



## MARCH 15, 2026 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, LAETARE SUNDAY

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi • 135 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, NY 10001  
tel 212.736.8500 • [www.stfrancisnyc.org](http://www.stfrancisnyc.org)

Statue of St. Patrick at the footstep of Croagh Patrick, Co. Mayo, Ireland. 25 July 2010. By Tom Szustek. Tom Szustek, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, 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

**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](mailto:bjordan@stfrancisnyc.org)

Father James Bernard, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Business Manager  
[jbernard@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jbernard@stfrancisnyc.org)

Father Jim Gannon, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar [jgannon@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jgannon@stfrancisnyc.org)

Father Luke Lee, O.F.M., Director of Korean Ministry  
[luke0829ofm@gmail.com](mailto:luke0829ofm@gmail.com)

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries [maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:maugustin@stfrancisnyc.org)

Julie Berwick, Director, St. Francis Counseling Center [jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:jberwick@stfrancisnyc.org)

Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry [etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org)

Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office [rperaza@stfrancisnyc.org](mailto:rperaza@stfrancisnyc.org)

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, March 14, 2026

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

Rev. Alexis Moronta 24th Annv. (L)

4:00 PM Richard Severson (D); Carlos Casal Pacheco (D)

### Sunday, March 15, 2026 | Laetare Sunday

8:00 AM Members Franciscan Mass League;

Dennis McCormick (D)

10:00 Safe Trip Blanca Elena Merchan Alvarado (L)

11:00 Maura Hernandez Lacap (D); Celestine Lawson (L)

12:30 PM Anne P. Richard

### Monday, March 16, 2026

7:30 AM Amelia & Frank Bettua (D); Christopher Waters (D)

12:00 PM Cristina Abuan Zaregko (D); Kiernan Cunnane (D)

### Tuesday, March 17, 2026 | Feast of St. Patrick

7:30 AM Jean Castellana (D)

12:00 PM Fr. Patrick Fitzgerald OFM (D); Lino Corradi (D)

5:30 St. Anthony

### Wednesday, March 18, 2026

12:00 PM Aurora Mejia (D);

Felicidad And Jose De Guzman (D)

5:30 Vincent & Ann Castellana (D)

### Thursdays, March 19, 2026

7:30 AM Victoria D. Bazzurro & Adelena D'Argenio

12:00 PM Joaquin Salazar (D)

5:30 Mary Flynn (D)

### Friday, March 20, 2026

7:30 AM St. Jude; Bday Nicholas Suwanto

12:00 PM Joseph D'Alessandro (D); Fortuna Fuentes (D)

### This week's Bread and Wine:

Catherine Puangco

Cristina A. Zaregko & Fr. Patrick Fitzgerald (D)

50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv. of Francisco & Lerma Carlos

### This week's Bread and Wine and Sanctuary Lights:

Catherine Puangco

50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv. of Francisco & Lerma Carlos

### The following names were not included in previous bulletins at time of printing submission:

Barbie Houlihan & Amalia Battle (L)

Anisia Redulla & Remy Librinca (D)

## The Pastor's Corner

Once a month, a parishioner or staff member offers a reflection or shares an important document about the life of the contemporary church. Ellen Fishman, a member of our Synod Committee shared this recent prayer by Pope Leo concerning the war in Iran. As Jesus cured the blind man in today's Gospel passage from John, may this special prayer from the Holy Father cure "societal blindness" about the dangers of a potential nuclear war.

### ***Pope's Prayer Intention for Disarmament and Peace***– March 2026

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord of Life,  
you shaped every human being in your image and likeness.  
We believe you created us for communion, not for war,  
for fraternity, not for destruction.

You who greeted your disciples saying, "Peace be with you,"  
grant us the gift of your peace  
and the strength to make it a reality in history.  
Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world,  
asking that nations renounce weapons  
and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy.

Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment, and indifference,  
so we may become instruments of reconciliation.  
Help us understand that true security  
does not come from control fueled by fear,  
but from trust, justice, and solidarity among peoples.

Lord, enlighten the leaders of the nations,  
so they may have the courage to abandon projects of death,  
halt the arms race,  
and place the lives of the most vulnerable at the center.  
May the nuclear threat never again dictate the future of humanity.

Holy Spirit,  
make us faithful and creative builders of daily peace:  
in our hearts, our families,  
our communities, and our cities.  
May every kind word, every gesture of reconciliation,  
and every choice for dialogue be seeds of a new world.

Amen.

## PASTORAL NOTES

1. If you wish to contribute to the **Annual Cardinal's Appeal**, please take one of the white envelopes in the pews and designate your gift in cash, a check, or make an online donation. All the information is on the white envelope for the Cardinal's Appeal. **Please put the number "68" on the white envelope which would identify as a gift from a parishioner from the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.**

2. During the **Franciscan Jubilee Year of January 10, 2026 to January 10, 2027**—any Franciscan church in the world could be seen as a sign of a pilgrimage where the faithful can visit such as our church as ours. During the pilgrimage, parishioners and pilgrims can make a plenary indulgence where the pilgrim can pray for the Holy Father, say the Our Father, recite the Nicene Creed and go to confession within that same Franciscan church. Since we are known as the "church of confessions" in the New York area, we suggest that penitents confess not only personal sins but also social sins such as racism, prejudice, sins against the environment, such as pollution and failure to recycle and promoting violence of any kind. We Franciscans pray for systemic changes in order to eradicate systemic injustice. We encourage Catholic Social Teaching within your examination of conscience before going to confession.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 28: 2026 GALA TO END HUNGER

The 2026 Gala to End Hunger will take place in St. Ignatius Loyola's Wallace House on Park Avenue in Manhattan on Tuesday, April 28 at 6 pm. Tickets are available by visiting [bread.org/gala](http://bread.org/gala) for more information. The program will feature Cardinal Sean O'Malley, OFM Capuchin, Archbishop Emeritus of Boston. To become a member of Bread for the World and supporter of ending hunger, visit [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

## ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES | SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER

**February 26 - April 9, 2026 (on Thursdays):  
Carson McCullers (1917-1967) : Telling Tales**



**March 2 - April 20, 2026 (on Mondays):  
Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979) Poetic Sights and Insights**



**NEW START DATE March 18-April 1, 2026:  
The Writings and Wisdom of St. Paul**



## WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

### In-Pew Collections

Sunday, March 8	\$3,928.00
March 2-6	\$2,741.00
Second Collection: Catholic Relief	\$1,367.00

## 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!