



# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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## SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Committed to living and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition, we are blessed to have as our patron saint someone who continues to call us to reach out to others in charity and compassion.

**Church of  
St Francis of Assisi**  
1114 Third Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904  
507.288.7313  
<http://stfrancis-church.org>

**Parish Center Hours**  
Mon-Fri: 8AM - 3:30PM

**Weekday Mass:**  
Monday - Friday 7AM

**School Mass:**  
Tuesday 9:30AM

**Weekend Mass:**  
Saturday 4:30PM  
Sunday 8AM, 10AM

**In Spanish:**  
Thursday 7PM  
Sunday 12PM

**Misa En Español:**  
Jueves 7PM  
Domingo 12PM

**Pastor**  
Rev. Jim Berning

**Parochial Vicar**  
Rev. Luis Vargas



Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him.  
For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you  
a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen,  
I say to you, will surely not lose his reward."

- Mark 9:39a, 40-41

## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BERNING



**THIS WEEKEND.** Moses and Jesus both proclaim the fact in our readings this weekend that the work of the Spirit cannot be confined. The work of the Spirit is for all of us.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL.** Monday, September 27 is the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul, the patron of all charitable societies. We thank the St. Vincent de Paul Society for all that they do for so many in our parish and community. Truly, the Spirit is alive and well in all their ministry amongst us. God bless all the Vincentians. St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

**FEAST DAYS.** Wednesday, September 29 is Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. Thursday, September 30 is St. Jerome. Friday, October 1 is St. Therese of the Child Jesus and October 2 is the Guardian Angels

**NOVENA.** The Saint Francis of Assisi Novena begins on Saturday, September 25. Novena booklets will be in the Gathering Space. Please pray it and the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi as we prepare for our Fall Festival on October 3 and the Feast of Saint of Francis Assisi on October 4. St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us.

**FALL FESTIVAL FOOD.** Sunday, September 26 is the last day to order either the Turkey Dinner or Mexican Food. We need ample time to prepare for take-out orders. Thank you!

**PET BLESSING.** Saturday, October 2 at 10am, we will have the Annual Pet Blessing in the parking lot. Please bring your stuffed and live animals and pets to be blessed through the intercession of Saint Francis of Assisi.

**FALL FESTIVAL.** Sunday, October 3 is our Fall Festival and we thank the staff, co-chairs and volunteers of the various areas. Thank you for everyone's generosity. See you there next Sunday!

**RESPECT LIFE.** Next Sunday, October 3 is Respect Life Sunday and we remember that Respect Life is every second of our lives. From conception to natural death, from beginning to end, it is every second and all moments in between. All human life is a gift and precious - and is to be respected with all dignity.

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH T-SHIRT.

We have a NEW St. Francis of Assisi Parish T-shirt for sale! The T-shirts are a beautiful green with white print - and are printed 2-sided with a design taken from above our west-side entry doors to the church. T-shirts will be \$15/Adult sizes and \$10/Children's sizes. Call the office for more information!



*Father Jim C. Berning*

## Welcome

Welcome to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Our church has helped to bring Jesus Christ to the city of Rochester since 1937. We seek to foster the spiritual growth of our parishioners through the celebration of the Sacraments, catechesis, community life, and personal prayer. Like our patron saint, we strive to rebuild the Church and to console the heart of Jesus by serving our neighbors in need.

