

# 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)

July 21, 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, JULY 21, 2024**

Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6;

Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**MONDAY, JULY 22**

*Feast of St. Mary Magdalene*

No Mass

**TUESDAY, JULY 23**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 24**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

**THURSDAY, JULY 25**

*Feast of St. James, Apostle*

No Mass

**FRIDAY, JULY 26**

*Memorial of Sts. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

No Mass

**SATURDAY, JULY 27**

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

5:30PM Pro Populo

**SUNDAY, JULY 28**

7:00AM Mary Mulligan *by Jim Smith*

9:00AM Maria Hernandez Alcala *by La familia Hernández*

11:00AM Felix Cartagena *by Myrna Miranda*

5:30PM Kaye Alford *by Frances Franzone*

**LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE**

July 27 - 5:30PM

L - J. Martens

EM - S. Robins

J. Fitzpatrick

July 28 - 11AM

L - L. Hallahan

EM - M. Palmore

July 28 - 7AM

L - R. Gelet

EM - C. Zurek

BJ Mumford

July 28 - 5:30PM

L - C. Hurd

EM - J. Gallagher

July 28 - 9AM

L - S. Matour

EM - D. Skaw

**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

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 Prinziavalli, 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:**

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

**SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024**

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

As you have heard me say several times before, there are some readings that are gut checks for clergy. This weekend is one of them. Now, please do not think I write this wanting you to put me on a pedestal. That is the one thing I will never ask of you. That is how you get priests like the ones Jeremiah is talking about. Those priests who have misled the people and have led the people away from God. Jeremiah ends this passage talking about the Messiah and how he will lead the people back to God. That is the kind of priest that I am striving to be and the kind that every Catholic deserves to have in their lives. To achieve this goal, it takes a lot of work. More importantly, it takes a great deal of trust in Christ, the High Priest. The Apostles last week were sent out to be the kind of priests that leads the people of God closer to their Lord. Today, we hear how successful they were because they trusted Christ. They did a lot of good not for themselves but for the people. Yet, look how the passage ends today. Jesus is moved with pity because he sees the crowd. He sees that there is so much to do and yet not enough to do the work. This is why I ask for your prayers so often. There is so much to be done and it is so easy to slip into doing the work of God for the praise and not the people. So I ask you once again, for myself and for all priests, pray that we do not lose focus on why we were called to the priesthood. Not for our own glory or the perks that may come from it. We were called to serve the people of God and help you all understand and receive His love more and more each day.

Como me han escuchado decir varias veces antes, hay algunas lecturas que son controles viscerales para el clero. Este fin de semana es uno de ellos. Ahora por favor, no piensen que les escribo esto para que me pongan en un pedestal. Eso es una cosa que yo nunca les pediré. Así es como tienen sacerdotes como de los que habla Jeremías. Esos sacerdotes que han extraviado al pueblo y lo han alejado de Dios. Jeremías termina su pasaje hablando del Mesías y de cómo él lidera al pueblo de vuelta a Dios. Ese es el tipo de sacerdote que yo estoy esforzándome por ser y el tipo que cada Católico merece tener en sus vidas. Para alcanzar esta meta, toma mucho trabajo. Aún más importante, toma mucha confianza en Dios, el Sumo Sacerdote. Los Apóstoles, la semana pasada fueron enviados a ser el tipo de sacerdotes que acercan al pueblo de Dios a su señor. Hoy escuchamos que tan exitosos fueron porque confiaron en Cristo. Hicieron mucho bien no para ellos mismos sino para la gente. Sin embargo, miren cómo terminó hoy el pasaje. Jesús se conmueve al ver la multitud. Ve que hay mucho por hacer y aún no lo suficiente para realizar el trabajo. Por eso pido tan a menudo sus oraciones. Hay mucho por hacer y es muy fácil caer en hacer la obra de Dios para la alabanza y no para el pueblo. Así que les pido una vez más, por mí y por todos los sacerdotes, que oren para que no perdamos el foco en por qué fuimos llamados al sacerdocio. No para nuestra propia gloria o los beneficios que puedan derivarse de ella. Fuimos llamados a servir al pueblo de Dios y ayudarlos a todos a comprender y recibir su amor mas y mas cada día.

