Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, July 19	*16th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Mary Loud**
11:00AM	**Fr. Peter Gillen** **John Mondello (L)** **Assunta Di Benedetto** **Rachel Vella**
Monday, July 20	*St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr*
9:00AM	**Arthur Xuereb**
Tuesday, July 21	*St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Valentina Rose Goitia**
Wednesday, July 22	*Feast of St. Mary Magdalene*
9:00AM	**Valentina Rose Goitia**
Thursday, July 23	*St. Bridget, Religious*
9:00AM	**Voula Iliakis**
Friday, July 24	*St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest*
9:00AM	**David Walsh**
Saturday, July 25	*Feast of St. James, Apostle*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
5:00PM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
Sunday, July 26	*17th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Msgr. Stefan Geosits**
9:30AM	**Ana Balint**
11:00AM	**John Mondello (L)** **Assunta Di Benedetto** **Rachel Vella**

Today's Readings

The Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Wisdom 12:13,16-19
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Micah 6:1-4,6-8*** ***Matthew 12:38-42***
Tuesday	***Micah 7:14-15,18-20*** ***Matthew 12:46-50***
Wednesday	***Song of Songs 3:1-4b*** ***John 20:1-2,11-18***
Thursday	***Jeremiah 2:1-3,7-8,12-13*** ***Matthew 13:10-17***
Friday	***Jeremiah 3:14-17*** ***Matthew 13:18-23***
Saturday	***2 Corinthians 4:7-15*** ***Matthew 20:20-28***

The Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

1 Kings 3:5,7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

FOCUS:

The Lord is kind and forgiving to all who call upon His name.

Today's readings speak of our merciful and patient God—one who teaches the just that they must be kind. Let us place ourselves in the field of the Gospel. Although we strive to be the wheat, growing in faith and loving others, the weeds of sin and temptation grow alongside us. Let us always remember that the master sower is kind and merciful, and we must turn to Him in repentance.

Parish Prayer Intentions

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

Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

"The Spirit too helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought." Do you approach the Lord in prayer with the confident strength given by the Holy Spirit asking that He make known your unique vocation? If God may be inviting you to consider the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at:

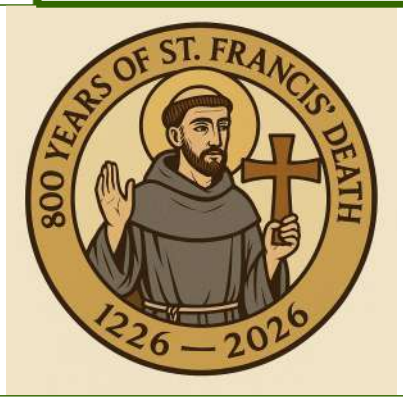
(718)-827-2454
vocations@diobrook.org

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

Summertime

As you enjoy some rest and relaxation, many go away or are out of town for the weekends. May I ask you to please continue your weekly offering. Your support is essential for the parish during the summer months. As you know, like yourselves, we still have our monthly bills to be paid. I appreciate your attention to this important matter. If you plan to go away for the summer, please hand in your envelopes before you leave. For your information our fiscal year ends August 31st, and the new fiscal year begins September 1st.
I want to wish each of you a restful and relaxing summer.
THANK YOU for all you do in supporting our parish.
Msgr. Maresca

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



Prayer for the Special Year of St. Francis Provided by Pope Leo XIV

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.
Amen.

Heroic In Love: On the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

*taken from www.stjosemaria.org

"Love Jesus with all the strength of all the hearts of all those who have loved Him most. Be daring: tell Him you are carried away with more love than Mary Magdalene, more than Teresa and little Therese, more carried away than Augustine and Dominic and Francis, more than Ignatius and Xavier."
- St. Josemaria Escriva, The Way, no. 402

Love is most in its element in hearts that dare to replicate the Savior's love for them. Heading St. Josemaria's 'list' of such ardent souls is St. Mary Magdalene, in whose love we see answered the boundless love and mercy shown her by Christ. In her holy 'excess' an icon emerges of what loving God heroically means, and what it means for Him to love us heroically. On either side, an unselfconscious outpouring of self focuses entirely on the good of the beloved.

St. Mary Magdalene shows us concretely that a saint who loves much is simply a person who aware of the extent to which she has been loved—and forgiven. But it is not enough simply to have been forgiven. Many penitents with many sins are forgiven daily in the Church. Not all of them equal Mary Magdalene. It is her response to forgiveness that makes her, and every Saint, so great.

