

# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

600 Hamilton Street, Norristown, PA 19401

(p) 610-272-0402 | (e) admin@sfanorristown.com

[www.sfanorristown.com](http://www.sfanorristown.com)

July 28, 2024



Rev. Richard J. Smith, M.Div., Pastor      Deacon David J. Matour

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Doody

## **Mass Schedule:**

**Daily:** M/T/Th/F - 8:30AM in the Chapel

**Sunday:** 7:00AM, 9:00AM (Bilingual), 11:00AM & 5:30PM  
Misa en Español el 1 y 3 Domingo del mes a las 1:00PM

**Saturday:** 8:30AM & 5:30PM (Vigil)

### **CONFESSION:**

**Saturday:** 9:00AM & 4:00PM - 5:00PM

### **ADORATION:**

**M/W/F 9:00AM - 6:00PM in the  
Adoration Chapel**

*[stop by the Parish Office for the Chapel code]*

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

**Monday-Thursday 9:30AM-4:00PM  
(closed 12-12:30PM daily)  
Friday 9:00AM-Noon**

## **Parish Office Staff**

**Administrative Assistant:** Miss Lauren Kibler

**Religious Education:** Mrs. Maritza Reyes

**Business Manager:** Mr. Carl Needles

## **St. Francis Early Learning Center**

636 Hamilton Street, Norristown

Mrs. Virginia Bueno, Director

Phone: (610) 757-1523

Website: [www.saintfranciselc.org](http://www.saintfranciselc.org)

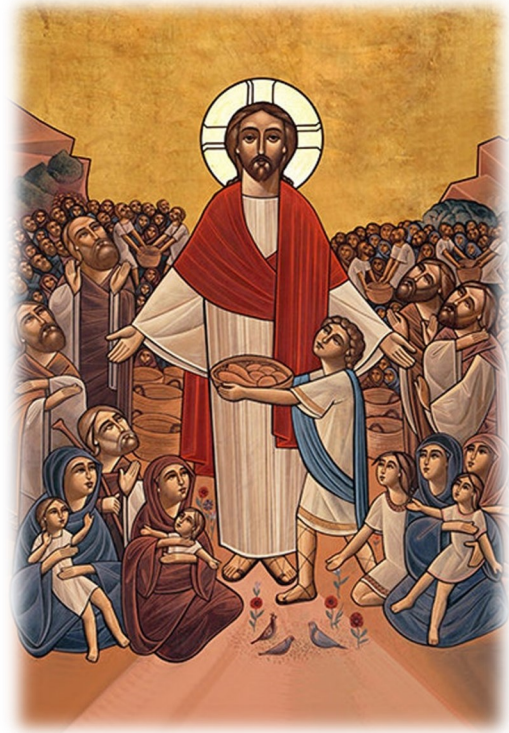
## **St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School**

601-A Buttonwood Street, Norristown

Miss Bridget Tigue, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

Website: [www.sfacatholic.org](http://www.sfacatholic.org)



**SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024**

2 Kgs 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18;

Eph 4:1-6; Jn 6:1-15

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**MONDAY, JULY 29**

*Memorial of Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus*

No Mass

**TUESDAY, JULY 30**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 31**

*Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest*

No Mass

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**

*Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor*

No Mass

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 2**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 3**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

5:30PM Arthur Heidel by Michael & Cheryl Maresca

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**

7:00AM Pro Populo

9:00AM Increase in Vocations

11:00AM Frank Winkel by David & Anita DiLucia

1:00PM Maria Hernandez Alcala by Familia Hernandez Alcala

5:30PM Deceased Parishioners

**LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE**

Aug. 3 - 5:30PM

L - K. Bradbury

EM - J. Shearer

M. Anders

Aug. 4 - 11AM

L - L. Gambone

EM - L. O'Donnell,

M. Palmore

Aug. 4 - 7AM

L - D. DiLucia

EM - C. DeGrazio

J. DeGrazio

Aug. 4 - 5:30PM

L - B. Collins

EM - A. Collins

Aug. 4 - 9AM

L - A. Franz

EM - D. Skaw

**PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM in the Adoration Chapel, unless otherwise noted.*

**MONDAY / LUNES**

6:00 Benediction

**WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES**

6:00 Benediction

7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)

