



# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe  
November 24, 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](http://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](http://www.sfacatholic.org)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
601 Buttonwood Street, Norristown, PA 19401  
(Phone) 610-272-0402 |  
(Email) [admin@sfanorristown.com](mailto:admin@sfanorristown.com) |  
(Website) [www.sfanorristown.com](http://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 24, 2024

Dn 7:13-14; Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5;  
Rv 1:5-8; Jn 18:33b-37

# Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Monday, November 25

*St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr*

8:30 Marc Stapleton by Joanne Schonely

### Tuesday, November 26

*Ordinary Weekday*

8:30 Keith Gratkowski by Holly Gratkowski & Family

### Wednesday, November 27

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

### Thursday, November 28

*Thanksgiving*

8:30 Pro Populo

*Blessing of the Food at Mass*

### Friday, November 29

*Ordinary Weekday*

No Mass

### Saturday, November 30

*Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle*

8:30 Geraldine O'Brien by Deacon Dave & Sue Matour

5:30 Michael Butler by Diane & Ray Gillette

### Sunday, December 1

7:00 Brian McCourt by Holly Gratkowski & Family

9:00 Mildred Kubica by Dee Landis

11:30 Liam Joseph Collins by Brendan & Annmarie Collins

## COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

### NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Sunday \$6,796

E-Giving \$1,891

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.

## 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

**RECTORY CLOSED - Holiday**

6:30 PM - Christmas Bazaar Meeting (PC)

### FRIDAY / VIERNES

**RECTORY CLOSED - Holiday**

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)

## LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Nov. 30 - 5:30PM

**L** - B. Collins

**EM** - A. Collins,  
M. Anders

Dec. 1 - 9AM

**L** - C. Chavez,  
J. Silva

**EM** - N. Guzman,  
G. Mendiola

Dec. 1 - 7AM

**L** - D. DiLucia

**EM** - C. DeGrazio,  
J. DeGrazio

Dec. 1 - 11:30AM

**L** - K. McDonald

**EM** - M. Palmore,  
T. Greco

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

SUNDAY, November 24, 2024

## Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

“Are you the King of the Jews?” It is a very simple yet profound question that we hear from Pilate this weekend. Now it may seem a little odd that we are hearing from a Gospel that would better be heard during the later days of Lent. Yet, as we come to the end of our liturgical year, it seems very appropriate. In a few weeks, when the calendar switches over to 2025, we will begin to ask ourselves if we have improved over the last year. We should also ask similar questions of our faith life as we conclude the liturgical year. Do we recognize Jesus as our King more today than we did a year ago? Just as we ask the year end questions, did I lose weight or did I take on a new hobby, we should be asking similar questions of our relationship with Jesus. Have I removed sin from my life? Have I increased or strengthened my prayer life? These simple tasks that we can give ourselves throughout the year can help us a great deal. It opens our lives and our souls to even more of the grace Christ offers each of us. Let us, during this last week of the liturgical year, begin to evaluate how we can answer if Christ is our King. Let us take the time to challenge ourselves to do better in the new year. If we can achieve this, then our lives will improve far better than if we were to lose weight or pick up a new hobby. We would have opened our lives even more to receive the King of the Universe.

