



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

**DECEMBER 6, 2020**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**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.

**SFDSNYC.ORG**



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Listen to our weekly podcast

# THOSE IN OUR PRAYERS

## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020**

9am– Raquel Montijo (D)

11am - Henry Mendonca (D)  
Vincent McDonnell (L)

12:30am – Esther Marti (D)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020**

8:30am– Edgar Almodiente (L)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020**

8:30am – Albert F. Toni (D)

## 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, Joanne Jamotta

### 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

## 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**  
Pastor  
fatherkelly@sfdsnyc.org



**JAYNE PORCELLI**  
Pastoral Assoc. & Dir. Rel. Ed.  
jayneporcelli@sfdsnyc.org



**DYLAN WYKA**  
Director of Music Ministries  
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**KATHY CALDERÓN**  
Office Manager  
kathycalderon@sfdsnyc.org



**LYDIA SERRANO**  
Director of Communications,  
Stewardship and Community Outreach



**ALBERTO PEÑA**  
Plant Manager

## WEEKEND ASSOCIATES

**REV. ANTHONY CIORRA**  
**MGR. ROBERT STERN**

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

# SFDS + COMMUNITY



## DIGITAL GIVING TREE

[www.sfdsnyc.org/givingtree](http://www.sfdsnyc.org/givingtree)

SFDS collects gifts for our community partners every Christmas season and this year is no different! For the safety of our parish, all gifts should be donated online or delivered directly to the organization. This year, our gifts will bring joy to our neighbors through LSA Family Health Service, Thrive for Life Prison Project, The Dwelling Place of NY, and St. Philip's, Brooklyn. Visit

our webpage to participate.



## ÁRBOL DIGITAL DE REGALOS

[www.sfdsnyc.org/givingtree](http://www.sfdsnyc.org/givingtree)

SFDS recoge regalos para nuestros socios de la comunidad cada temporada navideña y este año no es diferente. Para la seguridad de nuestra parroquia, todos los regalos deben ser donados en línea o entregados directamente a la organización. Este año, nuestras donaciones traerán alegría a nuestros vecinos a través de LSA Family Health Service, Thrive for Life Prison Project, The Dwelling Place of NY, and St. Philip's, Brooklyn. Visite nuestra página web para

participar.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR COVID CONTRIBUTIONS

A heartfelt thank you to everyone in the #SFDSfamily who has contributed above and beyond to the parish since the pandemic began. In a time when so many are experiencing financial insecurity, the generosity of parishioners who are able to give extra is helping to see us through in light of the steep decrease in Sunday donations. Thanks to all our sustaining members for your continued support in building up the kingdom of God here on 96th Street.

Breakdown of \$1000+ contributions (Sept-November)

\$5000 - SFDS family

\$3000 - SFDS parishioner

\$1000—Friend of SFDS

### Weekly Collection

Nov 17th-Nov 23rd

\$3,648.93—Online Debit Giving

\$1,949.00— Collection 9:00am,11:00am&12:30pm Masses/

Mailed in Checks

Total-\$5,597.93

Nov 24th-Nov 30th

\$3019.14—Online Debit Giving

\$1,215.00— Collection 9:00am,11:00am&12:30pm Masses/

Mailed in Checks

Total-\$4234



## NEW! PRODUCTION TEAM FOR DIGITAL MINISTRY—JOIN US!

So many of you are tuning in weekly for our masses online that we will continue to livestream on Sundays even after we reopen. This gives us

an opportunity to add another team to our Digital Ministry: a production team! If you have experience with filming or audio or are interested to learn, please call the Parish Office at 212.289.0425 or e-mail Lydia

at: [lydia@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:lydia@sfdsnyc.org) - there are so many ways to Live Jesus on 96th Street! For the Mass Program, in English, scan this QR code or visit: [www.sfdsnyc.org/mass](http://www.sfdsnyc.org/mass)

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

# LATEST NEWS

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



## MAKE YOUR FINANCIAL DONATIONS GO TWICE AS FAR!

Does your employer have a corporate matching program?

