



**WHERE THE UPPER EAST SIDE AND EAST HARLEM MEET**  
 135 East 96th Street, New York, NY 10128  
 212-289-0425

**MARCH 28, 2021**  
**PALM SUNDAY**

**TEMPORARY  
OFFICE HOURS**

**MON - FRI**  
 10am - 4pm

**TEMPORARY  
MASS TIMES**

**SUNDAYS**  
 9am/11am / 12:30 Spanish

**TUES, THURS**  
 8:30am Mass

**WEDNESDAYS**  
 Wednesday Evening Reflection 7pm  
 This is Hosted by Jayne Porcelli

**Reflexión los Miércoles por la noche a  
 las 7:30pm**

**TEMPORARY  
CHURCH HOURS**

**WEEKDAYS**  
 10am - 2pm

**WEEKENDS**  
 10:30am - 2pm

**OUR MISSION**

Taking Jesus' message of loving service to heart, all are welcome in our vibrant, hopeful, diverse, Eucharistic Community where we break the bread and open the Word and discover God in our Midst.

**NUESTRA MISIÓN**

Tomando el mensaje de Jesús de servicio amoroso a corazón, todos son bienvenidos en nuestra Comunidad Eucarística vibrante, llena de esperanza, y diversa, donde partimos el Pan y abrimos la Palabra y descubrimos a Dios en medio de nosotros.

Jesus needed followers, too.

[stfrancis96.org](http://stfrancis96.org)



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Listen to our weekly podcast

# THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021**

9am– Lily Gordon (D)  
Augustine Ortiz (D)

11am - Tom Taaffe (D)  
Henry Mendonca (D)

12:30am – Moises Brown (D)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021**

8:30am– Vincent McDonnell (L)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021**

8:30am – In Thanksgiving for Favors received  
( Roni Mendonca)

## SICK & DEPARTED

### SICK

Jovina Ascencios, John Kenny, Mila Ortiz, Laurie Siegal, Elizabeth Finnegan, Thomas Francis Murphy, Jerry Brown, Victoria Criloux, Mirta Velez, Erika Bermejo, Edgar Zacarias, Amanda Santos, Alessandra Greenstein, Valerie Chapman Gale, Kathleen Wynne Jack Priken , Barbara Braza

### DECEASED ☒

Esther Marti, , Kelly Ann Childs, Ashley Childs Santos, Richard Lynch, Juanita Alvarez, Marjorie Sweitzer, Julia Cairo, Thomas Taaffe, Gelbert Rios,, Victoria Mauleon, Prek Jakaj, Ann Kiernan Flores , Robert Dale Horton, Jean-Claude Bouston , Ronald Robles, Virgilio Bracamente, Robyn Geiger, Sahvee Culbertson, Maria Cristina Chavez, Raul Ferreina, Maryann McCool, Theresa Ottolini, Paulino Dominguez, Mary Galavan Conway, Michele Palmigiano

## HAVE A SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST?

Send us who or what needs a special prayer by using the Prayer Request feature on our new SFDS app—available in the Google Play or Apple App Store. Our parish prayer group will pray upon all submissions.

## LET'S CONNECT



**FATHER PHILIP J. KELLY**  
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Director of Communications,  
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**ALBERTO PEÑA**  
Plant Manager

## WEEKEND ASSOCIATES

**REV. ANTHONY CIORRA**  
**MSGR. ROBERT STERN**

**REV. MATTHEW MALONE S.J.**  
**REV. RODOLFO CASALS, SJ**

# SFDS + COMMUNITY

## HOLY WEEK



Blessed is he  
who comes  
in the name  
of the Lord

For the Palm Sunday Gospel, we return to the Gospel according to Mark. The account of the Passion takes up nearly one-third of Mark's entire Gospel and, of all the evangelists, he is the one who presents the details most graphically. He depicts the humanity of Jesus most intensely, describing his sufferings thoroughly. Mark portrays Jesus as a complete fulfillment of the "Suffering Servant" of Isaiah, the obedient, humble slave dying on a cross of whom Paul speaks in Philipians. But it is important to remember that we call this "Holy Week" and not "sad week" or "suffering week," for

each of the readings today, even the lamentations of the psalm, end in the promise of the strength and hope that is granted by God to those who faithfully give of themselves in love. As we enter into this week through these readings, we must reflect deeply on the sufferings of Jesus, but still be confident in the joy of risen, eternal life that awaits all of us who faithfully walk with him through these days.

