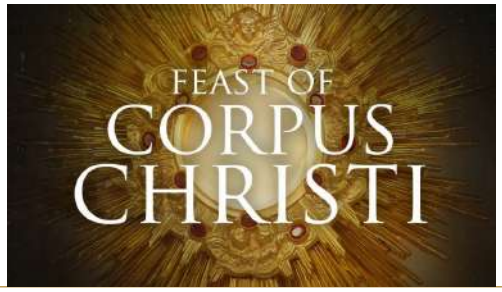
Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Mass Intentions

Sunday, June 7	*Corpus Christi: The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ*
8:00AM	**Lucia & Ralph Borgia**
9:30AM	**Mary Cilia**
11:00AM	**John Mondello**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Altagracia Julia Sarinon Trujillo
	Michael Finnerty
	Ahmar Sein
Monday, June 8	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Pietro Marchini**
Tuesday, June 9	*St. Ephrem, Deacon & Doctor of The Church*
9:00AM	**Raffale Di Gioia**
Wednesday, June 10	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Gaspar & Ante Marusic**
Thursday, June 11	*St. Barnabas, Apostle*
9:00AM	**Dr. Arthur N. Gualtieri, MD, JD**
Friday, June 12	*Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*
9:00AM	**Thanksgiving to The Sacred Heart Of Jesus**
Saturday, June 13	*St. Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
5:00PM	**Joan Carpanini**
Sunday, June 14	*Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
11:00AM	**John Mondello**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Vincent Decrecenzo
	Elvira Ennesser



Today's Readings

Corpus Christi: The Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood Of Christ

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
John 6:51-58

"I am the living Bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this Bread will live forever; and the Bread that I will give for the life of the world is My flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them on the last day.; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat My flesh and drink My blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats Me will live because of Me. This is the Bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and the died. But the one who eats this Bread will live forever."

Readings For The Week

Monday	***1 Kings 17:1-6***
	Matthew 5:1-12
Tuesday	***1 Kings 17:7-16***
	Matthew 5:13-16
Wednesday	***1 Kings 18:20-39***
	Matthew 5:17-19
Thursday	***Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3***
	Matthew 5:20-26
Friday	***Deuteronomy 7:6-11***
	1 John 4:7-16
	Matthew 11:25-30
Saturday	***1 Kings 19:19-21***
	Matthew 5:33-37

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 19:2-6a
Romans 5:6-11
Matthew 9:36—10:8

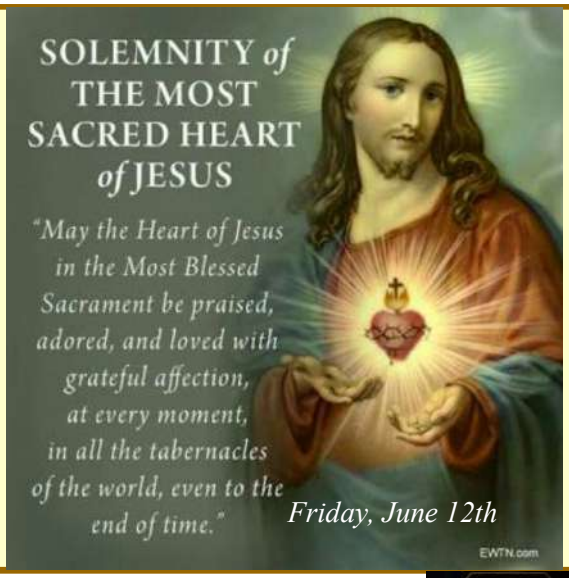
Remember in your prayers all those in our parish who are sick, that they may find health and comfort.

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 & Eunju Carbone



FOCUS:

In the Eucharist, the Lord nurtures our souls and makes us one with Him.

Today, on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, we profess what we believe and celebrate at every Mass: The simple, ordinary gifts of bread and wine are transformed, by the power of the Holy Spirit, into our Lord's Real Presence. When we partake of the Eucharist, Jesus remains with us. Let us pray that we may be more aware of this Presence so we can proclaim the truth to others.

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

Dear SFA Family & Friends,
The Scripture Study Group has completed its study of "The Book of Job." This brings our scripture study to an end for the season.
Members of the Group have found the study to be inspiring, thought-provoking, and reflective. We hope that you will join us in September as we begin a new study on the Gospel of Mark.

