



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

601 Buttonwood St. Norristown, PA 19401  
(610) 272-0401 | [www.sfanorristown.com](http://www.sfanorristown.com)  
[admin@sfanorristown.com](mailto:admin@sfanorristown.com)

**Rev. Richard J. Smith, Pastor | Deacon David Matour**  
Msgr. Peter J. Doody & Rev. Abel Osorio, C.M., Weekend Assistants

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Miss Lauren Kibler

**Coordinator of  
Religious Education**  
Mrs. Maritza Reyes

**Business Manager**  
Mr. Carl Needles

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**Mrs. Virginia Bueno**  
Director  
636 Hamilton St.  
Norristown 19401  
(610) 757-1523

**St. Francis School**  
**Miss Bridget Tigie**  
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!**



**3<sup>rd</sup>**

March 23, 2025

## SUNDAY OF LENT

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Daily:** 8:30AM (except Wednesday)

**Sunday:** 7:00AM, 9:00AM (Spanish), & 11:30AM

**Saturday:** 8:30AM & 5:30PM (Vigil)

# SUNDAY, March 23, 2025

## Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12;  
Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:1-9

### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### Monday, March 24

8:30 AM: Lynn Marchese —  
Vivian Beto

#### Tuesday, March 25

8:30 AM: Rocco Siravo —  
Noreen & Ray McMurtry

#### Wednesday, March 26

NO MASS

#### Thursday, March 27

8:30 AM: Marie Monastero —

#### Friday, March 28 *Abstinence*

8:30 AM: Elizabeth Tarrance —  
Sal Ritrovato & Family

#### Saturday, March 29

8:30 AM: Joseph Pascavage —  
Wife & Children

5:30 PM: Mary Elizabeth Sivers —  
John Scaduto Jr.

#### Sunday, March 30

7:00 AM: Pro Populo

9:00 AM: Cesar Flores Diaz

11:30 AM: Eleanor Hurd (living) —  
Family

### COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

#### MARCH 16, 2025

Sunday	\$6,966
E-Giving	\$1,758

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



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### 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

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)

6:30 PM - Men's Bible Study (PC)

6:30 PM - Book Group (PC)

#### FRIDAY / VIERNES

1:15 PM - Living Stations of the Cross (C)

6:00 PM - Benediction (A)

6:00 PM - Confessions (C)

7:00 PM - Living Stations of the Cross (C)

#### SATURDAY / SABADO

11:00 AM - First Holy Communion Practice (C)

### LECTOR & EM SCHEDULE

Mar. 29 - 5:30PM

L - S. Matour  
EM - J. Shearer,  
M. Anders

Mar. 30 - 9AM

L - S. Hernandez,  
N. Guzman  
EM - G. Mendiola,  
L. Adan

Mar. 30 - 7AM

L - R. Gelet  
EM - J. Korkus  
C. Zurek

Mar. 30 - 11:30AM

L - L. Gambone  
EM - L. O'Donnell,  
M. Palmore

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



## A Word from Rev. Richard J. Smith

If there is one thing I would like to remove from our society is our ability to judge others so quickly. We are so quick to cast judgement on others that we see before we even get to know them. These judgements come from knowing only a small part of the story. We see a divorced person we think it was their fault. We meet someone dealing with addiction and believe there is something inherently wrong with them. The worst situation is thinking that because of one issue or another, that a person is less than us and we are better than them. Jesus faces this same kind of judgement in today's Gospel. The people believe they have a better sense of righteousness than others in their community. Jesus doesn't want them to think or judge like this. He doesn't want us to do this either. The important question to ask is, are we repenting? Are we asking God for forgiveness for our own mistakes? If we could spend just a fraction of the energy we spend on judgement on seeking forgiveness we would live such peaceful lives. This week, let us fight those preconceptions that guide our judgements. When we see others who may be struggling with sin or do not have everything in their lives in order, let us not condemn. Let us not think, thank God I'm not like that person. Let us instead pray for those who are in need of God's mercy because we need it just as much.