Many companies will match charitable gifts made by their employees with financial donations. Please check with your human resource department to see if you are able to maximize your gifts through a matching program. You might be able to double your impact in growing our community of faith here on 96th Street! For more information, e-mail Lydia: [lydia@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:lydia@sfdsnyc.org)



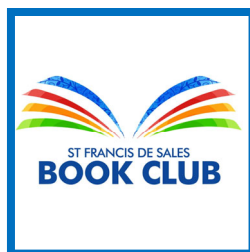
## FLOWERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS TIME

We want to offer you the opportunity to memorialize your loved ones, living or deceased, in a most special way. Would you consider making a financial donation for our Christmas flowers in the name of one you cherish? This living gift will allow us to create a beautiful space for our Christmas worship and certainly add to the joy of our celebration during the Christmas season. Donations can be made either on line through our electronic giving platform, or via check/cash/envelop in the collection basket. Thank you for your consideration.



## LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT?

We have the answer! How about a biography of our very own Fr. Neil Connolly? This brand new book is titled: The Kingdom Began in Puerto Rico, written by Angel Garcia. This book tells the story of Fr. Neil's work in the South Bronx and his life as a priest in our city. It promises to be a fascinating read. We have copies available for a special price from the publisher: \$20.00. In addition we will be hosting Mr. Angel Garcia on January 14th, 2021 for a brand new year of Pop Up Theology so he can share more stories of Fr. Neil and his ministry in the South Bronx during the turbulent 60's with us. See Jayne if you'd like to purchase your own copy of this book and mark your calendars for Jan 14th.



## BOOK CLUB FOR DECEMBER: "FRATELLI TUTTI" BY POPE FRANCIS

Monday, December 14 @ 8PM via Zoom

This time of quarantine and social distance offers a unique opportunity to check us out! This month, we'll be discussing "Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship" by Pope Francis. Please e-mail us for Zoom meeting details - [sfdsbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:sfdsbookclub@gmail.com) - all are welcome!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY MEETING FOR DECEMBER

Thursday, December 10, 2020 @ 6:30pm via Zoom

Join us in navigating this pandemic together, when many are suffering need and systems are being re-examined. There's room for you in our Social Justice Ministry! For Zoom meeting login details, please contact: [sjm@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:sjm@sfdsnyc.org)

# ÚLTIMAS NOTICIAS & PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

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



## ESTOY SOÑANDO CON UNA NAVIDAD CON DISTANCIA Y SEGURIDAD

Para aquellos de ustedes que están más felices al planificar con anticipación, queremos informarles que estamos considerando tomar “reservaciones” para las Misas de Navidad de este año. Queremos brindar una manera segura y saludable de continuar adorando juntos y creemos que esta es la opción más inteligente. Nuestro horario de Misas será: Nochebuena 4 pm y; Día de Navidad 11 am.

## RECORDANDO A NUESTROS SERES QUERIDOS EN NAVIDAD

Queremos ofrecerle la oportunidad de conmemorar a sus seres queridos, vivos o fallecidos, de la manera más especial. ¿Consideraría hacer una **donación financiera** para nuestras **flores navideñas** en nombre de una que aprecia? Este regalo viviente nos permitirá crear un hermoso espacio para nuestro culto navideño y ciertamente se sumará a la alegría de nuestra celebración durante la temporada navideña. Las donaciones se pueden hacer en línea a través de nuestra plataforma electrónica de donaciones o mediante cheque / efectivo / sobre en la canasta de recolección. Gracias por su consideración.



## ¡HAGA QUE SUS DONACIONES FINANCIERAS CUENTEN AL DOBLE!

¿Hay un programa de igualación corporativa en su trabajo?

