

St. Francis de Sales Parish



Saint Francis de Sales Parish
129-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Belle Harbor, NY 11694

December 24, 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 9:00am

Saturday: 9:00 am and 4:30pm (Vigil)

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 am; 10:00 am and 12:00 Noon

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Holy Day at 9:00am

CONFESSION/SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays from 3:30-4:15pm

Seasonal Penance Services during Advent and Lent

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

Pastoral Staff

The Very Rev. William F. Sweeney, Pastor

Rev. James K. Cunningham, Associate

Monsignor John J. Bracken (Retired) Sunday Assistant

Deacon Vincent LaGamba

Deacon Armand D'Accordo

Paul Zwolak - Pastoral Year Seminarian

Parish Staff

Mrs. Dorothy Brenna, Parish Secretary

Mrs. Anne Marie Greene, Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Suzanne Blum, Assistant Administrator of Religious Education

Mr. Michael Fontana, Music Director

Parish Contact Information

Parish Office/Rectory Phone

718-634-6464

Religious Education Office Phone

718-945-6911

Parish Email Address

sfdsparish@aol.com

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis de Sales, a parish steeped in tradition, rich in natural beauty and bountifully blessed with a community devoted in love to serve God and our neighbor. We seek to live actively the Word of God through the example of our patron saint, a life devoted to energetic, generous and constant fidelity to the will of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we will grow in our faith through continuous education, formation, communication, and out-reach, while passing these values on to our future generations. We endeavor to be a most vibrant community of faith which will effectively utilize the talents, resources, and treasures of our parish for the good of all God's people.

CARE OF THE SICK

If there is an elderly, sick or infirm parishioner who wishes to receive Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Communal Celebrations of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will take place the first Saturday of each Month at the 9:00AM Mass.

BAPTISM

Parents are asked to contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment with a priest or deacon to complete the Baptismal Registration Form. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal Instruction at 7:00pm on the First Thursday of the month. Baptisms are celebrated on the Second Sunday of the month at 2:00pm.

MARRIAGE

Preparations for the Sacrament of Marriage are very important and take time. Couples planning to be married at Saint Francis De Sales are asked to contact the Parish Office no less than eight months prior to the wedding date. Please do not schedule the catering hall prior to making arrangements at the parish. Couples are required to attend the Pre-Cana Program of the Parish at least six months prior to the wedding.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Available in the Parish Rectory during office hours.

Mass Stipend	\$15 per Mass
Bread & Wine for the week	\$50
Candles for the week	\$50
Flowers for the week	\$150

Parish Trustees

Mrs. Kristin Franchock
Mr. Michael Lee

Parish Council

Mrs. Kristin Franchock, Chair
Mr. Jamie Agoglia
Mrs. Janice Ameruso
Mrs. Noelle Hutton Burns
Mrs. Claire Conti
Mr. Mike Coughlin
Mr. Joseph Courtney
Mr. Sean Fitzgerald
Mrs. Meghan Flanagan
Mrs. Lisa Hayden
Mr. Timothy Henning
Mrs. Chrystie Rasmussen
Mrs. Kathy Roventini

Parish Finance Council

Mr. Thomas Allison
Mr. Gregory Bender
Mrs. Rebecca Carey
Mrs. Brynn Heegan
Mr. Joseph Keenan
Mr. Patrick Minson
Mr. Dan Twomey

Parish Website:

<https://sfdsparish.org/>

Parish Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/sfdschurch>

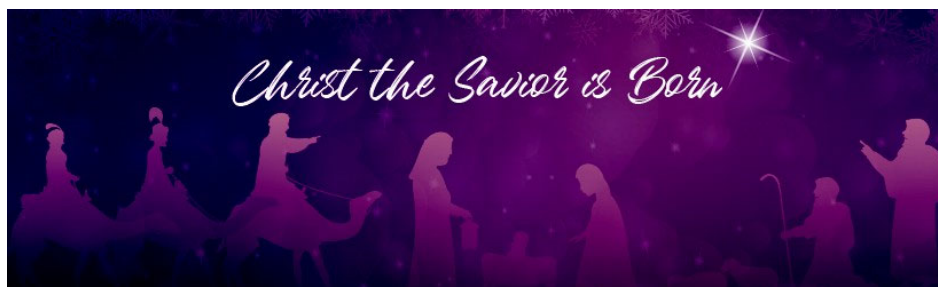
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy

219 Beach 129 Street
Belle Harbor, NY 11694
(718) 634-2775

www.stfrancisacademybh.org



Dr. Christopher Scharbach, Principal
Mrs. Maureen Hayes, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Cathy Kenny, School Secretary
Ms. Helen Endall, School Secretary



**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF
DECEMBER 24-31 2023**

December 24

8:00 AM Richie O'Connor
10:00 AM Anthony DiCarlo
Joseph Vincent Caruana
Rev. Michael Walsh 15th A
The Devaney and Weiss Families
Thomas F. Brady 40th A and Jack
Pulaski 72nd A
NO 12 Mass on Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Masses

3:00 PM Drina Smith, Estelle Marie Gunn,
John Keane and William Lavin
Raymond Agoglia Sr.
4:30 PM Captain Timothy Stackpole
6:00 PM Anthony Sanderson

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 AM Msgr. John J. Brown
12:00 PM Patricia Smythe
Rodolfo and Cecilia Punsal
Kay and Frank Gallagher, Mary
Meade and Ann Michels

Tuesday

9:00 AM Deceased members of the
Villanueva Family

Wednesday

9:00 AM Andrew T. Hickey 2nd A
Daniel Sweeney

Thursday

9:00 AM Frank McCarthy
Herman M. Schmitt 4A
Maria D. Savino 1st A
MaryJane Murray (A)
Thomas Graves (Birthday)

Friday

9:00 AM Catherine O'Connell
Tom Jones

Saturday

8:00 AM Frank Tammaro Sr.
Rose Amythe (Birthday)
Frederick Sr. and Katherine Kowsky
4:30 PM Carol Mulvihill

Sunday

8:00 AM Thomas Gavigan
10:00 AM Andrew Cahalan
Dorothy Allen 5th A
Eileen McLoughlin
Madeline DeMato Wolf
12:00 PM Helen (Nellie) Sweeny

REST IN PEACE

Please remember our parishioners who have recently gone to eternal rest. Eric A. Perez
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of Christ rest in peace

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Kindly remember in your prayers:
Jimmy O'Neill, Lynn Soren, Tess Kuhlmann,
Janine Cerrone, Jim Bunyan, Carol Conroy, Chris
Gallagher, Maria Barry, Rita Hayden and Gavin
Merrill.

WEEKLY REMEMBRANCE:



The Bread and Wine to be offered this week is in memory of:
Robert Rose Sr.

Candles on the altar this week are in memory of:
Thomas Gavigan

PARISH 500 CLUB:

Congratulations to this week's winners:
\$100 #054 John Hearn
\$50 #160 Etienne and Regina Lizzi
\$25 #318 Julia Pannone

Christmas Drawing:

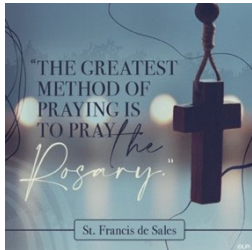
\$1000 #234 Julia Santarpia
\$500 #332 Lizi and Debbie Harvey
\$250 #250 James McGovern

**Observances for the week of
December 24, 2023**

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve
Monday: The Nativity of the Lord
Tuesday: St. Stephen, First Martyr
Wednesday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
Thursday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Friday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr
Saturday:
Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS:

W Saturday, January 6th at 4:30PM
Parish Family Mass. Followed by Family
Pasta Night in the gymnasium. More
information to come



JOIN US TO PRAY THE ROSARY

The rosary is prayed every
morning at 8:40AM before the
9:00AM Mass and every Monday
at 7:00PM in the church. Please
join us!

PARISH GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone that donated a gift for our
Parish Giving Tree. Gifts were distributed to
those in need throughout our parish and the
peninsula.



