Seventh Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions

Sunday, May 17	*Seventh Sunday of Easter*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Rosetta Brucculeri**
11:00AM	**Maria Samu**
	Mary Loud
	John Mondello
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Pietro Marchini
	Carlos Davila
	Cameron Zappolo
	Rosemarie Razza
	Peter Lucchino
	Calogero & Maria LoManto
Monday, May 18	*Pope St. John I, Martyr*
9:00AM	**Mary Di Pietro**
Tuesday, May 19	*Tuesday of the Seventh Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Beatrice Tedesco**
Wednesday, May 20	*St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest*
9:00AM	**Maria Kuljanic**
Thursday, May 21	*St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs*
9:00AM	**Evelyn Perrone**
Friday, May 22	*St. Rita of Cascia, Religious*
9:00AM	**Marion Greer**
Saturday, May 23	*Saturday of the Seventh Week Of Easter*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Josephine Formosa
	Sarina Marie Carbone
5:00PM	**Mary Martinez**
Sunday, May 24	*Solemnity of Pentecost*
8:00AM	**The Niemand Family**
9:30AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
11:00AM	**Vinicio Donato**
	John Mondello
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Juan Hernandez
	Tena Marie Vallone
	Rosa Gambino

Today's Readings

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:12-14
1 Peter 4:13-16
John 17:1-11a

"I have made Your name known to those whom you gave Me from the world. They were Yours, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they know that everything You have given Me is from You; for the words that You gave to Me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from You; and they believed that You sent Me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom You gave Me, because they are Yours. All Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You." (John 17:6-11a)

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Acts 19:1-8***
	John 16:29-33
Tuesday	***Acts 20:17-27***
	John 17:1-11a
Wednesday	***Acts 20:28-38***
	John 17:11b-19
Thursday	***Acts 22:30; 23:6-11***
	John 17:20-26
Friday	***Acts 25:13b-21***
	John 21:15-19
Saturday	***Acts 28:16-20,30-31***
	John 21:20-25

Solemnity of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-11
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13
John 20:19-23

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
John Mondello
Joseph & Eunjun Carbone

Memorials for The week of May 17, 2026

Sanctuary Lamp
In Loving Memory of Anne & William Thompson

Requested By: The Thompson Family

Altar Bread
In Loving Memory of Pietro Marchini

Requested By: Anna D'Angelo

FOCUS:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

During the Lenten season, many of us focused our efforts on devoting time to prayer and investing in our relationship with Jesus Christ. The joy of Easter is not an excuse to step back from these practices but is instead an invitation to go further. Renewed by hope, strengthened by God's faithfulness, and encouraged by today's readings, let us continue to deepen our relationship with Jesus.

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

"Then he saw wisdom and appraised her, established her, and searched her out. And to mortals he said: See: the fear of the Lord is wisdom; and avoiding evil is understanding." (Job 28:27-28)

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
All are invited to join us on Thursday, May 21, in the St. Joseph room of the Rectory from 7:20PM - 8:50PM. We will continue our study on **The Book of Job, Chapters 20-28.**

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.

St. Rita of Cascia
Friday May 22, 2026

"Saint of the Impossible"

St. Rita teaches us that no circumstance is completely hopeless when placed in God's hands.

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

Jesus Christ brought the greatest gift of all to the world when he came proclaiming the Kingdom of God, marking a new beginning for humanity. In Jesus, God was with his people. In Jesus, God's love and mercy were known and experienced. His teachings, miracles and presence in the world challenged the way the people saw and responded to God and to neighbor. His vision of the Kingdom of God began to be manifested as his followers grew in number and in knowledge.

When Jesus died, it appeared that his vision also died. However, Jesus was glorified by rising from the dead. After appearing to his disciples over a period of forty days, Jesus ascended to his Father in heaven. Experiencing the glorification of Jesus strengthened the conviction of his Apostles, helping them to carry on his work of building up the Kingdom of God on earth. The vision of Jesus would be their vision. His teachings would be their teachings. His life would be their life.

