33rd Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Nov. 16	*33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Maria Josefa Matos**
9:30AM	**Antonio Ippolito**
11:00AM	**John Belanich Family**
	All Souls' Novena
Monday, Nov. 17	*St. Elizabeth of Hungary*
9:00AM	**Maureen Barron**
Tuesday, Nov. 18	*The Dedication of the Basilicas Of St. Peter & Paul, Apostles*
9:00AM	**Floriana Caniglia**
Wednesday, Nov. 19	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Vincenzo Della Penna**
Thursday, Nov. 20	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Ann Hughes**
Friday, Nov. 21	*The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
9:00AM	**Antonio & Mario Carullo**
Saturday, Nov. 22	*St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	All Souls' Novena
5:00PM	**The Borgia Family**
Sunday, Nov. 23	*Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Harold Brown**
11:00AM	**Larry Williams**
	Ed Emerson
	Rose C. Di Virgilio
	Patricia Maugeri
	All Souls' Novena

Today's Readings

33rd Sunday In Ordinary Time

Malachi 3:19-20a
2 Thessalonians 3:7-12
Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, He said, "As for these things you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked Him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And He said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them"

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom' there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven."

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you the opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of My name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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
Jerzy Masluk
Joseph Klos

FOCUS:
We are called to persevere in faith until the day Christ returns.

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, our readings turn toward the end of time. The Church in her wisdom reminds us that this earth is not our final home. We are destined to be with God in heaven. The day is coming when Christ will return to judge the world with justice. If we persevere in faith, we can anticipate this coming with joy.

Readings For The Week

Monday — ***1 Maccabees 1:10-15, 41-43,54-57,62-63***
Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday — ***2 Maccabees 6:18-31***
Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday — ***2 Maccabees 7:1,20-31***
Luke 19:11-28

Thursday — ***1 Maccabees 2:15-29***
Luke 19:41-44

Friday — ***1 Maccabees 4:36-37, 52-59***
Luke 19:45-48

Saturday — ***1 Maccabees 6:1-13***
Luke 20:27-40

Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
2 Samuel 5:1-3
Colossians 1:12-20
Luke 23:35-43

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

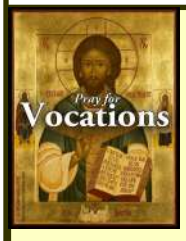
Thursdays from 7:20PM-8:50PM,
Rectory Basement, St. Joseph Room

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
The Scripture Study Group is delighted to continue our study with ***The Gospel According to Matthew***. Join us on Thursday, November 20th, where we will study the final chapters of The Gospel of Matthew 26-28: The Passion and Resurrection.

"...All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20)

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.



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

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

Every so often, over time, we need to give a good cleaning to our rooms or our car and even our lives can become pretty messy and disorderly. As the Church year prepares to end, disorder and combat are primary themes of this Sunday's readings.

Interestingly, the prophet Malachi lived in a time after the Babylon captivity that was tending more toward order than disorder. Our ancestors in faith, the Jews, were recovering from a terribly disorderly time in their history. When their faith flagged, they forgot about God and they were taken over and dragged off to Babylon as slaves.

