

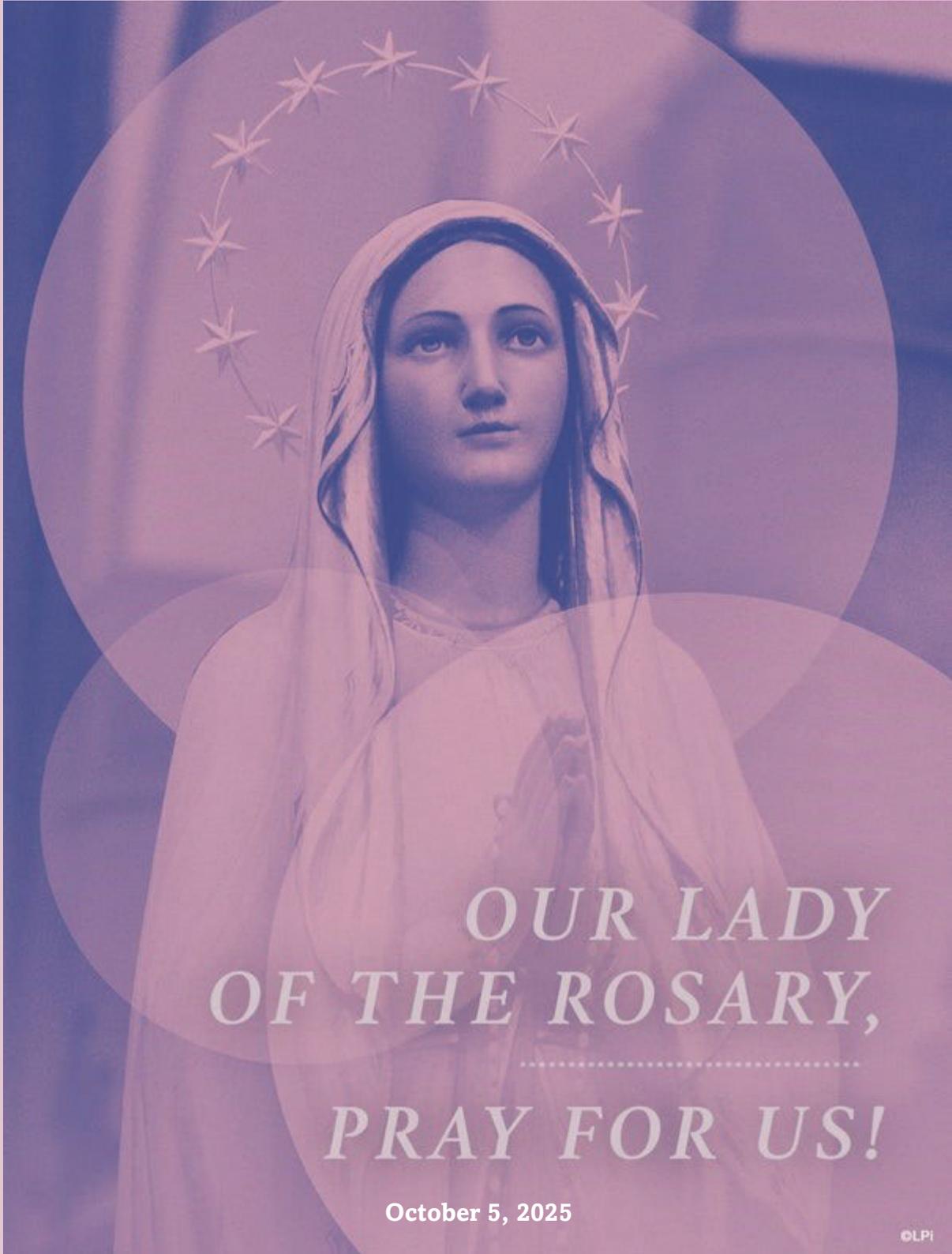


# SAINT MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH | A FRANCISCAN COMMUNITY

ALL ARE WELCOME!

17 POMPTON AVENUE  
POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07442  
P 973-835-0374 F 973-835-8173  
WWW.STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG  
SMC@STMARYS-POMPTON.ORG  
PARISH OFFICE HOURS:  
MON-THU 9:00-4:00, FRI 9:00-12:00  
CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12-12:30 MON-THU



*OUR LADY  
OF THE ROSARY,  
.....  
PRAY FOR US!*

October 5, 2025

OLPI

## FRIAR'S DESK

### The Detachment and Poverty of St. Francis that Led to Peace and Joy

St. Francis of Assisi has been loved and respected not only by his fellow Catholics but by many other types of Christians, by people of other religions and no religion at all. He has been recognized as one of the great figures of peace over the last eight centuries. Yet he did not begin that way. As a youth he was very full of himself. He grew up in wealth, loved to wear fancy clothes and be the center of attention, and he dreamed of making a name for himself in battle.

Weighed down by heavy armor, the weapons of war, and his ego, he galloped off to war with other young men from his native Assisi against the warriors of the neighboring city of Perugia. His side lost and he ended up a prisoner of war for over a year. Upon gaining his freedom and returning to his hometown, it was clear that he was not the same young man who first left for battle. He was restless and not at peace within himself. He spent a lot of time wandering around the countryside in search of himself. One could say Francis found himself when he found Christ. He experienced Jesus speaking to him personally while praying before an image of Christ crucified. As he began to know and experience Jesus more deeply in his life, he slowly began to identify with him and imitate him. This led Francis down the road of detachment. He began letting go of the heavy things that weighed him down, worldly things such as wealth, elegant clothes, armor, weapons, his dreams of war, and most of all his ego. Undergoing a process of detachment and self-emptying, Francis embraced poverty and simplicity. God's lightness and peace flowed into his life.

