Saint Francis de Sales Parish

United by the Most Blessed Sacrament

4625 Springfield Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19143

~28th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~
~ October 11, 2026 ~

Reverend Robert Ngageno
Parochial Administrator

Reverend Robert F. Lucas
In Residence

Reverend Michael J. Gokie
Parochial Vicar

Deacon Samuel Ujor
Pastoral Associate

Want to register in the parish or set-up online giving? Do you want to schedule a baptism, wedding, funeral or visit to a sick parishioner?

Contact the Parish Office
at (215) 222-5819
office@desalesphilly.com

Mrs. Karen Hand,
Office Manager

Mrs. Jean Jordan,
Secretary

Looking for information on Saint Francis de Sales School?

Contact the School Office
at (215) 387-1749

Sister Mary McNulty, IHM,
Principal

Want to get involved in family formation activities? Is your child in need of First Communion or Confirmation? Do you want to enroll your child in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

Contact the Religious Education Office
at religioused.sfds@gmail.com

Interested in joining our liturgical choir?
Email music@desalesphilly.com

Mrs. Isabel Boston,
Choir Director

Would you like to get involved in an Ignatian Spirituality Group or in our outreach and evangelization efforts?

Call the Assumption Sisters Convent
at (215) 386-5016

Website:
DeSalesPhilly.com

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YouTube Channel:
Youtube.com/
@st.francisdesalesparish

Venmo:
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Flocknote:
text “desalesphilly”
to 84576

Saturday, October 10, 2026
5:00PM Keith Rolland

Sunday, October 11, 2026
28th Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:00AM People of the Parish
10:15AM Filbert Owens

Monday, October 12, 2026
Columbus Day
7:00AM John Cooney

Tuesday, October 13, 2026
7:00AM Peter Nguyen

Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Saint Callistus I
7:00AM John Kelleher .

Thursday, October 15, 2026
Saint Teresa of Jesus
7:00AM Keith Rolland

Friday, October 16, 2026
Saint Hedwig,
Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque
7:00AM David Mfugale

Saturday, October 17, 2026
Saint Ignatius of Antioch
8:30AM Hugh and Delia McBrearty
5:00PM Keith Rolland

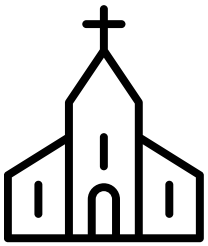
Sunday, October 18, 2026
29th Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:00AM People of the Parish
10:15AM Deady and Leary Family

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen

PARISH CENSUS / BLOCK COLLECTION



Every household will receive in the mail a census information card. All households are requested to complete the census form and return it, along with your Block collection gift. Please list only the names of people living with you (include your college children.)

It is very important that we have an accurate record of our parishioners. In the past year, we have had many parishioners make requests (high school, school families, godparents, etc.), however, they were never formerly registered in the parish. So please, help us by completing the census form.

The Block Collection is one of the most important collections of the year besides Christmas and Easter. We respectfully ask every wage earner to contribute $150 to this collection. This certainly is not possible for everyone (seniors, unemployed/under-employed). Some will give less and some will be able to contribute more. God knows what your means will permit. Prayerfully and honestly reflect on God's goodness to you and give back to God in the measure that He has blessed you.

PRIESTHOOD:
CHRIST CALLS; WILL YOU ANSWER?
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~ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION @ DESALES ~
Registration for Sacramental Preparation Open:
First Holy Communion, Sunday. May 16, 2027
Confirmation : Sunday, February 28, 2027
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd :
Twice a Month on Saturday Mornings
Ages 3-6
For more information and to register, please contact Jess @religioused.sfds@gmail.com.
*****PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FLYER FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION JESS SWEENEY *****

The Sanctuary Candle Burns for the Month of: ***OCTOBER***
In Memory of: ***Elisabeth Wathum***
Donated By: ***Sisters, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary***

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LITURGICAL LIVING

ORDINARY TIME

October

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

West Philadelphia

"Be not afraid." -JPII

The colors are shifting all around us, the air is changing, we are moving to the end of the liturgical year just as the natural world around us is shifting to the end of its various lifecycles too, purple coneflowers, zinnias, acorns, small creatures are gathering and preparing for the cold weather ahead, the sound of the wind in the trees with their drying leaves.

