

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

600 Hamilton Street, Norristown, PA 19401

(p) 610-272-0402 | (e) admin@sfanorristown.com

www.sfanorristown.com



August 11, 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)**

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

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

601-A Buttonwood Street, Norristown

Miss Bridget Tigue, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

Website: www.sfacatholic.org



SUNDAY, August 11, 2024

1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9;
Eph 4:30—5:2; Jn 6:41-51

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MONDAY, AUGUST 12

Ordinary Weekday

8:30AM Geraldine Marshall Meszaros *by Janice Landy*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

Ordinary Weekday

8:30AM Mary & Gus Leshefka *by The Margavich Family*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

No Mass

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30AM Pro Populo

12:15PM Pro Populo

7:00PM Pro Populo

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

Ordinary Weekday

8:30AM Dave Kirk *by Carol Kirk*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

Ordinary Weekday

8:30AM Victims of Abortion

5:30PM Joseph & Adele Puhalski *by Rev. Richard Smith*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

7:00AM Pro Populo

9:00AM James Dever *by Theresa Dever*

11:00AM Roberta Rowe *by James Humes*

1:00PM Maria Hernandez Alcala *by Familia Hernandez Alcala*

5:30PM Angelica Tupas *by Margie Rasing*

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Aug. 17 - 5:30PM

L - B. Collins

EM - A. Collins

J. Shearer

Aug. 18 - 11AM

L - L. Hallahan

EM - T. Greco,

M. Palmore

Aug. 18 - 7AM

L - D. DiLucia

EM - C. Zurek,

T. Barbato

Aug. 18 - 5:30PM

L - C. Hurd

EM - J. Gallagher

Aug. 18 - 9AM

L - A. Franz

EM - J. Fitzpatrick

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:

24 Hour Confidential Pregnancy Hotline 610-626-4006

SUNDAY, August 11, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Richard J. Smith

As we continue to rekindle our faith in the true presence in the Eucharist, we need to acknowledge that there is going to be some pushback. Last week, I encouraged you to take some time to reflect on the three motions we make in receiving the Eucharist; the bow, the Amen, and the time of reflection after receiving. These motions should be carried out with reverence and respect for whom we are receiving. This new found reverence we show to the Eucharist may be received by others as a sense of false piety. “Oh, look how they are showing off” or “Look at the show they are putting on” Since Lent, I have been wearing my cassock and beretta, the hat I wear, with more regularity than I have in the previous years. I know some have been curious as to why. Your gestures and what I wear are done out of reverence to the Eucharist. Now some may think this is a little excessive. Why get caught up in the small details of the day? Isn't it good enough that we show up? Jesus received some of the same skepticism when He started talking about the importance of being the Bread of Life. “Who does he think he is?” Criticism is part of the journey when coming closer to the Eucharist. Remember, we do all of this not for ourselves but to show what we truly believe is in the Eucharist. It will take some getting used to and there will be some that do not understand right away. However, neither did the early disciples. Many of them were confused about what was in front of them. It took time and perseverance for everyone to accept within their hearts what Jesus was offering to them. By showing more reverence in our reception of the Eucharist, we will help those who are confused to better understand what our Church is all about. So take a deeper bow, let them all hear your Amen and see you deep in prayer after. They may not yet understand but they will. When they do, it will be a great day for the parish and for the Eucharist.

A medida que continuamos reviviendo nuestra fe en la verdadera presencia de la Eucaristía, es necesario reconocer que va haber cierto retraso. La semana pasada, los animé a tomarse un poco de tiempo para reflexionar sobre los tres movimientos que hacemos al recibir la Eucaristía; la reverencia, el Amén y el tiempo de reflexión después de recibir. Estos movimientos deben de ser llevados a cabo con reverencia y respeto a quien estamos recibiendo. Esta nueva reverencia que mostramos a la Eucaristía puede ser recibida por otros como un sentido de falsa piedad, “Oh, mira estan presumiendo”, o “Mira el espectáculo que están haciendo”. Desde la cuaresma, he estado usando mi sotana y berreta, el sombrero que usó, con más regularidad que años anteriores. Yo se que algunos de ustedes han tenido curiosidad de saber por qué. Sus gestos y lo que yo uso se hacen por reverencia a la Eucaristía. Ahora, algunos de ustedes pensarán que es un poco excesivo. ¿Por qué dejarse atrapar por los pequeños detalles del día? ¿No es suficiente que nos presentemos? Jesús recibió algo del mismo escepticismo cuando comenzó a hablar de la importancia de ser el Pan de Vida. “¿Quien se cree que es?” La crítica es parte del viaje hacia la cercanía de la Eucaristía. Recuerden, hacemos todo esto no para nosotros, sino para demostrar que realmente creemos en la Eucaristía. Va a tomar tiempo acostumbrarse a esto y va haber algunos que no lo entiendan de inmediato. Sin embargo, tampoco lo hicieron los primeros discípulos. Muchos de ellos estaban confundidos de lo que se les presentaba. Tomó tiempo y perseverancia para que todos aceptaran en sus corazones lo que Jesus les estaba ofreciendo. Enseñándoles más reverencia en nuestra recepción de la Eucaristía, ayudaremos a aquellos que están confundidos, a entender mejor de qué se trata nuestra Iglesia. Así que hagamos una reverencia más profunda, que todos escuchen tu Amen y que te vean en lo profundo de la oración después. Tal vez ellos todavía no lo entiendan, pero lo entenderán. Cuando lo hagan será un gran día para la parroquia y para la Eucaristía.