Wishing our parish family and friends a pleasant spring, and a restful and joyful summer.

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." (Eccl 3:1)

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. Please be sure to leave your contact information.

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

On special occasions, such as a birthday, a wedding anniversary, or a graduation, people often go out to a restaurant for a good meal to celebrate. The meal out not only feeds the needs of the human body for sustenance but can also serve to strengthen the bonds of friendship and love of the people gathered for the meal. The person being honored at the meal usually finds strength and comfort in knowing that there are others who care about them.

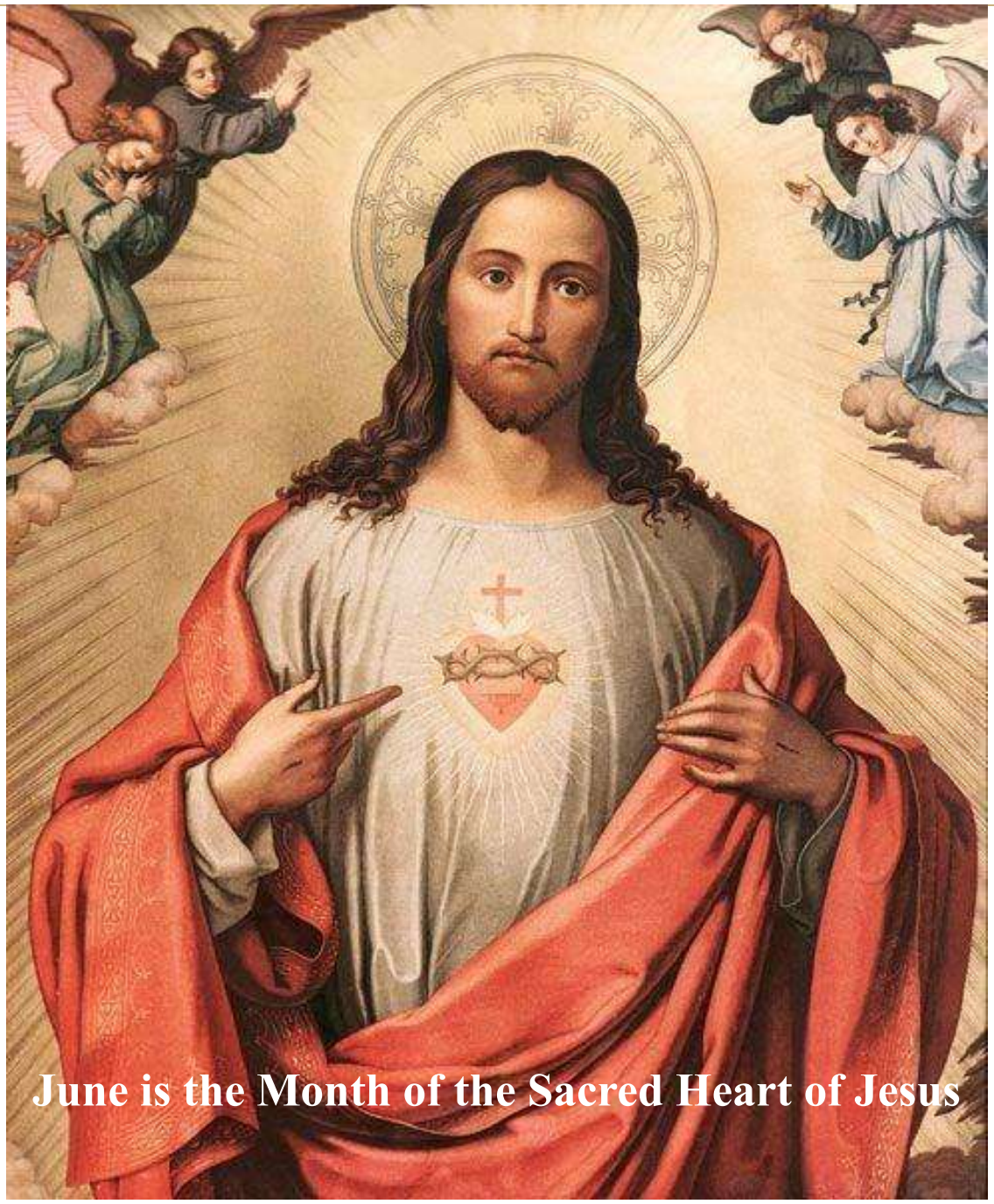
As memorable and important as these meals may be, the meal, which is to hold the deepest significance for us, as faithful Catholics, is the Eucharist. Today's Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ underscores this, along with speaking to the many graces and blessings offered by the Eucharist. Today's solemnity does this by emphasizing that which is taught in the Catechism: *That the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life; it is essential for living as faithful followers of Jesus (1324). This is because in the Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, Christ himself (1324).*