Muchas compañías igualarán las donaciones caritativas hechas por sus empleados con donaciones financieras. Consulte con su departamento de recursos humanos para ver si puede maximizar sus donaciones a través de un programa de correspondencia. ¡Es posible que pueda duplicar su impacto en el crecimiento de nuestra comunidad de fe aquí en la calle 96! Para obtener más información, envíe un correo electrónico a Lydia: [lydia@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:lydia@sfdsnyc.org)

*Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe*

**Viernes, 11 diciembre**  
**Vigilia digital**

- ★ **7pm**—el Santo Rosario  
*Únete a nosotros por Zoom*
- ★ **8pm**—Vigilia por video  
*Únete a nosotros en Facebook y YouTube*

**Sábado, 12 diciembre**  
**Misa para Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**

- ★ **4pm**—en San Francisco de Sales  
*Únete a nosotros en persona o por Facebook y YouTube*

  **sfdsnyc** 



## Who Shall We Pray For During Advent?

On Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Christ the King, we had the absolute joy to celebrate the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens (\*\* a catechumen is one who is being instructed in the ways of our faith\*\*) for four (4) women who have been journeying with us since the start of our pandemic reality. Two young women first knocked on our actual door in February, and have continued to attend our RCIA sessions via our Monday night Zoom. The other two women figuratively knocked on the door in the midst of these confusing days when the world is upside down, when we see only one another's eyes shining over masked smiles, when we can't hug, can't come into a church building without concerns for time and breath and air flow...these two women, after a few months of inquiry sessions also on Zoom, have asked us to welcome them into our faith.

Four unique women, single, engaged, married, moms, lawyers, artists, business women, educators seeking to follow the call they have heard from our gracious and loving God. They ask to be one with us in faith, at a time when they can't really come to Sunday Mass and worship with us in a safe and healthy manner. How will they get to know who we are? How will they come to understand what it means to be a parish family when we are separated from each other? As we gathered that afternoon for the Rite of Acceptance, three women came to church, with their sponsors, one was watching via our new livestream technology from her new home in Georgia. Who would have imagined that we would be connecting with her from such a distance! While we prayed and offered blessings for our catechumens here on 96th St, our sister in Georgia was blessed by and praying with her fiancé. She felt connected to us in every way, especially each time we called out her name and waved to her through the new camera mounted under the choir loft. Technology can be such a blessing these days!

As we took time to reflect on the experience shared by these four women, each took the time to look deeply at what this ritual meant to them. They spoke of feeling enveloped in the love of God, the gift of taking time to look at and appreciate this call God has offered them, the wonder of taking the time now at this point in their lives, to answer this invitation from their creator. They spoke of tears of joy. They mentioned gratitude for knowing that this journey, while shared with their loved ones, is a journey of faith that is theirs alone. There was such a sense of awe for the mystery of this faith they seek.

And can I tell you about their sponsors? Usually, in days when we're not fighting a global pandemic, we invite you, our parishioners, to step up and accompany these folks, in prayer and friendship. We ask you to be sponsors for them, a kind of church buddy, someone they can look to for help in getting to know how we live and pray and breath as Catholics. Sometimes it's as simple as sitting with them at Sunday Mass and helping them find their place in the missalette and showing them when to do our 'catholic calisthenics'...you know, when we sit, stand, and kneel...

Alas, we can't ask you this currently, because of safe social distancing. So, in lieu of your pastoral presence with them, we have asked some of their significant others, spouses, fiancés, to step up and help them negotiate some of the ins and outs of our virtual worship. We did also invite two of our parishioners who have gone through this same process in the last few years, to step into the role of parish sponsor, albeit from a distance. All of these sponsors were so filled with the Spirit of God last Sunday, and so willing to help their 'person' experience all the love and blessings that God wanted to shower on them. I truly believe our new folks are in excellent hands.

So what is left for us to do as a parish community? Well, I would ask you to do what we do best...pray for these women, and for all our catechumens who are preparing for sacraments come springtime. Did I mention we also have 4 brand new inquirers, MORE people looking to answer God's invitation to come and follow in the way of discipleship?

