Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

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
	Angelo Niakas
	Antonio Lupetin
Monday, Sept. 21	*Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist*
9:00AM	**Antonina Badalamenti**
Tuesday, Sept. 22	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Keith Bonsignore**
Wednesday, Sept. 23	*St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest*
9:00AM	**Angelo Brucculeri**
Thursday, Sept. 24	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Stella Gualtieri**
Friday, Sept. 25	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Ahmar Sein**
Saturday, Sept. 26	*Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society**
	Elizabeth Cseri
	Albino Mario Andreani
5:00PM	**Rosalie Perhuaz**
Sunday, Sept. 27	*26th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
9:30AM	**Mauricio Mesa**
11:00AM	**John Mondello (L)**
	Assunta Di Benedetto
	Maria Kuljanic
	Michael A. McNamara
	Slavia Contratti
	Fiorina Coloangelo

Today's Readings

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Ephesians 4:1-7,11-13***
	Matthew 9:9-13
Tuesday	***Proverbs 21:1-6,10-13***
	Luke 8:19-21
Wednesday	***Proverbs 30:5-9***
	Luke 9:1-6
Thursday	***Ecclesiastes 1:2-11***
	Luke 9:7-9
Friday	***Ecclesiastes 3:1-11***
	Luke 9:18-22
Saturday	***Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8***
	Luke 9:43b-45

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 21:28-32

FOCUS:

God rewards those who place their trust in Him.

It is hard not to relate to the worker who toiled all day and then was jealous of the worker who was paid equally for his one hour of work. But if we unite ourselves to the heart of Christ, we can understand God's pleasure in the conversion of souls, whether they were faithful their whole lives or came to Him right before death. Thank God for the mercy shown to each of us.

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
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
Antonio Lupetin
Lauren Haber Berens
Joseph Schweb

Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

September 20, 2026

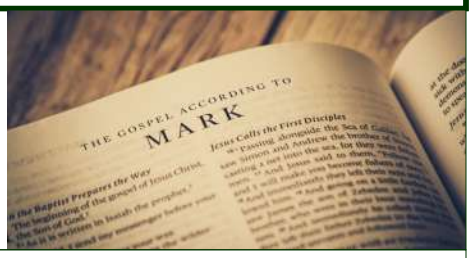
"Seek the Lord while He may be found..." While seeking Him in prayer and the sacraments, listen to Him. Could it be that you are being called by Jesus to serve as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother?
If you think He may be offering you this grace, Contact the Vocation Office at:

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

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

St. Francis of Assisi

Scripture Study Group



Memorials for The Week of September 20, 2026

Sanctuary Lamp
In Loving Memory of
Dr. Rosario and Mrs. Stella Gualtieri

Requested By:
The Thompson Family

The Gospel According To Mark

Dear SFA Friends and Family,

The Scripture Study Group will meet on Thursday, September 24th at 7:20PM-8:50PM in the St. Joseph Room in the Rectory.
This week's study will be on Mark 2-3: Jesus' Acts of Restoration and Re-Creation.

All are invited—All are welcome!

"But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth", He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home." (Mark 2:10-11)

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.

Padre Pio Prayer for Healing
Feast Day: Wednesday September 23, 2026

Dear St. Padre Pio, you were blessed with the gift of healing. Please intercede for me and ask God to heal my body, mind, and soul. Help me to trust in God's will and to accept whatever He allows.
Amen.

From the Pastor's Desk:

My Dear Parishioners,

Welcome back from the summer! I hope everyone found time for some rest and relaxation.

The pastoral year 2026-2027 has begun. Societies have begun their regular meetings. Our Academy has opened with 347 students and a dedicated faculty who is committed to providing a quality Catholic Education to each student. I am grateful to all the parents who have entrusted their child/children to our care.
Religious Education classes will begin soon. Please be sure to have your child registered for Religious Instructions. Classes are held on Sundays following the 9:30am Mass. All children should be present for Mass.

Sunday, October 4th we will celebrate the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi and the 96th anniversary of our parish. Bishop Massa will be here to celebrate the 11:00am Mass and join us in this celebration. Light refreshments will be served after Mass in Msgr. Campbell Hall.
To highlight this 800th anniversary, we will have a 9-day Novena with St. Francis of Assisi following the 9am Mass each day beginning on September 24th to October 2nd. Join us for this spiritual opportunity to celebrate the life of our patron.

