



LIKE A NET THROWN INTO THE SEA.

— MATTHEW 13:47 —

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Francis De Sales Parish

129-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd.
Belle Harbor, NY 11694

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 26, 2026

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 9:00am
Saturday: 9:00 am and 4:30pm (Vigil)

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

8:00 am; 10:00 am and 12:00 Noon

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

Holy Day at 9:00am

CONFESSION/SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturdays at 3:30PM
Seasonal Penance Services during Advent & Lent

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

Pastoral Staff

Reverend William F. Sweeney, Pastor
Reverend James K. Cunningham, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Monsignor John J. Bracken, P.A., Weekend Assistant
Deacon Vincent LaGamba (Retired)
Deacon Armand D'Accordo

Parish Staff

Mrs. Dorothy Brenna, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Susan Gavigan, Parish Receptionist
Mrs. Anne Marie Greene, Director of Religious Education
Ms. Suzanne Blum, Religious Education Assistant
Mr. Michael Fontana, Music Director

Parish Contact Information:

Parish Office/Rectory Phone:	718-634-6464
Religious Education Office Phone:	718-945-6911

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis de Sales, a parish steeped in tradition, rich in natural beauty and bountifully blessed with a community devoted in love to serve God and our neighbor. We seek to live actively the Word of God through the example of our patron saint, a life devoted to energetic, generous and constant fidelity to the will of God. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we will grow in our faith through continuous education, formation, communication, and out-reach, while passing these values on to our future generations. We endeavor to be a most vibrant community of faith which will effectively utilize the talents, resources, and treasures of our parish for the good of all God's people.

CARE OF THE SICK

If there is an elderly, sick or infirm parishioner who wishes to receive Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK

Communal Celebrations of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will take place the first Saturday of each Month at the 9:00 AM Mass.

BAPTISM

Parents are asked to contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment with a priest or deacon to complete the Baptismal Registration Form. Parents are required to attend a Baptismal Instruction at 7:00pm on the First Thursday of the month. Baptisms are celebrated on the Second Sunday of the month at 2:00pm.

MARRIAGE

Preparations for the Sacrament of Marriage are very important and take time. Couples planning to be married at Saint Francis De Sales are asked to contact the Parish Office no less than eight months prior to the wedding date. Please do not schedule the catering hall prior to making arrangements at the parish. Couples are required to attend the Pre-Cana Program of the Parish at least six months prior to the wedding.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Available in the Parish Rectory during office hours.

Mass Stipend	\$20 per Mass
Bread & Wine for the week	\$50
Candles for the week	\$50
Flowers for the week	\$150

Parish Website: <https://sfdsparish.org/>
Parish Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/sfdschurch>

"Never miss an opportunity to do good." - St. Francis de Sales

Parish Trustees

Mrs. Kristin Franchock
Mr. Michael Lee

Parish Finance Council

Mr. Thomas Allison
Mrs. Jaclyn Blum
Mrs. Rebecca Carey
Mr. Matthew Daly
Mrs. Brynn Heegan
Mr. Joseph Keenan
Mr. Dan Twomey

Parish Council

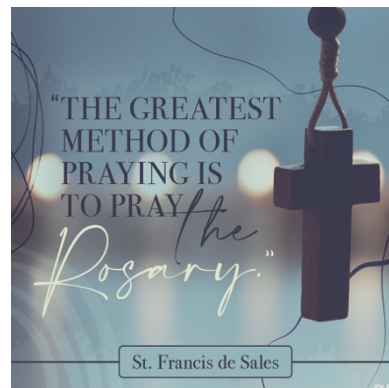
Mrs. Meghan Flanagan, Co-Chair
Mr. Timothy Henning, Co-Chair
Mrs. Janice Ameruso
Mrs. Noelle Hutton Burns
Mrs. Claire Conti
Mr. Mike Coughlin
Mr. Joseph Courtney
Mrs. Sarah Dwyer
Mr. Joseph Featherston
Mrs. Kristin Franchock
Mr. Sean Fitzgerald
Mrs. Chrystie Rasmussen

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy

219 Beach 129 Street
Belle Harbor, NY 11694
(718) 634-2775
www.stfrancisacademybh.org



Dr. Christopher Scharbach, Principal
Mrs. Maureen Hayes, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Danielle Farragher, Assistant Principal
Ms. Helen Endall, School Secretary



JOIN US TO PRAY THE ROSARY

The rosary is prayed
every morning at 8:40AM
before the 9:00AM Mass
and every Monday at
7:00PM
in the church.

