



For you who fear my name, there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays.  
*Malachi 3:20a*

*Church of*  
**Saint Francis of Assisi**  
*The Heart of New York*

November 17, 2019

Thirty-Third 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](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.

### Safe Environment Program

The mission of the Archdiocese of New York's "Safe Environment Program" is to prevent and respond to any incidents of child sexual abuse. We are dedicated to insure the safety of children and young people who have been entrusted to our care in our parishes, schools, religious education classes, and other programs. To report an incident of child sexual abuse, go to: <https://archny.org/safe-environment-program>, or email the director at [emechmann@archny.org](mailto:emechmann@archny.org).

### 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



As we approach the end of the church's year, we hear Scripture readings about the end of time and how it will happen. The Gospel is particularly frightening: "Nation will rise against nation . . . There will be powerful earthquakes, famines and plagues. . ."

As we look around at our world situation, we see many of these very things happening now. How should we react? The last sentence in the Gospel is helpful: "By your perseverance you will secure your lives." Yes, perseverance is what is called for during these times. We are called to deepen our faith, become a steadfast disciple, and resist reacting to day to day events with fear. St. Paul tells us to stay busy and avoid "minding the business of others."

Our St. Francis Pilgrimage to France concluded Saturday as we boarded our plane at the Charles de Gaulle Airport. The day before, on our last day in Paris, we had a full day to visit the sights: the art galleries, the churches and even Notre-Dame Cathedral from the outside. Our final Mass was at Medaille Miraculeuse, the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. Earlier in the week we celebrated Mass at the American Cemetery at the Normandy Beaches, at the Basilica of St. Therese in Lisieux, and at the Basilica of Sacré Coeur in Paris. All beautiful and inspiring churches. We thank God for the blessings we received on this pilgrimage. It is good to be home.

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

## Getting Ready for Advent & Christmas!

Thanks go to Fr. Michael Carnevale, John Bosco Peraza and Chris Peraza for their hard work renovating the lobby of the parish



house which will soon be filled with books and items for Advent and Christmas. Advent begins on December 1. There will be Advent wreaths, Advent calendars,

and a selection of Advent Books with daily readings and activities. Advent is such a beautiful season and it is easy to "get lost" in the shopping and activities that fill this time of the year. Plan ahead – take each day of Advent a day at a time. We will also have wonderful Christmas items and Nativity sets from various countries around the world.



## Collection for Charity and Justice

Next weekend, November 23-24, a special collection will be received for The Campaign for Charity and Justice. This is an initiative to revitalize and increase Catholic Charities' support for the charitable and social justice work of parishes and community groups. The funds raised through this annual collection will provide grants that support local projects that meet local needs, particularly those of our poor and vulnerable neighbors.

## News from the St. Francis Knitters

The St. Francis Knitters are accepting **new** hand-made or purchased hats. They are also accepting donations of yarn (dark colors are preferred). All donations can be dropped off at the reception desk in the lobby of the Parish House. Would you like to join them? New members are always welcome. Just send an email to Nancy Zavoluk at nanzavoluk@aol.com.



## Book Review: *The Meaning Is in the Waiting: the Spirit of Advent*

Advent will begin in just a few weeks. This is a fitting book to read as one goes through the weeks of Advent., with one chapter for each week of the season. In the Introduction, author Paula Gooder, a writer and lecturer in Biblical Studies, writes: "If we want



to appreciate Advent fully, we need to relearn how to wait, to rediscover the art of savoring the future, of staying in the present and of finding meaning in the act of waiting." We hate to wait. We are an "instant" people.

Gooder talks about learning to live in the present moment and how the "now" in our lives is important. To help us do so, she turns to figures in the Scriptures who are models for us and show us the "waiting" that was part of their lives, and what it meant to them. Abraham and Sarah, the prophets, John the Baptist and Mary are shown during their times of "waiting". Each chapter is filled with many references to Scripture and concludes with a timely reflection.

*The Meaning Is in the Waiting* is available in the lobby of the Parish House.

## Saint Cecilia, Martyr

Cecilia probably was martyred sometime during the third century. The earliest information about her, a writing from the late fourth century, refers to a church that was named after her. The church had been Cecilia's home, so she probably was a person of wealth.

Later legends portray Cecilia as a young woman of a noble Christian family in Rome. Against her wishes, she was given in marriage to a young pagan named Valerius, who later became a Christian. Valerius and his brother were arrested while burying martyrs, and then they, too, were martyred. Cecilia buried them but was caught. Because she was a noble, the authorities put her under house arrest instead of throwing her into prison. An executioner came to her home and struck her with a sword.

It was said that on her wedding day, while the musicians played, she "sang in her heart to Christ" in prayer. Perhaps this is why she has been considered the patron saint of musicians. When the Academy of Music was founded in Rome in the sixteenth century, it was named for her. To this day, many choirs and music societies bear St. Cecilia's name. Her remembrance day on November 22 has become a celebration of music and song.

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



*Martyrdom of Saint Cecilia*, sculpted by Stefano Maderno 1600, is a depiction of the martyred saint in the Church of Santa Cecilia in the Trastevere section of Rome.



*Saint Cecilia with an Angel* by Orazio Gentileschi (1563-1639) in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.

## Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we prepare for next Sunday's feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, we hear descriptions of dire and catastrophic events. Sometimes it seems as though we ourselves are living in the end times, when life as we currently know it will cease for everyone. In answer to what must have been a fearful question, Jesus does not sugarcoat his foretelling of future days. Nor does the Old Testament prophet Malachi flinch from his pronouncements upon an evil world. Saint Paul, still writing to the Thessalonians, warns them prophetically against succumbing to "The End Is Near" syndrome – indolence in the face of the final days. However, both Jesus and Malachi speak of the recompense for living a just life – healing and vindication. Our Psalm 98, typically associated with Christmastime, helps us to rejoice for the King who is coming to rule with justice.

