

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi

175 Years
1844-2019

August 11, 2019

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church of Saint Francis of Assisi
135 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001
tel 212.736.8500 • www.stfrancisnyc.org

The Church of St. Francis of Assisi in Midtown Manhattan is a parish in the Archdiocese of New York and an urban ministry center staffed by the Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province and their partners in ministry.

Inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ, and rooted in the charism of St. Francis of Assisi, we actively WELCOME all people.



We WORSHIP God through prayerful and inspiring liturgies, the celebration of the sacraments, and the devotional life of the Church. We WITNESS to our faith by ministering to everyone, especially those who are poor, alienated or oppressed.

Our Weekly Schedule

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Evening Vigil Masses

4:00, 5:15 PM (Organ & Cantor)

Sunday Masses

8:00 AM (Organ & Cantor), 9:15 AM (Korean),
9:30 AM (Organ & Cantor; Lower Church),
11:00 AM (Organ & Choir); 12:30 PM (Organ & Cantor),
5:00 & 6:15 PM (Contemporary Ensemble)

Weekday Masses

7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 11:30 AM; 12:30, 4:30, 5:30 PM

Saturday Morning Masses

8:00, 11:00 AM

First Friday Filipino Community Mass

6:15 PM (Lower Church)

Holidays

Consult the weekly bulletin and the posted notices for federal and other holidays.

On the cover:

Saint Clare of Assisi (1194-1253), in a fresco by Tiberio of Assisi (c.1490-1524) in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Angels of the Portiuncula, Assisi.

The feast of St. Clare is celebrated on August 11.

Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 8:30 AM; 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Saturday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 3:30 - 5:30 PM

Sunday 8:30 - 9:30 AM; 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Devotions

Monday

Devotions in Honor of St. Monica after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

Tuesday

Devotions in Honor of St. Anthony after all Masses starting at 7:45 AM

Wednesday

Devotions in Honor of St. Jude after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

Thursday

Devotions in Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes for the Sick after 8:30 AM, 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses

Friday

Devotions in Honor of the Sacred Heart after 12:30 & 5:30 PM Masses
Lenten Season: Stations of the Cross
Easter Season: Stations of the Resurrection

Saturday

The Rosary after the 11:00 AM Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday-Friday: 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Lower Church)

Summer hours: 9:00 - 11:15 AM; 1:00 - 4:15 PM

The Pastor's Corner



Last weekend we considered the phrase from Luke's Gospel that spoke of being "rich in what matters to God." It is a good phrase to meditate on anytime. This week the sentence of today's Gospel that follows along, and is fitting for further meditation, says: "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." When I was pastor of St. Francis Parish on Long Beach Island, NJ, during the summer vacationers would mention that having some leisure time helped them to put things in perspective. They gave some thought about what was important to them and if they were giving enough time and attention to those priorities. In the hustle and bustle of life here in the Big Apple, these questions can often get lost, but they have surfaced in Luke's Gospel these weekends. As St. Augustine once said: "Our hearts are restless until they rest in you." There are many treasures in each of our lives. How do they speak of God's place in your life?

One person who is a good example of "finding her treasure" is St. Clare of Assisi. Today is her feast day. She was a contemporary of St. Francis and even though she came from nobility, this was not enough for her. She was attracted to Francis' preaching and the austerity of his life. One night, she snuck out of her family house in Assisi and ventured down to where St. Francis and the brothers lived. She began a new life under St. Francis' guidance. We have the Poor Clares today who follow her way of life. Happy and Blessed Feast day to all the Poor Clares!

Fr. Andrew
Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

Come Explore the Catholic Faith!

Are you interested in exploring Catholicism for yourself? Do you know someone who might be interested in finding out more about our faith? Were you baptized in another Christian church and are thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Are you Catholic but never received Confirmation or First Communion?



Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) meets every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00 PM starting in September. These classes are designed for people who may or may not be sure that they want to join the Catholic church. We present a comprehensive overview of Catholic faith and traditions designed for adults. Anyone inquiring into the Catholic faith may attend these sessions with no obligations. The RCIA is free for anyone exploring Catholicism.

