

The Franciscan

St. Francis of Assisi Church

900 H. Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304

Office hours: M-Th 9AM–5PM & Friday 9AM–12PM

Phone: 661-327-4734 / www.stfran.org

Security for the Church: 661-201-2489



Sunday, November 19, 2023 ~ Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Saturday

8:00 AM (English)

5:00 PM (Vigil, English)

7:00 PM (Vietnamese)

Sunday

6:45 AM (English)

8:30 AM (English)

10:30 AM (English) + Livestreaming

12:30 PM (Spanish)

5:00 PM (English)

Weekdays

6:30 AM (English)

12:10 PM (English)

Thursday Only

5:00 PM (Spanish)

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays: beginning at 8:30 AM
until 9:30 AM or by appointment.

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday thru Friday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The Mission of St. Francis of Assisi Parish is to provide a safe, welcoming environment of Catholic worship, evangelization & fellowship, living in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi.

St. Francis Parish Clergy

Rev. Dr. Theophane N. Antony, Pastor

Rev. Stanley Stephen Amburose, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Anton J. Muthuneidalage, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Jude Okonkwo, Hospital Ministry

Rev. Pedro Cabral de Medeiros, Hospital Ministry

Rev. Msgr. Nathaniel Ndiokwere, Ret.- In Residence

Deacon Joseph Lubatti

Deacon Henry Tran

Deacon Darren Caskey

Deacon Scotty Bourne, Ret. Detention Ministry

St. Francis Parish School

Joan Bouchard - Fresno Diocese, Administrator

Kelli Gruszka, Principal

Cindy School, Vice Principal

2516 Palm Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304

Phone: 661-326-7955/Fax: 661-752-5902

Administration

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Frances Casas, Clerk
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Weddings

Rebecca Hyatt, Coordinator
rhyatt@stfran.org

Music

Dr. Ángel Vazquez-Ramos, Director
avazquezramos@stfran.org

St. Francis Priest Page

PARABLE OF THE TALENTS (Mt 25:14-30)

There is something quite sad about seeing a talent go to waste, for when a talent goes to waste a person goes to waste. A brilliant footballer turns to drinking, an exciting singer turns to drugs, a bright young politician disappears into the system ... and their talents are lost, perhaps forever. The American writer, Henry Thoreau, spoke about 'the responsibility of talent'.

Do they not remind us of the third servant in Christ's story? The man who buried his master's money and who was censured for doing so. How many of us could say that we have used all our talents, or developed our full potential as human beings and children of God? Some people drift through life, living aimlessly, selfishly, and foolishly, and die without having realized even a fraction of their potential. Others work very hard but often the tasks into which they pour themselves are perhaps not really worth it. They may be totally materialistic which in the long run leaves them empty and exhausted. We must be careful lest we distort the meaning of Christ's parable. It is by living that we discover our talents, and it is by using them that they grow. Sooner or later the harvest time comes for everyone. Then the question arises: What have we done with our talents, with ourselves, with our lives?

The first reading from the book of Proverbs speaks of a very productive wife that bears fruit in all things. She never sits idle, using every opportunity presented to her to increase the family wealth. This capable wife is trustworthy. While tending to the needs of the family, she also tends to her spiritual needs and the needs of others. She gives generously to those in need, to those seeking comfort, she speaks gentle words, only wisdom coming from her mouth. In a way, this wonderful woman is a picture of what we should be, always being fruitful in our ways.

In today's second reading from the letter to the Thessalonians, Paul continues his discussion on the Parousia, the second coming of the Lord. He tells them what Jesus himself had said - that his second coming would be unexpected and would come like a thief in the night. However, this should not frighten them since they would be prepared because they were living in their Christian faith.

The parable in today's Gospel gives us four important lessons. First, it tells us that God gives each person different gifts. We are only asked to make full use of what we have been uniquely given and to use them for the benefit of the community as a whole. Second, our work is never completed. The first two servants showed how much they had earned; they were not told they could sit back and rest. Rather because of their trustworthiness, even greater responsibilities were given to them. Third, the person who does nothing will be punished. The man with one talent did not lose it. He did not do anything at all with it. If he had tried and failed, he would have met compassion and forgiveness. Even the person with one miserable talent has something to offer to others. It is a sober warning that it is not just those who do evil deeds who will lose out, but also those who have no positively good works to show. Finally, to the one who has more will be given; from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. It seems rather unfair, like robbing the poor to pay the rich. But Jesus is rather saying that those who share generously the gifts they have been given are likely to find themselves constantly enriched. Those who jealously preserve what they have been given, hoard it and go into their shell in fear of the outside world are likely to shrivel up and die.