***Nineteenth
Sunday in
Ordinary
Time***

Reading I: 1 Kings 19: 4-8

Elijah runs away from danger and heads to the southern desert. There God provides him food and water for his journey to a sacred place.

Reading II: Ephesians 4: 30-5:2

Any offense against a brother also offends the Holy Spirit. A Christian should be known for his/her love of neighbor.

Gospel: John 6: 41-51

Jesus' origins cause a dispute. He ignores it and instead focuses on the Bread from Heaven which is Himself given to them as a guarantee of eternal life.

The CHOSEN watch | discuss | reflect | rejoice



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.***

MASS SCHEDULE CHANGES

As you all may know, Father Smith has been mentioning that we will need to make some adjustments to the Mass Schedule. Father Smith is the *only priest* here at St. Francis, and as such, we unfortunately need to cut back on the amount of Masses we have here. **Beginning on Sunday, September 8, 2024, the new Mass Changes are as follows:**

1. The 9:00AM Mass will now be *fully* in Spanish. We will no longer have the 1PM bi-monthly Spanish Mass.
2. The 11:00AM Mass will be moved to 11:30AM.
3. We will ***no longer*** be offering the 5:30PM Mass on Sunday night.

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

MARRIAGE BLESSING MEETING

Are you married civilly but not in the Catholic Church? Do you want to have your marriage blessed? Come to our marriage blessing meeting nights! Here you can meet with Fr. Smith to learn about how to get your marriage blessed in the Church! August 22 & 23 at 7 PM in the Meetinghouse. To sign up, call the Rectory at 610-272-0402, email sfa600prep@gmail.com or sign up on the sheets in the back of the Church!

¿Estás casado por el civil pero no por la iglesia? ¿Te gustaría que tu matrimonio fuera bendecido?
¡Ven a nuestras reuniones de bendición matrimonial!
El 22 y 23 de Agosto a las 7:00 pm en la Casa de Reuniones. Para inscribirte, llama a la Rectoría al 610-272-0402, mandanos un correo electrónico a sfa600prep@gmail.com o insíbete en las hojas que están en la parte de atrás de la Iglesia!

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.*



SCHOOL NEWS

End of Year Awards

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

Pope Francis Award:

- 1st Grade - Julie Hughes
- 2nd Grade - Benjamin Marino III
- 3rd Grade - Camila Perez Navarro
- 4th Grade - Laila Mack
- 5th Grade - Hannah Martinez Solano
- 6th Grade - Lilyana Martinez-Bell & Grace Yeager
- 7th Grade - Emily Perez Jimenez
- Art - Alessandra Griffith (7th Grade)
- Physical Education - Josephine Dixon (3rd Grade)
- Spanish - Emily Medina (6th Grade)
- STREAM - Thomas Scharff (4th Grade)

Star Student of the Year Award:

- 1st Grade - Nataly Morales
- 2nd Grade - Estrella Hernandez Castro
- 3rd Grade - Khaleesi Sosa Romero
- 4th Grade - Caroline Romero Lopez
- 5th Grade - Gracie Yorgey
- 6th Grade - Gisele Duversaint
- 7th Grade - Bernardo Orea Castro
- Art - Thomas Scharff (4th Grade)
- Physical Education - Luis Barragan (7th Grade)
- Spanish - Grace Yeager (6th Grade)
- STREAM - Mae Washington (6th 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.

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.

COLLECTION

AUGUST 4, 2024

Sunday	\$8,648
E-Giving	\$1,489

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.

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

**Saint of the Week:
Saint Maximilian Kolbe**

Feast Day: August 14

St. Maximilian Kolbe was born Raymund Kolbe in Poland,
on January 8, 1894. His life was strongly influenced by a
vision of the Virgin Mary that he had at age 12. He entered
the Conventual Franciscan minor seminary along with his
brother Francis, and professed his first vows in 1911, & was
ordained in 1918.

*Did you know... St. Maximilian Kolbe is the Patron Saint
of prisoners, the pro-life movement, and those struggling with
addiction?*

Kolbe travelled throughout Europe and Asia, founding
monasteries and promoting the veneration of
the Immaculate Virgin Mary. He was in a monastery in
Poland in 1941 when he was arrested by Germans and
taken to Auschwitz, where he was tortured for continuing
to act as a priest. When another man in the camp was
chosen to be executed, Maximilian Kolbe volunteered to
take his place. After 2 weeks, Saint Maximilian Kolbe died
in his prison cell, on August 14, 1941, from an injection of
carbolic acid. He was canonized on October 10, 1982.

*Did you know... the Militia Immaculatae, founded by
Maximilian Kolbe, is still around today with over 3 million
members?*

PREP HELP NEEDED

*We are in need of Catechists & PREP Volunteers
for this coming PREP year!! We are in search of
people willing to teach either the Sunday
morning or Tuesday evening classes for our
children! For more information or to volunteer,
please contact Father Smith at the
Rectory!!*



Catholic Social Services 267-331-2490

Pray 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*



Solemnity of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass Schedule

Thursday, August 15, 2024

8:30 AM

12:15 PM

7:00 PM

there will NOT be a Vigil Mass.

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 28th

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.