If you would like to find out more about our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, please contact: Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization; 212-736-8500, Ext. 365 or jnuzzi@stfrancisnyc.org.

This weekend, our parish will take up a collection for the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.

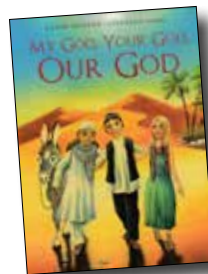


SUPPORT THE
Solidarity Fund for the
**CHURCH IN
AFRICA**

While the Church in Africa is growing, many still lack access to basic resources as well as pastoral care. Many suffer due to high rates of poverty and unemployment, illiteracy, and poor education. The fund supports pastoral projects that strengthen communities in their faith and foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/africa.

Book Review: *My God, Your God, Our God*

While this may appear to be a book just for children, it has a message for everyone. In the Preface to the book, the author, Franz



Hübner, writes: "*My God, Your God, Our God* is about the ever-relevant subject of tolerance among religions. . . This book points out that what unites us on our quest for God. And it demonstrates that behind what seems like differences among various religions, there are people all over the world that long for the same thing: a God who reveals all that is good, beautiful and loving."

The book focuses on three young people, David, Ibrahim and Johanna, and their quest for God. The book is filled with beautiful illustrations by Giuliano Ferri that are appealing to young people and follows these three individuals who seek to know how others understand God. Adults can learn much from this book too. The book is available in the lobby of the Parish House.



**Week of Prayer to Mary,
Untier of Knots**

August 19-23, 2019

175th Anniversary Raffle

\$1,000 First Prize \$500 Second Prize

\$250 Third Prize

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

**On sale at the reception desk in the
lobby of St. Francis House**

Drawing will be held at the Gala on September 20

You do not have to be present to win

The Friars of Thirty-First Street, Part 13

Fr. Anselm Kennedy, O.F.M. was a farm boy from Maple Ridge in upstate New York. He was ordained on May 26, 1888 by Bishop Wigger of Newark, and spent his early years as a priest in Paterson, NJ and Croghan, NY. In 1896 he was transferred to Denver, CO, and then served in Butler, NJ as pastor. Among the people, Fr. Anselm was known as an unassuming and gentle friar whose cheerfulness was contagious. After eight years as pastor in Buffalo, Fr. Anselm was chosen by the friars to serve as Provincial Minister of Holy Name Province from 1910 to 1916. His appointment to St. Francis of Assisi as pastor in 1919 was certainly a pastoral blessing for the parish. He brought to the ministry an extensive pastoral experience, a simple but practical wisdom, and a genuine love for people. His first task was to carry out the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the parish, planned by his predecessor, Fr. Damian, Kehr, O.F.M.



The observance of the jubilee began on Sunday, October 10, 1920, at the "Nightworkers' Mass." The Very Rev. Monsignor Luke Evers, pastor of St. Andrew's Church near City Hall, celebrated the Mass since he had been the first priest in New York to inaugurate an early Mass for nightworkers in 1901. It was fitting, therefore, that he be invited to offer the "Nightworkers' Mass" on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the parish. Fr. Eusebius Schlingmann, former pastor, and Fr. Philip Waldmann, a native of New York City, assisted as deacon and subdeacon of the Mass.

On the same day, at 11:00 AM, a Solemn Mass of thanksgiving was offered. This was preceded by a procession of the school children, altar boys, Knights of Columbus, and clergy. Archbishop Patrick Hayes presided at the Mass. At the close of the Mass, Archbishop Hayes congratulated the Franciscans on their successful ministry in the New York Archdiocese.

Fr. Anselm guided the Church of St. Francis of Assisi as its pastor for ten years. During that decade he saw the little edifice on 31st Street develop into one of the busiest and most popular churches in New York City. The remarkable progress was largely due to the single-handed efforts of this short, white-haired friar. In those days the church personnel comprised at most eight priests. All worked feverishly, but Fr. Anselm did a lion's share of the work. He was constantly ministering.

