

Church of
Saint Francis of Assisi

175 Years
1844 - 2019

When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends...or your relatives...
Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind...

Luke 14:12-13

September 1, 2019

Twenty-Second 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.

Welcome  Witness
Worship

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.

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

Labor Day Monday, September 2, 2019



Mass at 11:30 AM
No confessions
Church offices will be closed.
Have a restful and safe holiday!

The Pastor's Corner



St. Luke quotes a famous saying of Jesus in today's Gospel: "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." He is bringing out the point that the humble person will be open to the various types of people that are found around them. Jesus speaks about a dinner and the invited guests and indirectly asks "who would you invite?" We know that Jesus had close friends in his circle, but he was always expanding it and at times even going to dinner at someone's house when no one would think of going there. This open vision is life giving- it gives life to those included and life to the person who is including others. Do you find this an easy thing to do?

Just a reminder that our RCIA classes begin next week. Who are these classes for? Any adult who would like to come into the church and has not been baptized or an adult who was baptized in another denomination and would like to become Catholic. Also, any adult who has not been confirmed. Contact Joe Nuzzi or come to the first class this week: check elsewhere in this bulletin for exact information.

I hope that you have an enjoyable Labor Day. This is an opportunity to thank God for the ability to work and to remember those who are unemployed or underemployed, those who are not satisfied with their current employment and those who work in terrible conditions or work with difficult people. It always is a blessing if you can work in an atmosphere of respect, mutual concern, and fairness. Not always easy to find, unfortunately.

Fr. Andrew

Fr. Andrew Reitz, O.F.M.

You Are Invited to a Weekend Retreat!

The Ugnayan Filipino Ministry of St. Francis of Assisi invites you to a weekend retreat, September 13-15 at San Damiano Retreat



Center in upper Manhattan. Fr. Michael Reyes, O.F.M. will present reflections on Evangelizing in Today's World. The cost is \$150 and payment is due by Friday, September 6. For more information, please contact Zeny (718-672-0596), Lou (917-806-7819), Carla (718-503-4637) or filipinoministry@stfrancisnyc.org.

Saint Francis Walks



Here's a new opportunity to witness our faith in the public square: **Saint Francis Walks**. Friars, staff and parishioners of the Church of St. Francis of

Assisi plan to walk in solidarity with the people of New York City in Breast Cancer Walk, Multiple Sclerosis Walk, Alzheimer's Walk, AIDS Walk, as well as many other opportunities to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers. For more information, contact Fr. Julian Jagudilla, O.F.M. at jjagudilla@stfrancisnyc.org.



175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

175th Anniversary Gala

September 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM, San Damiano Hall

Enjoy time with friars, parishioners and friends of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi with food, music and cocktails as we celebrate this memorable moment in the life of our church.

Tickets: \$50, available at the reception desk

175th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Our Commemorative Book will be released during the Gala on September 20 and will be available for sale at the reception desk for \$20.

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 St. Francis House. The drawing will be held at the Gala on September 20. You don't have to be present to win.

175th Anniversary Festive Mass

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4, 2019, 5:30 PM

Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, will be the presider at the Mass which will close our anniversary year. He will be joined by Fr. Kevin Mullen, O.F.M., Provincial Minister of Holy Name Province, as well as our friars at St. Francis and visiting friars from the Province.

More information can be found at stfrancisnyc.org.

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.

Book Review: *Meditations and Devotions*

John Henry Newman will be canonized on October 13. This 19th century convert was ordained and eventually was made a Cardinal. As a theologian and poet, he is well known for his writings. He is the one who said: "To live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often." This book of his *Meditations and Devotions* contains the meditations that came from his daily thoughts on various topics. One commentator wrote: "... every page appeals to the sorrowful or wounded heart; and the personal holiness and attitude of loving reverence and gratitude and hope and trust..." He has a month of meditations on Mary, meditations on the way of the Cross, and various themes of spirituality. There is a depth of thought in each section which can nourish anyone's spiritual journey. The book is available in the Lobby of the Parish House.

The Friars of Thirty-First Street, Part 16

The Great Depression impacted New Yorkers with hardship and turmoil, and brought an abrupt end to a decade of nonchalance. With the election of Fiorello La Guardia as mayor, New York City finally entered an era of honest leadership which brought an atmosphere of decency and obvious compassion after years of scandal and corruption. The 1930s proved to be a remarkable comeback decade for the seven million inhabitants of the city.



At the Provincial Chapter of 1931 Fr. Mathias Faust was elected to the office of Minister Provincial, and Fr. Samuel Grega was appointed to succeed him as guardian and pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Monastery and Church.

Fr. Samuel was one of the most colorful and entertaining friars to ever live and minister at 31st Street. He was born in Taszo, Hungary on August 10, 1886, and came to America as a youth to study for the Franciscan priesthood at the minor seminary in Callicoon, NY. Fr. Samuel's bombastic and flamboyant style as a preacher of parish missions for several years would make his 37 years of pastoral ministry at St. Francis Church.

