The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Nov. 9	*The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**Saverio Giordano**
11:00AM	**All Souls' Novena**
	For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi
Monday, Nov. 10	*Pope St. Leo the Great, Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Marie Salamone**
Tuesday, Nov. 11	*St. Martin of Tours, Bishop*
9:00AM	**Jospeh Salamone**
Wednesday, Nov. 12	*St. Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr*
9:00AM	**Mary Di Pietro**
Thursday, Nov. 13	*St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin*
9:00AM	**Victor Salamone**
Friday, Nov. 14	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Joseph Ewy**
Saturday, Nov. 15	*St. Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Paul Scire Banchitta
	All Souls' Novena
5:00PM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
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

Today's Readings

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Ezekiel 47:1-2,8-9,12
1 Corinthians 3:9c-11,16-17
John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple He found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market place!" His disciples remembered it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to Him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has be under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of the temple of His body. After He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Wisdom 1:1-7***
	Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday	***Wisdom 2:23—3:9***
	Luke 17:7-10
Wednesday	***Wisdom 6:1-11***
	Luke 17:11-19
Thursday	***Wisdom 7:22b—8:1***
	Luke 17:20-25
Friday	***Wisdom: 13:1-9***
	Luke 17:26-37
Saturday	***Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9***
	Luke 18:1-8

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

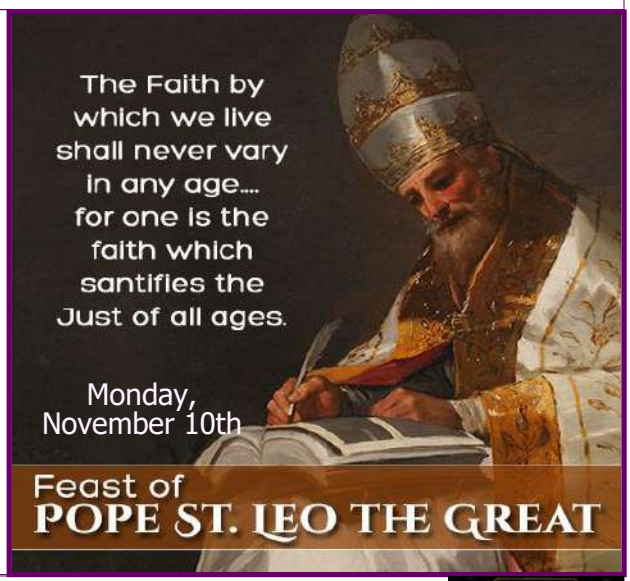
Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort.

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



FOCUS:

WE ARE CALLED TO BE GOD'S TEMPLE, GIVING LIFE TO THE WORLD.

In baptism, we became temples where the Spirit of God came to dwell. He remains in us so long as we do not drive Him out by mortal sin; His presence influences our lives and transforms our hearts more when we put no obstacles in the way of His action. Just as Jesus drove the money-changers out of the Jerusalem temple, so we should ask Him to drive out of our hearts all selfish desires so we can live fully for the glory of God and the service of others.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

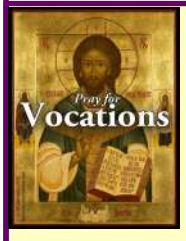
Dear SFA Family & Friends,

The Scripture Study Group is delighted to continue our study with ***The Gospel According to Matthew***. Join us on Thursday, November 13th, where we will continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew Chapters 23-25: Jesus' Final Days of Teaching in the Temple.

"But the one who perseveres to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come." (Matthew 24:13-14)

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,

Today we celebrate the feast of the Lateran Basilica of Rome. This is the pope's cathedral, the first to be built after Emperor Constantine's edict of Milan in 311 and consecrated by Pope Sylvester in 324. This feast was only celebrated in Rome until the 16th century when it was extended to all the Churches of the Roman rite. First called Most Holy Savior, it was later named for both St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. The Lateran Basilica is considered the *mother of all churches of the city and the world (www.catholicculture.com).**

In each of today's readings we hear about a temple, Ezekiel describes the living water that flowed from the temple that he had seen in his vision. This is the water that made life abundant. In the Gospel, Jesus is angered by the temple authorities who had allowed the temple to be used as a marketplace, where all sorts of abuses were committed. Jesus then shifts the emphasis from the physical temple to the temple of his own body.

