

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Uptown New Orleans

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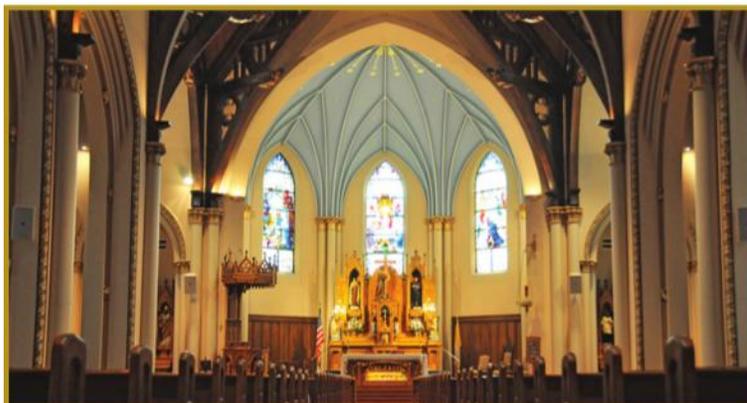
### PARISH PRAYER

Loving Father, You gather us together as a Roman Catholic family, to thank and praise You in shared faith and lived love.

May we be drawn more completely into the life of Your Holy Spirit and hear Your personal call for each of us, helping us to reveal Your presence in this world.

Inspired by Your love and moved by the example of our patron, St. Francis, let us be instruments of peace, to sow love where there is hatred, pardon where injury, faith where doubt, hope where despair, light where darkness, joy where sadness.

Knowing that it is only in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, in dying that we are born to eternal life, we make this prayer through Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are a welcoming Christian community in New Orleans that is centered in the Eucharist. We are committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ, the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and the dignity of human life. We are a family that strives to learn and share our faith by living the Beatitudes and by reconciling ourselves with God and one another.

### PARISH STAFF

**Pastor** - Rev. Michael J. Schneller  
**Director of Religious Education** - Christi Schott  
**Director of Family Life Ministries** - Melisa Rey  
**Facilities Manager** - Matthew Landry  
**Administrative Assistant** - Teresa Miller  
**Director of Music/Organist** - Thomas D. Wright  
**Cantor** - Johnny Tolentino  
**Sacristan** - Paul Vetter

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	4:00 p.m.
Sunday	9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Holy Days	To Be Announced
Monday	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday-Friday	8:00 a.m.

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday	3:00 to 3:45 p.m.
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.

At other times by appointment

### NOVENA

In honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Tuesday following the 6:00 p.m. Mass.

### ADORATION

Monday 8:30am-4:30pm - In the Parish Center

### ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

Second Thursday of the Month at 6:00 p.m.  
 In the Parish Center

### INFANT BAPTISMS

Celebrated on the 4th Sunday of each month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass excluding the season of Lent. First time parents and godparents are expected to participate in a Baptism preparation seminar which may take place during pregnancy. Please contact the Parish Center for more information.

### MARRIAGE ARRANGEMENTS

The policy of the Archdiocese requires a minimum six-month preparation period for marriage, during which the couple meets with the priest or deacon and participates in the Archdiocesan marriage preparation program. Engaged couples should telephone the Parish Center no less than six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage for an appointment with the priest or deacon.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The parish priest is to be contacted before the family makes any arrangements with the funeral director. Family members are also asked to meet with the priest to prepare for the Funeral liturgy.

## CHURCH SUPPORT

MARCH 14-15, 2020

“YOUR STEWARDSHIP IS THE SOURCE OF OUR GROWTH”

Envelopes	\$1,045.00
Loose	\$922.00
E-Giving	\$867.00
TOTAL	\$2,834.00

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Matthew 25 Ministry	\$130.00
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT

## St. Francis of Assisi COVID-19 Update

Archbishop Aymond has suspended the celebration of public Masses following Governor Edward’s decision to limit gatherings. All other Church related events - Reconciliation and Stations of the Cross are cancelled.

During this time of social distancing because of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, Father Michael will live stream the celebration of Mass from the chapel in the parish center for our Facebook page, facebook.com/sfaupstown.

