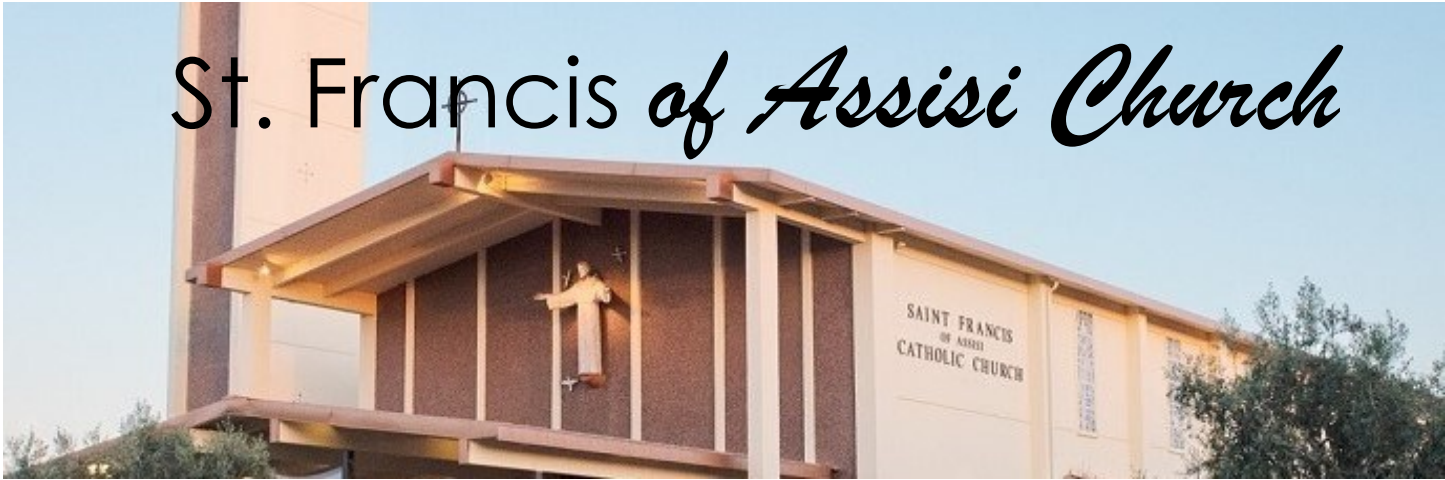


St. Francis of Assisi Church



Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 21, 2025

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) + Livestream
12:30 PM (Spanish)
5:00 PM (English)

Weekdays

6:30 AM (English)
12:10 PM (English)

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Wednesday & 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

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.

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 Henry Tran

Deacon Darren Caskey

Deacon Scotty Bourne, Ret.

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

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22ND ANNUAL PARISH

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5:00PM 8:00PM



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3rd Prize: \$500
\$5 Per Ticket
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the office

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Masses beginning
August 30th & 31st

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volunteers to
help with the
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the office!

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needed. Please
deliver to the
office.

**Thank
you!**

A Message from Bishop Cotta:

Today, I write to you dismayed by the ongoing violent and tragic events occurring in our nation all too often. Our nation, great when united, is becoming increasingly divided as each tragedy unfolds. We must find a way to come together, as God's children, as His Church, and as the United States of America.

School shootings, random attacks of violence, and political violence have no place in a right and just society. Safe harbors such as schools and places of worship today, feel less safe with each new tragedy, and violence against those with whom we disagree is becoming all too common. This must not continue.

Politicians, media figures, and other public figures must stop using these tragedies to further divide us. Rhetoric that fosters hatred or creates an 'us vs. them' mentality poisons our communities and erodes trust. Instead, our leaders should seek to heal divisions, unite neighbors, families, and co-workers, and work for the common good of all.

Anger and grief in the face of violence are natural, but more violence will never be the solution. As people of faith, we must ask: what can we do to build peace in our homes and communities? How can we take responsibility for being instruments of reconciliation and hope? Every life is a precious gift from God, and it is our shared responsibility to create a society where all can live free from fear and violence.

Also, as we confront the dark powers that are spiritual in nature we need to use spiritual means to face this battle: prayer and penance. These two powerful means provide the necessary grace for conversion and repentance in a person's life.

