

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
The Heart of New York

January 5, 2020

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

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)

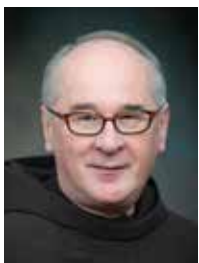
Summer hours: 9:00 - 11:15 AM; 1:00 - 4:15 PM

On the cover:

"Adoration of the Magi", Cloisters, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

This stained glass window, made in 1507 in Munich, Germany, shows the three Magi presenting their gifts to the infant Jesus. The Virgin Mary's halo is inscribed with the greeting of the angel Gabriel at the announcement of the impending birth of Jesus: "ave maria gratia plena dominus tecum" (Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you).

The Pastor's Corner



"Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come." On this Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, we might paraphrase this quotation as: "Rise up in splendor, O earth! Your light has come." Indeed, the splendor of the Lord shines on all people. This is a great feast for many cultures; this is the day when presents are exchanged and the blessings of the Lord are celebrated. The First Reading proclaims that "darkness covers the earth, but upon you the Lord shines." Yes, there still is darkness in the world, locally and well as far away. It is by embracing the Lord and opening ourselves to his light that this darkness is transformed into light. It is, indeed, a day of celebration as we move into the year 2020.

The beautiful liturgies, the beautifully decorated church, and all of the festivities were the result of the work of many people working together. Our Maintenance Crew works behind the scenes setting up and cleaning up, Meredith Augustin and the musicians practice long hours for our liturgies; Edward Trochimczuk is assigning our volunteers for the many jobs that need to be done; Joe Nuzzi organizes our use of technology; the Friars prepare homilies and hear many, many confessions; the receptionists serve the many people who want to purchase items or arrange Masses; the Development Office records and sorts through the volume of mail received daily; and the other ministries keep running smoothly even though there are more pressures. And you are a blessing to us – thank you for your donations, greetings, cards, and presence at the many things that happen here. Happy New Year!

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

20-C+M+B-20

Treasures from Our Tradition

Over the next few weeks, if you were to stroll around Prague or Budapest or Kraków, you might see curious graffiti scratched in chalk over some doorways: "20+C+M+B+20." The families dwelling behind those doors have celebrated the Epiphany door blessing. They have gathered before the feast-day meal, probably after Mass, and the head of the family has traced the sign of the cross on the piece of chalk. Standing on a ladder, the leader traces the numbers for the new year, and the letters C M B for *Christus Mansionem*

Continued next page

Collection for Communications Today

This weekend, January 4-5, we will take up the Collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign.



This Collection serves all of the Catholic dioceses of our nation by producing outstanding spiritual

programs for radio and television.

The Catholic Communications Campaign provides ongoing support for the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org), USCCB video productions including the reflections on the daily readings, and content development for many of the USCCB's media platforms.

One half of your gift will sustain the campaign, and the other half will assist us here in the Archdiocese of New York in our Communications Office.

Bereavement Support Group

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.

A Bereavement Support Group will meet on six Tuesdays from January 28 to March 3, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Please call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire. Interested persons should be at least three months into the grieving process. Pre-registration is required.

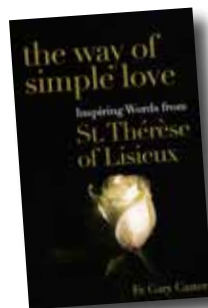


Book Review: *The Way of Simple Love*

Having recently visited Lisieux on our Church's pilgrimage to France, the simple words of St. Thérèse of Lisieux seemed a good way to begin the New Year. *The Way of Simple Love* by Fr. Gary

Caster is not a biography of the saint, but a collection of sections of her writings to various people organized according to topics. What is impressive is the wisdom that flows from these sections of her writings— simple yet profound. There are also sections from her autobiography. Various chapters are:

The way of confidence, The way of holiness, The way of humility, The way of abandonment, The way of suffering, The way of mercy, The way of the Eucharist, and more. These are subjects that each of us often wonders about and to read what she has considered, builds up and deepens our personal faith. The book is available in the lobby of the Parish House.



National Migration Week 2020: *Promoting a Church and a World for All*

For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims



and survivors of human trafficking. The theme for National Migration Week 2020, “Promoting a Church and a World for All” draws attention to the fact that each of our families have a migration story, some recent and

others in the distant past. Regardless of where we are and where we came from, we remain part of the human family and are called to live in solidarity with one another.

Unfortunately, in our contemporary culture we often fail to encounter migrants as persons, and instead look at them as unknown others, if we even notice them at all. We do not take the time to engage migrants in a meaningful way, as fellow children of God, but remain aloof to their presence and suspicious or fearful of them. During this National Migration Week, let us all take the opportunity to engage migrants as community members, neighbors, and friends.

For more information, and to become more engaged in the cause for migrants’ rights, go to: <https://justiceformigrants.org/take-action/national-migration-week/>.

Treasures from Our Tradition, continued...

