

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi
The Heart of New York

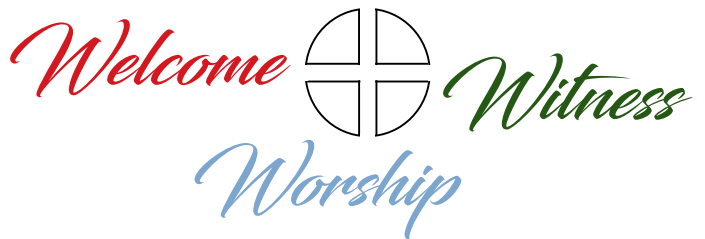
January 12, 2020

Feast of the Baptism 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.

On the cover:

Triptych of the Baptism of Christ (detail) by the Master of Frankfurt (ca. 1460-1533).

Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya, Spain.

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

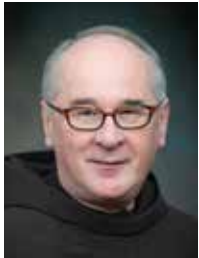
The Rosary after the 11:00 AM Mass

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



Today's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas season. This is an excellent time for us to consider the great gift that was given to us when we were baptized. Our lives were joined to that of Jesus Christ, and our vision of life – our thoughts, words and deeds – are shaped by our closeness to the Lord. Of course, we had no idea what was happening, but now as adults we understand how important Christ is to us. Let us be grateful that our parents brought us to the Baptismal Font.

I would like to share with you an edited version of a letter from Fr. Kevin Mullen, O.F.M., our Provincial Minister, on the recent announcement of our current ministries. The complete letter can be found online at stfrancisnyc.org.

Dear Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Parish,

Over the past two years the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province have completed a thorough examination of all the fraternities-in-mission where we currently serve the church, with the goal of identifying where we will remain and where we will need to withdraw following our Provincial Chapter in June of 2020. This was not an easy process, but it was a prayerful, comprehensive and realistic one.



I am very happy to share with you that we have informed Cardinal Dolan of the Archdiocese of New York, that we are able to continue our ministerial commitment to St. Francis of Assisi Parish for the next three years.

Why did we engage in this two-year discernment process? It was a response to two decisive factors that affect our lives as Franciscans: our declining numbers and fidelity to our Franciscan charism.

In 1982 we had 708 Friars active in ministry in our province. In 2001, we were down to 443 friars in active ministry. Today, we are about 120. Very simply stated, we no longer have sufficient Friars to staff all the ministries where we have served in the past.

Additionally, our Franciscan charism calls us to live and minister as brothers in community. . . With diminished numbers, it is impossible for us to maintain all of our current ministerial commitments while also maintaining fraternities composed of several friars living in community.

In addition to "right-sizing" the number of our ministerial commitments, this evaluation process was also designed to

provide the opportunity for reimagining how our ministries might serve the People of God more effectively. . .

Please know that I and all the Friars of Holy Name Province are very grateful for all the support and collaboration that you, the community of St. Francis, have extended to us. . . We give thanks to God that we are able to continue partnering with you in faith and community at this time.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Kevin J. Mullen, O.F.M.
Provincial Minister

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.

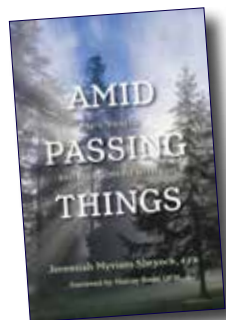


A Bereavement Support Group will meet on six Tuesdays from January 28 to March 3, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Please call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire. Interested persons should be at least three months into the grieving process. Pre-registration is required.

THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS PRESENTS
SANCTUARY
Join us for an Evening of Chamber Music
Featuring the works of:
BEETHOVEN (String Quartet #16 in F major)
TAVENER (The Hidden Treasure for Strings)
135 WEST 31 STREET
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020
6:30 PM
Suggested Donation \$10-\$20

Book Review: *Amid Passing Things*

Our day to day lives and our encounters and how God is part of them are the subject of this book by the Friar Jeremiah Shryock,



C.F.R. Ordinary life is filled with the presence of God when we are attuned to how this happens. This book is a series of meditations on Friar Jeremiah's life with its joys and struggles. He begins with a chapter on the "missing piece" in his life, then on silence as the greatest teacher and continues with chapters on awakening, surprised by grace, not

enough, encountering weakness, letting go, waking up and more. Each of these chapters is short and filled with much experience and insight. He shows how Franciscan spirituality is concerned with the here and now and how God has entered our world. The book is available in the lobby of the Parish House.

