



*You shall worship the Lord, your God,
and him alone shall you serve.*

— Mt 4:8

MARCH 9, 2025 • FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi • 135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001
tel 212.736.8500 • www.stfrancisnyc.org

James Tissot, Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Jésus tenté dans le désert). Gouache over graphite on gray wove paper, between 1886 and 1894. Brooklyn Museum, New York

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 Mass

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

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)

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

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Tyler Mazza, Bookkeeper tmazza@stfrancisnyc.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 8, 2025

11:00 AM Peter Reilly (D)

4:00 PM Thanksgiving To St. Anthony; Sean Lance Gabriel Selibio (D)

Sunday, March 9, 2025

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

9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community

11:00 Gerolmo & Mary Maggiolo; Alphonse Silva & Rosemary Mark (D)

12:30 PM The Earth, And For All Of Us, That We May Become Better Stewards Of God's Creation; Thanksgiving To St. Andrew

5:00 Healing Providencia Castro Gilbride; Carmen Beltran Abarintos (D)

Monday, March 10, 2025

7:30 AM Erlinda Liwanag Que (D)

12:00 PM Luis G. Liwanag (D); Ronald Morgan (D)

5:30 Amelia Siochi (D)

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

7:30 AM No Intentions

12:00 PM No Intentions

5:30 Birthday/Thanksgiving - Caroline G. Lee

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

7:30 AM Birthday Olyces Mar Garces; Fernando Ferrater (D)

12:00 PM Regueur, Severe & Legros Family

5:30 No Intentions

Thursday, March 13, 2025

7:30 AM Modesto Miranda (D)

12:00 PM Eva Agneda J. Carreon

5:30 No Intentions

Friday, March 14, 2025

7:30 AM No Intentions

12:00 PM No Intentions

5:30 No Intentions

This week's Bread and Wine: Catherine Puangco

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

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.

The Pastor's Corner



Dear sisters and brothers,

Greetings! As we begin this season of Lent, we are called to observe prayer, fasting and almsgiving!

As much as we need air to breathe physically, we need prayer to breathe spiritually. An increase in prayer during Lent helps us in times of stress and challenge. We are also sharing prayer booklets

during this holy season for your prayerful edification. Fasting is an ancient spiritual practice to deny ourselves something in order to gain something worthwhile. I humbly request that we "fast" from negative attitudes and thinking that impedes spiritual growth and accentuates anger and tension within oneself and possibly the local community. Finally, almsgiving is an ancient practice to care for the poor and needy. Please consider to make a donation in our poor boxes in the church or make an offering to help out Catholic education in the Annual Cardinal's Appeal.

These are connected in this weekend's readings. The themes of salvation and worship found in today's first reading appear in today's second reading as well. Paul turns to Scripture to emphasize God's salvific action. Today's Gospel reading describes the testing, or temptation in the desert. We all get tempted and Jesus provides a way to avoid temptation. The forty days Jesus spends in the desert allude to the forty years of wandering endured by the ancient Israelites in the Book of Exodus. Moses and Jesus free their local community from slavery: Moses from actual slavery in Egypt and Jesus from slavery to sin.

Blessings upon all,

Father Brian

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday during Lent following our 12 noon and 5:30pm Masses. Please join us.

JOIN RENEW PROGRAM

Come join St. Francis of Assisi's RENEW program, a group of retirees from throughout the metropolitan area. We tour museums, share holiday luncheons, visit exhibits, participate in spiritual activities, and make new friendships. If you are interested in joining, or for more information, call us on our Hotline, 212-736-8500, ext. 389. Please leave your name and number and someone will get back to you shortly.

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Online Sunday Collections, 2/24 – 3/2: \$3,396

Online Sunday Collections, 2/17-2/23: \$3,556

In-Person Collections, Weekend Masses 3/1-3/2: \$4,164

In-Person Collections, Weekday Masses 2/24-2/28: \$1,591

Please pray for Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, who is critically ill. Please pray the Rosary for his body and soul!



Please pray for unity and solidarity in our universal Roman Catholic Church!



Living the Hope of the Cross

In a world often marked by uncertainty and loss, the Cross stands as a beacon of hope and renewal. This Lent, we are invited to journey with Christ, embracing the promise of transformation and redemption. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, let us open our hearts to the hope found in the Cross and become bearers of that hope for a world in need.

Vivir la Esperanza de la Cruz

En un mundo marcado por la incertidumbre y la pérdida, la cruz es como un faro de esperanza y renovación. En esta Cuaresma, estamos invitados a caminar con Cristo, aceptando la promesa de transformación y redención. A través de la oración, el ayuno y la limosna, abramos nuestros corazones en la esperanza que se encuentra en la cruz y convirtámonos en portadores de esperanza para un mundo necesitado.

‘십자가를 희망하며’

불확실성과 상실로 점철된 세상 안에서, 십자가는 희망과 새로움의 표지로서 단락을 이룹니다. 이번 사순절에 우리는 그리스도와 함께하는 여정에 변화와 구속의 약속을 기꺼이 받아들입니다. 기도와 금식, 그리고 자선을 통해, 우리의 마음을 열고 십자가 안에서 희망을 발견하여 도움이 필요한 세상을 위해 희망의 전달자가 됩시다.

