

Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

SUNDAY BULLETIN | November 12, 2023



600 Hamilton St. Norristown, PA 19401

Telephone: (610) 272-0402

Web: sfanorristown.com

Email: admin@sfanorristown.com

Rev. Richard J. Smith, M.Div., Pastor

Permanent Deacon: Deacon David J. Matour

Weekend Mass Help: Rev. Msgr. Peter Doody; Rev. Abner Gonzalez Bonilla, SP

Parish Secretary: Lauren Kibler

Office Manager: Dolores Landis

Business Manager: Carl Needles

St. Francis Rectory Hours

Monday thru Thursday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon

closed on weekends

St. Francis Early Learning Center

Mrs. Virginia Bueno, Director

Phone: (610) 757-1523

Website: www.saintfranciselc.org

St. Francis School

Miss Bridget Tigue, Principal

Phone: (610) 272-0501

Website: www.sfacatholic.org

Saturday: Confessions after daily Mass; 4:00-5:00 PM Vigil Mass 5:30 PM

Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

Misa en Español es el 1 y 3 Domingo del mes a las 3:00 pm

Weekday Mass: 8:30 am (except Wednesday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mondays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm October - May

Mondays 9:00 am - 10 am June - September

Sunday News



MONDAY, November 13 - St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

8:30 Dominic & Marie Ciccarone III
(Grace Ciccarone)

TUESDAY, November 14

8:30 Nancy Collier
(Larry & Pat Perna)

WEDNESDAY, November 15

No Mass

THURSDAY, November 16

8:30 Marshall Rauh
(John Coyle)

FRIDAY, November 17 - St. Elizabeth of Hungary

8:30 Pat Poliwoda
(Larry & Pat Perna)

SATURDAY, November 18

8:30 Connie Potter
(Jim Smith)
5:30 41st Anniv. Of Jack & Alicia Bradley

SUNDAY, November 19

7:00 Brian McCourt
(Michael, Simon & Connor)
9:00 Mary Marinari
(Jackie Leban)
11:00 Pro Populo
3:00 Spanish Mass
5:30 Theresa Maresca
(Michael & Cheryl Maresca)

November 18 Vigil

L - S. Matour
EM - S. Robins, M. Anders

November 19 7 am

L - D. DiLucia
EM - T. Barbato, C. Zurek

November 19 9 am

L - P. Perna
EM - L. Perna, ME Hahn

November 19 11 am

L - L. Gambone
EM - T. Greco, L. O'Donnell

November 19 5:30 pm

L - B. Collins
EM - A. Collins, D. Skaw

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
is every Monday from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

MONDAY / LUNES

1:00 Benediction (C)
6:00 Pastoral Council (MH)

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

9:00 Church Cleaners (C)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)
7:00 Women's Bible Study (MH)

THURSDAY / JUEVES

6:30 Christmas Bazaar Meeting (MH)

SATURDAY / SÁBADO

7:00 Designer Bag Bingo (S)

(C) Church
(MH) Meeting House
(R) Rectory
(S) School

Memorial Society

Sanctuary Lamp, Blessed Mother Altar:

Sanctuary Lamp, St. Joseph Altar:

Altar Bread at Mass this Week:

Floral Arrangement, Main Altar:

Floral Arrangement, Blessed Mother Altar:

Floral Arrangement, St. Joseph Altar:

This Weeks' Memorial Society Enrollees:

Rosemarie "Ree" Anderson (Karen Anderson)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

POR FAVOR ORA POR NUESTROS ENFERMOS

Maria Hernandez Alcala, Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco,
Michelle Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Edward Mateja, Joe
McDonald, Sandy Orth, Kathleen Prinzivalli, Christina Shea,
Anthony Tarmin, James Tuggle, Michele Tuggle, Olivia
Tuturice, Peter Wiggins, Peggy Wilson, Mai Wise, Charles
Yura, All Those Homebound, All Our Deceased.

Sunday News

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

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

LA ORACIÓN DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASÍS

Señor, hazme un instrumento de tu paz
Para sembrar amor donde hay odio
Donde hay ofensa, dar perdón
Donde hay duda, fé
Donde hay desesperación, esperanza
Donde hay obscuridad, luz
Donde hay tristeza, alegría.
O Maestro divino, concédeme
que no busque el ser consolado, sino el poder
consolar
que no busque el ser comprendido, sino el
comprender
que no busque el ser amado, sino el amar
Porque es en dar, que recibimos
Es en perdonar, que somos perdonados
Es en morir, que nacemos a la vida eterna.
Amén.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - NOVEMBER 5, 2023

Sunday	\$8,326
All Saints	\$1,938
E-Giving	\$1,525

Thank you for your continued kindness and
generosity towards our Parish and may God Bless
you in all you do. ~ Fr. Smith



Easily tithe with online giving and
no longer worry about envelopes.
Visit sfanorristown.com/donate
to learn more.

