29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Oct. 19	*29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Patrick E. McMahon**
9:30AM	**95th Anniversary Family Mass With Bishop Massa/Dedication Of the Mother Teresa Statue**
No 11:00AM Mass Celebrated.	
Monday, Oct. 20	*St. Paul of the Cross, Priest*
9:00AM	**Josip Vlakancic**
Tuesday, Oct. 21	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Maria Caputo**
Wednesday, Oct. 22	*Pope St. John Paul II*
9:00AM	**George Halvatis**
Thursday, Oct. 23	*St. John of Capistrano, Priest*
9:00AM	**Michael Marchessella**
Friday, Oct. 24	*St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop*
9:00AM	**Louis Langone**
Saturday, Oct. 25	*The Blessed Virgin Mary*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
5:00PM	**William Thompson**
Sunday, Oct. 26	*30th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Kelly McGrath Baratta**
11:00AM	**Joycelin Eiaw**
	Angela Cannavo
	Jane Lepre
	Robert Philios

Today's Readings

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13
2 Timothy 3:14—4:2
Luke 18:1-8

Jesus then told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying: "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to His chosen ones who cry to Him day and night? I tell you, He will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Romans 4:20-25***
	Luke 12:13-21
Tuesday	***Romans 5:12,15b,17-19***
	Luke 12:35-38
Wednesday	***Romans 6:12-18***
	Luke 12:39-48
Thursday	***Romans 6:19-23***
	Luke 12:49-53
Friday	***Romans 7:18-25a***
	Luke 12:54-59
Saturday	***Romans 8:1-11***
	Luke 13:1-9

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 35:12-14,16-18
2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18
Luke 18:9-14

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
Anthony Fiorino

FOCUS:

We have been equipped for every good work.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching...and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be...equipped for every good work. With this statement Paul is asserting that whatever else we may need in our striving for holiness and in sharing the Gospel, the word of God is the basis for all truth and the foundation for every good thing. The Lord has provided us with all that is necessary to keep His Word; let us ask Him in prayer to help us answer His call.

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 23rd for this week's study of Matthew Chapters 17-19: Jesus and His Disciples on the way to Jerusalem.

"Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And, whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me." (Matthew 18:4-5)

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.

"For it is in giving that we receive."

- St. Francis of Assisi

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

"When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?

Praying is a dialog with God. We talk and God listens. God talks and we listen. Prayer provides our spiritual life that sip of water and that word of encouragement. Prayer benefits everyone. Prayer strengthens the weak. It gives a sense of direction to the lost. It inspires the fearful to undertake great deeds. The Holy Spirit inspires our prayer with strength that bonds our hearts to Jesus.

Prayer in Christ unites us as a people of faith. Our prayers resonate around the world echoing the presence of Christ in all people of faith. Each moment of the day, somewhere on the face of this globe the sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated. Every moment of the day, somewhere there is a battle of faith. Our prayer's asking for God's help bring victory to those in need wherever they may be.

The Blessed Sacrament nourishes our bodies. God's holy word provides solid support for us to rest our weary souls. The word of God, like the rock that Moses sat upon, steadies us as we confront the tumult of daily life.