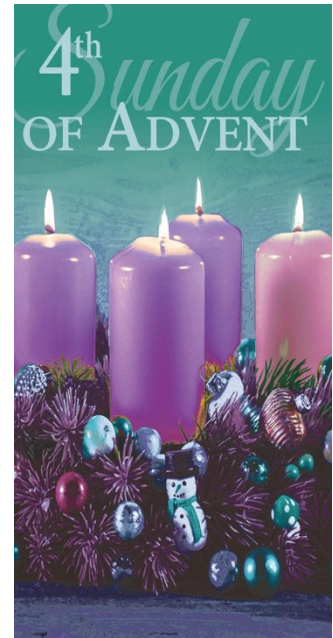
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading: "Your
house and your kingdom
shall endure forever
before me; your throne
shall stand firm forever."
(2 Sm 28:16)

Psalm: For ever I will sing
the goodness of the Lord.
(Ps 89)

Second Reading: The
revelation of the mystery
kept secret for long ages
but now manifested
through the prophetic
writings and, according to
the command of the eternal God, made known to
all nations to bring about the obedience of faith.
(Rom 16:25-26)

Gospel: "Behold, you will conceive in your womb
and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."
(Lk 1:31)



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129-16 ROCKAWAY BEACH BLVD - BELLE HARBOR, NY 11694

WELCOME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS!

We invite you to participate in these celebrations of Christmas faith! Bring a friend!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 16th 3:30PM - 4:15PM

Monday, December 18th: After 9:00AM Mass & 2:00PM - 4:00PM, 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Note:

** Masses in **BOLD**
will be streamed LIVE
on the SFDS
Facebook Page.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas Eve | 3:00PM - Children's Choir
4:30PM Adult Choir | **6:00PM Folk Group**

Monday, December 25th | Christmas Day | 8:00AM | **12:00 Noon**

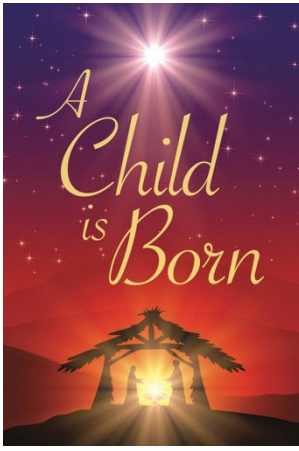
NEW YEAR'S DAY

Monday, January 1st, 2024 | New Year's Day Mass | **9:00AM**

* *Because New Year's Day is a Monday, it is a holy day, but not a holy day of obligation

*On behalf of the Priests, Deacons and staff at St. Francis de Sales
- we wish you a very healthy, holy & peaceful Christmas!*





Dear St Francis de Sales Parish Family,

As we gather in celebration of Christmas, we extend our warmest wishes to each of you. The joyous season is upon us, heralding the birth of Jesus Christ, our guiding light and source of infinite love and compassion. His arrival reminds us of the boundless grace that envelops us and the profound significance of love, unity, and generosity.

We are immensely grateful for your unwavering dedication and support that continually enriches our parish. Your efforts, prayers, and contributions embody the true spirit of community and strengthen the foundation of our faith.

May this Christmas fill your hearts with peace, joy, and a renewed sense of hope. As we come together to celebrate the birth of our Savior, let us extend kindness to one another and embrace the blessings of this season.

Wishing you all a blessed and Merry Christmas.

*With gratitude and prayers,
Father Bill, Father Jim
and the entire staff of St Francis de Sales Parish*

PARISH CHRISTMAS TREES AND ANGELS THANKS

Thank you to everyone that helped set up our parish Christmas Trees, Angels and Outdoor Nativity. Thank you also to those that helped coordinate our tree lighting event. Special thanks to Mike Lee, Tommy Morgan, Brian Long, Greg DeBoer and the Graybeards, Mohammed and the staff of 129 Beach Bagels, Michal Fontana and the Children's Choir, Tess Kuhlmann and the Kuhlmann Family, The Police Officers of the 100th Precinct, Tim Henning, Kristin Franchok, Cass Boggiano, Joe Courtney, Mike Coughlin, Sean Fitzgerald, the SFDS Parish Council and all of our generous donors. Thank you also to Santa for taking time of out his busy schedule to be with us.



