

Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church



SUNDAY BULLETIN | February 11, 2024

600 Hamilton Street · Norristown, PA · 19401
(p) 610-272-0402 · (e) admin@sfanorristown.com
www.sfanorristown.com

Rev. Richard J. Smith, M.Div., Pastor

Deacon David J. Matour

Weekend Assistants: Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Doody; Rev. Abner Gonzalez Bonilla, SP

Mass Times:

Daily: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8:30am *No Wednesday Masses*

Weekend: Vigil: Saturday 5:30pm;

7:00am, 9:00am (Bilingual), 11:00am, 5:30pm

Misa en Español es el 1 y 3 Domingo del mes a las 1:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays: 9:00 am & 4:00pm - 5:00pm, or by appointment - please call 610-272-0402.

Adoration Times:

Mondays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm October - May; Mondays 9:00 am - 10 am June - September

Parish Secretary: Miss Lauren Kibler

Office Manager: Mrs. Dolores Landis

Business Manager: Mr. Carl Needles

St. Francis Rectory Hours

Monday thru Thursday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

closed on weekends

St. Francis Early Learning Center

636 Hamilton Street, Norristown

Mrs. Virginia Bueno, Director

Phone: (610) 757-1523

Website: www.saintfranciselc.org

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

601-A Buttonwood Street, Norristown

Miss Bridget Tigie, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

Website: www.sfacatholic.org



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:30 AM - Albert Hopple
(David & Anita DiLucia)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:30 AM - Marie Colihan
(Judy Fenerty)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - Ash Wednesday

8:30 - Pro Populo

12:15 - Pro Populo

7:00 - Pro Populo

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:30 AM - Dennis Magargle
(Theresa Dever)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

8:30 AM - David Boyce
(Kay Boyce)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8:30 AM - Increase in Vocations
5:30 PM - Pro Populo

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:00 AM - Deceased Priests of the Parish

9:00 AM - John Ruser
(Barbara Ruser & Family)

11:00 AM - Deceased Parishioners

1:00 - Spanish Mass

5:30 PM - People of the Parish

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Feb. 17 - 5:30 pm

L - P. Smith

EM - J. Shearer,
MJ Bondi

Feb. 18 - 11 am

L - L. Hallahan

EM - T. Greco,
K. McTamney

Feb. 18 - 7 am

L - D. DiLucia

EM - BJ Mumford,
T. Barbato

Feb. 18 - 5:30 pm

L - B. Collins

EM - A. Collins
M. Anders

Feb. 18 - 9 am

L - A. Franz

EM - R. Sirkissoo,
O. Russo

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is every Monday
from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, unless otherwise noted.*

MONDAY / LUNES

1:00 Benediction (C)

7:00 All Class Reunion Meeting (MH)

FRIDAY / VIERNES

7:00 Stations of the Cross (C)

(C) Church
(MH) Meeting House
(R) Rectory
(S) School

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Every Friday in Lent

7:00 PM

In the Church



MEMORIAL SOCIETY

Sanctuary Lamp, Blessed Mother Altar:

Sanctuary Lamp, St. Joseph Altar:

Altar Bread at Mass this Week:

Floral Arrangement, Main Altar:

Floral Arrangement, Blessed Mother Altar:

Floral Arrangement, St. Joseph Altar:

This Weeks' Memorial Society Enrollees:

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Maria Hernandez Alcala, Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco,
Michelle Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Lois Leggerie, Edward
Mateja, Joe McDonald, Sandy Orth, Kathleen Prinzivalli,
Christina Shea, Anthony Tarmin, James Tuggle, Michele
Tuggle, Olivia Tuturice, Peter Wiggins, Mai Wise, Charles
Yura, All Those Homebound, All Our Deceased.