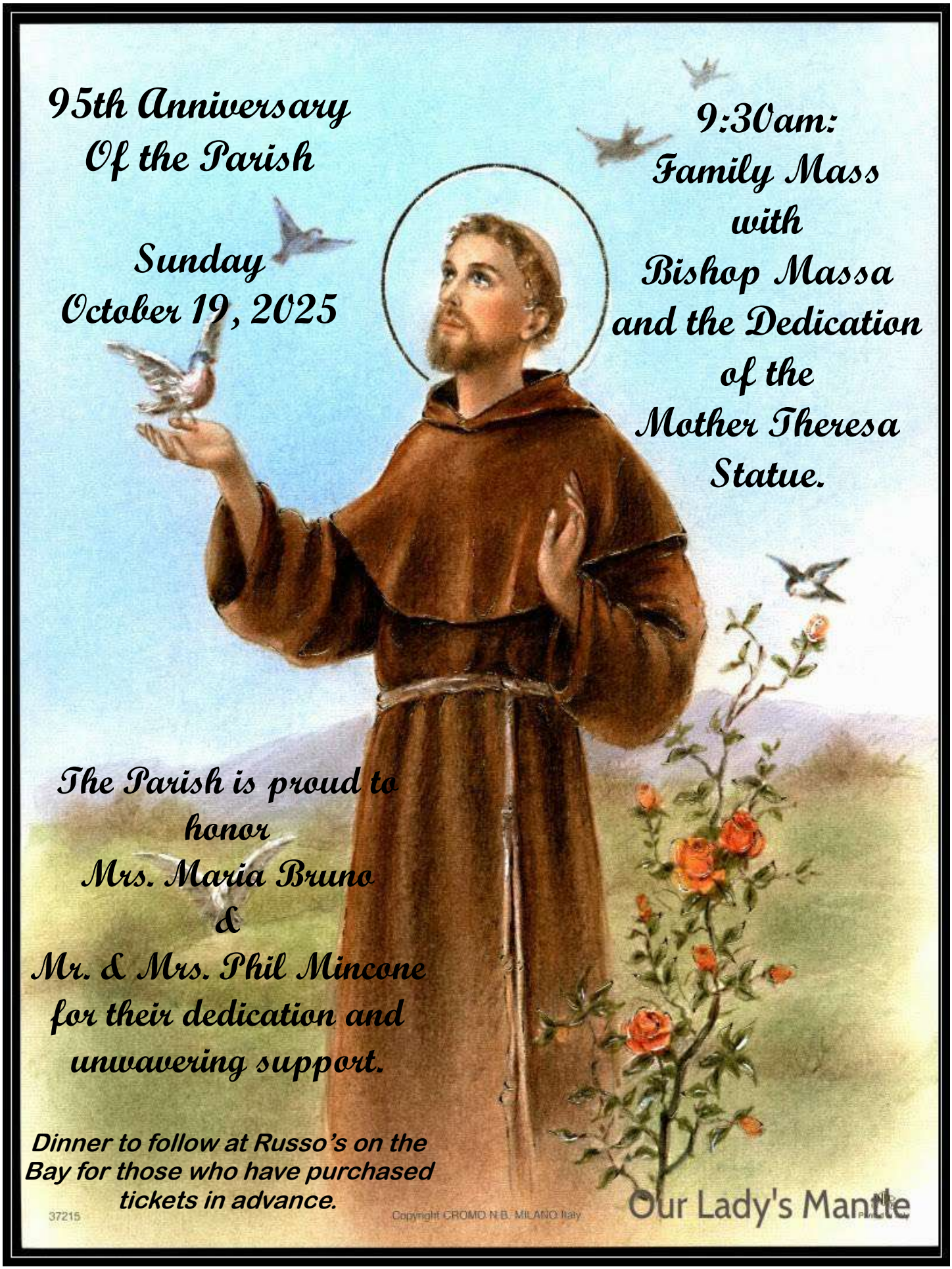
Sacred reading of the Bible, ***Lectio Divina,*** is a time- honored method to engage in conversation with the word of God, with the wholeness of our mind, body, and spirit. Our mind's eye engages our imagination to enter fully the biblical passage. The posture of our body supports our attentive listening to the promptings of God. Our spirit invites the Holy Spirit to tune the strings of our heart so we can resonate with the word of God. When our heart is in tune, there are fewer discords in our life.

When you begin, initiate your prayer life with confident simplicity. The life of prayer grows slowly and simply. Like children learning to walk, take little steps. Begin with little sips of the word of God. Read a portion of next Sunday's Gospel prior to sleep. They say our subconscious, during the night, can ponder the word of God. Then during the day, fragments of the Gospel can percolate up from our hearts. It is as if God is offering us refreshment during our labors.

Our eagerness to pray sometimes overshadows our abilities. Not all have the calling to be a monk, but our calling is be a saint. Those holy pilgrims, the saints, who went before us, support us. They are at the ready to aid us against the daily challenges that confront us.

Our mission is to pray always and not to become weary. Let us grasp Jesus' extended hand. Let us be revitalized by His word as well as his Body and Blood. Let us go forth today with a renewed heart to bring encouragement and support to all of our neighbors and to the whole world.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca


95th Anniversary
Of the Parish
Sunday
October 19, 2025
9:30am:
Family Mass
with
Bishop Massa
and the Dedication
of the
Mother Theresa
Statue.
The Parish is proud to
honor
Mrs. Maria Bruno
&
Mr. & Mrs. Phil Mincone
for their dedication and
unwavering support.
Dinner to follow at Russo's on the
Bay for those who have purchased
tickets in advance.
37215
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Our Lady's Mantle

Prayer of Thanksgiving by St. Francis of Assisi

God, all powerful, most holy, most high, and supreme; FATHER: holy and righteous; LORD: king of heaven and earth; we thank You for Yourself, because by Your holy will and through Your only Son and the Holy Spirit you created all things, spiritual and material. You made us in Your image and likeness and placed us in paradise, and we, through our transgression fell away.

We give You thanks because, as You created us through your Son, so by the holy love with which you loved us You willed Your Son to be born true God and true Man of the glorious and holy Virgin Mary, and through His cross and blood and death it was Your will to set us free from our captivity.

