Second Sunday of Easter: Divine Mercy Sunday

Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 12	*Divine Mercy Sunday*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**Joan Carpanini**
11:00AM	**Easter Novena**
	John Mondello
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Angelo Cicotelli
	Giuseppa Biondo
	Mary Ethel Dugan
	Victor A. Di Donato
	Emma Caridi
Monday, April 13	*Monday of the Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Fortunata Di Lorenzo**
Tuesday, April 14	*Tuesday Of The Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Ann Keenan**
Wednesday, April 15	*Wednesday Of The Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Nikoleta Doukakis**
Thursday, April 16	*Thursday Of The Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Thomas Gaudiosi**
Friday, April 17	*Friday Of The Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Bridget Dudek**
Saturday, April 18	*Saturday Of the Second Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
5:00PM	**Joseph & Rose Avitabile**
Sunday, April 19	*Third Sunday of Easter*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Joan Carpanini**
11:00AM	**John Mondello**
	Maria Assunta Spiteri
	Albina Kersul
	Antonio Bruno
	Carmela Dimilta
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Lorraine Sanvucci

Today's Readings

Divine Mercy Sunday

Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After He said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:19-23)

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Acts 4:23-31***
	John 3:1-8
Tuesday	***Acts 4:32-37***
	John 3:7b-15
Wednesday	***Acts 5:17-26***
	John 3:16-21
Thursday	***Acts 5:27-33***
	John 3:31-36
Friday	***Acts 5:34-42***
	John 6:1-15
Saturday	***Acts 6:1-7***
	John 6:16-21

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14,22-33
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35

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
Bob Bala
Anthony Fiorino
Joseph Klos
Jan Hengl

Let us remember in prayer and celebrate the OCIA Candidates in our Parish Family who received the Sacraments at our Easter Vigil Mass:

First Communion & Confirmation:
Octavio Casusol
Joseph Orth

Confirmation:
Tyler Cruz
Georganne Melnick

Congratulations!

FOCUS:

My Lord and My God!

In the year 2000, Pope St. John Paul II designated the Second Sunday of Easter as the Sunday of Divine Mercy. As we continue to celebrate and give thanks for the Resurrection, we acknowledge that we need the risen Christ; we need His healing and His steadfast mercy.

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

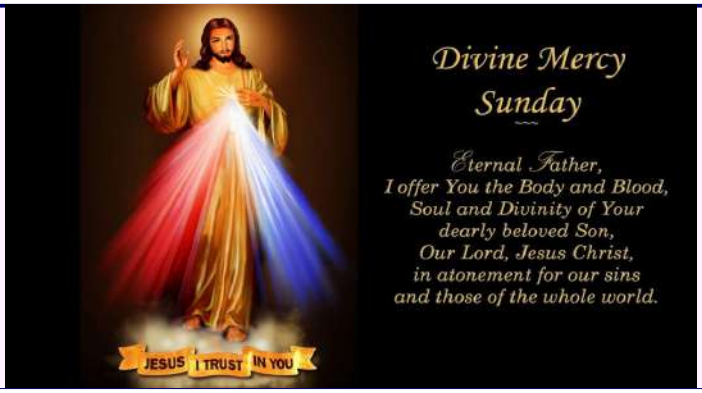
Thursday, April 16th
Rectory Basement, St. Joseph Room

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
The Scripture Study Group will begin a new study on **The Book of Job**. All are invited to join us on Thursday, April 16, in the St. Joseph Room of the Rectory from 7:20PM to 8:50PM.

The Book of Job: Faith Amidst Trials. Why does God allow human suffering? ….Job is a righteous man, stripped of all he holds dear, who engages in a powerful dialogue with his friends on the nature and cause of suffering. Job's friends struggle to justify Job's suffering, determined to find fault with Job rather than God. Job counters their arguments and then turns his attention to God in a desperate plea for justice. When God's answer comes from the whirlwind, it is not what we expect. (The Book of Job: Little Rock Scripture Study, Liturgical Press)

