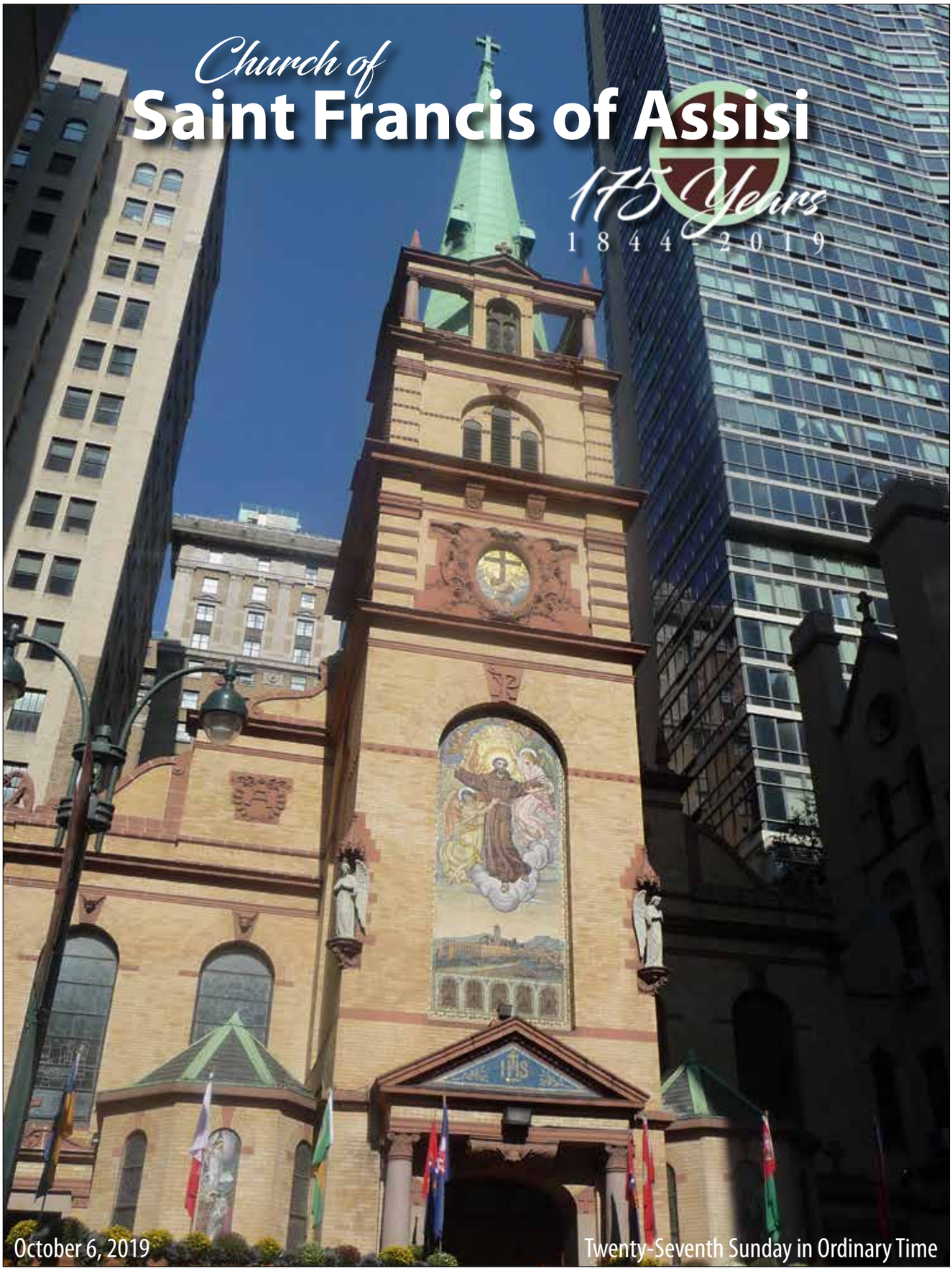

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
175 Years
1844-2019
October 6, 2019
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi
135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001
tel 212.736.8500 • www.stfrancisnyc.org

The Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Midtown Manhattan is a parish in the Archdiocese of New York and an urban ministry center staffed by the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province and their partners in ministry.

Inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ, and rooted in the charism of St. Francis of Assisi, we actively WELCOME all people.

Welcome Witness Worship

We WORSHIP God through prayerful and inspiring liturgies, the celebration of the sacraments, and the devotional life of the Church. We WITNESS to our faith by ministering to everyone, especially those who are poor, alienated or oppressed.

# Our Weekly Schedule

## Celebration of the Eucharist

**Saturday Evening Vigil Masses**
4:00, 5:15 PM (Organ & Cantor)

**Sunday Masses**
8:00 AM (Organ & Cantor), 9:15 AM (Korean),
9:30 AM (Organ & Cantor; Lower Church),
11:00 AM (Organ & Choir); 12:30 PM (Organ & Cantor),
5:00 & 6:15 PM (Contemporary Ensemble)

**Weekday Masses**
7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 11:30 AM; 12:30, 4:30, 5:30 PM

**Saturday Morning Masses**
8:00, 11:00 AM

**First Friday Filipino Community Mass**
6:15 PM (Lower Church)

**Holidays**
Consult the weekly bulletin and the posted notices for federal and other holidays.

### On the cover:

To conclude our 175th Anniversary celebration, this week's cover features a contemporary photo of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Prominent in the photo is the Epic apartment building next door to the church and friary complex which opened in 2007. The banners of Assisi, which have been in use since 2009, are displayed across the front of the church. The banners represent various sections or "sestiere" of the city of Assisi in Umbria, Italy.

## Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

**Monday - Friday** 7:30 - 8:30 AM; 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 4:00 - 5:30 PM
**Saturday** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 3:30 - 5:30 PM
**Sunday** 8:30 - 9:30 AM; 4:30 - 5:30 PM

## Devotions

**Monday**
Devotions in Honor of St. Monica after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

**Tuesday**
Devotions in Honor of St. Anthony after all Masses starting at 7:45 AM

**Wednesday**
Devotions in Honor of St. Jude after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

**Thursday**
Devotions in Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes for the Sick after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

**Friday**
Devotions in Honor of the Sacred Heart after 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses
Lenten Season: Stations of the Cross
Easter Season: Stations of the Resurrection

**Saturday**
The Rosary after the 11:00 AM Mass

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)
Summer hours: 9:00 - 11:15 AM; 1:00 - 4:15 PM

# The Pastor's Corner

In his second letter to Timothy, St. Paul says: "I remind you, to stir into flames the gift of God given you. . ." In today's gospel we read: "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to a mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea' and it would obey you." Both St. Paul and Jesus tell us that we have received a great gift from God and it is not a small gift, but a gift with great potential. If faith can uproot a mulberry tree and be planted in the sea, St. Luke tells us *what* we possess, but as St. Paul says, sometimes we need to "stir" it into flames. So often people comment that they wish they had more faith, but here are two writers who tell us that we already have it – we just need to stir it up and get it going. These are two good Scripture quotes for us.

For several weeks I have been including in the bulletin "Seven Themes of Catholic Teaching." These themes stress Catholic values in society and in our day-to-day lives as Catholics. Many people are unaware what these Themes are and the fact that they are built on the Gospel and Jesus' teaching. When we return to Scripture and Papal documents for the past 100 years, this is where we find these values. Next week, I will begin including sections from the document "Open Wide Our Hearts." This is a Pastoral Letter against racism from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. This is very timely and important, so I encourage you to read the sections each week.

Fr. Andrew

*Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.*

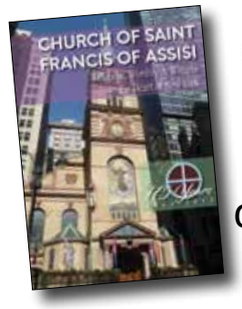
## Get Your Flu Shot!

Free flu shots will be offered by Duane-Reade/Walgreen's Pharmacy on **Sunday**, **October 6**, from **9:00 AM to 2:00 PM** in the lobby of **San Damiano Hall**. If you haven't gotten your annual flu shot yet, here is your opportunity!

## Poems R Us

Enjoy an evening of original poetry by members of the St. Francis Adult Education Program and friends of our parish. This free program will take place 6:00-8:00 PM, Wednesday, October 23, in the Conference Room. Enter through the Parish House.