Benedicat, Latin for “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar – although scripture tells us nothing of their number, their country, or their names.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway, and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s. It prays that the house beyond the door have the quality of love and peace that the magi marveled at when they at last arrived in Bethlehem. In some countries where the Soviet Union tried to impose a harsh atheism, the vigor of this household custom survived all efforts to erase Christian customs. In the years of struggle, the chalked blessings were a pervasive sign of defiance, and now they are a sign of the resilience of our tradition and the fulfillment of the magi’s quest for meaning and peace.

Rev. James Field

© J. S. Paluch Co.



The Epiphany of the Lord

Picture a nativity scene in your mind’s eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. “Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.” The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God’s mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Stewards of God’s Grace

Saint Paul speaks of the “stewardship of God’s grace” to which he was called. Like Saint Paul, each of us is to be a steward of God’s grace. A steward is one who is entrusted with something that belongs to another. The steward bears responsibility for what is entrusted to him or her. Saint Paul understands that his encounter with the Lord and his faith in Jesus Christ carry with them a sacred responsibility, to bring the news of salvation to all. We too have been blessed with much, including the gift of faith, and are called to be good stewards of all with which we have been entrusted. We do this by nurturing a faithful and faith-filled heart, responding to God’s grace through the attitudes and actions that make up our daily lives. We do this as well by sharing our faith and the impact of faith with others, so that they may be drawn to our Lord. This is a sacred responsibility, a blessing, a privilege.

Bearing Gifts

The magi brought gifts to the baby Jesus. What gifts do you bring to the Lord? You might have the gift of patience or understanding and bring this gift in your interactions with others. You might have a talent for bringing new ideas and creative insights into situations at home, work, parish, or your city. You might have a gift for helping people to work together for a great cause or purpose. All of these gifts have been given to you by God, to be used for God’s purposes, for God’s greater glory. All of these are glimpses of God’s grace, and like Saint Paul, you are called to be a good steward of them, as a sign of Christ’s life within you. You bring your gifts to the Lord by using them well, sharing them generously and responsibly in caring for others and for all of creation.

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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!

¡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 o 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

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

Walk Humbly with God

To press forward without fear means “to walk humbly with God” in rebuilding our relationships, healing our communities, and working to shape our policies and institutions toward the good of all, as missionary disciples. Evangelization, which is the work of the Church “means not only preaching but witnessing, not only conversion but renewal; not only entry into the community but the building up of the community.” Racism is a moral problem that requires a moral remedy- a transformation of the human heart- that impels us to act. The power of this type of transformation will be a strong catalyst in eliminating those injustices that impinge on human dignity. As Christians, we know this to be true, for with “God all things are possible.” It is the Lord who, by his grace, forgives and restores us to these relationships and heals the wounds between us. . .

To press forward without fear also means cooperating with God’s grace by taking direct and deliberate steps for change. It means opening doorways where once only walls stood.

(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 Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers; and the intentions of Catherine Puangco.

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

Saturday, January 4, 2020

- 8:00 AM Joseph Zhou (d.)
- 11:00 José Alcantara (d.)
- 4:00 PM Alexis Morales
- 5:15 Mikel Sarah Lambert Rowe (d.)

Sunday, January 5, 2020

- 8:00 AM Alfred & Eva Bazzurro (d.)
- 9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
- 9:30 Joseph Zhou (d.)
- 11:00 Lucita Roldan, for healing
- 12:30 PM Franciscan Mass League
- 5:00 Ginevra & Francesco Marino (d.)
- 6:15 Edward Bolisay (d.)

Monday, January 6, 2020

- 7:00 Joseph Zhou (d.)
- 7:45 Louella Nurse, thanksgiving
- 8:30 Denis Joseph O'Sullivan (d.)
- 11:30 Personal intention
- 12:30 PM Vilma Arthur (d.)
- 4:30 Souls in Purgatory & Victims of Injustice
- 5:30 Irene McKnight (d.)

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

- 7:00 Angela Crotty
- 7:45 Rosario Palomeno & Dolores Abbang, birthday
- 8:30 Maria Zhou (d.)
- 11:30 Virginia Ann Syner (d.)
- 12:30 PM David Woowine
- 4:30 Aldo Arcomano
- 5:30 Rainier Salita (d.)



Wednesday, January 8, 2020

- 7:00 AM Maria Zhou (d.)
- 7:45 Thanksgiving to St. Joseph
- 8:30 Kelly Kiely
- 11:30 Nancy & Salvatore Pisani (d.)
- 12:30 PM Elizabeth Brennan
- 4:30 Cathy Keenan
- 5:30 Dora Arcomano

Thursday, January 9, 2020

- 7:00 AM Thanks. to Jesus & Blessed Mother
- 7:45 Thanksgiving
- 8:30 Varky Oliapuram (d.)
- 11:30 Maria Zhou (d.)
- 12:30 PM The Sick
- 4:30 Thanksgiving to Saint Francis
- 5:30 John Ross (d.)

Friday, January 10, 2020

- 7:00 AM Maria Zhou (d.)
- 7:45
- 8:30 Prior Family (d.)
- 11:30 Solange Simon (d., birthday)
- 12:30 PM Mary Ann Burbage (d.)
- 4:30 Fernando Bardos Hinonangan (d.)
- 5:30 Sean Murray (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.

