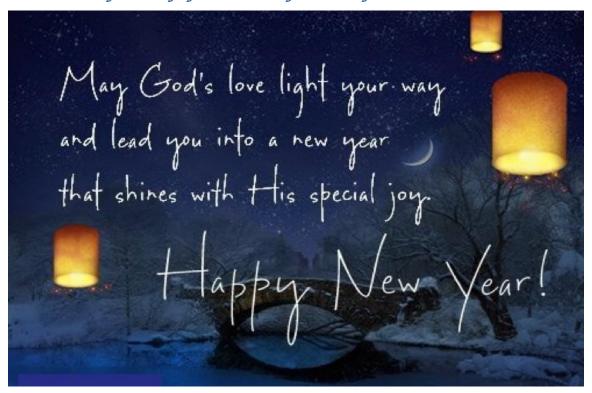
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph ~ December 29, 2024



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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: <u>BaptismsSFA@gmail.com</u>



To inquire about scheduling your Wedding Ceremony here at St.
Francis, please contact our Parish Wedding Assistant, Joan Kane at SFAWeddings@gmail.com

For Information regarding
Upcoming Funerals & Services,
Please visit our Parish Website at
www.sfaparish.org
and click on...



NO Adoration & NO 7PM Holy Hour Wednesday, January 1st



Rectory Office will be Closed from 12PM Noon on Tuesday, December 31st through Thursday, January 2nd.
(Regular Hours resume on Friday, January 3rd)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



Sunday, December 29, 2024 7:30AM Joseph and Chris Corey 9:30AM Mary, Robert & Sue Kirkpatrick

11:30AM John Noone

Monday, December 30, 2024 8:00AM Walter Erb (1st Ann.)

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

8:00AM Daniel Herron, Sr.

Happy New Year, January 1, 2025 8:00AM Chris Corey (1st Ann.)

NO ADORATION OR HOLY HOUR

Thursday, January 2, 2025

8:00AM Joan DiBona

Friday, January 3, 2025 8:00AM Theresa St. Leger

Cotundary January 4 2025

Saturday, January 4, 2025

8:00AM Chris Corey 3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 5, 2025

7:30AM Rita D'Avella

9:30AM Eugene Horan

11:30AM Christine Corey

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

Especially Janet Brunone and Catherine Witt
May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.



MEMORIAL FOR DECEMBER Bread and Wine Hoagland and Debany Families

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE



This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of December 29th, the candle will burn in loving memory of Jack Hoagland as requested by Patty and Rich Debany and Family.

SFA CYO is the recipient of the United Way under the Honor Option Plan. Your donation supports our activities for the youth of our parish. If you wish to support the CYO, please indicate:

CYO/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/SPRINGFIELD #7046 SFA CYO

PRAYER REQUESTS TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

Baby Daniel Ruszaj

Baby Margot Steindl **Emily Belfie Baby DeSantis** Arthur LeTourneau **Dominic Rosini** Lucretia Murphy Colin Murray Lou DeSantis **Monique Carpenter** Brian Marandola Anne McGlone Carmen Salerno Maria DiGiacinto **Amy Faulls David Clemmer** Mary Benedetti **Catherine Lindsey Shealvn Mencel Danny Hynes Kathy Fritz** Robert W. Bollinger Jeannie Brattini Leslie Dougherty Joanne DeSantis Margaret Binetsky Ron Fraatz Jack Braconnier, Sr. **Denise DeAngelis** Maryann McCauley **Marie Martin Bob Buchanan Greg Schmidt** Alicia Bona Susan Lower Rav Kenney, Sr. Mary Jean Grandizio **Natalie Berry Gerald Berry** Carolina Longmore Ann Farren Maryann Murphy Dan Bruno Malcolm Wills Cathy Baj Jenine Amato Joe Mastalski **Deacon Joe Gousie** Sandy Keller Sadie Keller **Chris Touchton** Mark McKinsev Tim Corlies Paul Ansaldo Susan Aljets **Scott Aljets** Fox Family Merkle Family