Jesus wants to fan into flame the ambition to love like a Saint. At the dinner when St. Mary Magdalene lavishly anointed Jesus' feet not only with aromatic nard, but also with her tears and kisses, He tells us to consider her example closely:

"Then turning toward the woman He said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman?'….'She has done a beautiful thing to me...And truly, I say to you, wherever the Gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." (cf. Lk 7:44; Mk 14:6,9)

Jesus loves this! Jesus rewards and blesses her excess! Even if his host is indignant and certain guests protest this 'waste,' the Lord approves of everything she does. Yes, Jesus is even encouraging this embarrassing abandon. The dramatic spectacle of this woman carrying out all of these things to the full, in the middle of the meal, in the wrong place and at the wrong time, this is what saves her.

St. Mary Magdalene did not arrive, nor do we arrive, at this love overnight. Before she first came to Jesus, she had to see in herself a misery that none could cure. She needed to weep. She had to pass through stages of personal disgust with her life, sorrow for the past, and a hope that this Jesus could do something with her.

Could St. Mary Magdalene be so meaningful because she is one with whom everyone can in some way identify? Everyone needs to be forgiven, to be loved, to be touched by the Redeemer. We see St. Mary Magdalene not only as one who received what all of us want to receive, but as one who gave as all heroic souls wish to give: pouring out upon Christ every last bit of our poor love, knowing that it is not too poor for Him.

We learn from her that in loving Jesus we have really been loved first, with a mercy that redeems and restores the sinner, rendering us capable of returning to the Lord something of the love He has given us.

*Excerpts taken from Heroic in Love: On the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene written by Rev. John Henry Hanson, O. Praem.

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.

July 11/12:	**$3,130**
Second Collection	
Maintenance Fund:	**$1,002**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For July 11/12, 2026

5:00PM	**75**
8:00AM	**50**
9:30AM	**135**
11:00AM	**108**
	Total: 368

Second Collection Next Sunday July 25/26, 2026 for Air Conditioning/Energy

The Second Collection next weekend, July 25th and 26th, is for Air Conditioning & Energy Needs. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Thank you for helping us keep the Church at a comfortable temperature throughout the summer season.

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 **$31,932** 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

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.

Calendar of Events

This Week

July 19 - July 25

Sunday, July 19

Monday, July 20

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

Wednesday, July 22
6:00PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, July 23
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR

Friday, July 24

Saturday, July 25

Next Week

July 26 - August 1

Sunday, July 26
12:30PM Baptisms

Monday, July 27

Tuesday, July 28
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, July 29
6:00PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, July 30
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR

Friday, July 31

Saturday, August 1
9:00AM Anointing Mass

Summer Months

As we did last summer, we will be reciting the Gloria and chanting the Our Father from July 1st to September 6th. The Gloria is a beautiful prayer and reciting it will enable us to reflect on the words we pray and come to a better appreciation of this prayer.
Chanting the Our Father will help us appreciate the power of this prayer.

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

Offering of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus

"Eternal Father, I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ in atonement for my sins, and in supplication for the holy souls in Purgatory and for the needs of Holy Church."

St. Francis of Assisi Office of Religious Education

REGISTRATION FORM – 2026-2027

	Student Full Name	Date of Birth	Circle if Completed
1.	_____	[_____]	_____ Baptism Communion

2. School Attending and Grade in September 2026:

_____

3. Sacrament needed: [circle please] *Baptism Communion Confirmation*

Father's Name:

_____ Living/Deceased ***(Circle one)*** Religion: _____

Mother's Name:

_____ Living/Deceased ***(Circle one)*** Religion: _____
Include maiden name

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____
(Cell, Home, Mother, Father) *(Cell, Home, Mother, Father)*

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____
(Mother) *(Father)*

Home Address _____
Street Town State Zip

EMERGENCY CONTACT: In case of emergency who should we contact other than Parent/s.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Contact Number: _____

Is there any additional information we should know? (Family situations. Medical conditions. Allergies. Special needs or other accommodations) If "NO" please write "NONE".

