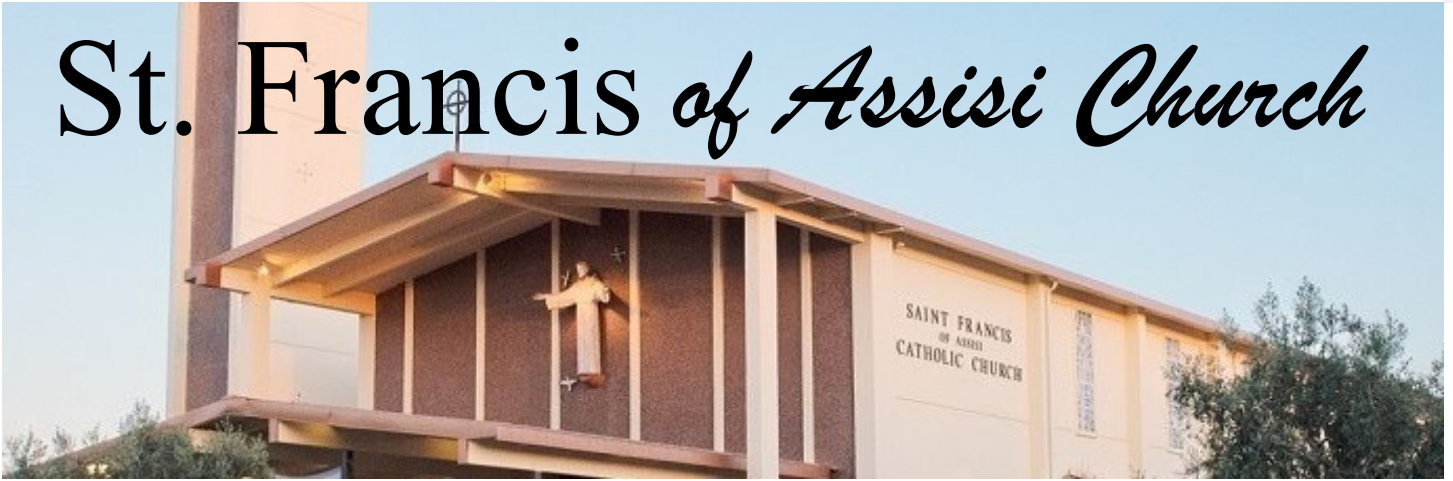




St. Francis of Assisi Church



Sunday, March 16, 2025 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

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)

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

St. Francis Parish Clergy

Rev. Dr. Theophane N. Antony, Pastor

Rev. Anton J. Fernando, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Victor Ikechukwu Eleba, Hospital Ministry

Rev. Edgar Magana, Parochial Vicar & Hospital Ministry

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

Deacon Joseph Lubatti

Deacon Henry Tran

Deacon Darren Caskey

Deacon Scotty Bourne, Ret.



Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays: 4:00 PM– 5:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday thru Thursday: 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Friday: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Anointing of the Sick

Is offered the first Friday of the month following the 12:10 PM Mass



St. Francis Parish School

Joan Bouchard - Fresno Diocese, Administrator

Kelli Gruszka, Principal

2516 Palm Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304

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

www.stfranschool.org



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.



Martyrdom is not a thing of the Past

Addressing the Christian persecution around the world and the silence of the media on the issue, Pope Francis said, martyrdom is not a thing of the past. Today too there are many victims of 'people who hate Jesus Christ.'

The pope said: "When I read this passage, I confess I get emotional" and I always think of our martyrs, the martyrs of our times, men, women, children who are being persecuted, hated, driven out of their homes, tortured, massacred. And this is not a thing of the past: this is happening right now. Our martyrs, who are meeting their end under the authority of corrupt people who hate Jesus Christ.

Every day we hear stories of Christian persecution all over the world. In February 2025 70 Christians were beheaded in Democratic Republic of Congo. The United States condemns the radical Islamist terrorists, including foreign jihadis, that murdered people in western Syria in recent days. The United States Department of State posted on their website yesterday that the US stands with Syria's religious and ethnic minorities, including its Christian, Druze, Alawite, and Kurdish communities, and offers its condolences to the victims and their families. Syria's interim authorities must hold the perpetrators of these massacres against Syria's minority communities accountable.

