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# The Church of the Ascension *in the City of New York*

The Reverend Daniel S. Kearney, *Pastor*

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*Serving the Upper West Side, Manhattan Valley,  
and Morningside Heights communities since 1895.*

*Sirviendo las comunidades del Upper West Side,  
Manhattan Valley, y Morningside Heights desde 1895.*

20 JULY / JULIO 2025  
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
XVI DOMINGO ORDINARIO

*ALL ARE WELCOME. / TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS.*

*The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Marcelino Erasmo Cruz, father of Sareda Rodriguez.  
His requiem mass was celebrated at Ascension this past week.*

## SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

5:30pm Vigil Bilingual / *Bilingüe (Cantor and organ)*

9:30am, 12:30pm *Español (Coro)*

11am English (*Choir and organ*)

6pm English (*Cantor and Jazz trio*)

## WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Monday through Thursday

12pm English

7pm *Español*

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

10am – 7pm Weekdays / *Entre semana*

10am – 5:30pm Saturdays / *sábados*

8:30am – 6pm Sundays / *domingos*

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## ASSISTING CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Daniel LeBlanc, OMI  
The Reverend Deacon Nelson Falcon  
Preston Smith, Director of Music

The Reverend Deacon Daniel Corniel  
Mary Santorello, Director of Faith Formation  
Cipriano Lantigua, Minister to Homebound

Lucas Gonzalez and Mireya Vilma, Facilities  
Millie Marte, Hospitality

Sareda Rodriguez (M-F), Jeffrey Salazar (M-F), Jose Velazquez (Weekend), Reception

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221 West One Hundred Seventh Street | New York, New York 10025 | 212.222.0666  
[www.ascensionchurchnyc.org](http://www.ascensionchurchnyc.org)

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Ascension,

On St. Mary Magdalene's feast (July 22) I see some signs of hope in this time of darkness. In his 2025 Easter homily, Pope Francis praised Mary Magdalene as a disciple spurred "to action" who had "... eyes that can 'see beyond,' to perceive Jesus ... as the God who reveals himself and makes himself present even today .... Like Mary Magdalene ... we can also **run to look for him again, with the certainty that he will allow himself to be found and will fill us with the light of his resurrection.**"

As far as I know, Pope Francis had never before personally presented Mary Magdalene so positively. In his prayer for the Year of Mercy (2015) he wrote that she and "the adulteress" sought "happiness only in created things". Sadly, he believed the false and dehumanizing trope of her as the 'penitent sinner'. So, to a Mary Magdalene advocate, his Easter homily was a gift.

Why did Francis change? Perhaps he (and others) were transformed by the information FutureChurch advocates sent to Synod delegates, attendees, and Cardinals? Information such as: the women omitted from Sunday readings; the history of the false legends that silenced and dehumanized Mary Magdalene; art that presents her gospel roles as the first witness of the Resurrection and faithful disciple who served with Jesus from Galilee to his Crucifixion; and a reflection on "What We Gain" from John's Resurrection scene (20:1-18). Pope Francis preached on that this year - Change is possible!

People committed to the truth created those materials – they dug into the biblical research, commissioned new art, and have celebrated Mary Magdalene since 1993.

Like Mary Magdalene, immigrants today, here in the USA are being dehumanized. Politicians and talk show hosts call them "vermin", "filth", and worse. This dehumanization generates immoral cruelty as we see masked agents detain our neighbors with no due process and no criminal charges. Committed to the truth, we can uplift our immigrant neighbors with the same advocacy – tell their stories through research, art, celebrations, and constant communication with political leaders and with each other. Many immigrants contribute to our communities, worship and work with us, pay billions in taxes, and have a lower crime rate than those born here. As Catholics, it is our moral duty to stop the dehumanization and the abject cruelty that follows.

