# 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Mass Intentions

| | |
|---|---|
| ***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 Connavo** |
| | **Jane Lepre** |
| | **Robert Philios** |
| ***Monday, Oct. 27*** | *Weekday* |
| *9:00AM* | **Sally Gaudosi** |
| ***Tuesday, Oct. 28*** | *Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostles* |
| *9:00AM* | **Patrick Mahoney** |
| ***Wednesday, Oct. 29*** | *Weekday* |
| *9:00AM* | **John Quirke** |
| ***Thursday, Oct. 30*** | *Weekday* |
| *9:00AM* | **Erik Tenney** |
| ***Friday, Oct. 31*** | *Weekday* |
| *9:00AM* | **John Kos** |
| ***Saturday, Nov. 1*** | *Solemnity of All Saints* |
| *9:00AM* | **Purgatorial Society** |
| | **The Living & Deceased** |
| | **Members of The Legion of Mary** |
| | **And their Families** |
| | **Jade Hill** |
| *5:00PM* | **The Sweeney Family** |
| ***Sunday, Nov. 2*** | *Commemoration of All Souls* |
| *8:00AM* | **Joseph Cseri** |
| *9:30AM* | **For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi** |
| ***11:00AM*** | **All Souls' Mass** |
| | **Ana Balint** |
| | **Donald & Mabel Chiossone** |
| | **Josephine & Charles Formosa** |

## Today's Readings

### 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt; "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like the other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

### Readings For The Week

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Monday*** | ***Romans 8:12-17*** |
| | ***Luke 13:10-17*** |
| ***Tuesday*** | ***Ephesians 2:19-22*** |
| | ***Luke 6:12-16*** |
| ***Wednesday*** | ***Romans 8:26-30*** |
| | ***Luke 13:22-30*** |
| ***Thursday*** | ***Romans 8:31b-39*** |
| | ***Luke 13:31-35*** |
| ***Friday*** | ***Romans 9:1-5*** |
| | ***Luke 14:1-6*** |
| ***Saturday*** | ***Revelation 7:2-4,9-14*** |
| | ***1 John 3:1-3*** |
| | ***Matthew 5:1-12a*** |

### Commemoration of all Souls

***Wisdom 3:1-9***
***Romans 5:5-11***
***John 6:37-40***

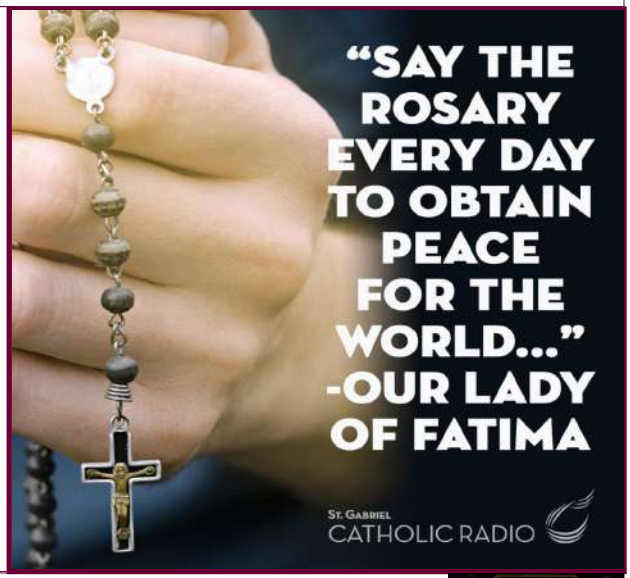
Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort.

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:

## Humility before the Lord is its own righteousness.

In the spiritual life, it is tempting to look at others' motivations and behaviors and compare them to ourselves. We may even comfort ourselves with the thought that at least we are "not like them." The Lord reminds us that our focus should instead be on examining our own actions, recognizing our own sins, and humbly repenting for these, seeking God's mercy.

## 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 30th, for this week's study of Matthew Chapter 20: Jesus and His Disciples on the Way to Jerusalem, and Chapters 21-22: Jesus' Final Days of Teaching in the Temple.

**Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord this has been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?" (Matthew 21:42)**

***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 October 26, 2025

**Sanctuary Lamp**

**In Loving Memory of Anne & William Thompson**

**Requested By The Thompson Family**

# *From the Pastor's Desk:*

My Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel, the Pharisee and the tax-collector both stand before God, each expressing his own truth. On one level the Pharisee is correct in his self- analysis. He has conformed to the Law, observed religious observance, fasted as required and paid the required tithes. By Jewish standards he is a good and faithful Jew. Yet, there is nothing that shows a genuine relationship with God, no compassion for his fellow man, indeed the whole of his prayer sounds more like a monologue than a prayer. Even his comparison with the tax-collector is geared to bolstering his sense of superiority and yet it appears that he has failed to understand the most basic rule of Judaism that he must *worship the Lord God with his whole mind and heart.* The only one he seems to worship is himself!

The tax-collector on the other hand, is a sinner in the eyes of the people and in his own estimation. He is a collaborator with a pagan occupier force. He is tarnished with the reputation for being a thief and levying exorbitant taxes on the ordinary people. Remember what Groucho Marx once said, *I would never join a club that would have me as a member.* The tax-collector might have shared that sentiment. He recognizes that basic truth that we all must recognize: we cannot earn our way to heaven. We depend totally and utterly on God's free gift of grace. God owes us nothing, and yet he gives us everything: his very life, mercy and compassion.

When it comes to eternal life we depend totally on God. St. Paul, the great missionary, knew this all his life but came to a deeper understanding of it as he grew older. He knew everything came from God and with him lay the credit for all his achievements: *the Lord stood by me and gave me strength (2 Tm 4:17).*

This is a Christian truth truly worth exploring. To think that we can save ourselves or enter into the promise of eternal life through our own endeavors is to delude ourselves. Instead, we are to face the truth of our human weakness and need and in that moment of acknowledgment, with trust and confidence, make room for God in our lives. We get real when we let God be God in our lives.

***All God's Blessings,***
***Msgr. Maresca***

# The 95th Anniversary Mass

*Sunday, October 19, 2025*

*Left: Bishop Massa Preaches the Gospel*

*Above Left: The Procession to Begin Mass*

*Above Right: The celebration of the Mass with Bishop Massa, Monsignor Maresca, Fr. Ruggiero, Fr. Victor, and Our Deacons.*

**Photo Credit: Carol Marino**

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

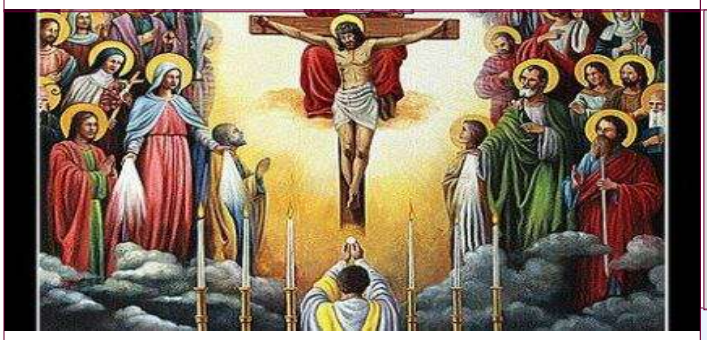
Eucharistic Adoration is celebrated Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic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

## Anointing of the Sick

On every First Saturday of the Month, we have our Anointing Mass at 9am. All are invited and we encourage you to bring your loved ones to this very special Mass each Month.

**Our upcoming Anointing Mass is Saturday, November 1, 2025.**

# 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 10/18-10/19** | **$3929** |
| **Second Collectdion for World Mission Sunday** | **$896** |

# Mass Attendance For October 18/19, 2025

| | |
|---|---|
| **5:00PM** | **101** |
| **8:00AM** | **45** |
| **9:30AM** | **324** |
| **11:00AM** | **NO MASS** |
| | **Total: 470** |

# All Souls Day Remembrance Novena Masses

## Sunday, November 2, 2025

You may drop your *All Souls Day Remembrance Novena Mass* Envelopes in any collection this weekend or next weekend.

You may also find extra envelopes at the back of the church.

