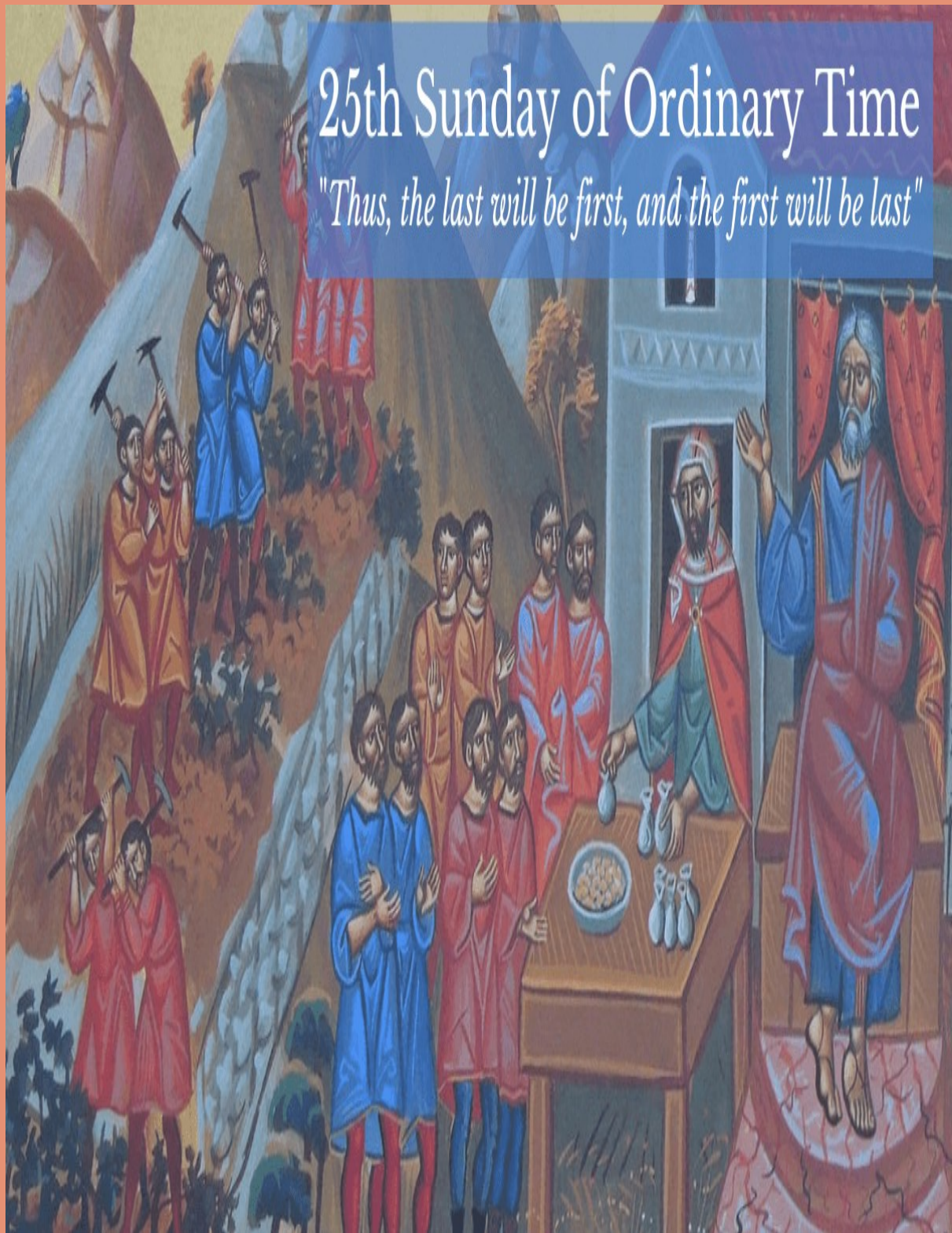


ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC CHURCH

13360 VALLEYHEART DRIVE, SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91423



SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Website: www.sfdsparish.com • E-mail: church@sfdsparish.com