Also, we thank You because that same Son of Yours will come again in the glory of His majesty to condemn those who refused to repent and acknowledge You; and to say to all who did acknowledge, worship and serve You in repentance: *Come, you whom my Father has blessed, receive the kingdom prepared for you since the world began.*

And because we are all wretched sinners, unworthy to speak Your name, therefore let Jesus Christ himself, our Lord and Your beloved Son in whom You are well pleased, give thanks to You for everything, together with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete, as it pleases You and pleases Him. He always satisfies You in everything, and through Him, You have done so much for us. Amen.

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

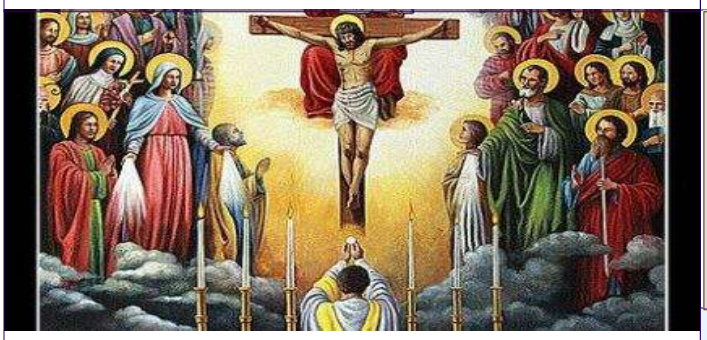
Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic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



2025/2026 Mass Book

The 2025 Mass Book is open for the remainder of 2025 and the 2026 Mass Book is now open.

Masses:
Masses are $20.00.

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

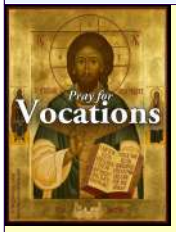
Memorials:
Altar Bread,
Wine,
Sanctuary Lamp,
or Altar Candles
are $75.00.

Altar Flowers are $100.

Lector & Minister Schedule for October 2025
Simply scan the QR code and it will take you to our Ministry Schedule page. Then choose the Month you would like to view:

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:



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

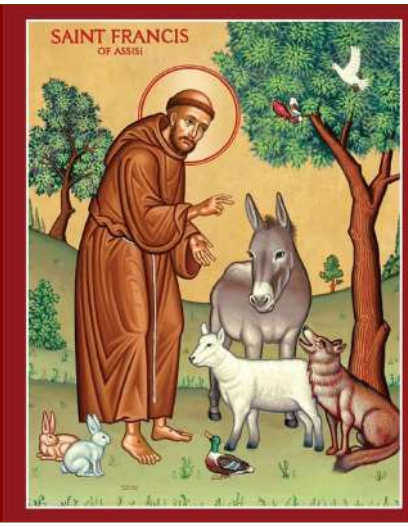
St. Francis of Assisi Parish Weekly Offering

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

Sunday 10/11-10/12	**$3914**
Second Collectdion for Maintenance Fund	**$833**

Mass Attendance For October 11/12, 2025

5:00PM	**91**
8:00AM	**47**
9:30AM	**69**
11:00AM	**91**
	Total: 298



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 **$30,444** 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

Celebrating 95 Years of Faith and Family

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

October 19 - October 25

Sunday, October 19
9:30AM 95th Anniversary Family Mass with Dedication of the Mother Teresa Statue
NO CHILDREN"S LITURGY
NO 11AM MASS
NO CCD CLASS

Monday, October 20
12:00PM Golden Age
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, October 21
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 22
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, October 23
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, October 24
4:00PM Trunk Or Treat - Parking Lot

Saturday, October 25
6:00PM-7:30PM Youth Group - SFA

Moses keeps his hands raised while Joshua is in Battle.

Next Week

October 26 - November 1

Sunday, October 26
9:30AM Pre-Communion Mass
10:40AM CCD Class
12:00 Noon: Baptisms

Monday, October 27
12:00PM Golden Age
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, October 28
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 29
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, October 30
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, October 31
School Closed

Saturday, November 1
All Saints Day
9:00AM Anointing Mass

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector at the Temple.

