26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

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**
Monday, Sept. 29	*Feast of Sts. Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael, Archangels*
9:00AM	**Giuseppina Maria Pedalino**
Tuesday, Sept. 30	*St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor Of the Church*
9:00AM	**Chua Piak Lian**
Wednesday, Oct. 1	*St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Rosemarie Conroy**
Thursday, Oct. 2	*The Holy Guardian Angels*
9:00AM	**Daniel Gonzalez**
Friday, Oct. 3	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Dee Bun Heng**
Saturday, Oct. 4	*95th Anniversary of the Parish & St. Francis of Assisi*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society** **The Legion of Mary and their Families, Living & Deceased** **Carmela Messina**
5:00PM	**Luciano Penasso**
Sunday, Oct. 5	*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Madeline Palazzolo**
9:30AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
11:00AM	**Ettore Mascitti**

Today's Readings

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out: "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then father, I beg you to send him to my father's house - for I have five brothers - that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14
Luke 17:5-10

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:

BLESSED IS HE WHO *SECURES JUSTICE FOR THE OPPRESSED, GIVES FOOD TO THE HUNGRY.*

The word of God teaches us to pursue righteousness rather than selfishness. When we ourselves suffer, as Jesus did for us, we grow in humility and empathy for others. We learn to re-evaluate our priorities and place love for God and our neighbor above pleasure, power, and wealth. Though not a good itself, suffering can change our hearts, move us to repentance, and return us to God.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	***Daniel 7:9-10,13-14*** ***John 1:47-50***
Tuesday	***Zechariah 8:20-23*** ***Luke 9:51-56***
Wednesday	***Nehemiah 2:1-8*** ***Luke 9:57-62***
Thursday	***Nehemiah 8:1-4a,5-6, 7b-12*** ***Matthew 18:1-5,10***
Friday	***Baruch 1:15-22*** ***Luke 10:13-16***
Saturday	***Baruch 4:5-12,27-29*** ***Luke 10:17-24***

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

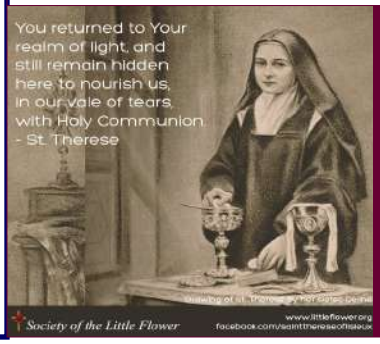
Thursdays from 7:20PM-8:50PM,
Rectory Basement, St. Joseph Room

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
The Scripture Study Group is delighted to continue our study with ***The Gospel According to Matthew***. Join us on Thursday, October 2nd for this week's study on Matthew Chapters 6-7: The Sermon on the Mount; and Chapter 8: Ministry and Mission in Galilee..

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For whoever asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Matthew 7:7-8)

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.



St. Therese
Of The Child Jesus,
Pray For Us.

Feast Day:
Wednesday, October 1

From the Pastor's Desk:

"Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile." (Amos 6:1a,7)

My Dear Parishioners,

One serious question we should ask ourselves as we listen to the sacred Scripture today is, *Do we reflect on the many gifts and talents that have been given to us by God?* What if we were to experience a sudden challenge or change to the lifestyle we presently have? Maybe an unexpected death in the family or grave financial problems. Have we been diligent and generous enough to those who are in need, so that should the tables be turned, we could expect the same courtesies from our neighbors?

Our first reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos sites examples of a lifestyle change occurring to the complacent people in Zion. This brings to mind one of the Beatitudes, *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.* If it ever occurred that we would some day be in need of mercy, it should be rewarding for us to obtain mercy. Living our lives by acknowledging God's mercy toward us is an honorable task. If pursued with humility, showing mercy can be a source of joy both in this life and help us achieve the promise of eternal life.

Paul makes the observation quite clear in today's letter to Timothy when he says, *You, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.* To pursue and develop such virtues can present quite a challenge to our western civilization's lifestyle that emphasizes personal advancement and accumulation of worldly treasure. Think of the many people in the world who will go to bed hungry this evening or those greatly in need of justice or understanding.

It may be the challenge that we think we can do so little about when we consider the many agencies already attempting to serve the needy of this world. One thing that is in reach of every Christian regardless of our economic condition is to be mindful of Mother Teresa's challenge: *Perhaps the greatest poverty in this world is not the lack of food, but the lack of love.* People are hungry for companionship, solidarity, and intimacy. Loneliness is the cause of the greatest hunger in the hearts of many; no one should experience loneliness when the grace of God has filled our hearts.

