



Saint Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

SUNDAY BULLETIN | October 22, 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, October 23

8:30 David Kirk
(David & Anita DiLucia)

TUESDAY, October 24

8:30 David Kirk
(Linda Steppe)

WEDNESDAY, October 25

No Mass

THURSDAY, October 26

8:30 Jane Wein
(Alicia Bradley)

FRIDAY, October 27

8:30 Veronica Henderson
(Sharon Robins)

SATURDAY, October 28 - Sts. Simon & Jude

8:30 Michael Murray
(Larry & Pat Perna)

5:30 Joseph M. Hartnett
(Marie Zarrilli)

SUNDAY, October 29

7:00 William & Rose Goodwin
(Grandson)

9:00 John McFadden
(Anne Riccoli)

11:00 Janet O'Donnell
(The O'Donnell Family)

5:30 Pro Populo

October 28 Vigil

L - J. Martens
EM - J. Gallagher, S. Robins

October 29 7 am

L - L. Steppe
EM - BJ Mumford, T. Barbato

October 29 9 am

L - A. Franz
EM - O. Russo, T. Leone

October 29 11 am

L - L. Gambone
EM - L. O'Donnell, K. McTamney

October 29 5:30 pm

L - B. Collins
EM - A. Collins, M. Anders

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)

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

7:00 Men's Bible Study (MH)

7:00 Women's Bible Study (MH)

(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:

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, Mai Wise, Charles Yura, All Those
Homebound, All Our Deceased.

Suicide Prevention Helpline 800-273-8255

Crisis Lifeline 988

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 - OCTOBER 15, 2023

Sunday	\$8,635
E-Giving	\$1,612

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.
5. **Please do not request Masses for 2024
prior to 11/6/2023. We will ask you to
request them again once the book has
opened.**

The 2024 Mass Book will open on Monday,
November 6, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

Parish School & PREP News



The St. Francis of Assisi School Canticle

Where **Service, Faith, & Academics** come together
Go Wolverines!

Each month, the faculty of SFA School will be selecting students from their homeroom classes and Specialty area classes to be honored as Student of the Month. Student of the Month Award Winners are children who have excelled in the classroom, demonstrating their best work ethic and participation. Student of the Month Award Winners are featured in the school on one of the bulletin board displays on the first floor and receive a special certificate and medal. I am pleased to announce the award winners for the Month of September:

Pre-K: Liliana Vazquez

Kindergarten: Samaij Randall

1st Grade: Destiney Webb

2nd Grade: Estrella Hernandez Castro

3rd Grade: Camila Perez Navarro

4th Grade: Laila Mack

5th Grade: Hannah Martinez Solano

6th Grade: Sheyla Torres Molina

7th Grade: Alessandra Griffith

8th Grade: Jacob Calbazana

Honors Math: Gisele Duversaint (6th Grade)

Art: David Torres Pelaez (Pre-K)

Physical Education: Marjorie Luna Vital (5th Grade)

Spanish: Dana Calderon-Juarez (8th Grade)

Technology: Charles Hallahan III (8th Grade)



Religious Education

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!

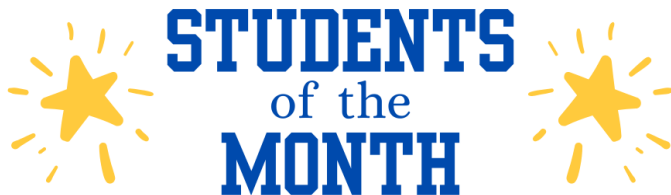
Current Announcements:

- 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

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This simple instruction given to us by our Lord this week is getting harder and harder to follow. With so much debate in the public square of where faith belongs and where it is not welcome, it is getting difficult to know when to give to Caesar and when to give to God. This past week, I attended the Pro-Life Rally in Harrisburg. It was a great gathering of thousands of like-minded people who want to see the legal protection of the unborn here in Pennsylvania. Now there were a few counter protestors who did not share this view. It was civil but you could tell that they did not want our religious views to be part of the conversation. I will not get into the different sides of the debate here, but it does raise the question of when we should engage and when we should not.

