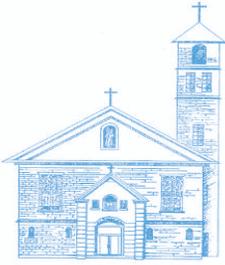


# SAINT FRANCIS of ASSISI CHURCH



325 Cambridge Street • Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
Telephone: 617-876-6754 • Fax 617-547-1505  
Email: st\_francis\_42@yahoo.com



## Parish Staff:

Very Reverend Walter A. Carreiro, V.F.

Administrator  
Email: fr.waltcar@zoho.com

Reverend Jim Darcy  
Reverend Cristiano G. B. Barbosa  
Betty Saccoccio  
John Ciampi  
William Mahaney & Jane Hardy

Senior Priest / Weekend Assistant  
Daily Mass Assistant  
Director of Religious Education  
Acolyte  
Cantor and Organist

## Mass Schedule:

Sunday	9:30 a.m.
Monday	7:00 a.m.
Tuesday	12:10 p.m.
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.
Friday	7:00 a.m.
Saturday	4:00 p.m. at Saint Anthony Church

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday	3:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m. at St. Anthony's
Monday & Friday	following Mass
Tuesday	after Mass

## Devotions:

Following the daily mass as follows:  
Tuesdays Saint Anthony of Padua  
Wednesdays Saint Jude the Apostle

## Rectory Office Hours:

The Office is located at 400 Cardinal Medeiros Ave.  
Monday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday Closed

## Sacrament of Baptism:

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month (except the season of Lent) at Saint Anthony Church. A preparation class is required for parents and godparents on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month prior to the baptism. Please call the parish office to arrange for the baptism at least a month in advance

## Sacrament of Matrimony:

Please contact a priest at least a year in advance to schedule your wedding

## Pastoral Care of the Sick:

Please contact the parish office at (617) 876-6754 or one of the priests for a loved one to receive a visit and the Sacrament of the Sick.

## Welcome to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

We welcome you to our celebration today. If you wish to register as a member of the parish, please complete the following form and return it to us:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mass Intentions**

<b>December 28 · Sunday</b>	<b>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>
4:00p.m.	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass at Saint Anthony Church</i>
5:00 p.m.	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart Church</i>
9:30 a.m.	Albert & Florence Miano
<b>December 29 · Monday</b>	<b>5th Day within the Octave of Christmas</b>
7:00 a.m.	Intentions of the Parishioners
<b>December 30 · Tuesday</b>	<b>6th Day within the Octave of Christmas</b>
12:10 p.m.	Deceased priests of the Archdiocese
<b>December 31 · Wednesday</b>	<b>7th Day within the Octave of Christmas</b>
7:00 a.m.	
<b>January 1 · Thursday</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</b>
9:30 a.m.	Ralph DeAmato, Month's Mind
<b>January 2 · Friday</b>	<b>Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazienzen, Bishops and Doctors</b>
7:00 a.m.	
<b>January 4 · Sunday</b>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
4:00p.m.	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass at Saint Anthony Church</i>
5:00 p.m.	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart Church</i>
9:30 a.m.	Manfredi Grassi

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Tuesdays at Saint Francis of Assisi Church**

All are welcome, invited and encouraged to pray at the chapel at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish each Tuesday morning from 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Following benediction at Noon, daily Mass is celebrated.

**Thursdays at Saint Anthony Parish**

**THERE WILL BE NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ON CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY. ADORATION WILL COMMENCE ON JANUARY 8TH.**

**Our Weekly Offerings**

Offertory (December 21st) \$295.00  
 Offertory (Christmas Day) N/A

**Upcoming Special Second Collections:**

- January – First Offering (to Help defray the cost of the envelopes)
- January 1st – Solemnity of Mary Offering
- January 4th – Utility Fund
- January 11th – Monthly Collection
- January 18th – Special Collection Sunday

Also, thank you very much for the gifts & weekly offertory donations which are signs of your faith & your commitment for the financial well-being of our parish community. May God bless you with His grace & most precious gifts!



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FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

*By Dr. Scott Hahn*

**In the New Beginning**

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-5, 9-14

The birth of Jesus marks a new creation, the start of a new heavens and a new earth (see Isaiah 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13). That's why the first words of today's Gospel reprise the Bible's first words - "In the beginning" (see Genesis 1:1).

Jesus is the Word that God spoke when He said, "Let there be," and all things came to be (see Genesis 1:3,26). The Wisdom through whom all things were made (see Proverbs 8:22-31; Wisdom 7:21-27), Jesus is also the mighty Word by whom God sustains all things.