SERVED BY:

Rev. Michael Wakefield, Pastor
Fr. Stanley Azamety, In Residence
Ms. Lisa Sanders, Office
Ms. Tess Lumague, Office

Religious Education

Mr. Jack Lathuras - JLathuras@sfdsparish.com
Little Church/Sunday Pre-School
Ms. Rachel Munyaradzi - RMunyaradzi@sfdsparish.com

St. Francis de Sales School & Licensed Pre-School

13368 Valleyheart Drive South, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
Telephone: (818) 784-9573 - FAX: (818) 784-9649
Ms. Myra Goethals, School Principal
Ms. Jerri Ford, Pre-School Director



St. Francis de Sales ~ Pray for Us

MASS Times:

Monday thru Saturday: 8:15 a.m.
Saturday → Anticipated Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12-Noon

Confessions: 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays

Baptisms and Weddings:

Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 20, 2026

Isaiah 55-6; 6-9

Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Matthew 20:1-16a

SFDS PARISH REGISTRATION FORM

FAMILY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** CA **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: (_____) _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

PARISHIONER INFORMATION

ADULT NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

ADULT NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY	September 19
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Cynthia Kotzman</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memory of Nasario Tupas and Ceferino Englis</i>
SUNDAY	September 20
8:00 AM	<i>In Memory of Anthony Pernice</i>
10:00 AM	<i>In Memory of Catalina Punzalan</i>
12:00 PM	<i>For the Intentions of Kian Sarabia and Tito Tagarao</i>
MONDAY	September 21
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Manuel P. Narvaez</i>
TUESDAY	September 22
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Vincent Maniaci</i>
WEDNESDAY	September 23
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Genowefa Dudkowska</i>
THURSDAY	September 24
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Stephanie Contreras</i>
FRIDAY	September 25
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Jimmy Reduta</i>
SATURDAY	September 26
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Our Parishioners</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memory of Mary Foltyn</i>

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, 09/20	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; <i>Catechetical Sunday</i>
Monday, 09/21	<i>St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist;</i> <i>National Migration Week</i>
Wednesday, 09/23	<i>St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i>
Saturday, 09/26	<i>Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs</i>

CONTRIBUTIONS to the CHURCH

Weekend: 09/11 - 09/13/2026

Collections: \$8,028.00

Black and Indian Missions Collection: \$1,955.00

Thank you for your generous contributions.

**Pray For
The Dead**



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord
and let Your perpetual light shine
upon them. May the souls of all
the faithful departed rest in peace.
Amen**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially:

Rosie Wys, Kathleen Wheeler, Mary Lena Waldheim,
Alberto Chavando, Sonia Hernandez Chavando, Sean Aguirre,
Gisele Hayek, Susan Ho, Angela Samona, Denise Loren,
Leticia Romero, Carmel Rattigan, Kathy Molloy, Glenn J. Lawlor, Jr.,
Olga Oshiro, Maria Berreondo, Tanya Valazquez, Catherine Crews,
Deana Domsten, Mary Ann Blees, Kerry Wyse, Louise Brancale,
Charlie Ho, Jackie Ward-Smith, Ann Murcia, Rosemary Schreiber,
Deb Marsdale, Linda Lucas, Vickie Council, Joan Gore,
William Moulprie, Rose Bann, James Armstrong, Sr.,
Catherine Mwamba, Kathy Polk, Pat Yahnke, Linda Mauleon,
Sandra Mitchell, Sharon Crigler, Samiee Nejad, Mary Bailey,
Eric Duran, Tina McConnell, Patrick McDougall, Tish Mc Daniel,
Nina Barnes, Jana Rattigan, Jezebel Todd, Lauren Britton,
Jen Welch, Bob Dixon, Tony Guadagno, John Proscetto,
Dexter Gray, Annie Salazar, Jim Earnhart, Joseph Stockert,
Rose Ang, Leonila Siga-an, Jonathan Jacobs, Sammi Petri,
Georgina Nicoletti, Lindsay Dean, Saverio Barbieri, Davis Weld,
Kevin Hogan, Catherine Sweeney, Jeffrey Paynton,
Tommy Fitzpatrick, Doris McNary, Marilyn Sidley,
Karinn Quinn Forward, Susan Maria, Kevin Patrick, Sean Kevin,
Bruce Johnson, Virginia Johnson, Fran Hurton, Arnaud Gregori,
Mary Henriksen, Dominic Mantei, Edith Reeves, Stefanie Gabler,
Jake Patterson, Rose Rios, Anita & Austen Canzano,
David Bell, Marie Schewe, Tom & Judy King, Jonathan Masse,
Steve Dee, Darya Williams, Gus Calderon, Robert Willing,
Josue Meza, Thomas Oliver, Philip Graber, and Blake Cline

