

*And a voice came
from heaven,
“You are my
beloved Son;
with you I am
well pleased.”
— Luke 3:22*




JANUARY 12, 2025
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 province of Our Lady of Guadalupe 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

Welcome  *Witness*
Worship

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 PM

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM, 9:15 AM (Korean), 10:00 AM (en español),

11:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 5:00 PM

Please join us for our Sunday 11:00 AM or 5:00 PM livestreamed Masses. Special events will also be livestreamed.

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM; 12:00 PM, 5:30 PM; Saturday 11:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday 8:00 - 9:00 am; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm; 4:30 - 5:30 pm;

Saturday 10:00 - 11:00 am

DEVOTIONS

Monday: Devotions in honor of the Blessed Mother, after all Masses

Tuesday: St. Anthony Devotions, after all Masses

Wednesday: St. Jude Devotions, after all Masses

Thursday: Our Lady of Lourdes, after the 7:30 am and 5:30 pm Masses; The Sacrament of Anointing, after the 12pm Mass

Friday: Devotions in Honor of the Sacred Cross, after all Masses

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Monday-Saturday: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm (Lower Church)

Dated Mass and weekly Bread and Wine or Sanctuary Lamp intentions may be reserved at our Hospitality desk in the Francis House where Mass cards are sold.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 11, 2025

11:00 AM Nancy Canda Boyce (D); Gregorio Reyes (D)

4:00 PM Healing for Emmakate Young; Andres Legaspi (D)

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:00 AM Members Franciscan Mass League; Elizabeth Carole Michels (D)

9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community

11:00 Thomas & Edith Castellana; Barbara McMillam (D)

12:30 PM No Intentions

5:00 The Earth, And for All of Us, that We May Become Better Stewards of God's Creation

Monday, January 13, 2025

7:30 AM Erlinda Claudio Bernal (D)

12:00 PM St Jude

5:30 Birthday Anniv Cynthia Caulfield (D)

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

7:30 AM St Anthony

12:00 PM No Intentions

5:30 No Intentions

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

7:30 AM Infant Of Prague

12:00 PM No Intentions

5:30 Bday Gary Robert A. Mosaya (D)

Thursday, January 16, 2025

7:30 AM No Intentions

12:00 PM Healing Lucy McManus

5:30 No Intentions

Friday, January 17, 2025

7:30 AM Jose Armas Bernal (D)

12:00 PM Martha Fernandez; Bobby Sievert (D)

5:30 Intention Of Amani Stroude

This week's Bread and Wine: Catherine Puangco

This week's Sanctuary Lights: Catherine Puangco; Carmelite & Victoria Maynard (D)

Parish Staff

Father Brian Jordan, O.F.M., Pastor bjordan@stfrancisnyc.org

Father Frank Critch, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Adult Education Coordinator fcritch@stfrancisnyc.org

Father Jim Gannon, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar jgannon@stfrancisnyc.org

Father Carolo Kim, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry ckim@stfrancisnyc.org

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org

Julie Berwick, Director of St. Francis Counseling Center jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org

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Tyler Mazza, Bookkeeper tmazza@stfrancisnyc.org

The Pastor's Corner



This weekend's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas season and transitions us to Ordinary time by reflecting on the purpose of the Incarnation. Christmas made us aware that God was doing something decisively new through the person of

Jesus Christ. Today's readings offer more clarity to Jesus's identity and mission and prepare us for Ordinary Time's further definition of what it means to believe in and follow Jesus.

This weekend, we are given two choices for both the first and second readings. For the first reading, I have selected Isaiah 42 as a prime example of being a servant for the Lord. The victory of justice involves the servant as a "covenant of the people, a light for the nations." We hope and pray in our parish that this year's Jubilee of Hope, emphasized by Pope Francis, will enlighten world peace.

For the second reading, I chose the Acts of the Apostles. This story of St. Peter and Cornelius, the God-fearing Roman centurion, reveals the universality of the Church. "I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him." God does not favor one nation over another. We are all equally loved!