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,

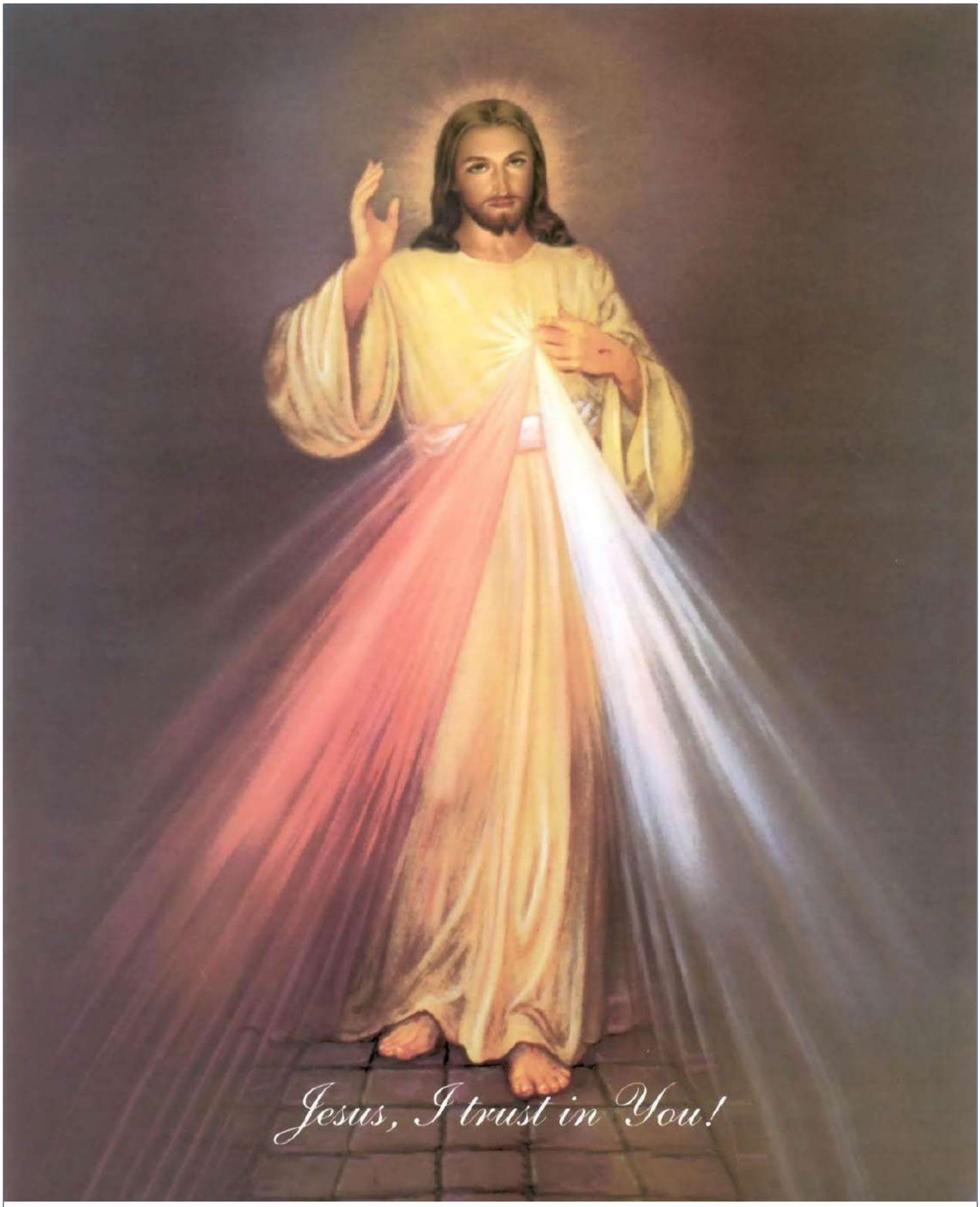
Today's readings and prayers echo throughout the entire Easter season. They remind all who are baptized just what it means to believe in the Risen Christ and how that belief must shape the way we live.

In these fifty days of Easter, all of us can learn a lot from the early believers. Those who came to know Jesus as the Messiah were moved by his teaching, awed by his miracles and changed by his compassion. As Jesus predicted, they were shocked at his Passion and Death. Their faith was put to the test. Some initially doubted reports of His Resurrection but became convinced by post-Resurrection encounters-eating with him on the seashore, breaking bread with him at Emmaus, and, like Thomas, being invited to touch his wounds.

Despite being a hostile society, the believers stayed faithful. We hear in today's first reading that they *devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles, to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers.* The result was that *every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.* As the Christian Community grew, encouragement was given to believers who had never seen Christ. In the face of trials, they could rejoice in a living hope and the promise of salvation. They reassured one another in the fact that Jesus offers peace that the world cannot give.