## Parish Contacts

### Parish Center Office

(507) 288-7313

### Pastor (x 202)

Rev. Jim Berning

### Parochial Vicar (x 203)

Rev. Luis Vargas

### Parish Administrator (x 204)

Sarah Kinsman

### Office Manager (x 201)

Michelle Ibarra

### Financial Secretary (x 205)

Debbie Worden

### Director of Music/Liturgy (x 301)

Zack Stachowski

### Faith Formation (x 207)

Mark Nuehring

### St. Francis of Assisi School

(507) 288-4816

### Principal

Andrew Poterucha

### Trustees

Bruce Anderson

Rosemary Bengal

### Knights of Columbus

Bruce Anderson

### Calvary Cemetery

Steve Flynn, Director

(507) 273-0140

### Catholic Charities

(507) 287-2047



**ESTA CERCA EL FESTIVAL DE OTOÑO.** Recordemos que el Festival de Otoño está cada vez más cerca, el próximo fin de semana tenemos la alegría de celebrar la fiesta de nuestra parroquia, y con ella la actividad más importante de nuestra Iglesia. Además, también celebramos la fiesta de nuestro patrono san Francisco de Asís. Unámonos y participemos alegremente en nuestras festividades. Sigamos atentos a las diferentes actividades que se nos ofrecen con motivo del Festival de Otoño de nuestra parroquia que siempre ha sido una bonita oportunidad para participar y colaborar alegremente como familia de Fe.

**LA SUBASTA SILENCIOSA** se llevará a cabo en línea (por internet) tenemos muchas cosas buenas y bonitas para subastar, animate a explorar esta nueva modalidad de jugar y ganar.

**DELICIOSO PLATILLOS.** Este es el último fin de semana que se estarán vendiendo los boletos de la comida, es muy importante que los adquiramos para que podamos tener la seguridad de poder vender todos los platos, tendremos la cena de pavo del Canadian Honker, comida mexicana (tamales y burritos) y los Egg rolls vietnamitas (pedidos por adelantado y para llevar SOLAMENTE). Si el clima nos favorece podremos tener algunas mesas en el estacionamiento de la iglesia.

**FIESTA DE SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS:** También celebraremos nuestra Fiesta de San Francisco de Asís, tendremos la Novena (del 25 de septiembre al 4 de octubre) al poder de intercesión de San Francisco, pidiéndole que ore por nosotros, nuestra parroquia y el mundo entero. Un folleto especial de oración de la Novena estará disponible en el espacio de reunión. Además, tendremos un coro "virtual" cantando la Oración de San Francisco, una "Bendición de los animales, las mascotas, (tanto reales como de peluche) a las 10 de la mañana el sábado 2 de octubre y un formato trilingüe en todas las misas el fin de semana de octubre". 2 y 3.

**RIFA DEL BOLETO GRANDE.** Como siempre la Rifa ofrece una buena lista de premios, son 10 boletos por familia, el precio es de \$5.00 por boleto. Recuerden devolver los sobres con los boletos esta semana, tanto los vendidos como los no vendidos. Es muy importante que los hagan llegar lo más pronto posible, mil gracias por todo su apoyo y su colaboración.

**PLAYERAS DE SAN FRANCISCO.** Como novedad, esta vez estaremos ofreciendo playeras de color verde, alusivas a nuestra parroquia, de todas las tallas, nuevamente las estaremos ofreciendo después de las misas este fin de semana, sería muy bonito que todos pudiéramos lucir la playera el día de nuestro festival, la idea es que todos vengamos a la misa luciendo do las playeras el día de nuestra fiesta de San Francisco de Asís.

# MASS INTENTIONS



For the Week of September 27, 2021

MON Sept 27	7:00 AM	Jerry Goodman †
TUES Sept 28	7:00 AM	Peter Joseph Neisen †
	<b>* 9:30 AM</b>	<b>School Mass</b>
WED Sept 29	7:00 AM	Shirley Leiferman †
THU Sept 30	7:00 AM	Marge Chester †
	<b>** 7:00 PM</b>	Cruz Family
FRI Oct 1	7:00 AM	Virginia Smith †
SAT Oct 2	4:30 PM	Steve & Clara Woodward †
SUN Oct 3	8:00 AM	For the Parish
	10:00 AM	Bunnie Powers †
	<b>** 12:00 PM</b>	Morales Family

\* School Mass    \*\* Spanish Mass

## MASS INTENTIONS

If you have a desire to remember someone who has passed away or simply in need of some extra prayers, Mass Intentions are available every day for our weekday Masses and on the weekends. You are welcome to stop by the Parish Office and schedule a Mass intention during normal office hours.

