Second Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Dec. 7	*Second Sunday of Advent*
8:00AM	**Fortunata Di Lorenzo**
9:30AM	**Frances Wytak**
11:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
	Patricia Goodwin
	John Collins
Monday, Dec. 8	*The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary* ***Holy Day of Obligation***
9:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
11:00AM	**Troia Rosario**
7:30PM	**Joseph Dilena**
Tuesday, Dec. 9	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Florence Drob**
Wednesday, Dec. 10	*Our Lady of Loreto*
9:00AM	**Gloria Brighi**
Thursday, Dec. 11	*Pope St. Damasus I*
9:00AM	**Esperanza Eiaw**
Friday, Dec. 12	*Our Lady of Guadalupe*
9:00AM	**Donna Mongitori**
Saturday, Dec. 13	*St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Joan Carpanini
5:00PM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
Sunday, Dec. 14	*Third Sunday of Advent*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**Mary & Nick Pandone**
11:00AM	**Giuseppe Carlino**
	Eduardo Cubillos
	Mary Ellen De Simone
	Brigid Xanthos
	Jerzy Masluk

Today's Readings

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of who the prophet Isaiah spoke about when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Genesis 3:9-15,20***
	Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12
	Luke 1:26-28
Tuesday	***Isaiah 40:1-11***
	Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday	***Isaiah 40:25-31***
	Matthew 11:28-30
Thursday	***Isaiah 41:13-20***
	Matthew 11:11-15
Friday	***Zechariah 2:14-17***
	Luke 1:26-38
Saturday	***Sirach 48:1-4,9-11***
	Matthew 17:9a,10-13

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6a,10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

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
Joseph Klos

Advent Candle Memorials

In Loving Memory of Lucia, Ralph, and Domenick Borgia

In Loving Memory of Rose and Denis Sweeney

(Two Candles Still Available)

FOCUS:

CHRIST WILL BRING US TO NEW LIFE AND NEW GROWTH.

Through Jesus, God fulfilled the promise He made to His people to bring them salvation. Christ's death and resurrection opened the way for eternal life for all who believe, including the Gentiles. Let us prepare the way of the Lord by asking for God's healing, listening for God's voice, and raising our hearts to Him.

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 will begin a new gospel study on The Letter to the Hebrews, Chapters 1-4: **God's Son and God's Word**.

"What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You care for him? You made him for a little while lower than the angels, You crowned him with glory and honor, subjecting all things under his feet." (Hebrews 2:6-8)

Grow in Love & Knowledge of Scripture.
All are invited and all are welcome.

The Gospel readings and study are conducted using the Little Rock Scripture Study program. Study booklets will be provided. If you are interested in joining the Study Group, please call the Rectory Office at (718)-728-7801.

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

As we begin the second week of Advent, let us take the opportunity to ponder the great prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures. It is an opportunity to try and grasp what the people of Jesus' time were thinking, as the faithful ones of Israel began to wonder if the Messiah was truly in their midst.