Some two thousand years later, we believers still gather in the name of the Lord. We devote ourselves to Christ's teachings, we worship together and participate in the Eucharistic meal. We share the joy of our faith with all those who came into the Church this Easter. We live in a society that may be hostile to the truths of our faith, yet we are encouraged to remain devoted to the teachings of the Apostles, to our Church, to our Sacraments and to our prayer. And all this is possible because of the gift of faith and by God's grace, which emboldens us to proclaim that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who died for our salvation and rose again, that we might live with God forever in heaven.

All the Blessings of the Risen Lord,
Msgr. Maresca



"I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners."

- Our Lord Jesus Christ to St. Faustina

EASTER CANDLE DONATIONS

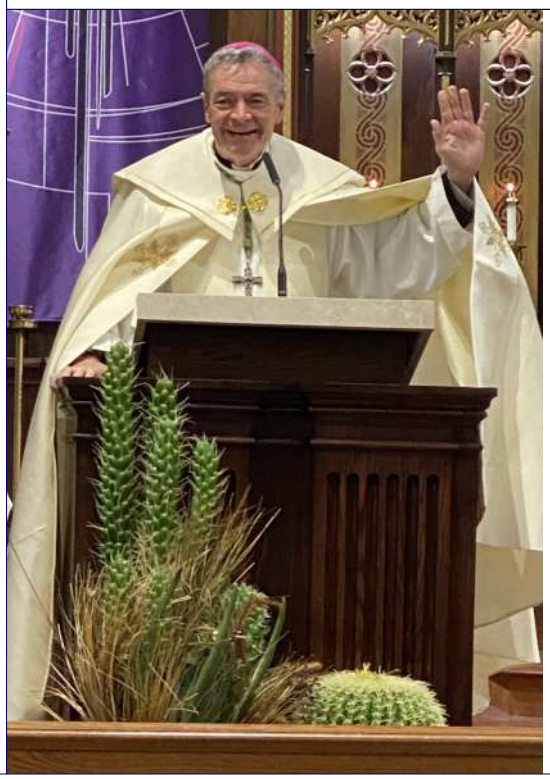
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

ANTONIO CARULLO
MARIO CARULLO
ANTHONY CARULLO
MARINA & FIORELLO PINOTTI
ROSA & ANTONIO FILETTO
MARY K. LOUD
RITA & RALPH MARESCA
BISHOP THOMAS V. DAILY
REV. PETER D. GILLEN
EILEEN JASINSKI
UNCLE MARIO ESPOSITO
ANTONINA & JOHN KOS
GABRIELLA KOS
LILIANA & VITO BIANCOSPINO
SYLESTER & MARIE GUERRIERO
HAROLD ELMENDORF
DE CICCO FAMILY
IORIO FAMILY
SONNY & ROSEMARY (COOKIE) RAGONESE
FELIX JOSEPH DE VITO

EASTER PRAYER OF POPE ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

It is only right, with all the powers of our heart and mind,
to praise You Father and Your Only-Begotten Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ.
Dear Father,
By Your wondrous condescension of
Loving-Kindness toward us,
Your servants, You gave up Your Son.
Dear Jesus,
You paid the debt of Adam for us to the Eternal Father
by Your Blood poured forth in Loving-Kindness.
You cleared away the darkness of sin by Your magnificent
and radiant Resurrection.
You broke the bonds of death and rose from the grave
as a Conqueror.
You reconciled Heaven and Earth.
Our life had no hope of Eternal Happiness before
You Redeemed us.
Your resurrection has washed away our sins,
restored our innocence and brought us joy,
How inestimable is the tenderness of Your Love!

We pray You, Lord,
to preserve Your servants in the peaceful enjoyment
of this Easter happiness.
We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord,
Who lives and reigns with God the Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
forever and ever.
Amen.



Bishop Brennan came to St. Francis on Saturday, March 28, 2026 for our Lenten Pilgrimage as a Stationary Church for the Diocese of Brooklyn.

It was a beautiful day of prayer and growth in closeness to our Lord.

