

Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ April 6, 2025



Go, and from now on do not sin any more.

JOHN 8:11

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 www.sfaparish.org contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org

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
Rector's 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...

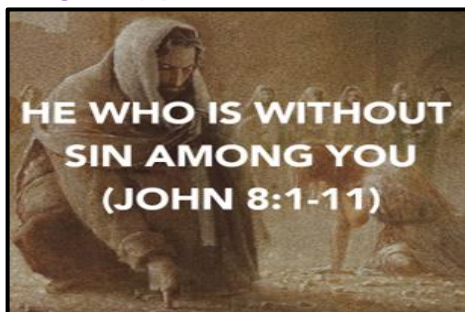


Upcoming Event ~ Mark Your Calendar!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
CLOTHING DRIVE

Saturday, April 26th 10:00AM until 1:00PM
Clothing Drive Truck Pickup in St. Francis Parking Lot
(Clothing & Small Appliances)

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



Sunday, April 6, 2025

7:30AM Rev. Joseph Meehan

9:30AM Mary Ann Calabrese

11:30AM Rev. Joseph Meehan

Monday, April 7, 2025

8:00AM Nancy Curtis

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

8:00AM Pasquale and Francisca Corea

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

8:00AM Mary Ann Calabrese

ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through Holy Hour)

7:00PM Lenten Penance Service at SFA

Thursday, April 10, 2025

8:00AM Edward Wilson (4th Ann.)

Friday, April 11, 2025

8:00AM Ruby Shiller and

Robin Ostrowski

Saturday, April 12, 2025

8:00AM Antonio and Grace Gerbino

3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

7:30AM Natalia Galie

9:30AM Mary Ann Calabrese

11:30AM Daniel Fahey

7:00PM Living Stations of the Cross

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†
*Especially Carmen Salerno, Dennis McNichol and Peter Scarani
May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.*



MEMORIAL FOR APRIL

Bread and Wine~ Kelly and Jacki Allen

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of **April 5th**, the candle will burn for the intentions of **The McCallum Family** as requested by "caring friends."



Weekly Comparison Financial Report

3/31/2024

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$8,752.24

Electronic Giving ~ \$ 5,823.74

\$14,575.98

3/30/2025

Sunday Envelopes ~ \$ 12,480.25

Electronic Giving ~ \$ 6,890.69

\$19,370.94

SFA PRO-LIFE CONTEST WINNERS

This year's Pro-life theme for the contest is

"Every person has a right to life".

Our school's 7th & 8th graders participated under the guidance of their teachers, Mrs. Mullen and Miss Adams.

The winners are:

Poems

1st Place: Eva Repice, Grade 8

Essays

1st Place: Emily DePetris, Grade 8

2nd Place: Molly Travers, Grade 8

3rd Place: Helena Babcock, Grade 8

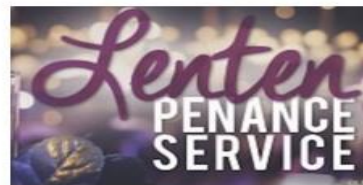
Posters

1st Place: Lily Mackley, Grade 7

2nd Place: Hailey McCullough, Grade 7

3rd Place: JR Hannigan, Grade 7

The winning entries are on display in our church vestibule.



Wednesday, April 9th 7:00PM
(Hosted by St. Francis of Assisi Church)



STATIONS of the CROSS

Join us for "Living Stations of the Cross"
performed by the St. Francis School Students.

Friday, April 11th 12:30PM

~ and ~

**Palm Sunday Evening,
April 13th 7:00PM**



Breaking Open the Word
Palm Sunday ~ April 13th, 2025



Isaiah 50:4-7

“I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.” Have you ever suffered for your faith? How did you respond?

Philippians 2:6-11

“Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...” How can Christ’s self-emptying inspire your discipleship?

Luke 22:14-23:56

Throughout the Gospel reading, Luke emphasizes Jesus’ freedom in the face of betrayal, lynching, and an indifferent police state. In Luke’s account, although several characters in the passion narrative make decisions that leads to Jesus’ death, none of them has real power. Jesus, by contrast, uses his freedom in the service of others. When he offered up his will in the garden, proclaimed to the high priest that he was the Son of Man, or asked God to forgive his murderers and receive his Spirit, he freely chose what was right. He did this despite his suffering, and his choice to do so made this use of his freedom an example to us. How can Jesus’ gift of freedom help you overcome whatever holds you captive?

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.

UPCOMING ST. VINCENT de PAUL EVENT:

April 26th - clothing drive truck pickup in SFA parking lot from 10 AM to 1:00 PM (clothing & small appliances).

HOLY ROSARY

Please consider joining us at 7:30am as we pray the Holy Rosary Weekdays and Saturdays before the 8:00am Mass.