How could the Apostles prepare themselves to take over this important mission? What would be their source of strength and perseverance? There was only one answer-**prayer.** Prayer had been an important part of the life of Jesus. He taught often about prayer, he observed Jewish worship on the Sabbath, and he invited his Apostles to join him in private prayer.

Today's gospel reading is part of what Jesus prayed prior to his Passion and Death. As prayer strengthened the Lord Jesus, so, too, prayer would prove to be the source of strength for his followers. After the Ascension of our Lord into heaven, the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room and devoted themselves to constant prayer. It was prayer that united them firmly with Jesus, their Master. It was prayer that kept the vision of God's Kingdom before them. It was prayer that strengthened them to continue the mission of Jesus. As Christ lived in them, they lived out his vision of the Kingdom. This vision has persevered in the world for the past two thousand years in the lives of Christian everywhere.

Entrusted with this gift, we are called to glorify God by living out the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We should not be afraid. Our faith is not meant to be locked away. Rather, it is to be shared freely with others. We can proceed with confidence. Christ has given us his vision, his presence and his prayers. We need only to embrace these gifts in order for the life of Christ to flow through us into the world. We have been handed a vision of the Kingdom of God by the Son of God, Jesus Christ. We can make his vision a reality.
This is now to be ***our mission!***

All the Blessings of the Risen Lord,
Msgr. Maresca

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
SYLVESTER & MARIE GUERRIERO
HAROLD ELMENDORF
DE CICCO FAMILY
IORIO FAMILY
SONNY & ROSEMARY (COOKIE) RAGONESE
FELIX JOSEPH DE VITO
JOHN PURICH
WILLIAM LEDONE
LOUIS & THERESA FALCO
NICK & MILLIE MISTRETTA
FRANK & ADELINA FALZETTI
VINCENZO & MARIA FALCO
VICTORIA MARINO
JERZY MASLUK
DOLORES & FERDINANDO PRETE

Preparing for Pentecost
Sunday May 24, 2026

Daily Prayer May 17th-May 23rd:

Almighty and Eternal God, Who hast vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Spirit, and hast given us forgiveness of all sins, vouchsafe to send forth from heaven upon us Your sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary (1 time).
Glory Be (7 times).

Act of Consecration to the Holy Spirit:

On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body to You, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice, and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to grace and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, and listen to Your voice, and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You, by Your compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus and looking at His Five Wounds, and trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring His opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me in Your grace that I may never sin against You. Give me grace, O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son to say to You always and everywhere,
"Speak Lord for Your servant is listening."
Amen.

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

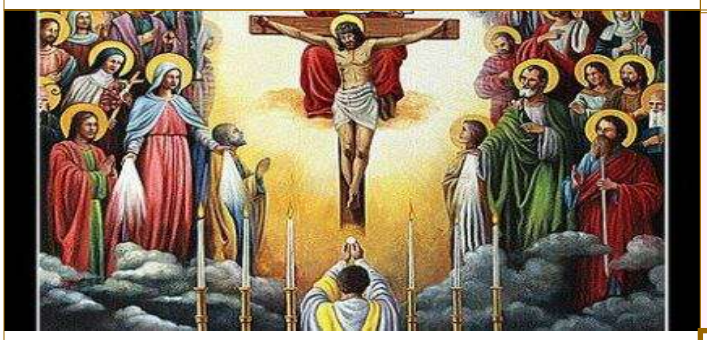
Eucharistic Adoration takes place Monday through Saturday, from 8:00AM to 8:50AM. As Pope St. John Paul II has said, "Christian life is expressed in the fulfilling of the greatest Commandment, that is to say, in the love of God and neighbor, and this love finds its source in the Blessed Sacrament….Eucharistic worship is therefore precisely the expression of that love which is the authentic and deepest characteristic of the Christian vocation. This worship springs from the love and serves the love to which we are all called in Jesus Christ. A living fruit of this worship is the perfecting of the image of God that we bear within us….We must always have this reality before our eyes."

We encourage everyone to make an effort to spend time in the presence of our Lord. The Blessings are countless.