Friday, October 2nd from 7:00pm to 8:00pm our parish is hosting a Holy Hour for all Diocesan Youth Groups. All young people are invited to take this opportunity to come together and be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Saturday, October 3rd we will have our 17th Annual Fall Festival. Please mark your calendars and join us for a fun day! There will be live music, rides, food, raffles and much more. All monies raised will go to the parish and academy. Join us for a Great time! Pray for nice weather.

Sunday, October 4th at 1:00pm we will bless the animals in the schoolyard. All are invited to bring their pets for this special blessing.

As we begin this new pastoral year, let us make every effort to be active in the life of our parish and live our faith each day. The Lord offers us many opportunities to strengthen our faith and draw closer to Him. We have daily mass, adoration from Monday to Saturday, 8:00am to 8:50am. Sunday Masses are 5pm Saturday night and Sunday morning at 8am, 9:30am and 11:00am.
The rosary is prayed every day at 8:30am. We have a Scripture group that meets on Thursdays in the rectory basement. Choir practices on Monday evenings and is always looking for more voices. Remember singing is praying twice. The Golden Age Society meets every Monday in Msgr. Campbell. Our Youth Group meets once a month. The Italian Society meets on Thursdays in the rectory basement to pray and enjoy one another's friendship.

There are other activities throughout the year to bring us together to help us grow closer to the Lord.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca

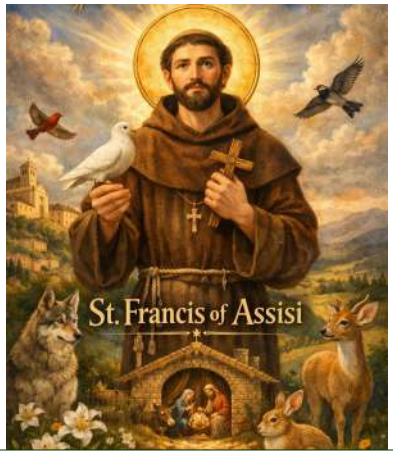
Celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the Death of St. Francis of Assisi

Beginning *Monday, September 14th*, before the final blessing at Mass, we will recite the Prayer of St. Francis. This will be prayed each day and on Sundays until October 4th, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Cards will be in the pews. Please leave the prayer card for everyone's use. After October 4th you are welcome to take them home.

Also, we will have a 9 Day Novena in preparation for the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The novena will take place after the 9:00AM Mass each morning *beginning Thursday September 24th* and will conclude on Friday, October 2nd. On the Sunday of September 27th, we will recite the novena prayers after the morning Masses. Booklets will be available for your use. Please leave them in the pews so they can be used each day. When the novena is over you may take the booklet home with you.

On *Sunday, October 4th*, the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi and the 96th anniversary of our parish, Bishop Massa will be here to celebrate the 11:00AM Mass. All are invited to join us in this celebration.

On *Sunday October 4th* at 1:00PM we will have the blessing of the animals in the schoolyard. All are invited to bring their pets for this blessing.



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. 12/13:	**$3,089**
Second Collection for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton/ Catholic Education:	**$481**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For September 12/13, 2026

5:00PM	**97**
8:00AM	**47**
9:30AM	**71**
11:00AM	**123**
	Total: 338

Festival Information:

Volunteers are needed for the festival. If you have some time to give to support the festival please see the flyer in the Bulletin with information on how to sign up. Your service is needed to continue to help our Festival be a success.

