



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Uptown New Orleans

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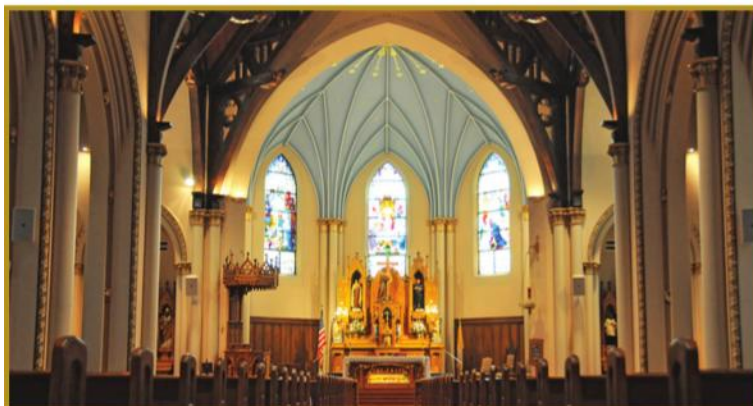
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PARISH PRAYER

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 | 8:30 a.m. |
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday-Friday | 8:30 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.

Uptown Canticle by Father Michael

Winston Churchill, the British statesman, was a guest at a dinner in a private home. The dinner hour arrived and the guests made their way to the dining room. Churchill moved to a chair along the side of the table. Mortified, the hostess was quickly at his side, gesturing to the empty chair waiting for him. "Mr. Churchill," she said, "your seat is at the head of the table." To which Churchill responded in typical Churchill style. "Madame," he said, "wherever I sit is the head of the table." And with that -- the Great Man sat down where he was.

This is a rare quality in political leaders. In reality it's a human trait, not a political one. Yet in the rarefied world of politics, where there is by definition a handful of nationally prominent politicians at any given moment, possessors of Churchill's "head of the table" trait stand out. Powerful people know that they do not have to make an effort to appear powerful. With ease, they carry the aura of authority around them. Such was the case with Jesus. Never the politician, he taught with authority often recognized by the people.

In the middle of summer, we continue reading from the Gospel of Matthew (Cycle A). Today we begin chapter 13, sometimes referred to as the chapter on parables. Matthew has Jesus teach seven parables in this chapter. The Hebrew word for "parable" means wisdom saying or proverb. Matthew's story of the parable of the sower says that Jesus "sat" by the shore, but when the crowds grew too large he moved to a boat where he "sat" as well. That particular verb ("sat") recalls the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus also "sat" to teach. The verb indicates the authority of a true teacher—one who sits to dispense wisdom. This is not your ordinary itinerant professor.

Today's parable of the sower is rooted in antiquity with the image of scattering seed on the ground, which would have preceded plowing. Today even gardeners often sow seed by plowing first, planting the seed, then covering the seed with soil. But such is not the world of antiquity.

The parable invites us to stop and consider several questions: What kind of seed are we? Were we scattered on rocky soil or fertile? Will we bear fruit? If so, how much—thirty, sixty, one hundred fold? The seed scattered on rocks can scarcely move itself to the fertile soil. Is it the fault of the seed landing among thorns in an inhospitable environment? Then again, what about the seed that finds itself in fertile soil? Isn't it our responsibility to grow and produce fruit?

We invite you to reserve your seat for the celebration of Eucharist to sit with Jesus and listen to our wisdom teacher. Let us pray for the grace to grow where we find ourselves and to produce as much fruit as possible. One day there will be a harvest and we shall experience new life. Such is the paschal mystery. I want to commend those attending for following the guideline to wear a mask except when receiving Holy Communion and to thank you for assisting in sanitizing the pews for the next mass. During these past weeks our parish was blessed to have the families of our second graders celebrating their First Eucharist. Please take a moment to view the poster in the church vestibule of all our First communicants and continue to pray for them. We are hoping that as we move pass the pandemic, our parish will be able to celebrate a class communion in the future.

Uptown Canticle - continued

In making a reservation for mass, please observe the guidelines in this bulletin and on our parish website. If you are not a registered parishioner, use this occasion to be among the members of the flock of St. Francis of Assisi. You can register on our website www.stfrancisuptown.com

For those parishioners we cannot accommodate in the church or who are fearful to gather with us, Archbishop Aymond has given permission to distribute Holy Communion after mass outdoors. He strongly suggested that we not give Holy Communion to people in vehicles. He recommends that we do so outside where people can form a communion line and observe social distancing. Therefore, this weekend after each mass, weather permitting, I will be available to distribute Holy Communion in the front lawn of the rectory. I suggest that as you approach me to receive the Body of Christ you pray the Lord's Prayer, the Our Father.

Please remember that Archbishop Aymond has dispensed the people of the Archdiocese from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. If someone is vulnerable and not feeling well, that should not celebrate Mass in church with other people. Baptisms, Weddings and funerals is limited to 100 worshipers. This number will increase gradually.

