



*“Let us celebrate
with a feast,
because this son of mine
was dead, and has come
to life again;
he was lost,
and has been found.”*
— *Lk 15:24*

MARCH 30, 2025 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

Rembrandt (Dutch, 1606-1669). *Return of the Prodigal Son*. Collection of the Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Russia.

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

Father James Bernard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar jbernard@stfrancisnyc.org

Father Luke Lee, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry luke0829ofm@gmail.com

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Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office rperaza@stfrancisnyc.org

Tyler Mazza, Bookkeeper tmazza@stfrancisnyc.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 29, 2025

11:00 AM Annie Sulaiman; Thanksgiving Jimmy & Beth DeLos Santos

4:00 PM Healing Aime'e Rank; Sabrina Durfee

Sunday, March 30, 2025

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

9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community

10:00 Mallory Durfee; Healing For Violeta P. Ortaliza

11:00 Tadeusz Lizurej (D); Birthday Eduardo Enrique Rochester (D)

12:30 PM Thanksgiving To St. Andrew; Thanksgiving Celestin Lawson

5:00 Birthday Joeliza Magbanua; Roberto Moscaya (D)

Monday, March 31, 2025

7:30 AM Birthday Ermy Luz Rosario; Alex Santos (D)

12:00 PM Anthony Duke Siozon (D); Taylor Perman

5:30 Irene Flynn & William Fishman (D); Vincent & Laura Marsicano (D)

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

7:30 AM Adeline & Charles Santamaria; Kuwantai Yeh

12:00 PM Bridget Reilly (D); Aidan Scully (D)

5:30 Jose & Natividad Dianela (D); Healing William Meyers

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

7:30 AM Fabiola Suwanto; In Honor of St. Andrew

12:00 PM Joseph Fabio Suwanto; Intention Of Kervins Laroche

5:30 Hailey Perman

Thursday, April 3, 2025

7:30 AM Natalie Yeh; Augustine Chukwujeckwu (D) & Matthew Arinze

12:00 PM Carmen Maria Morales Rosado & All Deceased Family Members; Dorothy & James Yost

5:30 Henry Morris & Ricardo Mendoza (D)

Friday, April 4, 2025

7:30 AM Healing Anibal Guerrero

12:00 PM Mom, Dad & Jim; Maria De Gloria & Romana Cantanhede (D)

5:30 Harry Cafetz (D)

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,

During her senior year in high school, my late and wonderful mother used to work a few nights per week in the lost and found office in a nearby department store. She used to tell us as her young children stories about people from all walks of life losing items of great importance within the store. They were initially frantic but suddenly overjoyed when they found them in my mother's office. They expressed overwhelming gratitude for the recovery of their precious items.

Today's readings seem to indicate another version of the lost and found office. In the first reading from the Book of Joshua, the Israelites finally complete their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land of Canaan. What was lost along their 40 year journey was the practice of circumcision and the celebration of Passover. When they arrived in Canaan, there was a mass circumcision ceremony which restored (founded) the practices of the Covenant between God and the Israelites. Again, when they arrived in Canaan, they restored (founded) the lost celebration of the Passover. These two lost and found traditions began to strengthen and renew the ties of worship between God and His People.

In today's Gospel passage from Luke, the familiar Parable of the Prodigal Son dramatically reveals the lost and found dimension of forgiveness. The older son was obedient, reliable and responsible. The younger son abused his privileges on dissolute living and was lost. Now, the lost son returns and seeks forgiveness from his father. When the father throws a feast for his prodigal son in honor of his return, the lost son is now restored (refound). As a result, the older son is angry and resentful because of this bold act of forgiveness.

Please keep in mind, this parable is not about the two sons. The real story is about a father, namely God the Father, who is always forgiving and understanding when we return from sin and seek forgiveness. This part of our Lenten Journey is called conversion. In Greek, we call it "metanoia." It is a dramatic change for the good. During this season, let us not be angry or resentful like the older son. Instead, let us learn to be like God the Father, who forgives us and loves us no matter what we do if we are truly sorry.

Please do not mistake humility for humiliation! Humility is a gift and a cleansing agent. Humiliation is a dreaded form of suffering that has long-lasting, painful effects. The Prodigal Son showed humility and he was rewarded by his loving and joyful Father.

AMEN — "So Be It!"

Blessings to all,

Father Brian



*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 표지로써 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.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CHURCH AT LENT AND EASTER

In the sacred season of Lent, the Cross stands as a beacon of hope and renewal. And our church stands as a beacon of light and a welcoming community. Your financial support keeps our church thriving — give today!

Since its founding, our beloved Church of St. Francis of Assisi has remained steadfast in its mission: to proclaim the Good News of the Resurrection, to spread the love and mercy of Christ, and to walk in the footsteps of our holy father, St. Francis. In this spirit, we continue to be a church for all people — a place where the doors remain open to welcome everyone, regardless of background, gender, ethnicity, or financial means. Here, all who seek hope and renewal find a home.

These past winter months have been particularly challenging for us financially. As you know, maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all who seek solace and community at St. Francis of Assisi Church comes with significant costs. Despite our best efforts to conserve resources, our electricity, heat, and water bills remain exceptionally high.

As Easter approaches — a season of renewal and hope — I invite you to support our mission of faith, service, and unity through this year's Easter Appeal. Your generosity directly sustains our church, enriches our vibrant liturgies, and strengthens our essential pastoral programs. You can give online at stfrancisnyc.org/easter-donations or with the QR code here.



POPE FRANCIS RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL — PRAYERS FOR HIS CONTINUING RECOVERY

Our Holy Father Pope Francis was released from Rome's Gemelli Hospital last Sunday. He will continue convalescing at his Casa Santa Marta apartment.

In his Angelus prayer for last Sunday, Pope Francis wrote of his hospitalization as an "opportunity to experience the Lord's patience" and prayed for peace. Let us continue to pray for our Holy Father's smooth recovery!

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

In-Person Collections, Weekend Masses 3/22-3/23: \$4,869

In-Person Collections, Weekday Masses 3/17-3/21: \$2,216

Online collections for last week will be included in next week's bulletin.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

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.

BROTHER ADOLFO'S RENEWAL OF VOWS — APRIL 27, 2025, SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) AT 5PM MASS

Brother Adolfo has been serving in New York City since September 2024 on his pastoral year assignment. A friar in temporary vows must renew his vows annually, and it's time for Br. Adolfo to renew. Please join the Order of Friars Minor and the fraternity at Saint Francis of Assisi in NYC at the 5pm Mass

when Brother Adolfo will renew his vows for one year. In August at our parish in Albuquerque, NM, he will profess solemn vows, or vows for life as a member of the Order of Friars Minor.



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.