



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

601 Buttonwood St. Norristown, PA 19401
(610) 272-0401 | www.sfanorristown.com
admin@sfanorristown.com

Rev. Richard J. Smith, Pastor | Deacon David Matour
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Norristown 19401
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St. Francis School
Miss Bridget Tigue
Principal
601A Buttonwood St
Norristown 19401
(610) 272-0501

Parish Office Hours
M-Thur.
9:00am-4:00pm
Fri.
9:00am-12Noon
closed 12-12:30 daily
closed weekends

Welcome Visitors!
**Contact the Parish
Center to register!**



SUNDAY, March 16, 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14;
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Matthew 17:5; Luke 9:28b-36

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, March 17

8:30 AM: Immigrants at Guantanamo Bay

Tuesday, March 18

8:30 AM: Kenneth Lies —
Jim Smith

Wednesday, March 19

NO MASS

Thursday, March 20

8:30 AM: Ben Neider —
Jim Smith

Friday, March 21 *Abstinence*

8:30 AM: Cesar Flores Diaz

Saturday, March 22

8:30 AM: Anthony Venezia Jr. —
Family
5:30 PM: Janice LeTorneau —
Courtney Rhone

Sunday, March 23

7:00 AM: Pro Populo
9:00 AM: Hector Pacheco —
Norma Guzman
11:30 AM: Peter Romano —
Wife & Family

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

MARCH 9, 2025

Sunday	\$6,613
E-Giving	\$1,707

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.

Parish Calendar of Events

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM in the Adoration Chapel, unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY / LUNES

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)

TUESDAY / MARTES

7:00 PM - RCIA

WEDNESDAY / MIÉRCOLES

8:30 AM - Church Cleaning (C)
6:00 PM - Benediction (A)
6:30 PM - Men's Bible Study (PC)
6:30 PM - Book Group (PC)

THURSDAY / JUEVES

7:00 PM - First Reconciliation (C)

FRIDAY / VIERNES

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)
6:00 PM - Confessions (C)
7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross (C)

LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Mar. 22 - 5:30PM

L - P. Smith
EM - S. Robins,
J. Shearer

Mar. 23 - 7AM

L - D. DiLucia
EM - J. Fitzpatrick
BJ Mumford

Mar. 23 - 11:30AM

L - R. Lattanze
EM - C. Hurd,
T. Greco

(A) Adoration Chapel
(C) Church
(PC) Parish Center
(R) Rectory
(S) School



A Word from Rev. Richard J. Smith

There is no need to complicate our faith lives. Even in the presence of the immensity that is our God we can keep it simple. The Apostles today show us what to do. They are completely confused on what to do next after they experience the Transfiguration. They just saw their teacher change in front of them while talking to the two greatest figures of their Jewish faith. The Gospel today even states that they were frightened by what they were experiencing. Then they get that one line of direction that they desperately needed. “This is my chosen son, listen to him.” It can be just that simple. We don’t need to starve ourselves or be on our knees till they are sore. Our lives in Christ can be just as simple as listening to him. Paul even tries to encourage the Philippians that they need to imitate Christ. The easiest way to do this is just to listen to him. This calls us to block out all the noise of the world that distracts us from listening to his instructions. I use the word instructions instead of commands because Jesus invites us to follow him so that we may gain eternal life. This Lent, let us focus on paying more attention to the life that Jesus is calling us to live.

No hay necesidad de complicarnos nuestras vidas de fe. Aun en la presencia de la inmensidad que es nuestro Dios podemos mantenerla simple. Los Apóstoles hoy nos enseñan qué hacer. Ellos están completamente confundidos sobre qué hacer después de experimentar la Transfiguración. Ellos acaban de ver a su maestro cambiar en frente de ellos mientras hablaban con dos de las más grandes figuras de su fe Judía. El Evangelio hoy incluso afirma que estaban asustados por lo que estaban experimentando. Y entonces les dan esa línea de dirección que necesitaban desesperadamente. “Este es mi hijo elegido, escúchenlo.” Puede ser así de simple. No necesitamos morirnos de hambre, ni estar de rodillas hasta que nos duelan. Nuestras vidas en Cristo pueden ser así de simple como escucharlo a él. Pablo hasta intenta animar a los Filipenses que necesitan imitar a Cristo. La manera más fácil de hacer esto es solo escuchándolo a él. Esto nos llama a omitir todo el ruido del mundo que nos distrae de escuchar sus instrucciones. Yo uso la palabra instrucciones en lugar de órdenes porque Jesús nos invita a seguirlo para que podamos ganarnos vida eterna. Esta Cuaresma, enfoquémonos más en poner más atención a la vida que Jesús nos llama a vivir.

*Sincerely in Christ / Sinceramente en Cristo,
Rev. Richard J. Smith*

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if you were already there, and I unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Reading I: Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18

God lays Abram’s uncertainties to rest by strengthening His promises with a covenant oath, as He appears amid the offerings as smoke and fire.

Reading II: Philippians 3:17-4:1; or 3:20-4:1

Paul appeals to his readers to follow his example, as he models his own life after Christ’s. He further notes that Christ will transform our mortal bodies to be like His own.

