25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Sept. 21	*25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Susan Guglielmo**
9:30AM	**Assunta D'Angelo**
11:00AM	**Mario Esposito**
	Janet Landusky
Monday, Sept. 22	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Raffaela DiGioia**
Tuesday, Sept. 23	*St. Pio of Pietrelcina, Priest*
9:00AM	**Salvatore Messineo**
Wednesday, Sept. 24	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Martina Elaine Will**
Thursday, Sept. 25	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Janet Landusky**
Friday, Sept. 26	*Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs*
9:00AM	**Louis Langone**
Saturday, Sept. 27	*St. Vincent de Paul, Priest*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
5:00PM	**Mauricio Mesa**
Sunday, Sept. 28	*26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Maria Kuljanic**
11:00AM	**John Hengl**
	Flavia Contratti
	Fiorina Colangelo

Today's Readings

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 8:4-7
1 Timothy 2:1-8
Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty. Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than they are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.
Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No servant can serve two masters; for a servant will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos 6:1a,4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort.

Also remember in your prayers all the deceased of the Parish. Please remember to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and married life.

Awyn Profit
Jack Orlando
Steven Joyce
John Wrenn
Augustin Cisneros
James Nunez
Vincent Wytak
John & Carol Ross
Jeffrey Hyans
Marie LoVolpe
Jessica St. Preux
Al Ciani
Alesha Moses
Nancy McCaffrey
Christoper 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
The Polychronakis Family
Angel Garcia
Geraldine Catoggio
Assunta Di Benedetto
Bob Bala

FOCUS:

No servant can serve two masters.

Today's readings invite us to reflect on our relationship with money and wealth in light of our faith in God. Mindful that the pursuit of wealth can lead us into dishonesty, the Lord invites us to be prudent in our affairs and mindful that ultimately, it is our relationship with God that must be our top priority.

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Ezra 1:1-6*** ***Luke 8:16-18***
Tuesday	***Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20*** ***Luke 8:19-21***
Wednesday	***Ezra 9:5-9*** ***Luke 9:1-6***
Thursday	***Haggai 1:1-8*** ***Luke 9:7-9***
Friday	***Haggai 2:1-9*** ***Luke 9:18-22***
Saturday	***Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a*** ***Luke 9:43b-45***

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

Thursdays from 7:20PM-8:50PM,
Rectory Lower Level, St. Joseph Room

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
The Scripture Study Group is delighted to begin a new study with ***The Gospel According to Matthew***. Join us on Thursday, September 25 for this week's study on Matthew Chapters 3 to 5: The Proclamation of the Kingdom.

"I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11)

Grow in Love & Knowledge of Scripture.
All are invited and all are welcome.

The Gospel readings and study are conducted using the Little Rock Scripture Study program. Study booklets will be provided. If you are interested in joining the Study Group, please call the Rectory Office at (718)-728-7801.

Memorials for the Week of September 21, 2025

Sanctuary Lamp

In Loving Memory of:
Dr. Rosario &
Mrs. Stella Gualtieri

Requested By:
The Thompson Family

From the Pastor's Desk:

"You cannot serve God and wealth."
Luke 16:13

My Dear Parishioners,

IRAs, 401Ks, stocks and bonds, etc are all investment possibilities that people use to financially secure their future. There are risks, but people invest in them now because they want to have a future return.

Realizing how people use the goods of this world to ensure their future, Jesus makes a sad statement in today's Gospel: *For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.* Jesus criticizes the children of the light for not using the goods of this world to ensure their future with an eternal place in heaven. Who are the children of light? They are the followers of Jesus.

When Jesus says to make friends with dishonest wealth, it appears that he is reminding us that when we use our time, talents, money and possessions for our own good, we are using what belongs to God. It is not ours. We are like the steward who uses his master's goods so as to ensure his on future. We must use the Divine Master's goods to help ensure our future in heaven.

Maybe we, the children of the light, need to see the importance of giving of our time, talents and treasure as a means to gain eternal life. We do all this because we know that the future will come, and we want to be secure in heaven. The Scriptures today call us to take a look at how we are doing with what we have been given. It becomes clear that we must steadily invest the time and talents and treasures that God entrusts to us to help build up his Kingdom. Only then can we be prudent, trustworthy children of the light!

