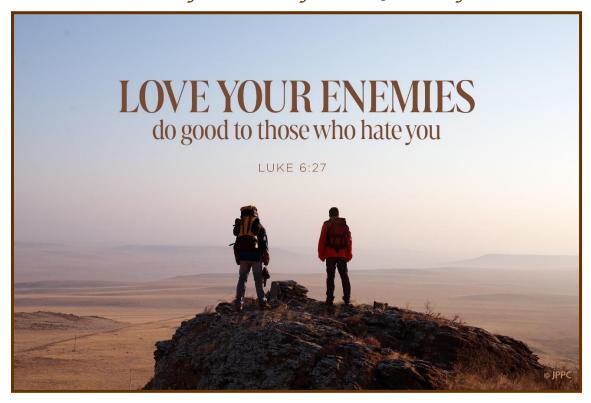
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 23, 2025



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 <u>www.sfaparish.org</u> <u>contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org</u> ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL 610-543-0546

Rev. Matthew J. Tralies ~ Pastor Deacon W. Timothy Baxter Rev. Henry J. McKee ~ In Residence Deacon James J. McGonigal



Interested in having your child Baptized here at St. Francis? Please contact Joan Curtis at the Rectory 610-543-0848 or email us at: BaptismsSFA@gmail.com



To inquire about scheduling your Wedding Ceremony here at St. Francis, please contact our Parish Wedding Assistant, Joan Kane at ParishWeddingsSFA@gmail.com For Information regarding Upcoming Funerals & Services,
Please visit our Parish Website at www.sfaparish.org
and click on...





Casseroles are always needed for Saint John's Hospice.

Casseroles are what the men eat for lunch and dinner and are greatly appreciated!

The recipes and containers are in the main church vestibule next to the book display.

The recipes can also be picked up at the Rectory during regular business hours.

Casseroles must be frozen and should be dropped off in the freezer located in the Rectory Basement(Room A) during normal business hours of operation.

(Please note...Coolers are no longer stationed in the Church entrances.)

Questions? Contact Cathy Kenney cfkenney@verizon.net

7™ SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Sunday, February 23, 2025

7:30AM Nicholas and Helen Cicchini 9:30AM Betty Green

(9:30AM New Altar Server Installation Mass)

11:30AM Nadia Philiposian

Monday, February 24, 2025

8:00AM Marion McCorriston

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

8:00AM Ann C. Parylak

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

8:00AM Joanne K. DiDio

ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through 7PM Holy Hour)

Thursday, February 27, 2025

8:00AM Jim Braconnier (9th Ann)

Friday, February 28, 2025

8:00AM Antoinette Mollichella

Saturday, March 1, 2025

8:00AM John Faraone (1st Ann)

3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday, March 2, 2025

7:30AM Charlotte Smolik

9:30AM Charlene Metler (2nd Ann)

11:30AM Catherine and Alexander Martin

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.



MEMORIAL FOR FEBRUARY Bread & Wine

For the 15th Anniversary of Ann Riehl

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE



This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of February 23rd, the candle will burn in loving memory of Michael Santivasci's 2nd Anniversary as requested by his wife, Dolores.

WEEKLY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Please join us Wednesday mornings immediately following the 8AM Mass in front of the Sacred Heart statue in Church for the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

PRAYER REQUESTS TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

Baby Margot Steindl Baby DeSantis Dominic Rosini **Andrew Colona Monique Carpenter** Anne McGlone Maria DiGiacinto **David Clemmer Catherine Lindsey Danny Hynes** Robert W. Bollinger **Leslie Dougherty Margaret Binetsky** Jack Braconnier, Sr. **Marvann McCaulev Bob Buchanan** Alicia Bona Rav Kenney, Sr. Natalie Berry Carolina Longmore Maryann Murphy Cathy Baj Jenine Amato **Deacon Joe Gousie** Sandy Keller **Chris Touchton** Tim Corlies Susan Aljets Fox Family **Kevin Fries** Ray Binni Marty McAndrews Ellen Ribbs Paula Sullivan