The transformation in Francis was unmistakable. He began to see himself like one of Jesus' disciples and began to do good works and preach the Gospel in many places. He first went among lepers whose suffering he identified with, and he served them with joy. In Francis they experienced the love and respect they did not receive from society. Two qualities that became very evident in Francis and that drew many people to him were peace and joy. The results were extraordinary. So many men began to follow him as he traveled from town-to-town preaching Christ's Good News that a religious order grew up around him. He sparked faith in numerous people who encountered him. One noticeable effect he had on people and animals alike was peace. Those who met him tended to be infected by his peace. Francis also engaged in the hard work of peacemaking by mediating conflicts. In undergoing the process of self-emptying, detachment, and embracing of poverty, God found a very useful instrument and servant in the poor man from Assisi.

—Father John Coughlin, OFM

### El desprendimiento y la pobreza de San Francisco que condujeron a la paz y la alegría

San Francisco de Asís ha sido amado y respetado no solo por sus compañeros católicos, sino también por muchos otros tipos de cristianos, por personas de otras religiones y por personas sin religión alguna. Ha sido reconocido como una de las grandes figuras de la paz de los últimos ocho siglos. Sin embargo, no comenzó así. De joven era muy engreído. Creció en la riqueza, le encantaba vestir ropa elegante y ser el centro de atención, y soñaba con hacerse famoso en la batalla.

Cargado con una pesada armadura, las armas de guerra y su ego, partió al galope a la guerra con otros jóvenes de su Assisi natal contra los guerreros de la vecina ciudad de Perugia. Su bando perdió y terminó como prisionero de guerra durante más de un año. Al recuperar su libertad y regresar a su ciudad natal, estaba claro que ya no era el mismo joven que partió a la batalla. Estaba inquieto y no encontraba la paz interior. Pasó mucho tiempo vagando por el campo en busca de sí mismo. Se podría decir que Francisco se encontró a sí mismo cuando encontró a Cristo. Experimentó que Jesús le hablaba personalmente mientras rezaba ante una imagen de Cristo crucificado. A medida que comenzó a conocer y experimentar a Jesús más profundamente en su vida, poco a poco empezó a identificarse con él y a imitarlo. Esto llevó a Francisco por el camino del desapego. Comenzó a desprenderse de las cosas pesadas que lo agobiaban, cosas mundanas como la riqueza, la ropa elegante, las armaduras, las armas, sus sueños de guerra y, sobre todo, su ego. Tras pasar por un proceso de desapego y vaciamiento de sí mismo, Francisco abrazó la pobreza y la sencillez. La luz y la paz de Dios fluyeron en su vida.

La transformación de Francisco fue inconfundible. Comenzó a verse a sí mismo como uno de los discípulos de Jesús y empezó a hacer buenas obras y a predicar el Evangelio en muchos lugares. Primero se acercó a los leprosos, con cuyo sufrimiento se identificaba, y los sirvió con alegría. En Francisco experimentaron el amor y el respeto que no recibían de la sociedad. Dos cualidades que se hicieron muy evidentes en Francisco y que atrajeron a mucha gente hacia él fueron la paz y la alegría. Los resultados fueron extraordinarios. Tantos hombres comenzaron a seguirlo mientras viajaba de pueblo en pueblo predicando la Buena Nueva de Cristo, que se formó una orden religiosa a su alrededor. Él despertó la fe en numerosas personas que lo conocieron. Un efecto notable que tenía tanto en las personas como en los animales era la paz. Quienes lo conocían tendían a contagiarse de su paz. Francisco también se dedicó a la ardua tarea de promover la paz mediando en conflictos. Al someterse al proceso de vaciamiento de sí mismo, desapego y aceptación de la pobreza, Dios encontró en el pobre hombre de Asís un instrumento y un servidor muy útil.

—Father John Coughlin, OFM

**PARISH OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: 973-835-0374**

**FRANCISCAN FRIARS SERVING YOU**

Fr. John Aherne, OFM, x139      [jaherne@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:jaherne@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Fr. John Alderson, OFM      [rochester14220@gmail.com](mailto:rochester14220@gmail.com)  
Fr. John Coughlin, OFM, x169      [jcoughlin@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:jcoughlin@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Deacon Tom Kimak      [Tkimak@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:Tkimak@stmarys-pompton.org)

**BAPTISMS**

Lynda Rogalski      [lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org)

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

Toma Dedio      [tdedio@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:tdedio@stmarys-pompton.org)

**FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

Keith Orotosky, x145      [korotosky@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:korotosky@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Phillip Epstein, x140      [pepstein@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:pepstein@stmarys-pompton.org)

**HISPANIC MINISTRY**

Milagros Anto, x703      [Milagros@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:Milagros@stmarys-pompton.org)

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

Craig & Dorothy Limey, x158      [cdlimey@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:cdlimey@stmarys-pompton.org)

**OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Food Pantry 973-831-4442      [foodpantry@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:foodpantry@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Military Assistance Pantry  
[militaryassistancepantry@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:militaryassistancepantry@stmarys-pompton.org)

**PASTORAL MINISTRY**

Dr. Pamela Hall, 973-835-6337      Pathways Counseling Center  
Clare Russo, 973-835-0374 x113      Stephen Ministry

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 973-835-7750**

Toni Wong, x102 Grades 1 to 5      [twong@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:twong@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Cathy Feld, x103  
Grades 6 to 8 & Confirmation      [cfeld@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:cfeld@stmarys-pompton.org)  
Debbie Borroto, x130  
Admin. Asst./ Local Youth Protection/  
Safe Environment Coordinator      [debbie@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:debbie@stmarys-pompton.org)

**SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY YOUNG ADULT & ADULT**

Karen Niemann      [kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org)

**SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY YOUTH**

Andrea Piccirillo      [apiccirillo@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:apiccirillo@stmarys-pompton.org)

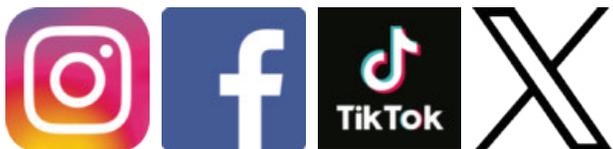
**WEDDINGS**

Getting married at St. Mary's? We'd love to celebrate the sacrament of marriage with you! Please contact Lynda Rogalski at [lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:lrogalski@stmarys-pompton.org) six months to a year before your desired date.

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

Trevor George, 862-274-5171      [tgeorge@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:tgeorge@stmarys-pompton.org)

**FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



**UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO**

Please call **973-835-0374** or send an email to [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org) if:

- your address, email address or telephone number has changed, and/or
- a parishioner has been married and/or
- a parishioner has moved.

Parish records need to be current so please be sure to inform us of any changes as soon as possible.

Thank you!

**Calendar of Events**

Please see our Parish Calendar for all the current events and activities going on at St. Mary's!

<https://stmarys-pompton.org/parish-calendar>



**Worship Adorar**

Scan for worship aids  
Escanea para ayudas para la adoración



**Online Giving Donaciones en línea**

Scan to make a donation  
Escanea para hacer una donación



**Pray**



**Orar**

**Serve**



**Atender**

**Give**



**Donar**



## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** Sir 50: 1. 3-4, 6-7/Ps 16: 1-2, 5, 7-8, 11/Gal 6, 14-18/Mt 11, 25-30

**Monday:** Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

**Tuesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday:** Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4

**Thursday:** Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:5-13

**Friday:** Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/Lk 11:15-26

**Saturday:** Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28

## MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

9:00 AM—Liturgy of the Word with Communion  
(Prayer Room)

Vigil Masses:

5:00 PM—English

7:00 PM—English

### SUNDAY

7:30 AM—English

8:45 AM—Español (livestreamed)

9:00 AM—English (Carnevale Center)

10:30 AM—English (livestreamed)

12:00 PM—English

### WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM—Monday-Friday in English (livestreamed)

7:00 PM—Wednesday en Español (livestreamed)

### MASSES ONLINE AT:

[www.stmarys-pompton.org](http://www.stmarys-pompton.org)

[www.facebook.com/smcpompton](https://www.facebook.com/smcpompton)

[www.youtube.com/c/stmaryspomptonlakes](https://www.youtube.com/c/stmaryspomptonlakes)



Do you have a loved one or family friend who will be receiving a sacrament? Our province has an online store with many beautiful and appropriate gifts for Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. The store also has an abundance of religious articles and gifts for any occasion.

Flyers for <https://TheFranciscanStore.org> are available in the rear of the church. When you make purchases through The Franciscan Store you are helping our province educate our young friars, care for our elderly friars, and support the various Franciscan Ministries that feed, clothe and serve the poor!



## CONFESSION AND ADORATION

**CONFESSION:** Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or call for an appointment.

**ADORATION:** The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and for one hour after morning Mass on the first Friday of each month.

During Adoration, please maintain a reverent silence.

St. Francis Month of Service

## Upcoming Events

**Box of Joy:** register and get a box from the Parish Office to fill for a child in need.

**Candy Collection:** donate nut-free candy for the Trunk or Treat on 10/25.

**"Fill the Ark":** grab a calendar and participate in this 4-week family devotional.

- 10/5 at 1pm Blessing of the Animals
- 10/8 Hispanic Ministry reflection on St. Francis (after Spanish Mass at 7pm.)
- 10/12 Ministry Fair after all Masses

Please see page 6 for more information!

**MASS INTENTIONS † = Deceased, L = Living**



**...THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED**

Joseph Corradino, Neil James Reilly

**...THOSE WHO ARE SICK**

Angelo, John, Frank Furnari, John Molaro, Marc Rocco, Kellie Diemer, Lynn Hutman, Thomas Earley, Susan Esposito, Owen Patrick Brophy, Kathy Green, Magnus Slyfield, Janet Mahoney, Connor Murphy, Al Dedonna, David Grish, Paula Tedesco Carreras, Michael Burck, Peggy Turpen, Linda Gomez, Ana Panzardi, Ed Dittman, John Donnelly, Linda Bedell Kwaitkowski, Jama Rothschild, Joy Wechter

To add a loved one to this list, please call the Parish Office at 973-835-0374. Names are kept on the list for 30 days unless we are notified otherwise.

**...THOSE SERVING IN HARM'S WAY**

Lt. Jessica T. Atterbury, PFC Nathan Hunt, CMCN Michael LeTennier, MCS, PFC Sean Jennings, SGT Ryan Cronin, US Navy SO, SSG Kevin Carey, SPC Brian R. Sudol, CSM Robert Hammerle, Sgt. Mark Ashley, SGT Ryan J. Heppel, SPC Dean V. Lucas, LCpl Michael Vignuli, Major Daniel J. Ciccarella, Sgt. Justyn Shovlowsky, Captain Austin Canning, SSG Tiffany Thumann, TSSgt. Scott Miller, Capt. Krystal Thumann, Cpl F. S. Raza, Sean Flanagan, Capt. Matthew W. D'Amico, USMC Lt. 1st Thomas Seneski; Sgt. Anthony W. Gabriel; Brian Hansen, Sgt. Ashlee Quigle; Capt. Daniel M. Kearney, USMC; 2nd LT Emily Simone and Navy Lt. Ryan Hackett, Tracie Kasko, LT Vincent Bellomo, Staff Sergeant Andrew Murphy, Emmanuel Folleo, Sergeant Denise Gonzalez, Staff Sergeant Victoria Zimbaro.