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

WELCOME
EVERYONE!

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Through water and the Holy Spirit, we are freed from original sin and become children of God.

EUCHARIST

Jesus gives us His Body and Blood as true spiritual food, uniting us with Him.

CONFIRMATION

The Holy Spirit strengthens us with His gifts to live and defend our faith.

MATRIMONY

A man and a woman are united in a lifelong bond of love, reflecting Christ's love for His Church.

HOLY ORDERS

Men are ordained to serve and shepherd God's people.

RECONCILIATION

Jesus forgives our sins through the priest and restores us to grace.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Through anointing and prayer, Jesus strengthens and heals the sick in body and soul.

Sacraments are signs of God's grace.

They are special gifts from God that help us grow in faith and receive His grace.

They are divided into three groups:

INITIATION

These sacraments welcome us into the Church and strengthen our faith.

Baptmism, Eucharist, Confirmation

HEALING

These sacraments bring us forgiveness and healing when we are in need.

Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick

SERVICE

These sacraments help people serve God and others in a special way.

Matrimony, Holy Orders

www.catholicprintablesforkids.com

The Sacraments in the Bible

God has something to say about each sacrament in the Bible! Let's read together and learn about them.

BAPTISM
Matthew 28:19

EUCHARIST
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

CONFIRMATION
Acts 8:14-17

RECONCILIATION
John 20:22-23

HOLY ORDERS
Mark 1:16-20

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
James 5:14

MATRIMONY
Ephesians 5:31-32

www.catholicprintablesforkids.com

LEGION OF MARY
JUNIOR LEAGUE

WANTED: SFA YOUTH
AGES: 8 TO 18 YEARS

WHAT DO WE DO?

1) Develop a Sacramental life, a love for the Holy Trinity, the Church, our Blessed Mother, Mary, and the Saints.
2) We perform a variety of works including: praying together, making cards, and other crafts for Seniors, those who are sick, and other people.
3) Giving out Sacramentals and literature at fairs, bazaars, and other places alongside Senior Legionaires.

HOW DO I JOIN THE JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY?

There will be a table next to the Ticket Booth at the Fall Festival on September 27, 2025 where more information can be found. You may also contact Tara at the Rectory at (718)-728-7801.

Won't you stop by our Table and see what our works are all about?

*All Junior Legion activities are supervised directly by adults who are completely cleared and trained within the Safe Environment Policy. Parents are welcome to attend meetings and participate.

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
Altar Server Application

We're looking for Altar Servers, boys and girls (beginning in Grade 4),who would share their time and talent serving at Holy Masses during the weekend and special liturgies throughout the year.

PLEASE PRINT

_____
First Name **Last Name**

_____ _____
Grade Level **School Name**

_____
Parent/Guardian First and Last Names

_____
Home Address

_____
City **State** **Zip**

_____
Mobile Telephone Number **Home Telephone Number**

_____
Email Address

I hereby grant permission for my child to serve as an Altar Server.

_____
Signature of the Parent/Guardian

DUE DATE: Friday, 10 October 2025

Please return this application to your child's Catechist - Teacher or to the Rectory Office.

Eucharistic Adoration Monday through Saturday 8:00AM to 8:50AM

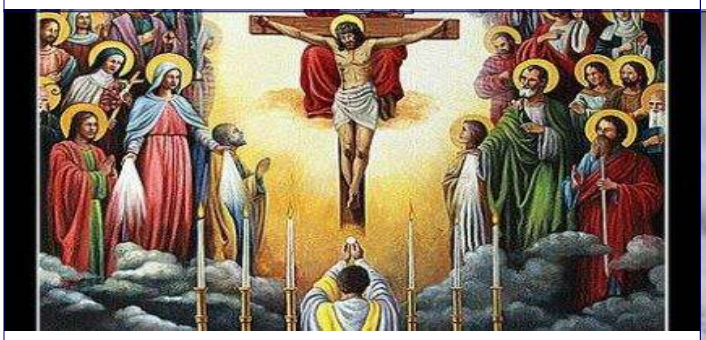
Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic worship is therefore precisely the expression of that love which is the authentic and deepest characteristic of the Christian vocation. This worship springs from the love and serves the love to which we are all called in Jesus Christ. A living fruit of this worship is the perfecting of the image of God that we bear within us….We must always have this reality before our eyes."