From these truths, it is fairly easy to understand how all the other Sacraments, ministries and works of the Church are bound up with and oriented toward the Eucharist (1324).
Through the Eucharist, Christ is continually present to his Church. Through the Eucharist, Christ works to sustain and preserve unity within the Church. Through the Eucharist, Christ works to draw all the members of the Church closer to himself and to one another, so that the mission of Christ entrusted to the Church may continue and move forward.
Today's second reading speaks eloquently of how the Eucharist fosters and sustains unity within the Church. It says, *The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.*

Beyond these graces and blessings offered to the Church, the Eucharist offers us other helps that are essential for our spiritual health and well-being. Every time we receive Holy Communion and are nourished by Jesus, himself, we are drawn into a more intimate union with him, so that we may live more like him. These graces and blessings are in line with the teaching of Jesus, that receiving the Eucharist is essential for growing in faith, so that we might come to have eternal life.

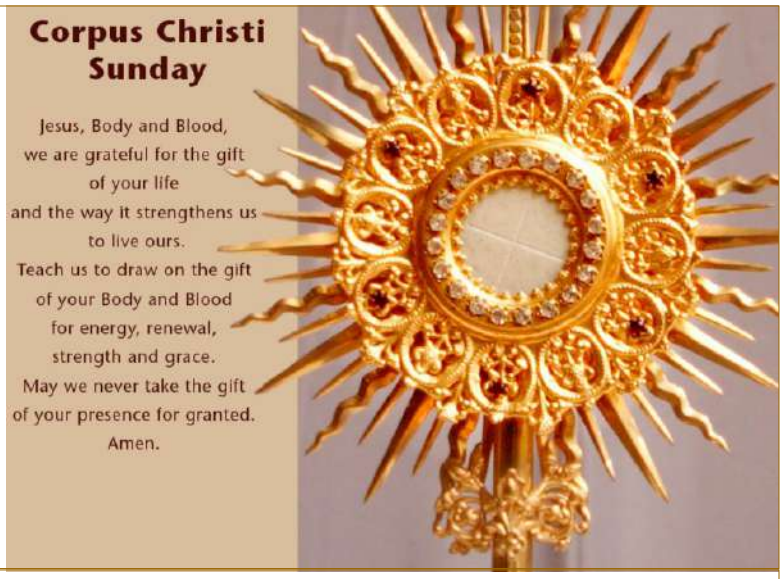
All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

PS. This will be my last column for the summer. They will begin again in September. Thank you for taking the time to read them. I pray that they help you on your faith journey to grow closer to Jesus and know His Will in your life.
Have a restful summer, find time to pray each day, and make every effort to go to Church every weekend.
Be safe and enjoy!



O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: You know the longings of our hearts, and You desire that we enjoy friendship with You. From Your pierced side, You have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst. You heart burns with a love for all people to return to a right relationship with You. We celebrate the abundant gifts You have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We make reparation for the offenses against You and against human dignity that have taken place in this nation. May our hearts be united to Yours, so that our families and communities enjoy peace and happiness; may broken relationships be reconciled, injustices repaired, and the wounds of our land be healed. May Your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to Your infinite love. O Desire of Nations and Center of History, we ask You to bless these United States of America. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Corpus Christi: Deepening Faith and Reverence for the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist



Each year, Catholics around the world gather to honor one of the most sacred and profound mysteries of the Christian faith—the **Solemnity of Corpus Christi**, also known as the **Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ**.
Marked by elaborate processions, reverent Masses, and vibrant traditions that span continents and centuries, **Corpus Christi** is more than a religious observance—it's a powerful public proclamation of faith the **Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist**. But what exactly is Corpus Christi? Where did it come from? And why does it continue to hold such deep significance in the hearts of believers today?