_____

Language spoken at home: English ____ Spanish ____ Italian ____ Other _____

Are you registered in the Parish? _____ If yes, envelope number: _____

I am interested in volunteering as a catechist, hall monitor, office assistant, or class parent. Please contact me. ☐

Tuition for the 2026-2027 Year

Registration Fee for Grades 1-8: **1 child** $100 **2 children or more** $175

Additional Fees: Grade 2: **First Communion Fee - $150.00** Grade 8: **Confirmation Fee - $150.00**

Family Name: _____

Grades: _____

Information Date added: _____

Registration remains open all year. *If you have any financial questions or scheduling conflicts, please do not hesitate to call our office so we can discuss your situation and work together to find a solution.*

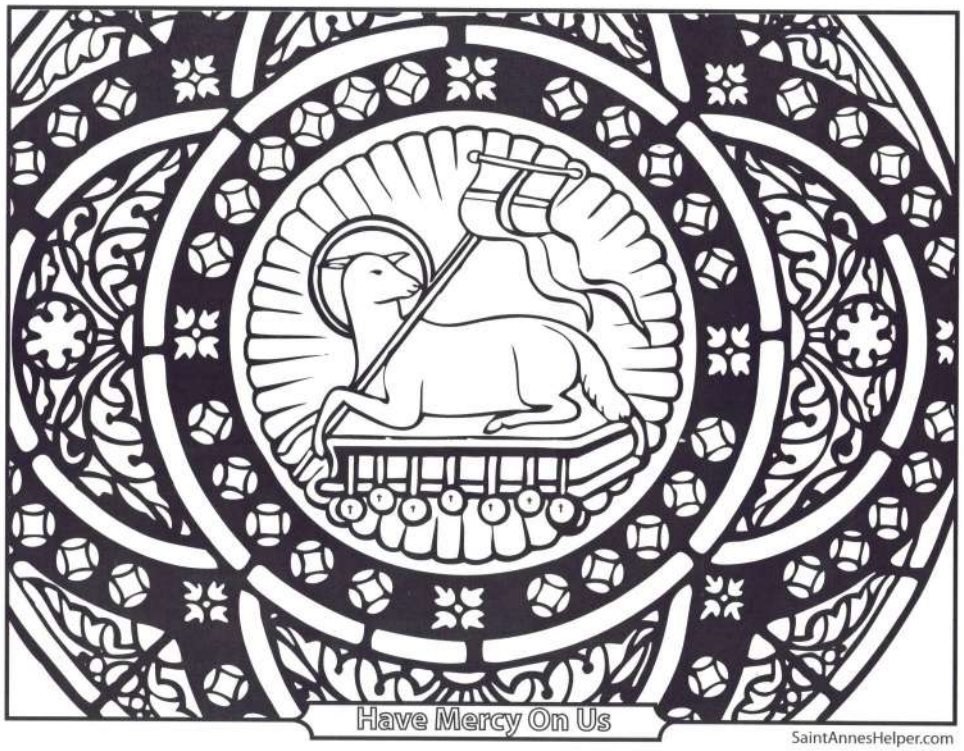
Office Use ONLY

Date: _____ Amount: _____ Form of Payment: _____

Date: _____ Amount: _____ Form of Payment: _____

Office notes_____

SFA YOUTH



Jesus is the Lamb of God!

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Can you find this image on the altar? Color this picture and cut it out to give to someone special!

A New Year of Religious Education

Religious Education Registration

Those who have not yet registered for Religious Education classes can do so by using the Registration Form on the next page, or printing off the Registration Form online and bringing it to the Rectory Office. Registration is open for the 26/27 School Year.

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

Friends of RADIO MARIA New York

(718)417-0550

Siete tutti invitati ad una

GIORNATA DI SPIRITUALITA'

SABATO 15 Agosto, 2026
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
costo $45.00

Sara' una giornata di preghiera e di riflessione in preparazione alla Festa dell'Assunta e di Maria Vergine Regina

COACH BUS

7:30 am - St. Francis Church
21-17 45 st Astoria
Anna Maria - (347)448-1136

8:00 am - St Luke Church
Clintoville St, Whitestone
Angela Masullo - (347)828-0921
Josephb Vescio - (347)255-2215

PROGRAMMA

10:00 am - Rosario
11:00 am - Santa Messa
12:30 pm - Pranzo al sacco
1:30 pm - Adorazione Eucaristica & Benedizione Finale

Lourdes in Litchfield

Shrine in Litchfield CT
84 Montfort Rd, Litchfield, 06759 CT
(860) 567-1041

Durante la celebrazione ci saranno sacerdoti a disposizione per le confessioni

Maria e' stata assunta in cielo e intercede per noi, si prende cura di noi, ci protegge, ci custodisce e ci ama. Apriamo il nostro cuore e ascoltiamoLa.