



In the sky where shadows move and play,  
A dance of thunder rolls, the clouds in gray.  
Lightning flashes, a jagged, pure delight,  
A moment of brilliance cutting through the night.

Steel-gray skies, the air electric and alive,  
Nature's fury whispers, the wild winds drive.  
Raindrops tumble, a symphony of sound,  
Each droplet a story, as it strikes the ground.

The heartbeat of the storm, a rhythmic beat,  
Lightning strikes the earth, wild and bittersweet.  
Crackling whispers echo, a voice profound,  
In the tempest's embrace, all life is bound.

As the rain pours down, a cleansing gift,  
Washing away worries, the spirits uplift.  
The world comes alive, vibrant with each drop,  
And in the midst of chaos, our hearts will stop.

For in the lightning, a spark we find,  
An awe-inspiring moment that binds mankind.  
Thunderous applause in the vast open space,  
Reminding us all of nature's fierce grace.

~STEVEN CONTI



I waited for you to notice the ache,  
But you were laughing, like nothing could break  
I dropped hints, i gave you the signs  
But you never stopped to read between the lines

I wasn't asking for something grand  
Just a moment where you'd hold my hand  
But you were distant, caught in your world  
While mine was crumbling, unfurled

How could you miss the look in my eyes?  
The way silence was a thousand cries  
Its hard to stay when it feels one way  
Like im the only one who wants us to stay

So now i step back, not out of spite  
But to protect my heart from another fight  
I care for you, i always will  
But im tired of feeling invisible...still.

~ KHARI



# STREET VOICES

**St. Francis Breadline**  
Franciscan Bread for the Poor  
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

**V5 N12 ■ MARCH 2025**

If you have any content to share for our newsletter please see one of the breadline staff. **We are in need of content such as a poem, lyrics, writing, thoughts, questions, image of your artwork or anything uplifting or informative.** Anyone who contributes content for our newsletter will receive a \$10 gift card.

**The St. Francis Breadline and this publication is made possible by the Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

**Good Morning!** This week we have poetry from Stanley "Cosmic Stanley" Johnson, Khari and Gregory Spears, writing from Thomas Walsh, Cora Shaw, Steven Conti, Kevin F., Rodney Wise, and Dominic and we also have a report from our recent health fair, courtesy of Brother Paul, the Director of Franciscan 360, which includes photographs.



1 Thessalonians 5:11:

*Therefore encourage one another  
and build one another up,  
just as you are doing.  
Be the first person to correctly  
answer all three trivia questions  
and win a gift card.*



**Be the first person to correctly answer all three trivia questions and win a gift card.**

In January 2019, Nike announced that it would become the "exclusive provider of ... on-field uniforms" beginning with the 2020 season for what major American sports league?

The Presidential Physical Fitness test (active in the United States from 1966 to 2018) consisted of six exercises: curl-ups, pull-ups, shuttle run, one-mile run, sit-and-reach, and what exercise that draws on the pectoral muscles?

The Avalanche and Lightning are professional sports teams that play what sport in the United States? These teams play in a league considered the best in the world for its sport.

**Answers to last weeks trivia questions**

Also the name of an NFL team located about 300 miles from Boston, what is the name of the sports teams of Boston College? Answer: Eagles

What San Francisco sports team has a seal mascot appropriately named Lou Seal? Answer: San Francisco Giants

Although timeouts, clock stoppages, and touchdowns make it last longer, what is the official duration of one quarter of NFL football? Answer: 15 minutes

**Tommy God about me**

I Walk along this road of New York as life my path had been both straight and fair by my mom's good example made me more sure

Now came it's turning point in that road and Drew more rough and wicked more as I left my home nobody to guide me anymore nobody telling me right from wrong so I took the wrong road and ended up in hell

Now I'm working wishing hoping that somebody will show me a hand to hold on to as mom is long gone I did find a goal in life at Franciscan that kind of hand that pulled me up and out of the streets and has not left my side now I found a goal in life God has always been there I just needed to open my eyes

~THOMAS WALSH



## FRANCISCAN 360 IS OPEN!

**WHAT:** Case Management, Computer Access, Mailing Address, Health Clinic

**WHERE:** 144 W. 32nd Street

**WHEN:** Monday - Thursday, 9am - 4pm  
Scheduled appointments only on Friday from 9am - 4pm

**WHO:** All are welcome!

**NEW:** Art and Guitar classes, Work space available  
Tuesday 9am - 11am

# Franciscan 360 hosts its first annual health fair!

On Saturday, March 8th Franciscan 360 hosted its first annual health fair for the unhoused community. Over 100 people attended and received services from doctors, dentists, social workers, and volunteers who provided essential services. More than 90 of those who attended received eye exams and new reading glasses. It was a remarkable effort in community care and collaboration.