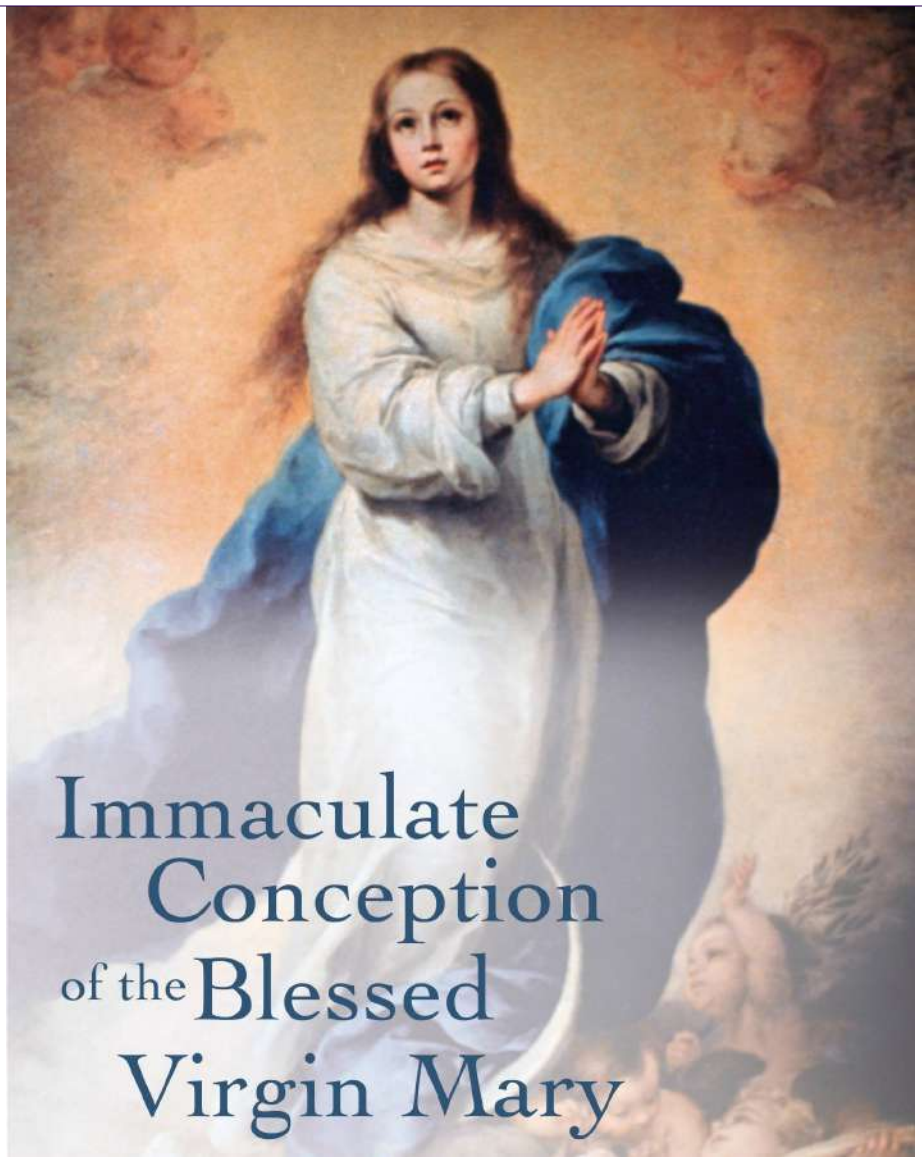
There had been false starts before-others who had come along trying to convince the people they were the Messiah. Some were so eager for the Messiah to come they began to put their hopes in John the Baptist. But John quickly told them that soon one would be in their midst who would be baptizing them with the Spirit and with fire.

My sisters and brothers, we have the prophecies of the Hebrew Scriptures and we have the Gospels, the Epistle letters, the Acts of the Apostles, the Book of Revelation and all the testimonies of generation after generation of believers that testify to the fact that Jesus is the real deal. Let us take this all in, and prepare joyful hearts to celebrate once again the Incarnation of God-the Word becoming Flesh-the Son walking among us as one like ourselves.

Yes, the tree has to go up; the decorations have to be just right; presents have to be wrapped and there are parties to attend. None of that has purpose, however, if not for **the Lord.**

Let us commit ourselves to taking the time we need to ponder the prophecies of old and the witness testimonies of every generation-that Jesus is our Messiah. He is the one who has come to set us free. Let us rejoice and be glad!

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca



This Monday, December 8th, we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast celebrates the unique grace given to Mary proclaimed by the angel Gabriel in today's Gospel. The dogma of faith that Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, preserved immune from all stain of original sin was officially proclaimed in 1854 by Pope Pius IX.

From the very beginning, the Church has venerated Mary and her role in our salvation. As the mother of Jesus, she occupies a central and essential role in our salvation. Her **yes** to God's plan, freely given, allowed that great drama to unfold in time. Yet, while the external focus might seem to be on Mary, the real focus is always on Christ.

Like all Marian feasts, we can never celebrate her without reference to her Son. That's why Pius IX emphasized that the dogma comes about through the "merits of Jesus Christ". It is Christ who redeems, but in the mystery of the incarnation God has chosen to preserve Mary from original sin as a fitting mother for his Son.

As we celebrate this feast, we are invited to reflect on the meaning this dogma has for us. As Christ's disciples, we are now invited to be part of the ongoing drama of redemption. Just as Mary was blessed both as mother of Jesus and for her faithful life of discipleship, we, too, are invited to strive to be faithful in our life of discipleship.

