



Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi

175 Years
1844 - 2019

March 24, 2019

Third Sunday of Lent

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.

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: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

On the cover:

A Byzantine mosaic of Moses and the burning bush from the Book of Exodus (3:1-6), the first reading for the Third Sunday of Lent (C). This mosaic is located in St. Catherine's Monastery in Mt. Sinai, Egypt, built on the site where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God. The altar of the church is said to be built over the roots of the burning bush.

The Pastor's Corner



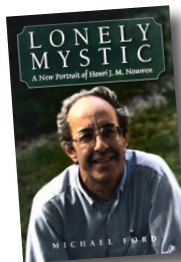
On this Third Sunday of Lent we hear the parable about the fig tree that had not yielded any fruit for three years. The natural response is to cut it down, but the gardener asks for another year when he will cultivate the ground and fertilize it and hopefully, it will bear fruit. All parables are meant to teach us something. What about God's dealing with us? How patient or impatient is God with us? We all have moments of insight and "ah ha" experiences. We may lose patience with ourselves, but God deals with us differently. Remember the Scripture passage in which God says "my ways are not your ways and my thoughts are not your thoughts." In our prayer we try to put ourselves "in line" with God and have God's view and patience. This is not easy for us. This is part of our Lenten homework.

Fr. Andrew

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

Book Review: *Lonely Mystic*

This new book about the famous spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, was written by Michael Ford, who has done much journalism about



Nouwen and other spiritual masters. Nouwen died in 1996 and a lot has been written about him; Ford approaches Nouwen from the point of view of his being a modern mystic. Ford uses interviews, personal friends, and conversations that have never been used before. He deals with the following elements in Nouwen's writings and life: the depth of the writings, his tensions, his

being a spiritual artist, his woundedness, and his holiness. The book is filled with many new insights about Nouwen, creating an even deeper appreciation of this man. If you like Nouwen, you will appreciate this book. It is available in the Lobby of the Parish House.

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.



Have Mercy, O God, in Your Kindness: Solemn Lenten Vespers

Thursday, March 28, 2019 • 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Instruction and celebration come together in a "lecture-demonstration" of Solemn Vespers, one of the pillars of the official prayer of the Church. The evening will include an introduction to the Lenten season, to the Jewish and Christian dimensions of the psalms we will be singing, and to the music we will be performing in praise of God "whose mercy endures forever."

A Lenten Afternoon of Prayer

Saturday, April 6, 2019 • 2:00 – 5:00 PM

San Damiano Hall

Is our cross too small? The central symbol of our Christian faith is often reduced physically to a trinket, spiritually to an object of private devotion, and theologically to the appeasement of an angry God demanding satisfaction for sin. As a preparation for Passiontide, Fr. William will offer two retreat conferences that will widen and deepen your perspective on the crucifixion of Jesus.

Facilitator: Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M.

Fee: \$15.00

Encounter: From the Heart of Pope Francis

Friday, April 12, 2019 • 7:30 PM • Upper Church

By his words and actions, Pope Francis compels the global Church to a radically renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ. *Encounter: From the Heart of Pope Francis* animates this call in song, story, and prayer, inviting us to risk stepping toward Jesus in both the blessing and the bruising of daily life. *Encounter* takes us to the front lines of God's field hospital, calling us to a revolution of tenderness in a world desperate for healing and hope.

Join renowned composers Tony Alonso and Chris DeSilva, together with the widely acclaimed preacher, Monsignor Ray East, along with our director of music, Meredith Augustin, and our music ministry for this powerful event.

For tickets go to stfrancisnyc.org/encounter2019; \$20 online, \$25 at the door.

Collections for February 2018 & 2019

February 2018

Offertory Sunday Collections in church:	\$39,045
Online Sunday Collections:	8,455
Total Sunday Collections:	47,500
Total Weekday Collections (including Ash Wednesday):	22,788
Total Sundays and Weekdays:	70,288
Budgeted for January 2018:	85,000
Difference	-14,712

February 2019

Offertory Sunday Collections in church:	\$33,332
Online Sunday Collections:	14,908
Total Sunday Collections:	48,240
Total Weekday Collections:	15,104
Total Sundays and Weekdays:	63,344
Budgeted for January 2019:	90,000
Difference	-26,656

2019 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal

Goal for St. Francis Church: \$113,500

Amount Pledged as of March 15: \$23,166 (last week: \$20,720)

Number of Gifts: 81

Number of Potential Givers: 1,750

The gifts received this past week ranged from \$25 to \$2,000. All gifts are appreciated and if all of the potential givers contribute \$25 or more, our total will add up quickly. Envelopes are available at the entrances of the church. Help us reach our goal!

STAND UP, IMMIGRANTS! BUILD THE NETWORK

A Network of Information, Support & Protection of Immigrants



Are you without immigration status?

STAND UP! is a campaign to protect the rights and welfare of immigrants, especially the undocumented. 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?

¡LEVÁNTENSE! es una campaña para proteger los derechos y el bienestar de los inmigrantes, especialmente los indocumentados. Contáctenos a standupimmigrants@gmail.com o 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.



St. Francis Volunteers Retreat: A Look Back

On February 15, 2019, 28 adventurous Catholics from St. Francis of Assisi bravely crossed the Hudson River and traveled to the "wilds" of Central New Jersey for a weekend of prayer and community. The event marked the St. Francis Volunteer Retreat at the Loyola Jesuit Center in the quaint hamlet of Morristown, New Jersey. The center is located on the sprawling former estate of the Foote Family, replete with mahogany and marble staircases, crystal chandeliers, English gardens, and outdoor Stations of the Cross – all majestically set on 30 acres of woodland. Loyola provided the perfect backdrop for spiritual renewal and reflection for the dynamic group of "cityfied" parishioners.