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

This Wednesday begins the Holy Season of Lent. It came up on us rather quickly this year and I wouldn't blame you if you are not ready for it. Many of us will spend these next few days figuring out what we want to do for this forty day journey. I believe this question needs two approaches. We should ask ourselves, at the same time, what can I do to prepare myself and help our parish prepare for the celebration of Easter. Now we can choose to come to daily mass, pray more and join in the different activities we have scheduled for Lent. That would go a long way to help prepare yourself for Easter. But what about helping the parish? Over the last few weeks, in our parish announcements, I have been asking for more volunteers to help meet the Spiritual needs of the parish. By volunteering our time as a lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, or one of the other ministries here at St. Francis, we can aid in spreading the Gospel. By our active participation in the life of our parish, we help it grow. We can help people, "return to me with your whole heart" to God and his Church as the prophet Joel will tell us on Wednesday. Let us become ambassadors of Christ just like St. Paul encourages the Corinthians. By preparing ourselves properly, we can then do even more for our parish this Lent. So let us find that two fold answer for what we will do for ourselves and our parish to fully celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus.

Este miércoles comienza el Tiempo Santo de Cuaresma. Se nos ocurrió bastante rápido este año y no te culparé si no estás preparado para ello. Muchos de nosotros pasaremos estos próximos días averiguando qué queremos hacer en este viaje de cuarenta días. Creo que esta pregunta necesita dos enfoques. Deberíamos preguntarnos, al mismo tiempo, qué puedo hacer para prepararme y ayudar a nuestra parroquia a prepararse para la celebración de la Pascua. Ahora podemos optar por venir a misa diaria, orar más y unimos a las diferentes actividades que tenemos programadas para la Cuaresma. Eso sería de gran ayuda para prepararse para la Pascua. ¿Pero qué hay de ayudar a la parroquia? Durante las últimas semanas, en nuestros anuncios parroquiales, he estado pidiendo más voluntarios para ayudar a satisfacer las necesidades espirituales de la parroquia. Al ofrecer nuestro tiempo como lector, ministro extraordinario de la Sagrada Comunión o uno de los otros ministerios aquí en St. Francis, podemos ayudar a difundir el Evangelio. Mediante nuestra participación activa en la vida de nuestra parroquia, la ayudamos a crecer. Podemos ayudar a las personas a "volverse a mí con todo el corazón" a Dios y a su Iglesia como nos dirá el profeta Joel el miércoles. Convirtámonos en embajadores de Cristo tal como anima San Pablo a los corintios. Si nos preparamos adecuadamente, podremos hacer aún más por nuestra parroquia en esta Cuaresma. Entonces, encontremos esa doble respuesta a lo que haremos por nosotros mismos y nuestra parroquia para celebrar plenamente la Resurrección de Jesús.

Sixth
Sunday
in
Ordinary
Time

Reading I: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46

Lepers in those ancient days had to live not only with physical pain but also with psychological pain from the several laws regarding them. In addition to forced separation from the community, they were obliged to cry out "Unclean!" whenever they neared healthy people.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10; 31-11:1

Paul urges his flock to act like Christ as healers and at the same time to be compassionate toward all whom they may encounter.

Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45

With a loving and tender touch, disregarding strict laws against any kind of physical contact with lepers, Jesus touches a man with the disease and heals him. He then orders the man to follow the law by showing himself to a priest who would declare him "clean."

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to
love.
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in
pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

LA ORACIÓN DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

Señor, hazme un instrumento de tu paz
Para sembrar amor donde hay odio
Donde hay ofensa, dar perdón
Donde hay duda, fé
Donde hay desesperación, esperanza
Donde hay obscuridad, luz
Donde hay tristeza, alegría.
O Maestro divino, concédeme
que no busque el ser consolado, sino el poder
consolar que no busque el ser comprendido,
sino el comprender que no busque el ser amado,
sino el amar
Porque es en dar, que recibimos
Es en perdonar, que somos perdonados
Es en morir, que nacemos a la vida eterna.
Amén.