Receiving Holy Communion

For those who have difficulty walking up the aisle to receive Holy Communion, may I suggest that you sit in the front row on either side to save yourself some steps. The priest, deacon, or minister will come down to you in the pew and give you Holy Communion. However, if for some reason you need to sit towards the back of the Church, please let the usher know and they will inform the priest, deacon, or minister, and we will come back to you to give you Holy Communion when we finish those in line.

Thanks,
Msgr. Maresca



The May 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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

"God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him." If you think God may be offering you the grace of serving Him and His people as a priest or in the consecrated life, 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.

May 9/10: **$4,411**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For May 9/10, 2026

5:00PM	**72**
8:00AM	**60**
9:30AM	**134**
11:00AM	**157**
	Total: 423

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 **$24,627** pledged towards our goal.

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

Upcoming Holiday: Memorial Day
Monday May 25, 2026

*The School & Rectory Office **will be closed** on Monday May 25, 2026 in observance of Memorial Day.*

The Office will re-open on Tuesday May 26th from 9:00AM-12NOON; 1:00PM-9PM.

We wish to thank
Maria Kyriakopoulos & Maura Hili,
and all who helped raise funds for the Parish in our
Radio Bingo Fundraiser.

Thank you for your gifts of time and talent!

Calendar of Events

This Week

May 17 - May 23

Sunday, May 17
9:30AM Last Children's Liturgy

Monday, May 18
12:00 NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

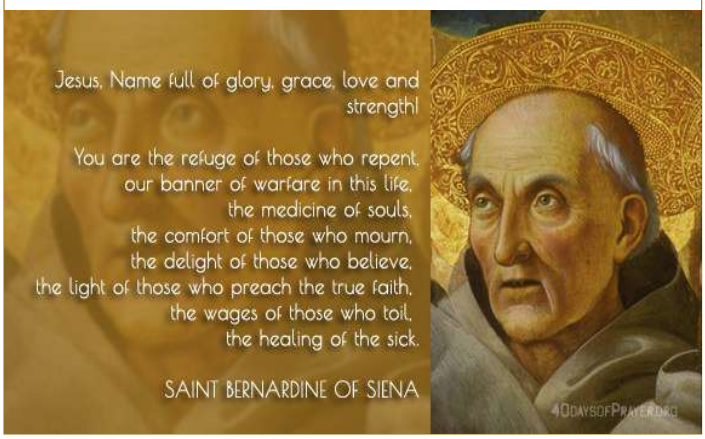
Tuesday, May 19
1:45PM SFACA Student Debate Showcase - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, May 20
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, May 21
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
10:30AM Student Band Concert - MCH
3:00PM Drama Club Performance Rehearsal - MCH
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - SFR

Friday, May 22
School Closed

Saturday, May 23



St. Bernardine of Siena, Wednesday May 20th.

Next Week

May 24 - May 30

Sunday, May 24

Monday, May 25
Memorial Day
School & Rectory Office Closed

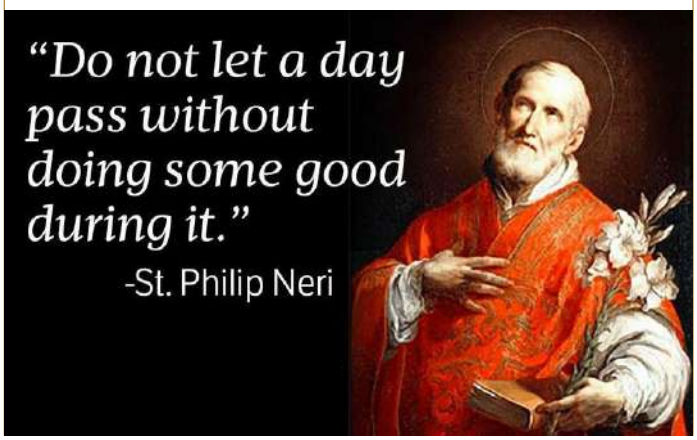
Tuesday, May 26
3:00PM Drama Club Performance Rehearsal - MCH
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, May 27
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
6:30PM Drama Club Performance - MCH
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, May 28
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
1:45PM Drama Club Performance - MCH
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - SFR

Friday, May 29
School Walkathon
2:30PM-4:30PM Band

Saturday, May 30



St. Philip Neri, Tuesday May 26th.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC ACADEMY

CELEBRATE | HONOR | REMEMBER

To recognize and celebrate all of those who have or are serving, we will be displaying American Flags along the gate in front of our school starting on Memorial Day, May 25th through the end of July.