Today's gospel reading makes the effort to educate us on the consequences of ignoring those in need that we may encounter but fail to see every day in our lives. *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall have their fill.* Seek justice in this life and it will be fulfilled in life eternal. May God continue to bless us.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Astoria, began as the dream of Reverend Joseph C. Schaeffner, a priest at nearby St. Joseph's parish, who realized the need for another parish to the north. In the midst of the Great Depression, he was miraculously able to obtain permission to begin building St. Francis of Assisi Church in October of 1930. Prior to the Church's completion, Father Schaeffner said Masses for approximately five hundred faithful in the Continental Hall on Steinway Street.

The Parish celebrated its first baptism on November 26, 1930, and by December, a Rosary Society, Holy Name Society, and a Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary were established. By September 1931, Sunday school classes for students of public schools began. On Labor Day 1931, Bishop Molloy dedicated the Upper Church.

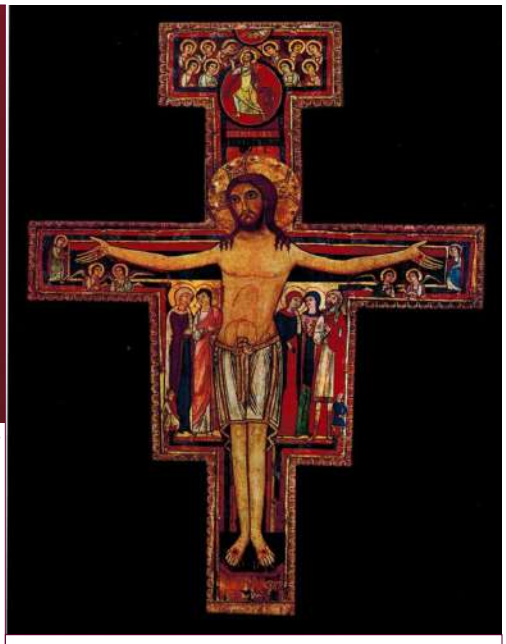
In August 1949, two decades after the Church's dedication, construction on St. Francis of Assisi School began. Bishop Molloy dedicated the school and convent housing the Sisters of St. Dominic on February 13, 1951.

Father Schaeffner, elevated to Monsignor, was appointed the first pastor and served until his retirement in 1966. He died in 1969, and the chapel in the rear of the Church was dedicated to him in commemoration of his achievements.

Father Daniel A Gilroy followed Monsignor Schaeffner as pastor until October 1971 when Father Thomas P. Campbell, later appointed Monsignor, became pastor. Msgr. Campbell served faithfully until his retirement in 1992 and remained an active part of Parish life even in his retirement. Bishop Thomas Daily appointed Father Leonard Badia as pastor following Msgr. Campbell. Father Badia was replaced by Father Emilio Salerno in 1998. In 2005, Fr. Salerno retired.

Our current pastor, Monsignor Ralph J. Maresca, V.F., former secretary to Bishop Daily, was appointed on February 2, 2005 and continues his role today as good shepherd to the people of the Astoria area and continues to faithfully serve.

Since its founding, lay people of St. Francis have actively participated to make parish life more rich and meaningful. Lay involvement, from assisting in ministries to forming and continuing societies, has significantly contributed to our parish's warm and welcoming spirit. May the Holy Spirit continue to bless us!