## 175th Anniversary Commemorative Book




**Our Commemorative Book is available for sale at the reception desk in the Parish House for $20. Get your copy of this limited-edition keepsake now!**

## 6th Annual Indie & Foreign Film Festival

**San Damiano Hall**
**127 West 31st Street**
**www.indieforfilmfest.com**

**Opening Night**
**Thursday, October 17, 6:00 PM**
*Unaccompanied • Locked Inside a Box*
*What Happens to a Dream Deferred?*
*In Colors • Seadrift*

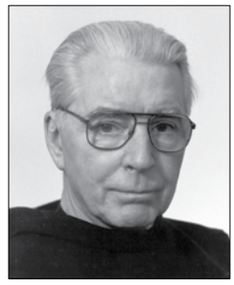
**Student Film Night**
**Friday, October 18, 6:00 PM**
*Nosotros • Better Together • The Gift (El Regalo)*
*Princesa • No • Unconditional • Fireflies • Vida*
*Metamorphosis • Paper Boats*

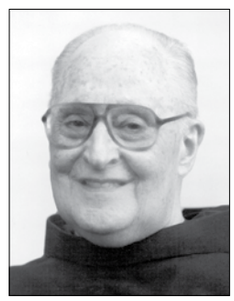
**Matinee Day**
**Saturday, October 19, 1:00 PM**
*Retournados • No Vuelo (I Will Not Return) • Hello Mexico*
*Lumpkin, GA • Walking for Ded • Landfall*
*On the Margins of Art • Adnan • Far from Home • Raheel*

## All Souls Day Cards

If you would like to remember a deceased friend or loved one on All Souls Day, we a have special card available at the reception desk for an offering of $5.00 each. The cover of the card features a photo of the Angel of Redemption from the Sorrowful Mother Shrine. The inside message reads: A Spiritual Gift in Loving Memory of _____ will share in a special remembrance in the prayers and Masses celebrated by the Franciscan Friars at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi on All Souls Day.

## The Friars of Thirty-First Street, Part 21





Fr. Cronan Kelly was appointed pastor and guardian at 31st Street in 1961, and directed the ministries of the church for the next three years. Shortly after he became pastor, one of the friars, Fr. Philip Lavere, asked for permission to undertake a new ministry, *The Good Word*. Fr. Philip and Fr. Cronan worked together on project and *The Good Word* was underway.

As of February 3, 1962, people could dial PEnnsylvania 6-9233 and hear an inspirational message from the Franciscans. The project started with only three answering units, and within two months ten units were in operation. Two days after the ten units were in use, the telephone company recorded 1,358 busy signals. It was estimated that 3,000 calls were handled daily. So many persons were calling from the offices of Consolidated Edison that the company recorded the friar's message from the phone and reproduced it over their intercom system each day.

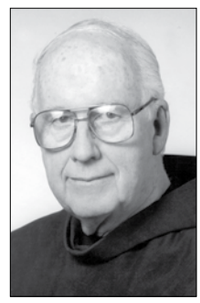
A new era of unexpected change was felt throughout the entire Roman Catholic Church during Fr. Cronan's tenure as pastor. Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council to "open some windows" and renew the life of the Church. Pope John opened the first of four sessions from October 11 to December 8, 1962. The friars at St. Francis Church responded immediately, and offered a series of sermons with appropriate prayers to highlight the Council throughout the week of October 8. At least four sermons a day, sometimes more, were preached. A different friar spoke each day on topics such as "What Is the Council?"; "The Peoples' Part;""Towards Unity;""Why Have a Council?"; and "Prospects and Problems."

The friars realized that a major event was happening in the Church, and they began early to prepare their people for the changes the Church was calling for throughout the Roman Catholic world. To a Church community that had not experienced change in four centuries, new developments produced confusion, consternation and upheaval in the lives of many Catholic people.

Fr. Finian Kerwin, who had served a small mission in the southwest corner of Georgia, succeeded Fr. Cronan as pastor in 1964, when the latter friar was elected to serve on the Provincial Council. Fr. Finian struggled to turn change into challenge fro the friars at 31st Street. His task was not an easy one, but he worked patiently as pastor to implement the essential changes called for by the Church.