PLEASE KEEP OUR BRAVE
MEN AND WOMEN IN YOUR
PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY:



United States Army

- U Cadet Molly Murtaugh, USMA, West Point
- U Cadet Aidan Smith, USMA, West Point
- U Pvt. 1st Class Edward Conti*
- U CW4 Rafael Solis
- U Sergeant First Class Patrick O'Leary

United States Marine Corps

- U Corporal Frankie McVeigh
- U Sergeant Matt McDade
- U Second Lieutenant Jack Bambury
- U First Lieutenant Terrence Stackpole*
- U Major James McKeon
- U Lieutenant Colonel Elizabeth McKeon
- U Colonel Brian Mulvihill
- U Colonel Michaela Coughlin*
- U LNCPL Charles Watson
- U Colonel J.P. Kearns
- U PFC Jake Morales

United States Navy

- U Midshipman Connor Bradwisch, USNA, Annapolis
- U Midshipman Michael Strehle, USNA Annapolis
- U Ensign Kevin Strehle
- U Lieutenant Junior Grade Eamonn Gavigan
- U Lieutenant Commander Sean Casey
- U Lieutenant Junior Grade John Scaccia*
- U Lieutenant Briana R. Gorman
- U Petty Officer Thomas Pulkowski

United States Air Force

- U Sergeant Stephen Pulkowski
- U First Lieutenant Thomas Glynn
- U Staff Sergeant John Glynn

*Deployed

“Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. Amen.”

If you have a son or daughter, relative or friend in the military, whose name and service you would like included in our bulletin, please contact the rectory at 718-634-6464. Also, if your loved one's military service status or rank changes, please let us know.

PARISH MINISTRIES:



Altar Servers: Training for new altar servers occurs each spring for young girls and boys in the parish, grade 4 and older.

Youth Faith Formation: Designed for children aged 16 and younger that are baptized but did not make First Penance or First Holy Communion. Please speak with Mrs. Greene if interested.

Lectors/Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: If interested in serving, please speak with Father Jim.

Adult and Children's Choir: If interested please speak with Mr. Michael Fontana

Right of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Designed for adults aged 16 in older interested in the Catholic Faith. Please speak with Father Jim if interested.

Parish Council: If interested in serving on the Parish Council, please speak with Father Bill.

Sea Breeze Golden Age Club: Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from September to June in the SFDS Gymnasium from 12:00 – 3:00PM. For more information call Ellen Mendonca at 631-923-7866

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Sports: For more information on the SFDS CYO Organization please visit:
<https://sfdsparish.org/ministries/cyo>

Live Streamers: This is the group that helps live stream our weekday and Sunday masses as well as certain funerals and weddings. You will be trained and the job is easy. Speak with Father Jim

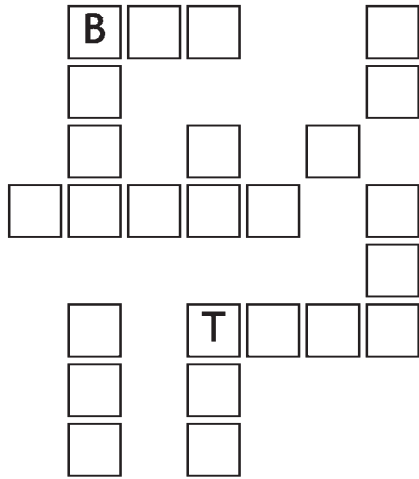
NEW: Hospitality Ministry: This committee will assist with planning fellowship opportunities around parish spiritual events and religious celebrations. If interested in joining please speak with Father Jim

Please consider getting involved! Thank You!

 **PUZZLE**

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

They saw the baby lying on a bed of hay.



 **MISSION**

Ask your parents to light candles and join you in singing songs about Jesus.

 **COLOR**

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Christmas Morning • Luke 2:15-20