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

# All Saints Day

**All Saints Day is next Saturday, November 1, 2025.**

**Although it is not a holy day of obligation this year, we strongly suggest coming to our Saturday Mass at 9:00AM that day as it is not only our Monthly Anointing Mass, but is also an important celebration in the Liturgical Year of the Church.**

**You may drop your All Saints Day Envelopes in any collection this weekend or next weekend.**

# 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 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.

## Next Week

### November 2 - November 1

**Sunday, November 2**
**All Souls Day**
**9:30AM CYO Mass**
10:40AM CCD Class
**11:00AM All Souls Day Remembrance Mass**

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

**Tuesday, November 4**
3:00PM SFA Singers - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement
6:30PM Grocery Bingo Sales - MMC

**Wednesday, November 5**
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

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

**Friday, November 7**
**9:00AM Ring Day Mass**

**Saturday, November 8**

All Souls Day. Painting by Jakub Schikaneder, 1888

# Lector & Minister Schedule November 2025

| | All Saints Day & All Souls Day November 1-2 | The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica November 8-9 | 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 15-16 | Solemnity of Christ the King November 22-23 | 1st Sunday in Advent November 29-30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lectors** | | | | | |
| Saturday 5:00PM | Josephine Corso | Debbi Skinner | Dolores Ratkowski | Edward Kubina | Debbi Skinner |
| Sunday 8:00AM | Rob Laucella | Andrew Soltesz | Rob Laucella | Andrew Soltesz | Rob Laucella |
| Sunday 9:30AM | Sharon Costanza | Patrick O'Toole | Josephine Corso | Martha O'Toole | Maria Brooks |
| Sunday 11:00AM | Jane Di Donato | Carol Hickey | Jane Di Donato | Carol Hickey | Jane Di Donato |
| **Ministers** | | | | | |
| Saturday 5:00PM | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** |
| Sunday 8:00AM | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** |
| Sunday 9:30AM | ***** | Theresa Mincone | ***** | ***** | ***** |
| Sunday 11:00AM | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** |

**As a reminder, our Lector & Minister Schedules can be found online by scanning this QR Code below and then selecting the Month you would like to view!**