A final thought, since we can't gather together on Sundays to welcome and greet our catechumens. Perhaps as a special Advent practice you might consider writing a note of welcome to our new friends? If you're old school like me, it could be as simple as sending a card here to the parish addressed to "RCIA folks" 135 E 96th St, NY NY 10128...and I'll make sure to share your good wishes with them on Monday evenings. If you are comfortable on the computer, drop me an email, same label, "RCIA folks", to [jayneporcelli@sfdsnyc.org](mailto:jayneporcelli@sfdsnyc.org) and I will be happy to share with them. Either way, reaching out with a short note would be a fabulous way of letting these folks know that the parish is aware that they are here, they are with us, they are walking their faith journey in particularly trying times, and we care for and support them with our prayers and good wishes.

So, please keep: Crystal, Cesar, Leslie, Luke, Wendell, Angelique, Mica, Evie, Kristie and Adrian, Kristina, Katrina, Leah and Lucy in your prayers now and in the days to come. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide them and to be with us all as we walk together in faith. As we are so often reminded these days, 'we don't know what the future holds, but we know WHO holds the future!' May the Spirit of God work through each one of us this Advent season to help the Kingdom come.

# CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2020

The annual Christmas collection is an extremely important portion of our budget that funds our ministry efforts throughout the year. We undertake so many great works in our parish and our community—help us to continue our mission in 2021 by partnering in ministry with us to practice responsible stewardship.

## WAYS TO GIVE

Donate online:

[bit.ly/christmasSFDS](https://bit.ly/christmasSFDS)

Mail a check:

St. Francis de Sales, Parish Office, 135 East 96th Street, New York, NY 10128

## WHAT GIVES ME HOPE?

The hope these parishioners feel and give back is possible thanks to your support!



**Lorena S.**

*Involved in: Grupo Hispano de SFDS, Cabrini Coalition, and Hospitality & Music Ministries*

I believe that change is possible through God. Receiving leadership training from the pastoral staff and technology tutoring to build our Spanish-language outreach has filled me with confidence and opened up new ways for me to practice my faith. I'm learning so much at SFDS and meeting parishioners from all walks of life.

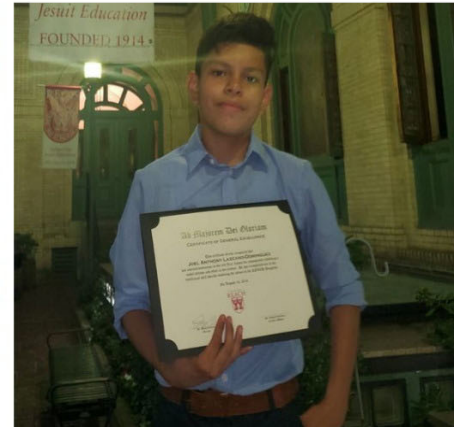


**Laura & Mike G.**

*Involved in: SFDS Stewardship Board, Hospitality Ministry, & Religious Education*

I feel hope because God is good and I feel His love in our SFDS community. I feel hope when I see the Faith Formation student faces on Zoom each week, and in our Stewardship giving. The joy of giving and helping our community fills my soul.

~Laura



**Joel L.**

*Alumnus of our SFDS Religious Education process, current student at Regis High School*

It's not easy to be a high school student right now, but I know that things will be ok—I learned so much about my faith at SFDS that is guiding me and my family right now. I am happy for all the current Religious Ed. students who have the support of our parish. I know that through God the future will be better.



## SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES



Christmas Eve Mass—4pm

Christmas Day Mass—11am

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED TO GUARANTEE SEATING: [www.sfdsnyc.org/christmasrsvp](https://www.sfdsnyc.org/christmasrsvp)

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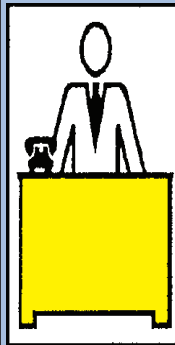
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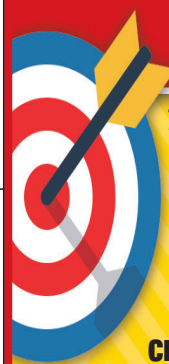
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