Photo Credit: Carol Marino

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

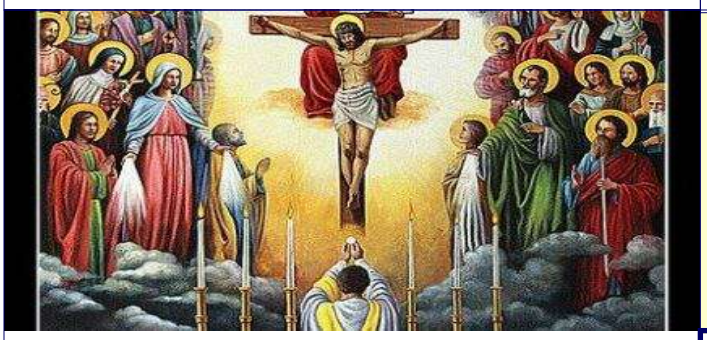
Eucharistic Adoration takes place Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic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

2026 Mass Book

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.

Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday

April 12, 2026

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Is God inviting you to live the gift and mystery of being sent as priest, sister, or brother to proclaim the truth of Jesus Christ?
Contact the Vocation Office at:

(718)-827-2454
vocations@diobrook.org

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

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.

April 4/5:	**$7,514**
Second Collection for Senior Priests:	**$2,156**
My Easter Gift to My Church (To Date):	**$8,342**
Holy Thursday St. Vincent De Paul Collection:	**$1,381**
Good Friday Holy Land Collection:	**$1,672**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For April 4/5, 2026

7:30PM	**221**
8:00AM	**110**
9:30AM	**226**
11:00AM	**349**
	Total: 906

Parish Mission Statement

St. Francis of Assisi Parish is a Catholic community that is centered in Jesus, gathers in worship and witnesses the Gospel message. The parish values and welcomes each person's gift of time, talent and treasure. As a faith-filled community, we are committed to minister to the spiritual, educational, and material needs of all people.

Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal for 2026 has begun in our Diocese. I first want to thank all those who supported the appeal last year. I appreciate your generosity.
This year our goal has been reduced to **$33,760.** The theme is: ***"One Church, Diverse Ministries. United Mission."***
So far we have ***$13,029*** pledged towards 2026.

I ask you to prayerful reflect on what you are able to contribute to support the appeal.
The monies contributed goes to Vocations, Care for retired priest, Faith Formation, Catholic Charities, Chaplaincies, Catholic Migration Services, and Catholic School Tuition Assistance.
Please make every effort to support this appeal and help us reach our goal.

I share 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

March's Monthly 50/50 Winners are:

1st Place: Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Mistretta
2nd Place: Mr. & Mrs. Peter Tehomilic
3rd Place: Ms. Diane Hubert

Congratulations to the Winners!

Second Collection Next Weekend April 18/19, 2026

Fuel Collection

There will be a Second Collection next weekend to help with Fuel costs. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Thank you for your generosity in helping to keep the Church at a comfortable temperature.

Calendar of Events

This Week

April 12 - April 18

Sunday, April 12
8:00AM Holy Name Mass

Monday, April 13
School Resumes
12:00 NOON Golden Age - MCH

Tuesday, April 14
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, April 15
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
6:30PM Grocery Bingo Ticket Sale - MMC
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, April 16
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room

Friday, April 17
3K/PreK Pizza & PJs - MCH
6:30PM Grocery Bingo Ticket Sale - MMC

Saturday, April 18

Jesus teaches Nicodemus, the Pharisee.

Next Week

April 19 - April 25

Sunday, April 19
9:30AM Pre-Communion Mass
10:40AM CCD Class - School
1:00PM IACA 47th Anniversary - MCH

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

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

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

Thursday, April 23
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - St. Joseph Room

Friday, April 24

Saturday, April 25
9:30AM Holy Communion Retreat

Jesus travels the road to Emmaus with the disciples.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith. April 2026

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

One Minute Meditations

St. Anselm of Canterbury

Born in Aosta, Italy, he attended a Benedictine school as a youth. After traveling around France and Italy for his studies, St. Anselm entered the Benedictine Order. When the current Archbishop of Canterbury died, Anselm, who by then was a Benedictine abbot, was promoted as Canterbury's new Archbishop. St. Anselm navigated church reforms, theological study, and political tensions. He was exiled for resisting the king's interference in Church matters but was allowed to return in peace.

Glorious wounds

Every Easter, we celebrate that Jesus definitively conquered sin, evil and death. God, not evil, has "the last laugh." Yet, He still has His wounds. The Resurrection transformed what were wounds of rejection into glorious trophies - proof of His love, power, and trustworthiness as our Savior. When we encounter difficulty, even great suffering, we can look to the glorious wounds of our Savior with hope. If we stay close to Him, we'll be victorious too.