The Holy Name Society

The Mission of the Holy Name Society is to promote devotion and reverence for the Holy Name of God and Jesus.
All are invited for this celebration of the Most Holy Name of Jesus. It is a wonderful way to come closer to our Lord.

The Holy Name Mass is held the 2nd Sunday of each month at 8:00AM.
The Holy Name Mass is Sunday, December 14th.

St. Lucy

Patron Saint of Eye Disorders & The Blind

Feast Day: Saturday, December 13

Advent Candle Lighting

The Season of Advent has begun. It is a four week period of waiting and preparing for the Feast of Christmas. During the Season of Advent, one of the beautiful signs we have in our church is the Advent Wreath. The wreath, which has four candles, is placed in the church and each week a candle is lit to remind us of our waiting and preparing for the Birth of Christ.

You are invited to be part of the Candle Lighting Ceremony. You can sign up individually or as a family. The Candle Lighter should sit toward the front of the church and at the beginning of each Mass, the priest will call you up to light the Candle(s) for that week of Advent.

There is a sign in the back of the Church. Any families, individuals, or groups are invited to sign up at any of the Masses to light the Advent Wreath.

Join us as we renew our desire, anticipation, and hope for Christ's coming again.

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

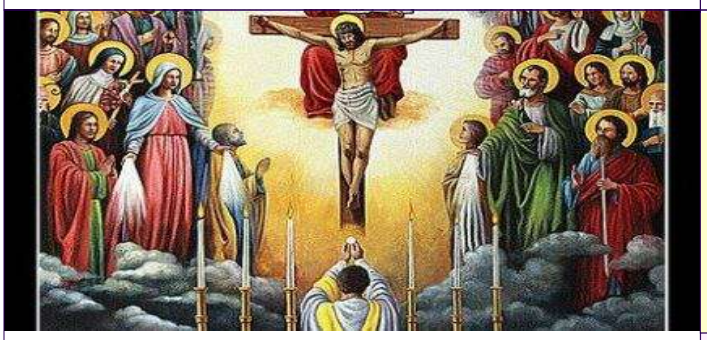
Eucharistic Adoration takes place Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic 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 December Lector & Minister Schedule **can be found by scanning this QR code, and then selecting the month you wish to view.**

2025/2026 Mass Book

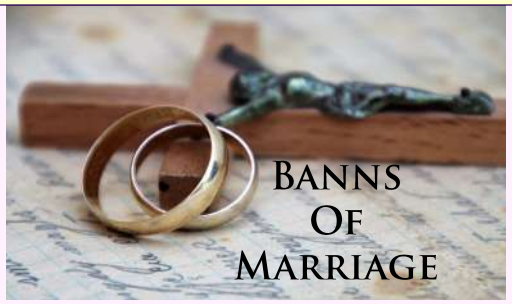
The 2025 Mass Book is open for the remainder of 2025 and the 2026 Mass Book is now open.

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:
Paul Xikes
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

&

Paola Sirica
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

Lighting of the Parish Christmas Tree

Saturday, December 20, 2025
Following the 5:00PM Mass

This year Jan Hengl will be lighting our Christmas Tree.

Jan Hengl has been a member of St. Francis of Assisi for over 55 years, having moved into the Parish as a newlywed. Over the years, she has been active in different aspects of our community.

Initially asked by Fr. Sivillo to join the At-Home PreCana team, she and her husband John were a host couple from the program's inception until its end.

In the years when her three daughters attended the school, she served as treasurer of the Home School Association, co-chair of the Parent Commitment Program and managed the collection of tuition. Jan was a Brownie Troop leader and Girl Scout coordinator. Until she took a permanent position as a teacher at Holy Trinity School in Whitestone, she taught second grade CCD and served in the Confirmation program. Jan is currently a Eucharistic Minister.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Of Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

