

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Uptown New Orleans

631 State Street • New Orleans, LA 70118

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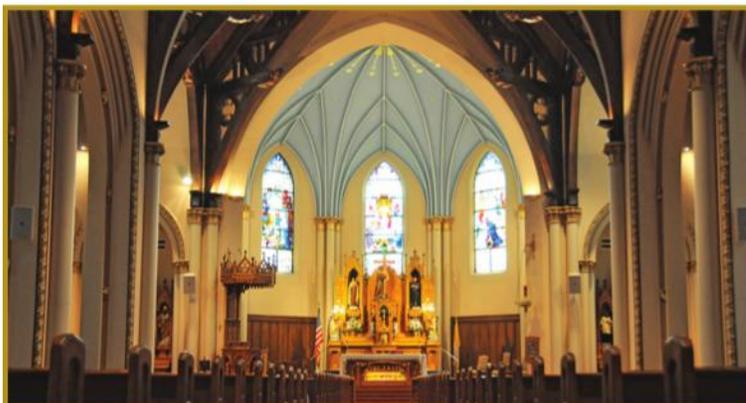
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## PARISH PRAYER

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:** 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

“MatchMaker, MatchMaker, make me a match, find me a find catch me a catch!” The MatchMaker is the title of the 1997 romantic comedy starring Janeane Garofalo who plays Marcy. Marcy is a worker in the reelection campaign of bumbling Senator John McGlory. She is sent to Ireland on a quest to find the Irish ancestry of Sen. McGlory, to help him win the Irish vote. But when Marcy arrives in the small village of Ballinagra, she finds herself in the middle of a matchmaking festival. And the local matchmaker is determined to pair her off with one of the local bachelors.

As a priest involved in ministry to the engaged preparing them for the sacrament of Matrimony I have become more familiar with the numerous dating apps, like eHarmony, Bumble, Hinge, Cupid and even CatholicMatch. I mused about this movie title as I did a search on the Internet with the phrase “Match Maker.” Sometimes I like to think of myself as a “matchmaker” between the living God and my parishioners and you with one another – not that you need any introduction by me.

In today’s scriptures some people get drawn into intriguing conversations – first the boy Samuel and then two of the Baptizers’s disciples, and finally Simon Peter. And each conversation has a matchmaker – Eli the priest, John the Baptizer and then his disciple Andrew.

We meet people because other people introduce us to them. We can assume that Eli, the priest, is guardian and mentor for Samuel. God whispers to Samuel. Eli helps him discern the Lord’s calling. He gets up and becomes a disciple. God could have done something dramatic to call Samuel, like a big storm or a clear vision. He could have sent an angel to wrestle with him during the night as he did with Jacob.

Most of the important discoveries in our lives begin with a question. So too, here in the gospel, “What are you looking for?” We hear the words: “come, see, follow, stay...”

Sometimes our questions lead to answers. The whole ministry of reconciliation, of reaching out to “fallen away” Catholics usually begins with the question from a friend: “Why did you leave the church?” A question that can be seen as a gesture of hospitality. “Do you want to talk about it? Come on, let’s have a drink or go for a cup of coffee.” This is the dynamic going on in the gospel today: people meeting each other, gaining a new perspective and their lives being turned around. Nothing says that we cannot do the same.

What is intriguing about this gospel is that Jesus relied on Andrew to bring Peter to him. Why didn’t Jesus just go himself? Why wait for Andrew to fetch Peter?

Both stories, Samuel and Jesus’ call of the disciples, give us insight into how God works. God chooses people to bring other people to him. In our lives each of us play two roles: We bring people to us and they, in turn, bring people to us. Many of these people bring God to us.

Encountering new people broadens our perspective. In the 1989 movie “*Dead Poets Society*” Robin Williams portrays John Keating, a former student at the Welton Academy prep school. He returns to his alma mater to teach English. In an effort to broaden their intellectual horizons, Keating invites his students to stand on their desks and thereby gain a new perspective on the world. For many this proves to be a freeing experience and one that reveals aspects of themselves that they have not yet discovered.

Two decades before “*Dead Poets Society*,” a remake of the 1939 classic “*Goodbye Mr. Chips*” made a similar point in a similar setting. Peter O’Toole plays stodgy professor Arthur Chipping, who teaches at a

## Uptown Canticle - continued

very staid and traditional English boys' school. When Chipping meets and falls in love with music hall singer Katherine Bridges (Petula Clark), his whole perspective changes, and through him that of his students.

Folks are introduced, sometimes invited into our lives and they bring a change of perspective. Those changes of mind and heart, attitude and lifestyle are a necessary consequence of that call from God that we call vocation. We witness that change in Simon's name change to Peter.

Think of all the people who either have invited themselves into your life or you invited them into yours. Many of these people bring a new perspective to us. Think of all the people in your lives who have helped you to know Jesus. Your parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, clergy, your children, youth ministers. To whom have you introduced Jesus by the way you speak or act? How would you describe Jesus to someone? How much depends on what you have been told by others, and how much comes from your own experience? Perhaps you will bring Jesus to people without knowing it, just by what you say or do, even by some quiet example.

