

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 10, 2017

Sunday, December 10

9:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
11:00 am – Ann Marie Loutzenhiser (Michael Loutzenhiser)

Monday, December 11

No Mass

Tuesday, December 12

6:00 pm – Floyd Jackson (Jay Jackson)

Wednesday, December 13

6:00 pm – Mary E Garrity (Tom & Veronica Garrity)

Thursday, December 14

6:00 pm – Damion Ferguson (Jay Jackson)

Friday, December 15

6:00 pm – Health, Mind, Body, Soul, Spirit - Healing (Thom & Lorna Lisk)

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

Thank you for your willingness to serve to make our Mass Successful

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

December 10 – 9 am – Lorri Kuczynski, Jeanna Diederich

11 am – Gretchen Rivera, Theri Brady

December 17 – 9 am – Skip Camerucci, Stephanie Good

11 am – Megan Murphy, Bob Ariss

Servers

December 10 – 9 am – Linda Wolfe 11 am – Gaetan O'Brien

December 17 – 9 am – Frank Conway, 11 am – Gaetan O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

December 10 – 9 am – Bob Geoghegan, 11 am – Dan O'Brien

December 17 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – Dan O'Brien

Lectors

December 10 – 9 am – Sue Cruickshank, Sr. Sharen Baldy

11 am – Emily Wu, Jon Murphy

December 17 – 9 am – Renee Morkassel, Will Brenner

11 am – Jon Murphy, Tim Feran

Eucharistic Ministers

December 10 – 9 am – Frank Conway, Frank Schneider, Rick Miller

11 am – Mark Coleman, Lori Tocorzic, Jaime Capestany

December 17 – 9 am – MA Kerscher, K Kriednermann, L Celebrezze

11 am – Joanna Nunn, Marilyn Smith, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy

Gluten "Free"/Low Gluten Hosts...are available for those who wish to receive them. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host at Communion, please notify one of the greeters before Mass. This will allow us to observe and



Second Sunday of Advent

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Please check the St. Francis website for the full calendar of events

Sunday, December 10

- ▶ 12:00 pm – Sunday School
- ▶ 2:00 pm – St. Francis Seniors

Monday, December 11

Tuesday, December 12

- ▶ 4:30 pm – Executive Finance Meeting
- ▶ 6:30 pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, December 13

- ▶ 7:00 pm - RCIA

Thursday, December 14

- ▶ 10:00 am – Westminster Thurber Bible Study

Parish News and Information

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL is collecting gift cards to help JOIN help families have a bit happier Christmas. The Christmas tree at the back of the church has paper ornaments that suggest possible gift cards to donate. These gift cards will be given to teens. Suggestions are for pizza, AMC Theatre, Target, Best Buy, Walmart, eating places; any card that you think a teenager might like. There is a box under the tree for you to drop off gift cards. Gift cards will be collected through December 17.



December Mass Schedule –December 24 (4th)

Sunday of Advent) 10:00 am, Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm. December 25 (Christmas Day) at 10:00 am.

January 1 (New Year's Day) at 10:00 am.

Save the Date – Friday, January 5, 2018, following the evening Mass, we will celebrate Epiphany with an all church party! More details to follow, but you won't want to miss this fun evening. The evening will include food, fun and of course a white elephant gift exchange!



Special Collection Report - On November 19 we took up a special collection of \$931 for the Campaign for Human Development. Thank you for your generous support of the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Poverty exists year-round. Your generous gifts will help CCHD break the cycle of poverty through education, improved housing, and economic development. Through CCHD, we demonstrate Catholic social teaching and carry out Jesus' mission to "bring glad tidings to the poor . . . to let the oppressed go free" (Lk 4:18).

Catholic Foundation - Correction to last week's announcement – The Catholic Foundation awarded us a \$3000 grant for the Church Access System, not \$2000 as was stated in last week's bulletin. Apologies for the mistake.

Book Discussion Group



The St. Francis Book Discussion Group will meet Sunday, December 17 after the 11:00 Mass to discuss Richard Rohr's book, *Things Hidden*. All are welcome.

Donations Made to Father– Last Sunday you so generously donated \$1552.00 to help Father Fritzner cover his travel expenses to Haiti. Thank you for your kindness.

Adult Faith Formation

I want to see Christ in everyone, especially when He's hard to recognize!

"Start now. Start where you are. Start with fear. Start with pain. Start with doubt. Start with hands shaking. Start with the voice trembling but start. Start and don't stop. Start where you are, with what you have. Just....start." From Begin With Yes.

