



Alleluia!
He is Risen!

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 1
8:30 AM - Pasqual Santangelo
(Family)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2
8:30 AM - Margaret Donnelly
(Pat Fazio)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3
No Mass

THURSDAY, APRIL 4
8:30 AM - Pat Poliwoda
(Family)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5
8:30 AM - All Those in the St. Francis Memorial Society

SATURDAY, APRIL 6
8:30 AM - Peter Palma Sr.
(David & Anita DiLucia)
5:30 PM - Shana Marie Enochs
(Ben & Gina Calamia)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7
7:00 AM - Pro Populo
9:00 AM - William Strasburg
(Cindy Santangelo)
11:00 AM - Jacqueline Foley
(Husband)
1:00 PM - Angel Guzman
(The Guzman Family)
5:30 PM - Msgr. Francis J. Ross

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Apr. 6 - 5:30 pm
L - J. Martens,
EM - MJ Bondi,
S. Robins

Apr. 7 - 11 am
L - L. Hallahan,
EM - T. Greco,
K. McTamney

Apr. 7 - 7 am
L - R. Gelet
EM - BJ Mumford,
L. Steppe

Apr. 7 - 5:30 pm
L - B. Collins
EM - A. Collins,
M. Anders

Apr. 7 - 9 am
L - S. Matour,
EM - R. Sirkissoon,
Deacon Matour

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

MONDAY / LUNES

RECTORY CLOSED

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)

7:00 Women's Bible Study (MH)

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

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

MEMORIAL SOCIETY

Sanctuary Lamp, Blessed Mother Altar:

Sanctuary Lamp, St. Joseph Altar:

Altar Bread at Mass this Week:

Floral Arrangement, Main Altar: *Easter Envelopes*

Floral Arrangement, Blessed Mother Altar:

Floral Arrangement, St. Joseph Altar:

This Weeks' Memorial Society Enrollees:

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

Last night at the Easter Vigil, the opening prayer called on all of us to come together to watch and to pray. We are watching praying for the Resurrection. It was a beautiful night as we welcomed into our Church the light of Christ not just into our hearts but also into our parish. This light that we bless and praise God for brings everyone home. It is also a reminder that we should not leave this light in the Church but bring it with us into our own homes, where we work, and to the entire world. On this day, as we renew our Baptismal promises, we are reminded just how much the Resurrection means for all of us. It means, as you have heard me say so often, that our lives are defined by the love and mercy of God.

Over these last forty days, we have been prayerfully watching for this moment. A moment that exists in and out of time. A moment that occurred two thousand years ago and has lost none of its potency or importance in our lives. It is a moment that will guide us in our lives. As we sang in the Exultate last night, this is the night when Christ broke the prison bars of death. This is the day that we are called to celebrate with every fiber of our being holding nothing back in exultation. Let us today celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and live in the light of Christ.

Anoche, en la Vigilia Pascual, la oración inicial nos llamó a todos a unirnos para velar y orar. Estamos mirando y orando por la Resurrección. Fue una hermosa noche cuando recibimos en nuestra Iglesia la luz de Cristo no solo en nuestros corazones sino también en nuestra parroquia. Esta luz por la que bendecimos y alabamos a Dios trae a todos a casa. También es un recordatorio de que no debemos dejar esta luz en la Iglesia, sino llevarla con nosotros a nuestros hogares, donde trabajamos y al mundo entero. En este día, al renovar nuestras promesas bautismales, se nos recuerda cuánto significa la Resurrección para todos nosotros. Significa, como me habéis oído decir tantas veces, que nuestras vidas están definidas por el amor y la misericordia de Dios.

Durante estos últimos cuarenta días, hemos estado esperando este momento en oración. Un momento que existe dentro y fuera del tiempo. Un momento que ocurrió hace dos mil años y que no ha perdido nada de su potencia o importancia en nuestras vidas. Es un momento que nos guiará en nuestras vidas. Como nosotros cantó en el Exultad anoche, esta es la noche en que Cristo rompió los barrotes de la prisión de la muerte. Este es el día que estamos llamados a celebrar con cada fibra de nuestro ser sin reprimir nada en señal de júbilo. Celebremos hoy la Resurrección de nuestro Señor y vivamos a la luz de Cristo.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Reading I: Acts 10:34a; 37-43

Peter's sermon builds on the revelation he received and as a special witness to the resurrection that he became. The promised forgiveness of sins is now certain through Jesus.

Reading II: Colossians 3: 1-4

This selection, addressed to the citizens of an important city, urges them to think from a heavenly perspective, not an earthly one. Your Christian life is a hidden one but is made manifest by your lifestyle.