He celebrated the famous Nightworkers' Mass every Sunday

and holyday. He heard confessions for hours, conducted devotions, directed the work of ushers, sexton and janitor, and busied himself in countless ways in providing comfort to those who came to the church. "Some days I am in the confessional for 11 hours, other priests hearing too," a New York daily newspaper quoted him. It was mainly through the medium of daily confessions that "the little church among the skyscrapers" came to be known and loved by the Catholics of Greater New York.

One of the improvements that endeared churchgoers to Fr. Anselm was the little garden on the 32nd Street side of the church. When the new parochial school was built, Fr. Anselm had the old structure razed, and the entire site was transformed into an attractive garden. A fountain with a goldfish pond was placed in the center, and in a secluded corner, a statue of St. Francis, surrounded by birds and animals, was erected. A colorful column in the *New York World* recalls the garden and preserves the memory of what preceded the present courtyard of St. Francis on West 32nd Street:

"A little patch of green grass, geraniums, daisies and evergreens fronts on 32nd Street, hemmed in by whitish walls, and bending over the flowers if a barefooted friar in a brown cassock. On the sidewalk nearly every passerby is halted by the scene, common enough among the missions of California, that is bizarre in the heart of Manhattan. A sign on an iron fence informs that this is the entrance to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.

'My new St. Francis Garden!' beams Fr. Anselm Kennedy. 'The roses are on their way here from Assisi. For years it has been my dream to have this garden, both as a tiny beauty spot in the heart of the city, where there is so little natural beauty, and as an inviting side entrance to the church.

'Last Sunday was the first on which we could test our garden as a means of attracting guests from the big hotels to our Masses. How they came! We had the biggest attendance in years. Our little St. Francis Rose Garden brought them.'"



Fr. Anselm Kennedy's little garden on W. 32nd Street.

This series of articles on the history of our parish is adapted from the writings of Fr. Flavian Walsh, O.F.M., Pastor from 1985-87.

STAND UP, IMMIGRANTS! BUILD THE NETWORK

A Network of Information, Support & Protection of Immigrants



Are you without immigration status?

Here's a possible solution!

STAND UP! is a campaign to protect the rights and welfare of immigrants, especially the undocumented. It is confidential, dependable and secure. For more information, contact us at standupimmigrants@gmail.com or 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

INMIGRANTES, LEVÁNTENSE CONSTRUYAMOS LA RED

La Red de Información, Apoyo y Protección de Inmigrantes



¿Está sin estatus de inmigración?

¡Aquí hay una solución posible!

¡LEVANTENSE! es una campaña para proteger los derechos y el bienestar de los inmigrantes, especialmente los indocumentados. La campaña es confidencial, confiable y seguro. Para más información, contáctenos a standupimmigrants@gmail.com o 212-736-8500, Ext. 305.

The Pastoral Staff at Saint Francis of Assisi

Staff Friars

William Beaudin, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Director of Adult Education

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Michael Carnevale, O.F.M.

Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M., Counseling Center & Spiritual Direction

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John Felice, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar, Director of Migrant Center

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Brian Smail, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar & Spiritual Direction

bsmail@stfrancisnyc.org

Gaudete et Exsultate:

Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis

Chapter 5: Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment

An essential condition for progress in discernment is a growing understanding of God's patience and his timetable which are never our own. God does not pour down fire upon those who are unfaithful or allow the zealous to uproot the tares growing among the wheat. Generosity too is demanded, for "it is more blessed to give than to receive."



Discernment is not about discovering what more we can get out of this life but about recognizing how we can better accomplish the mission entrusted to us at our baptism. This entails a readiness to make sacrifices, even to sacrificing everything. For happiness is a paradox.

When in God's presence we examine our life's journey, no areas can be off limits. In all aspects of life we can continue to grow and offer something greater to God even in those areas we find most difficult. We need, though, to ask the Holy Spirit to liberate us and to expel the fear that makes us ban him from certain parts of our lives.

