

God is not God of the dead, but of
the living, for to him all are alive.

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
The Heart of New York

November 10, 2019

Thirty-Second 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.



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

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

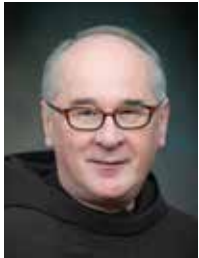
Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

Summer hours: 9:00 - 11:15 AM; 1:00 - 4:15 PM

On the cover

A field of poppies in full bloom. © Depositphotos.com.

The Pastor's Corner



I have always been amused by today's Gospel story about the woman who was married to seven brothers and there were no children from any of the marriages. Tragic that there were no children, but amused at the story itself. Life after this life is something we all wonder about, but we do not know what God has prepared for us. I myself have heard from a number of people in hospitals who had "near death experiences." They all mentioned seeing one or more of their loved ones either beckoning them to come forward or sending them back. They also described a feeling of peacefulness. There are a number of books written about the same subject; they all said basically the same thing about their experiences at that "near death" time. Interesting and enlightening.

Today, I am with 42 of our St. Francis Pilgrims in France. Saturday morning we had Mass at the Basilique Notre Dame de Fourviere. In 1643, the people in the town of Annecy asked the Virgin Mary to intercede for the town to be spared from the black plague. In thanksgiving, they built this basilica dedicated to her. We then toured Tours, stopping at historical sites. On Sunday, we will be going to the Chateau Cenonceaux, then to Chateau Amboise and later Mass at the Basilique de St. Martin. Tomorrow we travel to the famous Chartres Cathedral with its magnificent stained glass windows that were not destroyed during World War. We will be going to the Normandy Beaches and have Mass at the American Cemetery there. We pray for you each day at Mass.

Fr. Andrew

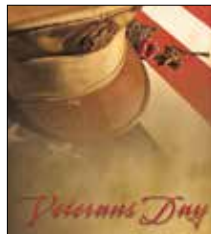
Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.



Collection for Military Archdiocese

A special collection will be taken this weekend at all Masses for the Archdiocese for the Military Services which provides for the spiritual and sacramental needs of all the members of the United States Armed Forces, embassy staffs around the world, and their families. While the salaries and retirement of military chaplains are paid for by the government, the AMS receives no funding from the military or the government in support of programs and services vital to the mission and ministry of its mission. This triennial collection helps to support these services.

Veterans Day Observance



The Church of St. Francis of Assisi will observe Veterans Day on **Monday, November 11th**, with one Mass at **11:30 AM**. There will be no confessions and the church offices will be closed for the day.

We offer our thanks and appreciation to all those who have served our country in the armed forces, especially those who were injured in the line of duty. May your bravery and courage not go unrewarded!

Book Review: *God, Where Are You?*

The Italian author Fr. Enzo Bianchi provides insights to the timeless question, "God, where are you?" He sheds light on this question by



going to the Scriptures and shows how a number of Old Testament figures such as Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Elijah, and Isaiah wrestled with this question. He does this to show how the action of God has a history, but is also present in the here and now. He brings these Old Testament figures to life and allows us to enter into their dilemmas. Bianchi concludes with a

final chapter on God the creator of the universe, God dwelling in his people and God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ. Having read this book, you will come to a deeper understanding of the various ways that God has been present throughout the history of humanity. The book is available in the lobby of the Parish House.

Saint Martin of Tours (c.316-397)

"I am a soldier of Christ. It is not lawful for me to fight." With these words Martin of Tours identified himself as a saint of peace. How fitting that his feast day on November 11 has become a celebration of peace and a day of thanksgiving for its blessings!

Martin's parents were pagans. They lived in Pannonia, in what would later become the nation of Hungary. After he became a catechumen at the age of ten, Martin's parents would not allow him to be baptized. His father was a soldier. At that time, Roman law required that sons follow their father's line of work. So Martin had to join the army. He served in Gaul for three years.

According to a legend, as a young officer he met a shivering beggar on a cold, snowy evening. On a kind impulse he cut his military cloak in two and gave the beggar half. Afterward he had a vision of Christ wrapped in the cloak. Then Martin decided to be baptized.

Later, when a barbarian invasion threatened, Martin made his famous statement of peace. He was speaking to the emperor at the time. Today we would call him a conscientious objector. Centuries later, in the 1980's, the Catholic bishops of the United States wrote a teaching letter on peace. They mentioned Martin as an example of someone with the courage to refuse to do violence.

Martin laid down his weapons and spent the rest of his life as a soldier for Christ. Because of his generous life and the miracles of compassion that he worked, people all over Gaul became Christian.

Martin was made bishop of the city of Tours. He visited every parish in the large diocese every year. When he was dying, the people begged him not to leave them. Ever the soldier, Martin prayed, "Lord, if your people still need me, let me stay with them. But surely I have already fought long enough." Then he died peacefully.

Until that time only martyrs had been celebrated as saints. Martin was so loved that he became the first person who was not a martyr to be honored as a saint. His day is known as Martinmas. It became a great harvest festival. Because Tours was located on a trade route, the fame of St. Martin was carried all over Europe. Pilgrims came in great numbers to visit his grave.

Mary Ellen Hynes: *Companion to the Calendar*; © 1993, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications.



