Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Oct. 4	*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time* *Feast of St. Francis of Assisi &* *96th Anniversary of the Parish*
8:00AM	**Alicia Vos**
9:30AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi**
11:00AM	**96th Anniversary of the Parish**
Monday, Oct. 5	*St. Faustina Kowalska, Virgin*
9:00AM	**Salvatore & Giovanna Cinquemani**
Tuesday, Oct. 6	*St. Bruno, Priest*
9:00AM	**Arthur Xuereb**
Wednesday, Oct. 7	*Our Lady of the Rosary*
9:00AM	**Ernesto Luis Simo Almonte**
Thursday, Oct. 8	*Weekday*
9:00AM	**Michael Finnerty**
Friday, Oct. 9	*St. John Henry Newman, Priest & Doctor of the Church*
9:00AM	**The Gentile Family**
Saturday, Oct. 10	*The Blessed Virgin Mary*
9:00AM	**Purgatorial Society** **Patricia Hili** **John Mondello (L)** **Elizabeth Cseri** **Mary Trentacosti** **Ahmar Sein** **Aldo Donato** **Filomena Roscigno**
5:00PM	**The Purich Family**
Sunday, Oct. 12	*28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
8:00AM	**Holy Name Mass**
9:30AM	**Marion Greer**
11:00AM	**For the People of St. Francis Of Assisi** **John Mondello (L)** **Assunta Di Benedetto** **Fortunata Di Lorenzo** **Mary Saliba** **Alfred Xuereb** **Alfredo D'Angelo**

Today's Readings

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

Readings For The Week

Monday	***Galatians 1:6-12*** ***Luke 10:25-37***
Tuesday	***Galatians 1:13-24*** ***Luke 10:38-42***
Wednesday	***Galatians 2:1-2,7-14*** ***Luke 11:1-4***
Thursday	***Galatians 3:1-5*** ***Luke 11:5-13***
Friday	***Galatians 3:7-14*** ***Luke 11:15-26***
Saturday	***Galatians 3:22-29*** ***Luke 11:27-28***

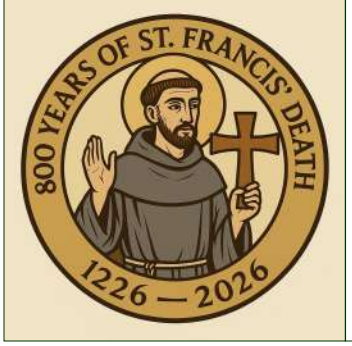
The Twenty-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10a
Philippians 4:12-14,19-20
Matthew 22:1-14

FOCUS:

The antidote to despair is to keep our hearts focused on God's gracious gifts.

In his Letter to the Philippians, Paul says to have no anxiety but rather to think about what is true, honorable, and just; what is pure, lovely, and gracious; and anything excellent and worthy of praise. When we contemplate the good around us instead of dwelling on the negative, we are reminded that life is a gift, and that we play a role in God's plan to redeem the world.



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.

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	Jim Schneggenburger	Benedicto Randazzo
Jack Orlando	Anthony Criscuolo	Peter Lopez
Steven Joyce	Samantha O'Sullivan	Rick Simonsen
John Wrenn	Marilyn Miller	Aubrey Madden
Augustin Cisneros	Pat Gravino	Madison Millett
James Nunez	John Carmody	Leonardo Di Marco
Vincent Wytak	Rosario Duran	Michelle Yashita
John & Carol Ross	Vivian Papa	The Polychronakis
Jeffrey Hyans	Joel Steinmann	Family
Marie LoVolpe	Anna Governali	Angel Garcia
Jessica St. Preux	Tim Graham	Bob Bala
Al Ciani	Antonio Postiglione	Anthony Fiorino
Alesha Moses	Mario Tamburello	Joseph Klos
Nancy McCaffrey	Christopher Araimo	Jan Hengl
Christoper Wojtalik	Charles Principato	John Mondello
Theresa Pacheco	Jim Kreitler	Joseph & Eunju Carbone
William Goss	Humberto Cordova	Antonio Lupetin
Luke Pacheco	John Schakir	Lauren Haber Berens
Vincenza Papa	Margaret Culhane	Joseph Schweb

Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

October 4, 2026

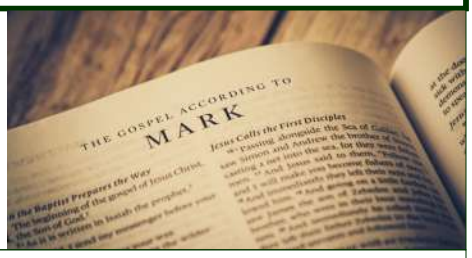
"This is the Lord's doing and it is amazing in our eyes." Being chosen to serve as a priest or in the consecrated life is an amazing work of the Lord. Ask the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother to help you recognize and be faithful to your vocation. Contact the Vocation Office at:

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

Diocese of Brooklyn Vocation Office

St. Francis of Assisi

Scripture Study Group



Memorials for The Week of October 4, 2026

Altar Bread
In Loving Memory of
Arthur Xuereb

Requested By:
Edward and Susan Roscigno & Family

The Gospel According To Mark

Dear SFA Friends and Family,

The Scripture Study Group will meet on Thursday, October 8th at 7:20PM-8:50PM in the St. Joseph Room of the Rectory. This week's study will be on Mark 6-7.