Here are some final questions the scriptures give us for our reflection and sharing that can change our lives and provide a new perspective: "Speak, for your servant is listening." What am I hearing. "Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will". How open am I to God's will? "You have been purchased and at what a price". What are you looking for? Maybe we can help each other find answers to those questions.

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](http://www.stfrancisuptown.com) and our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/sfauptown](http://www.facebook.com/sfauptown)



Every Life is a Gift, From Conception  
until Natural Death

### ***“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](mailto: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 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](mailto:familylife@stfrancisuptown.com)



## CHURCH SUPPORT

January 9-10, 2021

“YOUR STEWARDSHIP IS THE SOURCE OF OUR GROWTH”

Envelopes	\$9,862.00
Loose	\$1,060.00
E-Giving	\$1,087.00
TOTAL	\$12,009.00

### Special Collections

Matthew 25 Ministry	\$298.03
Building and Maintenance	\$283.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT



## Mass Intentions



**SATURDAY, January 16 - 4:00pm** - Henry Schorr, Nancy Clair McCann, Margaret “Butsy” Ross, Julia Pansano, Billy Hock, E. J. Piglia, Jerry McGuinness, Ed Plauché, Lillie Mae Archer Boos, Gregory Juan, Robert McIntyre

**SUNDAY, January 17 - 9:30am** - Parishioners

**11:30am** - Betsie Melancon, Charles Ives, Mike deLaureal

**MONDAY, January 18** - Michael Comeaux, Jr.

**TUESDAY, January 19** - Wesley Lessinger

**WEDNESDAY, January 20** - Patsy Gibbons

**THURSDAY, January 21** - All Souls Book of Remembrance

**FRIDAY, January 22** - Esther Lingoni

## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 17<sup>th</sup> - January 23<sup>rd</sup>

<b>Sunday</b>	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42
<b>Monday</b>	Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 2:18-22
<b>Tuesday</b>	Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c; Mk 2:23-28
<b>Wednesday</b>	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 3:1-6
<b>Thursday</b>	Heb 7:25—8:6; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
<b>Friday</b>	Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mk 3:13-19
<b>Saturday</b>	Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Mk 3:20-21



## MLK Day

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 18, 2021 in observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

*“The time is always right to do what is right.”*  
*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## A Stewardship Moment

Christian stewardship begins with the call to discipleship and in today’s Gospel we discover those first individuals who sought out Jesus and wanted to listen to him, learn from him and stay with him. Today, Christian stewards search out the hidden presence of Jesus in their own lives every day. They know Christ is the “Messiah” who will one day bring about a perfect restoration to a troubled world. They further understand that they are sacraments of his hidden presence in the world. Their task is to make that reality known through their own words and actions. What is one thing we can do to be better stewards of Christ’s life in us?

## 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, Harriet Suarez, 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.*



**Church Sanctuary Lamp**  
Our Church Sanctuary Lamp burns  
this week in memory of  
**Unborn Child**



## 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 Friday, January 22 in order to receive the class link.**

## Confirmation Catechists Needed

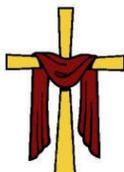


Volunteers are needed to help with High School Confirmation preparation. Classes take place in small groups and meet twice per month in the Spring with a retreat in the Fall. Please contact Christi for more information at 891-4479 or [cschott@stfrancisuptown.com](mailto:cschott@stfrancisuptown.com).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



**Please keep the second grade students and their families in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate first Reconciliation next Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at St. Francis.**

There are several religious items on a table in the back of church. Please feel free to take any items you'd like for yourself or to share with others.



One of the religious articles stolen from our church on June 27, 2020 was the Crucifix in the niche above the tabernacle seen in the photo on the left.

We offer our gratitude to the Scheuermann Family for finding an exact duplicate and donating it to the Parish.

In a future bulletin, we will update you on the status of the insurance claim and all the articles stolen.



## Order of St. Louis Medallion

The Order of St. Louis Medallion is awarded to Catholic men and women for their many unselfish contributions of time and talent to the life of the parish. At this time, St. Francis of Assisi is accepting nominations of parishioners who should be considered for this honor. If you would like to nominate anyone please contact the parish center at 891-4479 or [sfa@stfrancisuptown.com](mailto:sfa@stfrancisuptown.com).

Deadline for nominations is  
January 21, 2021.

## St. Francis of Assisi Parish

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



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



5500 St. Mary Street  
Metairie, LA 70006  
[www.neworleansretreats.org](http://www.neworleansretreats.org)  
(504) 887-1420

### Weekend Retreats

January 29 - 31, 2021 - Women's Retreat  
Becoming a Disciple of Jesus of Nazareth  
Presenter: Rev. Glenn LeCompte  
In this retreat we will learn about the stages of becoming a disciple as we follow Jesus Christ.

February 19 - 21, 2021 - Women's Retreat  
The Infinite Tenderness of God  
Presenter: Rev. Jacob DuMont, L.C.  
God is infinite love and out of that love, he created and redeemed us. During these days, we will encounter the tender and merciful Lord, learning to accept his gift of healing mercy and pass it on.

Each retreat has a limited number of commuter spaces available for those who feel more comfortable attending without overnight accommodations.

Please inquire if any spaces are available by calling Susan at (504) 887-1420

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