A Note about Mass Requests...

When requesting Mass Intentions, please
follow the below guidelines:

1. Requests are to be made in **advance**
via email or telephone **ONLY**. If you
come to the Rectory to request Masses,
we will kindly ask you to leave. This
makes the process easier for you and
for our Secretary.
2. Each household is limited to a **total** of 6
Masses - 4 weekdays and 2 Sundays
(including Saturday Vigils).
3. Each Intention can be for ONE PERSON
ONLY. Two if they are a couple.
4. Intentions must be for **FULL NAMES**
and from **FULL NAMES**. Nicknames/
titles are not accepted.

The 2024 Mass Book is now open.

National Rehab Hotline 866-210-1303

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

Parish School & PREP News



Have YOU picked up your
SFA Spirit Gear yet??
We now have a School Store!
Go to:

[https://1stplacespiritwear.com/
schools/PA/Norristown/
Saint+Francis+Of+Assisi+School](https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/PA/Norristown/Saint+Francis+Of+Assisi+School)

or scan the QR code below!
We have lots of hoodies, T-
Shirts, sweatpants, and more!
Keep an eye out for exciting
new styles, and for Centennial
gear!



Scan me!



We are so pleased with how this PREP year is progressing so far! Please remember to come to class every Sunday at 10 AM.

Check our website for updates about important meeting dates!

Current Announcements:

- Please remember that your child is allowed **THREE (3)** unexcused absences per year. After that, your child will NOT be able to receive a Sacrament this year. They also may need to repeat the year. If you have questions about how many classes your child has missed, please contact the Rectory.

¡Estamos muy contentos con cómo está progresando este año PREP hasta ahora! Por favor recuerda venir a clase todos los domingos a las 10 a.m. ¡Consulte nuestro sitio web para obtener actualizaciones sobre fechas importantes de reuniones!

Anuncios actuales:

- Recuerde que a su hijo se le permiten **TRES (3)** ausencias injustificadas por año. Después de eso, su hijo NO podrá recibir ningún Sacramento este año. También es posible que necesiten repetir el año. Si tiene preguntas sobre cuántas clases ha perdido su hijo, comuníquese con la Rectoría.

Pastor's Page



Página del Pastor

There are times where we can feel alone. This usually happens when we experience a loss in our life or a time of great trial. We can feel helpless when nothing seems to be going our way. What makes it worse is that it feels like time almost comes to a halt during these times. It is moments like this that we need that reassurance that this will not last. Paul tries to do that for us today. As he tells the Thessalonians, he reminds us that we are not hopeless. Now, he explains this in the context of those who are grieving. The resurrection of Jesus gives us all hope that this is not the end. However, this hope that Jesus gives us is not limited to that sole moment of our existence. The hope and joy that comes from our faith in Christ is timeless. You can not point to an occasion that Christ could not be a part of. When we are rejoicing, Jesus rejoices with us. When we are grieving, he is there to grieve with us and help us through it. Jesus can and will get us through anything that we encounter. This is why Paul tells us that grieving for us is not like those who have no hope. It is this hope that I wish more and more people would know about our Church. We can see in the news how many people are suffering right now. Many of them do not see how anything could get better. Let us this week double our efforts to help them see the hope that Jesus brings into the world. Not just with our prayers but with our presence in their lives. We can be that reminder to the world that the hope and love that Jesus brings us is still needed and available to the world.

*Sincerely in Christ,
Rev. Richard J. Smith*

Hay momentos en los que podemos sentirnos solos. Esto suele suceder cuando experimentamos una pérdida en nuestra vida o un momento de gran prueba. Podemos sentirnos impotentes cuando nada parece salir como queremos. Lo que lo empeora es que parece que el tiempo casi se detiene en estos tiempos. En momentos como este necesitamos la seguridad de que esto no durará. Pablo intenta hacer eso por nosotros hoy. Como les dice a los Tesalonicenses, nos recuerda que no estamos desesperanzados. Ahora, explica esto en el contexto de aquellos que están en duelo. La resurrección de Jesús nos da a todos la esperanza de que este no es el final. Sin embargo, esta esperanza que nos da Jesús no se limita a ese único momento de nuestra existencia. La esperanza y el gozo que provienen de nuestra fe en Cristo son eternos. No se puede señalar una ocasión en la que Cristo no podría ser parte. Cuando nos regocijamos, Jesús se regocija con nosotros. Cuando estamos de duelo, él está ahí para llorar con nosotros y ayudarnos a superarlo. Jesús puede y nos ayudará a superar cualquier cosa que encontremos. Por eso Pablo nos dice que llorar por nosotros no es como los que no tienen esperanza. Es esta esperanza la que deseo que más y más personas conozcan sobre nuestra Iglesia. Podemos ver en las noticias cuántas personas están sufriendo en este momento. Muchos de ellos no ven cómo se podría mejorar algo. Esta semana duplicamos nuestros esfuerzos para ayudarlos a ver la esperanza que Jesús trae al mundo. No sólo con nuestras oraciones sino con nuestra presencia en sus vidas. Podemos ser ese recordatorio para el mundo de que la esperanza y el amor que Jesús nos trae todavía son necesarios y están disponibles para el mundo.