This week there was an article in our local newspaper, regarding the persecution of Christians in Syria. It is a fact that Christians are being persecuted all over the world. They deserve Freedom from persecution, imprisonment, and death because of their faith. Their right to pray and gather in His name should be protected.

Let us not take our freedom for granted. While we are grateful for the U.S. Constitution which protects individual religious freedom through the First Amendment, we should also lift those unfortunate ones around the world, for whom it is still a dream!

God Bless,
Fr. Theo

Calendar of Events

<u>Mon. March 17:</u>	<u>Tues. March 18:</u>	<u>Wed. March 19:</u>	<u>Thurs. March 20:</u>	<u>Fri. March 21:</u>	<u>Sat. March 22:</u>	<u>Sun. March 23:</u>
<i>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</i>	6:30AM Mass (Church)	<i>Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	6:30AM Mass (Church)	6:30AM Mass (Church)	8:00AM Mass (Church)	6:45AM Mass (Church)
6:30AM Mass (Church)	8:30AM R&R Bible Study (Hall)	6:30AM Mass (Church)	8:30AM Bible Study (Parish Hall)	12:10PM Mass (Church)	9:00AM Confirmation Retreat Sign-In (Hall)	8:30AM Mass (Church)
12:10PM Mass (Church)	10:00AM S.F. Icon Guild (YC Rms 1&2)	8:00AM SFS Retreat (YC Gym)	10:00AM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)	3:00PM SFS Sport Camp (YC Gym)	12:00PM Legion of Mary Curia (Conf. Rm B)	9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (Bettenbaugh Rm)
3:45PM Monday Night Dinners (Hall)	10:00AM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)	10:00AM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)	12:10PM Mass (Church)	4:00PM Fish Fry (Hall)	12:30PM Baptism/English (Church)	10:30AM Mass (Church)
4:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)	12:10PM Mass (Church)	12:10PM Mass (Church)	1:00PM Staff Mtg Conf. Rm B	4:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)	2:00PM Baptisms/Spanish (Church)	12:00PM Legion of Mary Mtg (Conf. Rm B)
6:00PM Adult Faith Formation (Conf. Rm B)	3:00PM SFS Sport Camp (YC Gym)	1:00PM Alzheimer Support Grp (Conf. Rm C)	1:00PM Altar Guild/Cleaning (Sacristy & Altars)	5:00PM Benediction (Chapel)	3:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)	12:30PM Mass (Church)
6:00PM Benediction (Chapel)	4:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)	3:30PM SFS Basketball Practice (YC Gym)	3:00PM SFS Sport Camp (YC Gym)	5:30PM The Lord's Flock (Conf. Rm B)	4:00PM Confessions (Church)	2:30PM Teen Choir Rehearsal (Church)
6:00PM Single Parent Support Grp (Bettenbaugh Rm)	6:00PM Benediction (Chapel)	4:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)	6:00PM Benediction (Chapel)		5:00PM Mass (Church)	3:00PM Infant of Prague Novena (Bride's Rm)
6:30PM Contemporary Worship Band Practice (Hall)	6:00PM Prayer Grp (Chapel)	4:30PM Children's Choir Rehearsal (Bettenbaugh Rm)	6:00PM Youth Grp (Bettenbaugh Rm)		6:00PM Knights of Columbus Retreat (Hall)	3:30PM RCIC Yr. 1 Class (YC Rms 1&2)
6:30PM Men's Bible Study (Conf. Rm C)	6:00PM Divine Mercy Cenacle Grp (Bettenbaugh Rm)	6:00PM Next Gen Bible Study (YC Gym)	6:00PM Coed Bible Study (Hall)		7:00PM Mass (Church)	4:30PM Teen Choir Prep (Church)
6:30PM 1st Communion Class (Hall)	6:00PM Parish Council Mtg (Mt. Carmel Rm)	6:00PM Mass/St. Joseph (Church)	6:00PM Knights of Columbus Mtg (Conf. Rm C)			5:00PM Mass (Church)
6:30PM 1st Communion Class (YC Class Rms)	6:30PM 1st Holy Communion Class (YC Rms 1&2)	6:30PM 1st Communion Class (Hall)	6:30PM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)			6:15PM RCIC Yr. 2 Class (YC Rms 1&2)
	6:30PM 1st Holy Communion Class (Hall)	6:30PM 1st Communion Class (YC Rms 1 & 2)	7:00PM Spanish Ministry Mtg (YC Rms 1 & 2)			
	6:30PM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)	6:30PM Choir Practice (Church)				
	7:00PM Counseling Grp/Figueroa (Conf. Rm C)	6:30PM Fr. Jude's Class (Conf. Rm B)				
		8:00PM Spanish Choir Practice (Church)				

