



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 15, 2024

CLERGY

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

Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Doody Weekend Assistant
Rev. Abel Osorio, C.M. Weekend Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Miss Lauren Kibler

COORDINATOR OF 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

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

601A Buttonwood Street, Norristown
Miss Bridget Tigue, Principal
Phone: (610) 272-0501
Website: www.sfacatholic.org

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
601 Buttonwood Street, Norristown, PA 19401
(Phone) 610-272-0402 |
(Email) admin@sfanorristown.com |
(Website) www.sfanorristown.com |

OFFICE HOURS:

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: M/T/Th/F - 8:30AM
no Wednesday Mass

Sunday: 7:00AM, 9:00AM (Spanish), &
11:30AM

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 Center
for the Chapel code]



SUNDAY, September 15, 2024

Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9;
Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 16

Memorial of Sts. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

8:30 John Land by David & Anita DiLucia

Tuesday, September 17

Memorial of St. Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor

8:30 Margaret Donnelly by Pat Fazio

Wednesday, September 18

Ordinary Weekday

No Mass

Thursday, September 19

Memorial of St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

8:30 Edmund & Helen Margavich by The Margavich Family

Friday, September 20

Memorial of Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, & Paul Chŏng Ha-sang & Companions, Martyrs

8:30 Grace Giuffre by Sue & Dave Matour

Saturday, September 21

Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

8:30 Nora Grant (2nd Anniv.) by Husband Daniel Grant

5:30 Joshua Moser by Mom & Dad

Sunday, September 22

7:00 Edward J. Lester, Jr. by The O'Neill Family

9:00 Pro Populo

11:30 David M. Lloyd by The Kibler Family

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Sunday \$6,966

E-Giving \$1,774

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.

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 PM - Benediction

TUESDAY / MARTES

7:00 PM - RCIA (PC)

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

8:30 AM - Church Cleaners (C)

6:00 PM - Benediction

6:30 PM - The Chosen (PC)

7:00 PM - Men's Bible Study (PC)

FRIDAY / VIERNES

6:00 PM - Benediction

SUNDAY / SABADO

10:00 AM - PREP (S)

(C) Church
(PC) Parish Center
(R) Rectory
(S) School

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Sept. 21 - 5:30PM

L - B. Collins

EM - A. Collins,
D. Skaw

Sept. 22 - 9AM

L - M. de la Torre,

R. Chavez

Sept. 22 - 7AM

L - T. Leone

EM - O. Russo,
J. DeGrazio

Sept. 22 - 11:30AM

L - L. Gambone

EM - L. O'Donnell,
J. Gallagher

SUNDAY, September 15, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

It will come as a shock to all of you, but I am an avid sports fan. In particular, I love the Philadelphia Phillies. I have multiple jerseys, jackets, hats and other items that show my support for the Phillies. It is my hope one day to own a portion of the Phillies and have contacted Mr. Middleton for a price. Now some of this is a little over the top, I know, but you would question if I was truly a fan if you never saw me wearing their merchandise or ever attend a game. St. James is calling us on the exact same thing. "What good is it, if someone says he has faith but doesn't have works?" It is very simple to say I am a Catholic or I am a follower of Jesus. Many people do it on a regular basis and usually very publicly. However, if we evaluate their lives, it does not seem to add up. What they say and what they do not reflect someone who claims to follow Jesus. It takes commitment to live it out. Living out our Catholic faith is more than wearing a cross or medal. It is more than knowing when to stand or sit at mass. Being a Catholic means that our faith helps direct and inspires everything that we do. When people see us in the world, they should be able to tell by our actions that we are Catholic. You do not need to know the correct answer to every theological or social question that may come up. You do not have to memorize the entire Bible. Let your works show how deep your faith runs in your life. Let them all see by every action that you take that you are a Catholic.

Les sorprenderá a muchos de ustedes pero soy un ávido fanático de los deportes. En particular, yo amo los Phillies de Filadelfia. Tengo múltiples camisetas, chamarras, gorras y otros artículos para demostrar mi apoyo a los Phillies. Tengo la esperanza de un día ser dueño de una parte de los Phillies y he contactado al Sr. Middleton preguntando por el precio. Ahora bien, algunos de ustedes pensarán que esto es un poco exagerado, yo sé, pero se preguntarán si de verdad soy un fanático si nunca me vieran usando mercancía o asistiendo a un partido. San Jaime nos hace un llamado a esto mismo. "De qué sirve, si alguien dice que tiene fe, si no tiene obras?" Es muy fácil decir yo soy un católico o yo soy un seguidor de Jesús. Muchas personas lo hacen regularmente y usualmente muy públicamente. Sin embargo, si evaluamos sus vidas, no parece cuadrar. Lo que dicen y lo que hacen no reflejan a alguien que aclama seguir a Jesús. Se necesita compromiso para vivirlo. Vivir nuestra fe Católica es más que usar una cruz o medalla. Es más que saber lo que significan o sentarnos en Misa. Ser Católico significa que nuestra fe nos dirige y nos inspira hacer todo. Cuando las personas nos ven en el mundo, ellos deben darse cuenta por nuestras acciones que somos Católicos. No tienes que saber la respuesta a cada pregunta teológica o social que pueda surgir. No tienes que memorizar la Biblia entera. Deja que tus obras demuestren que tan profunda es tu fe en tu vida. Que todos vean por cada acción que realices que eres Católico.