I do not believe the question should be when but *how* do we engage? So often these conversations can be so emotionally charged that nothing is heard on either side. The same thing could have happened with Jesus and the Pharisees today but our Lord was able to avoid the unpleasantness. Jesus today gives us a great example of how to engage the material world when we are not wanted. He responded with calmness and compassion. Never did he put down or point out their agenda to quell him in their questions. He engaged them with love and tried to teach them about what is more important in our lives. This week when we engage the world, on any topic, let us follow the example of Jesus and show those who do not agree with us the same love and compassion that He did.

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

"Entonces devolved al César lo que es del César y a Dios lo que es de Dios". Esta sencilla instrucción que nos dio nuestro Señor hoy es cada vez más difícil de seguir. Con tanto debate en la plaza pública sobre dónde pertenece la fe y dónde no es bienvenida, se está volviendo difícil saber cuándo darle al César y cuándo darle a Dios. La semana pasada asistí al mitin provida en Harrisburg. Fue una gran reunión de miles de personas con ideas afines que quieren ver la protección legal de los no nacidos aquí en Pensilvania. Ahora había algunos contra manifestantes que no compartían esta opinión. Fue cortés, pero se notaba que no querían que nuestros puntos de vista religiosos fueran parte de la conversación. Ahora bien, no entraré aquí en los diferentes lados del debate, pero sí plantea la cuestión de cuándo debemos participar y cuándo no.

No creo que la pregunta deba ser cuándo sino cómo nos involucramos. Muy a menudo estas conversaciones pueden tener una carga tan emocional que no se escucha nada de ninguna de las partes. Lo mismo podría haber sucedido hoy con Jesús y los fariseos, pero nuestro Señor pudo evitar lo desagradable. Jesús hoy nos da un gran ejemplo de cómo involucrarnos en el mundo material cuando no nos quieren. Él respondió con calma y compasión. Nunca dejó de lado ni señaló su agenda para sofocar sus preguntas. Los comprometió con amor y trató de enseñarles qué es más importante en nuestras vidas. Esta semana, cuando interactuemos con el mundo, sobre cualquier tema, sigamos el ejemplo de Jesús y mostremos a aquellos que no están de acuerdo con nosotros el mismo amor y compasión.

*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



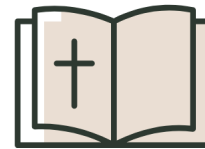
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

EVERY WEDNESDAY | 7 PM

IN THE MEETINGHOUSE

STUDIES LED BY DEACON DAVE

NO PRIOR REGISTRATION NECESSARY



SUNDAY SOCIALS

Our Sunday Socials have resumed! Our next social will be Sunday, November 5 after the 9 & 11 AM Masses. Join us in the Meetinghouse for coffee, doughnuts, and other refreshments and snacks! Interested in volunteering? Contact Sandy Pascavage at 484-995-6402.

SFA Seniors

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

November 7 - Craft Day

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

SFA Craft Group

Our Ladies are hard at work creating beautiful gifts for our homebound parishioners, as well as continuing their work for their table at our Christmas Bazaar. Below are the upcoming meeting dates for the SFA Craft Group:

Sunday, 11/12 - religious Jewelry making project for our table at the Christmas Bazaar.

meetings are at 12 Noon in the Meetinghouse.

Please note that the Rectory has a new email address:

"admin@sfanorristown.com". All correspondence can be forwarded to this email address moving forward.

SFA Pro-Life

The next St. Francis of Assisi Pro-Life meeting will be on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM. We will meet in the Meetinghouse (former Convent). All are welcome! Contact sfapro lifegroup@gmail.com for questions or for more information! Also, keep an eye on the bulletin board in the back of Church for other exciting Pro-Life news and events in our area!



**St. Francis of Assisi
Christmas Bazaar**

601 Buttonwood St.
Norristown, PA 19401

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

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.



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