Recently, our readings at daily Mass have spoken to this and have provided a means to help us keep things in check in regard to our spiritual lives. Here are the words of St. Paul to the Colossians: "Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil, desire, and the greed that is idolatry." And he continues: "Now you must put away all: anger, fury, malice, slander, and obscene language out of your mouth. Stop lying to one another. You have taken off the old self with its practices and put on the new self, which is being renewed."

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus alerts us: "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy, your reward will be great in heaven!"

Again, St. Paul states the following in order to counter sinful actions: "Put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another, as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one Body. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom teach and admonish one another... And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, the Father through him."

Finally, Jesus teaches and guides us: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Stop judging, and you will not be judged. Stop condemning, and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. For the measure with which you measure will, in return, be measured out to you."

I suggest to one and all, young and old, as we approach the month of October, the Month of the Rosary, let us take up the Rosary and be faithful in praying it daily as Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima encouraged us to do for the conversion of people whose hearts are sinful and hardened and for peace in our lives and in our world. As we do so, let us take the message of Fatima to heart and fervently "pray, pray, pray" and diligently offer "penance, penance, penance!" I think that says it all!

May God have mercy on us as a nation.

May Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception and patroness of the United States, intercede for us.
Amen.

In the Peace of Christ,
Bishop Cotta

Volunteer!

We touch the heart of God when we serve. The office is looking for volunteers with a heart for service, the ability to handle office responsibilities to work Wednesday morning, Thursday morning/afternoon or Friday in the morning. Call the office if interested.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 7AM -6PM

Wednesday/Friday: 7AM - 5PM

Everyone is invited to spend some time in quiet prayer with our Lord.

Call the security phone for access to Mary's Chapel.
661.201.2489

Currently looking for Adoration Monitors for the following hours:

Each Tuesday: 2PM - 3PM & Each Friday: 11AM - 12
Contact the office if you are able to fill any of these hours each week.

****NO ADORATION
Thursday, September 25th.**

The Catholic Church designates October as the month of the Holy Rosary,

On October 7 we celebrate the Marian devotion of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Throughout the month of October, we will gather every evening at 6:15 PM as a parish family to pray the Rosary together in front of Our Lady's Grotto .

Hope to see you there!

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LE INVITA
RETIRO SANACION FAMILIAR
"Señor, Renueva mi Hogar"

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SAVE the DATE

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Candy
Donations

Need
Decorated
Trunks

♥ GOD

October 31st at 6:30 PM

Youth Center Parking Lot

 * Flower Beds are available for *
 * adoption. Call the office to inquire. *

Cassock and Surplice Donations
 If you have a cassock or surplice that was loaned from St. Francis, or if you purchased your own but are no longer serving, we invite you to consider donating it back to the parish.
 Please contact the church office or bring it directly to the office during regular hours.

Fellowship
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
 YOU ARE INVITED
 Every Monday in Room C at 6:30PM

Encuentro Regional MCC
Otoño Región XI

CUANDO: Septiembre 26-27, 2025
 A QUE HORA: Viernes 5:30 pm-8 pm/Sábado 8 am- 6 pm
 DONDE: Parroquia San Francisco de Asis 900 H Street Bakersfield, CA 93304
 CUANTO: \$45/persona

*HORARIO TENTATIVO Registración sera viernes de 3 pm-5:30 pm. La cena sera viernes 5:30 pm
 La Ultreya sera el viernes 6:50 pm y la Fiesta en el Aire sera el sábado 3:15 pm*

TODOS ESTAN INVITADOS Fecha limite para avisar de su asistencia: Viernes 9/19/25.
 Favor de avisarle a su coordinador diocesano. ¡De Colores!

Prayer Ministry
 Every Tuesday in the Chapel.
 5PM for Adoration, 6PM is Benediction, followed by a recitation of the rosary, concluding in prayer for one another.
 Come join us!

Rosary Makers Ministry
 Thursday, October 9th
 The Rosary Makers Ministry meets the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at 2PM in the Youth Center.
 All who are interested in learning how to make a rosary are welcome!