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As a parish, we strive to be good stewards of our resources. Many families have moved away from envelopes and are now using ParishSOFT e-Giving to fulfill their generous stewardship commitments to our parish, and the wider church through electronic donations. We have also found that many are not using their envelopes that we mail out. Help us to reduce our envelope and postage expenses and at the same time, support St. Francis de Sales Church in a secure and convenient way by giving through ParishSOFT.

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Religious Education Registration for 2026 – 2027

Elementary — CRE
High School — Confirmation
Little Church / Sunday Pre-school



- 1) **Registration forms** are available online at the parish website.
- 2) Go to the parish website: www.sfdsparish.com and click on **Religious Education for all Ages**.
- 3) **Print-out** the proper registration form for Elementary and/or Confirmation, and **completely fill-out the forms**.
- 4) **Bring the completed reg forms and fee(s) by check or cash to the Parish Center.**

For Questions? Please contact **Mr. Jack Lathuras** at **(818) 782-7846** or E-mail: jlathuras@sfdsparish.com
Parish Center telephone #: (818) 784-0105

Religious Education Elementary: Grades 1 – 8 for those who do not attend a Catholic school.

- Fee is \$80.00 for all grades; Except for Grade 2, which the fee is \$100.00
- Bring a copy of student's Baptismal Certificate to register
- Sessions are on Sunday morning from 9:00 A.M. to 9:50 A.M.
- **Sessions for elementary begins this Sunday, September 20**

Confirmation: Freshman and Sophomore high school students in every high school

- Two-year high school program with two semesters every year
- Fee is \$125.00 per year
- Bring a copy of student's Baptismal and First Holy Communion Certificates to register
- Sessions are on Sunday morning from 8:45 A.M. to 9:45 A.M.
- **Sessions for Teen Confirmation will begin on Sunday, October 18**

Little Church Registration 2026 - 2027 – St. Francis de Sales Church

We are excited to begin a new year with children ages 3 - 6 (potty-trained) through Kindergarten.

Our focus is on helping each child discover how to let their light shine in the world. Guided by the Golden Rule, "Treat others the way you want to be treated," we celebrate every child's uniqueness and teach them how their differences make our community stronger.

Through Bible stories, songs, crafts, and play, children learn to practice kindness, empathy, forgiveness, and joy in everyday life - whether that means sharing with a friend, saying "I'm sorry," or noticing the beauty of God's creation.

The ministry is led by Rachel Munyaradzi, who has been guiding Little Church for 15 years, with the help of dedicated parish volunteers. All volunteers are fingerprinted, background-checked, and VIRTUS-trained.

Registration: You may register online any time at this link: <https://forms.gle/ea4dmMGtM8cHgNa1A>

Registration Fee: \$80 for one child / \$100 per family

After you submit the registration form, you will see a confirmation screen with a secure payment link — please complete payment there to finish registering.

For more information, please contact: rmunyaradzi@sfdsparish.com

CHOIR NEWS - **SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, November 8, 2026 at 4:00 P.M.**

MEMORIAL CONCERT

St. Francis de Sales Choir, under the direction of Jeannine Wagner, will perform Gabriel Fauré's beloved Requiem in D minor, with soloists and orchestra.