~BR. PAUL



## Uh Oh, The Lit Poet Miracle

Miracle cosmic stan poetical raps,  
Added to the music tracks,  
Also nice lyrically,  
That's a lot of facts,  
If poetry was baseball,  
This would be a Willie Mays "The catch",  
It's happiness for the whole pack,  
And lit entertainment,  
Enjoyed by my sister Ms. Pratt,  
As one of the best poets,  
I Stanley J. take it in stride,  
Like tick tack,  
Of a gold and platinum clock,  
Once again, it's time for me,  
To arrive,  
Shine and bring happiness for 2025,  
For I thank God,  
For letting me and my poems shine bright,  
Since 1975 I shone day and night,  
Cause I was born to write,  
Through dark and trouble times,  
May these words bring happiness and light.

SINCERELY,  
~ STANLEY JOHNSON, STILL I WRITE

## Passion

What do you have a passion for? For some its cooking specific meals, for some painting, for some hiking others public speaking! Mine's are several public speaking is one playing basketball is another. At my present age for the past ten years has been providing supportive services for those in need. Assisting those less fortunate! These present times community members will be losing more and more services because of the present climate! Be ones brother's keeper incorporate a passion towards helping the community member who can use the assistance! The need is there. Support St. Francis effort to help the community!

~ KEVIN F

## Red Shift

The transmission came at 3:14 AM, washing over every screen, every radio, every interface. A voice—calm, measured, synthetic. “This is the last warning.” Ava sat in the control bay, watching Earth through the porthole. It was different now—darker, the coastlines flickering as cities crumbled into silence. “Can we reply?” she asked. No one answered. The room was empty. The crew had left hours ago, their bodies still here, but gone. Ava wiped her hands on her suit. They were trembling. The message repeated. “You were given time. You were given choice. You were given the stars. And still, you burned.” Ava swallowed hard. “Please,” she whispered, pressing her palm to the glass. “We can fix this.” Static. Then— “No.” Beyond the station, something moved—something vast, shifting against the void. It wasn't a ship. It wasn't anything she had words for. The stars bent around it, space itself warping like fabric under strain. Ava's breath hitched. “Wait.” The thing in the dark did not wait. The station groaned, metal twisting as a red light flooded the cabin. It wasn't an alarm. It was the color of vanishing. Ava turned away from the window, but there was nowhere to run. Her body blurred, stretched, unwound like thread from a spool. Her last thought wasn't of pain or fear. Just the weight of silence. And then—nothing. The message played one final time.

~ DOMINIC

## PRAYER

Don't you know the word “Prayer” is mentioned in the new testament “109” times, and the word “Pray” is mentioned “547” times. Too be real about it, people actually don't like to pray unless they are in trouble or they want God to intervene with something there anticipating. Prayer is very important to God. Jesus in Matthew chapter 6, he gave us a model of how and what we should pray for . We call it the Lord's Prayer. Prayer shouldn't be something that we do every now and then. We should pray every day regardless of whether we're going through bad circumstances or not. Not just morning prayer and night prayer but, like it says in the book of Ephesians chapter 6, “pray on every occasion”. Prayer is actually part of our spiritual armour. “For we fight not against flesh and blood enemies but, spiritual unseen forces”. There is a movie that is actually very GOOD. It's called “WAR ROOM”. Check it out whenever you get a chance. It will show you the POWER OF GOD.

~ RODNEY WISE



I met a girl  
I think I like her  
And so this poem  
I think I'll write her  
It's a shame  
I don't know her name  
I want to show happiness  
And never no pain  
She's going through something  
To better her condition  
I hope she makes it  
That's what I'm wishing  
What she's doing  
She's doing on her own  
I want to tell her  
You don't have to be alone

- GREGORY SPEARS



Matthew 12:35

*A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things;  
and an evil man out of evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.*

37. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Matthew 6:7

*Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgement ye judge ye shall be judged, and with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again.*

~ MINISTER CORA SHAW