

February 24, 2019

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Church of*  
**Saint Francis of Assisi**

*175 Years*  
1844 - 2019



Church of Saint Francis of Assisi  
135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001  
tel 212.736.8500 • [www.stfrancisnyc.org](http://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:**

A mosaic entitled "The Golden Rule" by American artist Norman Rockwell, was presented to the United Nations in 1985 as a gift by First Lady Nancy Reagan on behalf of the United States and is installed on the third floor of the conference building. The Mosaic depicts people of different nationalities, races and faiths standing together with the words "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" inscribed on it.

### **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



I believe that we are committed to the sentence from today's Gospel which says: "Do to others as you would have them do to you." But there's more to this than what most people do: "love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you" and "stop judging; forgive." These are some of the characteristics of those who seriously follow Jesus and it is challenging. Our first response and our natural inclinations are the opposite: "get even; get the upper hand; I'll show you." It takes a lot of humility to say, "I have a long way to go." We can all think of those times and places where our automatic response was far from what Jesus expects of us, but just because other people do not show a good attitude or are nasty or pushy or inconsiderate, does not mean that we cannot do better. Carry this Gospel with you this week: in your car, on the subway, on the street and I can guarantee this Gospel will speak to you. Jesus believes in us or else he wouldn't have given us the words in today's Gospel.

I wanted to share with you what the May 2020 Pilgrimage is about and why we are advertising it so early and taking reservations. The highlight of this Alpine tour is our attending the Passion Play in the town of Oberammergau, Germany. It is held every ten years and features a cast, an orchestra and a choir from this town. In 1634 the Black Plague was wiping out towns throughout Europe. The people of Oberammergau promised God that if they were spared, they would put on a Passion Play every ten years and so here we are at 2020. It is a six hour enactment of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ. There is a break after the first three hours for a dinner break and then back to the remainder of the play. This play draws people from throughout the world and the play runs only from May to September almost daily. This is why we are advertising and taking reservations now so that we will be guaranteed seats and a tour in addition. This is a beautiful part of Germany and Switzerland: the Rhine Valley, Lake Lucerne, Innsbruck, Salzburg and Munich in addition to the play. The price includes your flight, ground transportation, hotels, most meals, tickets to the play, and a tour guide. We'll arrange for daily Mass. Think about it, but don't wait too long to put down the required deposit.

*Fr. Andrew*

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.



## Adult Education at Saint Francis of Assisi

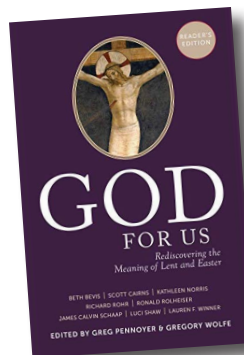
Although neither the weather nor the calendar indicate that Spring is in the air, Spring 2019 Adult Education courses have begun at the St. Francis Adult Education Center. You will find brochures at the entrances of the church that describe the 18 different programs the Center will be offering over the next several months. Course and registration information is also available on our website: [stfrancisnyc.org](http://stfrancisnyc.org).

Please note that 'Saints, Mystics and Martyrs: 20th Century Carmelite Women,' a course offered by Mary Gennuso, Ph.D. and listed in the brochure as a three-hour class beginning at 1:00 PM, is actually a six-hour class beginning at 9:00 AM on March 22.



## Book Review: *God for Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Lent and Easter*

Yes, Lent will soon be here. It is later than last year when Ash Wednesday was on Valentine's Day. The book, *God for Us*, is a collection of writings by various contemporary spiritual authors arranged



for each day of Lent. One of the writers says that "Lent...is not about becoming lost in feelings of brokenness, but about cleansing the palate so that we can taste life more fully. Lent and Easter reveal the God who is for us in all of life – for our liberation, for our healing, for our wholeness."

The book begins with an Introduction by the noted writer Ronald Rolheiser, a section on feasts and fasts of Lent, and an opening chapter on Shrove Tuesday. For each day of Lent, there is a commentary on the Scriptures and a prayer to fit the readings. This is a beautifully assembled source for anyone who wants to understand the season better and for inspiration for each day. *God for Us* is available in the lobby of the Parish House.

*Merciful and gracious is the Lord,  
slow to anger and  
abounding in kindness.*

Psalm 103:8

## Do No Harm

We listen quite a while before we get to the punch line of the first reading today: even though it would be an easy thing to do, David will not harm the anointed one of the Lord. We, of course, know that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one of God, but the Bible uses this term for many different people. It is scripture's way of indicating who has been chosen by God for a special place and mission in salvation history.

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents a greatly enlarged list of those who, as children of God, we should not harm, but love instead: our enemies, those who curse us or do us harm, those who owe us money, the ungrateful, the wicked. The point of Jesus' teaching is not to encourage these kinds of behaviors in others, but rather to form us in the image of our heavenly Father by increasing our opportunities to love unconditionally, expecting no return; to be merciful and forgiving, even when it would be easier not to.

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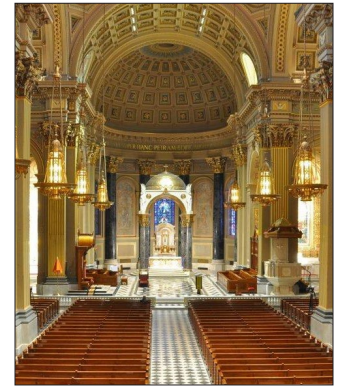
### Winter Session 40 Hour Immigration Course

- Based on the Immigrant Legal Resource Center curriculum using the 21st edition of *A Guide for Immigration Advocates*
- For those who work or volunteer for nonprofit organizations and for lawyers desiring to practice immigration law
- Non-lawyer participants who successfully complete the course will receive ILRC certificates
- 42 CLE credits (including 4 ethics credits) for New York attorneys approved by the New York Continuing Legal Education Board
- Scholarship and tuition discounts are available especially for staff and volunteers of nonprofit organizations
- Tuition assistance based on financial hardship is available for licensed attorneys
- 14 Tuesdays from February 26 to June 25, 2019, 6:00-9:00 PM
- Place: San Damiano Hall, 129 West 31st Street
- Tuition: \$750.00 (includes the 2-volume 21st edition of *A Guide for Immigration Advocates* which normally costs \$350)

For more information and to register, contact The Migrant Center at St. Francis of Assisi (212-736-8500, Ext. 305) or email Rhodora Ratera at [rrarterta@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:rrarterta@stfrancisnyc.org).