All are invited - All are welcome!

Chapter 6: The Recognition of Jesus/Wisdom
"Whatever villages or towns or countryside He entered, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged Him that they might touch only the tassel on His cloak; and as many as touched it were healed. (Mark: 6:56)

Chapter 7: Jesus' Redefining of the Unclean
"...He put His finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then He looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more He ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. (Mark 7:33-36)

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.

Eucharistic Adoration has Resumed

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

Eucharistic Adoration has resumed, 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.

From the Pastor's Desk:

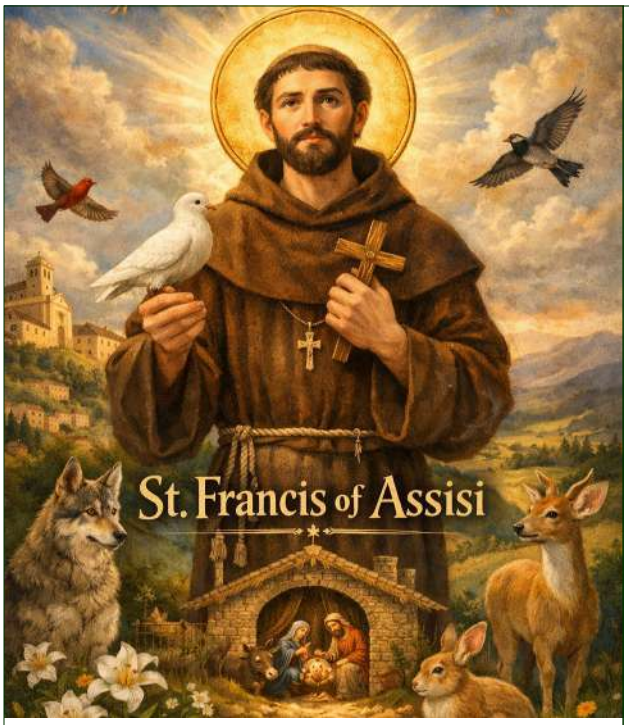
My Dear Parishioners,
In the Gospels over the past two weeks Jesus has challenged us with vineyard parables. Last weeks parable called us to labor in the vineyard, even if but for a few hours-and even if at first we really would rather not. This week, the vineyard theme is expanded, offering us food for thought about our response to God's unbounded love.
The vineyard proves to be an image that is ripe-so to speak-for expansion and great fruitfulness. That is, it can help us grow in holiness. Obviously, for the people living at the time of Jesus, and for many generations after, wine was not only a common staple of life, but we also produced on a local level. Indeed, growing a few grapevines was as common as having a garden would be today. Vineyards themselves, like farms near many small towns today, would have been close to the experience of most people at that time. For this reason, the vineyard image is a common one in the Scriptures. Today, vineyards are featured prominently not only in the Gospel, but also in our first reading, and in our responsorial Psalm.

Great respect, and even honor, was garnered by those who dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to making certain their vines were meticulously cared for; their vineyard kept in the best of shape. Such care required diligent work and a great deal of labor. We see that incredible level of care and commitment at the beginning of our first and third readings.
The beginnings of these readings should remind us of the unparalleled love that God has for all of His creation. People of every time and place need only notice the beauty and order around them to be moved to grow closer to that love through greater conversion and more authentic faith. So, one response to these readings would be to gratefully acknowledge and open oneself to the all-encompassing ,saving and transforming power of God's love, and resolve to love others in return.

However, the parables of these two weeks also convey the opposite picture-people being oblivious to, and even rejecting, God's lavish outpouring of grace. Thankfully, we know that God can work through even such negative things as rejection to help us change our hearts, and help us grow in faith. So, as we hear the vineyard stories, we can see the evils of resisting and rejecting God's love, and recognize the shockingly unjust and futile results of such rejection. We may be moved to wonder, *How could this possibly happen?* Yet, we know we reject God's grace and love every day. We are ungrateful and unjust, often without a thought to the consequences.

As we mediate on these passages about vineyards, what is strikingly new in the Gospel, as contrasted with the Isaiah reading, is the ending. While the owner in Isaiah's passage destroys his beloved vineyard, Jesus ends His parable before a judgment is made. He asks His listeners to provide an ending, which they readily supply before realizing that they are condemning their own behavior. We can be thankful that we know, from the very example of Jesus, that while a wretched end is within our own power to choose if we remain unconverted, God still offers us the opportunity for repentance, forgiveness, salvation, and a place in the eternal vineyard, in the Kingdom of heaven.

All God's Blessings,
Msgr. Maresca



Happy Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, and 96th Anniversary of the Parish!

Please join us October 4th after the 11:00AM Mass with Bishop Massa for Light Refreshments in Monsignor Campbell Hall.

At 1:00PM, join us in the Schoolyard for the Blessing of the Animals.

