Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

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
Monday, July 27	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Arthur Xuereb**
Tuesday, July 28	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Fani Atsaves**
Wednesday, July 29	*Sts. Martha, Mary, & Lazarus*
9:00AM	**Rose Morley Fitzgerald**
Thursday, July 30	*St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Eileen Gallagher**
Friday, July 31	*St. Ignatius Loyola, Priest*
9:00AM	**Estelle Boise Savage**
Saturday, August 1	*St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	The Living & Deceased Members
	Of The Legion of Mary
	& Their Families
	The Mezey Family
	Assunta Di Benedetto
5:00PM	**Joseph & Rose Avitabile**
Sunday, August 2	*18th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Carmelo Vella**
11:00AM	**John Mondello (L)**
	Alfredo D'Angelo
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Fortunata Di Lorenzo
	Ahmar Sein

Today's Readings

The Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Jeremiah 13:1-11***
	Matthew 13:31-35
Tuesday	***Jeremiah 14:17-22***
	Matthew 13:36-43
Wednesday	***Jeremiah 15:10,16-21***
	John 11:19-27
Thursday	***Jeremiah 18:1-6***
	Matthew 13:47-53
Friday	***Jeremiah 26:1-9***
	Matthew 13:54-58
Saturday	***Jeremiah 26:11-16,24***
	Matthew 14:1-12

The Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35,37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

FOCUS:

All things work for good for those who love God.

Saint Paul reminds us in his Letter that we are called by God to be images of His Son. But to be truly like Him we need the gifts of wisdom and understanding, and an openness to allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us in working for the kingdom of heaven. We find the kingdom in Jesus, who is the way.

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

Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 26, 2026

"Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and it will be opened to you." Ask in prayer to know your vocation. Seek and find ways to serve. Knock on the doors of those who can help guide you! If you think God may be offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at:

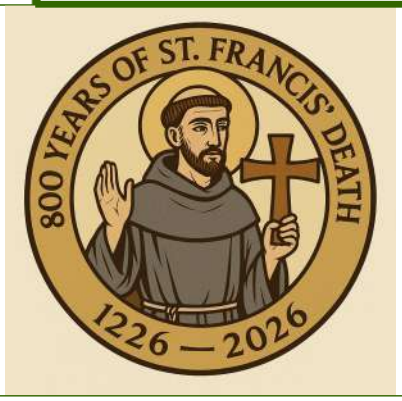
(718)-827-2454
vocations@diobrook.org

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

Summertime

As the Summer is upon us, 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 August Lector & Minister Schedule **can be found by scanning this QR code, and then selecting the month you wish to view.**



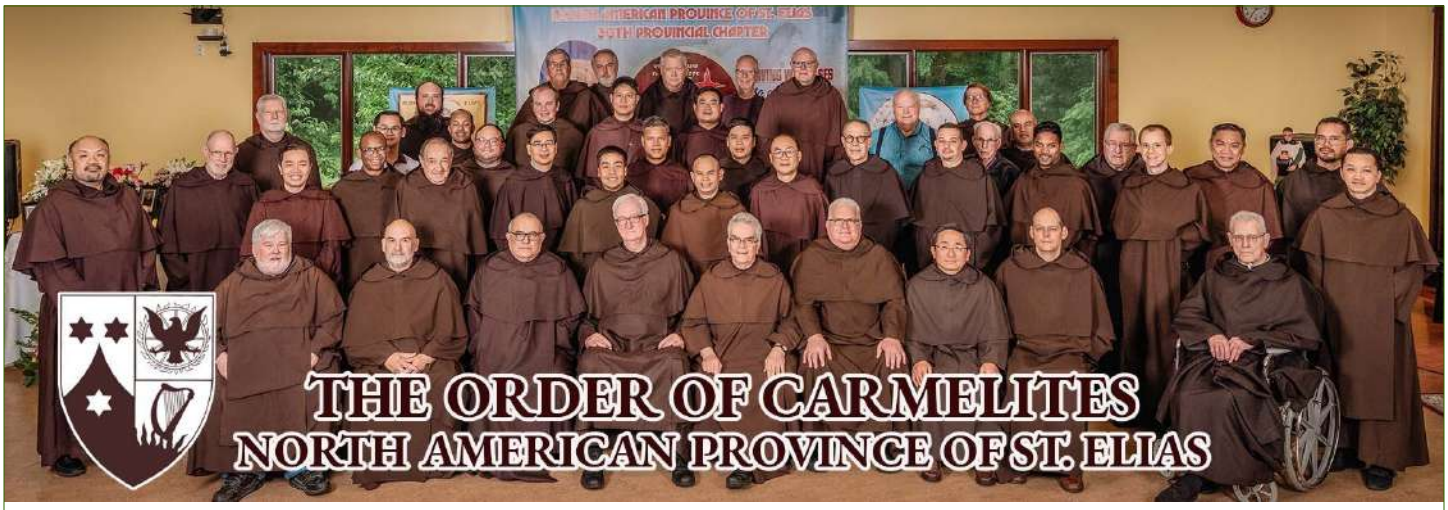
Prayer for the Special Year of St. Francis Provided by Pope Leo XIV

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.