The Word of God (see Revelation 19:13) has become flesh. This is the mystery we sing of in today's Psalm - the revelation of mankind's salvation in the sight of the nations.

The Word comes as God and king, we hear in today's First Reading. Enthroned at God's right hand (see Psalm 110:1), He is the royal Son who has received all the nations as His inheritance (see Psalm 2:8).

The Word comes, too, as a heavenly high priest, as we hear in today's Epistle. Through His blood, He accomplished atonement and purification from sin (see Exodus 30:10; Hebrews 6:20; 10:3-7, 11-13).

And by this, He has made it possible for each of us to live as children of God, as "new creations" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15).

In the beginning, God made men and women in His image (see Genesis 1:27). In the new creation, He brings that divine image to perfection in Jesus, who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, and the firstborn from the dead (see Colossians 1:15, 18).

Let us resolve this Christmas to give Jesus rule over our hearts, to ever more mold our hearts in the image of our Creator - that the Christ-child may be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God (see Colossians 3:10; Romans 8:29).

**Fr. Walter's Column**

Merry Christmas! Buon Natale!

With our Mass celebrations this past week, Christmas began! Today within the Octave of Christmas we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family and will celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on New Year's Day. It is a time to ask for the Lord's special blessings upon all families and our parish family also. I hope all of you had a wonderful & blessed Christmas. It certainly is a hectic time of year & yet how nice it is to finally get to the destination where we will be for Christmas day & enjoy time with family & friends.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the gifts and good wishes given at Christmas. In a special way I'd also like to thank all the many people who made our celebrations special in many ways: Fr. Jim Darcy, our musicians, our decorators, and the Lectors, Altar Servers, and Ushers. To all, a most sincere and heartfelt thanks!

And to you, the parishioners, who enhance the liturgies by your presence: that the Lord may abundantly bless you in the New Year with his goodness!

May the Lord's Grace, Blessings and Peace be yours during the coming year!

Fr. Walter

**Prayer for Families**

O God, we ask you for unity, health, and joy for our family and all families of the world.

Heavenly Father,  
you wanted Your Son Jesus to be born  
and to grow in the heart of a human family  
just like each of us.

Throughout his simple life,  
Jesus learned little by little  
from Saint Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary  
how to grow into adulthood  
and discover His mission in the world.

May today's families be stable and live in harmony.

May each member of the family reach  
the fullness of their potential.

May they be happy.

May they come together with one another.

May they always be willing to forgive.

Father of all tenderness,  
grant to those families  
who confront sickness, grief, or division  
the strength to continue to grow and hope  
in You and in one another. Amen.

**NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE  
SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD**

*New Year's Day ~ Mary, Mother of God  
Thursday, January 1, 2014*

9:30am Mass at St. Francis Church  
9:45am Mass at Saint Anthony Church

**Living Christ's Mission: New Year's**

At the start of the New Year, in the country of Bolivia, they hold the "Fiesta de las Alasitas." In preparation for this celebration, artisans craft miniatures depicting what the people would want to accomplish during the year. At a full-scale fiesta, persons buy the miniatures that represent their hopes and dreams for the coming year such as a home, a job, friendship, marriage, and personal growth. They prominently display the miniatures in their homes as a reminder throughout the year that they need to dedicate themselves in actions and prayer for the development of their miniature into reality.

If you were to participate in the "Fiesta de las Alasitas" what are the miniatures that you would purchase? What are your hopes and dreams for this New Year? While our hopes and dreams will vary among us, one goal should be uniformly chosen--getting to heaven to live eternally with the God who loves us. What actions are you going to take and what prayers are you going to offer to turn that miniature into reality?

Fortunately, Jesus has taught us exactly what we need to do. We need to love God with all of our hearts and give to our neighbors the wonderful gifts that God has given to us. If we are the leaders of a family or a parish we also have to think about what we can do to provide opportunities for our loved ones to fulfill this goal of reaching heaven. Do we encourage gifts of time, talent, and treasure, welcome these gifts, and use them productively?

This year of 2015 is a new start in our journey to reach heaven by sharing what we have on earth. May each step be guided by Christ's teaching and the support we offer to those in our lives!

God bless you!

*Mr. Joseph Citro, MSW, serves as the Vice President of Greater Mission, which inspires profound generosity to Catholic causes. He can be reached at [jcitro@greatermission.com](mailto:jcitro@greatermission.com).*

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