Fr. Finian served as guardian and pastor from 1964 until 1967, when he was elected Minister Provincial of Holy Name Province, and Fr. Cosmas Timlin was appointed pastor. The three short-term pastors – Fathers Cronan, Finian and Cosmas – concentrated on the implementation of the external changes called for by the Council. The necessary renovations in the upper and lower churches were carried out so that the Mass could be celebrated in accord with the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. The altars of both churches became free-standing, facing the congregation. The sound systems were replaced with modern units so everyone could participate with the priest. Two organists led the people in song at the 16 daily Masses, and Folk Masses for the young were introduced in the lower church. On September 14, 1964, the Sacrament of Reconciliation was administered in English for the first time, a symbol of the many changes which were to follow during the next ten years.

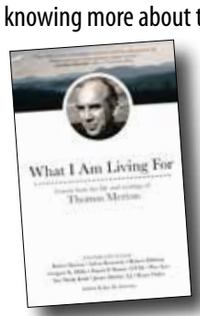
*Top left: Fr. Cronan Kelly, O.F.M.*
*Bottom left: Fr. Philip Levere, O.F.M.*
*Right: Fr. Finian Kerwin, O.F.M.*
*Far right: Fr. Cosmas Timlin, O.F.M.*



*This series of articles on the history of our parish is adapted from the writings of Fr. Flavian Walsh, O.F.M., Pastor from 1985-87.*

## Book Review: *What I Am Living For: Thomas Merton*

If you are a Thomas Merton fan, or if you are just curious about knowing more about this Trappist monk and how he has affected the lives of hundreds of people, this book on "lessons from the life and writings of Thomas Merton" provides insight from many authors: James Martin, S.J., and Daniel Horan, O.F.M., Bishop Robert Barron, author Sue Monk Kidd and Rabbi David Zaslow.




The book begins with a Chronology of Merton's life. There is mention of the influence of his autobiography, *The Seven Story Mountain*, repeatedly and other writings such as *No Man Is an Island*, *New Seeds of Contemplation*, *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, the *Asian Journal* and more. The authors show how Merton influenced their lives in a personal and unique way. His writings were full of depth, and the topics he treated seemed odd at that time for a cloistered Trappist monk. There is certainly much to be learned from this book about Merton. It is available in the lobby of the Parish House.

STAND UP, IMMIGRANTS!
BUILD THE NETWORK
A Network of Information, Support & Protection of Immigrants

## Are you without immigration status?

Here's a possible solution!

STAND UP! is a campaign to protect the rights and welfare of immigrants, especially the undocumented. It is confidential, dependable and secure. For more information, contact us at standupimmigrants@gmail.com or 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

INMIGRANTES, LEVÁNTENSE
CONSTRUYAMOS LA RED
La Red de Información, Apoyo y Protección de Inmigrantes

## ¿Está sin estatus de inmigración?

¡Aqui hay una solución posible!

¡LEVANTENSE! es una campaña para proteger los derechos y el bienestar de los inmigrantes, especialmente los indocumentados. La campaña es confidencial, confiable y seguro. Para más información, contáctenos a standupimmigrants@gmail.com o 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

## Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

**#7: Care for Creation**

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is just not an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

From Pope Francis in *Laudato Sí*: A true ecological approach becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. . . Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society.

From Pope Benedict in Caritas in *Caritas in Veritate*: The environment is God's gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole.

# *The Pastoral Staff at Saint Francis of Assisi*

### Staff Friars

William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Adult Education
wbeaudin@stfrancisnyc.org
Michael Carnevale, O.F.M.
Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M., Counseling Center & Spiritual Direction
jcavoto@stfrancisnyc.org
John Felice, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Director of Migrant Center
jjagudilla@stfrancisnyc.org
Brian Jordan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
Michael Kim, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry
koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org
David McBriar, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
John McVean, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
Andrew Reitz, O.F.M., Pastor
areitz@stfrancisnyc.org
Timothy Shreenan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Liturgy
tshreenan@stfrancisnyc.org
Brian Smail, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Spiritual Direction
bsmail@stfrancisnyc.org

### Friars in Residence

Stephen Mimnaugh, O.F.M., St. Francis Friends of the Poor
Thomas Walters, O.F.M., St. Francis Friends of the Poor