Evan Farrington Michael Farley Bill Seavey Dolores Govannicci Ethel LeVasseur Michael Costa Joanne Marks Veronica Suppa **Caroline Donovan** Fran Donnelly **Emily Meakim** Paula Bazela Patti Frost Cinko Joe Calabrese **Beverly Scarani** Madelyn O'Keefe Hank McElwee Inger Sexton Eileen Bowdren **Brian Griffin** Marsha Four Patricia Lafferty Jack Schultz Michelle Rodger Ambrose Hummel Patricia Lindsev Ian Regino Peggy Burke Franny Devlin

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.

Frank Riehl

CHURCH UN-DECORATING

We extend an invitation to all men, women and teens to come and help UNDECORATE St. Francis Church AFTER Christmas. We will gather in Church on Sunday, January 5th following the 11:30AM Mass. Your help will be GREATLY APPRECIATED!



Dobbs Family

Kevin Fries

All are welcome! All are needed!

Amy Travers

Joe Mastalski



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. (Except for Christmas Day & New Year's Day)

FLAME & LOVE

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.

Breaking Open the Word The Epiphany of the Lord ~ January 5, 2025



Isaiah 60:1-6

The Greek epiphaneia means "manifestation" or "appearance" and indicates that we now commemorate God's gift of the Christ to all humankind in Jesus of Nazareth. The prophet Isaiah proclaims the light shining in the darkness of the world. Reflect on the concept of "epiphany" and the multifaceted ways God can manifest in your life.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul's letter to the Ephesians tells of God's stewardship of creation. Gentiles, coheirs of God's plan for the salvation of all humankind alongside their Jewish brethren, fully express the revelation of God through the grace of God's manifold wisdom. The true people of God are made up of all kinds, perfected in the eternal purpose accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. God can use any and all possibilities creation offers to reveal himself to those he calls for diverse purposes. Considering Paul's summons in his letter, how diverse are the people and purposes in your life? How might you broaden your openness to the wisdom and revelation of God?

Matthew 2:1-12

Matthew's Gospel tells of the Christ child, born in Bethlehem in the time of King Herod, who had a death wish for all potential claimants to his status and throne. After the Gentile wise men are profoundly affected by their encounter with the Christ child and his family, they make their own way in the world, defying the powers that be. In what ways might God be calling you to defy the status quo- your own or society's. How could this benefit you and those around you.

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.

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.

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.



ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE COLLECTION

St John's Hospice- is a men's homeless shelter and also serves meals to homeless men. **The collection is next weekend, January 4th & 5th.** 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 cfkenney@verizon.net if you wish to drop off items at our home or for further information about the ministry Thanks.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CASSEROLES

The casserole containers and recipes are located in the main vestibule next to the book display and in the basement of the rectory. Casseroles must be frozen and can be dropped off before mass the weekend of St John's Hospice collection. Coolers are at SFA entrances on weekend of collection. Email cfkenney@verizon.net to arrange for pick up or other drop off times. Casseroles are due the same weekend as the St John's collection. Thank you!

CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

Until further notice, please drop off meals at St. Kevin's parish in the foyer in the Parish Life Center. Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church. The meals will go to the elderly, homebound, and veterans.

The CFF program is also looking for volunteers to deliver meals to people in Clifton Heights, Drexel Hill, Media, and Broomall. If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541 or Jill Hoffner (610)733-1593.

MARY MOTHER OF CAPTIVES

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.

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 sfascripsales@gmail.com or call 484-432-1472
Or visit: https://www.sfaschool.com/scrip/

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB HAPPY Vely Year Very 1988 HAPPY H

The next meeting is January 9th. We will be entertained by "Massimo Brutto." Tickets will be on sale for Pizza Day, February 20th.

"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.

Casino Trips: 1/8, 2/12, & 3/12. Cost is \$30 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.