**IF THE STATUS OF SOMEONE ON THIS LIST HAS CHANGED, PLEASE INFORM THE PARISH OFFICE ASAP. THANK YOU!**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 4</b>
5:00 p.m.	† Miguel Morales † Jean Widovic † Joseph Andelora † Patrick Murphy (1st birthday in heaven)
7:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 5</b>
7:30 a.m.	† Rosemary Callandrillo † Zoilo Mendez (4th Ann.)
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish
9:00 a.m. (CC)	People of the Parish
10:30 a.m.	† Patricia Ann Hilsen † Paul Naser † Joyce Milano † Robert Esti † Carmen Saginario † Angela Rosone
12:00 p.m.	† Frank Croker † Dave Burdett
<b>Monday</b>	<b>October 6</b>
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>October 7</b>
8:00 a.m.	L John & Suzanne O'Neil (25th Wedding Ann.)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October 8</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Fran DiArchangel † George & Catherine Conroy † Anthony LaFemina (2nd Ann.)
7:00 p.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>October 9</b>
8:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
<b>Friday</b>	<b>October 10</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Eileen Anne Porcelli (heavenly birthday)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>October 11</b>
5:00 p.m.	† Roy Baldissard † Charles Garske † Mark Mailly † Linda Novak
7:00 p.m.	† Mick Smith
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 12</b>
7:30 a.m.	† Linda Novak † Michael Reformat (8th Ann.) † Marianne Torsiello
8:45 a.m. (Spanish)	People of the Parish
9:00 a.m. (CC)	† George Graf † David Searles
10:30 a.m.	† Gloria Thompson (1st Ann.) † Joseph & Mary Rubino † James & Mary Wilson † JoAnn Nelson † AnnMarie Van Doran Sabarese L Jean & Lou D'Onofrio (50th Wedding Ann.)
12:00 p.m.	† Bill Craig † Dave Burdett † Arthur Cetrulo

*If you are having a Sunday Mass said for a friend or family member and would like to bring up the gifts of bread and wine at the offertory, please make yourself known to a friar or volunteer before Mass begins.*

**From the Parish Council**



Please feel free to come up to one of the Parish Council members if you see us around or email [parishcouncil@stmarys-prompton.org](mailto:parishcouncil@stmarys-prompton.org)! For the most up-to-date report of the Parish Pastoral Council, please scan the QR code.



**Diane**



**Toma**



**Zach**



**Kristine**



**Greg**



**Mark**



**Joanne**



**Dino**



**Katie**

## **ST. FRANCIS CELEBRATION AND OCTOBER MONTH OF SERVICE**

It was while living with and serving the lepers and poor that St. Francis of Assisi saw the face of God most clearly. Since then, service is at the heart of what it means to be a Franciscan Community. To celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi this year, we are encouraging everyone to participate in at least one act of service during the month of October. Below is a list of opportunities to serve along side fellow parishioners!

Find something that speaks to your heart, and in the humble Spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare, serve your neighbor or community. The Peace Prayer reminds us that "It is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." May we serve willingly, give generously, and receive with glad hearts the blessing of our Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi!



**Box of Joy:** We will bless children suffering from extreme poverty by filling boxes with toys and other gifts, sharing the joy of Christmas and planting seeds of hope through the Gospel. Boxes can be picked up beginning October 1st in the Parish Office, after registration.

**Nut Free Candy Collection:** October 4/5 and 11/12 at all Masses. St. Mary's is partnering with a school in Paterson to provide a fun Trunk-or-Treat experience to children in need (see below). Candy that is being collected will be used for that event.

**Heifer International / Fill The Ark Calendars:** "Fill the Ark" is a four-week family devotional with a focus on gratitude for our blessings and a generous spirit of giving to our neighbors in need. Each week shares a scripture as the focus for reflection and study. Daily giving challenges bring parents, siblings, grandparents, or other family members together to appreciate their abundance and collect change to help struggling families. Calendars will be available in the church.

**Transitus:** The Transitus marks the passing of St. Francis from earthly life to heavenly life. This liturgy will include hanging birdseed ornaments on the property. Please join us on Friday, October 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

**Feast of St Francis:** Please join us on Saturday, October 4th from 4-7 p.m. for a petting zoo, fun and games! Nut-free Halloween candy will also be collected for the Trunk-or-Treat event (see below). Bring your pets in Costume! 5:00 p.m. Outdoor Mass (please bring your own chair), 6:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals, 7:00 p.m. regular Saturday evening Mass.

**Blessing of the Animals:** October 5th at 1 p.m. on the pavers. Bring your pets for a special blessing!

**Hispanic Ministry** Spanish Mass followed by a reflection on St. Francis on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Ministry Fair:** Enjoy coffee, fellowship and learn about all of the wonderful opportunities to serve with our ministries at St. Mary's on October 12th after all Masses.

**10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si" (2015-2025):** The Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Ministry (JPIC) invites you to an evening of Education, Sharing and Action with special guest speaker Jacek Orzechowski, O.F.M. on October 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale Center. Let's ponder the question, how are we caring for Our Common Home now?

**Pack-a-Meal for Bridges Outreach:** Join us on October 15th at 6:30 p.m. in Spina Hall as we pack sustainable meals and make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for those experiencing food insecurities. Please register for this event; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Families welcome!