The church will be closed during the duration for the installation of the new pipe organ which begins on Monday, March 23 through April 3.

At this time, the chapel in the Parish Center will be open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament Monday-Friday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Because Father Michael is of the age of risk for contracting the virus he has limited his activities for those in grave need of the sacrament of the anointing of the sick and funerals. The challenge facing the priests of our church is to balance good pastoral care with protecting people as much as possible so that we are not responsible for the further development of the spread of the virus.

Let us continue to pray for one another and stay physically safe. May Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help those who are suffering and St. Francis of Assisi, our patron, intercede for those dying that they might be born to eternal life. Amen.



## Mass Intentions



**SUNDAY, March 22** - Parishioners

**TUESDAY, March 24** - Richard Mattei

**WEDNESDAY, March 25** - Lionel T. & Catherine P. Hammock

**THURSDAY, March 26** - All Souls Book of Remembrance

**FRIDAY, March 27** - Special Intention Meredith Landry

Mass Intentions will be rescheduled for this week’s Saturday Vigil, Sunday (multiple intentions) and for Monday morning Mass.

Father Michael will live stream the celebration of Mass from the chapel in the parish center for our Facebook page, facebook.com/sfaupstown

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

March 22<sup>nd</sup> - March 28<sup>th</sup>

<b>Sunday</b>	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-3a,3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
<b>Monday</b>	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b; Jn 4:43-54
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Thursday</b>	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47
<b>Friday</b>	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
<b>Saturday</b>	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12; Jn 7:40-53

## Prayer Intentions

Please remember the following parishioners and friends in your prayers: Jerry Abdo, Anne Atkinson, Ann Babington, Barbara Barrosse, Christopher Brewster, Antoinette Clark, Marvette Clark, Cathy Dermady, Rosita Duplantier, Margaret Fanning, Mildred Flynn, Tamberly Gray, Ryan Hartley, Sherry Heller, Juanita Herndon, Pat Jones, Leona Labat, Meredith Landry, William Robert Little, Robert Maddox, Cheryl Ann McDonald, Craig Melancon, Darnell Menasco, Lynn Middleton, John “Junior” Morreale, Joy Morton, Angelle Pecoraro, Paige Peterson, Melissa Phelps, Steven Philburn, Nedine Rende, Betty Richburg, Nell Ricker, Fred Riggle, Patricia Riggle, Justin Roy, Emma Ryan, Linda Sayegh, Robert Schwab, Louis Scott, Sr., Samantha Smith, Sara Surgi, Deacon Wil Toups, Residents of Hainkel, Covenant, Lambeth House, and Poydras Homes.

*O heavenly Father, You sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to heal every infirmity and to deliver us from death. We pray that You heal Your servants from our parish family, friends, and relatives of every spiritual and bodily ill which afflicts them. Amen.*

Our **Prayer Intentions** list is for anyone who needs prayers especially due to illness. If you would like to add anyone or if you wish to remove anyone from the list, please contact the parish office (504) 891-4479.



**Church Sanctuary Lamp**  
Our Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of Coronavirus Victims

## A Stewardship Moment

Saint Paul gives us a wakeup call. As stewards of the light of Christ, we are to reflect that light with the help of the Holy Spirit. If Christ's work has transformed and illuminated our lives, there should be a change. The light of Christ's active presence should be at work in us. And as the light shines within us, we take on the properties of that light and we shine too. We are used by God to shine the light of Christ in the lives of others. A challenging Lenten reflection: How is the light of Christ shining in our hearts and reflecting out from us to others?

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### Mothers Prayers - Virtually

Join us in weekly prayer for our children/grandchildren

For more information contact  
Melisa Rey 504.227.3766 or  
familylife@stfrancisuptown.com

On Monday, March 23rd, Cornell Zimmer will deliver the new organ console and begin the installation of the pipe case for our new organ.



