Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Sept. 13	*24th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**Carmela Vella**
11:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
	Maria Caputo
	John Mondello (L)
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Rachel Vella
	Carmela Imperatrice
	Francis Meaney
	Elizabeth Cseri
	Giovanna Licari
	Blanca Ceron
Monday, Sept. 14	*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*
9:00AM	**Michael Finnerty**
Tuesday, Sept. 15	*Our Lady of Sorrows*
9:00AM	**Paul Crum**
Wednesday, Sept. 16	*Pope St. Cornelius & St. Cyprian, Martyrs*
9:00AM	**Marko Marusic**
Thursday, Sept. 17	*St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**Lorenzo Boni**
Friday, Sept. 18	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Susan Salerno**
Saturday, Sept. 19	*St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Joseph A. McCann
5:00PM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
Sunday, Sept. 20	*25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Dylan Gallagher O'Sullivan**
9:30AM	**Mary Loud**
11:00AM	**John Mondello (L)**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Rocco & Nicoletta Scenna
	Antonio & Maria D'Angelo
	Giuseppe & Elda Peras
	Joseph Barraco

Today's Readings

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:30—28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Numbers 21:4b-9***
	Philippians 2:6-11
	John 3:13-17
Tuesday	***1 Corinthians 12:12-14,27-31a***
	John 19:25-27
Wednesday	***1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13***
	Luke 7:31-35
Thursday	***1 Corinthians 15:1-11***
	Luke 7:36-50
Friday	***1 Corinthians 15:12-20***
	Luke 8:1-3
Saturday	***1 Corinthians 15:35-37,42-49***
	Luke 8:4-15

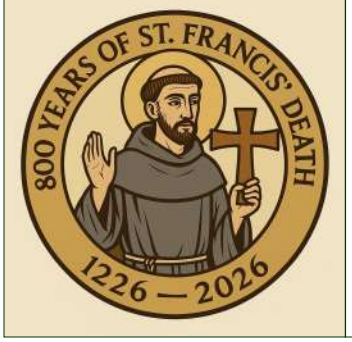
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

FOCUS:

As God has forgiven us, so we must forgive others.

Today's readings challenge us as Christians to live in God's love. They make it clear that we cannot seek pardon for ourselves yet refuse mercy to others. God invites and equips us to share the mercy we have been shown with our neighbors.



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.

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

September 13, 2026

"Whoever believes in the Son of Man will have eternal life." Are you called to bring faith in Christ and eternal life to others as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life?

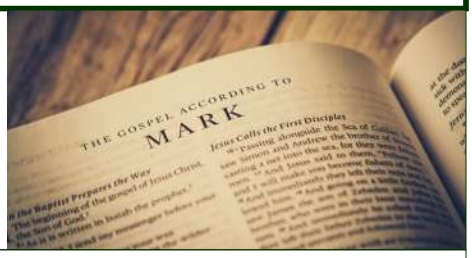
Contact the Vocation Office at:

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

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

St. Francis of Assisi

Scripture Study Group



Memorials for The Week of September 13, 2026

Altar Candles
In Loving Memory of
Alice Santelli

Requested By:
Letty M., Barbara X., & Grace F.

Sanctuary Lamp
In Loving Memory of
Alice Santelli

Requested By:
The Golden Age Club

The Gospel According To Mark

Dear SFA Friends and Family,
We are delighted to offer a new year of Scripture Study at SFA.
All are invited - All are welcome!

Join us on Thursday, September 17th from 7:20PM - 8:50PM in the St. Joseph Room of the Rectory. This week's study will be on Mark 1:1-45: BEGINNING.

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ [the Son of God]" Mark 1:1
"Mark's opening is thus rich in meaning, identifying the gospel (or, "good news") of Jesus with Wisdom, and that Wisdom with a new Creation."
(Marie Noonan Sabin, pg 17)

The Gospel readings and study will be conducted using the Little Rock Scripture Study program. Study booklets will be provided.
If you are interested in joining the study group or would like further information, please contact us through the Rectory at (718) 728-7801.
Grow in Knowledge and Love of Scripture.

Banns Of Marriage

3rd Announcement

Thomas Scavetta
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

Deanna Kerins
St. Francis of Assisi
Astoria, NY

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.

Sept. 5/6:	**$3,521**
Second Collection for Air Conditioning:	**$719**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For September 5/6, 2026
Labor Day Weekend

5:00PM	**86**
8:00AM	**48**
9:30AM	**69**
11:00AM	**96**
	Total: 299

Second Collection
Next Sunday September 19/20, 2026
for Catholic University

The Second Collection next weekend, September 19th and 20th, is to support Catholic University. Please be as generous as your means allow.