## Readings for the week of September, 26 2021

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48  
 Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Lk 9:46-50  
 Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Zec 8:23]/Lk 9:51-56  
 Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51  
 Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [9ab]/Lk 10:1-12  
 Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Lk 10:13-16  
 Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 [34]/Mt 18:1-5, 10  
 Next Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

## Las lecturas de la semana del 26 de septiembre de 2021

Domingo: Nm 11, 25-29/Sal 18, 8. 10. 12-13. 14 [9]/Sant 5, 1-6/Mc 9, 38-43. 45. 47-48  
 Lunes: Zac 8, 1-8/Sal 101, 16-18. 19-21. 29 y 22-23 [17]/Lc 9, 46-50  
 Martes: Zac 8, 20-23/Sal 86, 1-3. 4-5. 6-7 [Zac 8, 23]/Lc 9, 51-56  
 Miércoles: Dn 7, 9-10. 13-14 o Ap 12, 7-12/Sal 137, 1-2. 2-3. 4-5 [1]/Jn 1, 47-51  
 Jueves: Neh 8, 1-4. 5-6. 7-12/Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 11 [9]/Lc 10, 1-12  
 Viernes: Bar 1, 15-22/Sal 78, 1-2. 3-5. 8. 9 [9]/Lc 10, 13-16  
 Sábado: Bar 4, 5-12. 27-29/Sal 68, 33-35. 36-37 [34]/Mt 18, 1-5. 10  
 Domingo siguiente: Gn 2, 18-24/Sal 127, 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6 [cfr. 5]/Heb 2, 9-11/  
 Mc 10, 2-16 o 10, 2-12

**COR JESU - FIRST FRIDAY OF OCTOBER.** The Cathedral invites you to Cor Jesu on Friday, October 1st from 7:00 -8:30pm. Cor Jesu is an evening of Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions and music in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. For more details, search for Winona Cor Jesu on Facebook, or call Olivia Gadiant at (507) 951-7063.

**MCCL UPDATES.** Join others in your community at a pro-life educational gathering and learn about the challenges we face and how you can make a difference in protecting life. Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) will offer a pro-life presentation in Pipestone on September 20 at 7PM at Pizza Ranch, in Austin on October 15 at 7PM at Queen of Angels Parish, and in Rochester on October 21 at 7PM at St. James Coffee. Visit [mccl.org/falltour](http://mccl.org/falltour) for more information, or call 612-825-6831.

**NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN.** Come join pro-lifers at the National Life Chain on Sunday, October 3rd, from 2 to 3:30pm on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood in Rochester. Since 1987, the Life Chain has been a public witness of prayer and repentance, uniting the Church in solidarity against abortion, while boldly standing in the hope of Christ. Signs will be provided. Please come out in support of life.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Fall Tour will be in Rochester on Thursday, October 14th from 7 - 8pm at St James Coffee House. This free event is packed with information and is open to all. Please come to learn ways that you can promote the prolife message. For more information on either of the above, please contact Linda McGuire at 507-259-4035.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS DAY.** On Saturday, October 16, the fall Social Concerns Day on Restorative Justice: Healing the Harm will be held via Zoom from 9:30AM-12:30pm. To register, email [ilandsteiner@ccsommn.org](mailto:ilandsteiner@ccsommn.org). NO COST to attend but registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Keynote speakers will be Fr. Larry Dowling and Martine Haglund. Fr. Dowling is the Pastor of St. Agatha's Parish in North Chicago. He will speak about the Biblical and Theological 5 underpinnings of Restorative Justice, as well as some of the practical ways that it has been implemented in his parish to strengthen families, build relationships, and resolve conflict. Mrs. Haglund is the Assistant Principal at Century High School in Rochester. She will be speaking about her experience as a school administrator using Restorative Justice to resolve conflict in an academic setting.



**SUPPORT OUR PARISH WHILE YOU SHOP!** We recently listed our parish as a charity on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile allows people who shop on Amazon to designate one charity of their choice to receive 0.5% of eligible purchases.

To begin, access Amazon by using [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) rather than the usual [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). The first time you access Amazon in this way, you will be prompted to sign in to your Amazon account and then select your charity. (Note: You will be able to retain your Amazon Prime membership.) They will have a few "suggested" charities at the top of the page; ignore those and instead, in the charity search box, type "The Church of St Francis of Assisi" (make sure it is Rochester, MN) and you should see us come up. Hit "select", and from now on any time you buy an Amazon item using the [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) URL you will be helping to support our parish.