Join us!



SFDS PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Masses for the week of July 26 – August 2, 2026

Sunday

8:00 AM Richard Roberts
10:00 AM Celeste Andruzzi
Mary Carmel O'Sullivan
Patricia Johnson
12:00 PM Carmel O'Sullivan
James Handy
Mary and John Giaquinto

Monday

9:00 AM The Kelliher Family

Tuesday

9:00 AM Rodolfo and Cecilia Punsal

Wednesday

9:00 AM Deo Latchman (A)
George Ferguson (B)
R. Marty Kennedy (A)

Thursday

9:00 AM Mark H. Molzan (B)
Rev. Richard H. Lockwood (33rd A)

Friday

9:00 AM Thomas Heyer (B)
Vito O. Marrone (B)

Saturday

9:00 AM John Gallinaugh
4:30 PM Dean Georges
John P. Kearns (76th B)
, Barbara and Peter Stonitsch

Sunday

8:00 AM Geraldine Peroni 22nd A
Joan and William Klein
10:00 AM Elaine Everson
James Gildea
Joan Casey
Patrick Brady
12:00 PM Grace and Peter McNelis
Kathleen McMahon
Rita and Patrick Daly

WEEKLY REMEMBRANCES:

The Bread and Wine to be offered this week is in loving memory of: **Vito O. Marone** and **Anne and John Judge**

REST IN PEACE

Please remember our parishioners who have recently gone to eternal rest. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of Christ rest in peace.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Kindly remember in your prayers:

Janine Cerrone	Maureen Hayes
Mary Ellen Carroll	Bill Savelli
Virginia Turchiano	Bill Fusco
Greg Walsh	Ada. L. Tillero
Casey Gallagher	Colleen Lynster
Tom Mulvihill	Deacon Armand D'Accordo

PARISH 500 CLUB WINNERS:

Congratulations to our winners this week. We are starting our new season for 500 Club Members.

\$100	#037	Frances Honan
\$50	#145	Sean Drury
\$25	#106	Dennis Sullivan

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 7/19/26

Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday: Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus
Thursday: St. Peter Chrysologus
Friday: St. Ignatius of Loyola
Saturday: St. Alphonsus Liguori
Next Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS – 7/26/26

First Reading: “Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?” (1 Kgs 3:9)

Psalm: Lord, I love your commands. (Ps 119)

Second Reading: We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (Rom 8:28)

Gospel: “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” (Mt 13:44)

LIVE THE LITURGY – WEEKLY INSPIRATION

Christ compares the kingdom of Heaven to buried treasure — the find of a lifetime, one you would risk everything to keep. Are we doing all we can to hold onto this treasure that we have been lucky enough to discover? What is Heaven worth to us? ©LPI

MASS BOOK/MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCES

The Mass Book is now open for 2026. Announced masses are **\$20.00 per Mass**. Our Masses are as follows: 9:00 AM Mass Monday through Saturday: Masses for weekend are 4:30 PM on Saturday evening, Sunday, 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12:00 Noon. Thank you.

Just a reminder that St. Francis de Sales Parish has the following memorials available in the rectory to remember a loved one or friend.

✠	Bread & Wine for the week	\$50
✠	Candles for the week	\$50
✠	Flowers for the week	\$150
✠	Annual Shrine Candles	\$350 (NEW)

The Annual Shrine Candles are located in the shrines on each side of the church. The annual donation includes a personalized plate with the name(s) of your loved one, that will be placed in the shrines for one year.

Please write separate checks for Masses and a separate for Bread and Wine, Flowers and Candles. We appreciate if you make out your list of Masses and any other request like Bread and Wine, etc., and drop it off at the rectory.

HOMEBOUND

As a reminder, if you are home bound and would like to receive the sacraments (Confession, Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion) please call the rectory to make an appointment. Thank You.

