Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 23	*21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Msgr. Stefan Geosits**
9:30AM	**Joe Buhagiar**
11:00AM	**John S. Mondello (L)**
	Charles Hickey
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Tom Croce
	Emilia Bertolo
	Giovanna Licari
Monday, August 24	*Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle*
9:00AM	**John Purich**
Tuesday, August 25	*St. Louis*
9:00AM	**John Purich**
Wednesday, August 26	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Jose Eldrin Palis**
Thursday, August 27	*St. Monica*
9:00AM	**Arthur Xuereb**
Friday, August 28	*St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor Of the Church*
9:00AM	**Michael Finnerty**
Saturday, August 29	*The Passion of John the Baptist*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	John Mondello (L)
5:00PM	**Gizella Fulop**
Sunday, August 30	*22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Joe Buhagiar**
11:00AM	**John Mondello (L)**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Arthur Xuereb
	Theresa Tropeano

Today's Readings

The Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Revelation 21:9b-14***
	John 1:45-51
Tuesday	***2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a,14-17***
	Matthew 23:23-26
Wednesday	***2 Thessalonians 3:6-10,16-18***
	Matthew 23:27-32
Thursday	***1 Corinthians 1:1-9***
	Matthew 24:42-51
Friday	***1 Corinthians 1:17-25***
	Matthew 25:1-13
Saturday	***1 Corinthians 1:26-31***
	Mark 6:17-29

The Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

FOCUS:

Trusting Jesus as Lord, let us ask for God's grace to follow Him.

Who do you say that I am? If we confess, like Peter, that Jesus is Messiah and Lord, there should be evidence of this in our lives. If Jesus is Messiah and Lord, there should be evidence of this in our lives. If Jesus is Lord of Sunday morning, He should be Lord of Saturday night. He should also be Lord of our speech and our actions. When we walk closely with Jesus as disciples, we will begin to look more like Him.

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
Alice Santelli

Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

August 23, 2026

"Who has known the mind of the Lord." Through prayer our minds become better aligned with the mind of Christ and His will for us. If the Spirit is prompting you to know Christ as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at:

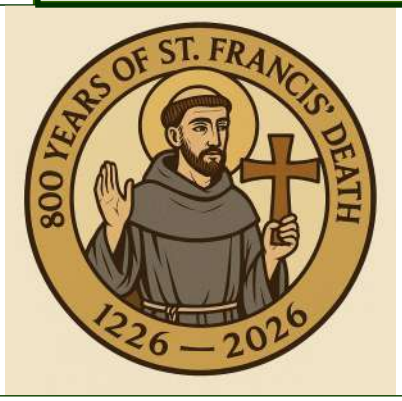
(718)-827-2454
vocations@diobrook.org

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

Summertime

As the summer winds down, 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.

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.

August 15/16:	**$3,792**
Second Collection for Air Conditioning:	**$1,102**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For August 15/16, 2026

5:00PM	**89**
8:00AM	**38**
9:30AM	**82**
11:00AM	**120**
	Total: 329

Second Collection Next Weekend, August 29th and 30th, for Earthquake Relief in Colombia

Next weekend, August 29th and 30th, there will be a Second Collection for Victims of the Earthquake in Colombia. Please be as generous as your means allow. There is no envelope for this collection.

The Rectory Office Will Close Early On Friday August 28th And Friday September 4th.

The Office Hours on those days will be from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Thank you for your understanding.

REMINDERS

PLEASE keep the Church doors closed with the air conditioning on. Let's keep the cool air inside.

Also, when parking in the lot, please park in one spot only.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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 **$32,442** 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

August 23 - August 29

Sunday, August 23

Monday, August 24

Tuesday, August 25
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, August 26
6:00PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, August 27
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR

Friday, August 28
Rectory Office Open 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Saturday, August 29

Next Week

August 30 - September 6

Sunday, August 30
12:30PM Baptisms

Monday, August 31

Tuesday, September 1
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, September 2
6:00PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, September 3
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR

Friday, September 4
Rectory Office Open 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Saturday, September 6
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

2026/2027 Calendar Available for Pick-Up Beginning Monday, August 24th, 2026

Beginning Monday, August 24th, all Society and Church Group leaders may come and pick up a copy of the finalized Calendar for the new year at the Rectory Office.