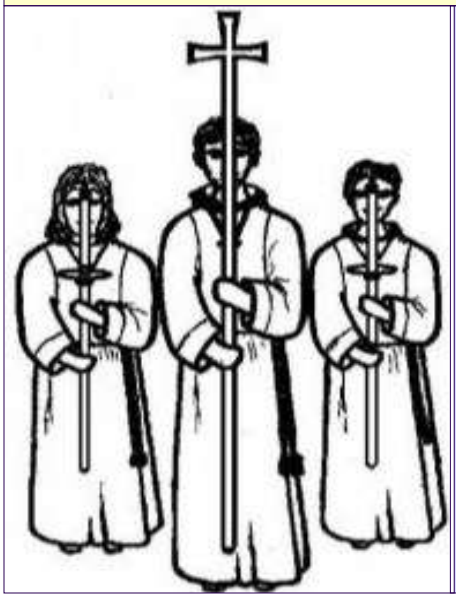
Monday, December 8, 2025 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.
Envelopes may be dropped in any collection this week.

Second Collection next Sunday December 13/14, 2025

Next Weekend, December 13/14, there will be a Second Collection for the Religious Retirement Fund. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Reconciliation Monday is December 15, 2025.
3:00PM to 5:00PM & 6:00PM to 8:00PM

This is a perfect way to prepare your heart to "make room at the Inn" this Christmas for our Lord Jesus Christ.



You are Invited to our Altar Servers' Installation!
Please join us as we pray for and install our Altar Servers.

Sunday, December 14, 2025
9:30AM Family Mass

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 11/22-11/23	**$3,907**
Second Collection for Fuel	**$1,078**
Second Collection for The Catholic Campaign for Human Development	**$1,118**
Thanksgiving Collection (St. Vincent de Paul)	**$1,383**
Sunday 11/29-11/30	**$3,728**

Mass Attendance For November 22/23, 2025

5:00PM	**107**
8:00AM	**45**
9:30AM	**229**
11:00AM	**112**
	Total: 487

Mass Attendance For November 29/30, 2025

5:00PM	**94**
8:00AM	**61**
9:30AM	**110**
11:00AM	**125**
	Total: 390

November's Monthly 50/50 Winners are:

1st Place: Mr. & Mrs. John Soltesz
2nd Place: Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mistretta
3rd Place: Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Siano

Congratulations to the Winners!

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 **$31,104** 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

Christmas Flowers & Christmas Mass Novena

You may return your Christmas Flowers and Christmas Mass Novena envelopes in any collection.
Please write legibly so we are able to identify those you wish to remember.

The Christmas Flower Remembrances will be printed in the Bulletin.

The Christmas Novena Mass Envelopes will be placed on the Altar during Christmastide at all Masses.

There will also be envelopes available at the back of the Church.

Calendar of Events

This Week

December 7 - December 13

Sunday, December 7
9:30AM **Pre-Communion Banner Mass**
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, December 8
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary
Holy Day of Obligation
School Closed
9:00AM Mass
11:00AM Mass
7:30PM Mass

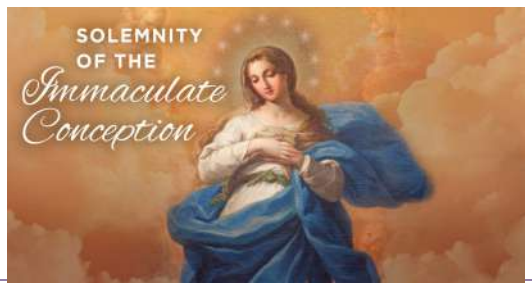
Tuesday, December 9
3:00PM SFA Singers - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, December 10
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
3:00PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - Church
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:00PM Baptism Class
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, December 11
1/2 Day of School - Parent/Teacher Conferences
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room

Friday, December 12
3K/PreK Winter Celebration - MCH

Saturday, December 13



The Immaculate Conception of Mary

Next Week

December 14 - December 20

Sunday, December 14
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
Altar Server Installation
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, December 15
Reconciliation Monday
Confessions 3:00PM-5:00PM & 6:00PM-8:00PM
12:00 NOON Golden Age - MCH
3:00PM Children's Choir - Church
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, December 16
6:30PM School Christmas Show - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, December 17
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
3:00PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - Church
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, December 18
6:30PM School Christmas Show - MCH
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room

Friday, December 19
3K/PreK Winter Celebration - MCH

Saturday, December 20
Parish Christmas Tree Lighting -
Following the 5:00PM Mass

St. Joseph receives a message in a dream.