We encourage everyone to make an effort to spend time with our Lord. It is time well spent in prayer for your own intentions and also for our Parish Family.

Receiving Holy Communion

For those who have difficulty walking up the aisle to receive Holy Communion, may I suggest that you sit in the front row on either side to save yourself some steps. The priest, deacon, or minister will come down to you in the pew and give you Holy Communion. However, if for some reason you need to sit towards the back of the Church, please let the usher know and they will inform the priest, deacon, or minister, and we will come back to you to give you Holy Communion when we finish those in line.

Thanks,
Msgr. Maresca



2025 Mass Book

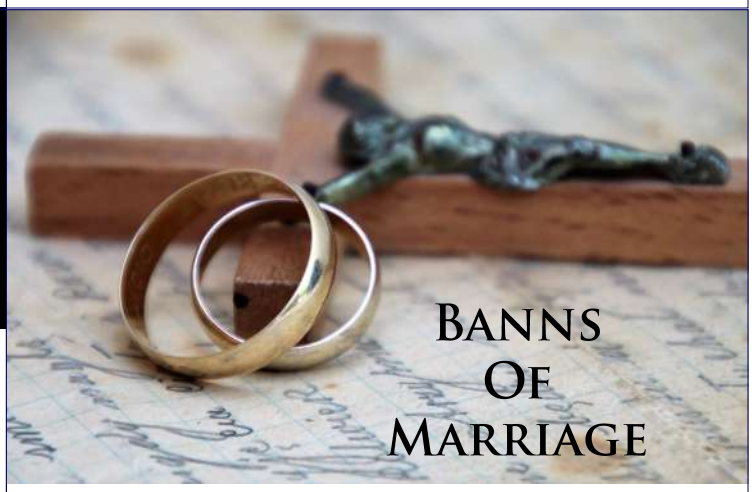
The 2025 Mass Book is now open for the remainder of 2025.

Masses:
Masses are $20.00.

The Purgatorial Society has an enrollment for one year:
Purgatorial Mass Cards are $30.00.

Memorials:
Altar Bread,
Wine,
Sanctuary Lamp,
or Altar Candles
are $75.00.

Altar Flowers are $100.



2nd Announcement:

Andrew Pacura
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

&

Nicole Bianco
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Weekly Offering

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

Sunday 9/13-9/14	**$4728**
Second Collection	**$662**
Catholic University of America	

Mass Attendance for September 13/14, 2025

5:00PM	**129**
8:00AM	**59**
9:30AM	**129**
11:00AM	**92**
	Total: 409

Next Weekend September 27/28, 2025

There will be a Second Collection for: Catholic Education

Rectory Office Hours Are Now Back to our Regular Hours

Monday & Friday: 9AM-12NOON; 1PM-5PM

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 9AM-12NOON; 1PM-9PM

Saturday: 9AM-2PM

Closed Sunday and all Holidays

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.** 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. So far we have pledged **$29,604** towards our goal.

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

Church Envelope Update

In the coming weeks, you will be receiving Church Envelopes from a new company with a new design. This will impact envelopes beginning September 21st, 2025.

There should be no impact to delivery timing or who gets envelopes as the same list currently in use was sent to the new Company.

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, returned by mail, or in the Sunday Collection Basket. You can even download the census card online. Just check our website at:
stfrancisofassisiastoria.org
You will then begin to receive weekly offering envelopes.

Calendar of Events

This Week

September 21 - September 27

Sunday, September 21
Catechetical Sunday
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, September 22
12:00PM Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir -Church

Tuesday, September 23
6:30PM AA Meeting—Rectory Basement

Wednesday, September 24
6:00PM ACA Support Group - Redeemer Center
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, September 25
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, September 26
Fall Festival Set-Up

Saturday, September 27
Fall Festival!

