



SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi • 135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001

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L'esaltazione della Croce e sant'Elena/ Discovery of the True Cross. Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696-1770). Gallerie dell'Accademia, Venice, Italy.
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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 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 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.

Welcome  Witness
Worship

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 8:00-9:00 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)

Parish Staff

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

Father James Bernard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Business Manager
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Father Jim Gannon, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar jgannon@stfrancisnyc.org

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 13, 2025

11:00 AM Maria Filomena & Giuseppa Nieddu (D);
Mario Gonario Nieddu (D)

4:00 PM Matthew Patrick (D); Teresa & Guglielmo Nieddu (D)

Sunday, September 14, 2025

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

10:00 Leonel Ulloa (D); Healing Arthur McGovern

11:00 Fiji At Nyu; Lidia Jarusinska

12:30 PM Aurora Limsiaco (D); Jose L. Andaya (D)

5:00 Birthday Doreena Pastrana; Nicholas Joseph Diak (D)

Monday, September 15, 2025

7:30 AM Chloe Willert; William Liu's Success in School

12:00 PM Wesley Woods (D); Poor Souls in Purgatory

5:30 Manuel & Yvonne Detoro, Jr. (D); Sonia Castociano (D)

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

7:30 AM Heart Of Jesus; St. Jude

12:00 PM Andres Castillo (D); Michel Aurillon (D)

5:30 Duckhyung Lee; To St. Anthony By Ada Rivera

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

7:30 AM Thanksgiving to St. Anthony Reiji W.

12:00 PM Anibal Guerrero; Frank Carpenito (D)

5:30 Hon Yang Lim (D); William Lee

Thursday, September 18, 2025

7:30 AM John Brennan; Armando Morales

12:00 PM Dolores Soriano (D); Nina Reyes & Bertha Sanchez (D)

5:30 William Brennan; Special Intention of Nkem Mbamelu

Friday, September 19, 2025

7:30 AM Alexis Morales; Thanksgiving Uchenna Chukwujekwu

12:00 PM For Recovery of Chantal Francois; Intention of Marie Turtur

5:30 Gaston & Rose Mona Duverne (D);
Uchenna Chukwujekwu & Children

This week's Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Lights:

Catherine Puangco

The Pastor's Corner

Dear sisters and brothers,

Greetings!

Exactly ten years ago this month, September 2015, I met the late Pope Francis in an interfaith prayer ceremony in the September 11 Memorial Museum in Lower Manhattan. After the ceremony, I was permitted to be present when Pope Francis was introduced to the Ground Zero Cross in a nearby section of the Museum. He quietly prayed in front of the Cross and he then departed to another prayer ceremony. Over a week later, his remarks near the Ground Zero Cross were published. One insightful quote still touches my soul. "This place of death became a place of life too, a place of sacred lives, a hymn to the triumph of life over the prophets of destruction and death, to goodness over evil, to reconciliation and unity over hatred and division." Those words are as relevant now as they were ten years ago.



This weekend, we celebrate the Exaltation of the Cross. This is a Christian feast day that recognizes that a symbol of death and destruction has now become a symbol of triumph and eternal hope! The Cross has origins that precede Christianity. It began as a sign on primitive cave walls and eventually became a means of torture and execution. It differed in shapes, sizes, and designs as did the ancient peoples and civilizations. Herodotus recorded the earliest record of crucifixion dating back to the beginning of the Persian period in the 6th century BCE. In future generations, other forms of crucifixion occurred in other parts of the world as well. Crucifixion was a method of capital punishment commonly used among the ancient peoples surrounding the Mediterranean Sea from approximately the 6th century BCE to the 4th century ACE.

The attitude and perspective of the Cross shifted significantly through the efforts of the Roman Emperor, Constantine in the early 4th century ACE. Christians turn to the Cross for understanding, meaning, encouragement and challenge amid the particular joys and sufferings distinct to each era in human history. The Cross is the greatest and most prolific of all Christian imagery. It typifies the Savior and his sacrifice, the symbol of suffering and salvation. The four points of the Cross are a sacred reminder that the redeemed are gathered from the four quarters of the earth.

Why do we reverence the Cross in our daily lives? We are people of faith, hope, and love. Jesus' death on the Cross grants eternal life to all who accept it.

Blessings to all,

Father Brian Jordan, OFM
Pastor

Please note the additional names for intentions between September 6 and September 12 that were not available at the time of the printing of the September 7th Bulletin.

- **September 9:** Gerald (L) & Raymond Sampson (D);
Lucia Baek
- **September 10:** Healing Narciso Edwin Sumaway;
Birthday Amparo Sumaway (D);
Paul Lim

A poster for the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) program at St. Francis of Assisi. It features the text "Register for the OCIA PROGRAM" in large red letters. Below it, smaller text describes the program as a Fall to Spring program of prayer, learning, and reflection for those seeking baptism, confirmation, or full communion in the Catholic faith, open to adults ages 18+. It includes a QR code with the text "SCAN HERE" and "For questions contact us: ocia.stfrancisnyc@gmail.com". There are also two small photos: one of a priest with a couple and another of a group of people in white robes.

STARTING SEPT. 16: OCIA AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

The OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) at St. Francis of Assisi for 2025-2026 will host its first meeting on Tuesday, September 16. If you're curious about becoming Catholic or looking to go through the OCIA process, scan the QR code for more information and to sign-up for additional information.



STARTING SEPT. 17: THE SPIRITUAL DYNAMICS OF MARTIN SCORSESE'S FILMS

Our fall Adult Education Course "The Spiritual Dynamics of Martin Scorsese's Films" will start on September 17 and continue on Wednesdays through Wednesday, October 15. This course will take place in-person in the Clare Room at the Parish Office. Scan QR code for course details, course fee, and to register.



SEPT. 17: MONTHLY WORKERS' MASS

Please join us for the first monthly Workers' Mass on Wednesday, September 17 at 12 noon in the Upper Church. Each third Wednesday of the month at the 12 noon Mass, we will remember the living and the dead among all workers whether be union, non-union, or undocumented workers. All are welcome to join us in the Workers' Chapel in the Upper Church.

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

In-Pew Collections

Sunday, September 7	\$6,569.00
September 1-5	\$2,065.00

Sunday, August 31:

First Collection-

<i>Parish</i>	\$4,406.00
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Second Collection-

<i>Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (DC)</i>	\$1,095.00
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August 25-29	\$2,130.00
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Online Collections

An update for online collections will be in the next Bulletin.



SEPT. 28: FRANCISFEST 2025

Prost! Grab your lederhosen and raise your steins—FrancisFest is back and better than ever! Join us for an unforgettable day of Bavarian cheer, featuring traditional German fare, craft beers, German Cocktails, live music, games, and festive fun for all. Scan QR code for more information and tickets.



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SOCIAL CONCERNS SURVEY

Our parish Synod Social Concerns Committee is conducting research on social concerns that are important to parish members. The survey will help the committee inform how we will deploy our scarce resources most effectively. We invite you to participate in the committee's survey. Please scan the QR code for the survey. Thank you!



MAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE PARISH

Our parish relies on the support of our parishioners and community members to sustain and grow our programs, ministries, and community. You can make a one-time donation or set-up a recurring donation by scanning the QR code to the donation page.



We thank you for your continued support and generosity!