

# 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)



August 4, 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)

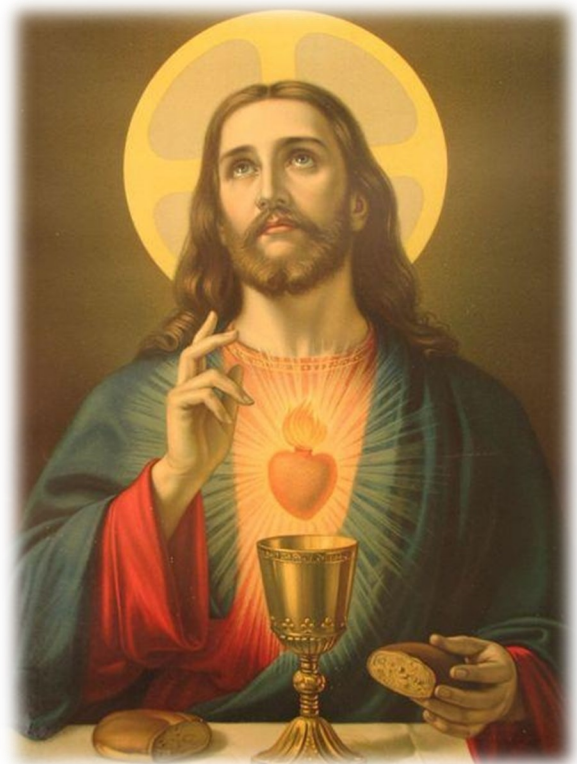
## **St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School**

601-A Buttonwood Street, Norristown

Miss Bridget Tigue, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

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



**SUNDAY, August 4, 2024**

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54;  
Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**MONDAY, AUGUST 5**

*Ordinary Weekday*

8:30AM Salli Donahue *by Sharon Robins*

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 6**

*The Transfiguration of the Lord*

8:30AM Gregory Arakelian – Liv. *by Mother*

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 8**

*Memorial of St. Dominic, Priest*

8:30AM John Tobin *by Ann Harrington*

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 9**

*Ordinary Weekday*

8:30AM Ron Samelman *by James Humes*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10**

*Feast of St. Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr*

8:30AM Arianna Prete *by The Mathis Family*

5:30PM Rose Nicola *by Carol Butler & Diane Gilette*

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 11**

7:00AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

9:00AM Joseph O'Hara *by Jim Busciacco*

11:00AM Deceased Priests of the Parish

5:30PM Pro Populo

**LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE**

Aug. 10 - 5:30PM

L - J. Martens

EM - S. Robins

MJ Bondi

Aug. 11 - 11AM

L - K. McDonald

EM - T. Greco,

K. McTamney

Aug. 11 - 7AM

L - L. Steppe

EM - BJ Mumford

Aug. 11 - 5:30PM

L - C. Hurd

EM - D. Skaw

Aug. 11 - 9AM

L - S. Matour

EM - R. Sirkissoon,

Deacon Dave

**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

6:30 The Chosen (MH)

7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)

**FRIDAY / VIERNES**

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:**

Joseph J. Scaduto *by John Scaduto, Jr.*

Pina Calabretta *by Angela & Frank Chiaravallotti*

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

**SUNDAY, August 4, 2024**

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

Over the next few weeks, we will be hearing from the Gospel of John. In particular, his Bread of Life discourse. This is where Jesus, in John's Gospel, talks about the Eucharist, the Bread of Life. It is so important that we pay close attention to these passages. I can not write nor preach enough about the importance of the Eucharist. In over two thousand years of saints, mystics, popes and every other person you can think of preaching and writing on the Eucharist, we still have not exhausted what the Eucharist is for all of us. How sad it is then to see how we treat the Eucharist. Several years ago, the Bishops conference did a study to see if people actually believe in the True Presence in the Eucharist. At that time, only one third believed that Jesus was truly in the Eucharist. That same study was done a month ago, and it has now increased to two thirds. How can we help to make this 100%? I believe it can be done and we can do it. It is in the small changes we can make here that will lead to a better appreciation and respect to the Eucharist. Think on how we present ourselves to receive the Eucharist. There is a simple gesture we all do, a small bow, before receiving. This bow is part of our recognition in the true presence. Our Amen, when asked the question The Body of Christ, verbalizes that belief in the true presence. Our time in prayer and thanksgiving after we have received shows our appreciation and love for the true presence in the Eucharist. I call on all of you to reflect on these three elements; the bow, the Amen, and your prayer of thanksgiving. Can we celebrate all three with more devotion? Over the next few weeks, you will hear me encourage all of you to grow in your devotion and faith in the Eucharist. If we can do this, then the next time a study is asked, "Do you believe in the True Presence?", it will be all of us who say yes.