**FRIDAY / VIERNES**

RECTORY CLOSED

6:00 Benediction

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

**PRAYER LIST**

Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco, Michele Hamilton,  
Patty Iaccarino, Lois Leggerie, Edward Mateja,  
Joe McDonald, Constance Monastero, Sandy Orth,  
Kathleen Prinzivalli, Dolores Salvo, Veronica Severino,  
Christina Shea, Anthony Tarmin, James Tuggle,  
Michele Tuggle, Olivia Tuturice, Brandon Washinko,  
Peter Wiggins, Mai Wise, Charles Yura,  
All Those Homebound, & All Our Deceased.

*Please call the Parish Office to give us your name or the name of a loved one to be added to the prayer list. When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!*

**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:**

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

**SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024**

**Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith**

Many times in the letters of St. Paul, we hear him call us to live a life that is worthy of the call we have received. This time, in his letter to the Ephesians, he gives us some pointers on how we can do this. We are encouraged to do so with all humility and gentleness, with patience and bearing with one another through love. Now there are a few other ways he tells us but I want to focus on where we should begin according to Paul. We are told to begin with humility. Interesting how he doesn't tell us to begin with faith or with love but with humility. Why is that? Part of being humble is acknowledging that we don't always have the answer. We must acknowledge that a lot of the times, what we think is right is wrong. In order to be humble, we must admit that the way someone else thinks is the right way. This is the humility that Paul is calling us to live out. The humility we need to be open to is one that says that God's ways and not our own is the path to follow. Now this kind of humility opens us up to the grace that God wishes to give each of us. Paul himself had to do the same thing. He first believed that he was right and saw the followers of Jesus as inferior. After encountering Jesus, he humbled himself to the possibility that what he thought and believed was wrong. This humility opened Paul to so much and because of it he was able to do so much for God. We have all been called to do the same. We have all been called to do great things for God and we can. It starts with humility.

Muchas veces en las cartas de San Pablo, escuchamos su llamado a vivir una vida que es merecedora del llamado que hemos recibido. Esta vez, en su carta a los Efesios, él nos da algunos consejos en como hacer esto. Estamos animados de hacer esto con toda la humildad y gentileza, con paciencia y soportándonos unos a otros a través del amor. Ahora, hay algunas otras maneras en que nos lo dice, pero quiero centrarme en dónde debemos comenzar según Pablo. Se nos dice que comencemos con humildad. Es interesante cómo no nos dice que comencemos con la fe o con el amor sino con la humildad. ¿Por qué será? Parte de ser humilde es reconocer que no siempre tenemos la respuesta. Debemos de reconocer que muchas veces lo que pensamos que esta bien esta mal. Para ser humilde debemos reconocer que la manera en que piensan los demás es la manera correcta. Esta es la humildad que Pablo nos llama a vivir. La humildad a la que debemos estar abiertos es aquella que dice que los caminos de Dios y no los nuestros son el camino a seguir. Ahora bien, este tipo de humildad nos abre a la gracia que Dios desea darnos a cada uno de nosotros. El propio Pablo tuvo que hacer lo mismo. Primero creyó que tenía razón y vio a los seguidores de Jesús como inferiores. Después de encontrarse con Jesús, se humilló ante la posibilidad de que lo que pensaba y creía estaba mal. Esta humildad abrió a Pablo a muchas cosas y gracias a ellas pudo hacer mucho por Dios. Todos hemos sido llamados a hacer lo mismo. Todos hemos sido llamados a hacer cosas grandes por Dios y podemos hacerlo. Comienza con humildad.

*Seventeenth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary  
Time*

**Reading I: 2 Kings 4: 42-44**

Elisha's multiplication of the barley loaves is a direct preview of Jesus' miracle described in this weekend's Gospel passage for Mass.