If you are someone who shops on Amazon already, please consider using Amazon Smile and listing us as your charity. Let your friends and family know as well! Questions, please email or call the parish office. It's easy to sign up and will directly benefit our parish!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COATS FOR KIDS PROGRAM.** The St Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus are participating in the annual nationwide Coats for Kids Program. Coats are purchased in boxes of 12 with the average price of a coat being \$20. All coats purchased by the St Francis Knights will be distributed within the Rochester area.

This year, the national organization is matching boxes purchased by local councils. Therefore, each box purchased will result in 2 boxes being delivered locally. If you would like to help with this program, please drop your donation off at the Parish Center office or in the Sunday collection indicating the donation is for the COATS FOR KIDS Program. **Please make checks payable to KC Council 14170.**

## Faith Formation

**FALL IS OFFICIALLY HERE.** The time of cool evenings, and beautiful days. I have even learned that some of my friends have already gone to area apple orchards to get some fresh produce. Most of us love to savor Fall perhaps because we know what next season is, and how hard it can be on us.

What are you going to do to savor fall? I love walking my dogs in the crisp evening air, after dark, seeing all the stars in the sky and realizing our God is bigger than either you or I can possibly grasp.

Each of our Confirmation groups will experience a retreat this Fall, and get a unique opportunity to reflect on God in their life.

On Friday night, our first year Confirmation students started their preparation with a retreat here at Saint Francis. It was a wonderful way to "kick-off" their first year of preparation for this special Sacrament. The students heard powerful witness talks, built stronger bonds with each other, and participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This was truly a strong spiritual experience for all of them.

Then, in November, our second year Confirmation students will attend an overnight retreat at Camp Victory. Retreats are wonderful ways to step out of ordinary life and reflect on how blessed we are and recognize how much God truly loves each of us.

Have you ever participated in an adult retreat? I would encourage you to give it a try.

I hope you have a blessed week. Remember, God loves you.

- **Mark** ([youthminister@stfrancis-church.org](mailto:youthminister@stfrancis-church.org))

Hola! Bienvenue!  
**welcome!**

to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi!

*We are grateful to our faithful parishioners & welcome our neighbors & guests who are visiting us. We want you to know that you are always welcome here!*

## Music Notes

**FALL FESTIVAL VIRTUAL CHOIR!** We are planning to produce another virtual choir video in celebration of our parish Fall Festival! All are welcome to participate. We are asking for parishioners to submit videos of themselves singing the prayer of St. Francis "Make Me A Channel of Your Peace." You can find detailed instructions for creating and submitting your video with the following link and/or QR code:



<https://bit.ly/sf-virtualchoir>

**FOLLOW ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** I want to invite you all to follow St. Francis of Assisi on social media! While many of you are already following us on Facebook, we have recently launched an Instagram account as well.

Through our social media accounts, you'll receive the most current parish news and information, pictures and videos of parish events, livestream access, and more!

**FACEBOOK:** [@stfrancisrochmn](#)

**INSTAGRAM:** [@stfrancisroch](#)

Help us to show the world the amazing things that are happening here at St. Francis of Assisi by liking and sharing our posts!

### UPCOMING MINISTRY SCHEDULE 10/2-10/3

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Minister of Hospitality
Saturday 4:30PM	Rubin Erickson	Judy Syring	John Stoley Natalie Norris
Sunday 8AM	Kurt Wentz	John Winkels	Pat Stern [open]
Sunday 10AM	Mary Saastetter	Lucy Becker	Joni Pauker Mark Faukert

- **Zack** ([liffranc@stfrancis-church.org](mailto:liffranc@stfrancis-church.org))







The Season of Creation is an annual celebration of prayer and action to protect God's creation. Starting on September 1, with the World Day of Prayer for Creation, it continues until October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

#### A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.*



**CHANGING HEARTS AND MINDS.** Prayer warriors needed! The 40 Days for Life Campaign begins September 22. Please consider praying on Mondays at Planned Parenthood - the dates are September 27, October 4, 11, 18 and 25 between 10AM-5:30PM. Please contact Maggie Eggerichs at 507-951-2316 or [maggiieggerichs@hotmail.com](mailto:maggiieggerichs@hotmail.com) for questions or for time slots to pray. Thank you for protecting life!