CELEBRATING 96 YEARS OF FAITH, COMMUNITY, AND SERVICE

For 96 years, the Church of St. Francis of Assisi has stood as a place of faith, hope, prayer, and community. As we celebrate this milestone, it is a time to look back with gratitude on our rich history and to look forward with renewed faith to the years ahead.

Since SFA was founded, the Church has been a place where people gathered to worship. It has been a spiritual home for generations of families, a place where children have received their religious formation, where couples have celebrated the sacrament of marriage, and where loved ones have been remembered and entrusted to God's care. Through changing times and generations, SFA has remained a source of comfort, strength, and family gatherings.

The anniversary also provides an opportunity to remember the many priests, religious leaders, parishioners, volunteers and benefactors whose dedication helped build and sustain our parish. Their commitment to the life of the Church has left a lasting legacy that continues to benefit the parish today.

The example of St. Francis of Assisi, our patron, gives special meaning to this celebration. He is known for his humility, love of creation, compassion for the poor, and devotion to living the Gospel. St. Francis continues to inspire each of us and all Christians to serve with generosity and peace. His example reminds each of us that faith is expressed not only through prayer and worship but also through kindness, service, and care for others.

Ninety-six years represents nearly a century of memories: generations of worshippers gathered in prayer, celebrations of joyful occasions, moments of sorrow and consolation, parish activities, friendships, and countless acts of service that may never have been recorded but have certainly shaped the life of our parish.

As we celebrate 96 years, the occasion is both a celebration of the past and a renewal of hope for the future. All of us can give thanks for the blessings of these years gone by while continuing to build a parish rooted in faith, family, fellowship, compassion, and service.

May this 96th anniversary be a joyful reminder of the presence of God in the life of our parish and the many parishioners who have made the church a cherished spiritual home.

May the years ahead bring continued blessings, peace, love, hope, and renewed faith to the parish.

God Bless each of us,
Msgr. Maresca

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. 26/27: **$3,303**

School Parents must use Church Envelopes.

Mass Attendance For September 26/27, 2026

5:00PM	**86**
8:00AM	**39**
9:30AM	**127**
11:00AM	**104**
	Total: 356

Second Collection
Next Sunday October 10/11, 2026
for the Maintenance Fund

The Second Collection next weekend, October 10th and 11th, is to support the Maintenance Fund. Thank you for helping to maintain our beautiful parish and keep things in working order.

September's Monthly 50/50 Winners are:

1st Place: Mr. Claude Vella
2nd Place: Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kerins
3rd Place: Mrs. Michael Marchassalla

Congratulations to the Winners!

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 **$34,092** 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

October 4 - October 10

Sunday, October 4
Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
96th Anniversary of the Parish
8:00AM Mass
9:30AM Mass/Children's Liturgy
10:40AM CCD Class - School
11:00AM Mass with Bishop Massa
1:00PM Blessing of the Animals - Schoolyard

Monday, October 5
12:00NOON Golden Age - MCH
3:00PM - Children's Choir Begins - Church
6:00PM Adult Choir - Church

Tuesday, October 6
3:00PM SFACA Singers - MMC
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 7
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:15PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, October 8
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:30PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - StJoR

Friday, October 9
School Closed K-8/3K & PK Attend

Saturday, October 10

Next Week

October 11 - October 17

Sunday, October 11
8:00AM Holy Name Mass
NO CCD CLASS

Monday, October 12
Columbus Day - School & Rectory Office Closed

Tuesday, October 13
3:00PM SFACA Singers - MMC
6:30PM AA Meeting - Rectory Basement

Wednesday, October 14
3:00PM Drama Club - MCH
6:15PM ACA Support Group - SFR
7:00PM Baptism Class - Rectory
7:45PM Bereavement Group - SFR

Thursday, October 15
10:00AM Legion of Mary - SFR
6:30PM IACA - SFR
7:20PM Scripture Study - StJoR

Friday, October 16
Halloween Dance - MCH

Saturday, October 17

40 DAYS FOR LIFE
THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION

You are invited to participate in the 40 Days for Life campaign outside Planned Parenthood, 21-41 45th Road, in Long Island City. It is near the Court Square subway station (7, E, F, & G lines). We need people to pray outside the facility or, if you are comfortable with it, to counsel women to choose life.

The campaign runs from 8:00AM to 6:00PM Mondays through Saturdays through October 31st. You can sign up for vigil hours by scanning this QR Code:

If you have any questions, please call or text the campaign leader, Phil McManus, at 718-679-5309.

*Information provided by the Knights of Columbus

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

October Lector & Minister Schedule

	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 3/4	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 10/11	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 17/18	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time October 24/25	All Saints Day Oct. 31/Nov. 1
Lectors					
Saturday 5:00PM	Josephine Corso	Jane Di Donato	Edward Kubina	Debbi Skinner	Debbi Skinner
Sunday 8:00AM	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella	Andrew Soltesz	Rob Laucella
Sunday 9:30AM	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks	Sharon Costanza	Maria Brooks
Sunday 11:00AM	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato	Carol Hickey	Jane Di Donato
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, 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 _____