Durante las próximas semanas, estaremos escuchando el evangelio de Juan. En particular, su discurso de Pan de Vida. Este es en donde Jesus, en el evangelio de Juan, habla de la Eucaristía, el Pan de Vida. Es muy importante que prestemos mucha atención a estos pasajes. Yo no puedo escribir o predicar lo suficiente sobre la importancia de la Eucaristía. En más de dos mil años de santos, místicos, papas, y cada otra persona que puedan pensar en predicar o escribir sobre la Eucaristía, todavía no hemos agotado lo que es la Eucaristía para todos nosotros. Qué triste es ver cómo tratamos a la Eucaristía. Hace varios años, la Conferencia Episcopal hizo un estudio para ver si la gente realmente cree en la Verdadera Presencia en la Eucaristía. En ese momento, solo un tercio creía que Jesús estaba verdaderamente presente en la Eucaristía. Ese mismo estudio se hizo hace un mes, y ahora ha aumentado a dos tercios de los que creen. ¿Cómo podemos ayudar a que esto sea 100%? Creo que se puede hacer y podemos hacerlo. Es en los pequeños cambios que podemos hacer aquí los que conducirán a una mejor apreciación y respeto de la Eucaristía. Piensen en cómo nos presentamos para recibir la Eucaristía. Hay un simple gesto que todos hacemos, una pequeña reverencia, antes de recibir. Esta reverencia es parte de nuestro reconocimiento en la verdadera presencia. Nuestro Amén, cuando se le hace la pregunta El Cuerpo de Cristo, verbaliza esa creencia en la verdadera presencia. Nuestro tiempo en oración y acción de gracias después de haber recibido demuestra nuestro aprecio y amor por la verdadera presencia en la Eucaristía. Les pido a todos ustedes que reflexionen sobre estos tres elementos; la inclinación, el Amén y tu oración de acción de gracias. ¿Podemos celebrar los tres con más devoción? En las próximas semanas, me escucharán animarlos a todos a crecer en su devoción y fe en la Eucaristía. Si podemos hacer esto, entonces la próxima vez que se le pregunte en un estudio: "¿Cree usted en la Verdadera Presencia?", seremos todos nosotros los que digamos que sí.

*Eighteenth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary  
Time*

**Reading I: Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15**

Yahweh feeds the Israelites with the heavenly food called "manna." The people are tested on their willingness to obey the instructions regarding how to treat it.

**Reading II: Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24**

From a baptismal perspective, Paul urges his followers to conduct themselves in a new way of life. A new humanity has formed.

**Gospel: John 6: 24-35**

Jesus speaks of Himself as the "True Bread from heaven," that is of Himself as the one who gives life to the world.

# 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 28, 2024

Sunday	\$6,323
E-Giving	\$1,406

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

## End of Year Awards

On Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we celebrated student achievements at our End of Year Awards Assembly for 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> Grades in the Gym. We are pleased to announce the following Award Winners:

### Effort Award:

1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Alan Perez Navarro  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Aubree Bier  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Grettel Munoz Perez  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Aaliyah Cole  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Erik Reinoso Xoyatla  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Aubrey Parker  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Xamir Lopez  
Art - Regina Miller (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Physical Education - Emily Perez Jimenez (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Spanish - Benjamin Marino III (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)  
STREAM - Regina Miller (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Good Behavior Award:

1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Sebastian Shockley  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Alberto Perez Navarro  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Owen Reese  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Kendall Richetti  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Samuel Silverio Martinez  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Joshua Golston Moran  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Alessandra Griffith  
Art - Oliver Flores Gomez (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Physical Education - Snyder Santana Portillo (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)  
Spanish - Hannah Martinez Solano (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
STREAM - Kendall Richetti (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)



## 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.*

**Saint of the Week:  
Saint Dominic**

Feast Day: August 8

St. Dominic was born in Caleruega, on August 8, 1170. He was named after St. Dominic of Silos. He was brought up by his parents and a maternal uncle who was an archbishop. He began his studies in the Monastery at age 14, and was ordained at 24.

*Did you know... St. Dominic is the Patron Saint of astronomers and the Dominican Republic? The country of the Dominican Republic is named after Saint Dominic!*

In 1215, Dominic established himself & 6 followers, which began the Dominicans. He subjected himself and his companions to the monastic rules of prayer and penance. He began to travel and open additional convents and monasteries, and was known for "selecting the worst accommodations and the meanest clothes", and "never allowed himself the luxury of a bed". He also was known for abstaining from meat, and frequently travelled barefoot.

*Did you know... the Dominican Order is credited for the spread of the Rosary throughout the world?*

**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 Rectory for  
the keypad code.*



National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

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 Zaburanec*



## 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!

## 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!

## 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).