For data and inspiration on Immigration see Brett Hoover's, "The Suffering to Come" in *Commonweal* <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/suffering-come-immigration-catholic-usccb-trump-hoover>

*"St. Mary Magdalene, Patron Saint of the Falsely Accused, protect all the falsely accused and detained. Pray that we will have the strength to advocate for them in every peaceful way possible. Amen."*

Blessings,

Rita L. Houlihan, *Parishioner and Catechist*

Queridos amigos y feligreses de la Ascensión,

En la fiesta de Santa María Magdalena (22 de julio) veo algunos signos de esperanza en este tiempo de oscuridad. En su homilía de Pascua de 2025, el Papa Francisco elogió a María Magdalena como una discípula impulsada «a la acción» que tenía "... ojos que pueden "ver más allá", para percibir a Jesús... como el Dios que se revela y se hace presente también hoy .... Como María Magdalena ... también nosotros podemos correr a buscarlo de nuevo, con la certeza de que Él se dejará encontrar y nos colmará con la luz de su resurrección."

Que yo sepa, el Papa Francisco nunca antes había presentado personalmente a María Magdalena de forma tan positiva. En su oración por el Año de la Misericordia (2015) escribió que ella y «la adúltera» buscaban «la felicidad solo en las cosas creadas». Lamentablemente, creía en el falso y deshumanizante tropo de la «pecadora penitente». Así que, para un defensor de María Magdalena, su homilía de Pascua fue un regalo.

¿Por qué cambió Francisco? ¿Quizás él (y otros) fueron transformados por la información que los defensores de la Iglesia del Futuro enviaron a los delegados, asistentes y cardenales del Sínodo? Información como: las mujeres omitidas de las lecturas dominicales; la historia de las falsas leyendas que silenciaron y deshumanizaron a María Magdalena; el arte que presenta sus papeles evangélicos como primer testigo de la Resurrección y discípula fiel que sirvió con Jesús desde Galilea hasta su Crucifixión; y una reflexión sobre «Lo que ganamos» de la escena de la Resurrección de Juan (20:1-18). El Papa Francisco predicó sobre ello este año - ¡El cambio es posible!

Personas comprometidas con la verdad crearon esos materiales: profundizaron en la investigación bíblica, encargaron nuevas obras de arte y han celebrado a María Magdalena desde 1993.

Al igual que María Magdalena, los inmigrantes hoy en día, aquí en los EE.UU. están siendo deshumanizados. Los políticos y tertulianos les llaman «alimañas», «basura» y cosas peores. Esta deshumanización genera una crueldad inmoral cuando agentes enmascarados detienen a nuestros vecinos sin el debido proceso y sin cargos criminales. Esta deshumanización genera una crueldad inmoral al ver cómo agentes enmascarados detienen a nuestros vecinos sin el debido proceso y sin cargos penales.

Comprometidos con la verdad, podemos elevar a nuestros vecinos inmigrantes con la misma defensa: contar sus historias a través de la investigación, el arte, las celebraciones y la comunicación constante con los líderes políticos y entre nosotros. Muchos inmigrantes contribuyen a nuestras comunidades, rinden culto y trabajan con nosotros, pagan miles de millones en impuestos y tienen un índice de criminalidad inferior al de los nacidos aquí. Como católicos, es nuestro deber moral poner fin a la deshumanización y a la abyecta crueldad que de ella se deriva.

Para obtener datos e inspiración sobre la inmigración, véase

el artículo de Brett Hoover, «The Suffering to Come» en Commonweal

<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/suffering-come-immigration-catholic-usccb-trump-hoover>.

"Santa María Magdalena, Patrona de los Falsamente Acusados, protege a todos los falsamente acusados y detenidos. Ruega para que tengamos la fuerza de abogar por ellos de todas las formas pacíficas posibles. Amén".

Bendiciones,

Rita L. Houlihan, *Parroquiano y catequista*

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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK** *Lecturas de la semana*

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** Gn 18:1-10a/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

**Monday** (*Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church*) Ex 14:5-18/Mt 12:38-42

**Tuesday** (*Saint Mary Magdalene*) Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Wednesday** (*Saint Bridget, Religious*) Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday** (*Saint Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest*) Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Mt 13:10-17

**Friday** 2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt 20:20-28

**Saturday** (*Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial*) Ex 24:3-8/Mt 13:24-30

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**CALENDAR** *Calendario*

**✠ MASS INTENTIONS** *Intenciones de Misas*

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**Saturday 07.19**

4pm Confessions  
5:30pm Bilingual Vigil mass  
✠ Máximo Román Pérez Duran, Jeffrey Hunt, Robert Romano, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz

**Sunday 07.20**

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9am-7pm Parish picnic (*Pomona, NY*); *reservations through the Parish office required*  
9:30am Misa en español with music ("Walkirios")  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz, Acción de gracias por el cumpleaños de María Marín  
11am English mass with cantor  
✠ Anacoreta Merene Babia  
12-12:45pm Coffee hour (*107th St sidewalk*)  
12:30pm Misa en español with Mariachi band  
✠ Enriqueta Vásquez, Rita García Besante, María Altagracia Cruz, María Romita Cruz  
2pm Baptism  
6pm English mass with Jazz music

**Monday 07.21**

12pm English communion (Thom Sesma)  
7pm Misa en español  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, Julio Alfredo Peralta y demás familiares fallecidos, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz  
7:45pm Circulo de oracion

**Tuesday 07.22**

12pm English mass  
✠ For the protection & guidance of Serena Hankey; Marcelino Erasmo Cruz

7pm Misa en español  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz

**Wednesday 07.23**

12pm English communion (Thom Sesma)  
6:30pm Men's Group (*Parish center*)  
7pm Misa en español  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, Fauty Ramón Rodríguez, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz

**Thursday 07.24**

12pm English mass  
✠ Marcelino Erasmo Cruz  
5pm Benediction (*Church*)  
7pm Misa en español  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, Antonio De Co, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz  
7:45pm Curcillistas group

**Friday 07.25**

12pm English communion (Meredith Lisagor)  
7pm Misa en español  
✠ Benditas ánimas del purgatorio, José María Turcios, Berta Evangelina Aguilar, Marcelino Erasmo Cruz  
7:45pm Sagrado corazon (*Parish center*)

**Saturday 07.26**

11am Baptism  
12:30pm Welcome Table free meal (*Parish center*)  
4pm Confessions  
5:30pm Bilingual Vigil Mass  
✠ Restituto Recto

**Sunday 07.27**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:30am Misa en español with music ("Walkirios")  
11am English mass with Cantor and organ  
12:30pm Misa en español with Mariachi band  
6pm English mass with Jazz music

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***All are welcome. / Todos son bienvenidos.***

**Newcomers and visitors:**

Following mass you are encouraged to introduce yourself to the ushers and complete a visitor's card. Interested in receiving Flocknotes/Parish news? Please use the QR code:



**Thank you for your weekly support of Ascension.**

**Last week's collections:**

**\$5,003** (*15th Sunday in Ord Time/July 4th weekend*)

**\$1,517** (*Black and Indian Missions*)

**Please consider a gift of any amount through FlockNotes:**



**For giving through Faith Direct, another online platform:**



ASCENSION CHURCH • NYC

9  
DAYS

# Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy

Every 25 years, the Church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. Not only is Italy a land of unforgettable charm and beauty, it is also a land made rich in grace by its colourful history of holy men and women.

In this dedicated Jubilee year, be inspired to encounter the pathways of some of the Church's greatest saints, from Sts Anthony and Clare to Sts Peter and Paul in Rome, the Eternal City, where we cross the threshold of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica and receive the Jubilee blessing.

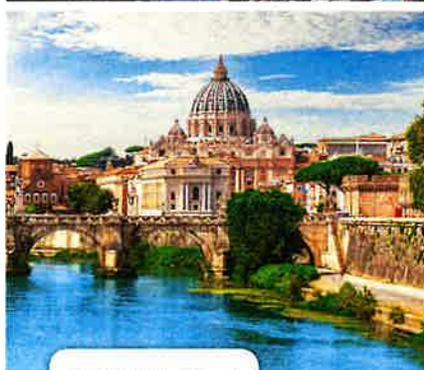


Accompanied by

**Fr Daniel Kearney**  
& **Fr Emerson Nazareth**

**DEPARTS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 06, 2025 • 9 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS**

Rome - Jubilee (5 nights) • Assisi (2 nights)



BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

**1-800-850-2333**

[www.harvestjourneys.com/tc5025](http://www.harvestjourneys.com/tc5025)

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