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M. presided over Morning and Evening Prayer, a Reconciliation Service, and Sunday Mass. Music was provided by Eric Sweeney, a member of the St. Francis Choir. The retreat was organized by Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization at St. Francis, with the goal of gathering together volunteers from the RCIA, Young Adult, Liturgical, Hospitality, LGBTQ, Migrant Center, and Filipino ministries at St. Francis.

The weekend's theme was "Passing the Baton of Faith." Joe, assisted by Fr. Andrew, Ed Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry, and Jennifer Wiler (RCIA and Young Adult team member), asked those gathered to reflect in their journals and their small groups on their journey of Faith. Share how the faith came to you. Who are the people who have helped you come to know God and Christ? Who do you take inspiration from today? How grounded do you feel in your faith right now?

As the weekend came to an end, the mood of participants was joyful and inspired. New friendships had been born, and camaraderie was high. We were reminded that through each other – our community of Faith – we can find strength and hope to face whatever challenges life may bring. Our task is to continue to pass the baton of our Faith forward as others have done for us. We left the idyllic landscape and returned to the "concrete jungle" that many in attendance call "home," full of the love of Christ and resolute in our mission to embody His Word. Until next year, that is!

Monika Mitchell (RCIA team member)

To see more photos, go to our website, stfrancisnyc.org.

Gaudete et Exsultate:
Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis
Chapter 3: In the Light of the Master

We often hear it said that with respect to relativism and the flaws of our present world that the situation of migrants, for example, is a lesser one. Some Catholics consider it a secondary issue. . . the only proper attitude is to stand in the shoes of those brothers and sisters of ours who risk their lives to offer a future to their children.

Can we not realize that this is exactly what Jesus demands of us when he tells us that in welcoming the stranger, we welcome him. . . (we read) in the Old Testament: "You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you yourselves were strangers in the land of Egypt." "When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress him. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

This is not a notion invented by some pope or a momentary fad. In today's world too we are called to follow the path of spiritual wisdom proposed by the prophet Isaiah to show what is pleasing to God: "Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn."

Easter Flower Memorials



The flowers and plants that will decorate our church at Easter are a sign of our joy in the Resurrection of Christ and our hope in the resurrection of those who have gone before us. We invite you to remember deceased members of your family and friends with a donation for our Easter decorations.

Please fill out this form and return it with your offering to the reception desk. **The names of those received by Friday, April 12 will be included in the Easter bulletin of April 21.**

Please print clearly.

In Memory of:

From: _____

Address: _____

Email (phone no. if no email)

Donation: \$10 ____ \$20 ____ \$30 ____ Other: _____

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

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
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Julie Berwick, Director of St. Francis Counseling Center
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Carlos Farfan, Director of Finance
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Chala Hill, F.H.M., Spiritual Direction
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Caelestine Kim, O.S.B., Pastoral Associate, Korean Ministry
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Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization
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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 Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory Thomas Powers, Sr., from Victorina Powers;

The Sanctuary Lights have been given in memory of Richard Mercandetti.

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

Saturday, March 23, 2019

8:00 AM Thomas & Edith Castellana (d.)
11:00 Daisy, in thanksgiving
4:00 PM Artemas Beattie (d.)
5:15 Kathleen Harris

Sunday, March 24, 2019

8:00 AM Elvira & Katherine
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
9:30 Franciscan Mass League
11:00 Thomas Bittman (d.)
12:30 PM Ifeoma Ohakam (d.)
5:00 John Curran (d.)
6:15 Richard Wolford (d.)

Monday, March 25, 2019

7:00 AM Arthur & Mary Bazzurro (d.)
7:45 Donald G. Terry (d.)
8:30 St. Jude Novena
11:30 Yolanda Fonseca (d.)
12:30 PM Rosa Durangparang Tan (d.)
4:30 Raymond Ciekiewicz (d.)
5:30 Silvia Monge (d.)



The Annunciation of the Lord, March 25

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

7:00 AM Peter Jiang (d.)
7:45 Fr. William Hayes, O.F.M. (d.)
8:30 St. Jude Novena
11:30 Melba Madamba (d.)
12:30 PM Minerva Magadia (d.)
4:30 Eric A. Rivera (d.)
5:30 Maria Cortez (d.)

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

7:00 AM Peter Jiang (d.)
7:45 Melodie Wong
8:30 St. Jude Novena
11:30 Corazon Cruz Felipe
12:30 PM Dony Ran Mendoza (d.)
4:30 Christopher Temple (d., anniversary)
5:30 Eily Breen

Thursday, March 28, 2019

7:00 AM Virginia Webbersen (d.)
7:45 Lynne Tuohy
8:30 St. Jude Novena
11:30 Pablo D. Balagot (d.)
12:30 PM The Sick
4:30 Rosario Collado, 70th birthday
5:30 Stella Sala (d.)

Friday, March 29, 2019

7:00 AM Eva Agueda J. Carreon
7:45 Emma Avecilla
8:30 St. Jude Novena
11:30 Maria DeMasi (d.)
12:30 PM Marie C. Barbera (d.)
4:30 Marie Felicia Renelus (d.)
5:30 Dorothy Legowski (d.)

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