Tickets will be available soon.

You will also have the opportunity to remember loved ones at this special event.

More details to come.

Padre Pio

1887 - 1968

Feast Day: September 23

The name on our Roman Calendar is St. Pius of Pietrelcina. I will always know him as Padre Pio.

Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione on May 25, 1887 in Pietrelcina, in Campania, southern Italy. His parents were poor peasant farmers; and they were also deeply religious. From an early age, Pio displayed strong religious inclinations and voluntarily undertook penances, such as sleeping on a stone, even when young. At around 10 years old, Francesco was deeply moved when he met Brother Camillo, a Capuchin Friar, who visited Pietrelcina asking for alms. The image of the humble friar with a long beard and bare feet inspired little Francesco to declare, "I want to become a monk with a beard." This pivotal encounter set him on the path to religious life—a calling he would faithfully follow. At age of 15, he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars at Morcone, where he took the name Friar Pio.

In 1916, he moved to the Our Lady of Grace Capuchin Friary, located in San Giovanni Rotondo in Foggia, Italy. Apart from military service, he would stay there until his death.

During World War I, Padre Pio was drafted into the Medical Corps of the Italian Army. Due to ill health, he had to take time away from his service. He was finally discharged due to ill health in March 1918.

On returning to the Friary, Padre Pio became a spiritual director responsible for confession, daily communion and direction of other members of the community.

Padre Pio had a great impact on those who encountered him. In particular, Padre Pio advised people to pray, meditate, and try to recognize God in all things. "Through the study of books, one seeks God; by meditation, one finds Him". One famous saying of his was: "Pray, Hope, and Don't Worry"

In September 1918, while hearing confessions, Padre Pio experienced the first spontaneous occurrence of the stigmata on his body.

The stigmata left painful and bleeding wounds on his hands and feet, and would remain with Padre Pio for the rest of his life. The wounds would heal and re-appear, but they were never infected. The condition was also marked by the smell of perfume or flowers, particularly when the wounds bled. Many Padre Pio devotees say they can smell these aromas when they experience his presence or intercession. The marks of the stigmata disappeared shortly after Padre Pio's death.

Not all people were favorably disposed towards Padre Pio and accounts of miracles and stigmata. The local bishop, Archbishop Pasquale Gagliardi of Manfredonia, questioned Padre Pio's reported miracles and suggested that his fellow Capuchin Brothers were seeking attention regarding Pio for financial gain.

Pope Pius XI, who became pontiff in 1922, along with the Vatican, became extremely doubtful about his namesake. The Vatican imposed severe bans on Padre Pio, including forbidding him to say Mass in public, bless people, answer letters written to him, publicly show his stigmata and communicate with his spiritual director, Padre Benedetto. Padre Pio was also to be relocated to another convent in northern Italy, but following riots from locals, the Vatican was forced to drop that plan.

From 1924 - 1931, the Holy See issued several public statements which denied that any miraculous events that took place in Padre Pio's life were in any way linked to a divine cause.

During this time, Franciscan Fr. Agostino Gemelli, a physician and psychologist who was the founder of Milan's Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, met Padre Pio, but was unable to examine his stigmata. Fr. Gemelli denounced Padre Pio as "an ignorant and self-mutilating psychopath who exploited people's credulity".

Dr. Gemelli was among those who suggested that Padre Pio used carbolic acid to create the wounds of his stigmata. Archbishop Gagliardi further attempted to prove this theory when it was uncovered that a pharmacist had sold Padre Pio carbolic acid in 1919.

This accusation was investigated and later dismissed by the Vatican which noted that the carbolic acid was bought as a sterilizing agent in injections to fight the Spanish flu, which was sweeping Europe at that time.

(Continued to the next page...)

(Continuation of...)