We are in the month of the Holy Rosary, a time where we try and shift our focus to meditating on the life of Jesus and Mary, even in the small quiet moments in our day. With our minds and bodies, we can do little things to turn our hearts towards our heavenly home and also pour out that love into our world here to help those closest to us but also those most forgotten.

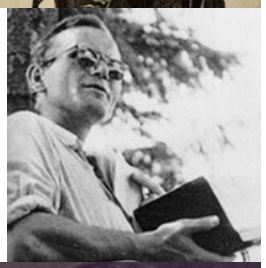
Each month these leaflets will offer prayers, ideas, activities, customs, and traditions that you might consider incorporating into your family's home culture, a way to enrich our domestic churches and sustain us through the seasons ahead.

FEASTS

Oct 1: St. Therese of Lisieux - patron Saint of: Florists, missionaries, pilots, priests
Oct. 4: St. Francis of Assisi - patron Saint of: Animals, archaeologists, ecology, Italy, merchants, messengers, metal workers
Oct. 22: St. John Paul II - patron saint of World Youth Day, young Catholics, and families

PRAY, MAKE, ACT

- **Make a "nature rosary"**: go on a walk and collect natural objects: twigs, acorns, leaves, flower heads, pine cones, etc. You can then build a rosary out of them, and pray as you make it. St. Francis taught us many things, but one was too look for hints of God's glory in his creation.
- **Pray the rosary:** You might consider doing this together as a family, or as a special time between a parent and child, anything from a little modified prayer of say the creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be, a decade, to the whole rosary.
- **Make your own rosary:** You can use string and beads or a kit like those sold from Be A Heart. You could also make a sacrifice bead to live out St. Therese of Lisiuex's idea of the Little Way of Love.
- **Practice Visio Divina:** You can do this together as a family or encourage your child to do it on their own. Visio Divina (Divine Seeing) is a slow, prayerful examination of a work of art as a tool for lifting the heart and mind to God and his mysteries. For young children it might look like sitting and looking at the painting for 1-2 minutes and then asking them what they saw, slightly older children might consider trying to draw it, those who are writing could try and write down words to capture things that caught their attention, or you can just sit and do some "slow looking". Here are some very simple instructions for how to do this together:
  - Questions to ask: Start with a simple prayer, then look and gaze together, ask a few questions, and then close with a prayer. Some questions: What do you see? Where does your eye look first? What colors do you notice? Can you trace any lines in the art, where do they lead? Focus on the senses and see where your child takes you. (See email attachment for some paintings to start with)



ST. FRANCIS
DE SALES
West Philadelphia

Dear All,

Last Fall, Pope Leo spoke to a group of representatives from the Latin American Church as part of a Jubilee Year reflecting on "the future of life and the family" in Latin America. During his remarks, Pope Leo spoke about the ways in which the family is called:

"to be a domestic church and a home where the fire of the Holy Spirit burns, spreading its warmth, bringing its gifts and experiences for the common good, and calling everyone to live in hope."

How can we as a community here at SFDS live out this calling, to bring hope and goodness into the world? How can we strengthen and enrich the thread that ties together our sacramental life within the walls of our parish Church and the domestic church that lives within the walls of our homes?

One way the Church has done this globally and through the ages is through a variety of traditions & customs that help bring to life the various feasts. From processions to special prayers, to making specific handcrafts or singing particular hymns and making special meals, from Mexico to Ireland to Nigeria and Lithuania and beyond, Catholics have found ways to celebrate and to strengthen the bond between church and home, and to do so in community with others.

This is particularly important for the youngest, as they are so immersed in the life of the senses, so attuned to their bodies, to making, and to the spiritual life in such a unique way. And so throughout the year I'll be putting together handouts with suggestions on ways to live this out and enrich these connections, both at home and other times in community together. I would love to hear of ways your families are already living this out and can add those things as suggestions to share with the whole community. Please find the first one attached here for the month of October.

Jess Sweeney
Director of Religious Education

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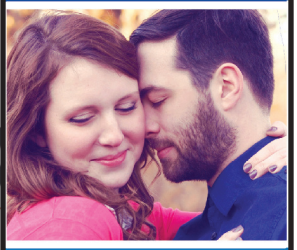

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