

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Uptown New Orleans

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Office: 891-4479 • Fax: 891-4470

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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: Very Rev. Michael J. Schneller, V.F.
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, Jayne Edwards
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

Friday 9:00-10:00 am - In the Church

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

2021 Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph Baptism of the Lord – Launch of the Year of the Eucharist January 10, 2021

“Who we are and why we Celebrate Mass”

The Baptism of the Lord is the final celebration of the Christmas season. Through this feast, as is true throughout the whole Christmas season, we witness God breaking into human history – revealing his abiding presence (*Emmanuel*), his saving love in Jesus, and his unceasing desire for union with all humanity.

Jesus does not need to be baptized for he is without sin. He does this to unite himself with us, sanctifying the water and taking on our sins.

At Jesus' baptism, the heavens opened and the Father spoke: “*You are my son...*” God speaks these words to each of us today as we recall our own baptism: “*You are my daughter, you are my son*”. At this feast we celebrate the blessing and sprinkling of water in place as we do on the Sundays of the Easter Season as a reminder of who we are and Whose we are. In our baptism, God claims us as his own, giving us his own Divine life and making us truly and irrevocably his children. We put on Jesus Christ, who now lives in each of us, and thus, we become “*heirs of his blessed life*” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1).

Today we also celebrate the beginning of the Year of the Eucharist and St. Joseph: a time of renewal, healing, and communion. Since baptism marks the beginning of our initiation into Jesus Christ, a life-long journey toward union with Christ and one another as members of His Church, Archbishop Aymond decided it is timely and fitting that we begin this important year today.

The Eucharist is communion with God. Christ nourishes us with his very Body and Blood so that we can be joined more closely to him and to all humanity. At the baptism of Jesus and our baptism, the heavens are opened with God and humanity being brought into union. So too, at each Mass, the heavens are opened and God comes to save us and gives himself as nourishment for this journey of faith.

We read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church “God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created humanity to make us share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to humanity”.

With the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, we conclude the Christmas season, and begin the Year of the Eucharist. The Synoptic Gospels remind us that after his baptism the Holy Spirit sent Christ to begin his saving mission to the world, so we, too, are sent (for that is what “Mass” means), to continue the saving mission of Jesus in the world, for we are the Body of Christ.

Over the past 10 months the Covid-19 pandemic has reveal to us a world that is hurting and broken. The love and presence of Christ is needed desperately by so many. The Lord is near and remains with us, he is inviting us to recognize his presence, receive him completely, and bear his saving presence in the world.

The Eucharist is an opportunity to become what we receive and it is food for the journey in our mission of discipleship. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian Life. As Church we gather with the Lord, we go out with the Lord, and we come back to the Lord. We are who we are because of Whose we are!

Uptown Canticle - continued

During this Year of the Eucharist, we will focus on three primary areas: Explanation of the Mass, the Real Presence of Christ, and the Meaning and Importance of our Obligation to Sunday Mass.

Each month, like today, we will select a particular Sunday during which the homily will focus on explaining different parts of the Mass.

Now having begun this important Year of the Eucharist, let us pray that the risen Jesus who comes to us in Word and Sacrament will continually draw us deeper into communion with him so that we can more effectively witness his love in the world.

We invite you to join us this weekend for one of our masses either in church or via live stream of the Sunday 9:30 am mass via our YouTube Channel, [St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church New Orleans](#).

A link will be available on our website: www.stfrancisuptown.com and our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/sfauptown



“Adoration for Life”
January 22nd from 9 am—3 pm
Benediction at 3 pm

The Respect Life Committee will host “Adoration for Life” in church to pray for the legal protection of the unborn. Please see the sign up sheet in the back of church to commit to spend one hour with the Blessed Sacrament.

Contact Melisa Rey 504.227.3766 or email: familylife@stfrancisuptown.com.

Sanctity of Life Sunday January 17th.

The weekend of January 16th & 17th, there will be a short *Sidewalk Prayer Service* immediately following all Masses.

Mothers Prayers Group
is changing the day we meet.
We will not meet this week.

We will meet on TUESDAYS,
beginning January 19th.

We'll still meet at 10:00am at the Parish Center (**outside**.)

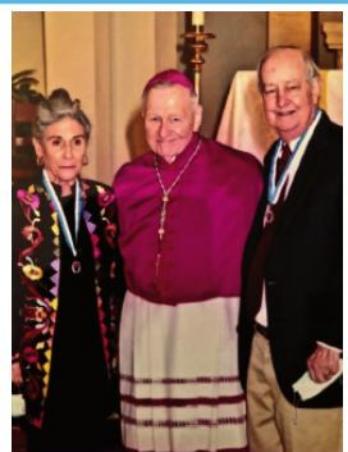
Moms in every stage of parenting are welcome.
For more information contact Melisa Rey 504.227.3766 or familylife@stfrancisuptown.com



Congratulations to the
St. Francis of Assisi 2020 recipients of
The Order of St. Louis Medallion
from the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Stanley Ellington, Jr.
Creston & Nancy King