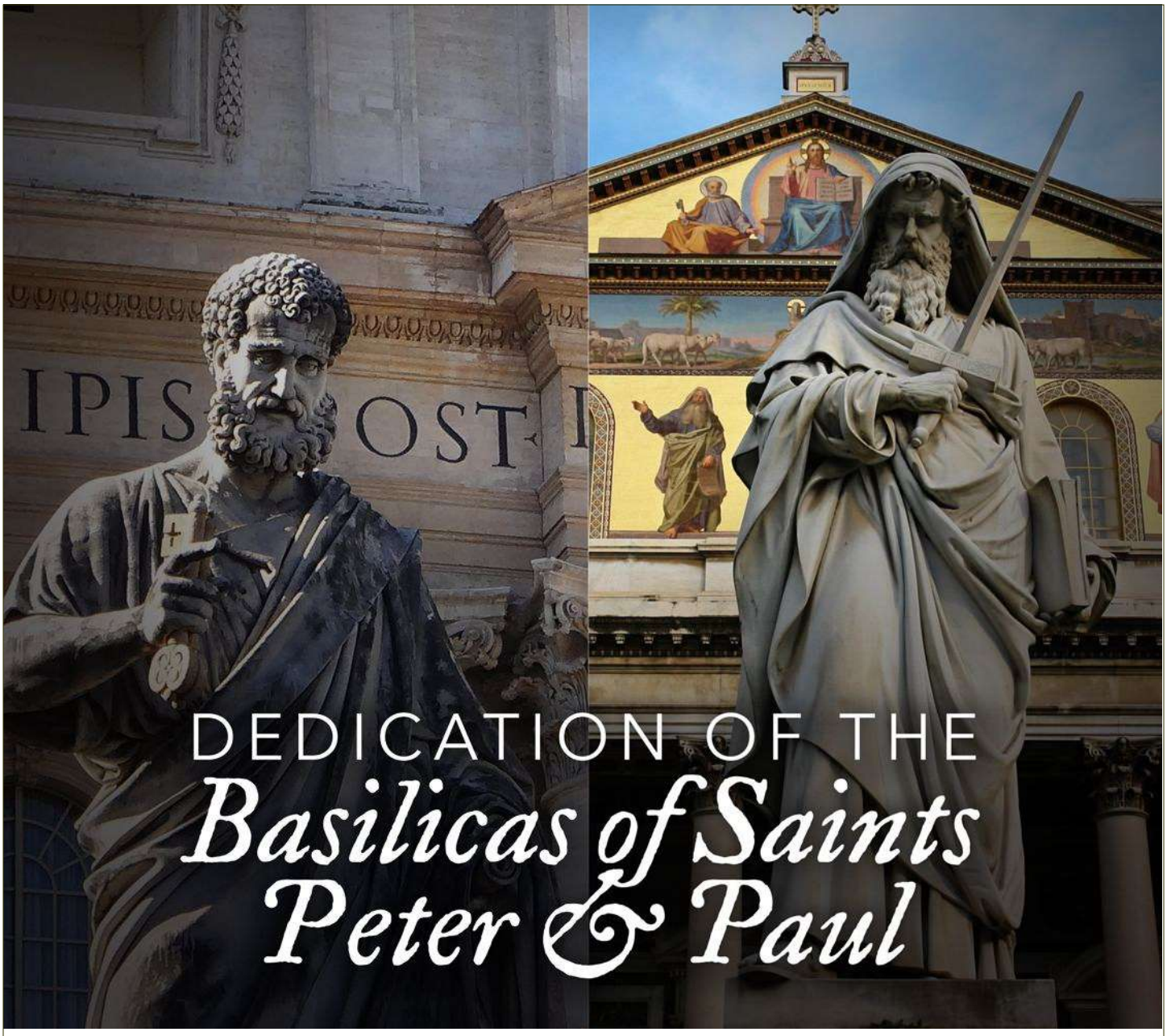
After returning home to the land of promise, and rebuilding their own dwellings and the Temple in Jerusalem, they began to restore order to their religious lives. In today's reading the prophet Malachi ends his prophecy by speaking of the final judgment and the disorder expected at the end of time. He assures his people that the end will be disorderly, particularly for the *proud and evildoers.* However, for those who are faithful, for those who hope in the power of God's love and in God's power to bring out order amidst the disorder, salvation is assured.

Order is also the subject of our second reading, what scholars think is the first letter Paul wrote. Paul counsels his beloved Christians in Thessalonica to keep good order, just as Paul himself always tried to do. Paul worked hard, offering himself as a model for all. Since the Thessalonians thought that Jesus was returning soon and that the world was going to end any time, it seems some of them did not see the sense of doing the hard work of keeping orderly lives, for example doing an honest day's work.

Jesus tells those gathered to look to the end of time and get a picture of the disorder to expect. The Temple, the very sign of the beautiful order of their Jewish faith will itself be made disorderly, by being made rubble. Not only the Temple though, but the entire world will be in disarray and the usual apocalyptic signs of disorder will be the order for the day. As well as incredible disorder on earth like earthquakes, famines and plagues, families themselves will experience the disorder of division.