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

COLLECTION

FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Sunday	\$8,701
E-Giving	\$1,507

Thank you for your continued kindness and
generosity towards our Parish and may God Bless
you in all you do. ~ Fr. Smith



Easily tithe with online giving and
no longer worry about envelopes.
Visit sfanorristown.com/donate
to learn more.



If you would like a statement of your 2023
logged donations, please fill out this coupon &
place it in the collection basket, mail to the
Rectory, or drop it off at the Rectory mailbox. **Be
sure to mark how you want your donation
statement sent to you, otherwise it will be
mailed.** NOTE: Those using Parish Giving will have
their statements emailed to them by the company.
Online giving numbers will not be included in the
statements provided by SFA.

Name

Address

City, State, & Zip

Phone Number

Mail statement to name & address above

Call when ready & I will pick statement up

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

School News

3rd Grade News

Third Grade was quite busy during the 1st Trimester! We have learned so many new things in school as well as about each other, and we are only getting started. Our motto is "In this class we are family" and we practice that every day! We are very proud of how our 3rd Grade students show kindness to each other and help out when needed. We have explored many different topics in Religion, Social Studies, Science, Math, and Language Arts (ELA).

Earlier this school year, we had the opportunity to learn more about our patron Saint Francis of Assisi. We were able to listen at Church and ask questions of Father Pio, as well as attend a mass that he celebrated. Our 3rd Grade friends really enjoyed this experience! We have been discussing Creation and what God means to us, and how Mary learned to trust God. We have started to prepare for the very special Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

We have really been enjoying the time that we get to spend learning about the properties of matter in the Science Lab and future investigations to come. We learned all about bats during the 1st Trimester through science and ELA and then created our own bats by coloring coffee filters and spraying them with water. In Math, we are learning our multiplication facts, which is a big step for 3rd Grade!

As we continue in the 2nd Trimester, 3rd Grade will travel with their 6th Grade Prayer Partners on a Field Trip to the Franklin Institute. We can't wait to see the live Combustion Show on our Field Trip! We will also be learning about the liturgical season of Lent and participating in weekly Stations of the Cross over the next few weeks.



Religious Education

Welcome to the Blessed Carlo Acutis Religious Education Page at Saint Francis of Assisi! Here, you will find important information, updates, and dates to know!

REMINDER: If you/your family attend & are registered at Saint Patrick's Church and are attending PREP classes here at St. Francis, PLEASE CONTACT ST. PATRICK'S. They have your dates for Sacrament Meetings.

Don't Forget: Beginning in January, students are required to bring their Mass Attendance Sheets to Mass on Sunday to be signed by the Pastor. If you lose your sheet, they can be found on St. Francis of Assisi's website under PREP.

RECORDATORIO: Si usted o su familia asisten y están registrados en la Iglesia de San Patricio y asistiendo a clases de PREP aquí en St. Francis, POR FAVOR CONTACTE A SAN PATRICIO. Tienen tus fechas para las Reuniones Sacramentos.

No lo olvide: a partir de enero, los estudiantes deben traer sus hojas de asistencia a misa el domingo para que las firme el párroco. Si pierde su hoja, puede encontrarla en el sitio web de San Francisco de Asís en PREP.

Women's Gospel Reflection

There is **NO** Women's Gospel Study Group *this Wednesday, February 14, 2024* due to Ash Wednesday. We will resume next week. Thank you!

SFA Seniors

Here are our upcoming meeting dates for the Seniors group. All meetings are at 1 PM in the Meetinghouse.

February 20 - Soup & Pizza Day
March 5 - Hot Dog Day
March 19 - Zep Day

Please do not park in our Lower Parking Lot. Parking is available on Buttonwood Street and in our Upper Lot.

Sunday Socials

The Ladies of St. Francis invite you to our Sunday Socials, held on the first Sunday of every month after the 9 & 11 AM Masses. Join us in the Parish Meetinghouse for coffee, doughnuts, and other refreshments and get to know your fellow parishioners!