Si hay algo que me gustaría eliminar de nuestra sociedad es nuestra habilidad de juzgar a otros tan rápido. Somos tan rápidos para juzgar a los demás que los vemos antes incluso de conocerlos. Estos juicios vienen de solo conocer pequeñas partes de la historia. Vemos una persona divorciada y pensamos que fue su culpa. Conocemos a alguien que está lidiando con alguna adicción y creemos que hay algo esencialmente mal con ellos. La peor situación es pensar que por una cuestión u otra, esa persona es menos que nosotros o que nosotros somos mejor que ellos. Jesús enfrenta este mismo tipo de juicio en el Evangelio de hoy. La gente cree que tiene un mayor sentido de la justicia que otros en su comunidad. Jesús no quiere que piensen o juzguen así. El no quiere que nosotros hagamos eso tampoco. La pregunta importante que hacer es, ¿nos estamos arrepintiendo? ¿Le estamos pidiendo perdón a Dios por nuestros propios errores? Si pudiéramos dedicar sólo una fracción de la energía que gastamos en juzgar a buscar el perdón, viviríamos vidas más pacíficas. Esta semana, luchemos contra esos prejuicios que guían nuestros juicios. Cuando veamos a otros que tal vez estén batallando con pecados o no tengan sus vidas en orden, no los condenemos. No pensemos, gracias a Dios que yo no soy como esa persona. Oremos, más bien, por aquellos que necesitan la misericordia de Dios, porque nosotros también la necesitamos.

*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: Exodus 3: 1-8a, 13-15**

Moses is granted a visible and audible manifestation of God's glory, technically a "theophany." He receives his calling to lead Israel out of slavery.

#### **Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12**

Paul urges his Corinthians to learn from Israel's mistakes. This means heeding God's call and avoiding any self-righteousness.

#### **The Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9**

Jesus refers to current events to teach spiritual truths. He then offers a parable which expresses both God's patience and the urgency to repent.







**Please pray for the 37 PREP and School students who made their First Reconciliation on Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 7:00 PM in Church! This is a big step in their faith journey!**

**Miss Angie's First Holy Communion Class is so excited for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion!**



**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!**

**Confession**

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

**The next Class Mass is on Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 11:30 AM. This is MANDATORY!**

P D X B P V L G P O A J Q B R A D  
 S O N E M A E G L T Q M T P U I N  
 S R P U D J C I O I E Y Q F T Y Y  
 E G Z N C Q N S Y O V X E N U R X  
 F B K I H P A N B B D E W O G H B  
 N M I T C P N D Q Y F M I I Z O O  
 O L H Y T Q E D P L O V E T S N D  
 C U U S X W P S V O Y G M A S O S  
 H O R G R Q I R F V N F E T E I O  
 Y B T O M N K Y V I B V H P N T R  
 J A N O M O K D V S E C E M E I R  
 Y G U W F X C R U I O Y N E V R Y  
 F C V Z O F E S L J F G M T I T D  
 W R N H Z S E E A X B O F H G N M  
 Z I J Y E J B N O I A I X X R O L  
 L M D D T Y H D D Y D U Z W O C F  
 R S B Z V C M E X Q K H I D F V K

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**La próxima misa de clase es el domingo 30 de marzo de 2025 a las 11:30 AM. ¡Es OBLIGATORIO!**

FORGIVENESS	TEMPTATION	CONTRITION	DESERVING
BELIEVE	PENANCE	CONFESS	OFFEND
UNITY	WRONG	SORRY	JESUS
EVIL	HURT	LOVE	GOOD
AMEN	GOD	YOU	SIN



## 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.

**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 19<sup>th</sup> and ending on April 9<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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:*

*April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, & 30<sup>th</sup>*

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](mailto: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@sfanorristown.com](mailto:admin@sfanorristown.com).

## Prayers for the Sick

Theresa Akers, Robin Caza, Maria Giovinco, Michele Hamilton, Patty Iaccarino, Anne Korkus, Lois Leggerie, Edward Mateja, Joe McDonald, 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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- ask
- match
- inform

in remembrance of *Samantha Josephson*

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**ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE**

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

Join Us for Our **OPEN HOUSE**  
 SUNDAY, APRIL 12th  
 APRIL 7th TO APRIL 13th  
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7th Grade Visitation Day  
 Tues., March 11, 8:30 am

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Jp