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

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 **$32,642** 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

September 13 - September 19

Sunday, September 13
8:00AM Holy Name Mass

Monday, September 14
First Full Day 3K & PK
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, September 15
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement
7:00PM Fall Festival Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, September 16
6:15PM ACA Support Group - SFR
6:40PM General Meeting All Grades - MCH
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, September 17
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:30PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - StJoR

Friday, September 18
9:00AM Opening School Mass &
Student Council Installation
6:00PM Youth Group Meeting - MCH

Saturday, September 19

Next Week

September 20 - September 26

Sunday, September 20
Catechetical Sunday
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD Class - School

Monday, September 21
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, September 22
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, September 23
6:15PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, September 24
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:30PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - StJoR

Friday, September 25

Saturday, September 26

Eucharistic Adoration has Resumed

Monday-Saturday 8:00AM to 8:50AM

Eucharistic Adoration will resume Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 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."

We encourage everyone to make an effort to spend time with our Lord. It is time well spent in prayer for your own intentions and also for our Parish Family.

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

St. Francis of Assisi Scripture Study

"It is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail.
The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life."
Jesus of Nazareth (Gospel of John 6:63)

This year 2026, is a "Special Franciscan Jubilee Year," as proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV. By which a visitor/pilgrim to a church named for St. Francis of Assisi, as is ours, will receive a Plenary Indulgence, after fulfilling the requirements of Confession, Communion and of Eucharistic adoration.

In the year 1200, a young man, Francis from Assisi Italy, answered the call of God to rebuild His church by choosing the life of Christ, and the Gospels as his guide. People began to follow him embracing his values of poverty, joy, simplicity, gratitude and love of all God's creatures and nature. His example continues to be worthy to be followed for all times by all generations.

In this Franciscan spirit, our Parish invites you to participate in the study of one of the four Gospels in the Bible. It is presented only once a year and follows the Little Rock Scripture study system. This study will include nine simple lessons that will provide a clear understanding of the Gospel for everyone, from beginner to the most advanced. It follows a personal reading at home. Then the ongoing group gathers each week for Prayer followed by sharing a period of question and answers, and a video summary presentation that expands the understanding of the lesson of the day. It is a casual environment that is welcoming to all.

The Gospel according to St. Mark

Starting: Thursday, September 10, 2026
When: Every Thursday night: 7:20 to 8:50 PM
Where: SFA Parish (lower level) - St. Joseph Room

For any question: Please call the SFA Rectory at (718) 728 7801

IACA
Italian American Catholic Action Meeting on Thursdays at 6:30PM in the Rectory Basement

Beginning Thursday, September 10th!

The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every Thursday at 10:00AM in the Rectory Basement. All are welcome!

The Legion of Mary is a prayer group consecrated to the Blessed Virgin, who is our Mother in the order of grace.

Members entrust themselves to Mary to sanctify souls and to better a troubled world, for she is a sure path to Christ.

In the words of Pope St. Pius X, we pray that Mary may, "Restore all things in Christ."

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS/ DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES

Reclaiming Ourselves: Feel, Talk & Trust in Astoria

Wednesdays 6:15PM - 7:30PM

Join us anytime.

All are welcome.

St. Francis of Assisi Church – Bereavement Support Group

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." – Psalm 34:18

Wednesday Evenings

7:45pm – 8:45pm

St. Francis of Assisi Church
Rectory Meeting Room
21-17 45th Street
Astoria, NY 11105

Please enter through
The basement back door.
(Accessible by the side gate. Follow the signs)

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you are not alone. St. Francis of Assisi Church invites you to join a compassionate and supportive bereavement group. Together we will reflect, share, and find comfort through prayer and community. This group is open to all—parishioners and non-parishioners alike.

Come as you are. All are welcome.

Contact Carol Hickey at SFAparishcouncil@sfaacademy.org or inquire with the rectory for more information.

Adult Choir
Beginning Monday, September 14th!

Do you love to sing? Come and join us on Mondays at 7:00PM in the Church.

The Golden Age Club

Please note that the Golden Age Group meetings will resume Monday, September 14th, at 12:00NOON - 3:30PM. The meetings take place in Monsignor Campbell Hall which is in the Church Basement. The Entrance is on the 45th Street side of the Church.
If you are 55 years or older, why not join us? We play Bingo together and Refreshments are served at each meeting. Bring a friend & God bless!

First Youth Group Meeting of the School Year!

When: Friday, September 18, 2026
Time: 6:00PM-7:30PM
Where: Monsignor Campbell Hall

Come join us for some fun, and make new friends! The Youth Group meets to do service projects and play games.
The Meeting is fully supervised by Mrs. Theresa Kubina, who is an Educator at SFACA.

Save The Date!
Fall Festival:
Saturday, October 3, 2026

Next Fall Festival Meeting:
Tuesday September 15, 2026
7:00PM in the Rectory Basement
ALL ARE WELCOME!

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

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 _____