Gospel: John 20: 1-9, or 41

The empty tomb is discovered, and the risen Jesus first appears to Mary Magdalene, She in turn becomes His messenger to Peter and John. They in turn enter the tomb and see the burial cloths in one place and the head cloth neatly rolled up in another.

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.

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.



COLLECTION

MARCH 17, 2024

Sunday	\$7,882
E-Giving	\$2,043

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

Fifth Grade Fun

This year is moving fast and fifth grade is learning so much! We are *GROWING* too! This year we are mentoring fourth grade by showing them how to grow lettuce and basil in the Hydroponic Vertical Garden. Growing using the "Fork Farm" has been an all-encompassing curriculum endeavor. We used Math to measure, Science to hypothesize, Social Studies to learn about connections to our community and the outcome was lots of knowledge and fun!

During the Lenten season, fifth grade students made reflection bags with significant items to help us pray and draw closer to Jesus. We meditated on Matthew 4:1-11, about Jesus going into the desert to pray and fast. Then we filled our bags with sand, a stone, a seed, an image of Jesus and a candle. Each item represents a way we can reflect on our faith. This practice as well as our weekly devotion to the Stations of the Cross and our "40 Day Cross Challenge" strengthened our faith this Lent.

We have two field trips planned in the next few months. Our first is to support our local Catholic High School, Pope John Paul II HS by going to see their production of *The Wizard of Oz*. We are also excited to take a walking tour of Historical Philadelphia where we will see the Betsy Ross House, the Liberty Bell and many other places and monuments!

Looking ahead to the third trimester, we are excited to explore a unit on pioneers in Social Studies. As a part of this unit, we will use STEAM skills to build a prairie schooner and build a model of a log cabin. In Math, our students will become teachers and teach the class dividing fractions as a presentation.



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!

REMINDERS:

There is NO CLASS on Sunday, March 24 or Sunday, March 31. Classes will resume as normal on Sunday, April 7 with our KidTalk Lesson.

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: All Catholic School Students and ALL PREP Students are now required to use Mass Attendance Forms. If you lost yours, they're available on the PREP website.

RECORDATORIOS:

NO HAY CLASES el domingo 24 de marzo ni el domingo 31 de marzo. Las clases se reanudarán normalmente el domingo 7 de abril con nuestra lección KidTalk.

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: todos los estudiantes de escuelas católicas y TODOS los estudiantes de PREP ahora deben usar formularios de asistencia a misa. Si perdiste el tuyo, están disponibles en el sitio web de PREP.

Women's Gospel Reflection

There is **NO** Women's Gospel Study Group *this Wednesday, March 27, 2024* due to Holy Week. 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.

April 2 - Bingo & Dessert

April 16 - Chick-Fil-A Day & Spring Sale

May 7 - Bingo & Dessert / Soft Pretzel Sale

Please do not park in our Lower Parking Lot behind the School. 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, April 7, 2024
Sunday, May 5, 2024

SFA ALL-CLASS REUNION

On April 20th, 2024, we will be hosting an All-Class Reunion for all SFA graduates. For more information, go to www.sfanorristown.com/reunion

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!!!

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

Men's Bible Study

There is **NO** Men's Bible Study *this Wednesday, March 27, 2024* due to Holy Week. 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:

March 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!
note - we do not meet in June/July/August

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

SFA PRO-LIFE

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

Catholic Social Services 267-331-2490

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!

RECTORY CLOSING

Please Note: The Rectory will be **CLOSED** on Monday, April 1 for Easter. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 2 with normal hours.

“PRAY, HOPE, AND
DON'T WORRY.
WORRY IS USELESS.
GOD IS MERCIFUL
AND WILL HEAR
YOUR PRAYER.”
- PADRE PIO



SFA ALL-CLASS REUNION

WHEN: Saturday, April 20, 2024
4pm Mass

5-9pm Dinner & Reunion

WHERE: SFA Church & School
601 Buttonwood St.
Norristown, PA 19401

TICKETS: Scan the QR Code or go to
www.sfanorristown.com/reunion



Scan Me!



Please note: This is a 21+ event! Thank you.



SACRED HEART REVIVAL

Do you want more peace in your family, blessings on your undertakings, and a more perfect faith life? Jesus is standing at the door and knocking. Open the door for Him! Join our nationwide campaign to invite the Sacred Heart of Jesus into your home, classroom, or business. Visit www.SacredHeartRevival.com for more information on the graces of the Sacred Heart and sign up today.

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*