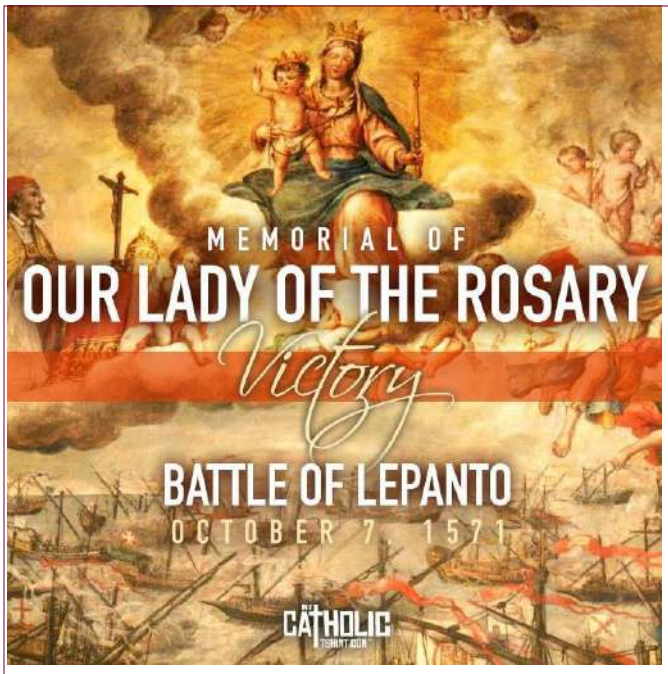


Antiphon of St. Francis

Holy Virgin Mary, among all the women in the world, there is none like you: you are the daughter and the handmaid of the most high King and Father of Heaven; you are the mother of our most holy Lord Jesus Christ; you are the spouse of the Holy Spirit. Pray for us with Saint Michael the Archangel and all the powers of the heavens and all the saints to your most holy and beloved Son, our Lord and Master.

St. Francis, "a truly Catholic and apostolic man," built his personal life of prayer by a deep and warm devotion to the Mother of God. St. Francis prayed this supremely Trinitarian prayer to Mary before beginning each "hour" of the Liturgy of the Hours.

**Taken from 'A Prayer Book for Eucharistic Adoration' compiled by William G. Storey; University of Notre Dame.*



October Is The Month Of The Most Holy Rosary

On October 7, the Roman Catholic Church celebrates the yearly feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Known for several centuries by the alternate title of "Our Lady of Victory," the feast day takes place in honor of a 16th Century naval victory which secured Europe against Turkish invasion. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe.

Pope Leo XIII was particularly devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary, producing 11 encyclicals on the subject of the feast and its importance in the course of his long pontificate.
In the first of them, 1883's "Supremi Apostolatus Officio," he echoed the words of the oldest know Marian prayer (known in Latin tradition as the Sub Tuum Praesidium"), when he wrote, *"It has always been the habit of Catholics in danger and in troubled times to fly for refuge to Mary."*
"*This devotion, so great and so confident, to the august Queen of Heaven,"* Pope Leo XIII continued, *"has never shown forth with such brilliancy as when the militant Church of God has seemed to be endangered by the violence of heresy...or by an intolerable moral corruption, or by the attacks of powerful enemies."* Foremost among such "attacks" was the Battle of Lepanto, a perilous and decisive moment in European and World History.

Troops of the Turkish Ottoman Empire had invaded and occupied the Byzantine Empire by 1453, bringing a large portion of the increasingly divided Christian world under a version of Islamic Law. For the next hundred years, the Turks expanded their empire westward on land, and asserted their naval power in the Mediterranean. In 1565 they attacked Malta, envisioning an eventual invasion of Rome. Though repelled at Malta, the Turks captured Cyprus in the fall of 1570.

The next year, three Catholic powers on the Continent - Genoa, Spain, and the Papal States - formed an alliance called the Holy League, to defend their Christian civilization against Turkish invasion. Its fleets sailed to confront the Turks near the west coast of Greece on October 7, 1571.
Crew members on more than 200 ships prayed the Rosary in preparation for the battle - as did Christians throughout Europe, encouraged by the Pope to gather in their churches to invoke the Virgin Mary against the daunting Turkish forces.

Some accounts say that Pope St. Pius V was granted a miraculous vision of the Holy League's stunning victory. Without a doubt, the Pope understood the significance of the day's events, when he was eventually informed that all but 13 of the nearly 300 Turkish ships had been captured or sunk. He was moved to institute the feast now celebrated universally as Our Lady of the Rosary.

*Taken from Catholic News Agency/www.catholicnewsagency.com

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

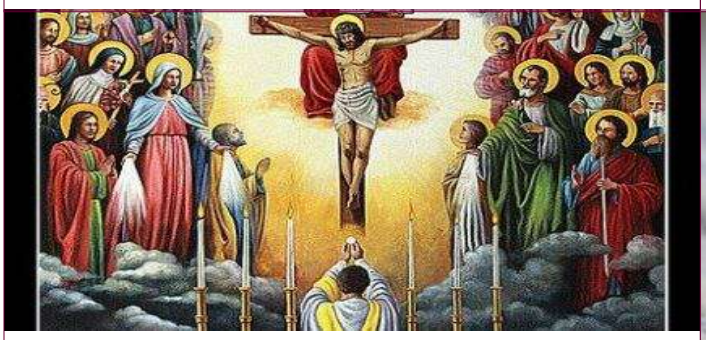
Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic 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