Today's Gospel passage from St. Luke highlights the importance of Jesus being baptized in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. Luke's account of Jesus's Baptism indicates that Jesus prays through this ritual cleansing. Jesus at prayer is typical of St. Luke. We then hear the voice of God, who proclaims "You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased." With that celestial proclamation, Jesus, who is fully human and fully divine, begins his public ministry to the People of God! Now we are called to be extraordinary servants in Ordinary Time!

Blessings to all,

Father Brian

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Going forward, we will include more information about our parish finances in the bulletin. This includes information about our collection totals, both in-person during Masses and online.

Online Sunday Collections, 12/30/24-1/5/25:
\$4,302.59

In-Person Collections, Sunday 1/5/25 and Saturday 1/4/25 Vigil Masses: \$3,975

In-Person Collections, Weekday Masses 12/30/24-1/3/25: \$5,651

Christmas Flower Donations: \$2,645

Christmas Letter Donations: \$1,865

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK UPDATE AND DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Due to Pastoral concerns, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will only be administered at the Thursday 12pm Mass. This change will begin January 2, 2025. Here is the Church teaching from the U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults — United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament of healing is given to a person who is seriously ill or in danger of death due to sickness or old age.* Elderly people may be anointed if they are in a weak condition though no dangerous illness is present.

**This also includes the mentally ill and those preparing for a medical procedure.*

After the Thursday 7:30am and 5:30pm Masses, we will have devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes. You can find those and all of our devotions here: stfrancisnyc.org/prayers-devotions



Sure We Can

Our elected officials are back in Albany where they will be addressing two important state bills that are paired together. You can contact your rep and ask them to vote in favor of the bills.

Bigger Better Bottle Bill: an update of our 40-year-old deposit law. It will expand the types of bottles that can be returned and increase the redemption to 10 cents.

Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act: a groundbreaking bill to incentivize manufacturers to create less packaging and more recyclable packaging.

Read more about the bills and the politics of plastics at www.bottlebill40.org; www.beyondplastics.org/act; www.surewecan.org/newsletter

“A healthy politics is sorely needed, capable of reforming and coordinating institutions, promoting best practices and overcoming undue pressure and bureaucratic inertia.” — Pope Francis (LS 181)

Many thanks to Eileen L. for sharing this information with us! For more information about the Laudato Si Circle here at St. Francis email stfrancislaudatosi@gmail.com



WINTER PARISH RETREAT: JUBILEE — LIBERTY AND RENEWAL

Our Adult Education with the support of Converge Ministry will hold our Wappingers Falls winter retreat January 31-February 2, 2025. The retreat is open to all church ministers, volunteers, parishioners and friends.

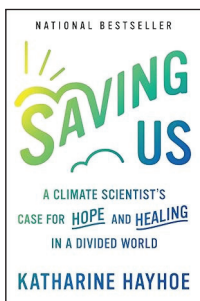
In keeping with a centuries-old tradition of celebrating a Jubilee Year every 25 years, Pope Francis has proclaimed a Jubilee for 2025. During the ancient Jubilee, prisoners would be released, slaves would be set free, and justice would be restored. On this retreat we will reflect on this special time of Jubilee and how God sets us free to be people of peace, justice and equality.

Join us to spend time with other parishioners to pray, reflect and reconnect with God and each other. Joseph Nuzzi, our former Director of Evangelization, will be joining us as retreat master.

Registration is \$300. If you would like to reserve your spot, you can register now with a deposit of \$100.00 and make partial payments so long as your payment is complete by January 15, 2025.

For more information and to register, go to stfrancisnyc.org/st-francis-weekend-retreat-2025

HAYHOE LET'S GO! — CONVERGE AND LAUDATO SI BOOK CLUB



If you're wondering how to have hope amidst the climate crisis, join the club!

The Converge Ministry and the Laudato Si Circle are co-hosting a new book club to discuss *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*, by Katharine Hayhoe.

According to the author, a Christian and a climate scientist, simply talking about it is a huge step in the right direction. So that's what we'll do with the guidance she provides in the book.

We will meet in the Clare Room from 6:30-8:00 PM on five consecutive Mondays beginning February 3rd. It is FREE but registration is requested. You can RSVP at stfrancisnyc.org/converge-and-laudato-si-book-club