Friars in Residence

Stephen Mimnaugh, O.F.M., St. Francis Friends of the Poor

Thomas Walters, O.F.M., St. Francis Friends of the Poor

Pastoral Associates & Administration

Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries

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Caelestine Kim, O.S.B., Pastoral Associate, Korean Ministry

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Joseph Nuzzi, Director of Evangelization

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Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office

development@stfrancisnyc.org

Edward A. Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteer Ministry

etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

The Bread & Wine for Masses this week have been given for the intentions of: Catherine B. Puangco; Cheryl & Lawrence Carlos from Adelaida Carlos; Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers; and in thanksgiving to St. Anthony.

If you would like to make a donation for bread and wine used at Masses each week, please go to the reception desk.

Saturday, August 10, 2019

8:00 AM Guy Movizzo (d.)
11:00 Secular Institute of Missionaries of the Kingship of Christ (d.)
4:00 PM Franciscan Mass League
5:15 Michael Garnek (d.)

Sunday, August 11, 2018

8:00 AM Elizabeth C. Gilligan
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
9:30 Anna Miranda
11:00 Michaelle Des Grottes, thanksgiving
12:30 PM Thanksgiving to St. Clare
5:00 Thanksgiving to St. John Paul II
6:15 Elizabeth Alfonso

Monday, August 12, 2019

7:00 Sally C. Ticao
7:45 Emm
8:30 Francis Keyes (d.)
11:30 Julien Simon (d.)
12:30 PM Jean Belony
4:30 Rocco & Anne Castellano (d.)
5:30 Isabel Vasquez (d.)

Tuesday, August 13, 2019

7:00 Elinora Anthony
7:45 Nicholas Rossi (d.)
8:30 Maryanne Dirrane
11:30 John Novak (d.)
12:30 PM Eleanore Theresa Kim
4:30 Joseph Aniset Lauture (d.)
5:30 Juan Camilo Martinez (d.)

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

7:00 AM Margaret L. Sheehan
7:45 Anthony Charles Hicks (d.)
8:30 Dr. Arnel Redondo (d.)
11:30 Luis Alvarez (d.)
12:30 PM Lisette and her Son
4:30 Teodora Reyes, special intention
5:30 Lloyd McKnight (d.)



Assumption of the BVM, August 15

Thursday, August 15, 2019

7:00 Arthur & Mary Bazzurro (d.)
7:45 Suet Kong & Chung Cha
8:30 Angelo Grace (d.)
11:30 Dante Luna (d.)
12:30 PM The Sick
4:30 Harry Cafetz (d.)
5:30 Guilaine Evariste, thanksgiving

Friday, August 16, 2019

7:00 Agnes P. Hernon
7:45 Ernesto Sossa (d.)
8:30 Elvis B. Torres, David Sinchi & Angel Ortiz
11:30 Ida Porsenna (d.)
12:30 PM Josephine Yao (d.)
4:30 Sharon E. Itliong, birthday
5:30 Emmet & Eimear McDermott

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Directory

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE: 135 W. 31st Street • SAN DAMIANO HALL: 127 W. 31st Street
ST. FRANCIS ADULT EDUCATION CENTER: 139 W. 31st Street

Adult Education

A variety of courses in Scripture, church history, spirituality, personal growth, and other topics are offered at noon and in the evenings in the Fall and Spring months. Special brochures with course offerings are published prior to the start of each term and are available at the church entrances. Fr. William Beaudin, O.F.M., Director; 212-736-8500, Ext. 311.

Franciscan Bread for the Poor

The St. Francis Breadline provides food for hungry people every morning of the year at 7:00 AM. Franciscans Deliver brings groceries to area shut-ins on a weekly basis. For more information, go to www.stfrancisbreadline.org.

Counseling Center

Counseling services are available on a short- or long-term basis by appointment only. Sliding scale fee structure. Call 212-736-8500, Ext. 290 for information or to make an appointment.