# SFA YOUTH PAGES

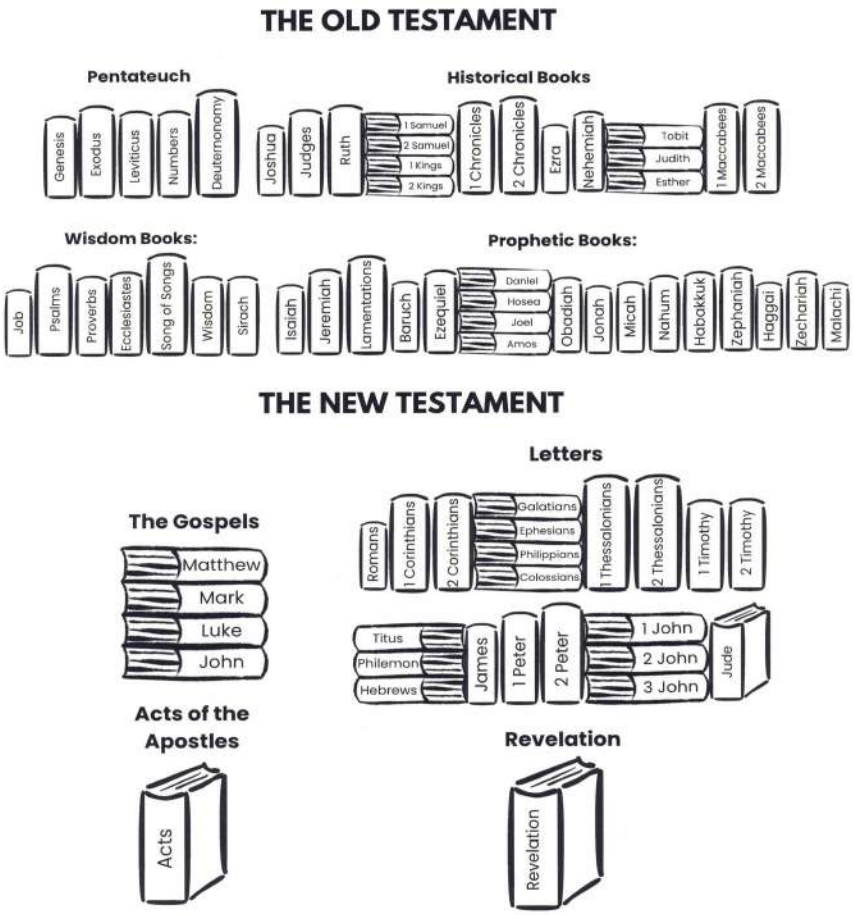
## Your Bible Bookshelf

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OF THE BIBLE?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE STORY IN THE BIBLE?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE?

WHAT IS ONE BOOK THAT YOU HAVE NEVER READ BEFORE?



# 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:
## St. Gemma Galgani
1878-1903

St. Gemma Galgani is known for her deep love for Jesus and His Passion. She is sometimes called the Daughter of the Passion because of her great devotion to Christ's suffering. She lived a short life filled with much pain and prayer.

Gemma was a young Italian woman who suffered with Jesus and wanted to offer her life for sinners. Many people today still turn to her for help and inspiration. She was born in Italy and stayed close to home most of her life. Even though she lived a quiet life, her story has traveled all over the world. People love St. Gemma because she trusted God even when she was sick and alone. She shows how to love Jesus in everyday life, even when life is very hard.

When Gemma was young, she lost her mother to tuberculosis. She also lost her brother and father as well. This was very hard for her, but it made her turn more to Jesus and Mary for comfort. She went to school with the Sisters of St. Zita and was a good student and loved her catechism. She was known for being quiet, kind, and very prayerful. She also loved to spend time in Church.

Gemma had may illnesses throughout her life. She had spinal meningitis and other painful sicknesses.

During these hard times, Gemma experienced visions of Jesus, Mary, and her guardian angel. She said that Jesus would visit her and comfort her. She often saw scenes of His Passion and felt close to His suffering.

One of the special gifts Gemma received was the stigmata. This means that she had wounds like those Jesus had from the Crucifixion. Every Thursday night she would fall into deep prayer, and the wounds would appear. They would close gain on Friday. Even though this was very painful, Gemma never complained. She said she wanted to suffer to help save souls. She offered all her pain to God. She asked Jesus to use her suffering to bring others closer to Him.

Gemma wanted to become a Passionist nun, but her health was too poor. Even though she never became a nun, she lived like one in her heart. She followed the Passionist spirit by praying, suffering, and loving Jesus deeply. She wore a black dress at home like the Passionists wore in the convent.

Gemma died on April 11, 1903 at the age of 25. She died peacefully after a long time of sickness and prayer. She said that she was ready to go home. Many miracles were reported after her death. Because of these signs, the Church opened her cause for sainthood. Gemma was beatified by Pope Pius XI in 1933 and was canonized by Pope Pius XII in 1940. The Church declared her a saint because of her holy life and the miracles through her intercession.

St. Gemma is the patron saint of Students, Pharmacists, and those suffering from back pain and headaches. Many people today still pray to her for help with sickness and for strength to carry their crosses.