"It comes down to this: If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, then Christianity is a fraud and a sham. If He did rise from the dead, then He is who He said He is, and our lives must change accordingly. There is no middle ground."

Bishop Robert Barron

Don't Just Celebrate Easter. Step Into It.

At the heart of Christianity is not just an idea or a rule of life, but an encounter with the Risen Christ and the new life of grace He offers. Easter invites us to step into that life more deliberately. Here are four simple ways to begin:

Encounter the Risen Christ. Mary Magdalene stood before Jesus and didn't recognize Him until He spoke her name (John 20:16), and her grief became joy. That encounter is possible for us. Come to Mass with intention. Don't just attend—arrive expecting to meet Him. Listen closely, pray honestly, and remember that in the Eucharist, Christ is truly present.

Practical step: Before Mass, pray, "Jesus, help me recognize You today."

Take an "Emmaus walk." Two disciples left Jerusalem discouraged, and Jesus met them on the road. He helped them to see God's faithfulness in their lives. He can do the same for you. Take time this Easter season for a quiet walk with Him. Speak openly about what's on your heart, and listen for His voice.

Practical step: Ask, "Lord, where have You been at work in my life that I haven't seen?"

Choose mercy. Jesus gave His Apostles the power to forgive sins (John 20:21–23), ensuring His mercy would always be available. We're called to receive it—

"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ." John Paul II

and extend it. Forgive, hold back harsh words, and choose patience.

Practical step: Identify one situation where you can offer a concrete act of mercy this week.

Be open to mission. The Resurrection sends us out. God still calls ordinary people for His work. Your mission may be simple: show patience, reach out, or step up where needed.

Practical step: Ask, "Where am I being nudged to act?" Then take one small step.

Easter isn't just celebrated—it's lived, one step at a time.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe in the Resurrection?

The Resurrection is not only a matter of faith; it has also been examined through historical and forensic inquiry. The New Testament accounts draw on early eyewitness testimony, preserved with notable consistency compared to other ancient sources. The Shroud of Turin has likewise been widely studied, with some researchers noting features consistent with a first-century Roman crucifixion, while the image's formation remains unexplained. Finally, despite intense early persecution, Christianity spread rapidly, reflecting the deep conviction of its first followers. Together, these considerations suggest the Resurrection is rooted in both faith and historical reflection.

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After Lent, the work begins

Pope Leo XIV described Lent as a time to "place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives." Yet the growth in holiness and renewal of faith that begins in Lent is meant to continue well beyond the season.

Keep custody of the heart. To guard the heart is to protect it from whatever disrupts our relationship with God. It means "allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit." The habits formed during Lent can help sustain this: a daily Morning Offering, reading the Gospel, or setting aside time to visit the Blessed Sacrament. A healthy spiritual life depends on staying connected to the God who loves us most.

Keep custody of the tongue. This is a form of fasting that lasts all year. Pope Leo urges us to "disarm our language," avoiding harsh words and rash judgment. Refusing gossip and slander is an act of self-denial. Instead, we are called to measure our words and practice kindness and respect. This simple discipline can bring new life not only to our own hearts, but to those around us.

Keep custody of your time. What we give our time to shapes who we become. It's easy to let our days fill with noise, distraction, and busyness that leave little room for God. Be intentional about how you spend your time. Protect moments for prayer, rest, and what truly matters—your family, your vocation, your relationship with the Lord. Even small choices, repeated daily, create space for grace to grow.

from Scripture — John 10:1-10, The Good Shepherd seeks us

In this passage, Jesus uses the image of a shepherd to reveal who He is, how He cares for us, and how He invites us to respond. But why a shepherd?

In Jesus' time, shepherding was a demanding and often dangerous way of life. A good shepherd knew each sheep personally and remained constantly with the flock. Many sheepfolds had no gates; at night, the shepherd would lie across the entrance, becoming the barrier that protected the sheep from danger. If a sheep was lost, injured, or attacked, the shepherd would go after it, tending to its wounds and, if necessary, risking his own life.

The meaning is clear. Without the steady care, guidance, and protection of the shepherd, the sheep would not survive. In the same way, we depend on God. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows each of us by name. He does not abandon us. He seeks us out when we are lost, heals us when we are wounded, provides for our needs, and protects us—even to the point of laying down His life.