Saint Francis Bereavement Ministry

While grief is a very private experience, people who have lost loved ones can benefit from the witness and support of others who have lost someone special in their lives. The St. Francis Bereavement Ministry offers an opportunity for the bereaved to connect with others who grieve, and to seek a path of healing as they come to terms with their loss. Call Fr. Brian Smail, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500, Ext. 204 to inquire.



Immigration Assistance

The Migrant Center at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi provides assistance to all immigrants regardless of status. If anyone needs assistance or has concerns about immigration matters, please contact the Migrant Center at 212-736-8500, Ext. 305/377 or email migrantcenter@stfrancisnyc.org.

Korean Ministry

The Korean Community worships in Korean every Sunday at 9:15 AM. A Mass for young adults is held on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 6:00 PM in the lower church. Fr. Michael Kim, O.F.M.; 212-736-8500, Ext. 384.

LGBT Outreach

Our LGBT ministry is very active in our community. The ministry provides various spiritual, social, and educational events from September through June. For more information, please visit the website to sign up for our mailing list. For more information, contact Meredith Augustin, liaison for the LGBT ministry, at 212-736-8500, Ext. 327.

Mass Cards & Perpetual Enrollments

Available at the Reception Desk in the lobby of St. Francis House. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Saturday: 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Sunday: 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Music Ministry

To become involved in our liturgical music ministry, please call Meredith Augustin, Director of Music Ministries, at 212-736-8500, Ext. 327.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The RCIA is the process by which people can question, search, and inquire into the Catholic faith. The RCIA is for any unbaptized adult who is new to the Catholic faith or any unbaptized child usually over the age of 7. The RCIA is also for any adult or child over the age of 7 who was baptized in another Christian tradition and for baptized Catholic adults seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Contact Joseph Nuzzi at 212-736-8500, Ext. 365.

RENEW! Younger Retiree Program

Catholic retirees, age 55 and over, participate in spiritual, cultural, social, and service activities in the New York Metropolitan Area. For information, please contact RENEW at 212-736-8500, Ext. 389.

Secular Franciscans

Lay men and women who strive to follow the Gospel way of life according to the ideals of St. Francis. For information please see our website <http://www.stfrancisnyc.org/secularfranciscans.htm>.

St. Francis on Facebook

St. Francis Church is on Facebook! Join the group "St. Francis of Assisi NYC" on Facebook to see who else is a member, be informed of news and events and keep in touch with what's going on in your parish community. Stay connected the way you like to stay connected. Join the group today and invite your friends.

Self-Help Groups

St. Francis Church hosts numerous self-help groups, including Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Sex Addicts Anonymous, Survivors of Incest Anonymous, and others. Please consult the Self-Help and Support Groups brochure for times and locations of the meetings.

Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction as a means of spiritual growth and faith development is provided by the Center Staff. Contact Fr. Joseph Cavoto, O.F.M. at 212-736-8500 for more information.

Ugnayan Filipino Ministry

A home away from home for newly arrived Filipino immigrants. Our ministry sponsors the Sacred Heart devotion during the 6:15 PM First Friday Mass with fellowship afterwards. We conduct Lectio Divina every Third Friday of the month. The ministry also welcomes interested individuals to join their music ministry. Rehearsals are on two consecutive Thursdays before the First Friday. Email: flipinoministry@stfrancisnyc.org.

Volunteers

St. Francis Church invites individuals to give freely of their time and expertise in order to make a difference. Our volunteers participate in liturgical ministries as well as other forms of service to the church and the community. Edward Trochimczuk, Director of Volunteers. Email: etrochimczuk@stfrancisnyc.org.

Young Adult Ministry

This is a ministry of, by, and for Catholic men and women in their 20's and 30's. At St. Francis we believe that ministering to young adults begins by creating an environment where people feel welcome, especially by worshipping God together in a way that feeds the spirit. For more information please email: youngadults@stfrancisnyc.org.



Is God calling you to be a Franciscan Friar?
Vocation Ministry of Holy Name Province • BeAFranciscan.org