Though we celebrate the physical building of the Church, this feast also represents for us the spiritual truth that Jesus described in the Gospel: The Church is built by God with living stones-Christians- upon the foundation of Jesus Christ, who is the cornerstone. The community of the baptized come together in this edifice, and others like it throughout the world, to listen to God's word and to be nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ. We are then sent forth to be Christ to those whom we meet in our daily lives, building up God's Kingdom here on earth.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

**** Link to article above***

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
Feast Day: Thursday November 13, 2025

"Immigrant Saint"

The youngest of thirteen children, Frances Cabrini was born on July 15, 1850 in a small village called S'ant Angelo Lodigiano near the city of Milan, Italy. She grew up enthralled by the stories of the missionaries and made up her mind to join a religious order. Because of her frail health, she was not permitted to join the Daughters of the Sacred Heart who had been her teachers and under whose guidance she obtained her teaching certificate.

However, in 1880, with seven young women, Frances founded the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She was as resourceful as she was prayerful, finding people who would donate what she needed in money, time, labor, and support. She and her sisters wanted to be the missionaries in China; she visited Rome to obtain an audience with Pope Leo XIII. The Pope told Frances to go "not to the east but to the west", to New York rather than to China as she had expected. She was to help the thousands of Italian immigrants already in the United States.

In 1889, New York seemed to be filled with chaos and poverty, and into this new world stepped Mother Frances Cabrini and her sister companions. Cabrini organized catechism and education classes for the Italian immigrants and provided for the needs of the many orphans. She established schools and orphanages despite tremendous odds.

Soon, requests for her to open schools came from all over the world. She traveled to Europe, Central and South America, and throughout the United States. She made 23 trans-Atlantic crossings and established 67 institutions: schools, hospitals, and orphanages.

Her activity was relentless until her death. On December 22, 1917, she died in Chicago. In 1946, she was canonized a saint by Pope Pius XII in recognition of her holiness and service to mankind and was named Patroness of Immigrants in 1950.

Today the Missionary Sisters, their lay collaborators, and volunteers work as teachers, nurses, social workers, administrators, and members of institutional boards of trustees. They can be found on six continents and 15 countries throughout the world—wherever there is a need.

"*Religious leader, business administrator, and spokesperson for the downtrodden, Mother Cabrini was always a woman of compassion. Despite hardship, poor health, and disappointment, Mother Cabrini's peace of soul enabled her to radiate a joy born of unfaltering trust in divine providence. This total and unabashed trust in God was her outstanding personality characteristic and was the source of an inner strength, which propelled her to remarkable accomplishments in a relatively short amount of time. Some saw in Cabrini the embodiment of immigrant aspirations: to get ahead, to excel, and to prove one's self. Others attributed her achievements to the zeal of a saint*."

- Sr. Mary Louise Sullivan, MSC, Ph.D., "Mother Cabrini, Italian Immigrant of the Century"

A Prayer of Praise
By
St. Frances Cabrini

Oh Jesus, my Love, what are you like? I understand You—and yet I do not understand You—but I profoundly adore Your majesty, bless Your mercy, love Your bounty, and love You Yourself.

Yes, I love You, I love You so very much! With Your grace, loving Jesus, I will run behind You to the end of the race, forever, for always. Help me, Jesus, because I want to this ardently, swiftly.

A Prayer for Purification
By
St. Frances Cabrini

Purify me, Jesus! With one drop of Your precious blood, make my soul beautiful, make me worthy of You, who are immense beauty and ineffable purity.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith. November 2025

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Msgr. Ralph J. Maresca V.F., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Albert the Great

Possibly one of the Church's greatest intellectuals, St. Albert was the eldest son of a powerful German military official. Despite opposition from his family, he joined the Dominican Order. Being well educated, St. Albert desired to make all the learning of the East available to the Latin-speaking West. He earned his doctorate at the University of Paris in 1245 and taught at Paris and Cologne. He is best known as the master of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Praying for the dead

Catholics see Purgatory as an expression of God's mercy — a place where souls who die in His grace, but need further purification, are prepared for Heaven. This month, we pray for our departed loved ones, asking God to bring them quickly into His presence.