Padre Pio 1887 - 1968 **Feast Day: September 23**

Throughout the 1920s, Padre Pio's credibility was continually challenged, but the mood began to shift in the 1930s.

In 1933, Pope Pius XI ordered the Holy See to reverse its ban on Padre Pio's faculties to celebrate public Mass. "I have not been badly disposed towards Padre Pio, but I have been badly informed," Pope Pius XI said.

Padre Pio was granted permission to hear confession in 1934. When Pope Pius XI assumed the papacy in 1939, he actively encouraged the public to visit Padre Pio.

People around Padre Pio felt that he was a man constantly absorbed in prayer. Pope Paul VI said in 1971.

"What fame he had. How many followers from around the world. Why? Was it because he was a philosopher, a scholar, or because he had means at his disposal? No, it was because he said Mass humbly, heard confessions from morning until night, and was a marked representative of the stigmata of Our Lord. He was truly a man of prayer and suffering."

He loved to pray the rosary and encouraged other people to do the same. Padre Pio was in the tradition of mystics who sought union with God. He felt through prayer and meditation, the soul could be brought into union with God. "It is now God Himself who acts and operates directly in the depths of my soul, without the ministry of the senses, either interior or exterior. . .All I can say of this state is that my soul has no concern for anything but God." "My usual manner of praying is this: I no sooner begin to pray than my soul becomes enveloped in peace and tranquility that words cannot describe. . .All I can say about this prayer is that my soul seems to be completely lost in God and that in those moments it gains more than it could in many years of intensive spiritual exercises."

By September 1968, Padre Pio became increasingly weak. On September 22nd, despite great frailty, he celebrated his last Mass to many pilgrims – which was video taped.

Later that day Padre Pio made his last confession and renewed his Franciscan vows. He died in his cell in San Giovanni Rotondo, early in the morning of September 23rd. His last words were *Gesu, Maria (Jesus, Mary)*.

P.S. The Allied Forces landings in Sicily in July 1943 marked the beginning of the liberation of Italy. Two months later the Allied Forces landed at the toe of mainland Italy and began to proceed north. San Giovanni Rotondo is about 102 miles north of Bari, and Bari is across Italy from Naples. Rome was liberated June 4, 1944.

Many U.S. Soldiers heard about Padre Pio during the liberation of Italy. A number of them visited San Giovanni Rotondo. When they returned home they brought the story of Padre Pio with them. Word of Padre Pio quickly spread across the United States. Then there was the miraculous healing of Vera Marie Calandra, the fifth child of Vera and Harry Calandra living in Norristown, Pennsylvania. In April 1966, Vera and her husband Harry Calandra welcomed their fifth child, Vera Marie, but she was born with severe congenital urinary tract defects. Doctors, including Dr. C. Everett Koop, the future Surgeon General, advised them that she would not survive her first year. After reading about Padre Pio, a Capuchin Friar known for his stigmata and healing gifts, Vera heard a voice urging her to bring her daughter to Italy. She traveled with her two children to San Giovanni Rotondo, where Padre Pio blessed them. Upon returning, Vera Marie's bladder regrew, and her health improved dramatically.

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Did You Know?

Sextortion and Teens

Sextortion happens when a predator threatens to share sexual images of another person to manipulate or harm that person. The American Academy of Pediatrics has classified sextortion as a form of image-based sexual abuse.

Children and teens are particularly vulnerable, especially teens who have shared or been pressured into sharing explicit images. Predators will sometimes befriend or build a romantic relationship with a victim online, share and request explicit images, and then use those images to demand money or other favors. More information is available at:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/tips-tools/ask-the-pediatrician/Pages/what-do-teens-need-to-know-about-online-predators-and-sextortion-scammers.aspx>

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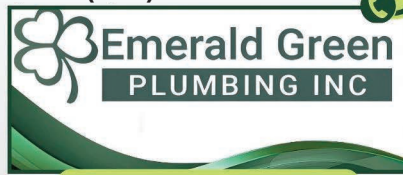


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