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 Daniel Ruszaj	Evan Farrington
Baby DeSantis	Emily Belfie	Michael Farley
Dominic Rosini	Arthur LeTourneau	Bill Seavey
Andrew Colona	Lucretia Murphy	Dolores Giovannicci
Monique Carpenter	William Feindt	Karen Hackett
Maria DiGiacinto	Brian Marandola	Joanne Marks
David Clemmer	Amy Faulls	Veronica Suppa
Catherine Lindsey	Mary Benedetti	Caroline Donovan
Danny Hynes	Shealyn Mencil	Amy Travers
Robert W. Bollinger	Kathy Fritz	Emily Meakim
Leslie Dougherty	Jeannie Brattini	Paula Bazela
Margaret Binetsky	Joanne DeSantis	Patti Frost Cinko
Jack Braconnier, Sr.	Ron Fraatz	Joe Calabrese
Maryann McCauley	Denise DeAngelis	Beverly Scarani
Bob Buchanan	Marie Martin	Madelyn O’Keefe
Alicia Bona	Greg Schmidt	Hank McElwee
Mary Jean Grandizio	Susan Lower	Colleen Fullerton
Natalie Berry	Inger Sexton	Eileen Bowdren
Carolina Longmore	Gerald Berry	Brian Griffin
Maryann Murphy	Ann Farren	Marsha Four
Cathy Baj	Dan Bruno	Patricia Lafferty
Jenine Amato	Malcolm Wills	Jack Schultz
Deacon Joe Gousie	Joe Mastalski	Ambrose Hummel
Sandy Keller	Michelle Rodger	Patricia Lindsey
Chris Touchton	Sadie Keller	Ian Regino
Paul Ansaldo	Mark McKinsey	Peggy Burke
Susan Aljets	Jessica Eustache	Franny Devlin
Fox Family	Scott Aljets	Dobbs Family
Kevin Fries	Merkle Family	Neil Bohley, Sr.
Ray Binni	Bryan Treude	Raysond Mills
Brittany Killen Howard	David Maxwell	Jake Trimmer
Tina Farally	Ellen Ribbs	Kari Vecaro
	Joyce Johnson	

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.



UNITED IN GENEROSITY AS ONE GLOBAL FAMILY

Amid the harsh conditions of the Sahel region’s 1976 drought, millions faced hunger. That same year, Catholics worldwide gathered at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, focusing on “The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family.” As lent draws to a close, let’s reflect on how our prayers, fasting and almsgiving can help ensure no one goes hungry in the middle of today’s global food crisis. Visit www.crsricebowl.org/join to share your Lenten prayer intentions.



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.

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.



NEW CITY TEAM EVENT

On **Thursday April 17 from 10AM -12PM**, SFA is offering our assistance at City Team Headquarters in packing Easter Food Boxes and Candy Baskets for families in need. The event will take place at their headquarters at 634 Sproul St., Chester. Children over the age of 6 may volunteer with an adult guardian present. There is Free Parking on-site.

In addition they are in need of help delivering these items to the families on Saturday April 19 from 9AM -1PM. **FYI-** No one travels alone, all families receiving packages have been registered by City Team employees. This is a very rewarding task by all accounts! If interested in either of these ministries please visit the City Team website at:

<https://cityteam.volunteerhub.com>

Either Sign-in if you have volunteered before, or choose Create Account if you are new to City Team.

For assistance, questions or if you wish to Carpool from St. Francis, please contact Helengolden1@gmail.com or call 610-457-3702.

CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

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.

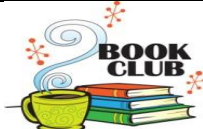
Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church.

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



To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at sfaparish.org 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 Squitieri at 610-328-0635.

THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Parish Book Club will hold its April meeting in the Holy Cross Parish Center on **Wednesday, April 30th 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.

April Book - Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less by Greg McKeown.

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The next meeting is April 10th. (Spring Fling Day). We are going to have Pizza.

Casino Trips: 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, and 9/10. 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.**

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 or 610-389-5225.



"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.depcchester.org

Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org.

Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Presidium 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.



SCRIP sales are held in the gym from 9:30-11am every Sunday (except holidays). If you have any questions, please contact Deb Peterson or Amy Foran at sfascrripsales@gmail.com

call 484-432-1472 or: <https://www.sfaschool.com/scrip/>

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

Phillip Baumberger Pro-Life Scholarship

Do you know of any **high school Seniors** planning to attend one of these universities or any **current college students** at these schools?

- University of Pittsburgh
- Penn State University Park
- West Chester University of Pennsylvania
- Temple University
- University of Delaware
- Thomas Edison State University
- Rowan University

If so, we would like to share this scholarship opportunity with them.

Phillip Baumberger Scholars can earn \$2,000 per year while changing hearts and minds on abortion.

The Deadline to Apply is May 2, 2025.



Abortion Dialogue Academy

To Learn More, Visit:

<https://www.abortiondialogueacademy.org/scholarship/>



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

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



Catholic Leadership
INSTITUTE

**Make an assessment on your growth
and provide feedback on your parish.**



We welcome your participation in the "**Disciple Maker Index Survey**".