*Sinceramente en Cristo,
Rev. Richard J. Smith*

Parish & Ministry News

Women's Gospel Reflection

Every Wednesday | 7PM

In the Meetinghouse

No registration required

For information, Olga Russo at

olgarusso6255@gmail.com

or Theresa Greco at

theresagreco67@gmail.com



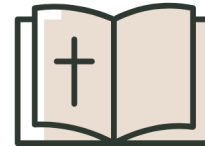
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 7 PM

IN THE MEETINGHOUSE

STUDIES LED BY DEACON DAVE

NO PRIOR REGISTRATION NECESSARY



Christmas Bazaar Bake Sale

Donations of baked goods (cakes, cookies, breads, etc.)

are needed for the baked goods table at the SFA

Christmas Bazaar. Goods can be dropped off at the School Gym from 6 PM- 9 PM on Friday, December 1, and on Saturday, December 2 between 8 - 10 AM.

Questions? Call Barbara Ruser at 610-831-1063 or

Shirley Shrader at 610-539-5851



SFA Seniors

Here are our upcoming meeting dates for the Seniors. We will meet at 1 PM:

November 21 - Zep Day

December 5 - SFA Students put on Christmas Show

Please do not park in the Lower Parking Lot. Parking is available in the Upper Lot and on Buttonwood Street.

Church Cleaners

We are looking for volunteers to assist with cleaning our Church. We will be doing a gentle cleaning every other

Wednesday at 9 AM. If you are interested in helping, simply show up!

Next cleaning dates:

November 15 & 29

December 13 & 20

THANK YOU!!



PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

first Wednesday of the month | 1 pm

We meet in the Meetinghouse (the former Convent). No experience necessary -- if you don't know how to crochet/knit, someone in the group will teach you.

for more information, contact Kay Boyce at 610-772-7216

Parish & Ministry News



**St. Francis of Assisi
Christmas Bazaar**

601 Buttonwood St.
Norristown, PA 19401

DEC. 2, 2023  **9AM - 2PM**

Candles in Church

The cost of our candles in church continues to rise. Recently, we have noticed that people are lighting the candles in church without donating anything. We would like to remind everyone that our church candles are \$3. When you light a candle in church, **please place \$3 per candle in one of the donation boxes in the church.** *Please do not light candles without donating money. Thank you.*

DEVOTIONS at ST. FRANCIS

The Rosary is recited daily before the 8:30 am Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet - Tuesdays after Mass

Sacred Heart Devotions - Fridays after Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena - Saturdays after daily Mass

Visits to the Blessed Sacrament -

Tuesday - Saturday from 9 am - 4 pm

Stop by the Rectory for the keypad code.



Cemetery Cross Sale

The Ladies of St. Francis will be selling their Handmade Christmas Cemetery Crosses at this year's Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 2 from 9 AM - 2 PM. The Bazaar will take place in the School Gym.

Crosses are \$15 each. We are NOT taking orders this year. Supplies are limited, so come early!

Men's Retreat at Malvern

"America's leading Catholic Evangelist - Dr. Edward Sri - will be directing the Immaculate Conception Retreat Group at the Malvern Retreat House from December 8th to the 10th. Join the Men of Malvern to focus on the important things of life like your relationship with God, your spouse, and your family for a spiritual experience like never before! For information contact Charles Hurd at 484-684-8123 or call the Retreat House at [\(610\) 569-9796](tel:6105699796)."

Let us pray for our Men and Women serving in the Armed Forces, especially for...

U.S. Army - CPT Nathan Bevans

Army National Guard - SPC Nathan Enslin

U.S. Army - PVT 2nd Cl. Matthew Hahn

U.S. Army - MAJ John Orendorff

U.S. Army - SSGT Eric D. Pearson

U.S.A.F. - SSG Jonathan D. Pearson

U.S.A.F. - SSGT Katlyn Pearson

U.S. Navy - PO1 Evan Slizofski

U.S. Navy - PO2 Jonathan Slizofski

U.S.A.F. - SrA Joseph M. Stasik

U.S. Army - SGT James Stephenson

U.S. Army - LTC Ramon A. Ramos

Army National Guard - Col Steven Zahuranec