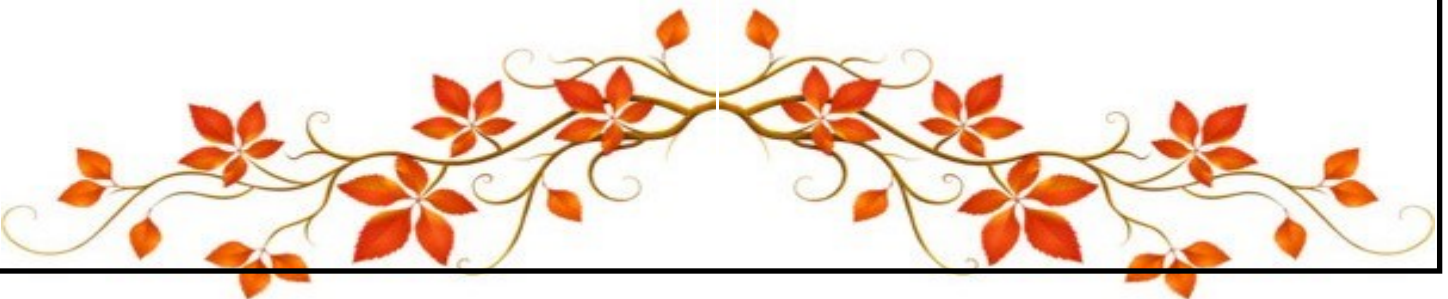
Prayer: Lord, I give to You all that I am and thank You for all that You have given to me. May I use all that I have been blessed with for Your glory and for the up building of Your Kingdom. May I never compare myself to others, looking only to the fulfillment of Your holy will in my life. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

I will be away for 4 weeks, taking my annual vacation at this time;

One of my cousins is getting ordained a priest in Kerala, and I will also be officiating a Mass for my Dad on his 25th death anniversary. I will be back on December 19th. In my absence Fr Anton will be in charge of the Parish, for any assistance, you may ask Fr. Anton, Fr. Stephen, or the Staff in the parish office. Please keep me in your prayers, Thank You!

Be safe, Be healthy & Happy Thanksgiving!

Many Blessings,
Fr. Theo.



St. Francis Parish Calendar & Upcoming Events

Monday November 20	Tuesday November 21	Wednesday November 22	Thursday November 23	Friday November 24	Saturday November 25	Sunday November 26
3PM SFS Basketball Practice YC Gym 3:45PM Monday Night Dinner Parish Hall 6:30PM Catholic Men's Bible Study YC Rm 1	8:30AM R&R Bible Study Parish Hall 3PM SFS Basketball Practice YC Gym 6PM Prayer Grp Mary's Chapel 7PM Counseling Grp Conf Rm C	Parish Office will close at 12 5PM Legion of Mary Conf RM A 5:15PM Teen Choir Betenbaugh Rm 6PM Lord's Flock Ministry Mtg Parish Hall 6:30PM S.F. Chorale Rehearsal Betenbaugh Rm 8PM Spanish Choir Practice Betenbaugh Rm	Happy Thanksgiving! Office is closed	Office is closed	8:30AM Confessions Church & Chapel	9:30AM Choir Rehearsal Betenbaugh Rm

To every thing there is a Season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Give Thanks To The Lord, For He is Good; His Love Endures Forever.

Happy Thanksgiving

Mass will be celebrated Thursday, November 23rd at 9:00 AM. Please bring items to be blessed.



Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharist Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed Monday, November 20 - Friday, November 24. Adoration will resume Monday, November 27 at 7AM.

Everyone may access Mary's Chapel even when Adoration is closed by calling 661-201-2489, or the main office when the chapel doors are locked and spend some quiet time in prayer.

The Parish Offices will be closed
At 12PM on November 22nd,
all day November
23rd & 24th.

Have a blessed Holiday!