**"If you really want to love Jesus, first learn to suffer, because suffering teaches you love."**

## Catholic Trivia!

1.What is the term for a priest who oversees a diocese?
*A: Bishop*

2. What city is the headquarters of the Catholic Church?
*A: Vatican City*

3. What prayer is said at the beginning of each decade of the Rosary?
*A. Our Father (Pater Noster)*

4. What does the Olive Branch symbolize in Christian Art?
*A: Peace*

5. Which pope canonized the most Saints in history?
*A. Pope St. John Paul II*

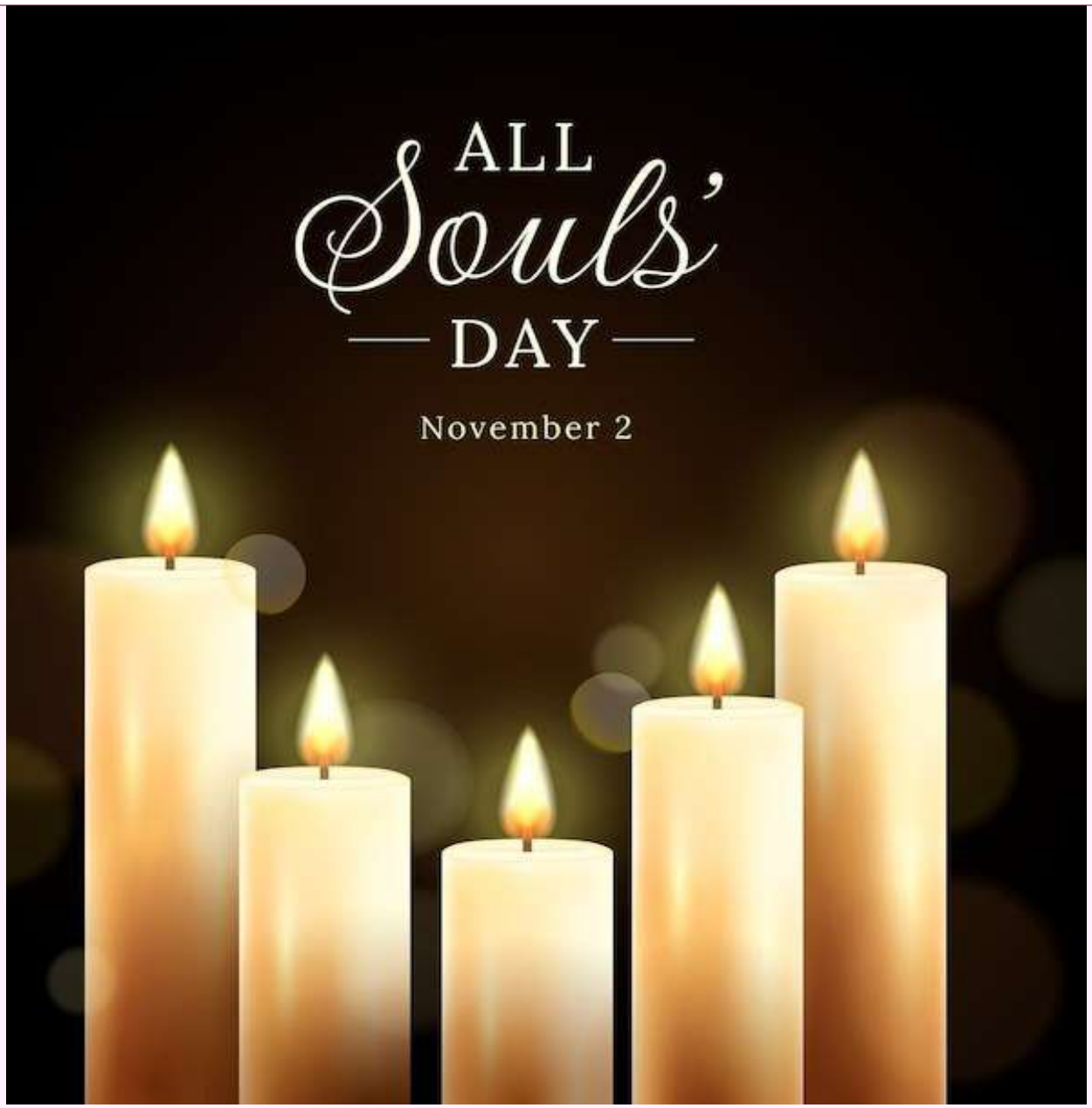
6. Who was the first pope to have a Twitter account?
*A. Pope Benedict XVI*

7. Who is the patron saint of priests?
*A. St. John Vianney*

**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**




# Annual All Souls Day Mass of Remembrance
# Sunday, November 2, 2025
# 11:00AM

***Let us come together as a Parish Family to remember our loved ones who have passed away this year, and pray for them and their families.***

## 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**

Those who have not yet registered for Religious Education classes can do so Sunday at the School. Classes have begun but registration is open.

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

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**