## One-Day Pilgrimage to Philadelphia

The Ugnayan Filipino Ministry is sponsoring a one-day pilgrimage to Philadelphia on Saturday, March 30, 2019 to visit the National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal and the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. The cost of the pilgrimage is \$60, due by Friday, March 15. You can register at the reception desk in the lobby of the Parish House. For more information, please contact Zeny at 718-672-0596, Princess at 347-850-3558, or Carla at 718-503-4637.



### Alpine Europe *with* The Passion Play of Oberammergau

11 Days: May 16-26, 2020

visiting

Heidelberg • Rhine Valley • Lucerne • Innsbruck • Salzburg  
Altötting • Marktl Am Inn • Munich • Rothenburg

hosted by

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

\$3,959 per person from New York

For a brochure and more information, please contact  
Fr. Andrew at 212-736-8500 or email [areitz@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:areitz@stfrancisnyc.org)





## 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](mailto: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!

¡LEVÁNTENSE! 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](mailto: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

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

This beatitude makes us think of the many endless situations of war in our world. Yet we ourselves are often a cause of conflict or at least misunderstanding. For example, I may hear something about someone and I go off and repeat it. I may even embellish it the second time around and keep spreading it... The world of gossip...does not bring peace. Such people are really enemies of peace...

Peacemakers truly "make" peace; they build peace and friendship in society... The word of God exhorts every believer to work for peace... And if there are times in our community when we question what ought to be done, "let us pursue what makes for peace."

It is not easy to "make" this evangelical peace... It is hard work: it calls for great openness of mind and heart...it must "face conflict head-on, resolve it and make it a link in the chain of a new process." We need to be artisans of peace, for building peace is a craft that demands serenity, creativity, sensitivity and skill. Sowing peace all around us: That is holiness.

## *The Pastoral Staff at Saint Francis of Assisi*

### Staff Friars

William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Adult Education

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Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M., Counseling Center & Spiritual Direction

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David McBriar, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

John McVean, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

Andrew Reitz, O.F.M., Pastor

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Brian Smail, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Spiritual Direction

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### 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 & Administration

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries

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Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office

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Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry

[etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org)

## 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 Victorina Powers; and in memory of Victor Manuel Cervantes from the Cervantes Family.

The Sanctuary Lights have been given for the intentions of Ambassador B. A. Umayan Family, and in memory of Louie Pook from Benjamin Umayam.

### Saturday, February 23, 2019

8:00 AM Jackie Matthew & James McDevitt  
11:00 Anne Bevin, Anne McDermott & Fam.  
4:00 PM Kathleen Harris  
5:15 Amani & Jemina Stroude

### Sunday, February 24, 2019

8:00 AM Souls in Purgatory  
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community  
9:30 Edna Thomas, in thanksgiving  
11:00 Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M.  
12:30 PM Residents of Roseland, 22nd Street  
5:00 Vladimir Shckeglov & Family  
6:15 Franciscan Mass League

### Monday, February 25, 2019

7:00 AM For our son & daughter-in-law  
7:45 Kenneth G. Sullivan (d.)  
8:30 St. Jude Novena  
11:30 Kieran Brennan (d.)  
12:30 PM John Watson (d.)  
4:30 Thanksgiving to St. Anthony  
5:30 Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

### Tuesday, February 26, 2019

7:00 AM Frank McPartland (d.)  
7:45 In honor of Infant Jesus  
8:30 St. Jude Novena  
11:30 ZJ, VJ & Miko & Jean  
12:30 PM Angelo Ferrante (d.)  
4:30 Eric A. Rivera (d.)  
5:30 Thanksgiving to St. Anthony

### Wednesday, February 27, 2019

7:00 AM Conrado Crisostomo (d.)  
7:45 Teresita Luna (d.)  
8:30 St. Jude Novena  
11:30 Magdalena Vallozzi (d.)  
12:30 PM Marie C. Barbera (d.)  
4:30 Sr. Pat Murphy & Fr. Sandro Bigi (d.)  
5:30 Kieran Daly (d.)

### Thursday, February 28, 2019

7:00 AM Maria LaFranca (d.)  
7:45 Guilaïne Evariste, in thanksgiving  
8:30 St. Jude Novena  
11:30 Raymond & Kathleen Gillette (d.)  
12:30 PM The Sick  
4:30 Thomas & Edith Castellana (d.)  
5:30 Jesus Sala (d.)

### Friday, March 1, 2019

7:00 AM Nicholas & Maria Avansino (d.)  
7:45 María del Pilar Blanco (d.)  
8:30 St. Jude Novena  
11:30 Estanislao Morales & All Deceased  
12:30 PM Madeline Serluco (d.)  
4:30 Guilaïne Evariste  
5:30 Dec. Members of Drury, Neenan, Cuellar, Ayala Family



## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:youngadults@stfrancisnyc.org).



**Is God calling you to be a Franciscan Friar?**

Vocation Ministry of Holy Name Province • [BeAFranciscan.org](http://BeAFranciscan.org)