The next Sunday Socials will be on:
Sunday, March 3, 2024

We will be selling Irish Potatoes at our next social! Supplies are limited!



The Ladies of Saint Francis are looking for volunteers on **Sunday, February 25th, 2024**. We are going to be making Irish Potatoes, and we need volunteers! Come to the Meetinghouse on 2/25 at 12 Noon if interested. Thank you!!

Men's Bible Study

There is **NO** Men's Bible Study *this Wednesday, February 14, 2024* due to Ash Wednesday. We will resume next week. Thank you!

Church Cleaners

We are looking for volunteers to assist with gently cleaning our Church. We will be meeting every other Wednesday at 9 AM to clean. If you are interested in helping, simply show up!

Spring 2024 cleaning dates:

*February 21st
March 6th & 27th
April 3rd & 17th
May 1st & 22nd*

THANK YOU!

Prayer Shawl Group

first Wednesday of the month | 1 PM
We meet in the Meetinghouse. No experience needed -- if you don't know how to crochet/knit, someone in the group would be happy to teach you!

*for more information, contact
Kay Boyce at 610-772-7216*

SFA PRO-LIFE

Our Pro-Life group will be meeting on the First Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM. We will meet in the Parish Meetinghouse. Meetings will be followed by a prayer vigil at the Planned Parenthood on Powell Street. All are welcome to join in the fight to save the unborn.

Keep an eye out on the bulletin board in the back of church for upcoming local Pro-Life events!

All Pro-Life correspondence for St. Francis of Assisi can be sent to Judy at sfapro lifegroup@gmail.com.

Catholic Social Services 267-331-2490

LENT

Please Note: On Ash Wednesday, ashes will be distributed *during Mass* at all the Masses.

In addition, check out our website for information on Lent, Lenten Devotions, and more information about different things the Church has going on during the Lenten Season!

CHURCH CANDLES

The cost of our candles in church continues to rise. Recently, we have noticed that people are lighting the candles in church without donating anything. We would like to remind everyone that our church candles are \$3. When you light a candle in church, **please place \$3 per candle in one of the donation boxes in the church.** *Please do not light candles without donating money. Thank you.*

PARISH ENVELOPES



If you have not recently received your parish envelopes, *please contact the Rectory.* We can confirm that the mailing address we have on file is correct. Also, if you have **MOVED**, please contact the Rectory so we can update your address. Thank you!

DEVOTIONS at ST. FRANCIS

The Rosary is recited daily before the 8:30 am Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet - Tuesdays after Mass

Sacred Heart Devotions - Fridays after Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena - Saturdays after daily Mass

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament -

Tuesday - Saturday from 9 am - 4 pm

Stop by the Rectory for the keypad code.



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL ALL-CLASS REUNION

On April 20th, 2024, we will be hosting an All-Class Reunion for all SFA graduates.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 7 PM. We will meet in the Meetinghouse.

If you have any photos from your time as a student here at SFA, please send them to admin@sfanorristown.com or mail them to the Rectory!!!

RECTORY CLOSING

Please Note: The Rectory will be **CLOSED** on Monday, February 19, 2024 for Presidents' Day. We will reopen on Tuesday with normal hours.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

U.S. Army - *CPT Nathan Bevans*
Army National Guard - *SPC Nathan Enslin*
U.S. Army - *PVT 2nd Cl. Matthew Hahn*
U.S. Army - *MAJ John Orendorff*
U.S. Army - *SSGT Eric D. Pearson*
U.S.A.F. - *SSG Jonathan D. Pearson*
U.S.A.F. - *SSGT Katlyn Pearson*
U.S. Navy - *PO1 Evan Slizofski*
U.S. Navy - *PO2 Jonathan Slizofski*
U.S.A.F. - *SrA Joseph M. Stasik*
U.S. Army - *SGT James Stephenson*
U.S. Army - *LTC Ramon A. Ramos*
Army National Guard - *Col Steven Zahuranec*