**Reading II: Ephesians 4: 1-6**

Paul stresses the spirit of unity inherent in the new humanity created by Christ. He notes the necessary virtues each member must strive to practice that makes us one in Christ.

**Gospel: John 6: 1-15**

Jesus takes the initiative and questions Philip for a way out of a difficult problem that has arisen. Jesus' miracle of multiplication solves the food problem but raises new questions to be answered.

# The CHOSEN

watch | discuss | reflect | rejoice



**Notice: The Chosen Viewings will be paused while we are away on Pilgrimage. We will resume on Wednesday, August 7 at 6:30 PM with Season 1, Episode 7.**

The Chosen is shown on Wednesday Nights in the Meetinghouse (Parish Center) at 6:30 PM, followed by a discussion. This is a free event, all are welcome to attend! ***This will take The place of the Women's Bible Study.***



## MARRIAGE MEETING

There are many married couples in our parish and our community who are not married in the Church. It could have been for several reasons why this happened. This does not mean the husband and wife do not love each other nor do they lack the desire to get married in the Church. In August, I am inviting any couple who finds themselves in this situation to a meeting. I am offering to sit down with each couple and help them to have their marriage blessed in the Church. This does not mean you have to plan a huge wedding. This is only an invitation to get your marriage blessed. This meeting will take place on two different nights, August 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm in the Meeting House. I hope to see you there and I look forward to helping our couples have their marriage blessed.

Hay tantas parejas en nuestra comunidad parroquial que no están casados por la iglesia. Pudo ser por diferentes razones y esto no significa que el marido y la mujer no se amen ni que no tengan el deseo de casarse en la iglesia. En Agosto estoy invitando a toda pareja que se encuentre en esta situación a una junta. Los invito a que platiquemos sobre cómo bendecir su matrimonio en la iglesia. Esto no significa que tengan que planear una boda a lo grande. Esto solo es una invitación para bendecir su matrimonio. Esta junta se llevará a cabo en dos noches diferentes. Agosto 22 y 23 a las 7 pm en la casa de reuniones. Espero verlos allí y espero poder ayudar a nuestras parejas con esta bendición.

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday | 7 PM | In the Meetinghouse

No registration required

*Studies led by Deacon Dave Matour*

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

## COLLECTION

JULY 21, 2024

Sunday	\$6,495
E-Giving	\$1,803

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](https://sfanorristown.com/donate) to learn more.





# SCHOOL NEWS

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards

Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2024! The following are the award recipients for the SFA Class of 2024:

**The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Award for Excellence in Social Studies:**

- Charles Allan Hallahan III

**Spanish Award:**

- Dana Guadalupe Calderon-Jaurez
- Ignacio Mendez Morales
- Dannel Ramon Quintero-Castro

**STREAM Award:**

- Brayanna Ashlynn Desince
- Joel Eusebio Dominguez
- Olivia Elizabeth Marino

**Altar Serving Award:**

- Charles Allan Hallahan III
- Olivia Elizabeth Marino

**The Patrick Harkin Humanitarian Award:**

- Savannah Rain Bartsch

**The Principal's Award for Most Improved Student:**

- Ethan Suleman Branch

**The Saint Francis of Assisi Senior Citizen's Award:**

- Charles Allan Hallahan III
- Olivia Elizabeth Marino

**The William & Doris Searle Award:**

- Jacob Aidan Calbazana



## 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!

**REGISTRATION FOR PREP/CCD IS NOW CLOSED. LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Please keep an eye on the website and bulletin for updates about when classes will start, as well as important meetings.

- There will be a parent meeting on **Thursday, September 5 at 7 PM** in the Church.

- If you haven't already, please bring a copy of your child's Baptism and First Communion certificates to the Rectory.

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**LAS REGISTRACIONES PARA PREP/CCD HAN CERRADO, NO SE ACEPTARAN REGISTRACIONES TARDE.**

Esté atento al sitio web y al boletín para obtener actualizaciones sobre cuándo comenzarán las clases, así como reuniones importantes.

- Habrá una junta para los padres el **Jueves, Septiembre 5 a las 7PM** en la iglesia.

