

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
The Heart of New York

November 24, 2019

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

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

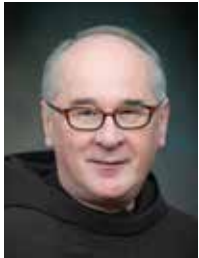
Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

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

On the cover

Christ as Savior by Doménikos Theotokópoulos (El Greco), 1541-1614. This hauntingly beautiful image of the Savior is in the Museo de El Greco in Toledo, Spain where the artist lived for 37 years until his death, and where he completed some of his most famous works.

The Pastor's Corner



A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

On this Solemnity of Christ the King we hear the Gospel of St. Luke which tells of Jesus and the criminals on the cross. The rulers mock Jesus and one of the criminals does the same, saying "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." The other criminal says, "... this man has done nothing criminal." Jesus responds: "... today you will be with me in paradise." Even in these last moments of Jesus' life, he shows compassion to this criminal. We celebrate this Solemnity of Christ the King to affirm that among the leaders in this world, Christ continues to be the most important one through the way that he shows his power and authority through service to humanity. This is something to celebrate.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, remember to pause and give thanks for God's presence in your life and for the blessings that we have all received. If you are traveling, have a safe journey. Daily life has its challenges, but it also has its blessings!

Advent begins next weekend. A booklet of Advent reflections will be given out at Mass, and there are many other books and Advent wreaths available in the Lobby of the Parish House.

Fr. Andrew

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

Book Review: *My Soul Waits*

This book for the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany season uses the Psalms for daily reflection. A verse from a particular Psalm begins each reflection and a quotation from a famous Christian writer concludes the reflection. The Psalms have been such a source of inspiration and prayer that it is fitting they are used during this season of preparation and can easily connect with our own thoughts at this time of year. One verse from a Psalm is used each day, allowing the reader to be focused. Quotations from St. Augustine, St. Ambrose, St. Athanasius, and other church writers conclude each meditation. Many books that are used at this time of year focus only on Advent, but this one takes you not only through Advent, but through the days of Christmas to Epiphany. *My Soul Waits* is available in the Lobby of the Parish House.

Poems-R-Us

Come and listen to original poems by members of the Adult Education Program and friends of the parish. This free program will take place from **6:00 to 8:00 PM, Tuesday, December 3**, in the conference room of the St. Francis Parish House.



Collection for Charity and Justice

This weekend 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.

Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

**Thursday, November 28
& Friday, November 29:
Mass at 11:30 AM only**



**There will be no Confessions,
and the Church Offices will be closed both days.**

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.



Getting Ready for Advent & Christmas!

Advent begins on December 1. A selection of Advent wreaths, Advent calendars, and books with daily readings and activities



will be available for purchase. 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 Advent a day at a time. We will also have wonderful Christmas items and Nativity sets from various countries around the world.

ADVENT 2019

LO, HE COMES! ADVENT VESPERS
Thursday, December 5, 2019 • 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Solemn Sung Vespers is one of the pillars of the official prayer of the Church. Come and celebrate the holy season of Advent by chanting the psalms—the hymns of ancient Israel; by listening to the Advent message proclaimed in God’s Word; and by reflecting on that Word with the help of a homily and sacred silence.

AN ADVENT AFTERNOON OF PRAYER
Saturday, December 14, 2019
2:00 – 5:00 PM; San Damiano Hall • Fee: \$20.00

The biblical stories of Advent and Christmas have inspired some of the world’s finest artists. Fr. Michael Reyes, O.F.M., a visual artist currently completing a Master of Fine Arts degree at New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture, will draw on his knowledge of art and the process of painting to help participants reflect on the characters and themes of Advent. The afternoon will include Fr. Michael’s presentations, communal prayer, time for quiet meditation and the opportunity to celebrate our parish’s 5:15 PM Vigil Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent.

ADVENT NOVENA OF “SIMBANG GABI” MASSES
 The traditional novena of Masses before Christmas (“Simbang Gabi Misa de Aguinaldo”) will be celebrated in the lower church on the following days:
 Sunday, December 15, at 4:30 PM
 Monday to Saturday, December 16-21, at 6:15 PM
 Sunday, December 22, at 4:30 PM
 Monday, December 23, at 6:15 PM
 For more information and choir participation in these Masses, please email filipinoministry@stfrancisnyc.org

CHRISTMAS CAROLS WITH THE CHOIR
 Sunday, December 15, at 3:00 PM
 Join in with our choir to sing some favorite music of the season, both old and new! A free will offering to support our music ministry will be received.

