



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 | TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

tel 212.736.8500 • www.stfrancisnyc.org

St. Matthew and the angel (1620). Guido Reni (1575-1642). Pinacoteca Vaticana, Vatican.

Guido Reni, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 20, 2025

11:00 AM Thomas & Edith Castellana;
Uchenna Chukwujekwu for God's Guidance

4:00 PM Nkem Mbamelu Her Boss' Healing;
Healing Remigia & Rebecca G. Estrepa

Sunday, September 21, 2025

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

10:00 Accion de Gracia de San Antonio; Souls in Purgatory

11:00 Krystyna Jarusinska (D); Villanueva Reyes (D)

12:30 PM Birthday Zeny Zurita & Elizabeth Garcia; Ernesto Madrid (D)

5:00 Thanksgiving Tenega Family; Virginia Kingsman

Monday, September 22, 2025

7:30 AM Nkem Mbamelu, Nonso & Stanley; Gary Ramkisoan (D)

12:00 PM Mary Jane O'Neill (D); Cornelius Gromdhol (D)

5:30 Uchenna Chukwujekwu, Nieces & Nephews;
Maria Freida Fiona Mabasa

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

7:30 AM Jenny & Louis Castellana; Armando Ruffin (D)

12:00 PM Bianca & Family from Grandma;
Peace & Comfort for Gotaco Lee Family

5:30 Birthday Jose Santiago (D); Birthday Amarna Tolentino

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

7:30 AM Birthday Uchenna Chukwujekwu; Mary & Tommy

12:00 PM Blessings for Antonio Dela Rosa; Maria Luisa Reformina (D)

5:30 Birthday Erik Vargas & Myrta Vargas;
Almerinda Antolini & Carmen Perez (D)

Thursday, September 25, 2025

7:30 AM St. Jude

12:00 PM Verna & Salvatore Bronzo & Family Living & Deceased;
Healing Gerard O'Shea

5:30 Lucia Baek

Friday, September 26, 2025

7:30 AM Victoria D. & Mary Bazzurro

12:00 PM Birthday Tanya Velasquez

This week's Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Lights:

Catherine Puangco

The Pastor's Corner

Each month, a staff member or a parishioner will offer a reflection about a key topic in the Roman Catholic Church. This weekend of September, a wonderful married couple, Sandy and Joe Boys will offer their reflection of climate change during the Season of Creation—September 1 till October 4. Sandy is the new chairperson of the newly revived Laudato Si Committee of our parish.

Dear sisters and brothers,

We are a loving, social justice-based married couple for many years. We not only love each other but truly love Holy Mother Earth—the gift of God's Creation. We are grateful that our pastor has helped to renew the importance of the Laudato Si Committee. We all have a responsibility to care for our "common home" as Pope Francis referred to in his classic encyclical "Laudato Si—In Praise of God's Creation."

We were instrumental in arranging for a guest speaker to kick off our "Season of Creation" on Saturday September 13 at 2 pm in the St. Francis Room in the Parish House. Professor Lewis Ziska of the Department of Public Health at Columbia University gave a wonderful presentation called "Climate Change and Our Daily Bread." The room was filled with parishioners and friends mesmerized by Dr. Ziska's words. I, Sandy Boys, wrote an email to Dr. Ziska with these words "Dear Lew, Thank you for such an informative and inspirational message today, relating food production to climate change... You began with the Our Father—our plea and need for bodily sustenance.

And you left us with hope and taking the next steps: talking to others, communicating why science is important, joining the website "standupforscience" and making good trouble. We are committing to action! Thank you for all you do to spread awareness and to continue critical research."

We are sponsoring a table for the ministry fair to be held on Sunday, September 21 after the 11 am, 12:30 pm and 5 pm Masses. Please join our Laudato Si Committee. We are heading in the right direction. Meanwhile, we hope to recruit parishioners and friends of our parish to unite for a letter-writing campaign to restore funding for the US Department of Agriculture which would help increase food production in our nation and help other nations in need of food. Stay tuned for more information about this letter writing campaign!

Blessings upon you and Holy Mother Earth,

Sandy and Joe Boys
Laudato Si Committee

INCREASED OFFERTORY PROGRAM

This weekend marks our first Commitment Weekend for our **Increased Offertory Program**. We're asking everyone to consider increasing their regular offertory gift by 15%. Why 15%? Because even a modest increase from each household could create transformational opportunities for our parish.

Please pray about your commitment and return your response in the envelope located in the pews this weekend — just drop it in the offertory basket. Let us pray and build up our parish together.

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.



OCT 2: LAUDATO SI AND THE CANTICLE OF THE CREATURES: THE POEM, THE POET, AND THE POPE

This year marks the 800th anniversary of *The Canticum of the Creatures*, one of the earliest works of literature in the Italian language and a spiritual masterpiece composed by St. Francis of Assisi. Join us for a thought-provoking talk with Father Xavier Seubert, OFM that explores the historical, theological, and ecological dimensions of this beloved hymn to creation.



UPCOMING ADULT EDUCATION CENTER COURSES STARTING IN OCTOBER

Explore food, poetry, and literature in our upcoming courses starting in October.

- Czeslaw Milosz (1911-2004): *A Poet's Journey*
- Kate Chopin (1850-1904): *The Move to Modernism*
- Sacred Dining: *Food in Biblical Times from Religious to Secular and the Patron Saints of the Culinary Arts*



COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION

On September 11, we commemorated the Fire Department of New York and NYC buildings and trades unions with two masses respectively for the lives lost on 9/11/2001 and recognized their work in the recovery and rebuilding of Lower Manhattan. We also celebrated joyous baptisms over the weekend.



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!



WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

In-Pew Collections

Sunday, September 14	\$5,986.00
September 8-12	\$2,483.00

Online Collections

September 1-7	\$3,555.08
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In honor of Father Mychal Judge's legacy of service and ministry, the Church of St. Francis of Assisi Parish launched the Father Mychal Judge, OFM Building Fund on September 7, 2025. This building fund is for the restricted and exclusive use of defraying expenses for renovation and repairs within our three buildings.



Repairs for our buildings include, but not limited to:

- electrical work
- extensive plumbing
- repointing bricks
- HVAC repairs
- carpentry renovations
- painting
- scaffolds to clean drains
- door and window replacements

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!