**Bridges Outreach Food Distribution:** Join us on October 16th from 6-10 p.m. as we distribute brown bag lunches, hygiene kits, and other essential items in Rahway, NJ. You will help with set up, item distribution, and clean up while engaging with patrons on our mission to end homelessness. Open to parishioners 18 and older, High School-aged volunteers must be accompanied by a parent. Please register for this event; spots are limited.

**Adult Volunteer & Minister Appreciation Dinner:** For all you do for St. Mary's! October 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale Center. If you volunteer for one of our ministries, please register on our website so we can show our appreciation.

**Trunk-or-Treat** in the parking lot at Paterson Arts and Science Charter School on October 25th from 2-4 p.m. This is a great family activity! All vehicles are welcome and must complete a registration form prior to the event. Trunk or Treating is open to Paterson students only. St. Mary's Families are encouraged to dress up and enjoy the experience of handing out candy to children in need. "Trunkers" will be asked to decorate their trunk, tailgate, or hatchback and provide nut-free candy for 100 "Treaters". St. Mary's will provide additional candy from the candy collection. Please register for this event!

**Market Street Mission:** Join us on November 1st from 9-11:30 am. on the Morristown Green as we partner with Market Street Mission to distribute coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to those who are in need. Please register for this event; spots are limited. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

**St. Francis Inn:** Join us on November 8th as we travel to Philadelphia to work with the St. Francis Inn, feeding the unhoused and those who have food insecurities. This trip is open to those in high school and older. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Please register for this all-day event.

*Please scan the QR code for more information and to register for applicable events!*



In case you missed the executive summary of the Pre-Campaign Study our parish underwent this Spring, please scan the QR code.

**FOOD PANTRY**

**Upcoming Food Pantry distribution dates/times:**

Saturday, October 18	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, October 22	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, October 25	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, October 29	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)
Saturday, November 15	9:30am to 3:30pm (arrive by 3:00)
Wednesday, November 19	4:00pm to 7:00pm (arrive by 6:30)

**Current needed items:**

Hamburger Helper, spaghetti, canned corn, laundry detergent, deodorant

**We need drivers for the pantry's truck. A special license is not needed! Please call the Parish Office if interested.**

The Food Pantry is located at 22R (Lower level, rear) Lakeside Avenue, Pompton Lakes (accessible from the municipal parking lot) and the phone number is 973-831-4442.

All donations are requested to be dropped off in the shed directly behind the church. It is open 24/7.

**Donations can be mailed directly to the church at 31 Pompton Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442.**

**NO CLOTHING DONATIONS PLEASE.**



1. From time to time, we'll need a group of volunteers to help us set up and move chairs and tables around the Carnevale Center. Sometimes this will be during the day; sometimes it may be later in the evening. If your schedule is flexible, and you might be able to help us out with this occasionally, please call the parish office or email [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org) with your name and availability, and we'll add you to our list!

2. Due to high demand, we are thinking of opening the Parish Office from 8 a.m. to noon on Sundays for people to pick up mass cards, request mass intentions, buy Holy Bones and other basic services. If you are interested in volunteering to sit at our front desk during these hours--either by yourself or with a friend or two; once a month or every week---please call our Parish Office or email [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org) and we'll get back to you.

3. We're looking for volunteers to help us with our weekly "children's liturgy of the word" during the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. During this Mass, we call the children out for 15 minutes to read an age-appropriate version of the Gospel and engage in a simple activity or lesson before bringing them back to their parents. Help get our young children excited about God by helping out as often as you are able. Volunteers will need to complete Protecting God's Children program. Please call the office or email [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org) if you are interested.

**Income:**

Income from all sources including offertory and other donations for August:	\$199,496
Building and Maintenance fund collected for August:	\$10,122
Total:	\$209,618



**Expenses:** Our monthly expenses vary throughout the year. As a reference point, an average of our expenses per month based on what we spent in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is \$145,450.

Building and maintenance expenses on average per month are: \$44,692

August 2025 Building and Maintenance expenses

Utilities for all buildings:	\$17,294
Repairs to school roof, gutter and wall leak:	\$3,500
Repairs to church bell tower:	\$9,450
Repairs to parking lot lights (LED lights installed):	\$1,716

**The Big Picture:** Overall, we are ending Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in line with our balanced budget.

We will continue to refine our presentation of our finances so we can be as transparent as possible. For a more complete breakdown of expenses and income, please see our **October 20, 2024** bulletin which can be accessed from our website.

Through the waters of Baptism, we welcome into the Body of Christ...



**Liam Benjamin Valverde**

**Serafina Valencia Rodriguez**

**Jack Orion DeFrances**



May God bless **Jan Lysaght** and **Tommy Dunne** on their wedding day and always!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 3, 4, 6, 8 & Confirmation Phase 2 are all in session. Please keep our children in your prayers that they will have a fulfilling and rewarding spiritual journey .

Grades 1 and 2 parents: if you haven't already registered your child for their Religious Education class, please do as soon as possible. Registration is completed online at the St. Mary's website. You can also find the schedule online in the Religious Education section. Please feel free to contact Toni Wong at extension 102 if you have any questions.

*"Children don't need explanations so much as someone to open up their gift of wonder. All you have to do is bring God into their sense of wonder." —Fr Eamon Devlin*

## SPECIAL NEEDS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration continues for our special needs religious education classes! Confirmation classes begin October 8th for students of high school age or above. Students need to have already been baptized and have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

First Reconciliation and Eucharist classes will begin in January for students in Grade 2 or above. Students need to have already been baptized.