We ask that if any changes, switches, or cancellations need to happen, ***they are communicated with Msgr. Maresca for approval before making the change.***
Only after approval please communicate the change with our Parish Secretary, Tara Webb, so we can adjust the Online Calendar

As a reminder, the printed Calendar is only a guide. For the most up-to-date information please visit our website where our Online Calendar may be found.
www.stfrancisofassisiastoria.org

Thank you, Sr. Francesca!

Thank you to Sister Francesca for her time here with us. She has been transferred to an Administrative Position in her community, which requires her to travel a few times a month. We wish her well in her new position and assure her of our prayers.

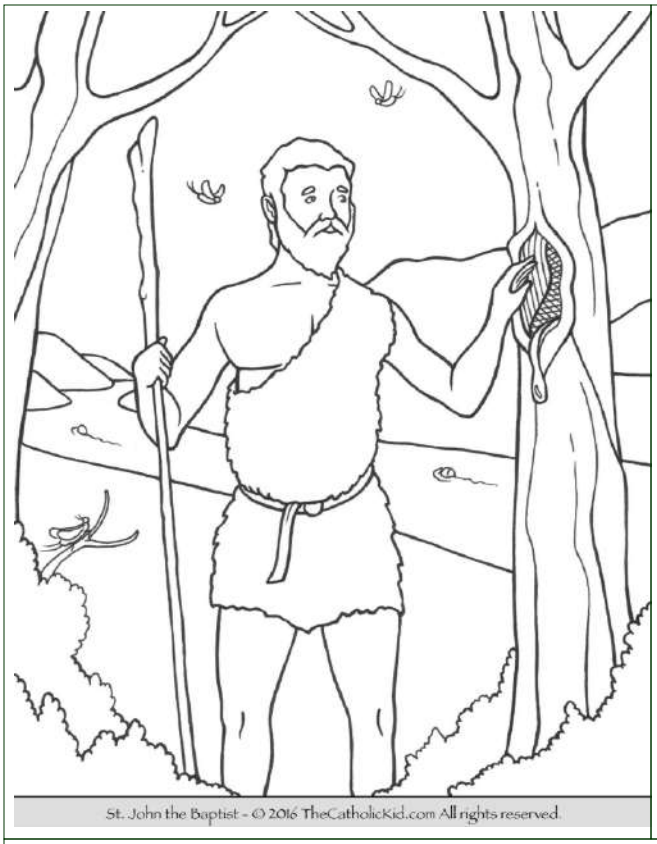
Welcome, Sr. Domitilla!

Welcome to Sister Domitilla. She is a member of the Handmaids of the Divine Redeemer. Sister has been here during the summer to become familiar with our Religious Education program. We wish her well and look forward to working with her.

September 2026 Lector & Minister Schedule

	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 5/6	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 12/13	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 19/20	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 26/27
Lectors				
Saturday 5:00PM	Debbi Skinner	Josephine Corso	Edward Kubina	Debbi Skinner
Sunday 8:00AM	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz
Sunday 9:30AM	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza
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	*****	*****	*****	*****

SFA YOUTH



The Passion of John the Baptist
Saturday, August 29, 2026

St. John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin. His parents were Zechariah and Elizabeth. John lived in the wilderness and preached a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He also helped to announce Jesus coming as the Son of God. Many people who followed John turned to Jesus and believed in Him.

After John announced the coming of Jesus, he was arrested by Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee and Perea. Herod's wife did not like John because of his preaching. She tricked her husband into ending John's life. Jesus was very sad when this happened and spent a lot of time in prayer apart from everyone.

Do you pray when you are sad? It can be helpful to pray when we are happy, sad, scared, or excited to ask Jesus for help. What are you going to pray about today?