SYNOD SPIRITUALITY

The new Franciscan Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe recently convened a meeting in Kansas City, Missouri to discuss various aspects of the worldwide Synod that recently took place in Rome, Italy. They have asked that each Franciscan placement of our new Province form a synodal group. Since Father Brian has been here for the last six months, he has formed a finance council and is in the process of forming a parish council and a Development Committee. Once all those three committees are fully formed, select members of those three committees will comprise the synodal group. This may take a few months, but it will help us to truly listen to voice of the laity through our newly-charged lay leaders. For more information, please contact Father Brian at bjordan@stfrancisnyc.org or call 212-736-8500 ext. 232.

SPRING ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Join us for our Spring Adult Education classes! This term's courses include:

- Lent Soup and Scripture
- Jane Austen: A Writer and her Enduring Legacy
- Jane Hirshfield: Questions and Observations
- Jesus
- The Life and Spiritual Theology of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity
- The Life and Spiritual Theology of St. Titus Brandsma
- Saints, Anchorites, Mystics, and Holy Women from the Middle Ages

You can find course information and register at stfrancisnyc.org/courses

While we try to keep our registration fees low (generally about \$10 per hour of instruction) we understand that for some this can be a burden. We do not want anyone who wants to attend a class to be prohibited by economic hardship. If the fee is a financial burden, please email Fr. Brian Jordan, OFM at bjordan@stfrancisnyc.org for information on full or partial scholarships.

ADULT EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT: LENTEN SAINT COURSES

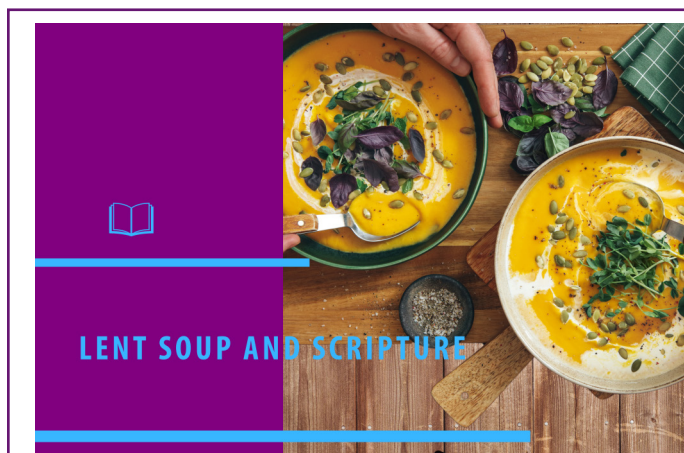
Some of our Spring Adult Education courses are intended as Lenten journeys. These include:

The Life and Spiritual Theology of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, Saturday March 15, 9am-12pm, online. Join us as we explore the life and works of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, a French Carmelite from Dijon, France. We will cover major episodes of her life, family, and the development of her spiritual theology especially in the developments of the themes of praise of glory, the Trinity, her retreat work and guidance to others. We will examine excerpts from her diary, letters, and poems to help facilitate this task. Finally, we will consider what wisdom we can gain from these works for our own life today. Register at stfrancisnyc.org/the-life-and-spiritual-theology-of-elizabeth-of-the-trinity-2

The Life and Spiritual Theology of St. Titus Brandsma, Saturday March 15, 1-4pm, online. Join us as we explore the life and works of St. Titus Brandsma. We will cover his life as a Carmelite priest, teacher of mysticism and philosophy, and Catholic journalist, and his passion for truth and human rights which put him at odds with Nazi ideology, and eventually led to his martyrdom at Dachau. We will examine his writings and life events, as well as those who knew him at various stages of his life, to better understand his spiritual evolution and what we might learn from him for today. Register here: stfrancisnyc.org/life-and-spiritual-theology-of-st-titus-brandsma

THE ANNUAL CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2025

Our parish's goal for this year's CARDINAL'S APPEAL is \$65,000. We have raised \$20,000 so far, and need to pledge the rest of the targeted goal this weekend and throughout the calendar year of 2025. Once again, the purpose of this campaign is to raise monies for the worthwhile programs of the Archdiocese of New York. The designated donations go to Catholic education, struggling parishes, pastoral administration and services to the poor and the needy. Not a single cent goes to Cardinal Dolan. That was verified in my conversations with the Archdiocesan higher-ups. Please, please make you pledge this weekend with the pledge cards that are available in the pews. Thank you kindly, Father Brian Jordan, OFM, Pastor



Our Lent Soup and Scripture will be held Mondays throughout March at 6:30pm-8pm in the Francis Room. Together we will break bread, drink soup, and open the Sunday Lent Gospels. Join us for as many reflections as you'd like.

This is a free event, but since soup is being served, we are asking for free will donations to offset the costs of the meal. Please RSVP using this QR code, or at stfrancisnyc.org/soup-and-scripture-lent-2025/