Anyone wishing to register their child and/or would like further information, please contact Andrea Piccirillo, Director, Special Needs Ministry - Religious Education  
973-835-0374

## VALUE OUR VETERANS MINISTRY

(Formerly Military Assistance Pantry)  
*Serving Those Who Served Us*

The Military Assistance Pantry in Paterson supports our Veterans in need. We are looking for volunteers from each Mass on October 11th and October 12th to distribute baked ziti and brownie pans after Mass.

We are also looking for volunteers to join us at the Military Assistance Pantry on October 18th from 8:30am -11:30am.

If you would like to help, please email

[ValueOurVeterans@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:ValueOurVeterans@stmarys-pompton.org) or contact Joan De Angelis at 201-214-7020. Please provide your name, phone number and how you would like to volunteer. We will call to confirm. Thank you in advance for supporting our Veterans!



HELP, HOPE, HEALING

When life has you down, you don't have to go it alone. Our St. Mary's Stephen Ministers are "there to care."

We all go through challenging times in our lives when we could use a little extra TLC. Whether you're experiencing grief, loneliness, separation, divorce, family issues, sickness, a difficult medical diagnosis, aging/retirement, job/financial setbacks or any one of life's many difficulties, we are there for you.

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care offering spiritual and emotional support. We listen, encourage and share God's love and hope. And there's never a fee.

Call Clare at our Parish Office to learn more.  
973-835-0374, ext. 113

*Christ Caring for People through People*

**ALL SOUL'S DAY**  
NOVEMBER 2, 2025

We will commemorate All Soul's Day by placing photographs of those who have died in the past year around our church during the month of November.

*Due to space limitations, we are only able to include photographs of people who have passed away since November 2024.*

Email photographs to [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org) with the deceased names in the subject line.

*The deadline for submitting a photograph is October 20th.*

**Help Wanted:** Part Time Religious Education Assistant  
Monday-Friday, 3:00pm-5:30pm, September 2025-May 2026

St. Mary's Religious Education Department is seeking a reliable and organized high school student to join our team part-time.

Responsibilities include:

- Preparing classrooms and materials for Religious Education classes
- Setting up crafts and organizing supplies
- Assisting with filing
- Monitoring hallways during class sessions

Required qualifications:

- Ability to work independently and follow instructions
- Interest in faith-based service and working with children

To apply or learn more, please contact Toni Wong at 973-835-7750 ext. 102 or [twong@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:twong@stmarys-pompton.org)



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**Saint Mary's**  
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# Calendar Raffle

## \$3,000 in Prizes

### 36 Chances to WIN!



**\$10.00 Donation**

Tickets on sale after the following weekend Masses

**October 11/12...18/19...25/26**

**& at St. Mary's Parish Office**



### Spiritual Guided Meditation Hour

Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
in The Prayer Room

Join us as we journey with St. Francis and his  
Canticle of the Sun

What is Guided Meditation?

Meditation, or contemplation, is a form of prayer that invites us to encounter God through our imagination, while being led with a story. It engages both the mind and heart, using our thoughts and emotions to deepen our awareness of God's presence in our lives. We begin with quiet music, deep breathing, and relaxation, stilling our minds so we can be open to the grace to be led by our loving God.

We hope you can join us for this meaningful time of private reflection and prayer.



Please join us for our first  
**Special Needs Sensory Mass**  
on September 28th at 3:00 p.m.

What is a Sensory Mass?

A sensory friendly mass offers the opportunity for those individuals with auditory and visual processing sensitivities to celebrate mass along with their families. The mass is shorter in length, church lighting is dimmer and music is softer providing a warm, inclusive environment for all.

Masses will continue monthly on the following dates:

2025 - Oct. 26th, Nov. 23rd, Dec. 21st

2026 - Jan. 25th, Feb. 22nd, Mar. 22nd, Apr. 19th,  
May 17th, Jun. 14th



### **SPECIAL NEEDS YOUTH MINISTRY**

We are excited to announce the new St. Mary's Special Needs Youth Ministry for youth between 14 and 20 years old.

We will be gathering next on Thursday,  
October 9th (7:00 pm – 8:00 pm) in the

Banta Room (Carnevale Center).

The gatherings will be in a safe, fun environment filled with games, creative activities, and the opportunity to meet new friends. This ministry is built on a sense of belonging, the ability for all youth to be themselves, and the belief that every child is created in the image of God.

All are welcome! For more information or to sign up, please contact Karen Niemann at [kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:kniemann@stmarys-pompton.org) or 973-590-6856.

## 1000 Strong Rosary for Life

*Live via conference call*

**Monday, October 13, 2025\***  
at 7:00 pm Eastern Time

\* October 13 is the 108<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima

Our goal is 1,000+ people praying in Reparation for the Sin of Abortion and for Equal Rights for Babies in the Womb.

**Rosary will be led by priests  
from all over New Jersey**

Please register at:



[lifeneducation.org/1000strong](http://lifeneducation.org/1000strong)

Call-in Number: 1-401-252-0031

Access Code: 759297#



[info@lifeneducation.org](http://info@lifeneducation.org) | 973-497-4520

### GOLD AND SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples, were you married in 2000, 1975 or 1965? The Diocese of Paterson invites you to celebrate your 60+, 50th or 25th wedding anniversary during a special Mass to be offered at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Bishop Sweeney will serve as main celebrant on this joyful occasion to be held Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 3:00pm. Arrangements can be made by contacting your parish office. The deadline to register is Friday, October 17, 2025. You will receive additional information from the Office of Family Life once your registration has been processed. Congratulations on this joyous occasion!