_____

_____

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. Domitilla 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. Domitilla at:
718-278-0259, ext. 121, or dre@sfaacademy.org

United for Life
PRESENTS
Life Rosary Retreat

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
9AM - 5PM
Breakfast & Lunch included

At the
Shrine of Our Lady of the Island
258 Eastport Manor Rd.
Manorville, NY

Guest Speaker
Clare Hinshaw
Young America's Foundation (YAF)

RETREAT SCHEDULE

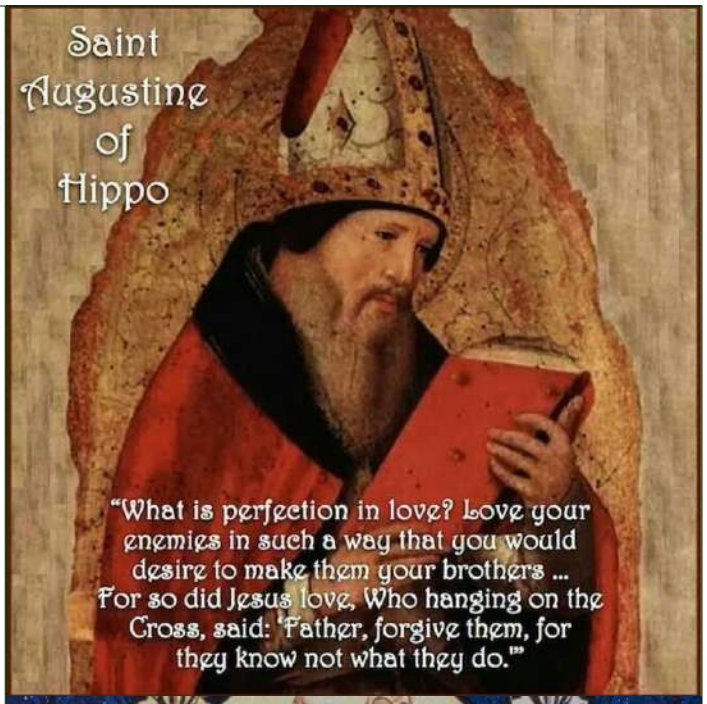
- 9:00-11:00 Coffee/Bagels-Intro w interactive faith filled activities
- 11:30-12:30 Mass
- 1-1:45 Lunch
- 1:45-3 Life Rosary
- 3-3:30 Divine Mercy Chap.
- 3:30-4:30 Guest Speaker
- 4:30-5 Conclusion

Register today!

Calling for all young people to join us celebrate LIFE! use code: Religious ED 2026

Inviting all pro-lifers to join us! $10 Donation

WWW.UNITEDFORLIFENY.ORG



A Candlelight "Memorial Of Music"
Saturday, September 12th, 2026
7:00 p.m.
McManus Memorial Park
81st St. & Ditmars Blvd.

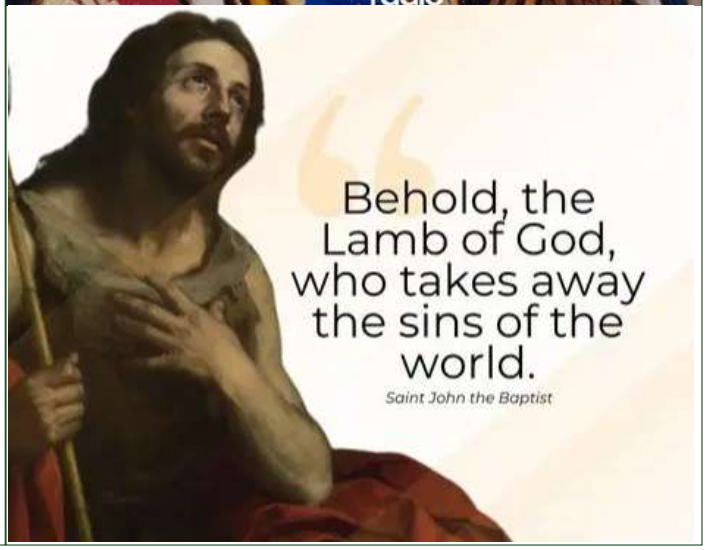
A Candlelight "Memorial Of Music"
To Remember, Glorify and Celebrate
With Song and Prayer
The Thousands of Innocent Souls
Lost on September 11, 2001

- Antioch Baptist Church Choir
- All Denomination Religious

Hosted Annually By The United Community Civic Association Together With Port Authority Of NY and NJ

Complimentary candles/wreaths courtesy of Gus Antonopoulos

UCCA Information: 917-742-6975



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_____