In all the disorder we can experience in the world, in our families and in ourselves-even the expected disorder at the end of time- we can look to Jesus to help us re-establish order. That order won't always be clear or apparent. Order won't come without work. Truly, it will require great perseverance. However, in the end, the Lord Jesus will be that blessed order for which all creation yearns and hopes. He will be the order that helps us persevere in faith, and even find joy in the messiness that sometimes surrounds us.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca



Tuesday, November 18, 2025

This feast celebrates two of the four major basilicas of Rome.

St. Peter's Basilica was originally built in 323 by the Emperor Constantine. The basilica was constructed over the tomb of Peter the Apostle, the Church's first Pope. After standing more than 1,000 years, it had to be torn down due to structural issues and new construction spanned over 200 years. The new basilica was dedicated on November 18, 1626. It is considered the most famous church in Christendom.

St. Paul's Basilica is located outside of the original walls of Rome. It was also built by Constantine though it was destroyed by fire in 1823. Donations from around the world made the reconstruction possible. Before the completion of St. Peter's Basilica, St. Paul's was the largest church in Rome. The Basilica was built over St. Paul's grave. Pope Pius IX consecrated the Basilica in 1854.

These two churches continue to draw millions of faithful pilgrims each year.

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, November 21, 2025

The Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated annually on November 21st, commemorates the presentation of the Blessed Virgin as a child by her parents in the Temple in Jerusalem. Before Mary's birth, her parents received a heavenly message that they would bear a child. In thanksgiving for God's gift of Mary's birth, they brought her to the Temple to consecrate their only daughter to the Lord. The celebration of the Feast is first documented in the 11th Century within the Byzantine Catholic Church. It was introduced to the Roman Catholic Church in the 15th Century by Pope Gregory XI, then removed from the calendar by Pope Pius V in the mid-16th Century. Pope Sixtus V later reestablished the Feast in 1585, and it is still celebrated today, commemorating the faith of her parents, Joachim and Anne, and the purity of Mary.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.

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

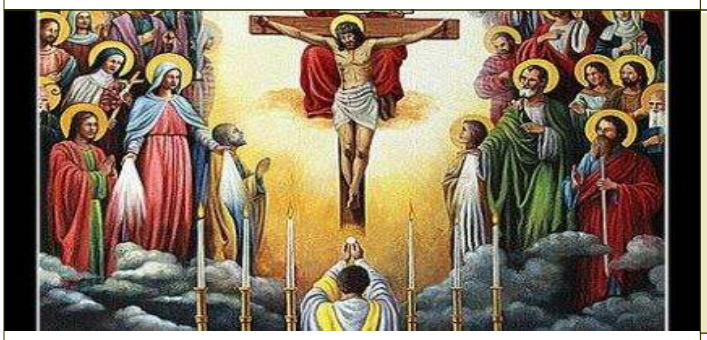
Eucharistic Adoration takes place Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic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

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



The November Lector & Minister Schedule **can be found by scanning this QR code, and then selecting the month you wish to view.**

2025/2026 Mass Book

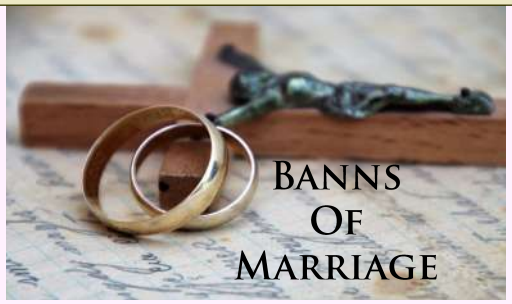
The 2025 Mass Book is open for the remainder of 2025 and the 2026 Mass Book is now open.

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.



1st Announcement:
Daniel Scavetta
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

&

Barbara Bahr
Most Precious Blood
Brooklyn, 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 11/8-11/9	**$4,166**
Second Collection for The Archdiocese for the Military Services	**$686**

Mass Attendance For November 8/9, 2025

5:00PM	**108**
8:00AM	**42**
9:30AM	**128**
11:00AM	**104**
	Total: 382

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.