Collections for December 2018 & 2019

December 2018

Offertory Sunday Collections in church:	\$44,808
Online Sunday Collections:	18,515
Total Sunday Collections:	63,323
Total Weekday Collections:	17,047
Total Sundays and Weekdays:	80,370

Christmas: collected at 9 Masses in church:	14,029
Christmas online:	4,985
Total Christmas collection:	19,014

Total December 2018:	99,384
Budgeted for December 2018:	90,000
Difference	+9,384

December 2019

Offertory Sunday Collections in church:	\$45,301
Online Sunday Collections:	13,862
Total Sunday Collections:	59,163
Total Weekday Collections:	15,091
Total Sundays and Weekdays:	74,254

Christmas: collected at 9 Masses in church:	15,783
Christmas online:	24,074
Total Christmas collection:	39,857

Total December 2019:	114,111
Budgeted for December 2019:	90,000
Difference	+24,111

The Baptism of the Lord

It is fitting that on this final feast of the season of Christmas, we celebrate Jesus' baptism, and with it our own entry into Christ's life through the waters of baptism. During Christmas, we have reflected on the stunning recognition that God came to be one with us in Jesus Christ. Now, as we make the transition



to Ordinary Time, we think about what it means to follow this same Christ, the Anointed One of God. In baptism, we too are anointed. Baptism plunges us into Christ's death and resurrection; in baptism, we receive the Holy Spirit. Baptism, which is available to all who believe, draws us to the very heart of God. In baptism, we become the servants of the Lord, chosen ones who are called for the victory of justice, a light for the nations.

Why are you coming to me?

We can almost hear the amazement in John the Baptist's voice as he says to Jesus, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Throughout the time that John preached and baptized people in the desert, he had been preparing people for the coming of the Messiah. Now, Jesus approaches him for baptism! We might share in his wonder. Why would Jesus, who is sinless, come to John for a baptism of repentance? Jesus' response to John helps us understand. Jesus has come to fulfill all that is expected in the Messiah, and more. As he entered the waters of baptism, Jesus entered fully into our humanity, raising us toward God. Jesus sanctified the waters of baptism, making them holy, opening the heavens through his humble obedience to God's plan of love.

Christ's mission is our mission

As Jesus came out of the baptismal waters, the Holy Spirit descended upon him and a voice from the heavens was heard saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." In joining himself to humanity, Jesus opened the heavens for us, and in doing so, was confirmed in his mission of mercy and love. In baptism, we are joined with Christ. Immersed into his life and love, his mission is our mission. It is still early in this new year. Today, reflect on your baptismal call to live as a member of Christ's body. In what ways do you love God and others? In what ways might you grow as a disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ? How are you living the mission of Christ, to make God's love and mercy known in the world? Is Christ's mission your mission?

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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

Acknowledging Sin

Examining our sinfulness – individually, as the Christian community, and as a society, is a humbling experience. Only from a place of humility can we look honestly at past failures, ask for forgiveness and move toward healing and reconciliation. This requires us to acknowledge sinful deeds and thoughts and to ask for forgiveness. . .

We . . . realize the ways that racism has permeated the life of the church and persists to a degree even today. "For too long," in the church's missions throughout the world, "the way to a fully indigenous clergy and religious was blocked by an attitude that was paternalistic and racist." Not long ago, in many Catholic parishes, people of color were relegated to segregated seating, and required to receive the Holy Eucharist after white parishioners. All too often, leaders of the church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others.

(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

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.

The Sanctuary Lights are given for the intentions of Clem & Cecilia Verbeek.

Bread & Wine and the Sanctuary Lights are given for the intentions of Bianca M. Ortiz from Rafaela Ortiz.

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 11, 2020

8:00 AM Maria Zhou (d.)
11:00 Gennarina & Arnaldo Caggiano (d.)
4:00 PM Alvin Schettler (d.)
5:15 Kathleen Kiely



Sunday, January 12, 2020

8:00 AM JP & Jeargian Decangnon
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
9:30 Mariah Zhou (d.)
11:00 Marisa Alfonso (d.)
12:30 PM Maria J. Carreon (d.)
5:00 Franciscan Mass League
6:15 Family Vanegas (d.)

Monday, January 13, 2020

7:00 Maria Zhou (d.)
7:45 Casey Wauhup (d.)
8:30 For employment
11:30 Thanksgiving to St. Anthony
12:30 PM Steve Sanborn (d.)
4:30 Cynthia Caulfield (d.)
5:30 Eli Guerro Clark (d.)

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

7:00 James Ciriaco Vallozzi (d.)
7:45 Sr. Enid Storey (d.)
8:30 Maria Zhou (d.)
11:30 Mr. Portillo
12:30 PM Teresita Skiba (d.)
4:30 Dennis O'Sullivan (d.)
5:30 Edna Thomas, happy birthday

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

7:00 AM Maddalena Vallozzi (d.)
7:45 Giuseppe LoVoi (d.)
8:30 Joseph Muskardin (d.)
11:30 Maria Zhou (d.)
12:30 PM Eugenio Ceniza (d.)
4:30 Meryn Miranda
5:30 Enriave Alejandro Cepeda

Thursday, January 16, 2020

7:00 AM Rosa (d.)
7:45 Joseph Zhou (d.)
8:30 Anton Mihaich (d.)
11:30 Vincent Cihanek (d.)
12:30 PM The Sick
4:30 Blessings on the Gotaco Lee Family
5:30 Luisa Jose (d.)

Friday, January 17, 2020

7:00 AM Mary Beth Ludington
7:45
8:30 Angela Crotty
11:30 Joseph Zhou (d.)
12:30 PM Priscila B. Luvanag (d.)
4:30 Felicitas Ceniza (d.)
5:30 Thomas & Edith Castellana (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.

