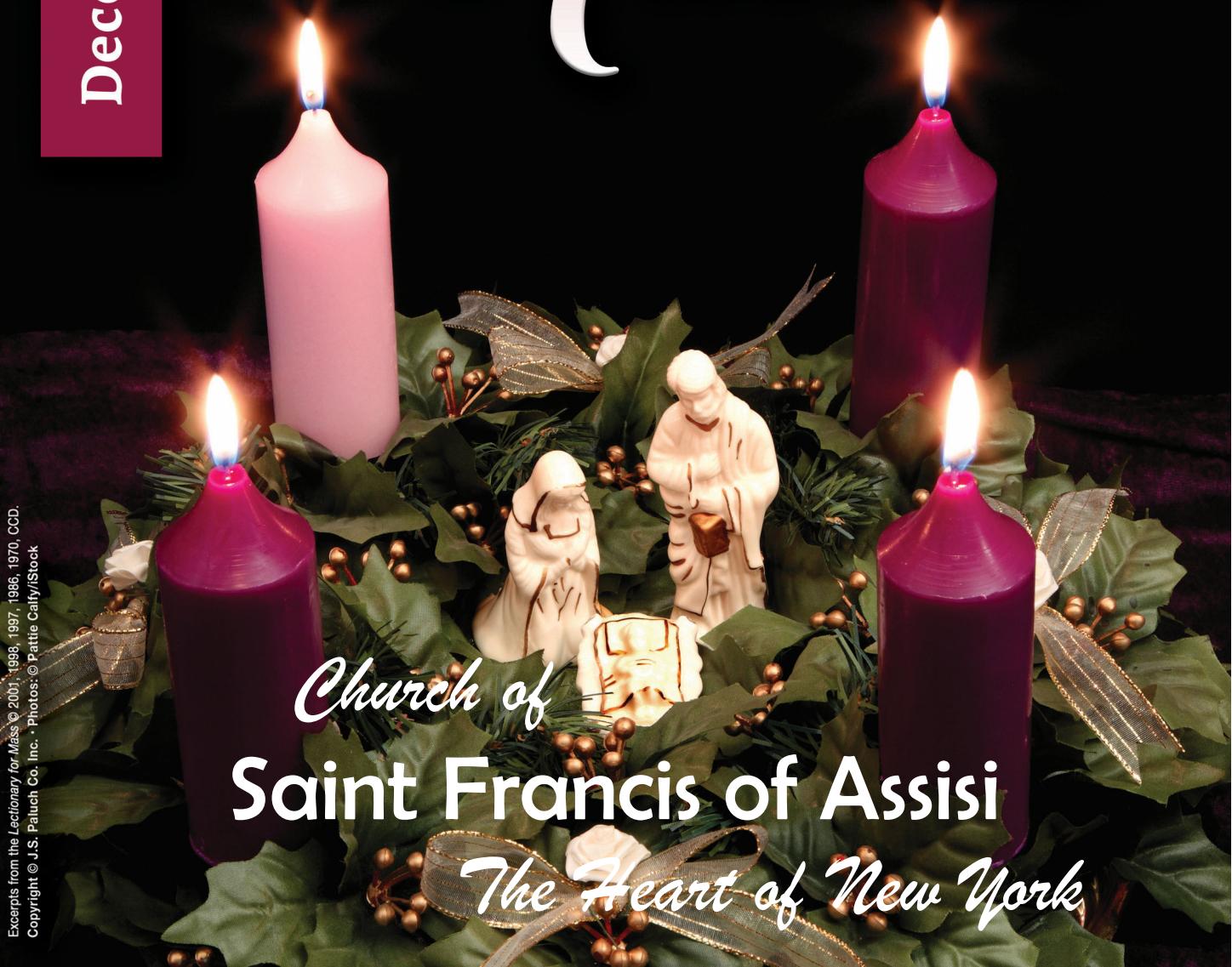


December 18, 2022

# FOURTH SUNDAY of Advent



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.  
Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. • Photos: © Pattie Caffy/iStock

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

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”

Matthew 1:23

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 Saint 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 Mass

4:00 PM

### Sunday Masses

8:00 AM,  
9:15 AM (Korean),  
11:00 AM  
12:30 PM  
5:00 PM

### Weekday Masses

7:30 am, 12:00 PM & 5:30 PM

### Saturday Morning Mass

11:00 AM

### Holidays

Consult the weekly bulletin and the posted notices for federal and other holidays.

Our Christmas Carols with the Choir is one of the most exciting annual musical events at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.

**Come and sing with us..**  
**Sunday • December 18 • 3:00pm**

This beautiful afternoon includes performances from our music ministry, cantors, string quartet and more. Sing along with the choir to some of your favorite Christmas Carols.

You don't want to miss it!

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

#### Monday—Friday

7:30—8:30 AM; 11:00 AM—12:00 PM;  
4:30—5:30 PM

**Saturday** 11:30 AM—12:30 PM

**Sunday** No Confessions

### Devotions

#### Monday

Devotions in Honor of St. Monica  
after the 7:30 AM, 12:00 and 5:30 PM Masses

#### Tuesday

Devotions in Honor of St. Anthony  
after the 7:30 AM, 12:00 and 5:30 PM Masses

#### Wednesday

Devotions in Honor of St. Jude  
after the 7:30 AM, 12:00 and 5:30 PM Masses

#### Thursday

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick  
after the 12:00 and 5:30 PM Masses

#### First Fridays

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
after the 7:30 AM, 12:00 and 5:30 PM Masses

#### Saturday

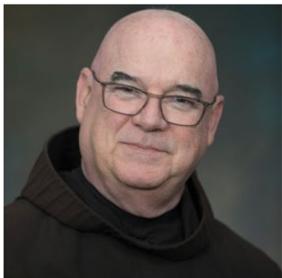
The Rosary after the 11:00 AM Mass.