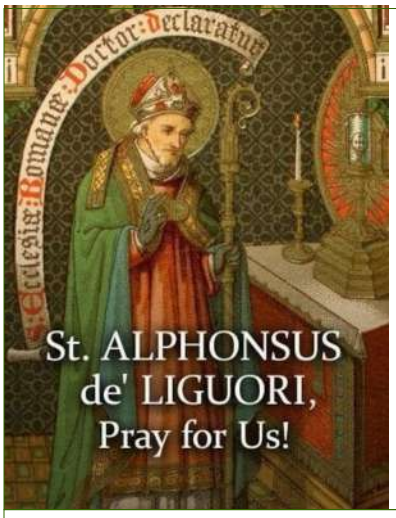
In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.
Amen.



Next weekend, August 1st & 2nd, a Carmelite Friar will be with us at all Masses to tell us about Carmelite missionary work. The Carmelites respond to the call to love one another through prayer and action by establishing ministries where there is the greatest need.

They create humanitarian programs to relieve the suffering of the poor, minister to those in hospitals and prisons, provide education, and conduct spiritual and religious formation in almost 40 countries on five continents. This year they are hoping to be of continued help to the victims of the war in Ukraine.
Your generosity in the Second Collection next week to support the Carmelite Friars' missionary work will be greatly appreciated.

Please note, there is no envelope for this Second Collection next weekend.



St. Alphonsus Ligouri: Founder of the Redemptorists & Priest and Doctor of the Church

Feast Day: August 1

Alphonsus Maria de Ligouri was born in 1696 near Naples, Italy, the son of a captain in the Royal Navy and a very devoted mother from a noble family in the city. He was only 16 when he was awarded doctorates of civil and canon law. When he was 18, like many nobles, he joined the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy with whom he cared for the sick at the hospital for "incurables," washing afflicted bodies, feeding the helpless, changing bedclothes, and devoting himself to works of mercy and compassion.

Christ's claim on the heart of Alphonsus was absolute and irresistible. He was ordained a priest in 1726. As a young priest he worked himself to the point of exhaustion. Caring for the poor, wherever his journey took him , was the hallmark of his calling.

In 1732, Alphonsus realized he could no longer be comfortable in his role of popular preacher living apart from the poor. He sought others who were called as he was and adopted a style of ministry to "mission among the people" - and so began the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, the Redemptorists.

St. Alphonsus was a brilliant, articulate, pragmatic teacher. He knew how to reach ordinary people who had limited education and very real needs. They followed this gifted preacher from church to church and town to town to hear him preach the message of hope in Christ for all people.

Three great images formed the heart of Alphonsus' preaching and teaching: Jesus an infant in the crib, Jesus on the Cross, and Jesus vibrantly alive and filled with love for all in the Eucharist. To this he added the image of Mary, the Mother of the Redeemer. When other theologians were opposed to devotion to Mary, Alphonsus invoked her: "Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope."

Alphonsus would eventually be given the title "Doctor of Prayer" by the Catholic Church. His book, *Prayer, The Great Means of Salvation*, sets out his teaching on the subject.

Although he was sickly for much of his life, Alphonsus' final years were marked by very serious and debilitating physical ailments, especially arthritis, which caused him great pain and confined him to a wheelchair. Early in the evening on July 31, 1787, Alphonsus made one final request. "Give me my Lady," he whispered. They placed a picture of Mary in his hands. He spent the night in prayer with the Blessed Mother. The next day at the stroke of the noon Angelus, Alphonsus died at the age of 91.

St. Alphonsus was canonized in 1839 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1871. Pope St. John Paul II described Alphonsus as "a close friend of the people...a missionary who went in search of the most abandoned souls...a founder who wanted a group which would make a radical option in favor of the lowly...a Bishop whose house was open to all...a writer who focused on what would be of benefit to people."

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 18/19: **$3,040**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For July 18/19, 2026

5:00PM	**72**
8:00AM	**38**
9:30AM	**97**
11:00AM	**105**
	Total: 313

Second Collection
Next Sunday August 1/2, 2026 for
Mission Sunday - The Carmelite Friars of the Province of Saint Elias.

(No Envelope for this Collection)

The Second Collection next weekend, August 1st and 2nd, is for the Carmelite Friars in the Province of Saint Elias and their Mission Outreach. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Responding to the needs of the Church, and the call of the Holy Spirit through the local Bishops, the Carmelite Friars, St. Elias Province, have recently begun their own missions in Trinidad and Vietnam.

Collection for the Maintenance Fund
Next Sunday, August 1/2, 2026

Please place your envelopes and donations for the Maintenance Collection in with the First Collection, as the Second Collection is reserved for the Carmelite Missions.

This helps us to cover our Maintenance costs throughout the year such as Repairs, Lawncare, AC & Boiler Maintenance, and more.
Thank you for your generosity.

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 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

Next Week

August 2 - August 8

Sunday, August 2

Monday, August 3

Tuesday, August 4
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, August 5
6:00PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, August 6
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR

Friday, August 7

Saturday, August 8

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

STS. MARTHA, MARY, AND LAZARUS
WEDNESDAY JULY 29, 2026

August 2026

Lector & Minister Schedule

	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
	August 1/2	August 8/9	August 15/16	August 22/23	August 29/30
Lectors					
Saturday 5:00PM	Debbi Skinner	Josephine Corso	Debbi Skinner	Josephine Corso	Edward Kubina
Sunday 8:00AM	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella
Sunday 9:30AM	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza
Sunday 11:00AM	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey
Ministers					
Saturday 5:00PM	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 8:00AM	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 9:30AM	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****
Sunday 11:00AM	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****

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, going online, 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

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_____