FOOD ON THE RECTORY PORCH

We kindly ask that parishioners DO NOT leave food, clothing or old toys on the rectory porch outside of times when we specifically have a food drive. Items left there can get damaged or not picked up. We only ask for food donations at specific times of the year.

MAHJONG NIGHT – CAPACITY REACHED

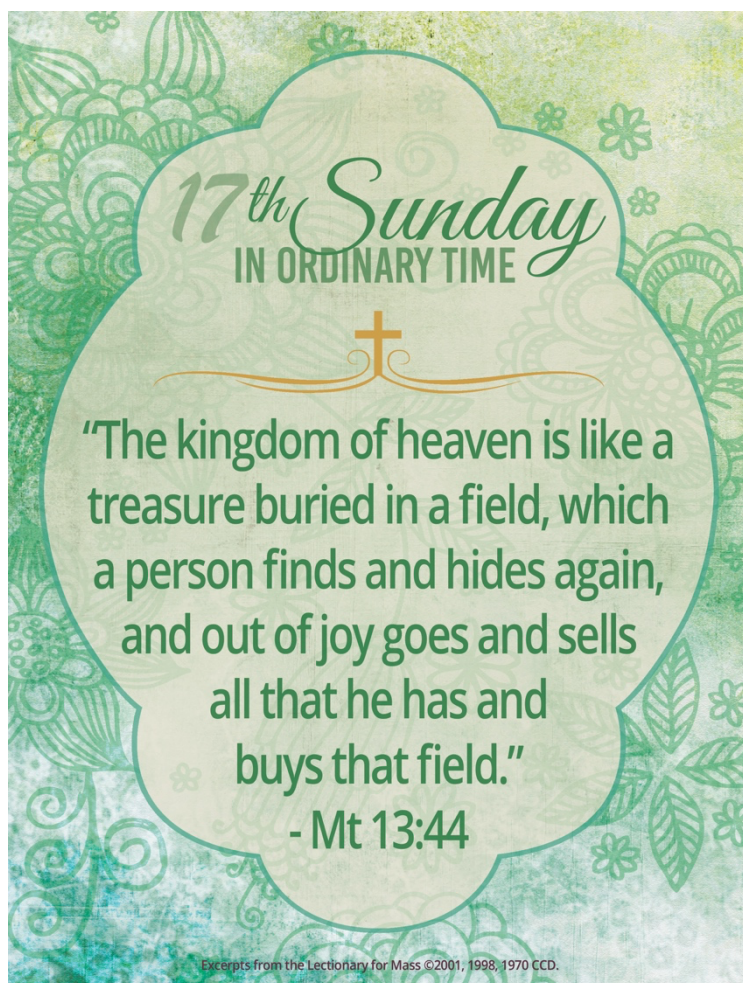
The St. Francis de Sales Parish MahJong night has reached capacity. We apologize! If you have already registered and dropped off your payment, we look forward to seeing you this Wednesday night, July 29th from 7:00 – 9:00PM in the Small Hall. Thank You!

SUMMER PARKING REMINDER & REQUEST



Please keep in mind that street parking is technically not allowed on the weekends in the summer. While the 100th precinct is usually very accommodating, this cannot be guaranteed all summer.

When parking in the parking lot, please use your best efforts to park as reasonably close to the next vehicle, so that we can accommodate as many cars in the parking lot as possible. Additionally, please use your best efforts to keep the parking lines straight and please do not park in a spot that will block access to additional spots behind you. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.





St. Francis de Sales Parish

129-16 ROCKAWAY BEACH BLVD - BELLE HARBOR, NY 11694

Summer 2026 Beach Mass Schedule

- August 16th - Lifeguard Appreciation & Back to College Mass
- September 6th - Labor Day Weekend Mass

All Beach Masses will be held at 9:00AM
on Beach 129th Street.

Due to limited parking in the parish parking lot,
we encourage those that are able
to walk or ride your bikes.

Please bring a beach chair.

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE SUMMER!



SFDS PARISH MINISTRIES

PARISH MINISTRIES:

Altar Servers: Training for new altar servers occurs each year for young girls and boys in the parish, grade 4 and older.