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

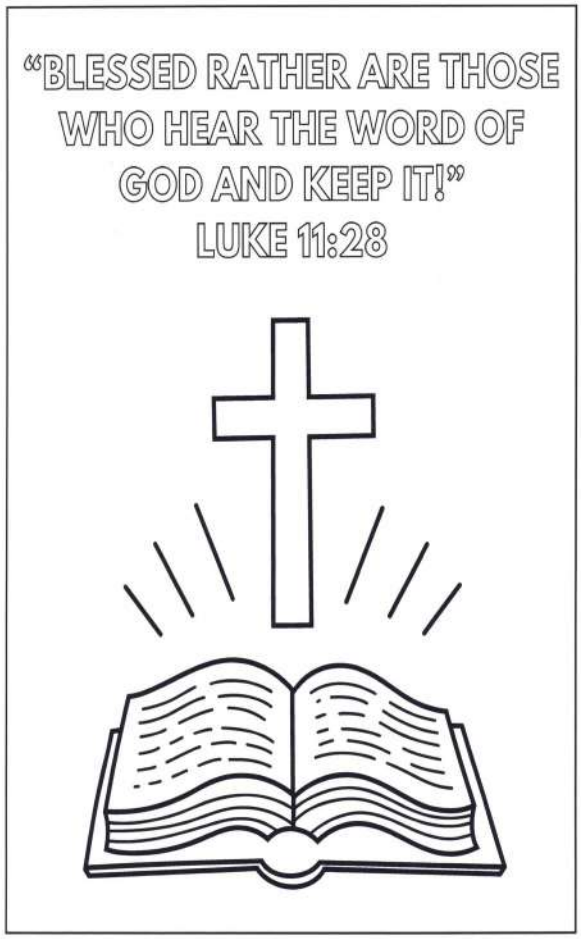
I hereby grant permission for my child to serve as an Altar Server.

_____
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



The First Youth Group Meeting Of The Year!

When: Saturday, October 25th
Time: 6:00PM-7:30PM
Where: SFA

Open to all Academy Students and CCD Students.

Come and make some new friends, have fun, and help our Church, School, and Community!

Directed by: Mrs. Theresa Kubina
For questions, please call us at the Rectory Office: 718-728-7801.

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?

Please call us at the Rectory Office at (718)-728-7801.

Spend time helping others through our Blessed Mother Mary!

*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

Young Saint Spotlight: Blessed Chiara Luce

1971-2010

Chiara Badano was born in 1971 in a small town in Northern Italy. Her parents tried for 11 years to have a child with no success. Her father prayed at a shrine for Our Lady of the Rocche, and shortly thereafter, Chiara was born.

As a child, she was intelligent and strong-willed. At the age of 9, she discovered the Focolare Movement, which began in Italy during the Second World War and promoted a message of unity to the world.

Chiara joined and introduced others to Jesus through her actions, not her words.

"I don't have to talk about Jesus, I have to give Him...first of all by being in an attitude of listening, but above all by my way of loving," she said.

Chiara Lubich, the organization's founder, gave her the name Chiara Luce (luce means "light" in Italian), saying "It is the light of the ideal that overcomes the world."

At 17, Chiara Luce was diagnosed with an aggressive form of bone cancer, after experiencing pain while playing tennis.

Her commitment to Christ, and the incredible faith she displayed in the faith of such hardship, inspired many.

Chiara Luce refused to take a pain reliever, saying "It reduces my lucidity and there's only one thing I can do now: to offer my suffering to Jesus because I want to share as much as possible in His suffering on the Cross."

She died before her 19th birthday, telling her mother before she passed away to be happy - because she herself was.

Blessed Chiara Luce wanted her funeral to be filled with joyful singing, her body in a wedding gown, signifying that she was heading to be united with Jesus.

She is an inspiration to young people and is considered the first member of Generation X to be beatified. She is remembered for her unceasing joy and faith.

Prayer to Blessed Chiara Luce Badano to ask for a Grace:

O Father, source of all good, we thank you for the admirable testimony of Blessed Chiara Badano. Animated by the grace of the Holy Spirit and guided by the luminous example of Jesus, she has firmly believed in your immense love and was determined to reciprocate with all her might, abandoning herself with full confidence to your paternal will. We humbly ask You: also grant us the gift of living with You and for You, while we dare to ask You, if it is part of Your will, grace …(mention your request here) by the merits of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Catholic Trivia!

1.Who is the patron saint of Youth?
A: St. John Bosco

2. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?
A: "Jesus wept." (John 11:35)

3. Who was the first martyr of the Church?
A. St. Stephen

4. What is the purpose of Holy Water in Catholic Churches?
A: For blessings and a reminder of baptism.

5. Who was the first pope to visit the United States?
A. Pope Paul VI

6. When is the Feast of All Saints celebrated?
A. November 1

7. Which saint is associated with the discovery of the True Cross?
A. St. Helena

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!

www.catholicyoungadults.com

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

Join us anytime.

All are welcome.

St. Francis of Assisi Church
St. Joseph Room in the Rectory

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

Religious Education Registration
CLASSES START SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
Those who have not yet registered for Religious Education classes are kindly asked to pick up a Registration Form from the Rectory and return it as soon as possible or scan the QR Code to fill out our Online Registration Form.

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