Origins of the Feast

While the Eucharist has been celebrated since the earliest days of Christianity, the formal Feast of Corpus Christi was established in the **13th century**, thanks to the efforts of a devout Belgian nun named **St. Juliana of Liege**. St. Juliana experienced visions in which Christ asked for a special feast dedicated to His Body and Blood—to reaffirm the Church's belief in His Real Presence in the Eucharist and to combat growing heresies at the time. Her visions were taken seriously by local clergy, including the future Pope Urban IV, who officially instituted the Feast of Corpus Christi for the Universal Church in **1264** with the papal bull *Transiturus de hoc mundo*.

The Theology Behind Corpus Christi

At it's core, Corpus Christi is a celebration of the Eucharist, which is not simply symbolic in Catholic belief, but the **actual Real Presence of Christ**. *"This is My Body...This is My Blood." - Matthew 26:26-28*
The Feast is meant to: **Reaffirm Faith** in the Real Presence, **Deepen reverence** for the Sacrament, and **Bring the Eucharist into public witness** through processions and adoration. It is a reminder that Christ is not distant or historical—but alive and present, here and now, in the Bread broken and shared.

How Corpus Christi is Celebrated Around the World

Celebrations vary across cultures, but several key elements remain common:
1) Solemn Mass: Parishes hold special liturgies with Eucharistic hymns and homilies focused on the meaning of the Eucharist.
2) Eucharistic Procession: Perhaps the most visually striking element; the consecrated Host, placed in a Monstrance, is carried through the streets under a canopy. The faithful follow in prayer and song, creating a public act of Adoration.
3) Altars and Decorations: Along the procession route, communities build temporary altars adorned with flowers, banners, and symbolic imagery. Streets may be decorated with petals, sand carpets, or Eucharistic art.
4) Music & Tradition: In places like Spain, Peru, Poland, and the Philippines, traditional music, dancing, and local customs enrich the celebration.
While the celebration lasts a day, its impact should ripple through the entire year. Corpus Christi reminds us to approach the Eucharist with deeper awe and gratitude, make time for **Eucharistic Adoration**, reflect on the meaning of Christ's sacrifice and presence, and let the Body of Christ form a **community of love and service**.

Eucharistic Adoration Ends Saturday June 6, 2026

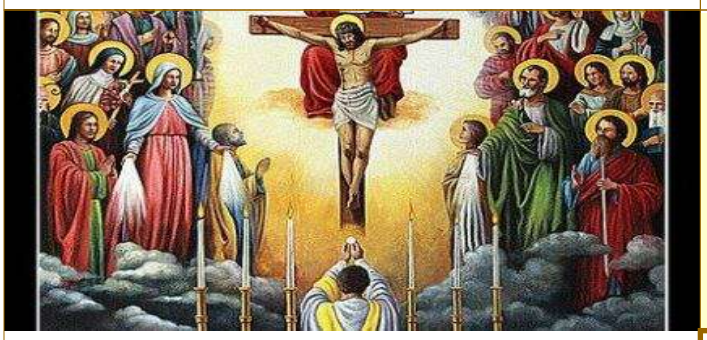
Saturday June 6th is the last day for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration will resume in September.

Also, please remember that Church will open at 8:00AM Monday through Saturday starting Monday, June 8th.

Church will open on Sundays at the regular time of 7:30AM.
Thank you for your understanding.
Msgr. Maresca

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



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.

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

Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

June 7, 2026

Jesus has given us His Body to eat and His Blood to drink so as to nourish us on our journey towards Heaven. All are called in Christ, but some are chosen to nourish His body as priests and in the consecrated life. Could you be among them? 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 30/31: **$3,965**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For May 30/31, 2026

5:00PM	**86**
8:00AM	**61**
9:30AM	**104**
11:00AM	**129**
	Total: 380

May's Monthly 50/50 Winners are:

1st Place: Ms. Dolores K. Ratkowski
2nd Place: Mrs. John Kean
3rd Place: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kerins

Congratulations to the Winners!

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 **$29.767** 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

Father's Day Novena Masses

Father's Day Novena Masses begin on Sunday June 21, 2026. You may return your envelopes in any collection. These envelopes will remain on the Altar at all Masses during the week.

These Masses are celebrated to remember our Living and Deceased Fathers, Grandfathers, Step-Fathers, Uncles, Godfathers, and all those Men who have been a fatherly figure in our lives.