Collections for October 2018 & 2019

October 2018 (There were four Sundays in 2018)

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Offertory Sunday Collections in church: | \$36,817 |
| Online Sunday Collections: | 15,600 |
| Total Sunday Collections: | 52,417 |
| Total Weekday Collections: | 20,646 |
| Total Sundays and Weekdays: | 73,063 |
| Budgeted for October 2018: | 90,000 |
| | (\$16,937 under budget) |

October 2019 (There were four Sundays in 2019)

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Offertory Sunday Collections in church: | \$36,100 |
| Online Sunday Collections: | 12,350 |
| Total Sunday Collections: | 48,450 |
| Total Weekday Collections: | 27,538 |
| Total Sundays and Weekdays: | 75,988 |
| Budgeted for October 2019: | 90,000 |
| | (\$14,012 under budget) |

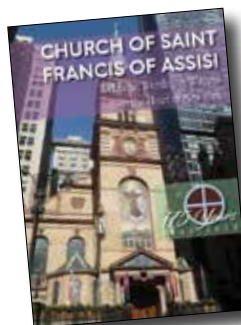
(The Church’s fiscal year is September 1 to August 31)

Say Thanks with a Thanksgiving Card!

Did a friend or neighbor do you a special favor this year? Why not express your thanks with a Thanksgiving card from St. Francis of Assisi? These beautiful cards are available at the reception desk in the lobby of the Parish House for an offering of \$5.00 per card.



175th Anniversary Book



Our Commemorative Anniversary Book would make a perfect Christmas gift! Purchase yours now in the lobby of the Parish House for \$20.

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

As Christians we are called to listen and know the stories of our brothers and sisters. We must create opportunities to hear, with open hearts, the tragic stories that are deeply imprinted on the lives of our brothers and sisters, if we are to be moved with empathy to promote justice. Many groups, such as the Irish, Italians, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Poles, Jews, Chinese, and Japanese, can attest to having been the target of racial and ethnic prejudice in this country. It is also true that many groups are still experiencing prejudice, including rising anti-Semitism, the discrimination many Hispanics face today, and anti-Muslim sentiment. Especially instructive at this moment, however, are the historical and contemporary experiences of Native and African Americans.

(to be continued)

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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Michael Carnevale, O.F.M.

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

Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Director of Migrant Center

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Brian Jordan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

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

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Friars in Residence

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

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Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry

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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 of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers.

The Sanctuary Lights have been given in thanksgiving for Nellande Desmoulins, and 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 23, 2019

- 8:00 AM Erminia Mihaich (d.)
- 11:00 Sr. Elizabeth Conners
- 4:00 PM Kathleen Harris
- 5:15 Jiana Ingrassia, 20th birthday



Sunday, November 24, 2018

- 8:00 AM Elizabeth C. Weese (d.)
- 9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
- 9:30 John Habashi & Carolyn Luguya
- 11:00 Leticia Nitorreda (d.)
- 12:30 PM Walter S. Michalowski (d.)
- 5:00 All Souls, John Family
- 6:15 Franciscan Mass League

Monday, November 25, 2019

- 7:00 Virginia San Diego Mendoza (d.)
- 7:45 Casimiro Barawidan, Sr. (d.)
- 8:30 St. Jude Novena
- 11:30 Jorge Sievert (d.)
- 12:30 PM Rebecca Cho
- 4:30 José Opulencia (d.)
- 5:30 John Sng (d.)

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

- 7:00 In honor of Mary, Untier of Knots
- 7:45 Arielle Surpris (d.)
- 8:30 St. Jude Novena
- 11:30 Baby P.J. (d.)
- 12:30 PM Theresa Kim
- 4:30 Eric A. Rivera (d.)
- 5:30 John & Penny Urban (d.)

Wednesday, November 27, 2019

- 7:00 AM Maria J. Carreon
- 7:45 Theresa Colantonio (d.)
- 8:30 St. Jude Novena
- 11:30 John Skalamer (d.)
- 12:30 PM Sheldon St. Clair (d.)
- 4:30 Francis Tayengco (d.)
- 5:30 Thomas & Edith Castellano (d.)

Thursday, November 28, 2019

Thanksgiving Day

- 11:30 St. Jude Novena

Friday, November 29, 2019

Thanksgiving Holiday

- 11:30 St. Jude Novena



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

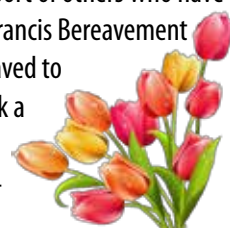
The St. Francis Breadline provides food for hungry people every morning of the year at 7:00 AM. Franciscans Deliver brings groceries to area shut-ins on a weekly basis. For more information, go to www.stfrancisbreadline.org.

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.