Baby Daniel Ruszai **Emily Belfie** Arthur LeTourneau Lucretia Murphy Lou DeSantis **Brian Marandola** Carmen Salerno Amy Faulls Mary Benedetti **Shealvn Mencel Kathy Fritz** Jeannie Brattini Joanne DeSantis Ron Fraatz **Denise DeAngelis** Marie Martin **Greg Schmidt** Susan Lower Mary Jean Grandizio **Gerald Berry Ann Farren** Dan Bruno **Malcolm Wills** Joe Mastalski Sadie Keller Mark McKinsev Paul Ansaldo **Scott Aljets** Merkle Family **Bryan Treude**

Evan Farrington **Michael Farley Bill Seavey Dolores Govannicci Ethel LeVasseur Michael Costa** Joanne Marks Veronica Suppa Caroline Donovan **Amy Travers Emily Meakim** Paula Bazela Patti Frost Cinko Joe Calabrese **Beverly Scarani** Madelvn O'Keefe Hank McElwee **Inger Sexton** Eileen Bowdren **Brian Griffin** Marsha Four Patricia Lafferty Jack Schultz Michelle Rodger Ambrose Hummel Patricia Lindsey Ian Regino Peggy Burke Franny Devlin **Dobbs Family** Neil Bohley, Sr. **David Maxwell** Colleen Fullerton

For Our St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community If you have someone you would like prayed for, OR have **REMOVED** from prayer list, please email Joan Curtis at sfabulletin@hotmail.com or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.

TO ALL 2025



This Weekend marks "In-Pew Pledge Card" Weekend for the 2025 Catholic Charities Appeal. Please consider a donation to help those most in need in the Philadelphia area. The Appeal funds hundreds of beneficiary organizations that serve thousands. Prayerfully consider how you can help by supporting the 2025 Catholic Charities Appeal. Pledge Cards are available at the Church entrances, Or visit: www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org/donate

Thank You and God Bless!

Breaking Open the Word

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ March 2nd, 2025



Sirach 27:4-7

"...tribulation is the test of the just...."

When things are going your way, it is easy to have faith. However, how deep is that faith? Often, you never know how fervent your beliefs are until you are tested. It is a profound and important question to ask yourself regularly how deep truly are the roots of your faith?

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

".... Where, O death, is your victory?.... be steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord...knowing that your labor is not in vain..."

On Holy Thursday night, Christ told Pilate, "My Kingdom is not of this world." Can you say the same thing? How many entrapments of this mortal world ensnare you? Security? Power? Prestige? Idolatry of false prophets? Reflect upon this reality as you absorb the words of this reading. Contemplate it along with the message contained in the first reading. What impact does it have upon you?

Luke 6:39-45

"...nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit...."

That logic seems straightforward enough, doesn't it? You would not pick fruit off a tree full of rot and decay, would you? Yet, throughout history, humans have made such foolhardy choices in far more serious decisions. Selecting Barrabas over Jesus. Choosing Hitler.

In what ways have you and\or do you choose a rotten tree and expect good fruit?

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



If anyone is in need of assistance with utility bills, or other bills, or in need of food, or, if you know of someone who needs help, call 610-212-4932 and someone from the St. Vincent will call you.

RIDE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

If you are in need of a ride to a doctor or test appointment, please call the Rectory 610-543-0848 and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul Society will call you back to coordinate a ride for you.



Join us as we pray the Novena of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary **Wednesdays at 1:30PM** in the Church.



To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at <u>sfaparish.org</u> and click on the link to *Sign Up* to reserve your week and Be Blessed by Our Lady and Our Lord. For more information, call Roseann Squitiere at 610-328-0635.



Do you wish to see with God's eyes?Make a six-week retreat by exploring the

Sunday readings of Lent.

Simple language and everyday metaphors steep you in the season's promptings to surrender self, work for justice, and deepen prayer life.

Tuesday mornings 9:30-11AM (beginning March 4th).

At a Parishioner's Home. No fee. Resource provided. Register by calling Kathy Thomas at 484-571-1631.

MAKE THIS LENT ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, NOT WHAT YOU DON'T DO!

Instead of giving up chocolate or cutting back on TV, join a small community for six weeks during Lent to participate in Lenten Longings to read Scripture and share your faith. Small groups will be meeting once a week for 90 minutes at someone's home. It's a great way to observe the Year of Faith this Lent. Watch this bulletin for more information or call Madelyn McBride at the rectory 610-543-0848 Ext. 118.