Jesus sends out His twelve apostles to proclaim the kingdom.

Next Week

September 28 - October 4

Sunday, September 28
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD Class - School
12:00NOON Baptisms

Monday, September 29
12:00PM Golden Age - MCH
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir -Church

Tuesday, September 30
School Spirit Day - Schoolyard
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 1
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, October 2
School Closed K-8; 3K & PreK Regular Dismissal
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, October 3
9:00AM Feast Day School Mass

Saturday, October 4
Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
9:00AM Anointing Mass

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

Fall Festival 2025!!

Save the Date: Saturday, September 27, 2025

Come help our Parish AND have fun!

This year the fun includes Rides, Games for Children and Adults, Food, Raffles, Music, Face Painting, Sand Art, Volleyball & Soccer, Prizes, and more!

Raffle Tickets will be sold at all Masses this weekend, so be sure to stop by the table to get your tickets!
FIRST PRIZE IS $5,000!!

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation to support the Festival, please contact:
Anthony Siano
646-831-8582

St. Francis of Assisi Church – Bereavement Support Group

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." – Psalm 34:18

Wednesday evenings
Resuming September 10, 2025
With a new time of
7:45pm – 8:45pm

St. Francis of Assisi Church
Rectory Meeting Room
21-17 45th Street
Astoria, NY 11105

Please enter through
The basement back door.
(Accessible by the side gate. Follow the signs)

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you are not alone. St. Francis of Assisi Church invites you to join a compassionate and supportive bereavement group. Together we will reflect, share, and find comfort through prayer and community. This group is open to all—parishioners and non-parishioners alike.

Come as you are. All are welcome.

Contact Carol Hickey at SFAparishcouncil@sfaacademy.org or inquire with the rectory for more information.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS/ DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES

Reclaiming Ourselves: Feel, Talk & Trust in Astoria

Wednesdays 6:00PM –7:15PM

Returning to St. Francis of Assisi Church October 1, 2025 at 6:00 pm

The Redeemer Center
30-14 Crescent Street
Astoria, NY 11102

For more information,

The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a prayer group consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, who is our Mother in the order of grace. Members entrust themselves to Mary to sanctify souls and to better a troubled world, for she is a sure path to Christ. In the words of Pope St. Leo X, we pray that Mary may "restore all things in Christ."

Members meet every Thursday at 10:00AM in the Rectory Basement.
Everyone is welcome to come and join in the Mission and the Fellowship.

Catechetical Sunday is Sunday, September 21, 2025.

CCD Classes also begin on Sunday, September 21st following the 9:30AM Mass.

THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB
MONDAYS FROM 12:00PM TO 3:30PM

If you are 65 years of age or older, we have a great community and we would love for you to join us! Bingo is played each week, and some members play Cards or Pockeno.
Refreshments are served as well. We celebrate all Holidays and Birthdays!
We are celebrating our 54th Year Anniversary Mass and Luncheon in November.

IACA - Italian American Catholic Action
Meeting on Thursdays at 6:00PM in the Rectory Basement

95th Anniversary

Donations can still be made to the statue of Mother Theresa or add a name in memory of or in thanksgiving for. Those names will be printed in the program. The deadline for listing names is Friday, September 26th.

On Sunday, October 19th, at the 9:30AM Mass, we will celebrate our 95th Anniversary. Bishop Massa will be here to celebrate with us. Unfortunately Bishop Brennan had a schedule conflict and is not able to be with us.

Join us as we give thanks to God for 95 years of Faith and Family.

A Look Ahead:

On Sunday, October 19th, 2025, there will be *NO 11:00AM Mass* due to our 9:30AM Celebratory Mass and Mother Theresa Statue Dedication. Please plan accordingly.

Parish Lector & Minister Schedule now available on our Website!

We will still include the schedule in the last and first Bulletin of the Month, but if you have forgotten when you are scheduled, scan this QR Code to take you to the Schedule for September:

Catholic Apologetics

For resources on learning more about the truths of the Faith and how to explain and discuss those with people around you, Catholic Answers is a wonderful resource. Scan the QR code to learn more:

For Young Adults aged 20 to 45, check back for more opportunities within the Parish!