### MISA DE ANIVERSARIO DE BODAS DE ORO Y PLATA

¿Parejas, Ustedes se casaron en 1965, 1975 o 2000? Están cordialmente invitados a celebrar su 60+, 50 o 25 Aniversario de Bodas con la Diócesis de Paterson. El Obispo Sweeney será el celebrante principal de la misa en la Catedral San Juan Bautista en Paterson el Domingo, 16 de Noviembre de 2025, a las 3:00pm. Para más información, por favor llame a su oficina parroquial. Los formularios para registrarse estarán disponibles hasta el 17 de Octubre de 2025. La Oficina de Vida Familiar de la diócesis le enviara información una vez que su registración haya sido procesada. Muchas felicidades en este maravilloso acontecimiento.

### A JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF



OCT. 16TH – NOV. 20TH  
7:00 TO 8:30PM  
THE BANTA ROOM AT THE  
CARNEVALE CENTER  
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

The group is open to all who have RECENTLY experienced the death of a loved one. We aim to create a supportive group in which one's unique journey through the grief process is examined and respected.

Pre-registration is required. Participation is free through the sponsorship of Pathways and St. Mary's Parish.

Those interested may contact Pathways at 973-835-6337 or email [info@pathwayscounseling.org](mailto:info@pathwayscounseling.org).



Calling all women of the parish -  
Join us for **Game Night!**

Wednesday, October 29th  
at 7:00 p.m. in the Carnevale  
Center, Room 201.  
All are welcome!

Bring a beverage or snack and  
join us for some friendly  
competition and laughter!

### Support Group for Caregivers of loved ones with Dementia



A monthly meeting is held in the Carnevale Center (room 203/204) for caregivers assisting loved ones with dementia.

Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month at 7:15pm. Our next meeting dates are October 9th, November 13th and December 11th.

For further information, please contact Margaret Klach at [mklach60@gmail.com](mailto:mklach60@gmail.com).

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Class of 2030 Essay Transcripts	

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SEPTEMBER 25TH 6:30PM - 8:30PM  
OCTOBER 19TH 1:00PM - 3:00PM

### IRONMAN FOR A DAY

A day to walk the halls as an Ironman, engage with students and staff, and see what opportunities are available for you to explore.

REGISTER AT [DONBOSCOPEP.ORG](http://DONBOSCOPEP.ORG)

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

For more information about these and our other ministries, call the Parish Office or email us at [smc@stmarys-pompton.org](mailto:smc@stmarys-pompton.org)

## **SEEK SUPPORT FROM US**

**Baptismal Aftercare:** We prepare joyful gift packages of prayer cards, care booklets, special items, and handmade items made with love from St. Mary's Hearts and Hands ministry. The gift packages are presented to the families at the Baptism of their children.

**Bereavement Support Group:** We offer comfort and community to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Join us for a time of sharing, prayer, and healing in a safe, supportive space through Pathways Counseling Center.

**Consolation Ministry:** We send cards of condolences to the families who have lost a loved one and have made arrangements with St. Mary's for church, funeral home or graveside services. The card includes information for additional help, if needed, through the Stephen Ministry and/or Pathways Services.

**English Language Learning:** We provide classes to adult immigrants from various backgrounds (non-denominational) and countries. Classes provide immigrants an opportunity to learn to speak, comprehend, read and write English, as well as learn about our history and customs.

**Hearts & Hands Ministry:** We get together to crochet and knit at all levels. We encourage anyone who would like to learn to knit or crochet to attend one of our gatherings.

**Homebound Connections:** We provide a social connection to individuals who could benefit from a personal visit. Visits are made to residences, nursing facilities and other home situations of parish members.

**Lost Angels:** We are a bereavement/support group for families and loved ones who have lost someone to addiction/overdose.

**More Than Ever:** We are a ministry of healing for parents and grandparents that are estranged from their children or grandchildren.

**Pathways Counseling Center:** We are a state-sanctioned mental health center offering professional counseling to children, adults and families. We accept most major commercial health insurances in addition to Medicare and Medicaid.

**Prayer Shawl:** We are a group who knit and crochet prayer shawls which we gift to members of the St. Mary's extended community who are in need of comfort and prayer.

**Stephen Ministry:** We are highly trained Stephen Ministers meet with and provide emotional and spiritual support to those facing life challenges like grief, divorce, dealing with illness, or any other serious issue.

## **Physics Tutoring Available**

A longtime St. Mary's parishioner, Bob Barkovitz, retired from 47 years of physics teaching, will offer tutoring/help/explanations to interested high school students. A student must be currently enrolled in high school/college physics. He will work in person at St Mary's with individuals or groups. He is very passionate and knowledgeable about this subject, and is interested in motivating and helping inquisitive pupils. A donation of \$20 per class will be charged to benefit the ministries of St. Mary's. For further information, parents please contact Bob at [mrbarque@gmail.com](mailto:mrbarque@gmail.com).

Bob Barkovitz, un feligrés de Santa María desde hace mucho tiempo, recientemente retirado después de 47 años de enseñar física, ofrece tutoría / ayuda / explicaciones a estudiantes de secundaria. El (la) estudiante debe estar matriculado(a) en física en la escuela secundaria o universidad. Trabjará en persona en St Mary's con individuos o grupos. Se pedirá una donación de \$20 por clase para beneficiar a los ministerios de Santa María.

Para más información, los padres por favor contacten a Bob al correo [mrbarque@gmail.com](mailto:mrbarque@gmail.com).

