November 22, 2020
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Parish Office: 973-835-0480 / 0489
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C.C.D.: 973-835-1946

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners, all new members and guests celebrating with us today.

We are a Catholic Community, rooted in the Trinity, sustained by the Eucharist and the Word of God, called to witness, to serve and to educate.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP
You are invited to join our parish family. We are committed to meeting the needs of all members. Please register by contacting our Parish Office. (Please notify the Parish Office of change in address or phone number and if you are moving out of the parish.)

RELIGIOUS DEVOTIONS
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena is on Monday after 8:00 am Mass
Novena Prayers in Honor of the Blessed Mother and St. Anthony: Are said every Tuesday after 8:00 am Mass
Prayer Group: Meets at 11:00 am - every Thursday
Adoration: Every Friday after Mass
Divine Mercy: Daily recitation of Chaplet after Mass

MINISTRIES
Join the various ministries and associations:
Ministry of Lector, Eucharist, Usher, Altar Server, Respect Life and Lazarus Ministry, St. Francis Ladies Guild, Emmaus Prayer Group, Youth Group, Carnival, Knights of Columbus and other volunteers associated with the Church of St. Francis of Assisi.

Mass Schedule

Weekends
Saturday: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 noon

Weekdays & Holy Days
See schedule in bulletin.

We extend a warm welcome to all our parishioners, all new members and guests celebrating with us today.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE / 973-835-1946
Mrs. Maryann Marren, Coordinator
Mrs. Betty Norton, Secretary

YOUTH MINISTRY / 973-835-0480
Our youth ministry is open to all Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Grade students. Come join us.

BAPTISM: Parishioners are welcome to have their children baptized at St. Francis of Assisi. Please call the rectory for an appointment to discuss the arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF Penance: Saturday: 4:30-5:00 pm or at other times upon request.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements to be made at least 1 year in advance by calling the Parish Office.

R.C.I.A.: Anyone interested in an update of their faith or wanting to become Catholic, call the Parish Office.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK AND ELDERLY: For the confined, elderly and/or shut-in, be they at home or in the hospital, please call the Rectory. Holy Communion is offered to any person permanently or temporarily homebound. For the seriously sick and dying contact the Rectory immediately.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020
5:30 A.M. Parishioners
Ann Marie Hivish
Ceil Sagan
Roy & Shirley Parian
Frank & Dorothy Orofino
Rocco Tarulli
12 NOON Joseph Baranski
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020
8:00 A.M. Theresa Casazza
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020
8:00 A.M. In Thanksgiving for Grace
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2020
9:00 A.M. Agnes & William A. Cori
Eleanor Leppin
Eleanor Bolsman
Jared Fisher
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2020
8:00 A.M. Dolores San Felice
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2020
5:30 P.M. Ralph Cortellessa
Rosemary Panone
Gerald D’Onofrio
Alvin Shough, Jr.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020
7:30 A.M. Parishioners
Walter Donnelly
10:00 A.M. Joseph & Gea Giavannone
12 NOON Eugeniusz Urban
Pray daily for our servicemen and women serving their country.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Mary Carton Jacob Hicks Judy Moran Gary Ragusa
Ava Rae Nebbia Matthew Polifonte Herman Koenig
Evelyn Means Bob Delventhal Jacqueline Altamore
George Link Michael Soojian Valentina Manuele
Susan Nichols-Boggio Ryder Sasso Michael Gotti
Mike Tidaback Robert Moreno Lydia Rivera
Jerome Foray Loretta LaSala Infant Ronan Suatoni
Manuel Esquerra Jessica Skoruwski Marianne Dorn
Robert Nebbia Christopher Berry Frank Polglaze
Florence Grim Noah Lorencoivitz Christie Farias
Josephine Venezia Alex Coronel Geraldine Kearns
Alice Roslund Alejandro Salcedo Bernie Shushan
Patrick Keegan Patricia Charlesworth

DECEASED: Gerald D’Onofrio

CHURCH MEMORIALS
Church Altar Candle in memory of Antoinette & Richard Assidio requested by Kathy.
Church Tabernacle Candle in memory of Flora & Albert Assidio requested by Kathy.

WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sunday, November 15, 2020 - $2,847.00
Thank you for your continued support.

WEEKLY REFLECTION
Dear Friends in Christ,

Today's Jesus speaks to us of the definite judgment. And with this metaphoric image about sheep and goats, He makes us realize that it will be a judgment of love. «We shall be judged on love», St. John of the Cross tells us.

St. Ignatius of Loyola, another mystic, in his meditation Contemplation to Attain Love, also reminds us “that love is proven not in words but in actions”. And today's Gospel is very illustrative of this fact. Every act of charity we perform, we do it to the very Christ: «For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me into your house. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to see me». Even more so: «Whenever you did this to these little ones who are my brothers and sisters, you did it to me» (Mt 25:40).

