

Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church



SUNDAY BULLETIN | April 14, 2024

600 Hamilton Street · Norristown, PA · 19401
(p) 610-272-0402 · (e) admin@sfanorristown.com
www.sfanorristown.com

Rev. Richard J. Smith, M.Div., Pastor

Deacon David J. Matour

Weekend Assistants: Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Doody; Rev. Abner Gonzalez Bonilla, SP

Mass Times:

Daily: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 8:30am *No Wednesday Masses*

Weekend: Vigil: Saturday 5:30pm;

7:00am, 9:00am (Bilingual), 11:00am, 5:30pm

Misa en Español es el 1 y 3 Domingo del mes a las 1:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays: 9:00 am & 4:00pm - 5:00pm, or by appointment - please call 610-272-0402.

Adoration Times:

Mondays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm October - May; Mondays 9:00 am - 10 am June - September

Parish Secretary: Miss Lauren Kibler

Office Manager: Mrs. Dolores Landis

Business Manager: Mr. Carl Needles

St. Francis Rectory Hours

Monday thru Thursday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

closed on weekends

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

601-A Buttonwood Street, Norristown

Miss Bridget Tigie, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

Website: www.sfacatholic.org



SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 15

8:30 AM - Wynn Franklin
(Rev. Richard Smith)

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

8:30 AM - Rita & William Foley
(Children)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

No Mass

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

8:30 AM - Mary Bibbo
(SFA Seniors)

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

8:30 AM - Mary Bibbo
(Joanne Layden)

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:30 AM - William Jackson
(Jim Smith)

4:00 PM - St. Francis of Assisi Alumnae

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

7:00 AM - Pro Populo

9:00 AM - Rev. Charles McGovern

11:00 AM - Ann Piantone *(liv.)*
(Brendan & Annemarie Collins)

1:00 PM - Ramón Ramirez 3rd Anniv.
(Family)

5:30 PM - Guido Bartholomew
(Ladies of St. Francis)

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Apr. 20 - 5:30 pm

L - B. Collins,
EM - A. Collins,
MJ Bondi

Apr. 21 - 11 am

L - R. Lattanze,
EM - T. Greco,
K. McTamney

Apr. 21 - 7 am

L - R. Gelet
EM - BJ Mumford,
T. Barbato

Apr. 21 - 5:30 pm

L - L. Gambone
EM - L. O'Donnell,
K. Bradbury

Apr. 21 - 9 am

L - S. Matour,
EM - D. Skaw,
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

1:00 Benediction (C)

TUESDAY / MARTES

1:00 Seniors (MH)

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

9:00 Church Cleaners (C)

7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)

7:00 Women's Bible Study (MH)

SATURDAY / SÁBADO

11:00 Confirmation Practice (C)

4:00 All Year Class Reunion (C, S)

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

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco, Michele Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Lois Leggerie, Edward Mateja, Joe McDonald, Meghan McLaughlin, Constance Monastero, 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.

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, APRIL 14, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

The Acts of the Apostles should be a great guide to all of us. We see in this book how the early days of the Church responded to the Resurrection. Now, you would think that we would see a lot of condemning of the people for rejecting Jesus. You would think you would see the Apostles strolling around being smug. You do not see any of that. What you do see is Peter pointing out the mistakes of the people who rejected Christ but in a compassionate manner. He does not tell them that they are all doomed. He does not tell them that it is too late. Peter does the exact opposite. He tells them that there is still time and that they can still choose to accept Christ as the Messiah. He encourages them to see that, as I say often, they are not defined by their sins and poor choices, but by the love of Christ. How amazing to hear that the love that they all rejected is still being offered to them and can still be accepted by them. Now let us jump to our society today. The list of people who reject Christ and his Church goes down to Miami and back. Despite this, the love they have rejected is still theirs to receive and transform their lives. You and I are called today to help people see that. We are not called to denounce or condemn any of them. So, to those who are struggling with anything, same sex attraction, abortion, gender identity, addiction, we are here not to condemn or belittle. We are called today to help them see that through their struggles, Jesus is still there for them and willing to be in their lives.

Los Hechos de los Apóstoles deberían ser una gran guía para todos nosotros. Vemos en este libro cómo los primeros días de la Iglesia respondieron a la Resurrección. Ahora, uno pensaría que veríamos mucha condenación de la gente por rechazar a Jesús. Uno pensaría que vería a los Apóstoles paseando presumidos. No ves nada de eso. Lo que sí ves es a Pedro señalando los errores de las personas que rechazaron a Cristo, pero de manera compasiva. No les dice que todos están condenados. No les dice que ya es demasiado tarde. Peter hace exactamente lo contrario. Les dice que todavía hay tiempo y que todavía pueden elegir aceptar a Cristo como el Mesías. Les anima a ver que, como digo a menudo, no están definidos por sus pecados y malas decisiones, sino por el amor de Cristo. Qué sorprendente escuchar que el amor que todos rechazaron todavía se les ofrece y todavía pueden aceptarlo. Ahora saltemos a nuestra sociedad actual. La lista de personas que rechazan a Cristo y su Iglesia llega hasta Miami y regresa. A pesar de esto, el amor que han rechazado todavía es suyo para recibirlo y transformar sus vidas. Usted y yo estamos llamados hoy a ayudar a la gente a ver eso. No estamos llamados a denunciar ni condenar a ninguno de ellos. Entonces, para aquellos que están luchando con cualquier cosa, atracción hacia personas del mismo sexo, aborto, identidad de género, adicción, no estamos aquí para condenarlos ni menospreciarlos. Estamos llamados hoy a ayudarlos a ver que a través de sus luchas, Jesús todavía está ahí para ellos y dispuesto a estar en sus vidas.