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## St. Francis of Assisi Parish Lenten Almsgiving

Every Lenten season our parish accepts donations to a particular charity in response to the corporal works of mercy in Chapter 25 of the gospel of Matthew. This year we are accepting donations for Covenant House in New Orleans. Covenant House opens its heart and its doors each year to more than 900 youth & children with nowhere else to turn. Sadly, the vast majority have experienced years of abuse, violence, and trauma. With God's grace, a team of professionals and volunteers help them to heal – and begin new hope-filled journeys.

Covenant House is always in need of items that benefit their residents. Their core group is 204 young men and women – under the age of 22 – and their children.

To ensure a clean and safe space for all of our residents, the home is unable to accept any previously used bedding, towels, toys, stuffed animals, mattresses, pillows, makeup, or toiletries.

The following list is taken from their website.

**Young Men:** **New underwear (sizes small,medium,large)**, sweat pants (sizes small,medium,large), long-sleeved white button down shirts, black slacks, pajama bottoms, athletic wear.

**Young Women:** **New underwear (sizes small,medium,large)**, long-sleeved white button down shirts, black slacks, pajama bottoms, athletic wear.

**Little Ones:** Baby wipes, clothing for children 0-5 years old, diaper cream.

**Personal Items:** New journals, art pads/sketch pads, \$10-\$25 Gift cards for Walmart, CVS, Target, etc., Earbuds—audio-port and lightening cable compatible.

**Household:** Dish sets, cookware sets, silverware sets, cups & glassware sets, new white sheets and pillow cases (twin/queen), new bath towels and washcloths (white).

Due to the recent cancellation of all Masses within the Archdiocese of New Orleans, we ask that you use the [Amazon Wishlist](#) to check out their list and to learn about the items in high demand. Go to their website: [www.covenanthousenola.org](http://www.covenanthousenola.org). **Click Get Involved and Covenant House Wish List from the drop down menu**

As always thank you for your generosity during Lent.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



## That All Might Be Light

Lord of light,  
God of our salvation,  
we walk by the light of your Son,  
whom you sent that all might see and know  
your love.  
Manifest yourself to all who seek your face,  
and be merciful when we persist  
in blindness.

Expose injustice,  
and illuminate the way to peace.  
Reveal the darkness within and around us.  
Cast that darkness out of us  
so that we will walk more boldly by  
your light.  
With your Son as our guide,  
bring us into your everlasting radiance.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, March 22, 2020**

**Into the Light**

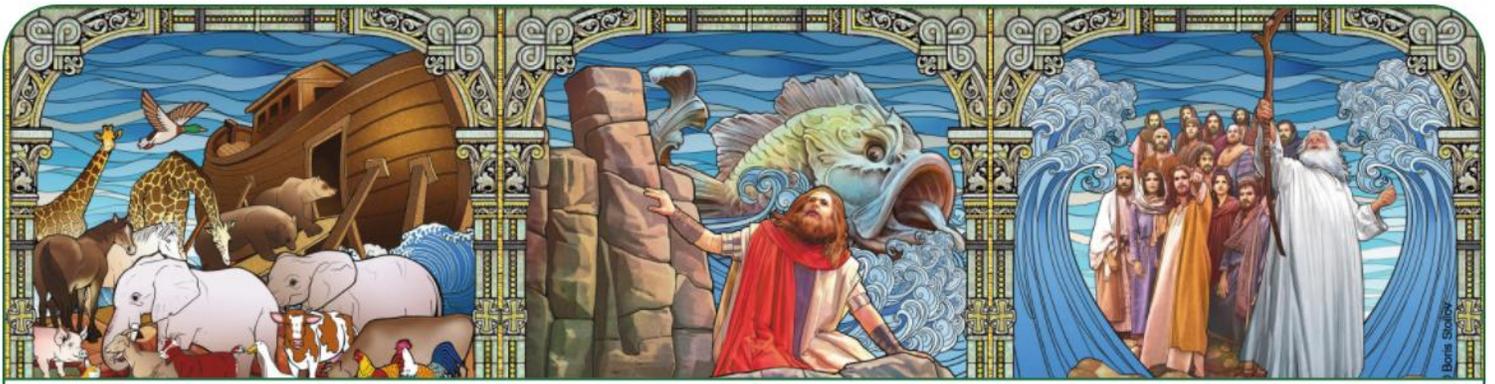


*Today's Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1); Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.* When Samuel goes to Jesse to anoint a new king, no one, including Samuel, recognizes God's chosen one. Only God is able to look within David and see that this shepherd boy will be a capable and faithful king.