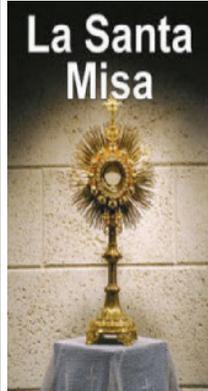
## MINISTERIO HISPANO DE SANTA MARIA

### La Santa Misa en español

Miércoles a las 7:00pm

Domingos a las 8:45am

En la iglesia Principal



### Bautismos en español

Requisitos: Certificado de Nacimiento del(a) niño(a), padrinos y asistir a una clase antes de la celebración del Sacramento (padres y padrinos). Información: Milagros Anto. Si desea bautizar su hijo(a) en inglés debe asistir a una clase y llamar a Lynda 973-835-0374 Ext 192.



### Visita de "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" a tu hogar.

Si deseas que Nuestra Morenita visite tu hogar ponte en contacto con **Angelina Nuci** después de nuestra misa dominical o escríbele al siguiente correo electrónico: [angehannuci@yahoo.com](mailto:angehannuci@yahoo.com). Cada domingo en misa con la bendición de nuestra comunidad; "Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe" es enviada a visitar cada familia que así lo requiere.

# ANUNCIOS

**1.- Orar al Santísimo** es un momento de intimidad y amistad con Dios. Tendremos exposición al Santísimo después de la misa en español el miércoles 15 de octubre de 2025. Si conoces a alguien que no pueda comulgar por enfermedad u otros motivos, por favor, infórmale al Padre John Coughlin para que pueda visitarle.

**2.- Catecismo de Primera Comunión, y Confirmación:** Estaremos inscribiendo para estos catecismos. Si necesita más información por favor comuníquese con:

\*Angelina Nuci -Primera Comunión

\*Milagros Anto – Confirmación

\*Ana Cadena – RICA

Las clases empezaran la tercera semana de septiembre en el Centro Carnevale.

**3.- La Fiesta del Señor De Los Milagros** se llevará a cabo el domingo 19 de octubre de 2025. Como es tradición empezaremos con una procesión que inicia frente al jardín de San Francisco (frente al estacionamiento de la parroquia). La misa será a las 8:45am y después invitamos a todos a compartir un desayuno en comunidad. Si desea aunarse a la organización de esta festividad comuníquese con Yolanda Piscocoya y Leydi Argandoña.

**4.- Semana Franciscana 2025:** El miércoles 8 de octubre a las 7:30pm habrá una charla sobre los valores franciscanos en la iglesia principal. La bendición de los animales se realizará el domingo 5 de octubre después de la misa en español y también a la 1:00pm frente al gimnasio.

Iglesia Católica de Santa María y  
Comunidad Franciscana

Donaciones  
en línea

escanea para donar



stmmarys-pompton.org/offertory

Al hacer un donativo recurrente, usted puede proporcionar un apoyo continuo a las necesidades esenciales de nuestra parroquia, sus programas, sus ministerios y otras iniciativas de ayuda y asistencia.

Porque es dando que recibimos



### Lecturas Bíblicas –Ciclo C -XXVII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario - (5 de octubre de 2025)

Primera Lectura:	Habacuc 1, 2-3; 2, 2-4
Salmo Responsorial:	Salmo 94, 1-2. 6-7. 8-9
Segunda Lectura:	2 Timoteo 1, 6-8. 13-14
+Evangelio:	Lucas 17, 5-10

### Ministerio de Proclamadores de la Palabra

Por favor comunicarse con Lourdes Huerta (973-270-3453). Este Ministerio se reunirá el lunes 6 de octubre de 2025 de 7:30pm a 8:30pm en el salón Alma Banta del Centro Carnevale.



La festividad de San Francisco es un momento muy especial para la comunidad de Santa María en Pompton Lakes, una parroquia que, como el propio Francisco, busca vivir la fe con sencillez y alegría. Hoy, más que nunca, el testimonio de San Francisco de Asís sigue iluminando el caminar de los cristianos y ofreciendo respuestas actuales a los desafíos del mundo moderno.

En primer lugar, San Francisco nos enseña el valor de la compasión y el respeto hacia toda la creación. Su profundo amor por la naturaleza, los animales y cada persona, sin distinción, nos invita a

cultivar una fraternidad universal. En tiempos donde la vida, la dignidad y la ecología se ven amenazadas, el “hermano Francisco” nos llama a cuidar el mundo como un don de Dios y a ver en cada criatura una expresión de su amor. Otra enseñanza esencial de San Francisco es la importancia de vivir con humildad, desprendidos de la búsqueda constante de bienes materiales y honores. Su vida nos invita a valorar la sencillez, a agradecer a Dios por lo que tenemos y a poner los talentos al servicio de los demás. En una sociedad marcada por el consumismo y las apariencias, Francisco nos recuerda que la auténtica riqueza brota de un corazón libre, generoso y abierto a los otros. Además, San Francisco fue ejemplo de paz y reconciliación. Su deseo de ser “instrumento de la paz” se traduce hoy en un llamado a superar las divisiones, a perdonar y a tender puentes en un mundo herido por el individualismo, la violencia y el resentimiento. La oración de San Francisco, que pide “donde haya odio, lleve yo amor”, sigue desafiando y transformando a quienes la hacen vida en sus hogares y comunidades.

Finalmente, el “Poverello” nos recuerda el poder del testimonio. “Prediquen siempre el Evangelio y, si es necesario, usen palabras”, decía. En la vida diaria, son nuestras obras concretas la bondad, la alegría, la solidaridad las que hacen visible la presencia de Cristo. Como comunidad franciscana, cada familia y ministerio de Santa María está llamada a ser signo vivo del Evangelio: animando, sirviendo y celebrando juntos el regalo de la fe, al estilo de San Francisco.

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