The Gospel: Luke 9: 28b-36

The Transfiguration shows Christ revealing His glory to offset the shock of the first Passion prediction. The presence of Moses and Elijah testifies that Jesus will fulfill both the Law and the Old Testament Prophets.





Please pray for our PREP and School students who are making their First Reconciliation on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Church! This is a big step in their faith journey!

Congratulations to our RCIA Adult group members who celebrated the Rite of Election with Archbishop Perez on Sunday, March 9, 2025 at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. *Entering the Church this year include Catechumens Jimi, Mariah & Miranda Trejo Velazquez, and Candidates Elizabeth George, Shayla Spink, and Bryan & Jhonatan Reyes Rodriguez! Please keep them, and all of our younger RCIA students, as well as our PREP and School Students who are receiving Sacraments this year in your prayers!*



Welcome to the Blessed Carlo Acutis Religious Education Corner at Saint Francis of Assisi! Here, you will find important information, updates, and dates to know!

Remember to get your Mass Attendance Sheets stamped **every Sunday!!**

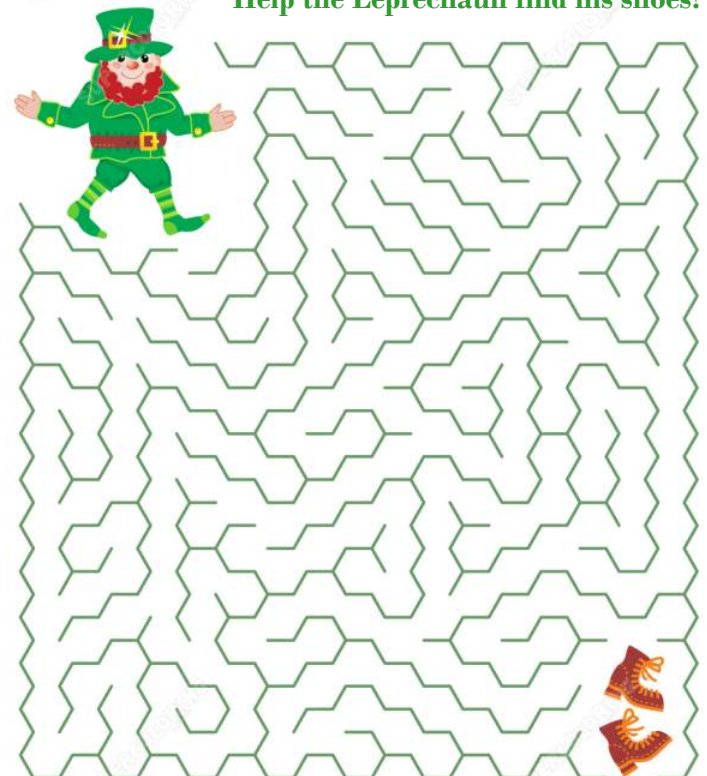
First Reconciliation is on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM. DON'T FORGET!

¡¡Recuerde sellar sus Hojas de Asistencia a Misa **todos los Domingos!!**

¡No lo olvides! Primera Reconciliación será el Jueves, 20 de Marzo 2025 a las 7:00 PM.

the **kid's** corner

**St. Patrick's Day Maze!
Help the Leprechaun find his shoes!**



Prayer to St. Michael The Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God,

thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Oración a San Miguel Arcángel

San Miguel Arcángel, defiéndenos en la batalla. Sé nuestra protección contra la maldad y las asechanzas del diablo;

Que Dios lo reprenda, te lo pedimos humildemente; y haz tú, oh Príncipe de las Huestes Celestiales, con el poder de Dios, arrojar al infierno a Satanás y a todos los espíritus malignos, que merodean por el mundo, buscando la ruina de las almas.

Amén.

SFA Seniors

Here are our upcoming meeting dates for the Seniors group. All meetings are at 1 PM in the Parish Center.

March 18 - Pretzel Sale

April 1 - Montgomery County Aging Services

April 15 - Bingo & Dessert

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

Palm Braiding at SFA

Once again, we will be having our beautiful braided palm crosses for Easter! If you would like to help with or learn how to make braided palms, please join us! **Please note that the dates have changed from the originally posted dates.**

Palm Braiding Classes

Monday, April 7 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Tuesday, April 8 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Palm Braiding

Wednesday, April 9 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Thursday, April 10 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Friday, April 11 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Palm Sale

Thursday, April 10 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Friday, April 11 | 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Saturday, April 12 | 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Location

St. Francis of Assisi School Gym

601-A Buttonwood St.

Norristown, PA 19401

All are welcome! Come join us in this beautiful art! We encourage you to bring the whole family to learn to braid and continue this time-honored tradition!

