



DECEMBER 21, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

tel 212.736.8500 • www.stfrancisnyc.org

The Nativity with the Saints (between 1503 and 1561). Ridolfo del Ghirlandaio (1483–1561). Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, N.Y., U.S.A.

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

Rosary Group: Every second Wednesday, 6:30 pm Clare Room

Holy Hour: Every third Thursday, after 5:30 pm Mass

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-Friday: 8:15 am -5:15 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
jbernard@stfrancisnyc.org

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

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

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

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

Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 20, 2025

11:00 AM Thomas & Edith Castellana; Joseph D'Alessandro (D)

4:00 PM Mary & Samuel Nasoff (D); Alberto & Venera Costabile (D)

Sunday, December 21, 2025

8:00 AM Members Franciscan Mass League; Maria, Mike, Gavin & Clare

10:00 Luis M. & Juan R. Torres (D); Eloy Sanchez & Virgilio R. Vegas (D)

11:00 Frank & Amelia Bettua; The Wang Family

12:30 PM All Deceased Bazzurro, D'argenio & Daconta Families; Prpic Ana

5:00 Muriel, Scott, Ross, & Ryan; Leonida G. Soresca (D)

Monday, December 22, 2025

7:30 AM St. Francis of Assisi; Thanksgiving Baltazar Miranda Family

12:30 PM Jose Medina (D); Diane Bardy Zafiros

5:30 Terry & Barry Tillman

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

7:30 AM St. Anthony: Bday Carmelite Maynard (D)

12:00 PM Marion Vincent Mempin Md (D);

Intention of Marie Francois Altenor

5:30 Birthday Maria Victoria Robles; Lolita Abellar (D)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 | Christmas Eve

12:00 PM St. Jude; Anniversary Angelina Santiago (D)

5:30 Mary Locc & Lillian De Paris (D); Elvira & May Miranda

Thursday, December 25, 2025 | Christmas

8:00 AM Healing Myrta Vargas; James Pratap (D)

11:00 Anibal Caceres (D); Gotaco-Lee Families

12:30 PM Arthur & Mary Bazzurro;

Verna & Salvatore Bronzo & Family Living & Deceased

Friday, December 26, 2025

12:00 PM Olivia Tjokrosetio; Blessings For Gotaco-Lee Families

This week's Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Lights:

Catherine Puangco

Advent Candles: The Advent wreath candles were donated by Cassandra Smith in honor of her two sons, Jay D. Smith and Lester B. Edwards and their families.

Due to early deadlines for our bulletin print schedule for the Christmas season, we were unable to include the following names for intentions in last week's bulletin: John & Sheila Foley (D); Michele Seide & Maurice Charles (D); Thanksgiving George Andrieux; Fr. Peter T. Sticco (D); Rebecca Gallardo & Celeste San Lucas (D); Aurora Dominguez (D); Healing Theresa Esquivel; For Christine Park; Elena Diaz (D); Loraine Escarcha; Ronald J. Bautista (D); Intention Of Teresita Gatcho.

The Pastor's Corner

Dear sisters and brothers,

Christmas Greetings!

After the four weeks of Advent, Christmas Joy is celebrated through the birth of Jesus Christ in a manger in Bethlehem.



The last verse from today's first reading from Isaiah is repeated in today's Gospel passage from Matthew "Behold, the Virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Yes, God truly is with us and calls us to be in solidarity with one another. We walked this Advent journey together with our theme "Our Living Hope!"

This weekend, I will speak at all the Masses encouraging all parishioners and friends to give a gift to the Father Mychal Judge, OFM Building Fund. This building fund will provide monies to renovate and repair our school building which begins in January, 2026. That will be phase one. Then the church building needs repairs and replacements. That is phase two in 2027. Phase three begins in 2028 with repairs and renovations in our parish house.

The Three Wise Men were foreigners who came from afar bearing gifts for the Christ Child. In this season of gift-giving, please give extra in your gift to the Father Mychal Judge, OFM Building Fund.

On behalf of the Franciscan friars and our parish staff, may you ALL have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Holy New Year!

Blessings to all!

Father Brian Jordan, OFM
Pastor



Scan the QR code to read Father Brian's letter for Christmas with the theme of Holy Night. You will also be able to make your Christmas gift to the parish via the QR code. We thank you for supporting the Franciscan Friars and the parish this Christmas season.



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.



The Nativity (circa 1433-24).
Zanobi Strozzi (1412–1468).
Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York City, N.Y., U.S.A. Zanobi
Strozzi, CCO, via Wikimedia

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

December 15-December 23: Simbang Gabi Nine-Day Advent Novena Masses

The Ugnayan Filipino Ministry at St. Francis of Assisi is hosting its Simbang Gabi Nine-Day Advent Masses. Weekday Masses at 6:15 pm in the Lower Church and Weekend Masses at 3:00 pm in the Lower Church.

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Confessions at 8:00 am - 9:30 am and 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Masses at 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm (Korean), and 10:00 pm

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day

Masses at 8:00 am, 9:15 am (Korean), 11:00 am, and 12:30 pm

Friday, December 26: Day After Christmas

Parish office will be closed and there will be no confessions. There will be one Mass at 12 noon.

JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1: ANNUAL PARISH WINTER RETREAT

The Church of St. Francis of Assisi is again offering a WINTER RETREAT FOR MINISTERS, VOLUNTEERS & PARISHIONERS. Step away from the busyness of life and find renewal in God's presence. Join us for our parish retreat—a time to rest, reflect, and reconnect in faith.



This retreat is a chance for parishioners to escape the city for a couple of days to connect with one another and reconnect with God. There will be time to pray, hear talks, discuss the faith, and enjoy quiet time on the beautiful property of the Mt. Alvernia Franciscan Retreat Center in Wappingers Falls, NY. Scan QR code for more information, fees, and to register.

SPECIAL NOTE ON UPPER CHURCH (M-F)

Please note that the Upper Church will open at 11:30 am Mondays through Friday starting December 15.

PASTORAL NOTES

1. Father Brian Jordan, our pastor, has had his email account "bjordan@stfrancisnyc.org" hacked by predatory thieves. They pose as Father Brian asking for money through gift cards in case of a fake emergency. **Please ignore for it is a vicious scam. Father Brian will only ask for money for the parish from the pulpit, the bulletin, the website or in-person.** Never by emails! Many other pastors from the Archdiocese of New York and other local dioceses are also victims of these vicious scams.

2. Our January 1st Mass schedule for New Year's Day is as follows: Korean Mass at 9:15 am and a 12 noon Mass in English. Both will take place in the Upper Church. All are welcome!

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Due to early deadlines for our bulletin print schedule for the Christmas season, we are unable to include up-to-date information for our collections in this bulletin. We will provide updates as they become available for each bulletin being drafted.

In-Pew Collections

Sunday, December 7	\$6,410.00
December 1-5	\$2,271.00

Online Collections

November 24-30	\$2,545.00
December 1-7	\$4,301.00

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!