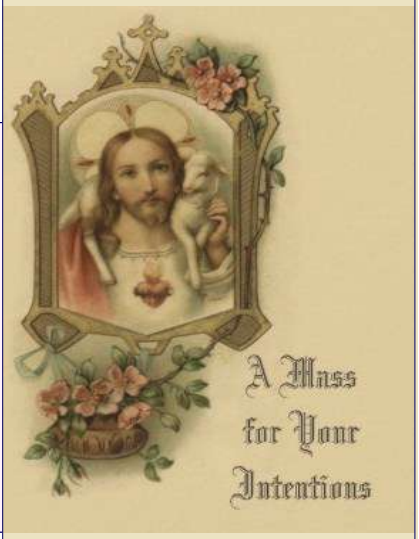
For General Resources for Young Catholic Adults, use the QR Code provided here!

2026 Mass Book Opens on Thursday, October 2nd

Starting Thursday, October 2, 2025, the 2026 Mass Book will be open for Mass Intentions from 9:30AM-11:30AM; and 1PM-5PM.

12NOON-1PM the Office will be closed for Lunch.

2026 Mass Reservations will not be taken before October 2nd and must be made in person.



There is a $20 Donation for each Mass Intention.

Single Intention Masses:
Monday-Friday 9AM
Saturday 5PM
Sunday 8AM & 9:30AM

Multiple Intention Masses:
Saturday 9AM
Sunday 11AM

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 **Tara.**

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.

Religious Education Registration
CLASSES START SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
Those who have not yet registered for Religious Education classes are kindly asked to fill out the Registration Form included in the Bulletin, or pick up a registration form from the Rectory and fill it out and return it as soon as possible.

For any questions, please contact Sr. Francesca via email or phone:
dre@sfaacademy.org 718-278-0259 ext. 121

Catechist Needed

We are currently in need of a Catechist for our 7th Grade Class.

If you are interested, please contact Sr. Francesca at
718-278-0259, ext. 121, or dre@sfaacademy.org

OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Are you someone, or do you know someone who:

...has expressed interest in becoming Catholic?

...was baptized as a Catholic as a child but never received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) focuses on learning about the Church and teachings of the Faith to prepare individuals to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation during the Easter Season.

For more information, please contact Sr. Francesca at 718-278-0259, ext. 121, or dre@sfaacademy.org

St. Francis of Assisi Office of Religious Education
REGISTRATION FORM – 2025-2026

Student Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Circle if Completed Baptism Communion

School Attending and Grade in September 2025

_____

Sacrament needed: [circle please] *Baptism Communion Confirmation*

Father's Name:

_____ Living/Deceased Religion: _____
(circle one)

Mother's Name:

_____ Living/Deceased Religion: _____
Include maiden name *(circle one)*

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____
(Cell, Home, Mother, Father) *(Cell, Home, Mother, Father)*

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____
(Mother, Father) *(Mother, Father)*

Home Address _____
Street Town State Zip

EMERGENCY CONTACT: In case of emergency who should we contact other than Parent/s.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Contact Number: _____

Is there any additional information we should know? (family situations, medical conditions, allergies, special needs or accommodations, etc.) If "NO" please write "NONE".

_____

Language spoken at home: English ____ Spanish ____ Italian ____ Other _____

Are you registered in the Parish? _____ If yes, envelope number: _____

I am interested in volunteering as a catechist, hall monitor, office assistant, or class parent. Please contact me. ☐

Tuition for the 2025-2026 Year

Tuition for Grades 1-8: **1 child** $100 **2 children or more** $175

Additional Fees: Grade 2 First **Communion** Fee **$150.00** Grade 8 **Confirmation** Fee **$150.00**

Family Name: _____

Grades: _____

Information Date added: _____

Registration remains open all year. *If you have any financial questions or scheduling conflicts, please do not hesitate to call our office so we can discuss your situation and work together to find a solution.*

Office Use ONLY

Date: _____ Amount: _____ Form of Payment: _____

Date: _____ Amount: _____ Form of Payment: _____

Office notes _____