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 **$30,644** 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.

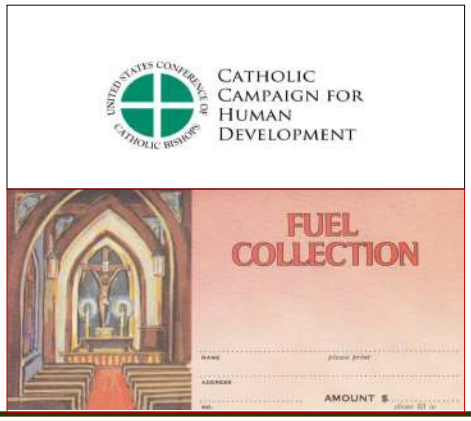
I share with you the words of Jesus to his followers: "The measure you measure with will be measured back to you."

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

Second Collection Next Week:

Next weekend, there will be a Second Collection.
Because of a mix-up, there are 2 envelopes, one for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and one for Fuel.

Please drop both envelopes in the Second Collection. Thank you for your understanding and generosity.



Calendar of Events

This Week

November 16 - November 22

Sunday, November 16
9:30AM Pre-Communion Mass
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, November 17
12:00 NOON Golden Age Anniversary Mass
12:30PM Golden Age - MCH
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, November 18
3:00PM SFA Singers - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, November 19
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

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

Friday, November 21
6:00PM Grocery Bingo - MCH

Saturday, November 22

The parable of the unfaithful steward.

Next Week

November 23 - November 29

Sunday, November 23
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
Pre-Confirmation Name & Enrollment Mass
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, November 24
12:00 NOON Golden Age
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, November 25
3:00PM SFA Singers - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, November 26
1/2 Day of School
11:00AM School Thanksgiving Mass
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:30PM Thanksgiving Eve Mass
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, November 27
Thanksgiving Day
School and Rectory Office Closed
9:00AM Thanksgiving Day Mass

Friday, November 28
School and Rectory Office Closed

Saturday, November 29

Jesus explains the Kingdom of God.

SFACA HAA PRESENTS

GROCERY BINGO

FRIDAY: NOVEMBER 21, 2025

MSGR CAMPBELL HALL

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

BINGO BEGINS AT 7:30PM

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND GREAT PRIZES!

DRESS TO IMPRESS IN YOUR BEST COUNTRY WESTERN ATTIRE! THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL AWARD FOR THE BEST TABLE!

ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY!!

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4TH 6:30-8:30PM

*IF NECESSARY: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH 10:30AM-12:30PM

@SFACA MSGR. MARESCA CENTER

$45
PER PERSON

*LIMIT ONE TABLE OF 10 PER PURCHASE

We invite you to come together with us as a Parish Family at our two Thanksgiving Masses:
Wednesday, November 26, at 7:30PM
Or
Thursday, November 27, at 9:00AM

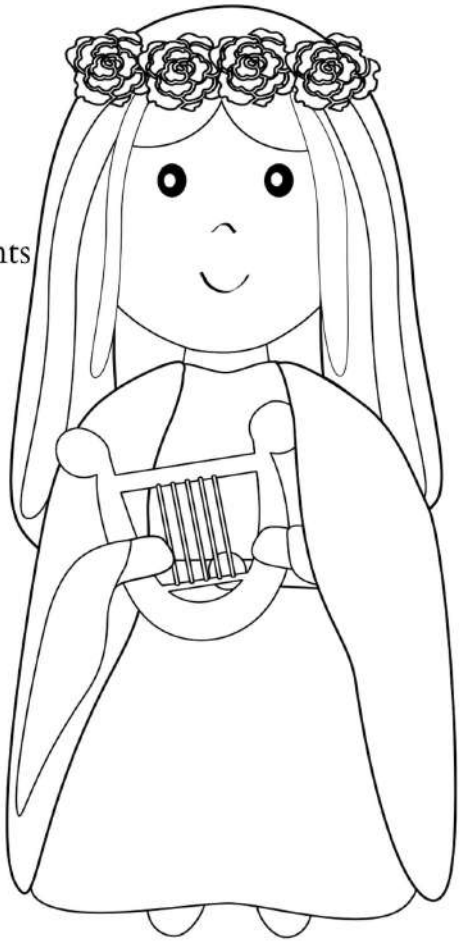
We will be collecting Canned Goods at the Wednesday Mass and Thanksgiving Day Mass to benefit Marguerite's Pantry. Baskets will be in the front of the Sanctuary in which to place your canned goods.
The Collections taken up at our Thanksgiving Masses will go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to assist the poor and needy.