Chance books will be sold at the doors of the Church on the weekends of September 19th & 20th, and September 26th & 27th. Get your chances to be able to win money prizes. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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 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

Next Week

September 20 - September 26

Sunday, September 27
9:30AM Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD Class - School
12:30PM Baptisms - Church

Monday, September 28
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
7:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, September 29
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, September 30
6:15PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, October 1
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:30PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - StJoR

Friday, October 2
Fall Festival Set-Up
9:00AM First Friday Feast Day School Mass - Church

Saturday, October 3
Fall Festival
9:00AM Anointing Mass

Eucharistic Adoration has Resumed

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

Eucharistic Adoration has resumed from 8:00AM to 8:50AM, Monday through Saturday.. 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

17TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 2026

FREE ADMISSION

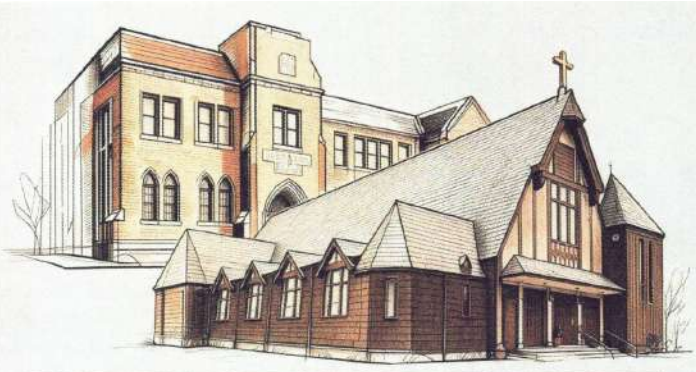
12:00PM - 9:00PM

OUTDOOR MASS @ 11:30AM - ALL ARE WELCOME!

RIDES...GAMES...PRIZES
RAFFLES...FOOD...& MUCH MORE

LIVE MUSIC BY SPITFIRE & FRIENDS

RAIN OR SHINE - 21ST AVENUE & 46TH STREET - ASTORIA - 718-728-7801



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

17TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 2026

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We look forward to welcoming back our seasoned volunteers and invite new volunteers to join us. Your time and helping hands will make this beloved community celebration a success!

MORNING SETUP
7:00–11:00 AM

EVENING CLEANUP
9:00–11:00 PM

SPECIAL THANK-YOU FOR OUR SCHOOL PARENT VOLUNTEERS
Their child(ren) will earn a special Dress Down Day on a future date to be announced!

Even if you can help for only part of a shift, we would be grateful to have you!

Volunteers will be contacted with additional details as the Festival draws near.

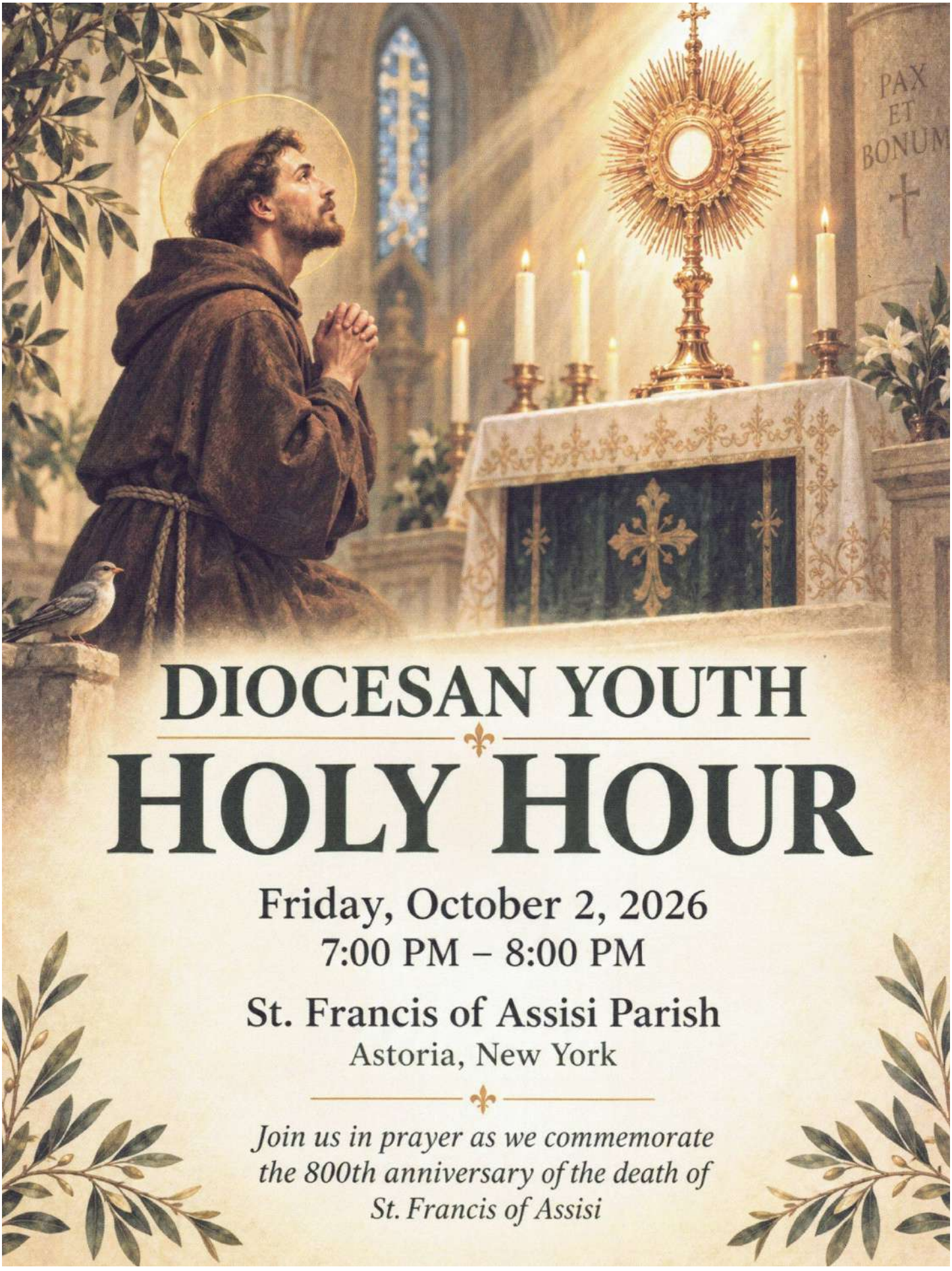
READY TO HELP?