One tradition is to request a Mass on the anniversary of a loved one's death. If that soul is already in Heaven, the graces benefit others still in need. In God's mercy, nothing is ever wasted.

"Forgiveness comes…through the soul's desire to be united to me [i.e., to God], the infinite Good, according to the measure of love attained by the recipient's desire and prayer. A person receives as much of my goodness as he gives to me." St. Catherine of Siena, *The Dialogue*

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Christ as King of our hearts

When we proclaim, "Christ is King," we're not making a poetic or symbolic statement. We're declaring a truth that shapes every part of our lives. To live under Christ's rule is to give Him authority over what we believe, how we worship, how we act, and how we spend our time.

What we believe: At the center of our faith is a relationship. Knowing Jesus personally — through the Gospels, through prayer, through the lives of the saints – transforms abstract belief into living faith. When someone asks, "Why are you Catholic?" our answer should come from experience, not just theology.

How we worship: Imagine a king hosting a free, lavish banquet every week for all his subjects. Every Sunday, we're invited to a banquet — not of food, but of grace. To say, "Christ is King" is to obey His words: *"Do this in remembrance of me"* (Luke 22:19). The Mass is not just a weekly routine; it's a divine encounter.

How we act: Our actions, especially the small ones, speak volumes. Reverence, patience, honesty, integrity,

"You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth." John 18:37

and generosity are everyday ways of making Christ visible through us. These aren't just virtues — they're signs of loyalty to our true King.

How we spend our time: Daily prayer proclaims that Christ reigns not only over Sunday, but over our entire lives. Whether prayer feels powerful or dry, it anchors us in Him. No time given to Christ is ever wasted.

To say "Christ is King" is to surrender everything to Him. It's a declaration that He reigns not just in Heaven, but here, now, in us.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why does the Church offer indulgences?

An indulgence is "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). This "temporal punishment" refers to the purification the soul undergoes before entering Heaven.

The power of indulgences flows from Christ's sacrifice and is applied through the merits of the saints and prayers of the Church. Indulgences are not shortcuts to Heaven or "free passes"; they require repentance and conversion of heart.

To obtain an indulgence, conditions must be met: sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, and performance of the indulgenced act.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21)

There's a common lesson in driver's education: "Your vehicle goes where your eyes go." Spiritually, the same is true — our lives follow what we focus on. What we treasure most lays claim to our hearts. The challenge is to set our hearts on what truly lasts.

"You cannot serve two masters" (Matthew 6:24). What treasure do you set your heart on? A desire for holiness requires us to examine how we live day to day. Are we cultivating trust in God, or grasping for control? Realignment often begins with small, intentional acts: spending time in prayer instead of mindless scrolling; reading the Gospel before the news; choosing simplicity over indulgence and giving generously to those in need. These are daily decisions that reflect where our heart truly lies.

Trust instead of worrying. Jesus does not condemn wealth, hard work, or responsible planning. Instead, He calls us to live as sons and daughters of God. That means trusting His love, accepting His timing, and offering our lives in service to His Kingdom. Ask yourself: Do I invite God into my decisions, or do I act alone? Am I content to wait on His timing, or do I insist on my own?

When we prioritize the things of God, we invest in a treasure that does not fade — one that shapes who we are now, and endures into eternity.

from Scripture — Matthew 24:37-44, Preparing hearts for Christ's coming

In this Gospel reading, Jesus reminds us that we do not know the day or the hour when He will come for us. *"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."* His message is clear: live each day prepared to meet Him.

Next month, we celebrate His first coming at Christmas. But Christ will come again — at our death, and at the end of time. Advent invites us to ask: "What must I do to be ready?"