ST. FRANCIS IN ACTION!!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield PA seeks to emulate our patron saint in service to others. We seek to encounter people in need through a variety of offerings that provide us with the opportunity to be Christ like and to meet Christ in those we serve.



CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

Please be informed...Prepared meals for Caring for Friends should be dropped off at St. Francis of Assisi Rectory during NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS. The Freezer is located in the Rectory basement. To Drop off on weekends or off hours contact Jill Hoffner or Cheryl Monkman.

Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church.

If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541 or Jill Hoffner (610)733-1593.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE COLLECTION



Ministry Homeless

St John's Hospice- is a men's homeless shelter and also serves meals to homeless men. The collection is next weekend, **March 1**st & 2nd. Please bring breakfast items (cereal, breakfast bars, coffee, tea, juice), personal care items (hand sanitizer, bath soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, lip balm and shaving items) and new/gently used men clothes. Items can be left in the church entranceways/vestibule. Contact Cathy and Mark Kenney at

<u>cfkenney@verizon.net</u> if you wish to drop off items at our home or for further information about the ministry.

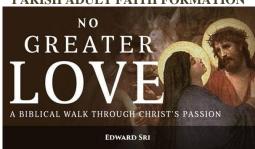
Weekly Comparison Financial Report 2/18/2024

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$11,784.34 Electronic Giving ~ \$ 5,437.67 \$17,222.01

2/16/2025

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$ 10,690.25 Electronic Giving ~ \$ 5,147.11 \$15,837.36

PARISH ADULT FAITH FORMATION



NO GREATER LOVE; A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH CHRIST'S PASSION

Wednesdays: 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16 from 6:30-8:00PM in Rectory Conference Room C.

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—and grow closer to Jesus.

Cost: FREE. For more info or to register, call Madelyn McBride: 610-543-0848 Ext 118, by February 26th.

THE GREAT GAELIC GETAWAY (EXPERIENCE IRELAND THIS SPRING) May 4th – 13th of 2025

Enjoy an unforgettable pilgrimage to the beautiful country of Ireland with Fr. Matt Tralies and Fr. Jim DeGrassa. After our direct flight from Philadelphia to the Emerald Isle, we'll be immersed in the rich history, faith and culture of a nation we all love. From spiritual sites like Knock to the stunning Cliffs of Moher; to charming towns like Kilkenny and Killarney to the bustling city of Dublin. We'll also experience some mountain scapes and a traditional Irish farm in-between. This truly is a beautiful Irish escape! We have unique hotels such as the beautiful Lyrath Estate and the tranquil Delphi resort. Of course, a night of traditional Irish music and dancing, along with a fun visit to the Guinness Storehouse is a must and is included in the trip. Fun, faith and fellowship! Check out Cloverdale Travel for more information at —

www.cloverdaletravel.org and look under the tab marked "The Great Gaelic Getaway."

If you have other questions, contact Michael at info@cloverdaletravel.org or 215-469-0820.



THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Three Parish Book Club will hold its February meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on Wednesday, **February 26th at 7:00pm**. If you would like to join the meeting or would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termprice@verizon.net. **February book** - Crossing the Threshold of Hope — Pope St. John Paul II.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ATHLETICS

CYO Spring 2025 Registration is NOW open.
CYO participants must be registered parishioners of St.
Francis and must be enrolled in our PREP Program or in Catholic school.

JV Baseball – 5th & 6th Grade Boys

V Baseball – 7th & 8th Grade Boys

JV Softball - 5th & 6th Grade Girls

V Softball - 7th & 8th Grade Girls

Track & Field – 3rd-8th Grade Boys & Girls Volleyball – High School Boys & Girls

Go to <u>www.sfabruins.org</u> and click "register". If you have any questions, contact Tom Rutledge

trutledge@sfabruins.org



ST. FRANCIS PARISH MEN'S GROUP Mens Group

Parish Men's Group meets every Saturday morning virtually from 6:45~8:00AM to share the desire to follow Jesus more closely by being better husbands, fathers, grandfathers, leaders, followers, sons, and friends. All are welcome to join us! Please call in at 6:45AM at 646-558-8656 **Meeting ID**: 738 611 2876 **Passcode**: 111501.

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB

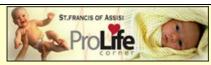


The next meeting is March 13th. We will be entertained by "Joey Vincent."