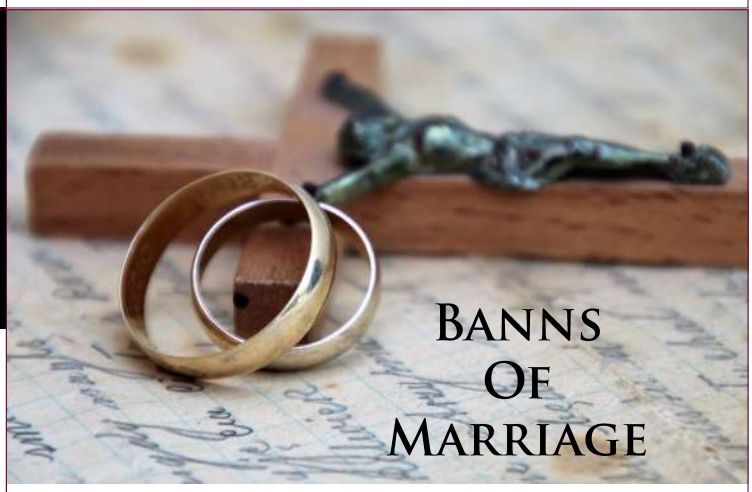
The 2025 Mass Book is now open for the remainder of 2025.

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.



3rd 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 9/20-9/21	**$3,284**
Second Collection	**$788**
Catholic Education	

Mass Attendance for September 20/21, 2025

5:00PM	**101**
8:00AM	**65**
9:30AM	**221**
11:00AM	**109**
	Total: 496

Looking Ahead:

Columbus Day Monday, October 13, 2025

The School and Rectory Office will be closed in observance of the holiday.

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 **$29,814** 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 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
12:30PM Blessing of the Animals - Schoolyard

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

Next Week

October 5 - October 11

Sunday, October 5
Parents' Penance Meeting
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, October 6
12:00PM Golden Age - MCH
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir -Church

Tuesday, October 7
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 8
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
7:00PM Baptism Class - Rectory
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, October 9
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, October 10

Saturday, October 11

Jesus, Mary, and Martha.

We invite you and your beloved pets on

Saturday October 4th,

12:30PM in the Schoolyard

For our Annual Blessing of the Animals With Fr. Ruggiero, on the actual Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi!

All Pets and People are welcome!

For questions, please contact the Rectory Office at (718)-728-7801.

Lector & Minister Schedule October 2025

	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 4-5	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 11-12	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 18-19	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 25-26
Lectors			95th ANNIVERSARY	
Saturday 5:00PM	Debbi Skinner	Dolores Ratkowski	Edward Kubina	Debbi Skinner
Sunday 8:00AM	Andrew Soltesz	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Rob Laucella
Sunday 9:30AM	Sharon Constanza	Josephine Corso	*****	Maria Brooks
Sunday 11:00AM	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	NO 11AM MASS	Carol Hickey
Ministers				
Saturday 5:00PM	*****	Ray Conlon	*****	*****
Sunday 8:00AM	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 9:30AM	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 11:00AM	*****	*****	NO 11AM MASS	Jan Hengl

Our Lector and Minister Schedule is also available online. It's as easy as scanning the QR Code to take you to the Main Schedule Page, and then Select the Month that you would like to view.

SFA YOUTH PAGES

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.

SFA YOUTH PAGES

Jesus is with us in the Blessed Sacrament. Take some time to pray, reflect, and talk to Him in your heart.

What would you like to say to Jesus today? He is here, listening to you.

www.catholicprintablesforkids.com

Things to Think About Before the Blessed Sacrament

When you're with Jesus, take a moment to think about who or what you'd like to pray for. Here are some questions to help guide your prayer.

- *Who can I pray for today?*
- *Is there someone who needs my prayers right now?*
- *What are my worries that I want to share with Jesus?*
- *What are my hopes and dreams that I want to ask Jesus to help with?*
- *What are some good things I'm thankful for today?*
- *Is there something in my heart I need Jesus to heal?*
- *Who in my family or friends needs Jesus' love and care?*
- *What can I thank Jesus for today?*
- *Is there someone I can forgive or ask for forgiveness today?*

Jesus, I offer you all the people and things on my heart today. Please guide my thoughts and prayers, and help me listen to You.

Mary Helps Us Talk to Jesus

Mary loves us and wants us to be close to Jesus. As His mother, she helps us pray and talk to Him with love and trust. When we pray, we can ask Mary to guide us and bring our prayers to Jesus, so we can grow closer to Him.

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.