If you would like to memorialize a flag(s), please send the tear-off below by Wednesday, May 20, 2026.

$15 Each

Small messages of dedication will be attached to each flag.

Some examples are:

In Loving Memory of Jane Doe The Smith Family	In Honor of Jane Doe The Smith Family	Thank You for your service Jane Doe United States Navy The Smith Family

The Smith Family

Please return to school with payment by Wednesday, May 20th

Name _____ **Grade** _____

Message (Please Print)

_____

_____

Message (Please Print)

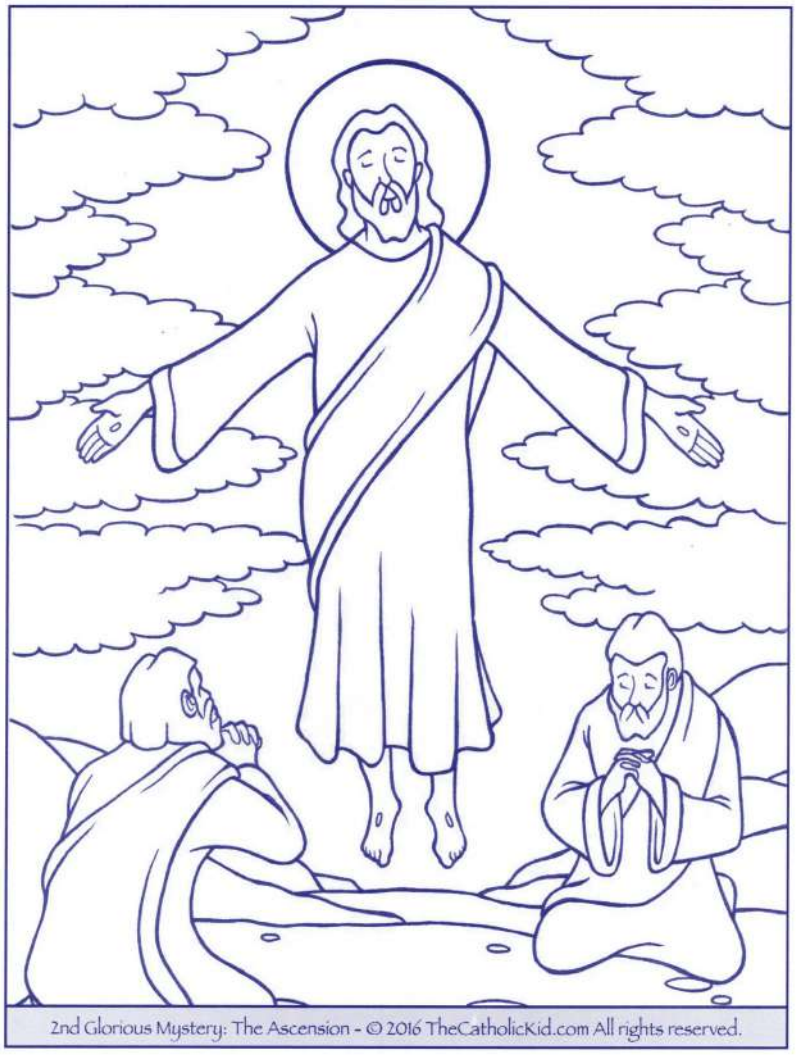
_____

_____

Number of Flags _____ **x $15 =** _____ **Enclosed**

Cash or check payable to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy

SFA YOUTH PAGE



Jesus Ascended into Heaven!