## **FALL FESTIVAL** **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021**

**FALL FESTIVAL FOOD!** TICKETS for the TURKEY DINNER by the CANADIAN HONKER and BURRITOS AND TAMALES will be SOLD at all MASSES this weekend! The last day to purchase TURKEY dinner tickets and Burritos and Tamales is Sunday, September 26. **On Monday, September 27,** the office will contact you via phone to schedule your TURKEY dinner pick-up.

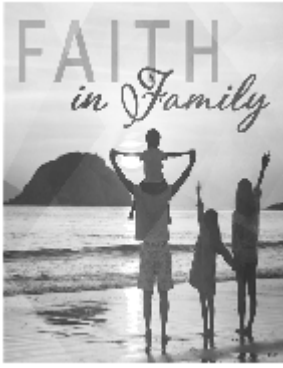
**PLEASE NOTE:** The LAST DAY to pre-order Vietnamese Egg Rolls was Friday, September 24.

**Fall Festival food will be served on a pre-order, carry out basis only.**

**BIG TICKET RAFFLE!** Please return your purchased (and non-purchased) raffle tickets to the Parish Center Office. We will still do the drawing LIVE on Sunday at 2PM and will post it LIVE to our Facebook Page!

**SILENT AUCTION!** The Silent Auction will be an ONLINE event and a link will be provided via email, as well as posted to our website, and Facebook page next week! A pre-view of the baskets will be posted to our Facebook page on Monday, September 27 so you can do some browsing!

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH T-SHIRT!** We have a NEW St. Francis of Assisi Parish T-shirt for sale! The T-shirts are a beautiful green with white print - and are printed 2-sided with a design taken from above our west-side entry doors to the church. T-shirts will be \$15/Adult sizes and \$10/Children's sizes. Call the office for more information!



## FAMILY CONNECTION

The second part of today's Gospel contains a strong message for those who share the responsibility of fostering faith. It is indeed an awesome responsibility. Today's Gospel reminds us that faith is a lifelong journey toward God. We don't always get it all or even get it right. But we pray for the

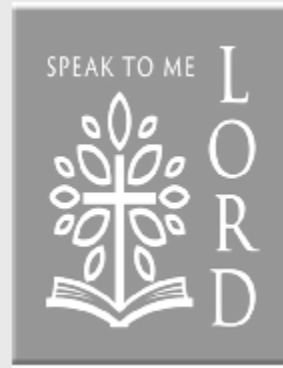
grace to acknowledge and build upon even the smallest signs of faith, in ourselves and in others. There are plenty of obstacles that might prevent the growth of faith. Let us pray that we are not contributing to the obstacles that might hinder another person's faith in Jesus.

As you gather as a family, observe that there are things in our lives that nurture our faith and things that can hinder it. Talk about some of the things that nurture our faith—healthy family relationships, healthy friendships, good literature, and so on. Name some of the things that might be an obstacle to faith—unhealthy relationships, scandals, and so on. Observe that Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel that we are to do everything we can to help one another have faith in Jesus and do all that we can to avoid creating obstacles that might hinder another person's faith. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48. Conclude by praying together that we will be a family that helps each other grow in faith. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 19, or the Lord's Prayer.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/>



## TO BELONG TO CHRIST: SCOTT HAHN REFLECTS ON THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today's Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today's First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God's Spirit through Moses prefigure the

ministry of the Apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God's plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see [John 3:8](#)), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God in every nation under heaven (see [Acts 2:5, 38](#)).

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord's name. But, really, he's only guarding his own privilege and status. It's telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve (see [Mark 3:14-15; 6:7, 13](#)).

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today's Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church.

But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples (see [Ephesians 1:4](#)).

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father's will? Are we living, as this Sunday's Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure while neglecting our neighbors?

We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today's Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them.

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