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## SEMANA SANTA



Bendito  
el que viene  
en nombre  
del Señor

Por el Evangelio del Domingo de Ramos, volvemos al Evangelio según San Marcos. El relato de la Pasión ocupa casi un tercio de todo el Evangelio según Marcos y, de todos los evangelistas, él es quien presenta los detalles más gráficos. Marcos representa la humanidad de Jesús con mayor intensidad, describiendo sus sufrimientos a fondo. Presenta a Jesús como el cumplimiento completo del "Siervo sufriente" de Isaías, el esclavo humilde y obediente que muere en la cruz y de quien Pablo habla a los filipenses.

Pero es importante recordar que a esto lo llamamos "Semana Santa" y no "semana triste" o "semana de sufrimiento", porque cada una de las lecturas de hoy, incluso los lamentos del Salmo, terminan con la promesa de la fuerza y la esperanza que son otorgadas por Dios a los que fielmente dan de sí mismos en amor. A medida que entramos a esta semana por vía de estas lecturas, debemos reflexionar profundamente sobre los sufrimientos de Jesús, pero con la tranquilidad de la alegría de la vida resucitada y eterna que nos espera a todos los que fielmente caminamos con él durante estos días.

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## Weekly Collection

Collection for this week will be published in the April 4th Bulletin.

Thank you!

Sign up for regular online giving at  
[www.stfrancis96.org/give](http://www.stfrancis96.org/give)

## QR CODE TO GIVE

We are St. Francis de Sales, a welcoming, inclusive, and multi-ethnic Catholic parish that serves a diverse community strengthened by our commitment to Jesus. If you want to see more content like this, please feel free to support our efforts by giving online. Become a part of our efforts to usher in the kingdom of God here on East 96th Street and beyond!



# LATEST NEWS

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON EVERYTHING GOING ON AT [SFDSNYC.ORG](http://SFDSNYC.ORG)



## THE COVID VACCINE: A CHRISTIAN DUTY

In these times of uncertainty, we Christians are called to share the love of God with everyone by protecting them. To that end, we want to ensure that everyone who is eligible to receive the COVID vaccine is able to do so.

Need a vaccine? If you or someone you know needs help making an appointment, call the Rectory at 212.289.0425 extension 317 and we'll partner you with a parishioner to search online for you. (Please note we would be searching the same portals as the general public; churches do not have any special access.)

Want to help? If you would like to assist our Digital Ministry get people signed up for vaccines, send us an e-mail to [lydia@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:lydia@sfdsnyc.org) with "COVID HELP" in the subject line.



## NEW ON THE WEB! CATHOLIC ANTI-RACISM PROJECT WEBPAGE

[www.stfrancis96.org/carp](http://www.stfrancis96.org/carp)

Learn more about the exciting initiatives being planned including a speaker series, weekly Examen & Stations of the Cross during Lent, and a video project! The Catholic Anti-Racism Project (CARP) is comprised of members from three NYC Catholic parishes—St. Francis de Sales, St. Charles Borromeo/Resurrection/All Saints, and St. Francis Xavier—with funding provided by Catholic Charities of NY. This is a new initiative formed in 2020 to address the history of anti-racism within the Church and to document the experiences of African-American Catholics. We are collectively committed during these turbulent times to knit us together as the brothers and sisters we are so that we may share in the singular gift that is our faith.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

It's not too soon to plan for our Easter holy days. For those of you who feel safer at home, please continue to pray with us through our live streaming broadcasts. We appreciate your consideration for your own health and safety and that of others.

Holy Thursday Evening Mass at 6:30pm (Bi-lingual)  
Good Friday Service 3pm  
Holy Saturday Vigil 7pm\*\*  
Easter Sunday: 9am, 11am 12:30pm (Spanish)

We will continue to follow all recommended guidelines for Covid19 safe distancing. Aware that these are generally days when the church can be crowded, we still have only a limited number of seats available in the church. When we have reached capacity our ushers will not be able to seat any more folks, so please come early if you hope to attend Mass.

As we prepare for our Easter services we extend to you two ways more ways to participate: if you would like to contribute funds to help decorate the church for Easter, you may use an Easter Flower envelope which may be found in church, or make a special contribution on line for flower donations. Your help with this endeavor would be much appreciated.

\*\*We will have the privilege of welcoming into our church three women who have been part of our initiation process (RCIA) for the last year or more. If the Easter Vigil Mass is one you would like to attend, again, we ask you to come early to find your seat AND, we invite you to bring bells with you to add your music to the joy of our celebration that night.