<u>Casino Trips</u>: 3/12, 4/9, 5/14 & 6/11. Cost is \$35 with return of \$15 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10am from the St. Kevin parking lot (200 W. Sproul Road). Park in spaces adjacent to the Springfield Country Club. **Call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.**

"IRISH CELEBRATION" Join St. Francis Over 50 Club at the Shore Club in Springton Lake, NJ on March 6th. For more information, contact Cathy Randazzo at 610-389-5225.

Membership to our Club is open to the entire community. Anyone who is 50 years of age or older may join the Club regardless of sex, religion, or race. For Membership information, call Cathy Randazzo at 610-328-0408.



"PRO-LIFE" LINES"

Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006. Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion healing: 877-HOPE-4-ME www.rachelsvineyard.org.

A Baby's Breath 24-hour hotline: 484-571-5540.

www.ababysbreath.org

Delaware County Pregnancy Center: 610-872-2229, www.dcpcchester.org Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org. Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

The Saint Anastasia Respect Life Ministry is sponsoring a one-day Youth retreat entitled, <u>Theology of the Body-Igniting the Divine Spark</u>. The retreat will be held at Cardinal O'Hara High School on **Saturday**, **March 29** and will feature Samantha Kelley who is an engaging and dynamic speaker on the topic of St. John Paul's Theology of the Body. Young people need to hear a message that counters the message given in our culture and as a Church, we are blessed to have the answer with St. John Paul's masterpiece. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at www.sarespectlifeministry@gmail.com.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Presidium Legion of Mary



Legion of Mary

The Saint Francis Chapter of the Legion of Mary (Our Lady, Queen of Peace Praesidium) invites you to become an active or auxiliary member of Mary's Legion. Active members attend a weekly meeting and commit to doing two hours of work each week for Mary and her Son. Auxiliary members pray the Legion prayers daily for the intentions of our Blessed Mother. Our Legion meets on Monday afternoons at 1:30 P.M. in the Rectory Chapel. We invite you to join us to learn more about our work. For more information, call Gus McClay at 610 544-7223.



All women are invited to join us in fellowship, aimed at strengthening our faith and journeying closer to the heart of God. This year, we will be using Walking with Purpose's "Touching the Divine" bible study. https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible-study/ for more info and to order the book. Meetings will take place in SFA's Library on select Saturday mornings at 8:30am, beginning September 14th. If you have questions or want more info, please reach out to: Jen Lorenz 610-333-3011.



ALL ARE INVITED!!! Come let your heart be soothed and experience the peace and serenity of our Parish Holy Hour on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church. If you have questions or wish to volunteer and help reach out, please contact Rob Longo (Rob@LiveVertical.org) or Luke LeTourneau (Luke@LiveVertical.org) or call 610-986-6660. For more info, visit: www.livevertical.org

GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini Cale Amador John Michael Bartivic Christopher Baxter Colin Butler Jonathan Butterfield Davidson Cox Thomas Cresta Anthony DelVecchio Timothy Drabyak Mike Froeter Owen Galligan Kevin Geiger Jon Hylton Jacob Johnson Aidan Jones Matthew Jones Matthew Kauffman Connor Lyons Dan Marchini Timothy McCanns Shawn McConaghy Bill McDermott Emma McDonald James McDonald Nicholas McDonald Michael McGarvey Francis McGrail Daniel McLee Nicholas Peranteau Stephen Peranteau Ronan Plummer Peter Quinn Katherine Reider Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. Joseph Spence Chase Stewart Jesse Stewart Sean Sweeney Skip Turner Weston Hayes

Let us pray for those who SERVE and PROTECT...

Dear Heavenly Father, we lift our sailors, soldiers, marines, airmen, coast guard and families into Your loving care. Protect our Nation from all that is evil. Guide our way through these difficult times. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

HOPE IN CHRIST: SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTIONS

Seeking solace and spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many local parishes are offering ways to experience Christ's extended hand of love and mercy in your time of need. Find Catholic resources for addiction for you or your loved one at www.archphila.org/hope

Also available for support is Faith-based drug rehab website: www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab

YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS

Requests for Year-End Financial Giving Statements can be submitted online through the St. Francis of Assisi website:

www.sfaparish.org

If you contribute electronically, you can also obtain your Contribution Report through your Parish Giving Account. You can also use the form below to make your request.

