



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 17, 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, November 17, 2024

Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11;
Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 18

The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter & Paul
8:30 Mary R. Marinari by Daughter Jackie Leban

Tuesday, November 19

Ordinary Weekday
8:30 Tom J. Przybek by Michael & Cheryl Maresca

Wednesday, November 20

Ordinary Weekday
No Mass

Thursday, November 21

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:30 Mary & Adam Margavich by The Margavich Family

Friday, November 22

Memorial of St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr
8:30 Michael Butler by Mom & Dad

Saturday, November 23

Memorial of St. Clement I, Pope & Martyr;
Memorial of St. Columban, Abbot
8:30 Michael A. Lombardo by Family
5:30 Theresa Maresca by Michael & Cheryl Maresca

Sunday, November 24

7:00 Carol Gratkowski by Holly Gratkowski & Family
9:00 Pro Populo
11:30 MaryAnn Raffa by Children

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

Sunday \$7,746
E-Giving \$1,744

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 (A)

TUESDAY / MARTES

7:00 PM - RCIA (PC)

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)
6:30 PM - The Chosen (PC)
7:00 PM - Men's Bible Study (PC)

THURSDAY / JUEVES

6:30 PM - Christmas Bazaar Meeting (PC)

FRIDAY / VIERNES

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)

SUNDAY / DOMINGO

10:00 AM - PREP (S)
11:30 AM - Class Mass (C)

(A) Adoration Chapel
(C) Church
(PC) Parish Center
(R) Rectory
(S) School

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Nov. 23 - 5:30PM

L - J. McLaughlin
EM - M. Anders,
J. Shearer

Nov. 24 - 9AM

L - M. Merino
EM - L. Adan,
G. Mendiola

Nov. 24 - 7AM

L - C. Zurek
EM - BJ Mumford,
J. Korkus

Nov. 24 - 11:30AM

L - L. Gambone
EM - L. O'Donnell,
M. Palmore

SUNDAY, November 17, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

The letter to the Hebrews is a very powerful letter. It is often referred to as a priestly letter. It is given this distinction because Paul talks to us about the power of the high priesthood that Jesus gave us through his life and death. In the brief section we hear this weekend, we hear about the power of our Lord's sacrifice. Unlike the sacrifices of old, when Jesus offered Himself on the cross, He actually *took away* the sins of the world. This one true sacrifice did more than any other before Jesus and after Him.

This is the same sacrifice we approach at the altar on Sunday. This is the same sacrifice that every priest since then offers at every mass he celebrates. I can tell you, this is a very powerful moment for those who take part in the high priesthood of Jesus. To know that the words I pray each day are not just for that moment but reverberates through time, because the Cross transcends time, is a miracle unto itself. Paul is trying to capture this miracle for us in the letter to the Hebrews.

What it should also call to mind for us is the need to pray for our priests. This is the magnitude of the office of Priesthood that has been entrusted to them. This is given to them not for themselves alone but for all of us. Let us pray that all our priests be inspired by this powerful truth and continue to offer the sacrifice of the mass with prayerful reverence.

La carta a los Hebreos es una carta muy poderosa. Es a menudo referida como una carta pastoral. Es dada esta distinción porque Pablo nos habla sobre el poder del sumo sacerdocio que Jesus nos dio por medio de su vida y muerte. En una breve sección este fin de semana escuchamos sobre el poder del sacrificio de nuestro Señor. A diferencia de los sacrificios de la antigüedad, cuando Jesus se ofreció él mismo en la cruz, de hecho él quitó los pecados del mundo. Este sacrificio verdadero hizo más que cualquier otro antes de Jesus y después de él.

Este es el mismo sacrificio al que nos acercamos en el altar los Domingos. Este es el mismo sacrificio que cada sacerdote desde entonces ofrece en cada misa que él celebra. Les puedo decir, este es un momento muy poderoso para aquellos que toman parte en el sumo sacerdocio de Jesus. Saber que las palabras que rezo cada día no solo son para ese momento sino que resuenan a través del tiempo, porque la cruz trasciende el tiempo, es un milagro en sí mismo. Pablo está tratando de capturar este milagro para nosotros en esta carta a los Hebreos.

Lo que también nos debe recordar es la necesidad de rezar por nuestros sacerdotes. Esta es la magnitud del oficio del sacerdocio que les ha sido confiado. Esto se les ha dado no solo para ellos sino para todos. Oremos por todos nuestros sacerdotes que son inspirados por esta verdad tan poderosa y continúan ofreciendo el sacrificio de la misa con reverencia y oración.

*Thirty-Third
Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

Reading I: David 12: 1-3

Despite the great suffering to come at the end of time, those whose names are found "written in the book" of life shall be saved.