*We are grateful for their dedication
to our parish.*



CHURCH SUPPORT

December 19-20, 2020

"YOUR STEWARDSHIP IS THE SOURCE OF OUR GROWTH"

Envelopes	\$7,622.25
Loose	\$1,860.00
E-Giving	\$1,777.00
TOTAL	\$11,259.25

Special Collections

Matthew 25 Ministry

CHRISTMAS

Envelopes	\$1,872.00
Special Collections	

Archdiocesan Ministries & Welfare

\$573.00

December 26-27, 2020

Envelopes	\$8,609.00
Loose	\$11,087.00
E-Giving	\$1,527.00
TOTAL	\$21,223.00

Special Collections

Matthew 25 Ministry

January 2-3, 2021

Envelopes	\$3,871.12
Loose	\$4,709.00
E-Giving	\$3,287.00
TOTAL	\$11,867.12

Special Collections

Matthew 25 Ministry

\$18.54

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT

A Stewardship Moment

We last heard of the Baptism of the Lord by John from the Gospel of Mark on the Second Sunday of Advent and again on the Third Sunday of Advent from the Gospel of John. Today we have the rest of the story from St. Mark. This was clearly an important event in the life of Jesus and the salvation history of mankind. The humble submission of Jesus to John's public baptism by water, understood as an act of repentance and reform, made that event very important to the men who were writing the Gospels many years after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The humility of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity is an example for us. Are we humble like Jesus? Are we willing to repent and reform for the times we fail to acknowledge that everything we have and everything we ever will be is a gift from God that He wants us to use for our own benefit and the benefit of others? Can we be humble like Jesus, particularly in difficult times?



Church Sanctuary Lamp

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



Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, January 9 -

4:00pm - Henry Schorr, Lucille Mire McCann, Margaret "Butsy" Ross, Genevieve Young, Peggy Young Condon, Julia Pansano

SUNDAY, January 10 -

9:30am - Betsie Melancon, Michael J. Rapier

11:30am - Parishioners

MONDAY, January 11 - Pulcherie Cambre Serpas

TUESDAY, January 12 - Billy Hock

WEDNESDAY, January 13 - All Souls Book of Remembrance

THURSDAY, January 14 - Donald Joseph Villarrubia, Sr.

FRIDAY, January 15 - Annie Donaghy

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 10th - January 16th

Sunday	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3); Acts 10:34- 38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11
Monday	Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday	Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:21- 28
Wednesday	Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11; Mk 1:40- 45
Friday	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

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, Ben Capshaw, Antoinette Clark, Marvette Clark, Cathy Dermady, Guella Dragon, Rosita Duplantier, Mildred Flynn, James Ira Ford, Jr., Evelyn Francioni, Cynthia Gilmore, Tamberly Gray, Ryan Hartley, Sherry Heller, Pat Jones, Leona Labat, Meredith Landry, William Robert Little, Robert Maddox, Cheryl Ann McDonald, Craig Melancon, Darnell Menasco, Lynn Middleton, Jeff Mitchener, John "Junior" Morreale, Joy Morton, Earl Pansano, Angelle Pecoraro, Paige Peterson, Melissa Phelps, Steven Philburn, Nedine Rende, Betty Richburg, Nell Ricker, Fred Riggle, Patricia Riggle, Justin Roy, Emma Ryan, Robert Schwab, Ainsley Saleun, Antoine Saleun, Louis Scott, Sr., Samantha Smith, Sara Surgi, Deacon Wil Toups, 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.



High School Confirmation

Students who attend Catholic high school receive the sacrament of Confirmation through their home parish. Catholic school students in the 10th grade or above who wish to be confirmed in October 2021 are asked to please register for the sacrament as soon as possible. Registration is available on our website at <https://www.stfrancisuptown.com/registration-form>.

Immediate preparation classes begin January 24 on Zoom. **You must register before January 22 in order to receive the class link.**

Confirmation Catechists Needed



Volunteers are needed to help with High School Confirmation preparation. Classes take place in small groups and meet twice per month in the Spring with a retreat in the Fall. Please contact Christi for more information at 891-4479 or cschott@stfrancisuptown.com. Volunteers are required to become Safe Environment certified.

Archdiocesan Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 3:00pm, St. Joseph Church, New Orleans

If you are celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary this year (married in the year 1996) and wish to attend, please register with the parish office by January 15, 2021.

This celebration will not be a Mass, but a prayer service.



Please Print

Couple's Last Name: _____ & _____ (Husband's First Name) _____ (Wife's First Name) _____

Husband's Email: _____ Wife's Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Best Contact Number for Couple: _____

Date of Marriage: _____ 1996
Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

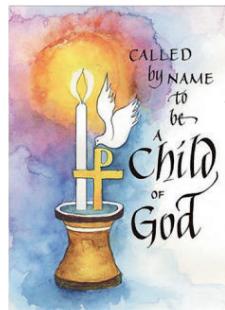
Couple's Name on Scroll: _____

Church Parish of this couple: _____ City: _____

Church Parish Contact: _____

Registrants: Please return this form to the Church Rectory by January 15, 2021.