The people in the Gospel passage also struggle to see as God sees, and so do we. Jesus' words and actions provoke everyone to decide whether he is God's chosen one, whether God truly sent him into the world to save it. The challenge then, as now, is to examine the testimony without making assumptions, such as assuming Jesus was wrong to heal on the Sabbath or that blindness is a punishment for sin.

As we scrutinize Jesus, asking ourselves who he is, we face the ultimate challenge of moving toward or away from him, of moving toward or away from God's light. We want to stand within this light, but sometimes the brightness frightens us. God's light exposes our darkness, and it can hurt when God's light burns the darkness out of us. Sometimes it is easier to close our eyes and pretend that we already see everything clearly.

But we cannot escape God's light. It has come into the world, and it remains in our midst. It remains in us. This light will make us radiate with joy and goodness and enable us to illuminate the way for others if we are humble and brave enough to let it.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, March 23

#### Making Everything New

Passages such as the one from Isaiah in the First Reading remind us how invested God is in this earth. Having created the world, God will not abandon it but will refashion it, casting out suffering and sorrow. By healing a child, Jesus reveals that God's work of re-creation has already begun. God invites us to participate in it. Reflect on how the work you do—or could do—is part of God's work of remaking the world. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 65:17–21; Psalm 30:2 and 4, 5–6, 11–12a and 13b; John 4:43–54.*

### Tuesday, March 24

#### Replenishing

The prophet Ezekiel tells of a glorious future in which fresh water flows in abundance. The water brings life to parched ground, transforms salty water, and allows fish and fruit trees to thrive. In the Gospel, Jesus surpasses this life-giving water. He ignores the pool and heals the man through the power of his word alone. The man represents all creation transformed and replenished by the power of Christ. Each time you use water today, thank God for the ways he has helped and replenished you. *Today's Readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–16.*

### Wednesday, March 25

#### Solemnity of the Annunciation

In the Old Testament, sacrifices are offerings set apart for God. Such gifts remind the people that they themselves are set apart for God. We give things up during Lent in order to make ourselves a sacrifice, to set ourselves apart from the things of this world and to put ourselves at the service of God and his kingdom. King Ahaz did not want to become such an offering, whereas Mary offered herself with barely a moment's thought. Offer yourself to God by praying St. Ignatius of Loyola's *Suscipe*. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.*

### Thursday, March 26

#### The Faces of God

The Israelites in the reading from Exodus wanted to relate to God in ways that were familiar to them, so they made an image of God. They struggled to accept that God is both beyond images and represented by them, his people. Centuries later God again presented himself in a way that was hard for people to accept: in Jesus, his Son. Make a list of titles for Jesus. Choose one you do not normally use and reflect on what it reveals about God. *Today's Readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.*

### Friday, March 27

#### The Just Ones

People in the temple area question whether Jesus is the Messiah because they know he is from Galilee. They struggle to accept that he is somehow from God, “from above.” Others flatly refuse to believe that Jesus has a unique relationship with God. Jesus is the just man, the one who obeys God in everything, yet who is attacked for precisely that reason. Take a moment to pray for those who are ridiculed or endangered because they are doing what is right. *Today's Readings: Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.*

### Saturday, March 28

#### Rejections

As Jesus continues to provoke division, the religious authorities take an ever more rigid stance against him. They so insist that they know the law, that they know the Scriptures, that they demean everyone who doesn't agree with them. God's prophet Jeremiah also experienced spite and dangerous rejection. In those moments we reject someone, it may turn out that we have misunderstood what God is telling us. Choose a psalm and listen for how God might be challenging you. *Today's Readings: Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 7:2–3, 9bc–10, 11–12; John 7:40–53.*



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