AM RALLY
FOLEY SQUARE
148-152 WORTH STREET
NYC, NY 10013

LUNCH @ CARRAGHER'S NYC
TIME: **1:30-4:30PM**
LOCATION:
17 John Street, NY, NY 10038

CALL (631) 487-7578 for BUS information*

Astoria Homeowners, Tenants & Business Civic Association

21-20 49th St. Astoria, NY 11105 (718) 721-3690

Facebook: Astoria, Homeowners, Tenants & Business Civic Association Instagram: AstoriaHTBCA

Twitter: @betterastoria Website: www.betterastoria.com Email: betterastoria@gmail.com

Attention Members, Neighbors, and Friends:

Comptroller's Office and Sanitation Info Night

March 26, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Pistilli Grand Manor

45-02 Ditmars Blvd., Astoria, NY

** Please enter on 45th Street side entrance, right before the parking garage **

GUEST SPEAKERS:

James Mongeluzo

Queens Borough Director, Bureau of Public Affairs
Office of the NYC Comptroller

Iggy Azzara

Chief, NYC Department of Sanitation

Deputy Inspector Seth Lynch

Commanding Officer, 114 Precinct

Join us and tell all your neighbors and friends. All are welcome!

Feel free to share throughout your social media … Facebook, Instagram, Twitter /X