

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi

175 Years
1844 - 2019

January 13, 2019

The Baptism of the Lord

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.



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

The Baptism of Christ by the Maître de Rheinfelden. This painting on a wood panel was created in the mid 1400's for the chapel of the 'commanderie de Rheinfelden.' It is now in the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dijon, France.

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 8:30 AM; 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Confesiones en español Martes 11:00 - 12:00

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: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

The Pastor's Corner



Congratulations! Thank you!

We have reached our goal in the Renew and Rebuild Campaign and have received new pledges and donations to take us over our goal. In fact, the more we go over our goal, the more money we receive back from the Archdiocese. So, it is not too late to make a pledge or give a donation to Renew and Rebuild. There are pledge Forms in church, or I can scan you one. A very special Thank you to all who helped us reach our goal. Thank you to Loida Diaz-de Jesus, Keith Kemp, and Joe Nuzzi – our hard working team! Blessings and Prayers!

Our first funds from Renew and Rebuild have arrived just in time to help us pay for the new duct-and roof work near the elevator in the church to stop a leak from harming the control panel in the elevator. We have had to bring in engineers and roofers to find the problem and get it fixed. Thank you for providing the funds.

The Christmas season comes to a close this weekend with the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus joins his life to our earthy life and invites us to share in his life. The Baptism that we receive unites our lives to that of Jesus Christ and gives us our identity. Throughout our lives we try to “put on Christ” and become the new person that we are meant to be. Do you know the date of your Baptism? Have you ever seen your Baptismal Certificate?

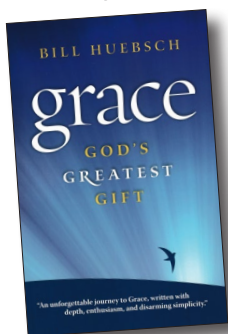
Fr. Andrew

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

Book Review: *Grace: God's Greatest Gift*

Bill Huebsch, the author of this book, presents a very full picture of what we call “grace.” This is not a theological treatise of the subject, but a presentation of how grace is present in all of our lives, whether we believe it or understand it or not.

“Grace is a free gift...offered to everyone”, he says. The titles of the chapters that follow show how he understands this gift of God: grace is real, grace is mysterious, grace exposes our guilt, grace is energizing, grace exposes our goodness, grace is ordinary, grace and sin, grace and prayer. Just looking at these titles can arouse your curiosity and make you want to flip to a particular chapter. It is worthwhile taking time to sit with this book and allow the author’s insights fill you with new thoughts about this word, “grace” that we have heard all of our lives. It is available in the lobby of the Parish House.



Collection for Communications This Week

This weekend we will take up the Collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign.



**Catholic
Communication
Campaign**

CONNECT WITH CHRIST

This Collection serves all of the Catholic dioceses of our nation by producing

outstanding spiritual programs for radio and television.

The Catholic Communications Campaign provides ongoing support for the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org), USCCB video productions including the reflections on the daily readings, and content development for many of the USCCB's media platforms.

One half of your gift will sustain the campaign, and the other half will assist us here in the Archdiocese of New York in our Communications Office.

The Shrines of France

11 Days: November 6-16, 2019

visiting

Geneva • Annecy • Lyon • Tours

Loire Valley • Chartres • Mont St. Michel

Bayeux • Normandy • Caen • Lisieux • Paris

hosted by

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

\$3,199 from New York



The Friars of Thirty-First Street, Part 8

The original St. Francis Church which had served so well for over 50 years was torn down. The demolition work on one of New York's oldest midtown landmarks began on May 27, 1891 and the cornerstone of the new edifice was laid on September 27, 1891 by Archbishop Michael Corrigan. Every German Catholic Society was represented. Many priests were present, including the former pastor, Fr. Eugene Dikovich.

Bishop Winand Wigger of Newark, NJ also attended with mixed emotions. He had been born in a small house directly opposite St. Francis Church, on the site occupied by the present Greeley Arcade at 134 West 31st Street. The demolished church had been the church of his childhood, and his brother had long served as a trustee of St. Francis parish.

A year later the new church was ready for dedication, and the solemnities were set for July 17, 1892. On that glorious Sunday morning, Archbishop Corrigan blessed the edifice and consecrated the three altars, after which Bishop Leo Haid, O.S.B., Vicar Apostolic of North Carolina and Praeses of the American Cassinese Congregation of the Benedictines, celebrated



a Solemn Pontifical Mass. Bishop Wigger, a former altar boy of St. Francis parish, preached the homily and after reviewing the history of the parish, exhorted the people to faithfully support the parish and all its wonderful good works.

The new St. Francis Church, dedicated in 1892.

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.

Bereavement Ministry Support Group

While grief is a very private experience, those 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.



A Bereavement Support Group will meet on eight Wednesdays from February 13 to April 3, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Please call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire. Interested persons should be at least three months into the grieving process. Pre-registration is required.

The Franciscan Challenge Q & A's

What is a Franciscan Friar?

The Franciscans, also called the Order of Friars Minor, are members of the the Catholic religious order founded by Saint Francis of Assisi over 800 years ago. We seek to follow the manner of life that Saint Francis led. Our Order is a mendicant religious order of men who depend on the charity of the people we serve for our livelihood. "Mendicant" come from the Latin word *mendicans*, or "begging."