Book Study at SFA

All are invited on this 7-week journey as we will take a biblical walk-through Christ's Passion together. Using the book *No Greater Love* by Edward Sri, we will deeply reflect on and follow Christ through His last hours. We will meet in the Parish Center on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM beginning February 19th and ending on April 9th. We will not meet on Ash Wednesday (3/5). We hope you can join us on this transformative spiritual journey. For questions, contact Theresa Greco at theresagreco67@gmail.com. **Note: This will take the place of the Chosen Showings.**



Church Cleaners

We are looking for volunteers to assist with cleaning our Church. We will be meeting every other Wednesday at 8:00AM to clean. If you are interested in helping, simply show up!

Upcoming Cleaning Dates:

March 19th

April 2nd, 16th, & 30th

THANK YOU!

Candles in Church

This is a reminder that we are selling candles for church before/after Masses. The candles are still \$3. If you would like to volunteer to help with selling candle, please contact the Parish Center via email at admin@sfanorristown.com or by phone at 610-272-0402.

Prayer Shawl Group

The purpose of our Ministry is to give tangible, "touchable" love to a recipient in the form of either a prayer shawl or lap robe - prayer that can be felt. Our group always welcomes new members. You do not have to know how to crochet or knit, someone in our group would be very happy to give you instructions. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 PM in the Parish Center. **Next Meeting: April 2.** For more information, contact Kay Boyce at (610) 772-7216



Designer Bag Bingo

When: Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 7PM

Where: St. Francis of Assisi School Gym

For Tickets & More Information, contact:

Julie Fusco Schad | 484-686-9813

David Fusco | 610-389-2086

SAINT FRANCIS

LENT

SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent
7pm in the Church



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Friday in Lent
6pm-6:45pm
Every Saturday
after 8:30am Mass;
4pm-5pm



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9am-6pm in Adoration Chapel



Stay tuned for the Holy Week & Easter Triduum schedule!



Pray for Our Troops



U.S. Army - CPT Nathan Bevans; U.S. Army - PVT 2nd Cl. Matthew Hahn; U.S. Army - MAJ John Orendorff; U.S. Army - SSGT Eric D. Pearson; U.S. Army - SGT James Stephenson; U.S. Army - LTC Ramon A. Ramos; U.S. Navy - PO1 Evan Slizofski; U.S. Navy - PO2 Jonathan Slizofski; U.S.A.F. - SSG Jonathan D. Pearson; U.S.A.F. - SSGT Katlyn Pearson; U.S.A.F. - SrA Joseph M. Stasik; Army Nat. Guard - SPC Nathan Enslin; Army Nat. Guard - Col Steven Zahuranec

Together as a parish, we pray for their safety.

To add a name, please email Miss Kibler at admin@sfnorristown.com.

Prayers for the Sick

Theresa Akers, Florence Bruno, Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco, Michele Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Anne Korkus, Lois Leggerie, Edward Mateja, Joe McDonald, Constance Monastero, Sandy Orth, Kathleen Prinzivalli, Dolores Salvo, Veronica Severino, Christina Shea, Anthony Tarmin, James Tuggle, Michele Tuggle, Olivia Tuturice, Brandon Washinko, Peter Wiggins, Mai Wise, Charles Yura, All Those Homebound, & All Our Deceased.

Please call the Parish Office to give us your name or the name of a loved one to be added to the prayer list. When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!

Men's Bible Study

Every Wednesday at 6:30 PM in the Parish Center - No registration required
Studies led by Deacon Dave Matour



Sign Up for Our Newsletter!

Scan the QR Code below to sign up for Constant Contact! You'll be added to our email list, where you'll receive an online version of the bulletin each week, as well as other updates about parish events and important information!

Scan me



Memorial Society Intentions



*The Sanctuary Lamp on the Blessed Mother Altar Burns in Memory of ~
From ~*

*The Sanctuary Lamp on the St. Joseph Altar Burns in Memory of ~
from ~*

*The Bread & Wine are Offered in Memory of ~
from ~*



*The Floral Arrangement on the Main Altar is Offered in Memory of ~
from ~*

*The Floral Arrangement on the Blessed Mother Altar is Offered in Memory of ~
from ~*

*The Floral Arrangement on the St. Joseph Altar is Offered in Memory of ~
from ~*

This Week's St. Francis Memorial Society Enrollees are:

To request any memorials, please contact Miss Kibler in the Parish Center at (610) 272-0402.

DEVOTIONS AT SAINT FRANCIS

Confession: Saturdays at 9:00AM & from 4:00PM - 5:00PM

Baptisms: Please contact the Parish Center

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00AM - 6:00PM in the Adoration Chapel *[stop by the Parish Center for the Chapel code]*

The Rosary: recited daily before the 8:30AM Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Tuesdays after Mass

Sacred Heart Devotions: Fridays after Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturdays after 8:30AM Mass

Visits to the Adoration Chapel: Monday-Friday from 9AM - 6PM. *Stop by the Parish Center for the keypad code.*

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- stop
- ask
- match
- inform

in remembrance of
Samantha Josephson

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Thursday, April 3rd
 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Join Us for Our

OPEN HOUSE
 SUNDAY, APRIL 12th
 APRIL 7th TO APRIL 13th
 CAFE (Carroll's Auction for Education)

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www.jcarroll.org

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7th Grade Visitation Day
 Tues., March 11, 8:30 am

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