# ÚLTIMAS NOTICIAS & PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

ENTÉRATE DE TODO LO QUE ESTÁ PASANDO EN [SFDSNYC.ORG](http://SFDSNYC.ORG)



## LA VACUNA CONTRA EL COVID: UN DEBER CRISTIANO

En estos tiempos de incertidumbre, los cristianos estamos llamados a compartir el amor de Dios con todos protegiéndolos. Con ese fin, queremos asegurarnos de que todas las personas elegibles para recibir la vacuna contra el COVID puedan hacerlo.

¿Necesitas una vacuna? Si usted o alguien que conoce necesita ayuda para hacer una cita, llame a la Rectoría al 212.289.0425 extensión 317 y te conectaremos con un feligrés para hacer tu cita en línea. (Tenga en cuenta que buscaríamos en los mismos portales que el público general; las iglesias no tienen ningún acceso especial).

¿Quieres ayudar? Si deseas ayudar a nuestro Ministerio Digital a que las personas se inscriban para las vacunas, envíenos un correo electrónico a [lydia@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:lydia@sfdsnyc.org) con "COVID HELP" en la línea de asunto.

## HORARIO SEMANA SANTA Y PASCUA

No es demasiado pronto para planificar nuestros días de Semana Santa. Para aquellos de ustedes que se sienten más seguros en casa, continúen orando con nosotros a través de nuestras transmisiones en vivo. Agradecemos su consideración por su propia salud y seguridad y la de los demás.

Misa Jueves Santo a las 6:30 pm (bilingüe)

Viernes Santo (Servicio): 3pm

Vigilia Sábado Santo 7 pm \* \*

Domingo de Pascua: 9 a.m., 11 a.m. 12:30 p.m. (español)

Continuaremos siguiendo todas los Protocolos recomendadas para el distanciamiento seguro de Covid19. Conscientes de que estos son generalmente días en los que la iglesia puede estar llena, todavía tenemos un número limitado de asientos disponibles en la iglesia. Cuando hayamos alcanzado la capacidad máxima, nuestros acomodadores no podrán sentar a más personas, así que por favor venga temprano si espera asistir a la misa.

Mientras nos preparamos para nuestros servicios de Pascua, le ofrecemos dos formas más de participar: si desea contribuir con fondos para ayudar a decorar la iglesia para la Pascua, puede usar un sobre de Flores de Pascua que se puede encontrar en la iglesia, o hacer un Contribución especial en línea para donaciones de flores. Su ayuda con este esfuerzo será muy apreciada.

\*\* Tendremos el privilegio de dar la bienvenida a nuestra iglesia a tres mujeres que han sido parte de nuestro proceso de iniciación (RICA) durante el último año o más. Si le gustaría asistir a la Misa de la Vigilia Pascual, nuevamente, le pedimos que venga temprano para encontrar su asiento Y, lo invitamos a traer campanas para agregar su música a la alegría de nuestra celebración esa noche.



## EASTER APPEAL 2021

Donate online: [www.stfrancis96.org/give](http://www.stfrancis96.org/give)

We are the church that hasn't stopped during the pandemic! We've creatively adapted and pivoted to meet the growing needs of our community thanks to the continued support of our SFDS family. With Easter approaching, we ask you to consider how you can support our annual Easter appeal, a vital component of our operating budget that supplements the weekly collection to fund our ministries year-round. The suggested contribution for each wage earner this year is \$150.

Understanding that some of you are able to give more while other budgets will fall somewhere below, every contribution helps to build up our community in a very impactful way. Last year's Easter collection during the height of the NYC shutdown decreased from the previous year by 57%, a dramatic decline which I hope we can turn around in 2021. Reduced Mass attendance has greatly affected our collection so I urge you to please take this into consideration when making your Easter donation this year.

As winter turns to spring, I witness so many examples where we've taken Jesus' message of loving service to heart to discover God in our midst, most notably through our continued celebration of the sacraments and evangelization through service. I'm proud to share the following highlights of our ministries at work:

- The celebration of the sacraments continues to spiritually nurture our parish community while adhering to pandemic protocols—and not to brag, but we have effectively mastered the socially distant baptism!
- Thanks to our robust adult faith formation process including a year-round catechumenate, our parish family continues to grow: this Easter, seven adults are preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic faith plus we have five others preparing for next year.
- SFDS is a part of the Catholic Anti-Racism Project (CARP), a group that is committed to racial justice and reconciliation within the Catholic Church by creating new and innovative programming such as an anti-racism Stations of the Cross and Examen and a video and lecture series.
- The Cabrini Coalition, an arm of our Social Justice Ministry that focuses on outreach to local immigrant families, partnered with Catholic Charities and Union Settlement to successfully organize three distribution events this winter for groceries and coats for kids. They are currently planning another round for our network which has grown to over 300 families in East Harlem and the Bronx.
- We continue to live out the tenet to "Love thy neighbor" through collaborations with our SFDS community partners, including Little Sisters of the Assumption on 115th Street and Catholic Relief Services. We've also recently gotten further involved in prison ministry through the Thrive for Life Prison Project, human trafficking awareness, and outreach to homeless women and LGBT youth.
- The reach of our Digital Ministry is ever expanding, producing several live streams a week plus regular parishioner spotlight videos for viewers all over the world. Their newest campaign to assist our elderly or technologically disadvantaged neighbors in scheduling their COVID vaccines is a shining example of ministry in action.

As has been the case since the pandemic began, we want to stay ahead of the curve and to emerge from all of this "SFDS strong" so that we can continue to celebrate God's love here on 96th Street. Your financial support enables this work to continue. The safest way to make your Easter donation this year is online so we encourage you to choose this contactless option. If you prefer the Sunday collection basket or mailing a check, please be sure to mark your gift as "Easter Donation." Perhaps with tax season approaching, a portion of your refund could be donated to fund the important work of our ministries?

God is blessing us, through your continued generosity, to remain active as a parish whose focus is on mission and ministry. Thanks for everything you do for SFDS!

*Lydia Serrano, Director of Communications, Stewardship, and Community Outreach*



# LENT 2021 AT SFDS



**This Lenten season, we have a wide variety of virtual events planned!  
Join us digitally so that we may LIVE JESUS together online!**

## 'FRATELLI TUTTI' ON 96TH STREET AND BEYOND

A 3-part discussion series on 'Fratelli Tutti,' the recent encyclical from Pope Francis led by theologians Meghan Clark (St John's University) and Leo Guardado (Fordham University)

Thur, February 25 @ 7pm

"The call of discipleship rooted in the parable of the Good Samaritan" with Dr. Meghan Clark

Tue, March 9 @ 7pm

"Good politics: ways to build dialogue and friendship" with Dr. Meghan Clark

**Tue, March 23 @ 7pm**

**"People of good will" with Dr. Meghan Clark and Dr. Leo Guardado**



## FRANCINEMA films about faith

This Lenten season,  
let's explore our faith together through films!

Thur, February 11 @ 7pm—*The Way* film discussion

Thur, March 18—*Of Gods and Men* film discussion

**Thur, April 15 @ 7pm—*Green Book* film discussion**

## DISCERNMENT WITH FATHER TONY

A 2-PART RETREAT FOR SFDS MINISTRY LEADERS

These two sessions will help us discern which, of all the needs facing our parish and our community in the present moment, most call for our attention.

Sat, February 27 @ 10-11:30am via Zoom

**Sat, March 27 @10-11:30am via Zoom**

**CENTER FOR  
CATHOLIC STUDIES**  
Sacred Heart University

## THE HUMAN JOURNEY COLLOQUIA

**Our friends at Sacred Heart University have an exciting lineup of speakers this spring and the SFDS family is invited to join in online!**

February 17 @ 2pm—Building a Bridge: Reaching out to LGBTQ Catholics with *James Martin, S.J., America Magazine*

February 24, 2021 @ 7pm—Catholic Women on Racial, Environmental & Gender Justice with *Catherine Mooney, Boston College*

March 10, 2021 @ 2pm—A Symposium on Pope Francis's Fratelli Tutti: Finding Justice in an Unjust World with *Sacred Heart Professors Charlie Gillespie, Chelsea King, Brent Little, Jill Plummer and Dan Rober*

March 17, 2021 @ 2pm—Our Lady of Guadalupe: The Art of Solidarity with *Nichole Flores, University of Virginia*

March 31, 2021 @ 2pm—Experiencing God in the Struggle for Liberation with *Andrew Prevot, Boston College*

April 7, 2021 @ 7pm—Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Catholic Thought: A Proposal with *Nancy Dallavalle, Fairfield University*

April 14, 2021 @ 7pm—Reshaping Our Imagination of Salvation with *Sr. Elizabeth A. Johnson, Fordham University*

**[www.sfdsnfyc.org/lent](http://www.sfdsnfyc.org/lent)**

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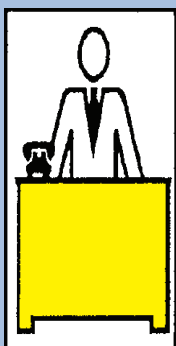
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