*St. Patrick
Pray for Us!*



Stations of the Cross

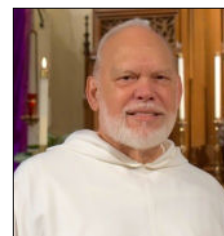
Every Friday during Lent in the church.
6:00PM in English and 7:00PM in Spanish.



Fr. Jude Eli's

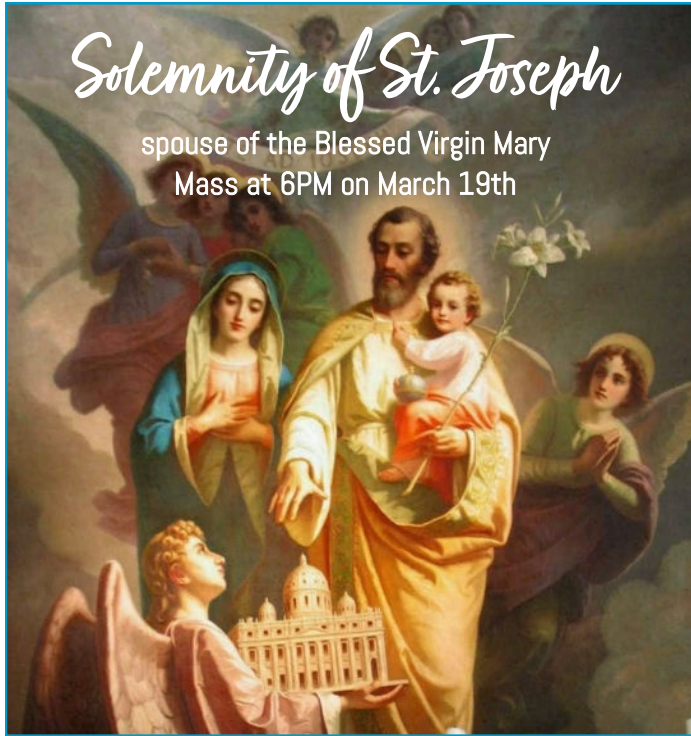
Lent Catechesis

Tues. March 18 - Thurs. 20
10AM - 11AM or
6:30PM - 7:30PM
Conference Room B





Pray for Pope Francis!



Solemnity of St. Joseph

spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass at 6PM on March 19th



ST JOSEPH'S TABLE FOOD DRIVE

Donations will be used for our Monday Night Dinner Program

Saturday, March 15th
& Sunday, March 16th
After All Masses

ACCEPTING CANNED & PACKAGED FOODS, AS WELL AS CASH DONATIONS



Religious Education

The Religious Education Department is looking for Catechists to work with Special Education students, one on one or small groups to complete their sacraments. If interested please contact Sister Grace in the main office.

Adult Confirmation - Spring 2025

Registration will run through April 10th. Classes are in person on Thursday evenings at 6:30PM. First class is April 24th in the parish hall.

Fee for the class is \$60.00

Documents required to Register:

1. Baptism Certificate
2. First Communion Certificate
3. Marriage License if applicable



Must retrieve all certificates before registering even if sacraments were celebrated at St. Francis Church.

St. Francis
Single Parent
Support Group



St. Patrick's
pay

MONDAY, MARCH 17 AT 6 PM
BOWLING NIGHT



Call Shelly (661) 978-1152 to RSVP by 3/11
Details to come when you RSVP

Every Friday During Lent
from 4pm to 6pm

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Mgrs. Ralph Belloumini Council 977



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and rolls

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900 H Street
Parish Hall



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is open every day this week in Mary's Chapel:
Monday - Thursday 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
& Friday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Everyone is invited to spend some time in quiet prayer with Our Lord. For entry call the phone number posted on the door.
Currently looking for Adoration Monitors for the following hours:
Each Wednesday: 11:00AM - 12:00PM & 12:00PM - 1:00PM
Contact the office if you are able to fill any of these hours each week.