T

Request for Year-End Financial Statement
If you would like a statement of your yearly
contributions for tax purposes, please print
and complete this request form.

Either mail it to or drop it off at the Rectory,
or place it in the collection basket.

Name:	Y	
Address:		
Phone #:		
	For Pick-Up	Please Mail to me

Questions, please call Joan Fogarty (Rectory) 610-543-0848 ext 117

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

On Thursday we observe the Memorial of St Gregory of Narek. Who was he? Little is known, except that he spent most of his life in the monastery of Narek in what is now Turkey, being ordained in 977. He was a monk, professor of theology, and a poet who described his *Book of Prayer* as "an encyclopedia of prayer for all nations." The original Armenian text has been translated into 30 languages. Pope Francis named him a Doctor of the Church in 2015.

BE ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH WEBSITE

www.archphila.org/support.

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the Be Encouraged website at www.archphila.org/support

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank PHILLY SPIN-IN RIDE FOR LITTLE HEARTS Saturday & Sunday, March 8-9th

www.PhillySpinin.org Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Please consider using our advertisers' services and

tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.



CATHOLIC TAKE ON SMARTPHONES AND SOCIAL

MEDIA 7+ hours teens spend on their phone...145% increase in major depression for U.S. teen girls since 2010...134% increase in U.S. undergraduates diagnosed with anxiety since 2010. How can we help our kids thrive in a

phone-based culture? Join us for this event **Tuesday, February 25, 7PM at OLPH** (2130 Franklin Ave. Morton). Speaker: Alex Haynie. Alex, a graduate of Princeton and University of Notre Dame, worked for a world class tech company that filters the internet and protects kids from toxic content online. He is the Director of Strategic Initiatives with the Catholic non-profit Live Vertical.

MASS OF HEALING AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA

All are invited to Our Lady of Fatima's Quarterly First Friday Mass of Healing on **March 7**, beginning at 6:45PM. Prayer teams will be available for individual healing afterwards. Witness stories are welcome. Mark Griswold will provide music. 1 Fatima Drive, Secane, PA 19018. For more info https://www.archphilaccr.otg.

WOMEN OF HOPE (formerly known as Dominican Women) Retreat: March 14-16. Come to Malvern Retreat House to renew and strengthen your relationship with our Lord. The theme is "The Eucharist- Food for the Journey." The cost is \$275 and a \$75 deposit minimum is requested to secure your spot. To register, call 610 644-0400 or visit www.malvernretreat.com.

BROTHERS OF BORROMEO VOCATION CAMP

Young men in grades 6, 7, and 8 are invited to the new campus of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Ambler on **Saturday**, **March 22 from 9AM-4PM**. The day includes activities, sports, dynamic talks, prayer and fellowship with the Philadelphia Seminarians. To learn more and to register, visit https://heedthecall.org/events/bbvc/

RACHEL'S VINEYARD: A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat will help you experience the mercy and compassion of God and discover hope for your future. In a safe, confidential, non-judgmental environment, you can grieve your loss while understanding and releasing any feelings of anger, shame or regret you might have. Our retreats also help fathers and/grandparents of an aborted child. Upcoming retreats: **March 28 - 30, October 17 - 19 in Malvern, PA**. Contact us to reserve your spot. Susan (610) 716-4795

SusieMcK@comcast.net or Georgeanne (484) 955-4278 geemcgarry@gmail.com Sent from my iPhone

THE CALIX SOCIETY "A.A. restores your health and keeps you from an early grave. Calix saves your soul and puts you on the road to heaven." - William J. Montroy, a founder of the Calix Society. Are you in a 12-step recovery program? Do you have family or friends in recovery? Tell them about The Calix Society! We meet the last Saturday of every month at St. Francis of Assisi after the 4:00pm Mass in the Church Library/basement. For more information about the Calix Society please visit www.calixsociety.org. You can also contact Ken Johnston at 215-327-3236 or

<u>ken@notsaintsyet.org</u>. For more info about our meeting at SFA: please contact Luke LeTourneau at 610-986-6660.

PRAYER FOR PATIENCE

Lord, I am grateful for the people, things, and the world You have put me in, and I love it all. I accept that not everything is going to be according to the way I want. I am asking You to provide me more Patience and wisdom to accept the things I am unable to. Make my mind more calm and acceptable. Amen.





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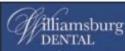


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