≡Youth Faith Formation: Designed for children aged 16 and younger that are baptized but did not make First Penance or First Holy Communion. Please speak with Mrs. Greene if interested.

Lectors/Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: If interested in serving, please speak with Father Jim.

Adult and Children's Choir: If interested please speak with Mr. Michael Fontana

Right of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Designed for adults aged 16 in older interested in the Catholic Faith. Please speak with Father Jim if interested.

Parish Council: If interested in serving on the Parish Council, please speak with Father Bill.

Sea Breeze Golden Age Club: Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from September to June in the SFDS Gymnasium from 12:00 – 3:00PM. For more information call Ellen Mendonca at 631-923-7866

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Sports: For more information on the SFDS CYO Organization please visit: <https://sfdsparish.org/ministries/cyo>

Live Streamers: This is the group that helps live stream our masses as well as certain funerals and weddings. Help is needed. You will be trained.

Hospitality Ministry: This committee will assist with planning fellowship opportunities around parish spiritual events and religious celebrations. If interested in joining please speak with Father Jim

Bereavement: Grief Share Support group for anyone over 18 grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information please contact the rectory.

PLEASE CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED!
THANK YOU!

**PLEASE KEEP OUR BRAVE MEN & WOMEN IN
YOUR PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY:**

United States Army

- ✚ Major Casey Fay
- ✚ 2nd LT. Scott Hayes
- ✚ Capt. Alek Kauffman
- ✚ 1st LT. Mollie Murtagh
- ✚ Sergeant First Class Patrick O'Leary
- ✚ 1st Lt. Aidan Smith
- ✚ CW4 Rafael Solis
- ✚ Cadet Megan Youngberg, USMA, West Point

United States Marine Corps

- ✚ Captain Jack Bambury
- ✚ PFC Bailey Boden
- ✚ Lt. Connor Bradwisch
- ✚ 1st LT. Alexandra Dadario
- ✚ Major John Inman
- ✚ Colonel J.P. Kearns
- ✚ PFC Randy Scott Koenig Jr.
- ✚ LCPL Joseph Milone
- ✚ PFC Jake Morales
- ✚ Colonel Brian Mulvihill
- ✚ 2nd LT. Patrick J. Murtagh Jr.
- ✚ Pvt. Matthew Sweeny
- ✚ CPL Charles Watson

United States Navy

- ✚ Petty Officer Robert Anthony
- ✚ Midshipman Grace Bradwisch, *Univ. of Tampa ROTC*
- ✚ Lieutenant Commander Sean Casey
- ✚ Midshipman Sean Donohue, *USNA Annapolis*
- ✚ Midshipman Lauren Endall, *Virginia Tech ROTC*
- ✚ Senior Chief Petty Officer Evan Felvey
- ✚ Midshipman Ava Mollaghan *U.S.C. ROTC*
- ✚ Chief Petty Officer Thomas Pulkowski
- ✚ Lieutenant John Scaccia
- ✚ Midshipman Michael Strehle, *USNA Annapolis*
- ✚ LT. JG Kevin Strehle
- ✚ Midshipman Finn Zam, *USNA Annapolis*

United States Air Force

- ✚ Cadet Catherine Dean, *USFA, Colorado Springs*
- ✚ 2nd Lt. John Glynn
- ✚ Captain Thomas Glynn

United States Coast Guard

- ✚ Damage Controlman Petty Officer Pat Ayrovainen
- ✚ 3rd Class Boatswain, Billy McDonnell
- ✚ Seamen Aidan Murray

"Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. Amen."

If you have a child, relative or friend in the military, whose name and service you would like included in our bulletin, please contact the rectory at 718-634-6464. Also, if your loved one's military service status or rank changes, please let us know. Thank You!