The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete online. You can pick up a paper copy located at the Church entrances to complete and drop in the weekly church collection basket or at the Rectory Office.

**All completed paper surveys must be received
No later than Sunday April 13, 2025.**

To complete the survey online visit the St. Francis of Assisi website at www.sfaparish.org
**Online survey must be completed by
Wednesday, April 9th.**

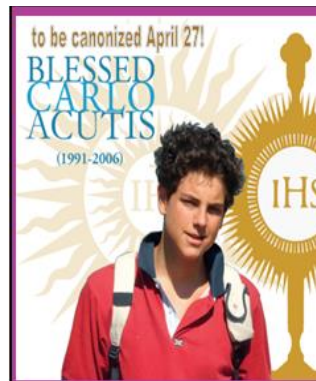
GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini	Cale Amador	John Michael Bartovic
Christopher Baxter	Colin Butler	Jonathan Butterfield
Davidson Cox	Thomas Cresta	Anthony DeVecchio
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.



**An Evening with
Blessed CARLOS ACUTIS**
*our next Saint!
TUESDAY, APRIL 8
7:00PM
Sacred Heart Church
Also Veneration of his relic
ALL are WELCOME!

**UNBOUND-FREEDOM IN CHRIST ONE DAY
CONFERENCE Saturday, April 12, 9AM-4:30PM.**

What is Unbound? Are you struggling with the same sins, habits, and hang ups such as anger, resentment, or unforgiveness over and over again? Do you find yourself grappling to identify as the child of God that you are and receive the deep love God has for you? Church of St. Joseph, Aston/Degnan Hall, 3255 Concord Road, Aston, Pa 19015.

Reg./more info: <https://heartofthefather.com/>

ANNUAL FRANCISCAN NIGHT FUNDRAISER

The Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia invite you to join us for our Annual Franciscan Night Fundraiser! **Saturday, May 3, 6-10PM** at Neumann University, Thomas Bruder Life Center. Please visit the link below for more details and online ticketing. We look forward to celebrating with you!

[Franciscan Night Information](#)

**TEA WITH THERESE: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
OF SAINTHOOD**

Join author and EWTN guest Susan Brinkmann, OCDS, of LiveCatholic for a Ladies Afternoon Tea to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the canonization of St. Therese of Lisieux on **Sunday, May 18, from 2-4 PM** in the Memorial Dining Hall at the Malvern Retreat House. The afternoon will feature an assortment of teas, treats, a video about the life of the Little Flower filmed on location in France, gift basket raffle, giveaways and resources for purchase. Seating is limited! Visit www.livecatholic.org to register.

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

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

MARY MOTHER OF CAPTIVES is a Support Group for those coping with a loved one in prison. Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at St. Charles Borromeo Church Hall, 3422 Dennison Avenue, Drexel Hill, Pa 19026.

Attendees remain confidential. For more information, please call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email:

marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

Visit the Imprisoned. Become a Pen Pal...In prison, sometimes the only contact with the outside world is in the form of letters. Pen Pal writers are needed to write to the poorest of the poor. For more info, call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email: marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

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**HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION EXAMINATION OF
CONSCIENCE**

Before you go to confession examine your conscience, i.e., reflect on what sins you have committed. It's okay to make a list to bring with you to confession if that helps you to remember.

CONFESSION INTRODUCTION:

Begin by saying:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Bless me Father for I have sinned, it has been (how long) since my last confession, and these are my sins.

CONFESSION OF SINS:

List the sins you have committed that came to mind when doing your examination of conscience.

Tips:

- Be brief, concise, and frank about your sins. Don't "beat around the bush."

- Just tell the priest what you have done, don't try to qualify it. There is virtue in just saying your sins, not trying to justify them.

- Don't be too general (e.g., "I haven't been a good person"), but a lot of detail is not necessary either (you don't need to tell the whole story of how a sin came about).

- If you're not sure if something is a sin, just ask the priest.

- The priest may give you some advice, but this isn't counseling. If you want more advice make an appointment next time, or seek out a spiritual director.

PENANCE

The priest will assign something for you to do or pray as a response to God's mercy. You'll have to remember what this is and do it after the confession is over.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and amend my life. Amen.

or

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of Thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin.

or

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

The priest will extend his hands in your direction, and he will pray the Prayer of Absolution. When he finishes you respond "Amen."

CONCLUSION

The priest may then say something like, "God has freed you from your sins. Go in Peace." To which you respond: "Thanks be to God."

AFTER YOU LEAVE...

Don't forget to do your penance. If it is saying certain prayers, it's best to do it right away in the church before you forget.

Has no one condemned you?... Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again. Jn 8:11

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ST. ALOYSIUS ACADEMY

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To register, please call us at 610-525-1670 or admissions@staloysiusacademy.org
www.staloysiusacademy.org

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