Region XI
Fall Encounter
Sept 26-27, 2025

Do You remember how You felt at CURSILLO
 Come Live it again, join US

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
 900 H Street
 Bakersfield, CA 93304
 Friday 5:30 PM - 8 PM Sat 8 AM - 6 PM
 Registration starts 3:00 Friday

Registration Fee \$45

Please submit registration fee and registration to Diocesan Cursillo Coordinator or designee

Next Gen Bible Study
 Exploration, Explanation and Discussion of upcoming Sunday Mass Readings Every Wednesday at 6pm in the Parish Hall.
You're Invited!
 Adults, Teens, Married, Single, bring the Kids.
 All are welcome.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 21, 2025

6:45 am: Int. Archuleta Family

8:30 am: +Rogauano Solis

10:30 am: Int. Kyle Patrick Ampong

12:30 pm: Int. of The Sylvia Family

5:00 pm: +Alfred Rozo

Monday, September 22, 2025

6:30 am: Int. Meyers Family

12:10 pm: +Louis John Rodrigues

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

6:30 am: +Brenda Banda & Miguel Rodriguez

12:10 pm: +All Souls

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

6:30 am: +Maria Angela Cristina Banducci

12:10 pm: +Pia & Fabio Banducci

Thursday, September 25, 2025

6:30 am: Int. Alejandro Sandoval Jr.

12:10 pm: +All Souls

Friday, September 26, 2025

6:30 am: +Victor Gianunzio

12:10 pm: +Rose Lozano

Saturday, September 27, 2025

8:00 am: +Julian Andrade

5:00 pm: +Helen Samora

7:00 pm: Int. Siegfried Noz & Family

Sanctuary Lamps

Isabelle Church & Family, Milagros Q.

Albano, Fernando Teglia, Walt & Pat

Widhalm, The Canez Family, The Reyes

Family, Gaza & Buenseceso Family, Neville
Manderson, Caesar Quicho, Flordeliza Bato,

Prayers for the deceased & living loved ones,

relatives, friends & pets of Elsa & Zsa, the

Bermudez Family, David Joseph Brownlee

Banns of Marriage

September

Rosalio Montes de Oca & Alejandra Gonzalez

Miguel Franco & Laurissa Salazar

Freddy Jimenez & Alejandra Vazquez

October

Armando Rocha Jr. & Christine Salgado

Kevin Ansolabehere & Aubree Owen

Julian Estrada & Arianna Ramos

Benton Powers & Pashka Berisha

Ruben Jimenez & Desiree Moran

Jose F. Mireles & Briset Saucedo

Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God, my guardian dear;
To whom God's love commits me here.

Ever this day be at my side,
to light, to guard, to rule, to guide.

Amen.

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Funeral Ministry

Our funeral team is currently looking for volunteers to help with
our English funeral Masses and services.

If interested, please contact Roylene at Ext. 123.

In memory of parishioners given the gift of eternal life in the
month of August 2025 with services at St. Francis:

Evelyn Montanio, Van Hieu Nguayen, Maria Barbosa, Beatriz Lopez, Jane Vandborg, Juan Chavez Martinez, Ramiro Castro, Magdalena Muro, Luz Rodriguez Cuellar, Terri Anama, Mayela Dominguez Duarte, Robert Dator Sr., Barbara Walker, Diana McKenna, Frank Tinoco, Lavern Ray Larsen, Salvador Gallegos Jr., Ruth 'Cuc' Rodriguez, Carmen Gonzales, Esther Villanueva Torres, Ramon Garcia Zaragoza

We embrace all who are mourning and give 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.

Last Month's Weekly Collections

August 10, 2025 -
August 16, 2025

Total: \$21,639.97

August 17, 2025 -
August 23, 2025

Total: 20,958.07

August 24, 2025 -
August 30, 2025

Total: \$20,003.54

August 31, 2025 -
September 6, 2025

Total: \$26,995.42

2nd Collections for September 2025

9/7 Domestic Needs, 9/14 Building Fund, 9/21 PG&E/Solar Maintenance,
9/28 Music Ministry



St. Francis



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Update your Parishioner information

- Please return by placing in the collection basket, or dropping off/ mailing 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
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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: _____ Email: _____

Phone #: _____ Cell: _____

St. Francis
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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: _____ Correo electronico: _____

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