In response, He asks for our trust, so that He may lead us safely home.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 2 – Holy Thursday. Today, we celebrate Jesus' institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood to perpetuate it. Today, we celebrate He who remains really present to us in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for priests.

April 12 – Divine Mercy Sunday. In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina and asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy." Jesus promised special graces to those who honor Him as the King of Mercy and pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

April 17 – St. Stephen Harding (1134). St. Stephen and two companions founded the Cistercian religious order in Citeaux. As abbot, he guided the community through many hardships. St. Bernard of Clairvaux and several companions joined him and revived the order. St. Stephen founded twelve more religious communities throughout France.

April 20 – St. Agnes of Montepulciano (1317). At a young age, she begged her parents to let her enter the Franciscans. When she was thirteen, the pope asked her to found a monastery at Proceno. Inspired by a vision, she founded a Dominican order at Montepulciano.

April 30 – Pope St. Pius V (1572). Born to a poor family in Italy, Antonio Ghislieri became a Dominican, taught theology, and became Pope Pius V. As Pope, he established seminaries and hospitals, and published the Roman Catechism, Roman Breviary, and the Missal. He promoted the praying of the Rosary for the victory of Christian forces at the Battle of Lepanto (1571). He is also known for efforts to implement the Council of Trent.

Q & A — Why Do Catholics eat bacon on St. Mark's feast day?

The Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist (April 25) has become, for many Catholics, a fitting day to enjoy bacon. The Church has a long tradition of honoring saints through liturgical celebrations, local customs, and even particular foods—practices that help preserve our shared spiritual heritage and remember their heroic witness.

In 828, Venetian merchants transferred the relics of St. Mark from Alexandria, Egypt, to Venice, Italy. To pass safely through Muslim-controlled ports, they hid the relics beneath layers of pork, a meat considered unclean under Islamic law. According to tradition, port officials, repelled by the cargo, chose not to inspect it closely, allowing the relics to reach Venice safely, where they remain today. In remembrance of this event, some Catholics mark his feast day—or the anniversary of the relics' arrival on January 31—by eating pork.

Honoring a saint's relics is a tangible expression of reverence, much like placing flowers on the graves of fallen soldiers. It reflects respect for their lives, their witness, and their service to God. Ultimately, in honoring the saints, we honor the God who formed them.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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Divine Mercy Sunday

April 12, 2026

In a series of revelations to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today, we know that feast as Divine Mercy Sunday, named by Pope St. John Paul II at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000.

The Lord expressed His will with regard to this feast in His very first revelation to St. Faustina. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in her Diary entry 699:
My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My mercy.

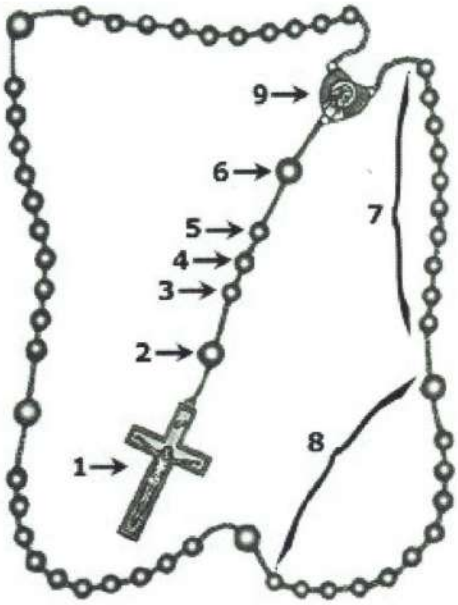
In all, St. Faustina recorded 14 revelations from Jesus concerning His desire for this feast.

Nevertheless, Divine Mercy Sunday is NOT a feast based solely on St. Faustina's revelations. Indeed, it is not primarily about St. Faustina—nor is it altogether a new feast. The Second Sunday of Easter was already a solemnity as the Octave Day of Easter. The title "Divine Mercy Sunday" does, however, highlight the meaning of the day.

*taken from www.thedivinemercy.org, The National Shrine of the Marian Fathers

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. The Chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Faustina and followed by a closing prayer.