Begin by striving to remain in a state of grace. If you are aware of having committed mortal sin, seek God's mercy without delay through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Even if you are not conscious of serious sin, aim to go to Confession regularly — every four to six weeks, if possible. Examine your conscience honestly, and choose one or two areas of sin to actively work on.

Attend Sunday Mass faithfully, make more time for prayer, and look for opportunities to serve others with love and humility. These practices not only prepare us to welcome Christ when we finally meet Him face-to-face, but they also draw us closer to Him now.

When Christmas arrives, may you greet the Lord not with fear, but with joy — knowing your heart is open, your hands are ready, and your soul is at peace.

Feasts & Celebrations

November 2 – All Souls Day. On this day we pray for the dead, especially our loved ones and the souls in Purgatory. Our prayers and sacrifices can help them get to Heaven faster.

November 4 – St. Charles Borromeo (1584). Born into a wealthy family in 1538 in Lombardy, Italy, St. Charles was chosen for the priesthood to follow in the footsteps of his uncle, Giovanni Angelo de Medici, the future Pope Pius IV. After earning doctorates in civil and canon law by the age of 21, Charles was named cardinal and bishop of Milan. He worked to reform his diocese of corruption and cared for the poor and sick when a plague struck Milan.

November 23 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. God promised his people a king who would be triumphant over their enemies. Jesus is our King, who triumphed over the enemies of sin and death. In Baptism and Confirmation, we are brought under His kingship.

November 30 – 1st Sunday of Advent. During this four-week season, we anticipate the Messiah's birth, remembering the time when He was awaited. During Advent we also look forward to Christ's reign and His coming on the Last Day. We light candles in an Advent wreath each night of the season to signal the coming of the true light of Christ.

Q & A — Do Catholics practice tithing?

Tithing is the practice of giving ten percent of your income to the Church. In fact, the word itself comes from an Old English word meaning, "one-tenth." It was based on Jewish tradition in the Old Testament and its first recorded practice was Abraham's offering of a tenth of all he had as a "thank offering" to God for his victory in battle (Genesis 14:18-20). It's still practiced by the Mormon Church.

The Catholic Church does not require tithing; there is no "fixed sum" that God requires of us. Catholics are, however, required to support the material needs of the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2043). How much — or little — is between you and God and in light of the needs of your state in life.

Money isn't the only way to support your parish, diocese, or the Church. Giving of your time to volunteer in your parish, donating some of what you don't need to the poor, and even devoting prayers specifically for the needs of your parish priests are all praiseworthy ways to give back.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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Eucharistic Adoration Monday through Saturday 8:00AM to 8:50AM

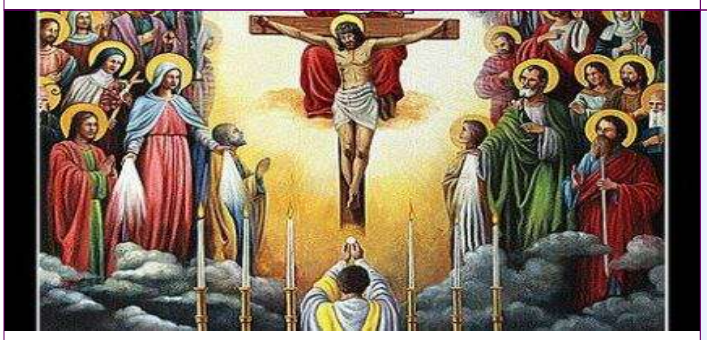
Eucharistic Adoration takes place Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic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



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.

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:

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

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 11/1-11/2	**$4,637**
All Saints Day	**$549**
All Souls' Day	**$1,853**

Mass Attendance For November 1/2, 2025

5:00PM	**87**
8:00AM	**55**
9:30AM	**293**
11:00AM	**345**
	Total: 780

Second Collection Next Weekend, November 15th and 16th

There will be a second collection next weekend, November 15th and 16th for those impacted by Hurricane Melissa. Please be as generous as your means allow.

There is NO envelope for this collection.

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

Upcoming:

Tuesday, November 11th is Veterans Day.