<u>Membership</u> 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.



"Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds." (Psalm 98) Come sing to the lord and join the Saint Francis of Assisi Choir!

We are looking for men and women of all ages and levels of experience. If the Lord is calling you to minister in song, expand your musical skills, and feel like part of a family, then the choir is just the right group for you. We practice once a week and typically sing at the 9:30am Sunday Mass. We also sing on some Holy Days and for special Masses. There's much to look forward to! So, if you're looking for a ministry that accepts you for who you are, and shares your desire to glorify God, then look no further than the choir. Contact our music director, Eric Longo at ericjlongo@gmail.com for inquires.

THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will hold its December and January meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on **Wednesday**, **January 22nd at 7PM**. If you would like to join the meeting or if you would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email at termprice@verizon.net.

December book – <u>Waiting for Christ</u> – St. John Henry Newman

January book – Walking with God in the Unimpressive Seasons of Life – Fr. Mike Schmitz

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.



HOLY SPIRIT GROUP MEN'S RETREAT January 24-26th.

To register, visit: http://www.malvernretreat.com
It is a Traditional Men's retreat, including daily Mass, conferences, all meals and overnight accommodations, at a cost of \$275.00. Our weekend begins 5:00PM on Friday, January 24 through Sunday 26th. I'd like you to consider coming out for this retreat. During this time, you will experience prayer, meditation, reconciliation, group discussions, Eucharistic liturgies and special speakers.

- * This years' Retreat Director is Father William Cocco of St Edmonds Parish Rehoboth Beach DE.
- * Our speakers are Deacon Tom McGovern of St Joseph Paris High bridge N.J.
- * Mary Bea with the Carlo Acutis Shrine at Malvern retreat House.
- * Finally, our special event is Mr. Eustace Wolfington, Executive Producer, of Angel Studio's presenting a private viewing of the acclaimed movie "Cabrini." Email me with any questions. Carlo Borgia cqb58@verizon.net

ST. FRANCIS PARISH MEN'S 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.



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.

LIVE VERTICAL



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

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

Here comes the Jubilee! If Pope Francis himself invited you to a celebration, would you attend? Of course! And Pope Francis' announcement that 2025 is a Jubilee Year in the Catholic Church is essentially a personal invitation for us to participate in a year-long celebration of reconciliation and renewal of our faith, which starts on December 24 and ends on January 6, 2026. Let's accept the Pope's invitation and ready ourselves for a festive and fruitful Jubilee Year! Happy New Year!



Babysitting on Sundays, during the 9:30AM Masses...

For ages 12 months to 5 years old. The babysitting will take place in the SFA Upper School Building. Enter through the door to the LEFT of the Gym and go in the first classroom on the right. Doors will open starting at 9:15AM. To register your child(ren), or to volunteer to sit, contact: Rebecca Donovan at 607-351-8381 or Katie Birkhead at 484-995-9941. CLEARANCES NECESSARY FOR BABYSITTERS.

ST. FRANCIS PLAYERS WIZARD OF OZ AUDITIONS!



The St. Francis Players are pleased to announce our 2025 production will be "The Wizard of Oz"! Performances to be held: April 25, 26, and 27 as well as May 2, 3, and 4.

Sign-ups and auditions for adults (9th grade and older) will be on Sunday, January 5 at 8:15 PM in Leonard Hall, 136 Saxer Avenue, Springfield PA 19064.

(Callbacks to be held Wednesday, January 8)

Children's chorus (Grade 1-8) or anyone interested in other volunteer opportunities need only to register on our website. Should lead roles for children be deemed necessary, auditions for children will be scheduled for a later date.