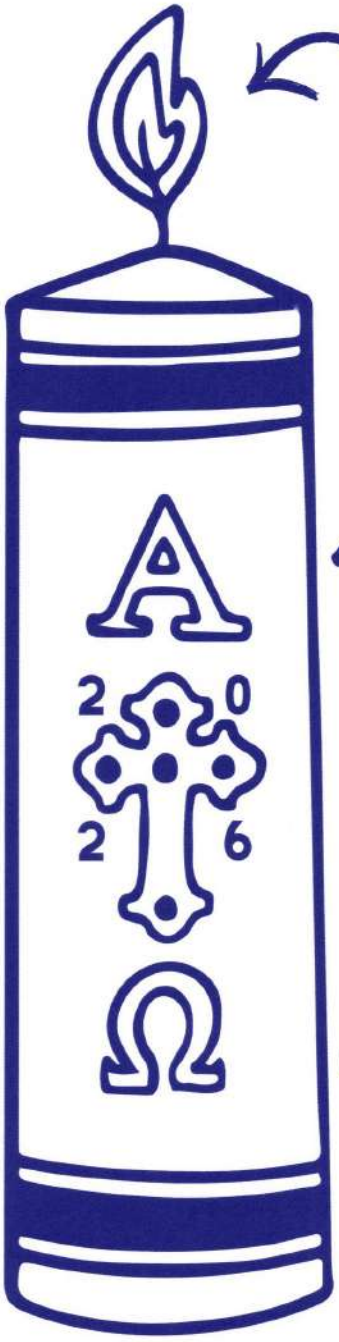
How to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

1. **Begin with the Sign of the Cross**
   In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
2. **Opening Prayers**
   You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole word and empty Yourself out upon us.
   (Repeat three times)
   O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You!
3. **Our Father**
   Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.
4. **Hail Mary**
   Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.
5. **The Apostle's Creed**
   I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.
6. **The Eternal Father**
   Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
7. **On the 10 Small Beads of Each Decade**
   For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
8. **Repeat for the remaining decades**
   Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father bead and then 10 "For the Sake of His Sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.
9. **Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)**
   Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
10. **Optional Closing Prayer**
    Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion-inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to You holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

(resource from https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet)

SFA YOUTH PAGE

SYMBOLS OF THE
PASCHAL CANDLE



THE CROSS
Christ is the center of our lives

FLAME
The Light of Christ, shared with everyone

GRAINS OF INCENSE
The five wounds of Jesus

ALPHA & OMEGA
Jesus is the beginning and end of all things

YEAR
God is present here and now

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SFA YOUTH PAGE

THE PASCHAL CANDLE WORD SEARCH

Find the words below hidden in the puzzle.
Each word is related to the Paschal Candle!

CROSS - ALPHA - OMEGA - FLAME - LIGHT -
WOUNDS - RISEN - CANDLE - EASTER - VIGIL

H P T O Q P W A N W S K Y D G
Y B I V Z V U A G A G G X V F
C T E F V R D R H L P A M Z R
C H C V F C K Q N P X Y L U I
Y I R C L L L C A H O X B I S
H X O Y A X A N U A P M A S E
O T S Z B N F M K U E K E Y N
M B S W C E D B E N E U T G I
Y R V F K M D L L D A Q N B A
J H E I W J I O E F S L Y Y C
Q P L K G O M S B B T N K X Q
W S I S F I U N U B E S D V U
W B G L F Q L N X U R L R R U
F J H C E H E K D O J X T T D
E V T D T J O V Z S W W V E A

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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PROUDLY PRESENTS

RADIO BINGO

FRIDAY - MAY 8, 2026

DOOR PRIZES!!

RAFFLES 50/50!

DOORS OPEN 6:00PM
BINGO STARTS AT 7:00PM

ADVANCED TICKETS SALES ONLY $50
INCLUDES BINGO TICKETS, DJ, AND ENTRY TO DOOR PRIZES!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH & FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH 6:30-8:30PM
AT SFACA MSGR. MARESCA CENTER

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI LOWER CHURCH - MSGR. THOMAS P. CAMPBELL HALL

21ST AVENUE & 46TH STREET - ASTORIA - 718-726-9405

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SANITATION AND SAFETY NIGHT

JOIN US AND TELL ALL YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS, ALL ARE WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15 @ 7:00PM

Pistilli Grand Manor 45-02 Ditmars Blvd,
Entrance on 45th St.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Iggy Azzara
Chief
NYC Department of Sanitation

Seth Lynch
Deputy Inspector
Commanding Officer,
114 Precinct

718-721-3690 betterastoria.com 45-02 Ditmars Blvd., Astoria, NY

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