Additional envelopes may be found at the back of the Church.

Calendar of Events

This Week

June 7 - June 13

Sunday, June 7
9:30AM CYO Sports Program Mass
12:00NOON-1:00PM Holy Hour

Monday, June 8
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - CH

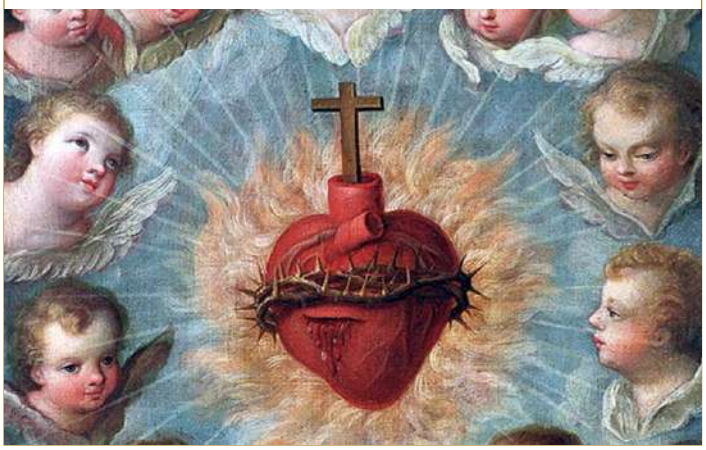
Tuesday, June 9
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement
7:00PM Fall Festival Meeting - Rec. Basement
***Please enter by the Religious Education Door**

Wednesday, June 10
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:00PM Baptism Class - Rectory
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, June 11
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - SFR

Friday, June 12
Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
5:00PM 8th Grade Graduation Mass & Ceremony

Saturday, June 13



Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday June 12th.

Next Week

June 14 - June 20

Sunday, June 14
8:00AM Holy Name Mass

Monday, June 15
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - CH

Tuesday, June 16
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, June 17
6:00PM ACA Support Group - St. Joseph Room
7:45PM Bereavement Group - St. Joseph Room

Thursday, June 18
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:00PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - SFR

Friday, June 19
Juneteenth
School & Rectory Office Closed

Saturday, June 20

St. Romuald, Founder of the Camaldoli Order, Friday June 19th.

FALL FESTIVAL

Come and join us at our Fall Festival Planning Meeting!
All are invited and all are welcome.

When: Tuesday June 9, 2026

Time: 7:00PM

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Rectory Basement

***Please enter the Rectory using the Religious Education Door.**

June 2026

Lector & Minister Schedule

	The Feast of Corpus Christi June 6/7	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 13/14	12th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 20/21	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 27/28
Lectors				
Saturday 5:00PM	Josephine Corso	Debbi Skinner	Edward Kubina	Josephine Corso
Sunday 8:00AM	Andrew Soltesz	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Rob Laucella
Sunday 9:30AM	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks
Sunday 11:00AM	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey
Ministers				
Saturday 5:00PM	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 8:00AM	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 9:30AM	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 11:00AM	*****	*****	Carol Hickey	*****

Summer Church & Rectory Hours

Summer Church Hours will begin on Monday, June 8th:
Monday through Saturday: Church will open at 8:00AM
Sunday: Church will open at 7:30AM

Summer Rectory Office Hours will begin on Monday, June 22nd:
Monday through Thursday:
9:00AM to 12:00NOON; 1:00PM to 5:00PM
NO EVENING HOURS

Friday:
9:00AM to 3:00PM
NO EVENING HOURS

Saturday:
9:00AM to 2:00PM

Sundays and Holidays: CLOSED

Growing in FAITH™

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

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

One Minute Meditations

St. Paulinus of Nola

St. Paulinus came from a wealthy Roman family, was a well-educated, renowned lawyer, and married into Spanish nobility. Everything changed with the death of his newborn son. St. Paulinus asked for Baptism then he and his wife sold their property and moved to Nola, Italy, where they devoted themselves to austerity and charitable works. St. Paulinus (by popular demand) became Bishop of Nola, governing wisely and generously. He died in 431, leaving behind many treatises, letters, and poems.