For more information regarding auditions and other special events regarding the St. Francis Players please visit our website www.stfrancisplayers.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 Timothy McCanns Connor Lyons Dan Marchini Bill McDermott Shawn McConaghy Emma McDonald James McDonald Nicholas McDonald Michael McGarvey Francis McGrail Daniel McLee Nicholas Peranteau Stephen Peranteau Ronan Plummer Peter Ouinn Katherine Reider Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. Joseph Spence Chase Stewart Jesse Stewart Sean Sweeney Skip Turner

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.



Calling all Knitters & Crocheters

Are you looking for a way to serve the Lord using your God given talent? "PROJECT LINUS" is a nationwide project where knitters or crocheters donate their handmade blankets for

hospitalized children from Preemies to Teens. For more info, call 610-328-0741.

MOVIE WITH MEANING: "THE BUTLER"

Wednesday, January 8, 12:00 lunch; 1:00 movie

Stipend: \$20 (lunch). The Butler tells the story of a White House butler who served eight American presidents over three decades. The film traces the dramatic changes that swept American society during this time, from the civil rights movement to Vietnam and beyond, and how those changes affected this man's life and family. Forest Whitaker stars as the butler with Robin Williams as Dwight Eisenhower, John Cusack as Richard Nixon, Alan Rickman as Ronald Reagan, James Marsden as John F. Kennedy, Liev Schreiber as Lyndon B. Johnson, and many more.

CONFERENCE DAY: SACRED HEART

January 14, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Stipend: \$40 (includes breakfast, lunch and Mass)

Presenter: Sister Rose Adams, IHM. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a sacred way for us to encounter the fullness of the Gospel, the good news of God's saving love poured out for us in Jesus Christ. In our time together we will trace this devotion through the years and discover through scripture and art new ways to deepen our love and appreciation that God became one of us.

Please register for these events by calling 610-581-0120 or emailing S. Marie at ihmconferencecenter@gmail.com

VILLA MARIA BY THE SEA RETREAT CENTER

101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247 609-964-7696, www.VMbytheSea.com

Wednesday, January 22, 10:00 am—4:00 pm \$25.

Private Day of Prayer—On the Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of the Unborn, spend a quiet day praying for the intention of the right to life from conception until natural death. Throughout the day, there will be periods of communal prayer for this very special intention. Lunch and Mass is provided.

Friday, January 31, 8:45 am—2:15 pm \$60* Arise and Call her Blessed

Presented by Sr. Sheila Galligan, IHM

Come to celebrate God's gift of his Mother – whom we usually refer to as the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let's "push pause" and take some time to slowly squeeze the juice out of the descriptive "Blessed" as well as our everyday "go to" prayer: the Hail Mary. Let's come to appreciate the role the Blessed Mother plays in keeping us close to Jesus. Coffee and check-in begins at 8:45 am. The day includes Mass and lunch. *You may opt to stay overnight the evening before this event for an additional \$95.

WOMEN OF HOPE (formerly known as Dominican

Women) Retreat: March 14-16, 2025. Come to Malvern Retreat House to renew and strengthen your relationship with our Lord. Take time to deepen your faith, in the company of other women who seek more from their faith lives. The theme is "The Eucharist- Food for the Journey." Speakers include Jeannine Peters, Sr. Shiela Galligan, IHM, and Nicky Verna. Visit and learn about the first Archdiocesan Shrine dedicated to Blessed, soon to be Saint, Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint of the youth. Mary Bea Damico will speak about him in the shrine and a first-class relic can be venerated. Please consider the gift of this weekend retreat for yourself and other women in your lives. 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

CARDINAL O'HARA CLASS OF '75, 50TH REUNION

SAVE THE DATE - October 11, 2025 – Llanerch Country Club. We Need Your Help! Submit your contact information to Oharaclassof75@gmail.com ...follow us on Facebook at Cardinal O'Hara Class of '75...Let other classmates know too! See you next year!

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

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-

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

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank

SFA: please contact Luke LeTourneau at 610-986-6660.



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A NEW YEAR PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console.

to be understood as to understand.

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

~St. Francis of Assisi

5-175



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REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA OSEPHSOI









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