Secretaries/Administrators: Parishes are asked to register couples, using an online form which may be found at <https://nolacatholic.org/wedding-anniversary> by Wednesday, January 20, 2021.



Madelyn Lou Charles
Stafford Lawrence Goodwin
Lucia Gabriela Johns
Alexander Cash Maybury
Jane Sharp Smallpage

into the family of the Catholic Church

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday Mornings
9:00am - 10:00am
In Church
following 8:30am Mass



Registration for Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration - March 14, 2021

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Priests, Prophets, Kings

Loving Father,
at our Baptism we were anointed
in Christ's name
to be priests, prophets, and kings.
Our mission is his.
Help us to worship you, Lord God,
and to offer our whole lives to you.
Embolden us to share your love
and salvation.

Empower us to seek your kingdom
of justice and peace.
When the light of our faith wavers,
and our white garments become stained
and torn,
cleanse us and renew your Spirit within us.
Guide us each day along the way of your Son
so that we, your beloved children,
may be pleasing to you in all that we do.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Our Mission



Today's Readings: Isaiah 55:1–11; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; 1 John 5:1–9; Mark 1:7–11 or Isaiah 42:1–4, 6–7; Psalm 29:1–2, 3ac–4, 3b, 9–10; Acts 10:34–38; Mark 1:7–11. Jesus, in his humanity, had to discern how to best offer his life to God. He drew inspiration from the promises God had made to Israel and, through Israel, to all people—promises of prosperity, justice, and peace. Jesus may have especially identified with the mysterious servant spoken of by the prophet Isaiah. This servant bravely brings God's salvation to everyone. As John the Baptist urged people to prepare for the next stage of salvation, his words would have resonated with Jesus, who was baptized as a sign of his commitment to the mission that was taking shape within him.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Our Baptism immerses us into the life of Christ, into his earthly ministry, his sacrificial death, and his union with God the Father. As members of Christ's body, we ask ourselves, "What is my mission? For what good work has God's Spirit descended upon me?" Perhaps God is calling us to spend time with someone who is struggling. Perhaps our mission is to change an unhealthy work environment. Our mission might be to address injustice in our community. In all these ways and more, we, God's beloved children, participate in the mission of Christ. In fulfilling our mission we, too, will hear God declare that he is well pleased with us.



THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

During Ordinary Time this year we will hear most often from the Gospel of Mark. However, the Gospel passage for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is always from John. Matthew, Mark, and Luke present Jesus' identity through the lens of his ministry, but John's focus is mostly on Jesus' identity as God's divine Son.

The Christmas season is filled with feast days that highlight Jesus' divinity. The passages from John's Gospel that we hear on the Second Sundays in Ordinary Time transition us from an emphasis on Jesus' identity to his public ministry. As we accompany Jesus in his ministry, today's passage reminds us to stop and spend time with the Lord so as to discover and rediscover all that he is.

Gospel/Ignatian Contemplation

Popularized by St. Ignatius of Loyola, Gospel contemplation is a way to pray with the Scriptures. It works best with passages in which there is some action, such as a healing. Because Mark's Gospel is filled with short passages in which people are doing something, it is well suited for Gospel contemplation.

To begin, read the passage you have chosen several times. Note the people, setting, and any dialogue. Let the scene take ever clearer shape in your mind. Then imagine that you are there, in the story. You might be one of Jesus' disciples, a person in the crowd, or someone who seeks healing. Notice who is with you, what you say and do, and, most especially, how you interact with Jesus and how he interacts with you. Gospel contemplation is one way to meet our Lord in our sacred texts. It might be helpful for those who are hesitant to try it to remember that the Gospels were written so that we, like generations before us, may encounter Christ and find salvation in him.

The Gospel of Mark

Since it contains very little teaching and few parables, the Gospel of Mark is the shortest and most fast-paced of our four Gospel accounts. It is also the darkest. The shadow of the cross looms from the first chapter as we hear Jesus begin his ministry right after John the Baptist has been arrested (1:14). Jesus' first miracle is casting out a demon, a symbol of the evil he must confront (1:21–26). Chapter 2 consists entirely of stories in which people challenge Jesus and object to his or his disciples' actions. By chapter 3 people are already plotting his death (3:6). As the Gospel continues, Jesus will face opposition from his family, the villagers of his hometown, and his disciples.

The portrait of Jesus that emerges from this threatening narrative is a Jesus who struggles and suffers. He is the messiah, but he is a suffering messiah. "Suffering messiah" is a contradiction, an oxymoron. No one expected the messiah, God's chosen one, to suffer and be killed. Christians today are so familiar with the story of Jesus' passion and death that we forget how shocking it was, how horrible and horrifying. St. Mark reminds us.

As we move through the Gospel of Mark and hear how Jesus is challenged, misunderstood, ridiculed, and physically attacked, we're reminded that true discipleship has costs. Seeking the reign of God brings us into opposition with others who either don't understand how we're trying to live or who downright reject the kingdom of God that we seek. Jesus knows this. He has been through it. He now stands with us as we continue striving for his kingdom, confronting evil in all its forms until at last he raises us up to life with him in his kingdom forever.



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