The love of the Sacred Heart

"The tender heart of God thought upon [you], loved [you], and procured for [you] a thousand means of salvation, as though there had been no other soul in the world… As the sun shines upon one place of the earth and enlightens it no less than if it shined on no other, so too has our Lord thought of and cared for all his dear children, as though his attention were wholly and entirely focused upon each of them." St. Francis de Sales

"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatian 2:20).

The Beatitudes: Christ's vision for the human heart

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus revealed the attitudes, priorities, and way of loving that shaped His life. These became the Beatitudes: interior dispositions that open our hearts to His grace. As we cooperate with that grace, our hearts are transformed to become more like His.

Poor in spirit: The poor in spirit recognize that heavenly treasures — peace, grace, love, friendship, and eternal life — matter far more than worldly success or possessions.

Mourning: Rather than distracting ourselves from pain, loneliness, or disappointment, we bring our wounded hearts honestly to God. Healing begins when we allow Him to comfort us.

Meek: Meekness is not weakness, but strength rooted in self-control and trust in God. When our security rests in God, we are less ruled by fear, anger, or the need to control everything around us.

Hungry and thirsty for righteousness: This is a deep longing to live in friendship with God and to grow in holiness each day.

Merciful: God loves us with tender, generous, and selfless love, and He calls us to extend that same mercy to others.

Pure in heart: Purity of heart means valuing what is true, holy, and good, while striving to live with sincerity and integrity.

> *"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another" (Colossians 3:12)*

Peacemaking: Peacemakers bring calm, clarity, and reconciliation to difficult situations. True peace comes when God is placed first.

Willing to suffer for Christ: Following Christ will sometimes bring opposition. Yet Jesus promises that those who persevere with courage and trust *"will have a great reward in heaven"* (Matthew 5:12).

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why does the Church need cardinals?

Cardinals are part of the governing structure of the Church and are best known for electing a new Pope during a conclave. They are bishops specially chosen — or "created" — by the Pope for this important role. Traditionally, cardinals were selected only from the clergy of Rome. Today, because the Church is worldwide, cardinals are chosen from dioceses across the globe. To preserve their historic connection to Rome, each cardinal is still assigned a titular Roman church. Cardinals wear scarlet vestments, including the red skullcap and biretta, symbolizing their willingness to defend and spread the Faith, even to the shedding of their blood.

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Hope changes everything

Hope helps us desire Heaven and trust in God's promises. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) teaches that hope "responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man" (CCC, 1818). It strengthens us to persevere through difficulties and keeps our hearts fixed on God. Here are three ways to renew and strengthen hope:

Shift your focus: Do not allow past regrets, future fears, or present worries to dominate your thoughts. Read the daily Gospel before the news. When you catch yourself worrying or dwelling on negativity, intentionally redirect your mind toward God's promises. Keep encouraging Scripture verses — such as Romans 8:37 — visible on your phone, mirror, or coffee maker as reminders of hope throughout the day.

Fight temptation with the opposite virtue: In the spiritual life, virtues overcome vices. Counter doubt with acts of faith, complaints with gratitude, and comparison with encouragement and appreciation for others.

Become a source of hope: Build others up rather than focusing on faults. Frequently ask, "What can I do to improve this situation?" Christian hope is not blind optimism, but confidence in Christ, the One who is *"Faithful and True"* (Revelation 19:11).

from Scripture — Matthew 10:37-42, The priorities of discipleship

In this Gospel passage, Jesus speaks clearly about the demands of discipleship. At its heart is the question of priorities. For the early Christians, following Christ often meant risking imprisonment, persecution, or even death. To belong to Jesus required complete trust and surrender because only God is worthy of first place in our hearts and lives.

Faithful Catholic life still carries challenges today. Much of what Christ and His Church ask of us runs counter to the values of secular culture. Even apart from worldly pressures, each of us carries personal crosses — struggles, sacrifices, disappointments, and suffering. Yet Jesus never asks us to carry them alone. He invites us to follow Him and to walk beside Him through them.

The good news is that Jesus has already gone before us — from suffering to glory, from death to eternal life, and from sorrow to joy. Because of Him, our crosses are no longer meaningless. With His grace, we can choose each day to remain faithful, keep His commandments, and abide in His love. One day, in Heaven, we will see clearly that every sacrifice made for Christ was worth it.