**Twenty-Fourth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

Reading I: Isaiah 50: 4c-9a

The servant-prophet has a certain confidence, knowing that his suffering has meaning and that he also has the Lord's help to bear it.

Reading II: James 2: 14-18

True faith always manifests itself in good works. The component of love in our faith springs from our baptismal connection to Jesus.

Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

Peter's "confession" of Jesus as the Christ is the pivotal event in all of Mark's gospel. Jesus then teaches His chosen that true discipleship involves suffering.

The CHOSEN

watch | discuss | reflect | rejoice



The Chosen is shown on Wednesday Nights in the Parish Center (formerly the Meetinghouse) 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.***

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES

As you all may know, Father Smith has been mentioning that we will need to make some adjustments to the Mass Schedule. Father Smith is the *only priest* here at St. Francis, and as such, we unfortunately need to cut back on the amount of Masses we have here.

As of Sunday, September 8, 2024, the new Mass Changes are as follows:

1. The 9:00AM Mass will now be *fully* in Spanish. We will no longer have the 1PM bi-monthly Spanish Mass.
2. The 11:00AM Mass will be moved to 11:30AM.
3. We will ***no longer*** be offering the 5:30PM Mass on Sunday night.
4. The 5:30PM Vigil Mass on Saturday night will ***REMAIN THE SAME.***

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday | 7 PM | In the Parish Center
No registration required
Studies led by Deacon Dave Matour

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

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!

Fall 2024 cleaning dates:

September 25th

THANK YOU!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Christmas bazaar committee is seeking volunteers to help plan for the 2024 Bazaar which will be held December 7. For table information & space availability, contact Jane Caruso at 610-539-1681. To volunteer your time in any way, please email admin@sfanorristown.com or call the Parish Center.

DEVOTIONS at ST. FRANCIS

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

Divine Mercy Chaplet - Tuesdays after Mass

Sacred Heart Devotions - Fridays after Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena - Saturdays after 8:30AM Mass

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament - Monday-Friday from 9AM - 6PM in the Chapel. *Stop by the Parish Center for the keypad code.*



SCHOOL NEWS

SFA CARES Program

Saint Francis of Assisi School is looking for qualified individuals to help with the CARES After School Program for the 2024-2025 School year. Part-time positions are available Monday through Friday from 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM. Applicants must possess the following:

- Minimum of a High School Diploma
- Minimum of 2 years working with children
- Required clearances (Child Abuse, PA State Criminal Record, & FBI Fingerprint)
- *If hired, the applicant will have to take the Protecting God's Children class as well as complete Mandated Reporter Training & Act 126 Training.*

Assistance can be provided in obtaining necessary clearances.

Please contact Miss Bridget M. Tigue, Principal, at btigue@sfacatholic.org or you may contact the Main Office at school 610-272-0501.



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!

PREP began **LAST SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024.** As a reminder, if you have not already done so, please submit a copy of your child's Baptism & Communion Certificates.

Mass Attendance forms begin *this* Sunday, September 15. They are available online, and will be distributed to all students during PREP classes. Remember to come up after Mass to get a stamp!!

El programa PREP comenzó el **PASADO DOMINGO, 8 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 2024.** Como recordatorio, si aún no lo han hecho, por favor proporcione una copia del certificado de Bautizo y Comunion de su hijo.

Las hojas de asistencia a Misa empiezan este Domingo, 15 de Septiembre. Están disponibles en línea y también serán distribuidas a todos los estudiantes durante la clase de PREP. ¡¡Recuerden pasar al frente después de Misa para sellarlo!!

Prayer to St. 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.

SFA Seniors

Here are our upcoming meeting dates for the Seniors
group. All meeting are at 1 PM in the Parish Center.
**PLEASE ENTER THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR ON
BUTTONWOOD STREET!**

September 17 - First Meeting of the Year

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

Full schedule TBA.

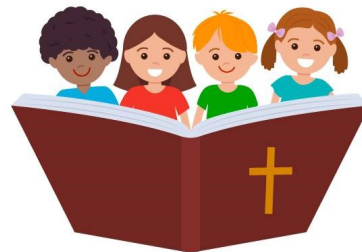
National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

NEW LOCATION

WE'VE MOVED! Our new parish
offices are in the new Parish
Center, located at 601
Buttonwood Street. This is the
former Convent/Meetinghouse.
Please come to the Buttonwood
Street door. **ALL CHURCH AND
PARISH BUSINESS WILL BE
CONDUCTED FROM THIS
ADDRESS.** This includes offices for
Religious Education, the Pastor,
and all other church matters. For
any questions about this, call
610-272-0402 or email
admin@sfanorristown.com

PREP HELP NEEDED

**We are in need of Catechists & PREP Volunteers for
this coming PREP year!! We are in search of people
willing to teach either the Sunday
morning or Tuesday evening classes for our
children! For more information or to volunteer, please
contact Father Smith at the
Parish Center!!**



Catholic Social Services 267-331-2490

Thank you for your continuing prayers.

Prayers for Those Serving our Country

U.S. Army - *CPT Nathan Bevans*

U.S. Army - *PVT 2nd 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 Zaburanec*

Prayers for the Sick

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:

To request any above memorials, please contact Miss Kibler in the Parish Center at 610-272-0402.

SFA Pro Life

Our Pro-Life group meets on the First Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM in the Parish Center. 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.

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006