SFA YOUTH PAGES

Sacrament of Confirmation

H F G N I D N A T S R E D N U Q
L L C B T N R N N M N G L J V F
R B M N L C H R I S M F M R T E
K N O W L E D G E Y D F O M C A
B V T G K F T G W T R E D K B R
M P R Q K P H J V G D M S N M O
M M Z V N L I P G U N S I H T F
C R X V P W O E T X N P W P I T
M P E L O H K I T G F O L K R H
C W W I S I T L I Y C N J M I E
O X C I D R L F L P T S P L P L
U Y B F O L T L K K G O H W S O
N P T F K S O G L M M R F R Y R
S C L Z K M M S T G Z I T Y L D
E D E L A E S V Z P R Q Y G O T
L K M Z P M L L C E Q D F B H B

BISHOP
CHRISM
COUNSEL
FEAR OF THE LORD
FIRE
FORTITUDE
GIFTS
HOLY SPIRIT
KNOWLEDGE
OIL
PIETY
SEALED
SOLDIER
SPONSOR
UNDERSTANDING
WISDOM

Images © Dover Publications

©2012 Thatresourcesite.com

Catholic Youth Organization
Children are at the heart of our mission

Website: www.sfawildcats.org
Contact Us: contactus@sfawildcats.org

It was the First Weekend of Fall Soccer!

Saturday 9/20/2025

Subnovice Boys beat St. Luke's 8-1 with goals by Matteo Delia (3 goals), Luka Monterrosa (2 Goals), Noah Hagan (2 goals), and Benjamin Almeida (1 goal).

PeeWee Girls lost to Blessed Trinity 3-5; PeeWee Girls lost their first game against Blessed Trinity. While our team showed progress and responded well to formation and movement practices, BT kept the upper hand. All three goals for our Wildcats were scored by Amelia Beilin.

Bantam Boys beat OL Hope 6-0.

CoEd Mites beat St. Mel's.

Intermediate Boys lost to St. Luke's 5-0.

Bantam Girls beat OL Hope 5-1; Goals were made by Lea Ciccimarra (2), Rosie Meliak (2), and Arden Geiger. Assists by Ava Ciccimarra (2), Emma Vazquez, Colette Longinho, and Enessa.

Sunday 9/21/2025

Subnovice Boys beat St. Mel's 3-2. Goals were made by Noah Hagan (2) and Sebastian Lema (1).

PeWee Girls Beat OL Hope; PeeWee Girls won 2-1 in a hard fought match against Our Lady of Hope. An excellent team effort resulted in goals by Larissa Kirwel and Amelia Beilin. Great defensive plays were made by Dina Mihalitsis and important saves by goalie Valentina Rappa helped secure our first win in the second match of the season.

Bantam Boys beat Holy Child 4-1; Goals were made by Angelos Taylor, Giorgio Marchesi, Lorenzo Pirreca, Colin Vella, Matthew Mura, Henry Lopez, and Gabriele Scrozzo. The team has begun working together and playing off of each other's strengths.

PeeWee Boys lost to RA 2-1; Great effort for PeeWee Boys' first game of the season! John Spero scored a goal and Jace Hili had many great saves!

Intermediate Boys lost to Holy Child 9-2; This weekend the SFA Intermediate soccer team lost 5-0 to St. Luke's and 9-2 to Holy Child. Goal scorers for the second game were Adriano Cuzo and George Sfirogianakis.

Bantam Girls lost to SFDS 5-0.

Stay tuned for the rest of the Season!

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.

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?
WE HAVE CHILDREN'S AND ADULTS' CHOIR ON MONDAYS IN THE CHURCH!

3:00PM CHILDREN'S CHOIR
7:00PM ADULT CHOIR

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.

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 Main Page and select the Month you would like to see:

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!

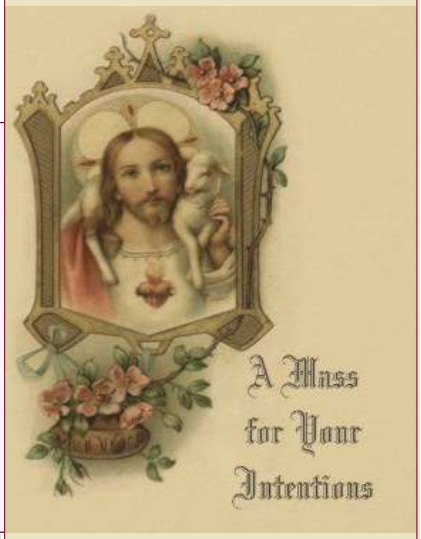
For General Resources for Young Catholic Adults, use the QR Code provided here!

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 _____