The School and Rectory Office will be closed all day. The office will reopen on Wednesday, November 12th at 9AM.

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

November 9 - November 15

Sunday, November 9
8:00AM Holy Name Mass
Grocery Bingo Sales - MMC

Monday, November 10
12:00 NOON Golden Age
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, November 11
Veterans Day
School and Rectory Office Closed
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, November 12
Veterans Day Ceremony 8th Grade - Schoolyard
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room
7:00PM Baptism Class - Rectory

Thursday, November 13
10:00AM Legion of Mary - Rectory Basement
6:00PM IACA - Rectory Basement
7:20PM Scripture Study - Rectory Basement

Friday, November 14
Girl Scout Mother Event

Saturday, November 15

Jesus reminds the disciples of the times of Noah and Lot.

Next 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.

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

SFA YOUTH PAGES

St. Albert the Great

Feast Day:
Saturday, November 15

St. Albert the great was never a king, he was neither wealthy nor powerful. He was a Dominican Friar who remains to be referred to as "The Great" for a different reason.

Albert was born some time before the year 1200, and was very educated. He was so smart that he helped set up study programs and a University in Rome, still run today by the Dominicans and known as "The Angelicum."

So why is he called "The Great"?
During his lifetime, he wrote volumes addressing various topics: geography, astronomy, chemistry, philosophy, law, and friendship. He also loved to study plants and animals.
He remains well known for his teachings and for the establishment of study programs, of Colleges, and University Studies.
He remains to be called "Great", because for his time he was "the teacher of everything there is to know."

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. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows 1838—1862

Born in Italy into a large family and christened Francis, St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows faced the loss of his mother at the tender age of 4 years.

Raised by Jesuits, Francis encountered two severe illnesses early in life, which he survived, leading him to believe he was destined for a religious vocation. Despite his eagerness to join the Jesuits as a teenager, he was likely rejected due to his young age, not yet 17 years old.

The death of his sister from cholera only strengthened his determination to pursue a life in religion, leading to his acceptance into the Passionist Order. It was here he received the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows. Known for his cheerful disposition and popularity, Gabriel dedicated himself to the small acts of faith that defined his spiritual journey.

His commitment to prayer, compassion for the impoverished, empathy towards others, strict adherence to the Passionist Rule, and voluntary physical penances—always under the guidance of his superiors—left a lasting impact on all who knew him.

As Gabriel prepared for priesthood, his superiors saw great potential in him, but after four years in the religious life, he developed symptoms of tuberculosis. With remarkable obedience, he endured the painful symptoms and limitations of the disease without seeking special attention. Gabriel passed away quietly on February 27, 1862, at the young age of 24, remembered as a model of virtue for both the young and the old. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows was canonized as a saint in 1920.

"Love Mary!
She is lovable, faithful, constant. She will never let herself be outdone in love, but will ever remain supreme.
If you are in danger, she will hasten to free you!
If you are troubled, she will console you!
If you are sick, she will bring you relief!
If you are in need, she will help you!
She does not look to see what kind of person you have been.
She simply comes to a heart that wants to love her.
She comes quickly and opens her merciful heart to you, embraces you, consoles, and serves you.
She will even be on hand to accompany you on the trip to eternity."
- St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Catholic Trivia!

1.Which saint is known as the "Miracle Worker" and finder of lost things?
A: St. Anthony of Padua

2. Who was the longest reigning pope in history?
A: St. Peter, our first Pope! (traditionally considered to have served for 34-37 years)

3. Which pope was reigning during World War II?
A. Pope Pius XII

4. Who wrote the majority of the Psalms?
A: King David

5. What was the name of Moses' brother?
A. Aaron

6. Who wrote the book of Acts?
A. St. Luke

7. What is the term for the purification of the soul after death?
A. Purgatory

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

The Latest Scores Are In!

Saturday, 10/25/2025

Intermediate Boys beat St.Stans 2-0.
First win of the season, with goals by George Sfirogianakis and Austin Sietsema!