*Sixteenth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary  
Time*

**Reading I: Jeremiah 23: 1-6**

The “bad shepherds,” namely the last kings of Judah, all met tragic ends. The true heir of David is coming, Our Lord Jesus, is God’s justice.

**Reading II: Ephesians 2: 13-18**

In Christ, peace and unity come to both Jews and Gentiles, as well as that between God and all humanity.

**Gospel: Mark 6: 30-34**

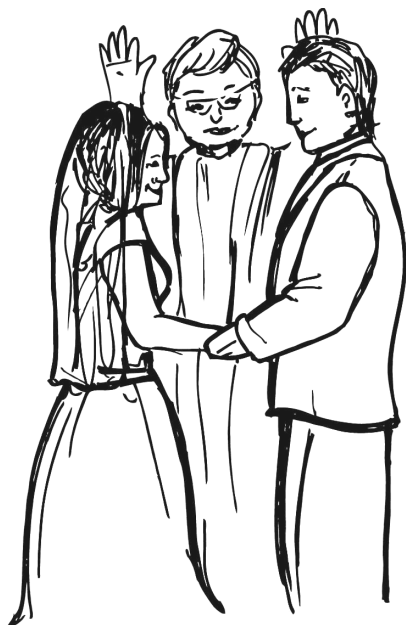
“The stage is set,” so to speak, for the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Meanwhile, we see the temporary popularity of Jesus and His wonderful compassion for the people who have followed Him.

# 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 14, 2024

Sunday	\$6,664
E-Giving	\$1,836

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.



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards

Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2024! The following are the award recipients for the SFA Class of 2024:

### Catholic War Veteran's Award Excellence in Religion & History:

- Sophia Jane Esposito

### Art Award:

- Dana Guadalupe Calderon-Jaurez
- Fernanda Marlen Flores Gomez
- Alister Jesus Reinoso Xoyatla

### The Sisters of Saint Joseph Award for Excellence in English Language Arts (ELA):

- Charles Allan Hallahan III
- Olivia Elizabeth Marino
- Diego Monroy Reyes
- Oluwakemi Oreoluwa Oke

### The Patrick Harkin Award for Excellence in Mathematics:

- Diego Monroy Reyes
- Oluwakemi Oreoluwa Oke

### The Physical Education Award:

- Jacob Aiden Calbazana
- Dannel Ramon Quintero-Castro

### The Richard Kennedy Award for Excellence in Science:

- Savannah Bartsch
- Dana Guadalupe Calderon-Juarez
- Brayanna Ashlynn Desince
- Fernanda Marlen Flores Gomez



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.*

**TEMPORARY MASS  
CHANGES**

Please note: While Father Smith is away on the parish pilgrimage, there will be no daily (weekday) Masses.

**We will still have Adoration and Sunday Mass  
(including the Vigil on Saturday night).**

Revised Mass Schedule:

July 22-26: No Masses

July 27: No 8:30AM Mass

July 29-August 2: No Masses

August 3: No 8:30AM Mass

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

**Saint of the Week:  
Saint James the Greater**

Feast Day: July 25

St. Bonaventure was born in Bethesda, in the Roman Empire, and was one of the Twelve Apostles. He was the son of Zebedee and Salome. Salome was a sister of Mary (mother of Jesus) which made James the Great a cousin of Jesus. He is also the brother of John the Apostle.

*Did you know... St. James is the Patron Saint of Spain, woodcarvers, and pilgrims?*

James was a follower of Jesus, and one of the first disciples. He preached in Hispania, and after his death, was buried there, in what is now the Santiago de Compostela in Galicia. He was the first of the Apostles to be Martyred.

*Did you know... St. James is called "the Greater" to distinguish him from the Apostle James "the Less," with "greater" meaning older or taller, rather than more important?*

**FATHER SMITH AWAY**

Please note: Father Smith will be on our Parish Pilgrimage in Italy from July 22 until August 3. He will be **unavailable and unreachable** during this time. Please plan any needed appointments accordingly. We ask for your prayers for Father & the other pilgrims, they will all be praying for you!

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 Zahuranec*

## 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!



## 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](http://www.SacredHeartRevival.com) for more information on the graces of the Sacred Heart and sign up today.

## 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).