Come And Adore Our Lord
At St. Francis Of Assisi
This Advent and Christmas.

Confessions

Weekly on Saturdays from 4:00PM-4:30PM
And
Reconciliation Monday: December 15, 2025
Times: 3:00PM-5:00PM, & 6:00PM-8:00PM

Christmas Tree Lighting on the Great Lawn
Saturday, December 20, 2025 Following the 5:00PM Mass

Schedule of Masses

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24, 2025
3:30PM Children's Choir Concert
4:00PM Parish Christmas Eve Pageant & Family Mass
6:00PM Mass with Bishop Massa

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25, 2025
Masses at: 8:00AM, 9:30AM, & 11:00AM

New Year's Eve - Wednesday, December 31, 2025
Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)
5:00PM Vigil Mass

New Year's Day - Thursday, January 1, 2026
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)
Masses at 9:00AM & 11:00AM

2025 Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 November Light the first violet candle on the Advent wreath, symbolizing Hope. Reflect on the source of your hope in Christ and what it means in your life.	1 December Be intentional. As soon as your alarm goes off, rise and kneel before a crucifix. Offer your day—and this entire season—to God with purpose and reverence.	2 Decide how you will draw closer to Christ this Advent—through intentional prayer, acts of penance, charitable giving, or participation in the Sacraments.	3 Read Luke 1:26–38, where Mary's "Yes" made way for the coming of Christ. Ask for the grace to respond with your own "Yes" to God's will in your life.	4 Set out your empty nativity scene as a sign of anticipation of the coming of the King. Gradually add the remaining figures throughout the Advent season.	5 Attend First Friday Mass, in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart. "O Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours." And He will.	6 St. Nicholas of Myra Call or visit your parish office and ask who needs help this Christmas. Then do something about it — quietly, as St. Nicholas did.
7 Light the second violet candle for Peace. Pray for the *"peace which surpasses all understanding"* (Philippians 4:7) for yourself and whoever needs it most.	8 Immaculate Conception God preserved Mary from sin so that she could be the mother of Jesus. Attend Mass and pray for our country. It is a holy day of obligation.	9 Make a small sacrifice today, offered solely to God. It is even more meaningful if it's done in secret, as encouraged in Matthew 6:18.	10 Prepare your heart and soul to welcome the King. Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and encounter the mercy of God.	11 Advent is a busy season for parishes. Consider calling or emailing your parish office to ask how you can offer your time and support.	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Mary's miraculous image reveals a profound mystery of Christmas (John 1:14). Take time today to pray for expectant mothers and the gift of new life.	13 "If you have two shirts in your closet, one belongs to you and the other to the man with no shirt" (St. Basil the Great). Donate gently used clothing you don't need.
14 *Gaudete Sunday* Light the rose candle for Joy to mark the halfway point to Christmas.	15 Offer the alms of patience when you're irritated, a smile when you're weary, and a kind word in place of judgment. You will touch hearts in ways you'll never fully realize.	16 Harboring unforgiveness burdens the heart and disrupts inner peace. Pray for the grace to let go, so you can move forward in freedom and healing.	17 Only nine days remain until Christmas. Place a lamp or candle in a window as a sign of welcome for the Christ Child.	18 Visit the Blessed Sacrament, where Jesus fulfills His promise to remain with us (Matthew 28:20). Take this time to renew your faith in His unwavering love.	19 Today, refrain from recreational screen use between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Offer this sacrifice for those who struggle with screen-related addictions.	20 Share the joy of the Gospel—gather a group of friends and go caroling to bring the Good News to others through song.
21 Light the final violet candle, symbolizing Love—awaiting the coming of Christ, the ultimate expression of the Father's love (John 3:16).	22 The King is coming—prepare to welcome Him. Take time to ready your home as a reflection of the joy and reverence in your heart.	23 Discern which Advent practices you feel called to carry beyond Christmas. Which ones deepened your relationship with God? Which ones strengthened your capacity for charity?	24 *Rejoice!* Tonight, place the Christ Child in the manger and rejoice!	*"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn"* (Luke 2:1-7).		

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our Christmas Flowers not only add to the beauty of our Parish during this Season of Peace, Hope, Joy, and Faith, but they also help us to remember our loved ones who have been a part of so many St. Francis of Assisi memories of the past. We appreciate your generosity in helping to make those memories!