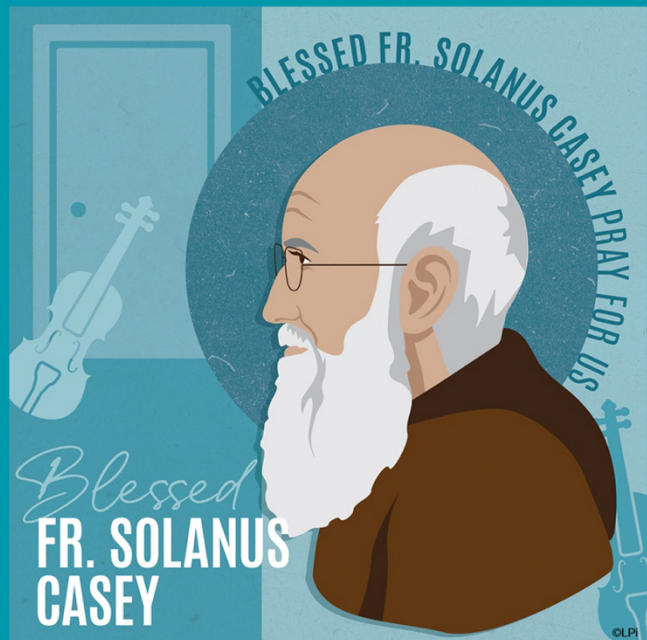
St. Francis de Sales Parish

129-16 ROCKAWAY BEACH BLVD - BELLE HARBOR, NY 11694

The Feast of Blessed Solanus Casey

THURSDAY, JULY 30TH
PLEASE JOIN AT THE
9:00AM MASS.

There will be a special Healing Mass for the Feast of Blessed Solanus Casey. At this Mass we will have the Blessing with the Relic of Blessed Solanus and an opportunity to receive The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. All are welcome.



The 23rd Annual GRAYBEARDS Family Run

WILL RETURN THIS YEAR ON **FRIDAY JULY 31.**

The evening will begin with children's races of varying lengths along Rockaway Beach Blvd. at **6:30.**



6:30 Children's races of varying lengths



6:45 An inspirational run by Rockaway's Special Athletes



7:00 1 Mile Run



7:15 The marquee 5k Run



Post race festivities will be in St. Francis de Sales Fr. Grogan Memorial Schoolyard, and includes **food, beverages, children's activities, awards, raffles, and live music.**

IN PERSON REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE AT ST. FRANCIS



JULY 25
10-12



JULY 26
10-1



JULY 30
6-8



JULY 31
4-6
(DAY OF THE RACE)



Please contact office@thegraybeards.com for more information

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES
CATHOLIC ACADEMY UPDATE



Dear St. Francis de Sales Parish,

As the 2025–2026 school year officially comes to a close, we also prepare to celebrate a remarkable milestone in our nation's history, America's 250th birthday, this Fourth of July. It is a fitting opportunity to give thanks for the many blessings of freedom, faith, and opportunity that have shaped our country and our school community.

For 250 years, generations of Americans have worked, sacrificed, and prayed to build a nation founded on the dignity of every person and the belief that we are all created equal. Catholic schools have been an important part of that story, forming young people not only to achieve academic excellence but also to become faithful disciples, compassionate neighbors, and responsible citizens.

At St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy, we are proud to continue that tradition. Throughout this past year, our students have grown in knowledge, strengthened their faith, served others, and lived out the values of the Gospel. Their accomplishments remind us that the future of our nation depends on young people who lead with integrity, kindness, and a commitment to the common good.

As families gather to celebrate Independence Day, may we take time to thank God for the freedoms we enjoy and pray for our country, our leaders, those who serve in the military and as first responders, and all who work to make our communities stronger.

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and administration, thank you for another wonderful school year filled with faith, learning, and partnership. We wish every member of our St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy family a safe, joyful, and restful summer.

May God continue to bless our nation as we begin our next 250 years, and may He continue to bless our school community for many years to come.

Christopher Scharbach, Ed.D.,
Principal
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Academy
cscharbach@stfrancisschoolbh.net

Children BELONG HERE



To the parents of our young children:



Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel like you have to suppress it in God's house.



Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of heads.



Quietly explain the parts of the Mass or service to your children.



Sing, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn by copying your involvement!



If you need to step out with your child, feel free to do so—but please come back. As Jesus said, *"Let the little children come to me."*



Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home here.



To the members of our parish:



The presence of children is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish family is growing.

Please welcome our children and offer a smile of encouragement to their parents!