This new order founded by Saint Francis was prompted by a need to reinvigorate the life of the Catholic Church. At the present time, the Franciscan Friars number 17,224 worldwide with over 500 novices or "friars in training."

Often you will see O.F.M. after a friar's name and wonder what it means. It stands for *Ordo Fratrum Minorum* or Order of Friars Minor, more commonly called the Franciscans.

What is a Franciscan Province?

A Franciscan Province is a geographic area of the country or world where the Friars of the province live and work. In a large country there may be several provinces.

What is Holy Name Province?

Holy Name Province is the largest of seven provinces in the United States belonging to the Franciscan Order. It covers the eastern seaboard with some locations beyond. The Provincial headquarters are located here at St. Francis Friary in New York City.



The Friars of Holy Name Province at a recent Chapter at Siena College.

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?

¡Aquí hay una solución posible!

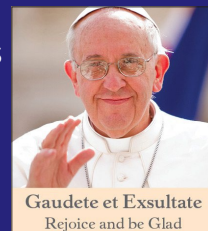
¡LEVANTENSE! es una campaña para proteger los derechos y el bienestar de los inmigrantes, especialmente los indocumentados. La campaña es confidencial, confiable y seguro. Para más información, contáctenos a standupimmigrants@gmail.com o 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

Gaudete et Exsultate:

Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis

Chapter 3: In the Light of the Master

We turn now to the individual beatitudes in the Gospel of Matthew: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."



The Gospel invites us to peer into the depths of our hearts to see where we find our security in life. Usually the rich find security in their wealth and think that if that wealth is threatened, the whole meaning of their earthly life can collapse. . . Wealth ensures nothing. Indeed, once we think we are rich, we can become so self-satisfied that we leave no room for God's word, for the love of our brothers and sisters or for the enjoyment of the most important things in life. In this way we miss out on the greatest treasure of all. That is why Jesus calls blessed those who are poor in spirit, those who have a poor heart, for there the Lord can enter with perennial newness.

Being poor of heart: that is holiness.

The Pastoral Staff at Saint Francis of Assisi

Staff Friars

William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Adult Education
wbeaudin@stfrancisnyc.org

Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M., Counseling Center & Spiritual Direction
jcavoto@stfrancisnyc.org

Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Director of Migrant Center
jjagudilla@stfrancisnyc.org

Michael Kim, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry
koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org

Paul Lostritto, O.F.M., Director of Franciscan Bread for the Poor
plostritto@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

John Felice, O.F.M.

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

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

Pastoral Associates

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries
maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org

Julie Berwick, Director of St. Francis Counseling Center
jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org

Chala Hill, F.H.M., Spiritual Direction
chill@stfrancisnyc.org

Caelestine Kim, O.S.B., Pastoral Associate, Korean Ministry
koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org

Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization
jnuzzi@stfrancisnyc.org

Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry
etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org

Administration

Carlos Farfan, Director of Finance
cfarfan@stfrancisnyc.org

Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office

Mass Intentions for the Week

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

If you would like to made a donation for the bread and wine or sanctuary lights, please go to the reception desk.

Saturday, January 12, 2019

- 8:00 AM Secular Institute of Missionaries of the Kingship of Christ (d.)
- 11:00 Fergus Smith & Family
- 4:00 PM Elizabeth Lindner (d.)
- 5:15 Franciscan Mass League

Sunday, January 13, 2019

- 8:00 AM Giuseppe LoVoi (d.)
- 9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
- 9:30 Una & Anna Smith
- 11:00 Orizana Bethel (d.)
- 12:30 PM Anna A. Wozniak (d.)
- 5:00 Anne McDermott & Family
- 6:15 Juline Dalmau, for healing

Monday, January 14, 2019

- 7:00 AM Sean Murray (d.)
- 7:45 In honor of the Blessed Trinity
- 8:30 Prior Family (d.)
- 11:30 Arthur Marikle (d.)
- 12:30 PM In honor of the Blessed Trinity
- 4:30 Mary Farrell (d.)
- 5:30 Mary Farrell (d.)

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

- 7:00 AM George Bartosh
- 7:45 Anna Maria Mulrennan (d.)
- 8:30 A. J. Chery, in thanksgiving
- 11:30 Souls in Purgatory
- 12:30 PM Thanksgiving to St. Anthony, Michael Azard
- 4:30 Souls in Purgatory
- 5:30 Karen Skoglund

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

- 7:00 AM Anna Zheng (d.)
- 7:45 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 8:30 Zutycy Dy (d.)
- 11:30 Jerry Rogish (d.)
- 12:30 PM Charite Pierre & Gregory Pantaleon (d.)
- 4:30 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 5:30 Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, January 17, 2019

- 7:00 AM Anna Zheng (d.)
- 7:45 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 8:30 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 11:30 Martha Fernandez
- 12:30 PM The Sick
- 4:30 Angelo Graziano (d.)
- 5:30 Priscila B. Liwanag (d.)

Friday, January 18, 2019

- 7:00 AM Anna Zheng (d.)
- 7:45 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 8:30 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 11:30 Benilda Elias & Daniela Tapia (d.)
- 12:30 PM Patricia Gorham
- 4:30 Anna Zheng (d.)
- 5:30 Dominic Huang (d.)



Saint Berard & Companions, First Martyrs of the Franciscan Order – January 16

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.



Is God calling you to be a Franciscan Friar?

Vocation Ministry of Holy Name Province • BeAFranciscan.org