St. Francis Announcements

**"FOLLOW ME
MINISTRIES" PRESENTS**

A SCOTTISH NIGHT OUT
CELEBRATING ST. ANDREW'S FEAST DAY AND
BENEFITTING CATHOLIC PRISON OUTREACH

NOV. 30
6-9PM

STEAK DINNER
\$30
DONATION

MUSIC! RAFFLES!
FELLOWSHIP!
SILENT AUCTION! KILTS!

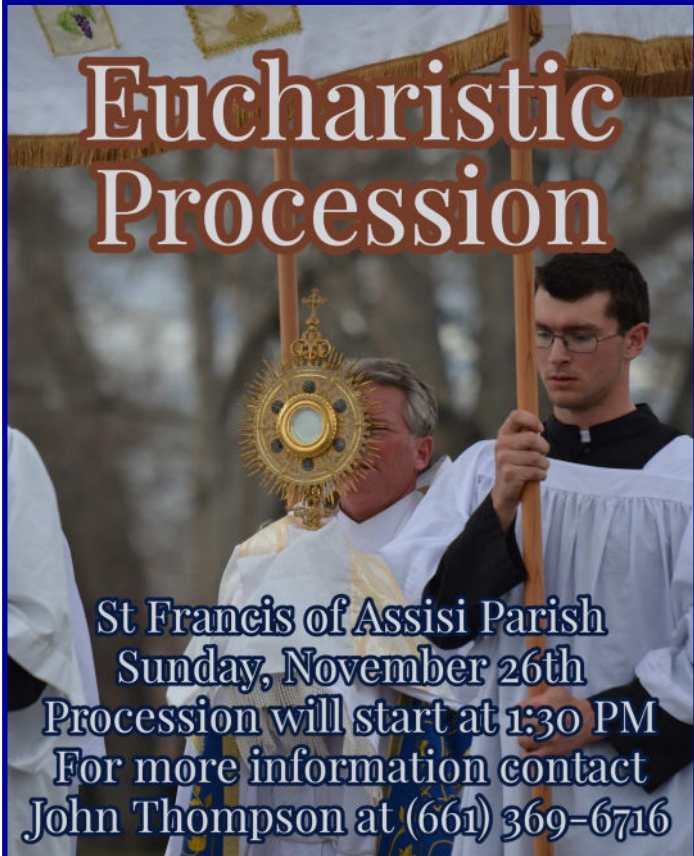


 **INTRODUCING OUR NEW ST. ANDREWS GOLF
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FOR TOURNAMENT INFO, CALL (661) 333-8761

 **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI HALL**
900 "H" STREET

**Eucharistic
Procession**

St Francis of Assisi Parish
Sunday, November 26th
Procession will start at 1:30 PM
For more information contact
John Thompson at (661) 369-6716



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Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 11:00 AM
At St. Francis - Conference Room B

**REFRESH
& RENEW**

ST. FRANCIS
TUESDAY MORNING
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Christmas
BRUNCH**

"The Gift of the Eucharist"

November **28** 2023

Please join us for an inspirational morning
9 am Mass at St. Francis with Father Anton
Followed by Brunch at Bakersfield Country
Club With Guest Speakers Deacon Francis
& Maureen Beccari



\$35 TICKETS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE 327-4734

St. Francis

Group Night
Saturday
December 9/7:00 PM
VS. Ontario

SCAN TO BUY
Discounted Group Tickets




St. Francis Parish News & Announcements

Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

The celebration will begin at 5AM with Mañanitas and Mass in the church.

Concluding with an evening Mass at 6PM in the church, with mariachi music, Aztec dancers and food in the Parish Hall.

La celebración comenzara a las 5 am con las mañanitas y misa en la iglesia.

Concluyendo en la tarde con la misa de las 6 pm en la iglesia con musica de mariachi, bailadores aztecas y comida en el salon parroquial.



Monday
Evenings
At 6:30PM—
7:30PM in Youth
Center Room 1.

MEN'S
BIBLE
STUDY

Bible Studies
Wednesdays at 6PM
in the Youth Center
meeting rooms.

Next Gen
Bible
Study

Rosary Makers
Are Back! They meet every
2nd and 4th Thursday
of the month.
2:00 PM—4:00 PM in the
Youth Center.

Ministry of the
Legion of Mary
Meets every Wednesday at
5PM in Conference Room B.