After Fr. Samuel became the pastor of St. Francis he endeared himself to thousands as a wise counselor and compassionate confessor. He made a notable contribution to the devotional life of St. Francis Church by introducing a great variety of popular devotions. The Tuesday service in honor of St. Anthony of Padua, which always drew large numbers of devotees, became so popular that 13 additional devotions had to be introduced each Tuesday in order to accommodate the ever increasing crowds. A perpetual novena to St. Joseph was initiated on Wednesdays, and this immediately proved popular with the people. He introduced weekly devotions in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. But, without doubt, "the little church among the skyscrapers" became best known for the Holy Hour which was held every Thursday at noon, in the late afternoon, and in the evening.

To satisfy the demands of so many devotees of the church, the community of friars had gradually increased. In 1932, 31 priests were ministering at St. Francis Church. By 1944, the centenary years, more than 50 priests were stationed at the friary on West 31st Street. In order to accommodate the increase of friars, the parochial school was transformed into a friary annex.

Fr. Samuel continued to serve as a dedicated preacher and a popular confessor at St. Francis until 1967 when ill health forced the 80-year-old friar to go to the Province's infirmary. His ministry was marked by a patient, kind and joyful spirit which touched the lives of thousands during his 37 years here. When he was buried from St. Francis Church on March 14, 1968, the upper church was filled to capacity with friars, sisters, relatives and friends of the simple friar who loved everyone.



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.

Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

#2: Call to Family and Community

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society – in economics and politics, in law and policy – directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened.

The family is thus an agent of pastoral activity through its explicit proclamation of the Gospel and its legacy of varied forms of witness, namely solidarity with the poor, openness to a diversity of people, the protection of creation, moral and material solidarity with other families. . . and the transformation of unjust social structures.

. . . by their innermost nature men and women are social beings and unless they relate themselves to others they can neither live nor develop their potential.

Local individuals and groups can make a real difference. They are able to instill a greater sense of responsibility, a strong sense of community, a readiness to protect others, a spirit of creativity and a deep love for the land.

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 Jordan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

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David McBriar, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar

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

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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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Rebeca Peraza, Director of Church Development Office

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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 Joseph, Marie & Thomas Powers, Jr., and in memory of Thomas Powers, Sr. from Victorina Powers.

The Sanctuary Lights have been given for the intentions the Umayam Family and for the healing of Denise Festa.

Saturday, August 31, 2019

8:00 AM Adriel Radondo
11:00 Thomas & Edith Castellano (d.)
4:00 PM Tim Keane (d.)
5:15 Kathleen Harris

Sunday, September 1, 2018

8:00 AM Ramon J. Carreon
9:15 Intentions of the Korean Community
9:30 Franciscan Mass League
11:00 Isabel Vasquez (d.)
12:30 PM Martin Macapugay (d.)
5:00 Sherry & Kenny Mok
6:15 José Cesar Nitorreda (d.)

Monday, September 2, 2019

Labor Day

11:30 Fr. Robert Gavin, O.F.M. (d.)

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

7:00 Ben Hur
7:45 Alexis Morales
8:30 Rita & Harry Donnelly (d.)
11:30 Carmen Maria Morales (d.)
12:30 PM Gilbert Gittens (d.)
4:30 Jessie & Joan Laurienzo (d.)
5:30 Francisco Castro Astacio (d.)

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

7:00 AM John Gordon (d.)
7:45 Clarisa Duncan (d.)
8:30 Martin A. Walsh (d.)
11:30 Tiongo & Alfonso Families (l. & d.)
12:30 PM Regina & Ronald Donnelly (d.)
4:30 Catalinn Cortes (d.)
5:30 Benita Go (d.)

Thursday, September 5, 2019

7:00 Enrico & Victoria D'Argenio (d.)
7:45 Rodrick Clarke (d.)
8:30 Thomas & Olive Reilly (d.)
11:30 John N. Condiles, Jr. (d.)
12:30 PM The Sick
4:30 Vincent Isoldi (d.)
5:30 Jonathan Butler

Friday, September 6, 2019

7:00 Julian Duncan (d.)
7:45 María del Pilar Blanco (d.)
8:30 Jane Lewis (d.)
11:30 Veronica Sharpee (d.)
12:30 PM Eugene Reilly (d.)
4:30 Marcelina Forbes (d.)
5:30 Dec. members of Drury, Neenan, Cuellar & Ayala Family (d.)



St. Gregory the Great, September 3

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

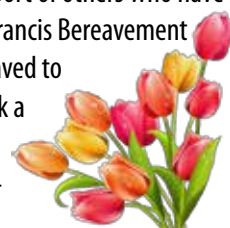
The St. Francis Breadline provides food for hungry people every morning of the year at 7:00 AM. Franciscans Deliver brings groceries to area shut-ins on a weekly basis. For more information, go to www.stfrancisbreadline.org.

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