Advent Wreath Memorial

To Memorialize the Advent Candles, Please stop by the Rectory Office. There are two candles left.

The Donation is $100 per Candle.

Advent Giving Trees

The Advent Giving Trees will be setup in the front and back of church and decorated with colored Tags on Saturday, November 22, 2025.
Each color Tag 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.

Pictured Above: Our Youth Group worked together with Mrs. Kubina to decorate the Christmas Trees.

Parishioners are invited to participate in decorating

St. Francis of Assisi Church

by memorializing a wreath for the
Christmas season.

Wreaths will adorn the interior walls and
exterior fences surrounding the Church.

A small message of dedication will be attached to each wreath.
ie: In Loving Memory of Jane Doe

Donations required to memorialize a wreath:

Outdoor ~ $65

Indoor ~ $80

Please complete tear-off below,
and submit payments to the rectory by December 10, 2025

Payments should be submitted by 12/10 ~ Cash or Check Payable to St. Francis of Assisi Parish

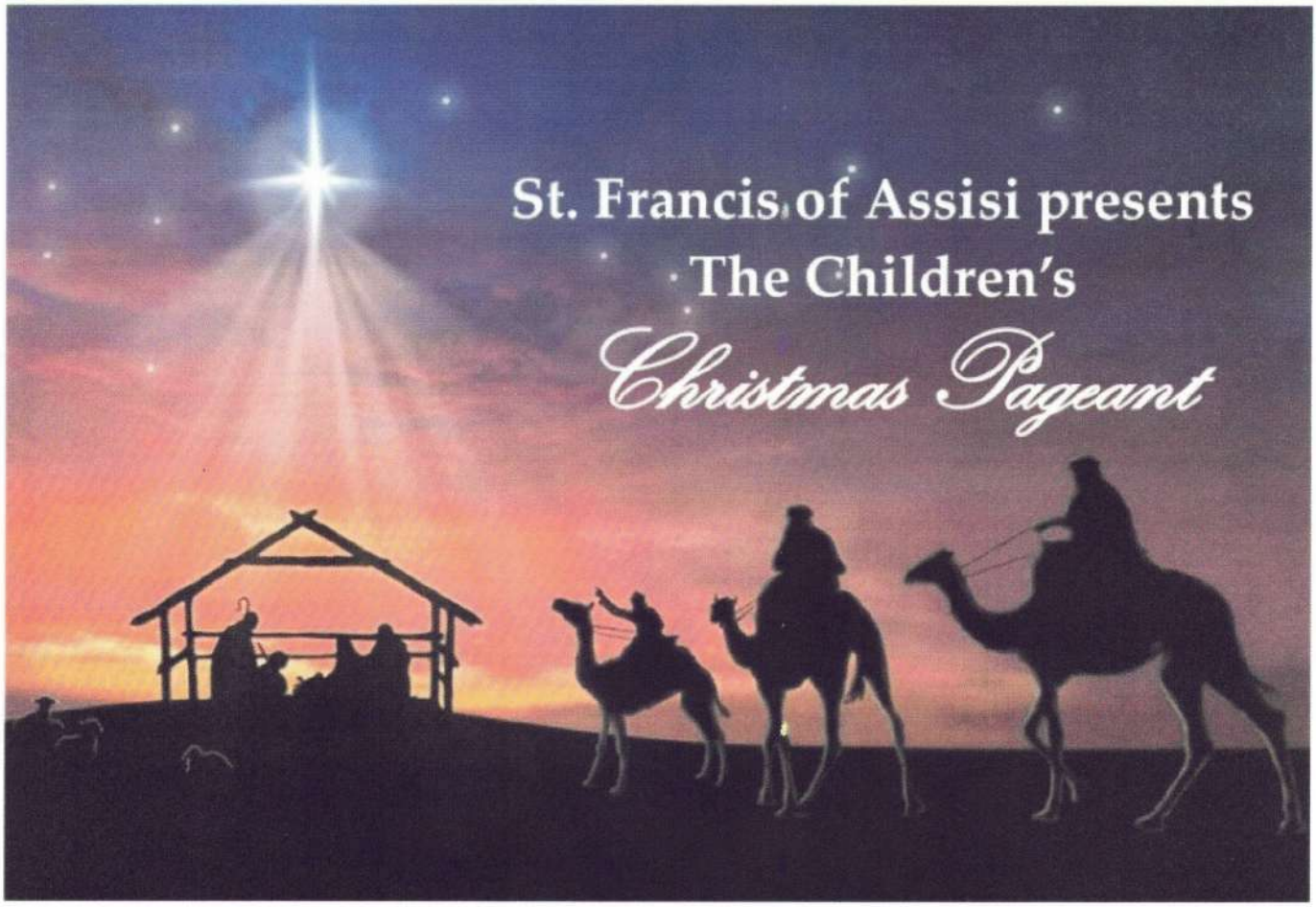
Please Print

Name _____ *Contact #* _____

Email _____

Message: _____

_____



Pageant Performed at Christmas Eve Family Mass
December 24th at 4:00pm

If you would like your child to take part in this special liturgy, or if you have any questions,please email Mr. Dan Higgins at DHiggins@sfaacademy.org by **Tuesday, December 9, 2025**
Make sure to leave your child's name, grade & parent's cell number. We are also in need of narrators (Grade 6 and above) for our pageant.

REHEARSALS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, 3 - 4:00pm
Wednesday December 17, 2025 3 - 4:00pm
All school age children, including Pre-K 3 and 4 year-olds, are welcomed to participate!
Rehearsals will be held in the church.

"And you will have joy and gladness; and many will rejoice at His birth"

Friends of
RADIO MARIA New York
(718)417-0550
Anna Maria (347)448-1136

Siete tutti invitati ad una

GIORNATA DI SPIRITUALITA'

SABATO 13 DICEMBRE, 2025
10:00 am - 3:30 pm
Sara' una giornata di preghiera
e di riflessione
in preparazione per il Santo Natale

PROGRAM

10:00 am - Rosario
11:15 am - Santa Messa
11:50 - 1:15 pm - Lunch
1:15 - 2:30 pm - Presepe Vivente
2:30 - 3:30 pm - Adorazione Eucaristica