“¿Eres tu el rey de los Judios?” Es una pregunta muy simple sin embargo profunda que escuchamos de Pilato este fin de semana. Ahora puede parecer un poco extraño que lo estamos escuchando en un evangelio que sería mejor escuchado durante días posteriores a la cuaresma. Sin embargo, a medida que nos acercamos al fin del año litúrgico, parece muy apropiado. En unas cuantas semanas, cuando el calendario se cambie al 2025, nos empezaremos a preguntar si hemos mejorado durante el último año. También deberíamos hacernos preguntas similares de nuestra vida de fe a medida que concluimos el año litúrgico. ¿Reconocemos a Jesus como nuestro rey más hoy que hace un año? Así cómo nos hacemos las preguntas de fin de año, como si perdimos peso o si empecé a practicar un nuevo pasatiempo, nos deberíamos estar haciendo preguntas similares acerca de nuestra relación con Jesus. ¿He removido el pecado de mi vida? ¿He incrementado o fortalecido mi vida de oración? Estas sencillas tareas que nos podemos dar durante el año nos pueden ayudar mucho. Abre nuestras vidas y almas aún más hacia la gracia que Cristo nos ofrece a cada uno de nosotros. Dejemos, durante esta última semana del año litúrgico, empezar a evaluar cómo podemos contestar si Cristo es nuestro rey. Tomémonos el tiempo para desafiarnos a nosotros mismos para hacer mejor en el nuevo año. Si podemos lograr esto, entonces nuestras vidas mejorarán mucho más que si perdiéramos peso o empezáramos un nuevo pasatiempo. Habríamos abierto nuestras vidas aún más para recibir al Rey del Universo.

*Our Lord Jesus  
Christ, King of  
the Universe*

### **Reading I: Daniel 7: 13-14**

The son of Man will rule over a kingdom that will never end. The prophecy is fulfilled in Christ.

### **Reading II: Revelations 1: 5-8**

Jesus' work enables us to be under God's rule rather than that of the devil. To Jesus Christ be glory and power forever.

### **Gospel: John 18: 33b-37**

Our thoughts return suddenly to the high drama of Good Friday, and Pilate's questioning of Our Lord Jesus. Of course, the nervous procurator gets the correct but mysterious answer to his question about kingship.

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

THANK YOU!

## THANKSGIVING DAY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Thursday is Thanksgiving Day. There is no better way for us to begin this national day of thanks than by attending Mass with our family and receiving Holy Communion. We invite our entire parish family to attend our daily 8:30 Mass.

## BLESSING OF FOOD

When you attend Mass on Thanksgiving Day, you are invited to bring a food product (bread, Pie, Cake, etc.) that you will be sharing at your Thanksgiving Dinner. We will bless the food during Mass and then this blessing can be extended to all that partake in your holiday meal.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Note: There is NO MASS the day after Thanksgiving. The Rectory will be CLOSED on Thursday and Friday.



Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

## SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS BAZAR NAVIDEÑO

Gimnasio de la Escuela  
San Francisco de Asis  
601 Buttonwood St.  
Norristown, PA 19401



Dec. 7, 2024  
9AM - 2PM

## 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!!**

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

St. Francis of Assisi  
School Gym  
601 Buttonwood St.  
Norristown, PA 19401



Dec. 7, 2024  
9AM - 2PM

## 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!**



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Trunk or Treat

On Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, our Home & School Association sponsored a Trunk or Treat from 2:00 - 3:45 pm in the parking lot.

We had over 100 students and their families celebrate the Fall season with costumes, decorations, and delicious treats. Everyone had a SPOOKTACULAR time!



# 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.**

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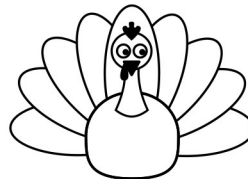
¡Recuerde sellar sus Hojas de Asistencia a Misa todos los domingos!

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

## Kids Corner

### HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| FALL     | T A C I L Y R D |
| FAMILY   | T H Q O T L A Y |
| LEAVES   | D S A O U I J H |
| PIE      | F E Q N R M M M |
| THANKFUL | R V L Z K A I M |
| TURKEY   | F A L L E F I M |
|          | R E N Y Y M U T |
|          | D L P I E C S L |



## 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.*

## SFA Seniors

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

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.*

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](mailto: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 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

## 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.*

## SFA SENIORS

## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**When:** Thursday, December 12, 2024

12:00 Noon

**Where:** Peppers by Amedeo's

175 Town Center Rd. King of Prussia

**Cost:** \$35 per person due by December 3

Contact Barbara at (610) 831-1063



## 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