

*75th Anniversary*  
*St. Francis of Assisi Church*



**DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION**  
**1948 - 2023**

*He remembers his Covenant forever*



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH**

The Congregation of St. Francis of Assisi Church is honored to announce to the people of God in the Diocese of Palm Beach, Pastors of parishes, clerics and religious, the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of St. Francis of Assisi Church. The Celebration will take place on March 18 –19, which includes Laetare Sunday of Lent 2023.

This is the time for the Congregation of Faith of the Parish to give thanks to God, Who remembers His Covenant forever, for all the blessings that have been poured upon this church and which have made it a place of hope, comfort and joy for all who are in need of God's saving love.

You are cordially invited to join us in this historic celebration. Your presence and prayers will be a great blessing for us.

Rev. Peter T Truong, Pastor.



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### **SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Saturday, March 18, 2023**

3:00 PM - Community gathering for memories and praise  
Concert and Dance of praise  
Story telling by Parishioners  
Presentation of Honorary Award  
Evening prayer

4:30 PM - Holy Mass in remembrance of former Pastors and benefactors

#### **Sunday, March 19, 2023**

11:00 AM - Holy Mass of Thanksgiving  
Celebrated by Most Reverend Bishop Gerald Barbarito

12:30 PM - Reception in Parish Hall

# HISTORY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

1948 - 2023

We are pleased to announce that St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Riviera Beach will be celebrating its 75th Jubilee Anniversary.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church was established in 1948, and was one of the early churches established under the Diocese of St. Augustine prior to 1950. In 1958, the Vatican established the new Diocese of Miami, which included all churches in Palm Beach County. Subsequently, in 1984, the Vatican established the Diocese of Palm Beach, which includes the parish of St. Francis of Assisi.

Our parish includes many members who were formerly members of the Blessed Martin DePorres Parish - enabling a rich diversity of church members and the recognition and influence of Black Catholics in our church community.

For many years, St. Francis was staffed and run by priests from the order of Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Those who have been in this area for a long period of time may remember priests from St. Francis celebrating Sunday Mass at the old Colonnades Hotel on Singer Island. After the death of Father Art Obin, the OMI order turned the parish back to the Diocese of Palm Beach for staffing and management.

Since its founding, St. Francis of Assisi has served the communities of Riviera Beach, Lake Park, North Palm Beach and Singer Island.

St. Clare Parish, which was established in 1960, began as a mission from St. Francis of Assisi Church in Riviera Beach. In addition, the Santa Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus was instituted at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Riviera Beach.

St. Francis of Assisi School was widely attended by many students in this community. The church and school had a convent on site, which was staffed by sisters from the Adrian Dominican Order, who served as teachers.

The school property was transferred from the parish to the Diocese of Palm Beach, and has become home to Catholic Charities of Palm Beach County.

St. Francis of Assisi Choir was started by its long-time organist, Edward Montefusco. The choir under the direction of its current leader, David Cotton, is widely known as the foremost Gospel Choir in the county. St. Francis of Assisi choir has sung at many venues, and has accompanied celebrities including Paul Anka, Donna Summer and others.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish has a rich past which is based on its strong love of the Lord, its love of community, and its Parish Family.