The feast of the Ascension is always celebrated on a Thursday. Forty days after Easter, we commemorate the day Jesus ascended, or went up, to heaven.

On the Ascension, Jesus and His disciples gathered together for the last time. While they were together, Jesus went up to heaven and disappeared into the clouds.

We say in the Apostle's Creed:
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come to judge the living and the dead.
When Jesus ascended into heaven, two angels appeared to the apostles and told them that Jesus would come back the same way He went up. At the end of time, Jesus will return again!

Jesus promised:
"Behold I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

In the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus said:
"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to Myself, so that where I am you also may be."

Jesus did not leave us alone because He sent us the Holy Spirit. At the right hand of the Father, Jesus intercedes for us and is with us as He promised. When He Ascended, He left the authority of the Church in Peter's hands—this authority has been handed down to Popes throughout history!

May is the Month of Mary!

In May, we venerate Our Blessed Mother Mary. She is not only Jesus' mother, she is our mother too!

What are you going to do this month to tell Mary thank you for being such a good Mother?

Some ideas include:

Praying the Rosary
Praying 3 Hail Mary's Before Bed
If there is a statue of Mary in your house or yard, you can make a crown of flowers for her!
Doing Something Good For Someone In Need

SFA WILDCATS CYO

The Latest Soccer Scores Are In!

Friday 5/8
Intermediate Boys lost 2-1 to St. Luke.

Saturday 5/9
Mites beat the Blue Knights 2-1:
Another great showing in the Second Game of the season. It was a true team success with multiple players stepping up and getting on the scoreboard. The teamwork, effort, and unselfish play were on full display—an awesome game all around.

Bantam Boys beat St. Andrew 5-2:
Great ball movement and relentless defense anchored by Charlie Cilento. Giorgio Marchesi led the way with 4 goals, Ethan Makowicz added his first goal of the year, and Angelos Taylor added 4 assists in SFA's first win of the season.

Subnovice Boys beat St. Luke 7-0:
Luka Monterrosa scored 1 goal, Peter scored 2 goals, Liam Kurdina scored 1 goal, Joseph Maerkle scored 2 goals, and Everett Becer-Martin scored 1 goal.

PeeWee Boys beat OLBS 8-0:
PeeWee Boys continue to work hard as a team! The boys had the chance to try new positions on the field—John Spero and Thomas Randazzo took turns at goalie, Jace Hili played defense, and Amadeo Buja at forward. Goals were scored by Theo Coats (2), Francesco LoGiudice (1), John Spero (1), Amadeo Buja (1), and Daniel Mura (1). Assists by Leo Coats and Aris Taylor.

PeeWee Girls tied RA 2-2:
PeeWee Girls came back strong after being behind 0-2. Both goals were scored by Amelia Beilin.

Bantam Girls lost 4-1 to OLBS.

For more information, contact:
contactus@sfawildcats.org

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy

75th Anniversary Celebration

Celebration & Fundraiser

LIVE MUSIC * GAMES * KIDS ACTIVITES
RAFFLES * MEMORABILIA

Adult Ticket Includes BEER & BITES
Children's Ticket Includes JUICE & SNACKS
Tickets Available at Eventbrite

SUNDAY JUNE 28 - 1pm

Join the 11am Celebratory Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

Scan for Tickets

Religious Education Registration

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

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

OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

Are you someone, or do you know someone who:

...has expressed interest in becoming Catholic?

...was baptized as a Catholic as a child but never received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) focuses on learning about the Church and teachings of the Faith to prepare individuals to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation during the Easter Season.

For more information, please contact Sr. Francesca at 718-278-0259, ext. 121, or dre@sfaacademy.org

HOMEOWNERS, TENANTS & BUSINESS
ASTORIA
ESTABLISHED IN 1996

ASTORIA HOMEOWNERS, TENANTS & BUSINESS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

SANITATION & SAFETY NIGHT

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 @ 7:00PM

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

GUEST SPEAKERS

Alejandro Bartolo
Assistant Chief
Queens West Borough
NYC Department of Sanitation

Seth Lynch
Inspector
Commanding Officer,
114 Precinct

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