### Pastoral Associates & Administration

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries
maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org
Julie Berwick, Director of St. Francis Counseling Center
jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org
Carlos Farfan, Director of Finance
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Chala Hill, F.H.M., Spiritual Direction
chill@stfrancisnyc.org
Caelestine Kim, O.S.B., Pastoral Associate, Korean Ministry
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Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization
jnuzzi@stfrancisnyc.org
Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office
development@stfrancisnyc.org
Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry
etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org

# Mass Intentions for the Week

The Bread & Wine for Masses this week have been given for the intentions of Catherine B. Puangoco; for Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers.

The Sanctuary Lights have been given in memory of Jesusa Catahan from Adelaida Carlos; and for healing of Cecilia Verbeek.

**Saturday, October 5, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8:00 AM | Anna Warchol |
| 11:00 | Thanksgiving to St. Anthony |
| 4:00 PM | Franciscan Mass League |
| 5:15 | Artemas Beattie (d.) |

**Sunday, October 6, 2018**

| | |
|---|---|
| 8:00 AM | Richard Paul Kim |
| 9:15 | Intentions of the Korean Community |
| 9:30 | Rose Carmel Maelle Severe, thanks. |
| 11:00 | Joseph Banik (d.) |
| 12:30 PM | Roman & Virginia Balane (d.) |
| 5:00 | Fabio Dominic, for healing |
| 6:15 | Elizabeth C. Weese (d.) |

**Monday, October 7, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 | Leo Ozcerin |
| 7:45 | Cornelia Melendez |
| 8:30 | |
| 11:30 | Mary McGovern |
| 12:30 PM | John & Mary Garry (d.) |
| 4:30 | Jane R. Janiak (d.) |
| 5:30 | In honor of Our Lady of the Rosary Carolyn Luguya & John Habashi |

**Tuesday, October 8, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 | Felix, Cesar & Rebecca Marquez |
| 7:45 | Thanksgiving to St. Anthony |
| 8:30 | Kenneth G. Sullivan (d.) |
| 11:30 | Asuncion & Buenaventura Umali (d.) |
| 12:30 PM | Madeline Serluco (d.) |
| 4:30 | Zacarias Villasan (d.) |
| 5:30 | Hector Viurrarena (d.) |

**Wednesday, October 9, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 AM | Felix, Cesar & Rebecca Marquez |
| 7:45 | Isabel Grace Quiblat, 25th birthday |
| 8:30 | Evero Mihaich (d.) |
| 11:30 | Valentine & Henry St. Vil Limage Geoner Limage (d.) |
| 12:30 PM | Joan & August Tolomer (d.) |
| 4:30 | Clement Iwu (d.) |
| 5:30 | Silvia Guerreros de Viurrarena, thanks. |

**Thursday, October 10, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 | Eliana Julienne Sun |
| 7:45 | Felix, Cesar & Rebecca Marquez |
| 8:30 | Annabelle Skoglind |
| 11:30 | John Brennan |
| 12:30 PM | The Sick |
| 4:30 | Pablo Bernardo & Paul Domingo |
| 5:30 | Dunga Lim (d.) |

**Friday, October 11, 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| 7:00 | Bernice "Jo" Thompson (d.) |
| 7:45 | Felix, Cesar & Rebecca Marquez |
| 8:30 | William Brennan |
| 11:30 | Dorothy & Mary Yost (d.) |
| 12:30 PM | Ania & Miss T. Cihanek (d.) |
| 4:30 | Armando & Maridelsa Grullon |
| 5:30 | Rogelio de los Santos (d.) |

Saint John XXIII, October 11

# Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Directory

**ST. FRANCIS HOUSE: 135 W. 31st Street • SAN DAMIANO HALL: 127 W. 31st Street**
**ST. FRANCIS ADULT EDUCATION CENTER: 139 W. 31st Street**

**Adult Education**
A variety of courses in Scripture, church history, spirituality, personal growth, and other topics are offered at noon and in the evenings in the Fall and Spring months. Special brochures with course offerings are published prior to the start of each term and are available at the church entrances. Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M., Director; 212-736-8500, Ext. 311.

