

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched without hands, concerning the word of life.

The life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal

which was with the Father and was made manifest to us. 3. That which we have seen and

heard we proclaim also to. you, so that you may have fellowship with us and indeed our

Fellowship is with the Father and with his son Jesus Christ.

And we are writing these things that our Joy might be complete.

The affiliation and fellowship with the Church Of St. Francis, 31st St., Manhattan, N.Y, whose Mission with open hearts is faithfully serving its community and city providing support services , building Bridges and expanding it’s Border (KINGDOM] to produce positive results for effective change, development and growth as it’s Leaders, Priest, Pastors, progressively marked the History of time regarding it’s profoundness of teaching the WORD OF GOD, as it is written, causing Life Changing experiences to those touched by it from near and far, giving HOPE and REFUGE, and provision as feeding and aiding misfortunate. Its universal calling is with a Global Impact and vision. I find it amazing, and my life bear witness of the its teaching, in spite of life’s challenges, when facing crises, St. Francis shared open arms, also provided opportunity that we could share as have occasionally, STREET VOICE, Adam, Thanks!

Also special acknowledgement and thanks to NEAL, (St.Francis), May God ‘s favor richly, embrace, bless, and strengthen you and grant fulfillment of your hearts desire concerning his plan for your destiny to succeed with greater expectations . We appreciate you.

Fellowship with the body reflects GOD’S LOVE, in him and each other may our JOY be complete in JESUS.

AND BY THIS LOVE ALL MEN SHALL KNOW WE ARE GOD’s DISCIPLES.

- MINISTER CORA SHAW



St. Francis Breadline
Franciscan Bread for the Poor
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

V5 N29 ■ JULY 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.

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

Good Morning! This week we have writing from Jane Farmer, Mercedes, Cora Shaw, poetry from Khari, writing from Rodney Wise, poetry from Stryker, a story about St. Francis from Dominic, and artwork from Joey and Lola Derrick.

PSALM 37:1-4
Of David.

- 1 *Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong;*
- 2 *for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.*
- 3 *Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.*
- 4 *Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

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

What is the name of the world’s first artificial satellite?

What is the chemical element with the symbol Fe?

What is the smallest unit of matter?

Answers to last weeks trivia questions

In which combat sport that takes space in a dojo is salt traditionally used as part of a purification ritual before a match? Answer: Sumo

What famous cereal mascot’s first and middle names are “Horatio Magellan,” helms a ship called The Guppy, and sports a Napoleon-style hat? Answer: Cap’N Crunch

Which NYC borough is the only one that does not have a professional sports team? Answer: Staten Island

Trusting in God

No matter how rich you are or how poor you are, we all go through trials and sometimes tribulations. No one is exempt from troubles. At times in some cases trials and tribulations can become very DARK. It seems like NO ONE is there. All the people who you thought were your friends seems like they have disappeared. You even feel abandoned by God himself. But, that is not TRUE. Jesus made a promise in his word that “I will never leave you nor forsake you”. He is not just your Savior and LORD. He is your BEST friend. He sticks closer than a brother. He is NOT “too faced”. I challenge you today put ALL of your trust in God. There will be LIGHT at the end of the tunnel.

- RODNEY WISE

Golden rays kiss the horizon’s edge,
Whispering secrets on a gentle breeze.
Blossoms bloom in vibrant pledge,
Colors dancing among the trees.

Laughter echoes on sunlit days,
Children’s joy in carefree flight,
Swimmers glide in shimmering bays,
Under the warm, guiding light.

Ice cream drips, and fireflies gleam,
Starlit nights with a velvet glow,
Summer’s magic, a living dream,
In hearts wherever we go.

A time of warmth, of joy, of song,
Summer’s spirit, forever strong.
By, Steven Conti

-A.K.A. STRYKER

My phone was just an object
A thing to pass through empty hours
A placeholder for boredom
Nothing more, nothing ours

But then his words appeared
Too good, too bright, too warm to be real
I caught myself waiting,
Craving the way his sentences made me feel

I never cared for late nights
None was where my day would end
But when he asked, “What time do you sleep?”
I lied - “Ten” - just to pretend

Not for the time, but for the moments
The way he turned minutes into gold
For once, the phone wasn’t just a thing,
But a lifeline to something i wanted to hold

A conversation was all i needed,
More than the screen, more than the glow
I’d stay awake eyes heavy, heart light,
Just to hear what he’d say before i let go.