Bantam Boys lost to Bl. Trinity 3-1.
Colin Vella snuck in a goal early in the 1st Half. However, Bl. Trinity found their momentum and won 3-1. Shout out to Vrindavan Macklunis and Matthew Mura for continually driving the ball up the field!

Subnovice Boys lost to SFDS 2-0.
The boys had their first loss of the season due to not all of our roster showing. But credit to them for working extremely hard.

PeeWee Girls lost to Bl. Trinity 7-1.
We had a tough loss due to not all of our team being available. Credit to the girls that worked extra hard.

Mites played St. Kevin's.
We tried our best with passing the ball and getting some shots on net.

Sunday, 10/26/2025

Bantam Boys beat St. Andrew 10-0.
Goals were scored by Henry Lopez, Giorgio Marchesi, Gabriele Scrozzo, Patrick Hughes, Joseph Salam, Lorenzo Pirreca, Colin Vella, and Yiannis Mihalitsis.

Bantam Girls tied Bl. Trinity 2-2.
Colette Longuinho had a goal and an assist. Roseandrea Meliak scored the other goal and was assisted by Valentina Pirreca.

Intermediate Boys tied St. Camillus 2-2.
After being down 2-0, our team fought back by goals from George Sfirogianakis and Massimo Marricco.

PeeWee Boys lost to Our Lady of Grace 2-1.
PeeWee Boys fought hard and dominated most of the game. Thomas Randazzo scored off of Leo Coats' assist. Strong defense by Amadeo Buja, Stefano LoGiudice, and John Spero.

Mites played St. Mel's.
We had an amazing game! We tried out new positions. We even had some first time goal scorers! Congratulations to Marco and Emmy! Other goals scored were by Shayla, Emanuel, and Penelope.

Saturday 11/1/2025

PeeWee girls beat OL Hope 3-1.
The girls won in a hard fought match against Our Lady of Hope. And excellent team effort resulted in goals by Amelia Beilin and Larissa Kirwel (2 goals).

PeeWee Boys beat St. Luke's 9-4.
Pee Wee Boys put into play what they have been practicing. Great work by Matteo Savidis, Jibril Davis, Giuseppe Cinquemani, Adler Lang, and Ronan Kane. Goals were scored by Francesco LoGiudice (5), Liam Kurdina (2), Daniel Mura (1), and Kosta Savidis (1).

Subnovice Boys beat Bl. Trinity 7-0.
Luke Monterrosa scored a hat trick (3 goals), Noah Hagan (2 goals), Sebastian Lema (1 goal), and Everett Becker Martin (1 goal).

Bantam Boys lost to Anastasia 7-3.

Sunday 11/2/2025

Subnovice Boys beat OLBS 3-2.

Luka Monterrosa (1 goal), Noah Hagan (1 goal), and Matteo Delia (1 goal).

PeeWee Girls lost to SFDS 3-0.

PeeWee Boys beat OL Hope 2-0.

A great performance all around by our PeeWee Boys Wildcats! Francesco LoGiudice and Leo Coats each had a goal, but there were many amazing shots on net by Liam Kurdina, Daniel Mura, and Thomas Randazzo. Strong defense by Amadeo Buja, Stefano LoGuidice, John Spero, and Goalkeeper, Jace Hili.

CYO Mass
Sunday, November 2, 2025

It was fantastic to have everyone come together to celebrate teamwork and love for the Lord at our CYO Mass this past Sunday.

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

A Prayer for Veterans

God of peace, we pray for those who have served our nation and have laid down their lives to protect and defend our freedom.

We pray for those who have fought, whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war, whose nights are haunted by memories too painful for the light of day.

We pray for those who serve us now, especially for those in harm's way. Shield them from danger and bring them home.

Turn the hearts and minds of our leaders and our enemies to the work of justice and a harvest of peace. Spare the poor, Lord, spare the poor!

May the peace You left us, the peace You gave us, be the peace that sustains, the peace that saves us. Christ Jesus, hear us! Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Amen.

A Prayer for Deceased Veterans

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on Your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Your Son, they may share in the joy of Your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in You with Your saints forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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