**Franciscan Bread for the Poor**
The St. Francis Breadline provides food for hungry people every morning of the year at 7:00 AM. Franciscans Deliver brings groceries to area shut-ins on a weekly basis. For more information, go to www.stfrancisbreadline.org.

**Counseling Center**
Counseling services are available on a short- or long-term basis by appointment only. Sliding scale fee structure. Call 212-736-8500, Ext. 290 for information or to make an appointment.

**Saint Francis Bereavement Ministry**
While grief is a very private experience, people who have lost loved ones can benefit from the witness and support of others who have lost someone special in their lives. The St. Francis Bereavement Ministry offers an opportunity for the bereaved to connect with others who grieve, and to seek a path of healing as they come to terms with their loss. Call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire.

**Immigration Assistance**
The Migrant Center at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi provides assistance to all immigrants regardless of status. If anyone needs assistance or has concerns about immigration matters, please contact the Migrant Center at 212-736-8500, Ext. 305/377 or email migrantcenter@stfrancisnyc.org.

**Korean Ministry**
The Korean Community worships in Korean every Sunday at 9:15 AM. A Mass for young adults is held on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 6:00 PM in the lower church. Fr. Michael Kim, O.F.M.; 212-736-8500, Ext. 384.

**LGBT Outreach**
Our LGBT ministry is very active in our community. The ministry provides various spiritual, social, and educational events from September through June. For more information, please visit the website to sign up for our mailing list. For more information, contact Meredith Augustin, liaison for the LGBT ministry, at 212-736-8500, Ext. 327.

**Mass Cards & Perpetual Enrollments**
Available at the Reception Desk in the lobby of St. Francis House. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Saturday: 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sunday: 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

**Music Ministry**
To become involved in our liturgical music ministry, please call Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries, at 212-736-8500, Ext. 327.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**
The RCIA is the process by which people can question, search, and inquire into the Catholic faith. The RCIA is for any unbaptized adult who is new to the Catholic faith or any unbaptized child usually over the age of 7. The RCIA is also for any adult or child over the age of 7 who was baptized in another Christian tradition and for baptized Catholic adults seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Joseph Nuzzi at 212-736-8500, Ext. 365.

**RENEW! Younger Retiree Program**
Catholic retirees, age 55 and over, participate in spiritual, cultural, social, and service activities in the New York Metropolitan Area. For information, please contact RENEW at 212- 736-8500, Ext. 389.

**Secular Franciscans**
Lay men and women who strive to follow the Gospel way of life according to the ideals of St. Francis. For information please see our website http://www.stfrancisnyc.org/secularfranciscans.htm.

**St. Francis on Facebook**
St. Francis Church is on Facebook! Join the group "St. Francis of Assisi NYC" on Facebook to see who else is a member, be informed of news and events and keep in touch with what's going on in your parish community. Stay connected the way you like to stay connected. Join the group today and invite your friends.

**Self-Help Groups**
St. Francis Church hosts numerous self-help groups, including Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Sex Addicts Anonymous, Survivors of Incest Anonymous, and others. Please consult the Self-Help and Support Groups brochure for times and locations of the meetings.

**Spiritual Direction**
Spiritual Direction as a means of spiritual growth and faith development is provided by the Center Staff. Contact Fr. Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500 for more information.

**Ugnayan Filipino Ministry**
A home away from home for newly arrived Filipino immigrants. Our ministry sponsors the Sacred Heart devotion during the 6:15 PM First Friday Mass with fellowship afterwards. We conduct Lectio Divina every Third Friday of the month. The ministry also welcomes interested individuals to join their music ministry. Rehearsals are on two consecutive Thursdays before the First Friday. Email: flipinoministry@stfrancisnyc.org.

**Volunteers**
St. Francis Church invites individuals to give freely of their time and expertise in order to make a difference. Our volunteers participate in liturgical ministries as well as other forms of service to the church and the community. Edward Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteers. Email: etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org.

**Young Adult Ministry**
This is a ministry of, by, and for Catholic men and women in their 20's and 30's. At St. Francis we believe that ministering to young adults begins by creating an environment where people feel welcome, especially by worshipping God together in a way that feeds the spirit. For more information please email: youngadults@stfrancisnyc.org.