Advent Confession Schedule
Monday, December 18 at 6PM - 7PM
Tuesday, December 19 at 6PM - 7PM
Wednesday, December 20 at 6PM - 7PM

Advent Mass Schedule
Sunday, December 24, 2023
6:45 AM (English)
8:30 AM (English)
10:30 AM (English)
12:30 AM (Spanish)

Christmas Mass Schedule
Sunday, December 24, 2023
5:00 PM Children's Mass (English)
7:00 PM Mass (Vietnamese)
11:30 PM Midnight Mass (Bilingual)

Monday, December 25, 2023
7:00 AM (English)
9:00 AM (English)
11:00 AM (Spanish)

St. Francis Parish Announcements

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 19, 2023

6:45 am: + All Souls in Purgatory

8:30 am: + Josephine Lencioni

10:30 am: + Deceased Legion of Mary Members

12:30 pm: + Piero Cabrera

5:00 pm: Int. Oleta Collins

Monday, November 20, 2023

6:30 am: Int. Megers Family

12:10 pm: + Ruperto Salinas

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

6:30 am: Int. Wilmar Montoya

12:10 pm: Follow Me Ministries

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

6:30 am: + Tim Chapman

12:10 pm: + Carole Louise Wilson

Thursday, November 23, 2023

6:30 am: + Tim Chapman

12:10 pm: + Lucrecio Catubig

5:00 pm: + Juan Campos Bautista

Friday, November 24, 2023

6:30 am: + Souls in Purgatory

12:10 pm: + Claudia Heinle

Saturday, November 25, 2023

8:00 am: + John Putman

5:00 pm: Int. Anna Branceto

7:00 pm: + All Souls

Mass Intentions are \$10, in the office

Marriage Banns

November 2023

Carlos Solorzano Quintanilla & Rhina Solorzano

Enrique Garcia & Magdalena Hughes

Ernest Garcia Jr. & Felicia Jeffries

December 2023

Manuel Carrillo & Jessica Crites

Sanctuary Lamps

The Hernandez Family, The Reyes Family, The Torres Family, The Soto Family, The Domingos Family, The Lopez Family, The Canez Family, The Castillo Family, Isabelle Church & Family, Michael France, Walt Widhalm, Prayers for the living loved ones, relatives, friends & pets of Elsa & Zsa & Prayers for the departed loved ones, relatives & friends of Elsa & Zsa.

Funeral Ministry

Many thanks to our St. Francis clergy and all the wonderful volunteers that helped with our annual All Souls Scroll Mass, as always it was a beautiful celebration of all who have gone before us. Now we move into a season of Thanksgiving, the very word eucharist comes from the Greek word for thanksgiving and is a reminder that as followers of Christ we have so very much to be thankful for. We are thankful for his love and his mercy and for the lives of the ones we have lost.

In memory of parishioners who have been given the gift of eternal life in the month of October 2023 with services through St. Francis:

Sylvia Gonzalez, Gilberto Garrido Diaz, Paul Anthony Calderon, Niceforo 'Nick' Gallardo, Jr., Virgilio 'Ilio' Annuia, Baby Enzo Rodriguez, Janice Massey, Teresa 'Tessie' Alvarado Orozco, Nidia 'Marlene' Mendez, Derrick Joseph Mendez, Nathan Alan Aumen, Elena Islas, Samuel Gutierrez, Maria Elena Segura, Arturo Romero, Jerome 'Jerry' Mojica, LeAnna Gutierrez, Teresa Buton Estrella

Our funeral team wishes to accompany those who are grieving and to show the light of Jesus Christ risen to those whose hearts are broken. Our Parish embraces all who are mourning and gives direction for all funeral services. We give thanks to God for the deceased's life and hold family and friends close in prayer as they travel through a most difficult time. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Advent Candles \$30
Sold in the main office, while supplies last.
3x8 pillar candle set



Last Month's Weekly Collections

October 8, 2023-
October 14, 2023

Total: \$12,214.00

October 15, 2023-
October 21, 2023

Total: \$10,660.37

October 22, 2023
October 28, 2023

Total: \$12,167.00

October 29, 2023-
November 4, 2023

Total: \$11,558.00

Donations can be mailed into the church office. 900 H Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304, or you can use the QR Code for easy giving.

2nd Collections for November 2023

11/1 All Saints, 11/2 All Souls, 11/5 Building Fund, 11/12 Parish Good works, 11/19 Domestic Needs



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