Thank you for your generosity!

SFA YOUTH PAGES

SAINT CECILIA

Who was St. Cecilia?
Cecilia was born during the second century to a wealthy family. Despite being Christian, her parents had her marry a pagan. Cecilia converted her husband, and they were both arrested for refusing to worship false gods. Cecilia was praising God when she was martyred.



Feast Day: November 22

Patron Saint: musicians, poets, hymns

Did you know?

The word Psalm means "Praise". The Psalms, mostly written by King David in the Old Testament, mean "The Praises". David was a great musician and would sing and play his instruments for the Lord!

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. Clelia Barbieri 1847—1870

St. Clelia Barbieri was born in Bologna, Italy on February 13, 1847 and she died at the age of 23 on July 13, 1870. Her short life edified everyone who came into contact with her. She is the founder of the Congregation of the Suore Minime dell'Addolorata (Little Sisters of the Mother of Sorrows), and she is the youngest foundress of a religious community in the history of the Catholic Church!

At a young age Clelia was devout and learned all she could about the Catholic Faith from her mother and the parish priest. Her favorite book was the Catechism, because it taught her about God and encouraged her in the way of virtue. When she was 15 years old, she taught children their catechism and ran a small primary country school.

At a young age she had already declined several marriage proposals and in prayer had asked God for a spiritual friend who would join her and live a life in Became that friend, and encouraged others to join them. With the guidance of her parish priest and spiritual director, Fr. Guidi, she founded the Little Sisters of the Mother of Sorrows.

Many remarkable things started happening, with healings and prayers for food and supplies answered almost instantaneously.

Though she only led her congregation for two years before dying of tuberculosis at the age of 23, her impact was profound. Her holiness and leadership inspired her followers, and the congregation spread rapidly across Italy and eventually to other continents.

An extraordinary sign of her ongoing presence is a mysterious voice—believed to be Clelia's—that has been heard during the sisters' prayers and hymns for over a century, verified by many and never explained by natural means.

Clelia was beatified in 1968 and canonized in 1989 by Pope St. John Paul II, who recognized her youthful holiness and leadership as a powerful model for the Church.

"Be brave because I am going to Paradise; but I shall always remain with you, too; I shall never abandon you!"

- St. Clelia Barbieri to her Religious Sisters before she passed away in 1870.

"Oh great Lord God, You see that my will is to love You, and to try to avoid offending You. Oh Lord, open Your Heart and send forth the flames of love. Enkindle my heart with these flames and burn me with love."

Catholic Trivia!

1.Who is the patron saint of workers?
A: St. Joseph

2. What is the name of the Pope's official residence?
A: Apostolic Palace

3. How many days and nights did Jesus fast in the desert?
A. 40

4. Who is the patron saint of music?
A: St. Cecilia

5. Who was the father of King Solomon?
A. David

6. Which apostle was a tax collector before following Jesus?
A. Matthew

7. When does the liturgical year begin for the Catholic Church?
A. Advent

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

Catholic Youth Organization
Children are at the heart of our mission

Contact Us: contactus@sfawildcats.org

Website: www.sfawildcats.org

This Weekend's SFA Wildcats Soccer Playoffs!

Subnovice Boys lost to SFDS 3-0.
The Subnovice Boys lost a tough game against SFDS. The boys played with so much heart and even though the result wasn't what they had hoped for, there were a lot of great takeaways. They never stopped hustling and really showed some grit. The ended the Season with a 5-2-1 Record.