- KHARI

Picking Yourself Back Up Again

It's easy to get discouraged when you feel you aren't making any progress. It's common to sit down and fantasize about your aspirations and how you plan to achieve everything you heart desires. Actually putting those thoughts into motion and making your dreams a reality is a bit more challenging. It's especially difficult if you are setting unrealistic goals for yourself to begin with. One cannot go from a sedentary daydreamer to an up-and-active go-getter overnight. While it's possible to adjust yourself so extremely that you do a complete 180 and practically become a new person the very next day, for most of us, it simply isn't feasible and making plans that are unlikely to be seen through is setting oneself up for failure, discouragement, and further hibernation. It's better to set your sights on smaller, but more realistic goals that aren't physically and mentally strenuous to be achieved than to plan impractically based on whims and fantasies and, in the end, accomplish nothing. It's as the old saying goes, "slow and steady wins the race". Those that jump into their goals at a slower pace are more likely to see them through and reach the finish line than those that set their expectations too high and drop out of the race altogether. If you've done this in the past, you might have found yourself giving up entirely. You might have found yourself in slumber, riddled with disappointment and crushed hopes. But it's important that you don't remain down for too long. It's ok to wallow in sadness for a bit every now and then, but always remember to pick yourself back up. What you need for continuous progression is a new game plan; quitting is never the answer, however. No matter how many times you started and restarted a task, no matter how many times you've promised yourself that this week or year would be different and failed, you always have it within you to start anew and try again. It can be tiring to hear yourself proclaiming the same story over and over again and after a while, you may tire of it, but hope, self-love, and faith in the Lord are the strongest powers we have as humans. Pick yourself up again and keep going.

- JANE FARMER



Drawing by Joey

I look around and I thank God for the beauty he provides for us.
All the beauty of the world.
The birds, the trees, the oceans, the seas.
It's all so beautiful to me.
Why does God give us such beauty that we don't deserve?
Why does he reward humanity despite our sins?
How can we repay him for such a thankless act?
Worship Him, worship Him, worship Him.
That is the best we can do.
Accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
Remember He died for our sins.
He is the gateway to eternal life.
Praise the Lord.

- MERCEDES

"The Unclothed Prophet"

—A biographical flash story of Saint Francis of Assisi

Before he was a saint, he was Giovanni — Francesco, as his father called him, the silk merchant's son. He laughed too loudly, dressed too richly, dreamed too recklessly. War called, and Francis answered, craving glory. But illness found him first, and in the silence of recovery, something shifted.

He began giving his wealth to the poor. Quietly at first, then with conviction. He prayed in ruins — the church of San Damiano crumbling around him — and claimed he heard Christ speak: "Rebuild my house." So he did, stone by stone.

His father, Pietro Bernardone, enraged at the shame, dragged him before the bishop. Francis didn't argue. He simply removed his fine clothes, folded them neatly, and laid them at his father's feet. Naked, he said, "From now on, I have no father but God."

He begged in the streets. Cared for lepers. Preached barefoot with joy. Men began to follow him — peasants, scholars, former knights — drawn by his simplicity, his fire. They were not priests. Just brothers, living the Gospel, owning nothing, loving all.

In 1209, Pope Innocent III, after a strange dream of the Church upheld by a ragged man, gave his blessing. The Order of Friars Minor was born. Francis refused to call it a revolution. He called it penance.

In his final years, nearly blind, his body broken by fasting and cold, Francis dictated the "Canticle of the Sun," praising Sister Death. He died on the bare ground outside Assisi in 1226, singing.

He never sought sainthood. He only wanted to live like Christ — poor, joyful, and free.

And that, at last, made him unforgettable.

- DOMINIC



Cartoon by Lola Derrick