3:30 pm - Ritorno

Coach Bus: $40.00
Partenza: **8:00 am** dalla Chiesa di San Francesco D'Assisi, Astoria 21-45th St
Anna Maria (347) 448-1136
8:30 am St.Luke Church
Angela Masullo (347) 828-0921
Marianna Guardi (718) 256-7916

Church of Saint Rocco
18 3rd St, Glen Cove, NY 11542
(516) 676-2482

glencovecatholic.org

Durante la celebrazione ci saranno sacerdoti a disposizione per le confessioni

Preghiera e contemplazione sull' arrivo di Gesu' nei nostri cuori

HOLIDAY MUSICAL SPECTACULAR

2025

ITALIAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC ACTION
St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Join us on Saturday December 20th at 11:00am

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse
88 Route 173 West
Hampton, New Jersey

Tickets Price$175.00 includes

Transportation, Lunch, and Show

Don't hesitate to contact

Giuseppina Sferrazza at 718 808-2097 or
Maria Bruno at 917 943-7156

Only 40 tickets available. Tickets are non-refundable! All money due December 8th, 2025
Make check payable to I.A.C.A

Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

Heavenly Father, as we enter the Second Week of Advent, fill my heart with Your holy peace. Silence my fears, calm my thoughts, and free me from anything that keeps me from trusting You.

Lord Jesus, You are the Prince of Peace, the One who brings harmony to troubled hearts. Come into my life this week, remove all anxiety, and let Your presence quiet every store within me.

Holy Spirit, guide my heart into stillness. Teach me to rest in God's love, to breathe deeply of His grace, and to carry peace to every person I meet.

O Mary, Queen of Peace, walk with me during this Advent Season. Help me to surrender my worries, trust in God's plans, and welcome Jesus with a peaceful and humble heart.

Amen.

Reflection on the Second Week of Advent

The Second Week of Advent centers on peace—the deep, enduring peace that only Christ can give, even when life feels uncertain.

Peace means:
- Resting in God's presence even when worries arise
- Allowing Christ's light to calm our hearts
- letting go of what we cannot control
- and trusting that God is guiding every step of the journey

True peace begins when we surrender our lives into God's loving hands.

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