A stained glass window in the Cluny Museum in Paris which shows Saint Martin cutting his cloak in half to clothe a naked beggar.

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

What happens after we die? Most religions and philosophies provide some notion of this, but we are confounded by the mystery of it all. Today's readings give us a glimpse through the faith of martyrs and in the words of Jesus. In the Old Testament reading, the Maccabee brothers assert with total confidence that the God who gave them life would also raise them to eternal life. This was not universally accepted in ancient Israel. The Sadducees, who denied any resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus with a hypothetical riddle. Jesus, known for turning such things around, dismisses their unbelief, noting that even Moses knew that all are alive in God. Saint Paul tells the Thessalonians that we live in everlasting encouragement and hope, and Psalm 17 echoes this with words of faith that we will see God's face, waking in God's loving presence.

Who wants to live forever?

In November, with All Hallows at the beginning of the month, our thoughts and prayers turn to those saints and souls who have gone before us. Gone where, though? Truth is, we don't know. Scripture makes many statements about life after death, but all notions of the afterlife require faith and hope. Today's Gospel from Luke has Jesus speaking comforting words about life after death – the righteous becoming children of God, like angels.

The hero-martyrs of our Old Testament reading about the Maccabees provide early examples of faith in the resurrection of the dead. They hold steadfast in their faith, being willing to die rather than violate their God's law. Their frighteningly brutal story of hope might seem foolish to some, but we are all well aware of modern-day examples of men and women who have suffered rather than betray their beliefs.

We can only imagine

In the days of Jesus, belief in the resurrection of the dead had not achieved universal acceptance. In fact, the Sadducees in today's Gospel were staunch resurrection deniers and tried to trick Jesus. Turning the tables, Jesus states that Moses in the distant past believed that the God of our ancestors in faith is truly God of the living, and that all are alive to God, whether still living or dead. Death is just a phase, a doorway, maybe a tesseract. We really don't know. Jesus reassures us that those are unnecessary concerns for the faithful, just as the specifics of worldly life will no longer be relevant. Not only will our earthly bodies be changed, but all that we knew from mortal existence – all marriage, all family, all relationships – will be transformed in ways we can't possibly imagine. All that we have will be ours again. So we should stop worrying and live so as to be worthy of whatever comes next, for when we are embraced in the eternal love-feast of glorified existence with God, our joy will indeed be full.

© J. S. Paluch Co.

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.

Open Wide Our Hearts, A Pastoral Letter on Racism from the United States Catholic Bishops

For a nation to be just, it must be a society that recognizes and respects the legitimate rights of individuals and peoples. These rights precede any society because they flow from the dignity granted each person created by God. We are reminded of this fundamental truth in the earliest passages of the book of Genesis: "God created mankind in his image; In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

Pope Benedict XVI noted: "As a spiritual being, the human creature is defined through interpersonal relations. The more authentically he or she lives these relations, the more his or her own personal identity matures. It is not by isolation that (a person) establishes his/her worth, but by placing her/himself in relations with others and with God." "We are meant to love God with our whole being, which then overflows into love for our neighbor, "Whoever loves God must love his/her brother/sister."

(to be continued)

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

cfarfan@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

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. Puangco; 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 Ambassador Bartolome Umagam and for Bernadat Desmoulins.

If you would like to make a donation for bread and wine used at Masses each week, please go to the reception desk.

Saturday, November 9, 2019

8:00 AM Paul Robert Anthony (d., anniversary)
11:00 Secular Institute of Missionaries of the Kingship of Christ (d.)
4:00 PM Kathleen Harris
5:15 John Timulty (d.)

Sunday, November 10, 2018

8:00 AM Richard Paul Kim
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
9:30 Martin Macapugay (d.)
11:00 Srecko Miskic (d.)
12:30 PM Franciscan Mass League
5:00 Lourdes L. Sievert (d.)
6:15 Jim Levin (d.)

Monday, November 11, 2019

Veterans Day

11:30 Katherine Miranda & Family

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

7:00 Katherine Miranda & Family
7:45 Lourdes Cabutin-Ligon (d., 1st anniv.)
8:30 Vincenzo J. Barbera (d.)
11:30 José Luna (d.)
12:30 PM Esperanza J. Carreon
4:30 Larry & Cynthia Gordon
5:30 Elizabeth C. Weese (d.)

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

7:00 AM Katherine Miranda & Family
7:45 Eileen Collins (d.)
8:30 Gerard Dominic Dee (d.)
11:30 Evonne Jewelyn Suratos
12:30 PM Edith Kai (d.)
4:30 Irene Maddocks (d.)
5:30 Steve Francis Jules (d.)

Thursday, November 14, 2019

7:00 Katherine Miranda & Family
7:45 Ginevra & Francesco Marino (d.)
8:30 Mary Ellen & Robert Walsh (d.)
11:30 Rosie Quashic (d.)
12:30 PM The Sick
4:30 Yeck Family (d.)
5:30 Thomas & Joan Gillbride (D.)

Friday, November 15, 2019

7:00 Arthur & Mary Bazzurro (d.)
7:45 Katherine Miranda & Family
8:30 V. J. John (d.)
11:30 Maria Correale (d.)
12:30 PM Tommy O'Brien (d.)
4:30 John Family (d.)
5:30 Bishop Paul Moore (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.