Gospel Reflection ~ December 10, 2017

Three biblical figures express in different ways the spirit of the season of Advent: the prophet Isaiah, whose words create hope and expectation; Mary, the mother of Jesus, whose obedience opened the door to the Incarnation; and John the Baptist, whose ministry was to prepare the way of the Lord. Each of them points to Jesus, as does Mark in the opening verse of his Gospel. His account is the beginning of the Good News of Jesus, who is the Christ and Son of God. In introducing both John and Jesus, today's reading serves as a prologue to Mark's whole Gospel.

A verse from the Advent prophet, Isaiah, introduces us to the mission of John – a portion of the prophecy we heard in the First Reading. Sent by God as a messenger, John is the voice crying out in the desert, "Prepare the way of the Lord." The way of the Lord was Israel's path to freedom from slavery in Egypt and from exile in Babylon. Now John is preparing people for a new path to freedom that will begin with a baptism of repentance and forgiveness of sin.

John's strange attire is reminiscent of that of the prophet Elijah, thereby portraying John as another desert prophet. John's promise of forgiveness of sins drew large crowds of people waiting for a new manifestation of God's power. The origin of John's baptism is uncertain, perhaps related to the ritual cleansings of Judaism or the ceremonial washing of initiation, symbolizing conversion. Whatever its origin, John's baptism calls those who are immersed in the water to repentance (metanoia), to change of mind, heart, and behavior. While the ancestors followed the desert way of the Lord to return to the Promised Land, those baptized by John follow the way of the Lord to return to right relations with God. Even though John attracted a large following, he was only a messenger, a herald for the one mightier than himself. The way of the Lord proclaimed by John is a journey of discipleship to Jesus Christ, Son of God.

Source: Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word.

Capital Campaign

Letters were mailed a couple weeks ago, announcing the official campaign with its theme – **Honoring the Past, Serving the Present, Preserving God's Gifts for the Future.** If you did not receive a letter, please contact the parish office.

Plans are underway for Campaign receptions, where we will share all the details of the campaign and exactly how you can get involved. The Diocese believes that a capital campaign for St. Francis of Assisi Church, involving individuals and leaders shepherded by Father Fritzner Valcin, could raise \$292,000, over a three-year period to address the needs of the parish. This is a very exciting time in the life of our parish, and you will not want to miss being a part of this great adventure.

Next Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28



Answers: 1. (d), 2. (d), 3. (a), 4. (b), 5. (d), 6. (a), 7. (c), 8. (d), 9. (c)

Catholic Quiz - Advent

By recalling the preparation for the coming of the Messiah, the four weeks of Advent are meant to draw today's Christian faithful into a renewed expectancy of Christ's Second Coming. This quiz tests readers' knowledge of the liturgical season of Advent.

- When does Advent officially begin in the Latin Rite?
 - The Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Andrew
 - Evening Prayer I of the Sunday which falls on or closest to November 30
 - On a date selected arbitrarily by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at its annual meeting
 - Both (a) and (b)
- What Marian solemnity is celebrated during Advent?
 - Mary, Mother of God
 - The Annunciation
 - The Assumption
 - The Immaculate Conception
- What is the theme of the Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent?
 - The Lord's coming at the end of time
 - The birth of St. John the Baptist
 - The events that prepared immediately for the Lord's birth
 - John the Baptist's call to repentance
- During Advent we hear about the "O" Antiphons. To what does this term refer?
 - There are to be no (i.e., zero) antiphons before the Gospel.
 - Antiphons with messianic themes sung during the second phase of Advent at Evening Prayer.
 - A sequence typically sung at the Christmas Vigil Mass.
 - Another name for the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."
- Which of the following Doctors of the Church have their feast days during Advent?
 - St. Ambrose
 - St. Nicholas
 - St. John of the Cross
 - Both (a) and (c)
- During Advent, the priest typically wears violet-colored vestments at Mass. However, on the Third Sunday he frequently wears rose-colored vestments. Why?
 - It's Gaudete Sunday, and the readings remind us to rejoice in the Lord always Gaudete in Domino semper).
 - In honor of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception, based on her traditional title as "Mystical Rose."
 - It's Laetare Sunday, because of the tidings of great joy heralded by the Archangel Gabriel.
- Which of the following are omitted during Sunday Masses in Advent?
 - The Prayer of the Faithful
 - The Alleluia before the Gospel
 - The Gloria
 - Organ and other musical instruments
- Which of the following statements about Advent is false?
 - It comes from a Latin term that referred to the coming or arrival of the emperor.
 - It comes from the Latin (advenire, adventus) and is not only a time of preparation, but also a time of desire, longing, and expectancy for the coming of Our Lord.
 - It not only prepares us for the celebration of Christ-mas but also directs our minds and hearts to await Christ's second coming.
 - Advent is not a penitential season
- From which Old Testament book do most of the Mass readings during Advent come?
 - Genesis
 - 1 and 2 Samuel
 - Isaiah
 - Daniel

Source: <http://www.cuf.org/2006/11/catholic-quiz-advent/>