This evangelic passage, which keeps our feet on solid ground, places the feast of Christ the King in its proper place. Christ's royalty has nothing to do with arrogance, but it simply is the fundamental reality of existence: love will have the last word.
Jesus shows us that the true meaning of his royalty-or authority-lies upon service to others. He claimed to be ‘Teacher’ and ‘Master’, and also that He was a King, but he practiced his leadership by washing his disciples’ feet, and He reigned by giving his life on the Cross. First, Jesus Christ reigns from a humble cradle (in a lonely manger!) and, afterwards, from a very uncomfortable throne, that is, the Cross. On the Cross there was an inscription that said «Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews» (Jn 19:19): what appearances seem to deny, the profound reality of the mystery of God confirms it, inasmuch Jesus reigns from his Cross and He judges us in love. «We shall be judged on love».

We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty. We must start in our own homes to remedy this kind of poverty.

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Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand.

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One of the greatest diseases is to be nobody to anybody.

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Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do... but how much love we put in that action.

Mother Teresa

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**CALENDAR RAFFLE**

We will begin selling calendar raffle tickets after all masses beginning Nov 21st. The process will be different this year due to Covid-19. We are asking everyone who is interested to pick up a packet in the narthex. Please take the packet home, fill out the name and address info and return it the following week with payment, along with any unsold/unpurchased tickets. You can also pickup and return tickets during the week in the rectory. Raffle tickets will be available in packets of 5 or 10. The last day for purchasing/returning tickets will be Sunday, Dec. 20th.

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**THANK YOU!!**

We want to thank the Sutula Family for donating a new vestment for the parish and we want to thank Mr. & Mrs. Dom Cortellessa for donating new altar cloths.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated!
IS THANKSGIVING A RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY?
The custom celebrating Thanksgiving originated in 1621, when Governor Bradford of the Plymouth colony appointed a day for public praise and prayer after the first harvest, and the practice spread throughout the other New England colonies. The first national observance was when President Washington, at the request of Congress, recommended Thursday, 26 November, 1789, to the people of the United States "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God". This proclamation exhorted the people to "beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best". It was the first observation of the day on the date that present custom holds it. Over time we have come to look forward to Thanksgiving as a time to gather with family and friends, to share a wonderful meal, a long weekend off and a great time to go shopping for sales. It is up to us, the ones who set the table with the food for this feast, to also keep alive the tradition of giving thanks to God for our lives, our loved ones and for all that we have. As you sit down to your table loaded with good things prepared by loving hands, you have an opportunity to teach and pass on the true meaning of this holiday. Maybe you could remind others to be thankful for the bounty and gifts you are all about to receive through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Courtesy, in part, New Advent

2020 DIOCESAN MINISTRIES APPEAL
“Love Thy Neighbor”
This time of year, as we plan to celebrate Thanksgiving, our thoughts and prayers will be for all those who passed away from the coronavirus and the many families impacted. It will be for those on the frontlines of COVID-19 who selflessly care for so many. It will be for all who may be hurting in some way. In our own diocese, tens of thousands of your neighbors in profound need seek out the services of our Catholic Charities and, with help from the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, they find an open door and a compassionate response. Please make a pledge to our Appeal today! For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge www.2020appeal.org

Are you over 65? Have you had your High Dose Flu Shot this year? If you are in need, please call the borough nurse and leave your name and phone number on 973-839-3000 Ext.7124.

MASS FOR DECEASED FROM COVID
Fr. Greg will offer a mass to pray for the souls of all our parishioners who have died from the Coronavirus this year, and for the loved ones of our parishioners who have died this year from the Corona-19 virus. We ask that you bring with you the names of those for whom we will be praying. We will place them on the altar. November marks the end of our liturgical year and it is the month in which we celebrate All Saints day and pray for all the holy souls in Purgatory. All parishioners are invited to join us in support of our parish brothers and sisters who are grieving, and for eternal rest in the Lord for all who have died.

LECTORS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2020
5:30 P.M. Martha Bisaccio

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020
7:30 A.M. Erika Reid
10:00 A.M. Judy Moran
12 NOON Linda O’Connell
Reading for The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Reading 1  EZ 34:11-12, 15-17

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will look after and tend my sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark. I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD. The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly. As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.

Responsorial Psalm
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reading 2  1 COR 15:20-26, 28

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel MT 25:31-46
Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.
Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'
Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'
And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'
Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?'
He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."
IRREPRESSIBLE
K.J. Alexander

To her, she’s just another foster kid.
To them, she’s the queen who will save them all.

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