Scan the QR code and complete the volunteer form at your earliest convenience or stop by the rectory to sign up.

Prefer email?
sfafestivalvolunteers@gmail.com

You have our heartfelt thanks!

SFA YOUTH



DIOCESAN YOUTH

HOLY HOUR

Friday, October 2, 2026

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Astoria, New York

Join us in prayer as we commemorate the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi

2027 Mass Book Opens on Thursday, October 8th

Starting Thursday, October 8, 2026, the 2027 Mass Book will be open for Mass Intentions from 9:30AM-11:30AM; and 1:00PM-5:00PM.

12NOON-1:00PM the Office will be closed for Lunch.

2027 Mass Reservations will not be taken before October 8th and must be made in person.

Single Intention Masses (only 1 person):
Monday-Friday 9:00AM
Saturday 5:00PM
Sunday 8:00AM & 9:30AM

Multiple Intention Masses (more than 1 person):
Saturday 9:00AM
Sunday 11:00AM

There is a $20 Donation for each Mass Intention.

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 _____

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

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 Has Begun!

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

The Golden Age Club

Meeting on Mondays from 12:00NOON - 3:30PM!
Last weekend, several members of the Club were in the Church vestibule soliciting for new members. Our official opening was September 14th from 12NOON to 3:30PM in Monsignor Campbell Hall - Church Basement (entrance on 45th Street) It is not too late if you, a friend, or family member would like to join. Bingo is played, some play cards, and refreshments are served at each meeting. Join! God Bless!

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Money goes back to your local parish

My Car Went To Heaven

DONATE YOUR AUTO

Running or Not

• IRS Tax Deduction • Free Towing
• Any Condition • Any Model

718-491-2525

Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org

Dear Fellow Parishioners,
Since 2014 alone, the Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Donation Program has given back over $650,000 to local parishes throughout the New York Metropolitan Area. Your donation has helped many individuals in need in your neighborhood. Only through the generosity of countless parishioners are we able to make a difference. Please help us to continue to make a difference by spreading the word to anyone you know that would like to donate a vehicle, running or not, leaving a review on Google, and liking us on Social Media. Together we can continue our mission in helping the less fortunate.

Help Spread the Word to help Those in Need!

Please Visit Us at svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org
Leave a Review on Google &
Like us on
Follow us on

With Much Thanks and Many Blessings,
Jim Shea
Associated Vincentian Charities Car Program Coordinator