We will continue to live stream the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday from church. Daily mass in church. Monday, Wednesday through Friday 8:30 am and Tuesday at 6:00 pm. No reservation is necessary for daily mass. We will no longer live stream daily mass.

***As we enter the hurricane season, let us implore the intercession of
Our Lady of Prompt Succor to hasten to help us
and our patron St. Francis of Assisi to make us instruments of the Lord's peace.***

General Guidelines for Mass Attendance

To sign up to attend Mass:

<https://www.stfrancisuptown.com/mass-rsvp>

Entering & Leaving: All entrances are open. Church pews are marked and roped off. When Mass has ended, please do not gather in groups outside of church or in the parking lot. Continue to maintain social distancing.

During Mass: **Wear a mask during Mass aside from receiving Communion.** Be mindful of social distancing and maintain 6 feet of distance from others at all times. For our weekend Masses, a worship aid will be available at the entrances. After Mass, leave it in your pew. You may place your regular offering for support and other collections in the baskets in the center aisle and side doors. The Offertory procession is omitted. We can express the sign of peace by means of a smile and/or nod of the head.

Reception of Holy Communion: Bring hand sanitizer to use before receiving Communion. During the distribution of Holy Communion, form a single line and observe the social distancing blue lines on the floor of the aisles. We ask everyone to receive Holy Communion in the hand rather than on the tongue. You will receive the Body of Christ in the form of bread only. When approaching the priest or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, place your hand flatly atop the other and fully extend your arm toward the priest or minister who will place the Host on your hand in a manner to avoid any contact with your hand.

CHURCH SUPPORT

July 4-5, 2020

“YOUR STEWARDSHIP IS THE SOURCE OF OUR GROWTH”

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Envelopes | \$2,352.00 |
| Loose | \$1,842.00 |
| E-Giving | \$1,372.00 |
| TOTAL | \$5,566.00 |
| Second Collections | |
| Building and Maintenance | \$292.00 |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT

Next weekend our **Second Collection** is for **The Black and Indian Collection (BIMC)**. It exists to help diocesan communities to build up the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God.

A Stewardship Moment

“Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.”

Jesus is quoting to the people a passage from Isaiah [6:10] in which God is lamenting the hardness of the hearts of the people, despite all the good He has done for them. Jesus had healed the sick and the lame; restored sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf; raised the dead; and taught them by word and example to love God and to love their neighbor as themselves. They marveled at the wonders he had done, but they wondered about that *love your neighbor* thing. They were intrigued when Jesus did things for people who were complete strangers to him without seeking or accepting a reward from them. But they did not seem to grasp that he expected them to do for others, neighbors and enemies alike, what he had done for them, and to use all that God had given to them for themselves and for others. The people in the time of Jesus are apparently no different than the people in the time of Isaiah. Are we any different today? We are supposed to be. The Good News compels us to get to know and imitate Jesus.



Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, July 11 - 4:00pm - Lucille Mire McCann, Robert McIntyre, Margaret “Butsy” Ross, Julia Pansano, Henry Schorr, Elizabeth St.Cyr, Lionel T. & Catherine P. Hammock, Special Intention for the Plauche Family

SUNDAY, July 12 - 9:30am - Betsie Melancon, Phillip Tipp

11:30am - Parishoners

MONDAY, July 13 - Esther & Phil Miller

TUESDAY, July 14 - Harold F. Hand

WEDNESDAY, July 15 - Henry Schorr

THURSDAY, July 16 - All Souls Book of Remembrance

FRIDAY, July 17 - Michael John Morris

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

July 12th - July 18th

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Sunday | Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9 |
| Monday | Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23; Mt 10:34—11:1 |
| Tuesday | Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8; Mt 11:20-24 |
| Wednesday | Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27 |
| Thursday | Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21; Mt 11:28-30 |
| Friday | Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8 |
| Saturday | Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21 |

Prayer Intentions

Please remember the following parishioners and friends in your prayers: Jerry Abdo, Anne Atkinson, Ann Babington, Barbara Barrosse, Glenn Becnel, Simone M. Becnel, Christopher Brewster, Antoinette Clark, Marvette Clark, Cathy Dermady, Rosita Duplantier, Mildred Flynn, James Ira Ford, Jr., Evelyn Francioni, 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, Jeff MitchenerJohn “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 Troups, Nancy Williams, Residents of Hainkel, Covenant and Poydras Homes and Lambeth House.

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.



Church Sanctuary Lamp

Our Church Sanctuary Lamp burns
this week in memory of
Lucille Mire McCann

First Communion

Congratulations to all St. Francis' first communicants who received Jesus for the first time in Holy Eucharist these past few weeks. Please continue to keep these children and their families in your prayers as we welcome them to the table of the Lord.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Confession)

Saturday, 3:00 - 3:40 p.m.

Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.

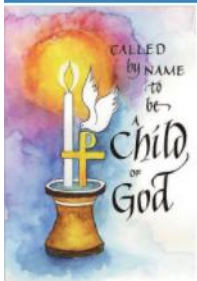
At other times by appointment.