Reading II: Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18

The Son of God will make his enemies his footstool. Then he will make perfect those who are being consecrated now.

Gospel: Mark 13: 24-32

At the end of time, the Son of Man will return in glory and gather His elect. Jesus also tells the disciples that the growth pattern of the fig tree is a helpful warning sign of these future happenings.

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.***

SFA Seniors

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

November 19 - Attny. Shallcross speaks about scams

December 3 - Bingo & Dessert

December 17 - Christmas Show from School Students

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

Christmas Bazaar Bake Sale

We will be taking donations of baked goods on Friday, December 6 from 5 PM - 7 PM and on Saturday, December 7 from 8 AM - 11 AM. Donations can be dropped off at the School Gym. For questions or more information, contact Barbara at 610-831-1063 or Shirley at 610-539-5851.

Thank you for all your help!!

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!

Winter 2024 cleaning dates:

December 4th & 18th

THANK YOU!

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday | 7 PM | In the Parish Center

No registration required

Studies led by Deacon Dave Matour

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.

Our final Christmas Bazaar meeting will be Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center.

Prayer Shawl Group

first Wednesday of the month | 1 PM

We meet in the Parish Center. 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*



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!

Remember to get your Mass Attendance Sheets stamped **every Sunday!!**

REMINDER: The next class Mass is Sunday, November 24 at 11:30 AM. This is MANDATORY & REQUIRED for all PREP Students to attend.

¡Recuerde sellar sus Hojas de Asistencia a Misa todos los domingos!

RECORDATORIO: La próxima misa de clase es el domingo. 24 de noviembre a las 11:30 A.M.. Esto es OBLIGATORIO Y OBLIGATORIO para que asistan todos los estudiantes de PREP.

Kids Corner

FINISH the SPELLING WORDS

Complete the spelling words by adding the missing letters.

Jesus
Christ

Lord
Priest

Prophet
King

Lo_d

_ri_st

_i_g

P_oph_t

J_su_

Ch_is_



Advent by Candlelight

Women, are you looking to have a purposeful Advent season? Please join the women of St. Helena's Walking with Purpose on Wednesday, December 4th, 2024, for an evening of spiritual reflection as we begin the season of Advent. Light supper will be served. Program begins at 6pm, doors open at 5:30, in the St. Helena Empress Room, located beneath the church, with an outside entrance. A free will offering will be gratefully accepted. For planning purposes, please RSVP by Nov. 26, to sthelenawp@gmail.com or Susan at 610-952-2330.

CHRISTMAS CEMETERY CROSS SALE

The Ladies of St. Francis will be selling their beautiful handmade Christmas Cemetery Crosses at their craft booth at the Christmas Bazaar! They are priced to sell! \$15 each or 2 for \$25 while supplies last! We look forward to seeing you!

Pray

for Vocations

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.

PARISH CENSUS

If you have not done so already, please
complete your parish census! We ask that you
fill it out completely, even if you think we
have all of your information already on file.
Once completed, you can mail it back, place
it in the collection basket, or drop it off at the
Parish Center! Thank you!!

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

2025 MASS BOOK

The 2024 Mass Book is **FULL**. The 2025
Book opened on **MONDAY, NOVEMBER
11**. When the 2025 Book opens, there
will be a limit of 8 Masses per
household, including a maximum of two
(2) Sundays/Saturday Vigils. As
always, Masses **MUST** be ordered via
phone or email **ONLY**. **PLEASE do not
come to the Parish Office to order
Mass Intentions.**

CANDLES IN CHURCH

As you may have noticed, there are no
candles in Church. This is because there
has been a large increase in candles
being lit without any money being put
in the candle boxes. Instead, we will
soon begin to sell candles before or
after Masses, to ensure we can continue
to have our devotional candles without
losing our Church money. We are
seeking volunteers to sell candles. If you
would like to stay after Mass or come
early to Mass and assist, please contact
the Parish Center at 610-272-0402 or
via email at admin@sfanorristown.com.
Thank you.

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 Zahuranec

Prayers for the Sick

Theresa Akers, Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco, Michele Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Anne Korkus, 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.

Join Us! **CanaNight**
Friday, December 13, 2024 @ 7 pm
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (St. Mary's Hall)
235 E. State Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

Speaker:
Dr. Daniel Drain
Director of the Office for Life & Family

Meet and mingle with other couples and receive an inspiring and encouraging message on marriage and faith.



bit.ly/CanaNight
RSVP by Dec. 2nd

Marriages of Grace
Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office for Life and Family
phillymog@gmail.com

\$35/couple for light dinner
BYOB

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.

24 HOUR CONFIDENTIAL PREGNANCY HOTLINE 610-626-4006