- Si aún no lo ha hecho, por favor pase a la Rectoría a dejar una copia del certificado de Bautizo y Primera Comunión.

## ***PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL***

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the  
Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits,  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.

*Amen.*

## ***ORACIÓN A SAN MIGUEL ARCÁNGEL***

San Miguel Arcángel,  
defiéndenos en la batalla.

Sé nuestra protección contra la maldad y las asechanzas del  
diablo;

Que Dios lo reprenda, te lo pedimos humildemente;  
y haz tú,

oh Príncipe de las Huestes Celestiales,  
con el poder de Dios,

arrojar al infierno a Satanás

y a todos los espíritus

malignos, que merodean por el mundo,  
buscando la ruina de las almas.

*Amén.*

## **TEMPORARY MASS CHANGES**

Please note: While Father Smith is away on the parish  
pilgrimage, there will be no daily (weekday) Masses.

***We will still have Adoration and Sunday Mass  
(including the Vigil on Saturday night).***

Revised Mass Schedule:

July 22-26: No Masses

July 27: No 8:30AM Mass

July 29-August 2: No Masses

August 3: No 8:30AM Mass

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

## **Saint of the Week: Saint Alphonsus Liguori**

Feast Day: August 1

St. Alphonsus was born in Marianella, near Naples, then part of the Kingdom of Naples, on September 27, 1696, and was the oldest of 7. He was unable to be in the military, so pursued law, at the University of Naples, where he graduated with doctorates in civil and canon law at 16, and at the age of 18, joined the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy. He left the law field and became a priest in 1723, and was ordained on December 21, 1726.

*Did you know... St. Alphonsus is the Patron Saint of vocations, confessors, arthritis, and lawyers?*

He became known for his way of preaching, which was very simple. His sermons were very effective at converting those who had been alienated from their faith. On November 9, 1732, he founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, and was named Bishop of Sant'Agata dei Goti in 1762. Alphonsus reformed the seminary and spiritually rehabilitated the clergy and faithful, and even suspended those priests who celebrated Mass in less than 15 minutes. He passed away on August 1, 1787 at age 90.

*Did you know... St. Alphonsus was a prolific author, with 111 works on spirituality and theology that have 21,500 editions and translations into 72 languages?*

## **FATHER SMITH AWAY**

Please note: Father Smith will be on our Parish Pilgrimage in Italy from July 22 until August 3. He will be ***unavailable and unreachable*** during this time. Please plan any needed appointments accordingly. We ask for your prayers for Father & the other pilgrims, they will all be praying for you!

Catholic Social Services 267-331-2490

# Pray for Those Serving our Country

U.S. Army - *CPT Nathan Bevans*

U.S. Army - *PVT 2<sup>nd</sup> Cl. Matthew Hahn*

U.S. Army - *MAJ John Orendorff*

U.S. Army - *SSGT Eric D. Pearson*

U.S. Army - *SGT James Stephenson*

U.S. Army - *LTC Ramon A. Ramos*

U.S. Navy - *PO1 Evan Slizofski*

U.S. Navy - *PO2 Jonathan Slizofski*

U.S.A.F. - *SSG Jonathan D. Pearson*

U.S.A.F. - *SSGT Katlyn Pearson*

U.S.A.F. - *SrA Joseph M. Stasik*

Army Nat. Guard - *SPC Nathan Enslin*

Army Nat. Guard - *Col Steven Zahuranec*

## CHURCH CLEANERS

We are looking for volunteers to assist with gently cleaning our Church. We will be meeting every other Wednesday at 8:30AM to clean. If you are interested in helping, simply show up!

*Summer 2024 cleaning dates:*

*August 28<sup>th</sup>*

THANK YOU!

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Christmas bazaar committee is seeking volunteers to help plan for the 2024 Bazaar which will be held December 7. Our next meeting will be August 29 at 6:30pm in the meetinghouse. All are welcome!



## SFA Pro Life

Our Pro-Life group meets on the First Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM in the Meetinghouse. Meetings are 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](mailto:sfapro lifegroup@gmail.com).