Third Sunday of Easter

Reading I: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

Peter's sermon theme is that the suffering Messiah was raised from the dead. This implies our personal need for repentance and conversion.

Reading II: I John 2: 1-5a

The author connects knowledge of Christ with observance of His commands. This in turn leads to a deep love of God.

Gospel: Luke 24: 35-38

The main point is not the reality of Jesus' body as much as it is His victory over death by His renewal of the table fellowship with His disciples. Preaching repentance "to all nations" becomes their mission.

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

APRIL 7, 2024

Sunday	\$7,342
E-Giving	\$1,980

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.

CONFIRMATION PRACTICE

*Saturday, April 20 - 11:00 AM
St. Francis Church*

*Who must attend: ALL Students
receiving Confirmation at St.
Francis (School and PREP)*

This is a MANDATORY practice.



National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303



SCHOOL NEWS

Middle School ELA

The new year began our studies on writing, genre, and literary and story elements. Both seventh and eighth grades learned about the four main types of writing (expository, narrative, descriptive, and persuasive). We began to explore the defining features of these four writing styles, with more explanation and learning to come. Students wrote something using each of these four writing types.

Since the middle of January, seventh grade has focused a great deal on the different types of writing and film genres. They are able to understand that genre is a specific type of writing with its own identifiable characteristics. They have done two film assignments using the Science Fiction and Fantasy genres, as well as worked on collaborative assignments that focused on other genres.

Both Middle School English Language Arts (ELA) classes are still learning about protagonist, antagonist, and villain, and the differences between each of the three characters. Both classes are also still learning about the six types of literary conflicts (person vs. person, person vs. self, person vs. nature, person vs. society, person vs. technology, and person vs. supernatural). Miss Akers is incorporating ideas and entertainment that excite the students and make them want to get involved.

English Language Arts



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!

First Holy Communion Students: You have MANDATORY practice on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 11:00 AM in the Church.

Confirmation Students: You have 2 practices in April, BOTH ARE MANDATORY. Your first practice is on Saturday, April 20 at 11 AM. Your second practice is on Tuesday, April 23 at 7 PM. Your sponsor MUST ATTEND the second practice.

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.

Estudiantes de Primera Comunión: Tienen práctica OBLIGATORIA el día sábado 27 de abril de 2024 a las 11:00 AM en la Iglesia.

Estudiantes de Confirmación: Tienes 2 prácticas en abril, AMBAS SON OBLIGATORIAS. Tu primera práctica es el sábado 20 de abril a las 11 a.m. Tu segunda práctica es el martes 23 de abril a las 7 p.m. Su patrocinador DEBE ASISTIR a la segunda práctica.

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

Every Wednesday | 7 PM | In the Meetinghouse
No registration required
for information, contact Olga Russo at
olgarusso6255@gmail.com or
Theresa Greco at theresagreco67@gmail.com

SFA Seniors

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

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, May 5, 2024

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!

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

Men's Bible Study

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

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:

April 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

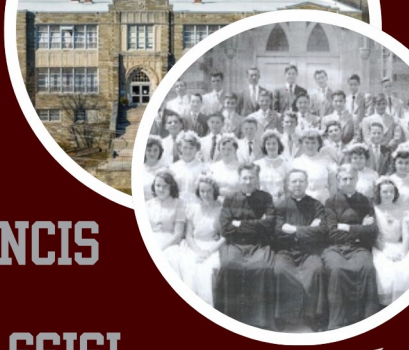
SFA PRO-LIFE

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

SAINT FRANCIS ASSISI



ALL-CLASS REUNION

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

4pm - Mass 5 -9pm - buffet & reunion

limited parking B.Y.O.B.

for more information & tickets, go to
www.sfanorristown.com/reunion
 or scan the QR code



this is a 21+ event



DESIGNER BAG BINGO

TICKETS
\$30

- 50/50 ●
- DOOR PRIZES ●
- RAFFLE BASKETS ●

BYOB and Food

St. Francis of Assisi School Gym
 601 Buttonwood St. Norristown

SATURDAY
APRIL 27, 2024

7 PM

DOORS OPEN
@ 6PM

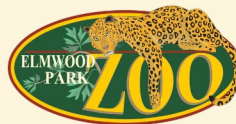
For tickets & information contact:
 Julie Fusco Schad 484-686-9813
 David Fusco 610-389-2086
 SFA School 610-272-0501



Family Fun Day at Elmwood Park Zoo

Sunday May 19, 2024

More information coming soon!



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*

Blue Mass for Police



Saturday, May 18, 2024

5:30 PM

St. Francis of Assisi
 Roman Catholic Church

join us in honoring & praying
 for our local law enforcement
 officers - all are welcome!