Sisters of Christian Charity Chapel

Located in the Parish Center

Enter through front door on State Street

Baptisms



St. Francis of Assisi Church

Welcomes

Stephen Allen Neal, III

into the family of the Catholic Church

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

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 unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Composed by: St. Alphonsus Liguori - 19th Century

Saints of the Month: St. Joachim and St. Anne

Have you ever wondered who the statues are of the man and woman on each side of Mary at the front of church? These are St. Joachim and St. Anne, the Virgin Mary's parents and Jesus' grandparents. During the month of July we celebrate their feast day and the role they played in being Mary's first teachers in faith and models of God's love. Through their simple example, Joachim and Anne raised Mary in such a way that she was willing to say "yes" to God when he asked her to be the mother of Jesus. They continue to be a living example for all Christian parents who seek to help their children come to know and love God. St. Joachim and St. Anne show that sharing faith at home can be done in very simple and concrete ways, though daily chores and conversation and small acts of love. In what ways do you share God's love at home? What is one simple way you can help your children, grandchildren, and family members come to better know and serve God?



Breaking Open the Readings

First Reading



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 55:10-11

Life-Giving Word

We cannot live without water. Rain has a job to do. It comes from the heavens and waters the earth. The earth then brings forth seed for crops and enables the baking of bread and the preparation of essential foods. Water returns to the sky, the prophet Isaiah says, but only after it has done its job.

We cannot live without the Word of God. It has a job to do as well. It comes from the heavens to bring its fruitfulness to the earth. It announces God's love, provides direction for the wayward, and gives hope to those who despair. God's Word returns to heaven, but not before it has done its job.

Sometimes we squander these gifts. Household plants may be inches away from water, but they will not grow unless we give them a drink. We may be inches away from God's Word. It comes to us in the Scriptures, in the order of nature, in the counsel of friends, and in the community of believers. But we cannot grow unless we lift the cup and take a drink.

Where does God's Word speak around you? What occasions do you have to listen? God's Word has a job to do. Put it to work.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A
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Second Reading



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Romans 8:18-23

Suffering Nothing

The older we get, the more we groan. Muscles ache. Memory fades. Taste buds fail. Hearing diminishes. Eyesight darkens. Stature bends. Our physical health decays, and suffering intensifies. Growing old, as they say, is not for wimps.

For many people, aging might be cause for despair. But for Christians, it is just another aspect of the imperfections of life. We have grown accustomed to the disappointments of this life. They are nothing compared with the promise of salvation. We put up with the inconveniences we experience because we believe in the joy that lies ahead.

St. Paul writes to the Romans, "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us."

Paul believed in God's promise, that there was more ahead for him after he died. He believed that promise extended to all the faithful, and indeed to all creation. Creation itself has been groaning, awaiting a more perfect life. Perfection comes to all the world through Christ.

We may be growing older, but we are always children—God's children. We may be heading toward death, but we are really heading toward birth—birth to a new kind of life. The sufferings of today are as nothing. We are groaning in expectation of a joy that is to come.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A
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For more information on how to pray with scripture and ways to incorporate the daily scripture readings into your life, please visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' resource list at <http://usccb.org/about/communications/covid-19-crisis-resources-from-catholic-publishers.cfm>.



Is the Holy Spirit calling you to mentor engaged couples in preparation for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony?

Please consider attending a training for Mentor Couples to get more information.

TRAINING FOR MENTOR COUPLES

The training will be presented by the authors of *In Home Marriage Prep*, Jan and Lloyd Tate, at Notre Dame Seminary in the Pastoral Center on Saturday, August 29, 2020, from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

For more information or to register, contact Melisa Rey at 504.227.3766 or familylife@stfrancisuptown.com

Praying the Rosary

Our parishioner Missy Duncan is leading us in praying the rosary Monday - Saturday at 9:30 am via a meeting on Zoom. Anyone can join. Go to Zoom.com.; Create an account. (free); At 9:30 AM log onto your Zoom account and click "Join Meeting"; The meeting ID is 527 214 055. If anyone would like to test it before the meeting goes live, or to have support setting it up please call Melisa Rey at 504.227.3766.

Lending Library

Come take a look!

Please stop by the Parish Center & check out the *Lending Library* in the closet in the Conference Room. Take a book (or two) & return when you're done or pass it on to someone else.

Food Resources

- ✚ **SFA Matthew 25 Food Distribution** - Monthly, food distribution to those who are in need of assistance with monthly food supplies. Contact the parish office to get help. 891.4479
- ✚ **Catholic Charities' Food Pantry** - Open Monday – Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm. The food pantry is located at 2505 Maine Ave in Metairie.
- ✚ **More Resources visit:** <https://ready.nola.gov/incident/coronavirus/assistance/#food>

Mental Health Resources

- ✚ **State Covid19 Crisis Counseling Line:** Text "*Reachout*" to 741741
- ✚ **Catholic Counseling Service** - Services to individuals, couples, & families-\$50/session or sliding scale or pro bono services when necessary. Calls are confidential 504-861-6245.

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