Thank you
for helping our children
feel at home in Church!



VIRTUS®

Protecting God's Children



ATTENTION RETURNING ACADEMY, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND CYO VOLUNTEERS!

AS OF JULY 1ST, YOU WERE ASSIGNED THE ANNUAL VIRTUS WORKSHOP.



Returning volunteers were assigned an annual VIRTUS online workshop,
Protecting God's Children From Maltreatment.



All returning volunteers who were assigned this workshop are **REQUIRED** to complete it before **8/15/26**.



To get to the training you must login to your **VIRTUS Account**.



If you need assistance with your VIRTUS account, please contact:



sfdsvirtus@gmail.com



Thank you for your commitment to protecting God's children!



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 WE WILL NEVER FORGET

★
WE NEED YOUR HELP!
SAVE ROCKAWAY'S 9/11 MOSAIC
IN TRIBUTE PARK
RUINED IN HURRICANE SANDY
NOW IT'S TIME TO RESTORE
2026 - the 25th Anniversary of 9/11



To help donate to the Tribute Park 9/11 Mosaic, visit:
www.rockaways9-11tributepark.com

NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINES OF FRANCE

12 DAYS: MARCH 1 - 12, 2027

Visiting

LOURDES * NEVERS * TOURS AREA
LOIRE VALLEY * CHARTRES * MONT ST. MICHEL
NORMANDY * CAEN * LISIEUX * PARIS

Hosted by

FR. JAMES CUNNINGHAM

ST. FRANCIS DESALES PARISH

&

FR. KEVIN ABELS

OUR LADY OF ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. ANSELM CATHOLIC CHURCH

\$4699 PER PERSON FROM NEW YORK
(Air/land tour price is \$4149 plus \$550 government taxes/airline surcharges)



QUALITY TOURS SINCE 1949



A Once-in-a-Generation Opportunity for Catholic Schools and Families

We need Governor Hochul to opt-in to unlock millions in privately funded scholarships, strengthening Catholic schools and expanding access for New York families.

Tell Governor Hochul you want access to private scholarships!

What Is the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC)?

If you pay federal income tax, the FSTC lets you redirect up to \$1,700 of what you already must pay to help families afford Catholic education. **That's up to \$1,700 going to a scholarship granting organization like Futures in Education instead of the IRS - at no extra cost to you.**

Who Would Benefit?

- Families earning up to **300% of the regional median income**, meaning **more than 90% of K-12 families** would qualify.
- Scholarships could be used for:
 - Catholic school tuition
 - Tutoring and academic supports
 - Special needs services
 - Education technology and supplies
- Public schools would also benefit

Why This Matters for Catholic Schools

For Catholic schools, this program represents stability, affordability, and hope - helping keep classrooms filled, schools strong, and Catholic education within reach for working families. If New York opts in, millions of dollars in private scholarship support could be unlocked for families to attend NY schools, including Brooklyn and Queens Catholic Elementary and Catholic High Schools.

Why Action Is Urgent

This opportunity exists only if Governor Hochul opts New York into the program. Her decision will be made soon. If New Yorkers do not speak up now, these scholarships may never reach our students or schools.

If Catholics across Brooklyn and Queens and the rest of New York State raise their voices together, this opportunity cannot be ignored.

Act Now - It Takes Less Than One Minute

1. Visit www.nyscatholic.org
2. Click Action Center → Latest Action Alerts
3. Select "Will Governor Hochul Opt-In to Support Kids and Schools?" and send your message of support.

or scan here



PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

KINGDOM
HEAVEN
TREASURE

HIDDEN
FIELD
FOUND

PEARLS
SOLD
BOUGHT

T N F H D E O K M I O
H B O U G H T E F A V
E I U S E L R A I K T
K R N A H S E U E D R
I E D I P E A R L S N
N A H F N I S E D O W
G M D A T O U H N L E
D I N G E A R S I D N
O J H I D D E N O W Y
M E D N S T O A L N D
A H L H E A V E N T A

MISSION

Put God's kingdom first. Read a Bible story every morning.



GROWING Gospel

WITH THE

CYCLE A

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 13:44-52