Feasts & Celebrations

June 4 – St. Francis Caracciolo (1608). St. Francis was born in the Abruzzo region in Italy. He went on to found the Clerics Regular Minor with Venerable John Augustine Adorno. The Order was approved in 1588, and St. Francis became its superior for life.

June 7 – Solemnity of Corpus Christi. On this solemnity, we celebrate the transformation of the bread and wine into Jesus' Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. This solemnity was established by Pope Urban IV in 1264 in response to the need for a Eucharistic feast day.

June 12 – Solemnity of the Sacred Heart (1856). St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received visions of Jesus, who urged her to spread public devotion to the Sacred Heart. The image of Jesus' Heart, pierced and enthroned in unquenchable flames, reminds us of His intense and eternal love for us.

June 15 – St. Germain of Pibrac (1601). Born to poor parents near Pibrac, France, St. Germaine had a deformed hand, suffered from sores on her neck, and was sickly from neglect and abuse. Despite her sufferings, she found comfort in God's presence. She was generous with the poor despite her own poverty. She forgave her stepmother who badly mistreated her. She is the patroness of abuse victims, people with disabilities, and shepherdesses.

Q & A — Why do we honor Mary's Immaculate Heart?

In the month of June, the Church honors the Immaculate Heart of Mary because of her unique relationship with Jesus and her faithful cooperation in God's plan of salvation.

"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord" (Luke 1:38). At the Annunciation, Mary freely consented to become the Mother of God's Son. From the moment *"the Word became flesh"* (John 1:14) in her womb, her Immaculate Heart was united completely to the Heart of Jesus in love, trust, and obedience.

"A sword will pierce your own soul" (Luke 2:35). Although Mary was free from sin, she was not spared suffering. Simeon's prophecy points to the deep sorrow she endured as she accompanied Jesus through His Passion and crucifixion. Mary teaches us how to trust God even in suffering and uncertainty.

"My Immaculate Heart will triumph." These words, associated with Our Lady of Fatima, echo God's promise of victory over evil. As Mother and Queen, Mary shares uniquely in her Son's triumph. When we, too, say "yes" to God's grace, Christ's victory becomes our own.

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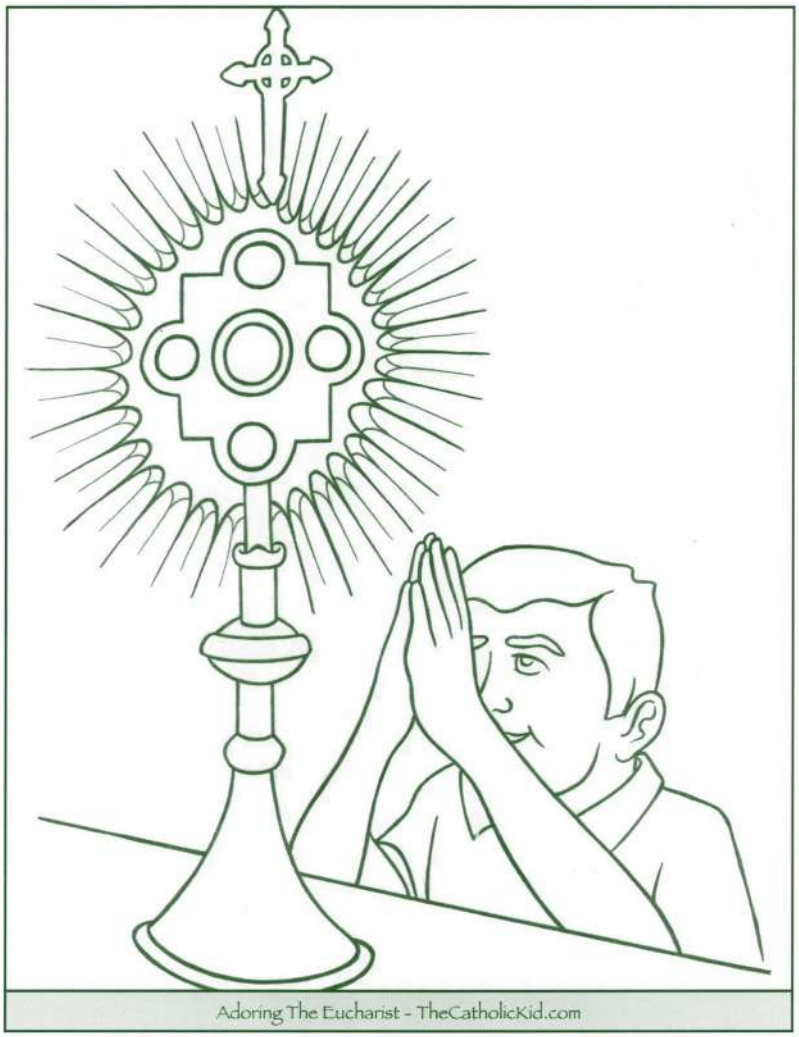
SFA YOUTH PAGE