### Apocalypse Then

There is a natural tendency in human nature to wonder about the future. We look for reassurances from psychics that all shall be well as we wander from cradle to grave (although we don't really want to know about that last part). But what if the predictions are not all rainbows and cherubim? The words of the prophet Malachi (possibly not his name) seem to embody the age-old concept of a "fire and brimstone" preacher in his warnings to the post-Exile Israelites, who were living as though they had either forgotten the Covenant or just didn't care anymore. We might know how that feels – when life has become so painful that we turn to the "lesser gods" of hedonism and self-medication.

### Apocalypse Now and Later

If we thought that Malachi's images were upsetting, the words of Jesus in the Gospel today are downright terrifying. He is trying to steel his followers for life in this vale of tears, especially the life of righteousness. His followers want to know when, how, where. But Jesus describes a general state of chaos and troubles, not giving any real data about their future. That's the point, isn't it? Even the most casual observer of history in those days could probably remember many instances of the earth in disorder as described by Jesus. There are wars, earthquakes, and persecutions in every age. The life of a disciple of Jesus is a constant state of bringing light into a dark world. As Saint Paul scolds the Thessalonians because they had seemingly given up in expectation of the Apocalypse, Jesus admonishes his followers that discipleship requires always being ready and always remaining true to the mission.

And so, in light of these warnings, how do we sing our Psalm 98 song of praise in a land of fear and trembling about the future? It is our joyful confidence that the Lord comes to rule with justice and equity – not only in the future, but always.

© J. S. Paluch Co.





**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.



**¿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.

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

Although our nation has moved forward in a number of ways against racial discrimination, we have lost ground in others. Despite significant progress in civil law with regard to racism, social realities indicate a need for further catechesis to facilitate conversion of hearts. Too many good and faithful Catholics remain unaware of the connection between institutional racism and the continued erosion of the sanctity of life. We are not finished with the work. The evil of racism festers in part because, as a nation, there has been very limited formal acknowledgment of the harm done to so many, no moment of atonement, no national process of reconciliation and, all too often a neglect of our history. Many of our institutions still harbor, and too many of our laws still sanction, practices that deny justice and equal access to certain groups of people. God demands more from us. We cannot, therefore, look upon the progress against racism in recent decades and conclude that our current situation meets the standard of justice. In fact, God demands what is right and just.

*(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](mailto:wbeaudin@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Michael Carnevale, O.F.M.
- Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M., Counseling Center & Spiritual Direction  
[jcavoto@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jcavoto@stfrancisnyc.org)
- John Felice, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
- Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Director of Migrant Center  
[jjagudilla@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jjagudilla@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Brian Jordan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
- Michael Kim, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry  
[koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto: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](mailto:areitz@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Timothy Shreenan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Liturgy  
[tshreenan@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:tshreenan@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Brian Smail, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Spiritual Direction  
[bsmail@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto: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](mailto:maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Julie Berwick, Director of St. Francis Counseling Center  
[jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Carlos Farfan, Director of Finance  
[cfarfan@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:cfarfan@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Chala Hill, F.H.M., Spiritual Direction  
[chill@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:chill@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Caelestine Kim, O.S.B., Pastoral Associate, Korean Ministry  
[koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:koreanministry@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization  
[jnuzzi@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jnuzzi@stfrancisnyc.org)
- Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office  
[development@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:development@stfrancisnyc.org)
- 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 in honor of Melissa Louis from Lorna Louis; for the intentions of Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers.

The Sanctuary Lights have been given for the Souls in Purgatory.

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 16, 2019

8:00 AM Andrew & Evelyn Wozniak (d.)  
11:00 Bessie Santiago (d.)  
4:00 PM Nancy Baldante (d.)  
5:15 Kathleen Harris



Sunday, November 17, 2018

8:00 AM Michael John Perez (d.)  
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community  
9:30 Terry Leach (d.)  
11:00 Mary Louise Ramirez (d.)  
12:30 PM Edna Irizarry (d.)  
5:00 Franciscan Mass League  
6:15 Sadie Darensbourg (d.)

Monday, November 18, 2019

7:00 Arthur & Mary Bazzurro (d.)  
7:45 Elizabeth C. Weese (d.)  
8:30 St. Anthony Novena  
11:30 Madeline Novak (d.)  
12:30 PM Marie A. Brennock (d.)  
4:30 Maximo Luna (d.)  
5:30 Frank Reilly (d.)

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

7:00 Lucille D'Anna (d.)  
7:45 Alexander J. Lapinski (d.)  
8:30 St. Anthony Novena  
11:30 The Dennis Family  
12:30 PM Corneilia Helendez  
4:30 Carlina Apolinaris Acevedo (d.)  
5:30 Exilda Aranguren (d.)

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:00 AM St. Michael's Russian Byzantine Community  
7:45 Anne Marie Simplicie (d.)  
8:30 St. Anthony Novena  
11:30 Jeff Hymans  
12:30 PM Helen Mitera (d.)  
4:30 Liliana Lopez (d.)  
5:30 John Sng (d.)

Thursday, November 21, 2019

7:00 Sophia Luguya  
7:45 Mark Luguya  
8:30 St. Anthony Novena  
11:30 Clara M. Castora (d.)  
12:30 PM The Sick  
4:30 Carolyn Luguya & John Habashi  
5:30 Lorna Luguya

Friday, November 22, 2019

7:00 Souls in Purgatory  
7:45 Emilda Garces, birthday  
8:30 St. Anthony Novena  
11:30 Lucrecia R. Duque (d.)  
12:30 PM Alexis Morales  
4:30 John Sng (d.)  
5:30 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](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).