**Novena to the
Infant of Prague**

Sunday, March 16 -
Monday, March 24

Weekdays at 4PM &
Weekends at 3PM in the
Church's Brides Room.

Come join us!

**Monthly Chaplet of the
Divine Mercy with the
Parish Council**

Tuesday, March 18th you are invited to pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by A Benediction, with The Parish Council at 5:30pm in Mary's Chapel.




Jesus - I am with You!

We pray for the entire Catholic Church, Our Diocese of Fresno, Our own St. Francis Parish, Our School, Our Pastor & Clergy

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

CELEBRATE THE HOLY JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

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Sanctuary Lamps

Herb Pasos Jr., Maria Inigo, Victoria Yanez Sandoval, The Hernandez Family, The Reyes Family, The Torres, The Soto 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.

Marriage Banns

February 2025

Emmanuel Espanola & Rodette Guinto

March 2025

Raul Ledesma & Angelica Mora

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 16, 2025

6:45 am: + Teodulo "Frank" Pacheo

8:30 am: + Josephine Lencioni

10:30 am: + Felisa De La Pena

12:30 pm: + Ulisses Frias

5:00 pm: + Pia & Fabio Banducci

Monday, March 17, 2025

6:30 am: + Lawrence Patrick O'Neil

12:10 pm: + Ulisses Frias

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

6:30 am: Serban DeBondt & Family Living and Deceased

12:10 pm: + Ulisses Frias

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

6:30 am: All Souls

Living & Deceased YLI members

12:10 pm: + Helen Cox

Thursday, March 20, 2025

6:30 am: + Matthew Contreras

12:10 pm: + Alfonso Phua

Friday, March 21, 2025

6:30 am: + Fabio Banducci

12:10 pm: Int. Esther Lozano Family

Saturday, March 22, 2025

8:00 am: Int. Aura Silva & Family

5:00 pm: + Diana De Shields O'Neil

7:00 pm: + Maria Angela Cristina Banducci

LITURGICAL COLORS

GREEN

IS USED FOR...

Ordinary time

SYMBOLIZES

Hope

GOLD OR WHITE

IS USED FOR...

Feasts of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and non-martyred saints

SYMBOLIZES

glory, innocence, purity of the soul

RED

IS USED FOR...

Pentecost, Feasts of the Apostles and martyrs

SYMBOLIZES

The fire of charity and the blood of Christ

PURPLE

IS USED FOR...

Advent and Lent. It is also used in the masses of deceased.

SYMBOLIZES

Humility and penance

PINK

IS USED FOR...

Third Sunday of Advent and Fourth Sunday of Laetare

SYMBOLIZES

Joy and love

Last Month's Weekly Collections

January 26, 2025 -
February 1, 2025

Total: \$21,259.94

February 2, 2025 -
February 8, 2025

Total: \$26,933.91

February 9, 2025 -
February 15, 2025

Total: \$22,788.97

February 16, 2025 -
February 22, 2025

Total: \$18,940.64

The weekly collection totals, now reflect giving through on-line and automatic debits done weekly. Prior reporting only included collections taken at Mass.

2nd Collections for March 2025

3/2 Building Fund, 3/5 Church in Eastern Europe, 3/9 Home Missions,
3/23 Youth Projects, 3/30 Catholic Relief Services



St. Francis

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Peace Prayer of

Saint Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may
not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For 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.
Amen.



Jesus I Trust in You!
St. Francis Divine Mercy
Cenacle Group

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Update your Parishioner information

- Please return by placing in the collection basket, or dropping off/mailling to the main office.
- If new to the Parish or have never registered a full parishioner census form can be found our website.

St. Francis FAITH • FAMILY • FRIENDS

Parishioner Census Form

Office use Only

New Parishioner

Change of Information

Register as Non-Active

Head of Household

Married Single Widow(er)

Full Name: _____

DOB: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell: _____

St. Francis FAITH • FAMILY • FRIENDS

Forma del Censo Feligres

Solo Uso de Oficina

Nuevo Feligres

Cambio de Información

Registrarse como No-Activo

Jefe de Hogar

Casado Soltero/a Viudo/a

Nombre Completo: _____

Fecha de Nacimiento: _____

Dirección: _____

Ciudad/Estado: _____

Código Postal: _____

Telefono: _____ Celular: _____

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