Corpus Christi

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Body & Blood of Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist.
At the Last Supper, Jesus changed bread and wine into His own Body and Blood. He has the power to do this because He is God. He did this because He wanted to stay with us even after He died and ascended into heaven.
Jesus comes to us in every Mass. The priest takes the place of Jesus, saying the words that Jesus said at the Last Supper, and the bread and wine become the real Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus even though they still look like bread and wine.

How do I receive Communion well?
1. Be ready! Think about what is going to happen. Make sure that you don't have any big sins on your soul. If you do, go to confession first.

2. Don't eat or drink anything other than water or medicine for an hour before going to Holy Communion. This is a sign of respect for Our Lord.

3. After receiving Holy Communion, take some time to thank Jesus for coming to you and talk to Him. He loves spending time with you!

SFA WILDCATS CYO

The 9:30AM Mass will be celebrated for our Sports Program. Give thanks and praise to the Lord for all the opportunities he has provided our SFA Wildcats to grow and to work as a team.

We wish to thank CYO for their generous donation to the Parish and the Academy.

SFA WILDCATS CYO

Sports Update!

The Latest Scores Are In:

Soccer

Friday 5/29

Boys Intermediate beat St. Anastasia 3-2: We played hard against the team currently tied for 1st and squeaked out a 3-2 win with goals by George Sfirogianakis, Austin Sietsema, and Mehdi Hmaidi, and Assists from George Sfirogianakis and Lucas Benson.

Saturday 5/30

Mites beat Our Lady of Hope 3-1: Great performance for all. Shayla Nevins with two goals and Emanuel Kakakounakis with one goal, to help win SFACA the game!

PeeWee Girls beat Resurrection Ascension 5-3: Outstanding performance with the entire squad in our last regular season game. We came back strong after being behind twice. Goals were scored by Avery Vagelatos (2), Mia Riascos, Eirene Mendorors, and Amelia Beilin.

Bantam Boys beat St. Anastasia 6-2: We had three players, Angelos Taylor, Lorenzo Pirreca, and Matthew Mura, who scored their first goals of the season in a great team win! Radek Slachetka was a force in the middle of the field on both offense and defense.

Intermediate Boys beat OLBS 2-0: In our rematch, we saw 2 goals from Shayaan Shahariar and 2 assists from Austin Sietsema. Our defense and goalkeeper (David Pico) recorded their 2nd shutout of the season.

Sunday 5/31

Bantam Girls lost to OLBS 2-0.

Subnovice boys beat the Blue Knights 10-0.

Bantam Boys beat SSA Team 3-2: The Bantam Boys' team pulled out the win in a hard fought battle. It took every ounce from every player with Giorgio Marchesi scoring 3 times to clinch the game. Ethan Vella proved defense matters by continually stopping the opponent and pushing the ball forward giving an MVP type performance. Yanni Mihalitsis and Vrindavan Macklunis also put in great performances, the latter assisting on the game winning goal.

Flag Football

Novice Boys beat SFDS 18-0.

Track

At the Warren Scullin Middle Distance Track Meet, Corynne Soberal won the silver medal and Michaela Soberal won the bronze medal in the 400 meter run. At the CYO Saturday Sprint, Jacob Carmona won the bronze medal in the 100 meter dash. And Ava Pike was selected to be an Ambassador in the NY Road Runners 2026-2027 Youth Ambassadors Program. Congratulations SFA track!

For More Information, Please Contact:
contactus@sfawildcats.org

CELEBRATING

75TH Anniversary

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC ACADEMY

1951 — 2026

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

ANNIVERSARY MASS

with

BISHOP BRENNAN

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2026

11:00 AM

Come celebrate our past, present, and future as one faith-filled community.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC ACADEMY

FAITH • EXCELLENCE • SERVICE

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