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday—Friday 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
in Lower Church



christmas carols with the choir



## The Pastor's Corner

Dear Community and Friends of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi,  
May the Lord give you peace.

We light our fourth Advent candle and have completed the wreath. How has the journey been for you? Each Advent is an opportunity for a new beginning and deepening of our relationships with God and our world. How blessed we are to make this journey together.

I thank you for your participation in the life of the community this season.

Please join us on Sunday afternoon for the annual Carols with the Choir. Our musicians have prepared a spectacular program to engage our imaginations with beauty and wonder.

One of the blessings of this Advent has been the Soup and Scripture gatherings on Monday evenings. Meredith has prepared delicious soups, and the conversations have been very engaging. Each table had time to get to know one another and to share their insights on the Gospel. Many also shared how the text opened them to new ways of seeing themselves and the presence of God in their lives. I suspect we will begin again in Lent.

This Sunday, we hear the Annunciation to Joseph. Unlike Luke's Gospel, where the Annunciation is to Mary, Matthew tells us of Joseph's encounter with the Angel. Joseph is told not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife. He takes her into his home, unaware of the unexpected journey that this affirmation of God's invitation will mean. He will encounter homelessness as they arrive in Bethlehem, become a refugee as he flees into Egypt, and experience the parent's fear of a lost child. When we say yes to love, we never know where it will lead. Saying yes to love is saying yes to the one who says, do not be afraid; what you are about is nurturing "Emmanuel" —God with us.

As we approach Christmas, let us continue to pray for peace. We pray for peace in our homes, communities, nation, and world. Jesus, Emmanuel, the bearer of God's peace, liberation, and healing, was born into a violent world. He died a violent death, and when he was raised, he offered peace. Our message continues to be peace rooted in God's love for all.

Wishing you a blessed and peaceful Christmas,

Thomas M. Gallagher, ofm



Scan this QR code  
to remember a  
loved one or honor  
a colleague by

donating to our Christmas  
flowers and  
decorations.

You can also  
stop by the  
front desk to  
make your  
donation.



### join us for the christmas season

christmas eve masses  
4:00pm • 5:30pm • midnight

christmas day masses  
8:00am • 11:00am • 12:30pm  
• please note there is no evening mass •

sunday, january 1  
solemnity of mary, the holy mother of god  
4:00pm (vigil)  
8:00am • 11:00am • 12:30pm • 5:00pm

sunday, january 8  
feast of the epiphany  
4:00pm (vigil)  
8:00am • 11:00am • 12:30pm • 5:00pm



# *Mass Intentions for the Week*

## **Saturday, December 10, 2022**

11:00 AM      Members of Franciscan Mass League  
4:00 PM      Mary & Sam Nasoff (D)

## **Sunday, December 11, 2022**

8:00 AM      Members of Franciscan Mass League  
& The Poor Souls (D)  
9:15              Intentions of the Korean Community  
11:00              Marie & Tom Finnerty &  
                    Nheila Garces for their Birthday  
12:30 PM  
5:30 PM

## **Monday, December 12, 2022**

7:30 AM  
12:00 PM      Amelia Siochi (D) &  
                    Carole & Theodore Bardy (D)  
5:30 PM      Aurora, Eduardo & Candace Ruedas

## **Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

7:30 AM  
12:00 PM      Jean & John Boyle & Pilar & Fausto  
                    Miraflores & Ricardo Mendoza (D)  
5:30 PM

## **Wednesday, December 14, 2022**

7:30 AM      Prpic Ana (D)  
12:00 PM      Diane Bardy Zafiros (L)  
5:30 PM

## **Thursday, December 15, 2022**

7:30 AM      In Horo of St. Jude  
12:00 PM      Muriel, Scott, Ross & Ryan  
& James Adams (D)  
5:30 PM      Joe Castora & Compton Davis (D)

## **Friday, December 16, 2022**

7:30 AM      Dennis & Margaret Sullivan (D) &  
                    Arthur White  
12:00 PM      Wang Family & Marie Claire Veriquin (D)  
5:30 PM      Albert & Venera Costabile (D) &  
                    Pat & Mae Mullane (D)

## **Migrant Center**

The need continues as more and more migrant families arrive here in the City. An Amazon and Target Wish List and other

ways your assistance may be offered from volunteering to donating can be found here, using this QR Code.



Bread & Wine for Masses this week have been given for the intentions of:

Catherine B. Puangco

If you would like to make a donation for bread and wine used at Masses each week, or for the Sanctuary Light, please go to the reception desk in the lobby of St. Francis House.



## **SOUP AND SCRIPTURE**

Ready or not, the kingdom of God is upon us!

Love is set to come to life in our world and change everything! So, shake loose the cobwebs, wipe the weary from your eyes, and get set to open your mind, your heart, your soul, and your bellies.

We all take our daily physical nourishment from the foods we eat, and we take our spiritual nourishment from the Word of God.

Join us for our last nourishing practice this Monday.

**Monday, December 19**

6:30pm in the Clare Room.

*The Soup is on!*

*Since soup is being served, please let us know that you are coming.... ALL ARE WELCOME!*  
Sponsored by the LGBTQ+ Ministry and CONVERGE @St. Francis