Bantam Boys lost to Blessed Trinity 6-1.
The Bantam Boys had their last game of the season facing Blessed Trinity in the playoffs. They played their hearts out until the last second of the game. Henry Lopez scored a goal in the 1st Half. Unfortunately, they lost 6-1. Shout our to Radek Slachetka for an amazing standout performance pushing forward. Also, tremendous saves by our goalie, Even Vagelatos. Bantam Boys ended the Season in Fourth Place in the Division and a 4-6 Record.

Now for some News from the Girls' Bantam Division!

Bantam Girls lost to Blessed Trinity 2-1.
The team ended their season with a 2-1 playoff loss to Blessed Trinity and finished in Second Place in the Bantam Division.
Bantam Girls' final team total statistics:

Goals:
Cory Soberal, 7
Lea Ciccimarra, 6
Rosie Meliak, 6
Arden Geiger, 4
Colette Longuinho, 3
Micky Sobweal, 2

Assists:
Valentina Pirecca, 5
Lea Ciccimarra, 5
Colette Longuinho, 4
Grace Pietranico, 4
Cory Soberal, 4
Ava Ciccimarra, 3
Thalia Siafos, 3
Nina Uckar, 1
Ava Doran, 1
Enesa Hamitaj, 1

For as in one body, we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.

~ Romans 12:4-7

The Heart in Our Office: Celebrating Tara Webb

Tara Webb serves the parish community at St. Francis of Assisi as Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper. Relatively new to the parish, she began in April 2025, Tara has quickly become a steady, joyful presence. "It has been so nice to meet everyone and get to know the community... Everyone has been so welcoming!"

Originally from southern Illinois near St. Louis, she moved to New York City 16 years ago for ballet and dance, studying at the Paul Taylor Dance Company on a full work-study scholarship. Though she no longer dances, that chapter "still holds a very special place" in her heart.

Day to day, Tara is the friendly face in the rectory and the careful hand behind the scenes. She produces the weekly bulletin, manages bookkeeping and the parish calendar, oversees the Advent Giving Tree, fulfills sacramental record requests, and keeps the Church's sacramental records accurate. She coordinates with vendors to maintain the parish and helps prepare funerals and memorial Masses, ensuring paperwork and schedules are in place. In her own words, "I take care of the needs of our Parish Family... I do a bit of everything, which is fun!" She also collaborates with ministry leaders to share their news: "The more people know about all of the wonderful activities that happen here, the more participation there is in the life of the Parish."

Prayer anchors her service. Tara begins most mornings in Adoration before opening the rectory at 9:00 a.m., prays the Angelus at noon—"It is such a blessing to hear the beautiful bells of the Church"—and ends lunch with a decade of the Rosary, "praying for the conversion of sinners." Grateful for a "beautiful work/life balance" of faith, she embraces the unpredictability of parish life: even with her to-do list, "being flexible with myself is a very important aspect of the work I do."

Her joy is to serve quietly. "I find a deep joy and fulfillment in my work when at the end of the day, I know that I did my work for God. Living a hidden life with God has always been an attraction for me." She treasures supporting Monsignor Maresca and the wider team because "everyone who works for the Church... is a piece of that puzzle, the Body of Christ." Recently she helped with the Fall Festival and the parish's 95th Anniversary celebration, wonderful opportunities to meet more of the parish family. Beyond the office, she loves studying with the Dominican Order of Preachers and is discerning becoming a Third Order Dominican, which is a lay ministry of the Dominicans.

Above all, she trusts, "God has a plan for all of us... for our good." "I feel like everything that has led me up to this moment, including my work here, is a part of that plan."

The parish is grateful for Tara's gifts, her steadfast care, and her prayerful heart.

Have a suggestion for someone we should highlight? Please email sfaparishcouncil@sfaacademy.org

Advent Giving Trees

The Advent Giving Trees will be set up in the front and back of church and decorated with colored Tags on Saturday, November 22, 2025.
Each Tag's color identifies the charity that will receive the gifts.

Please **tape the Tag to the unwrapped gift** purchased and place it under the Giving Tree before or after any one of the Masses.

Yellow Tags—Catholic Charities
Blue Tags— Hour Children
Green Tags—Marguerite's Pantry
Red Tags—Transfiguration

ALL GIFTS SHOULD BE RETURNED BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025.

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

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