

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of March 15, 2015

Sunday, March 15—Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish
11:00 am—Dick Stevens (Laura Casaday and Sally Gard)

Monday, March 16

NO MASS

Tuesday, March 17

6:00 pm—For Sick and Homebound Persons

Wednesday, March 18

6:00 pm—RCIA Candidates

Thursday, March 19

6:00 pm—Joan Randolph (Jack Randolph)

Friday, March 20

6:00 pm—For Peace in Our World

Saturday, March 21

NO MASS

Sunday, March 22—Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am—Mae Louise O'Reilly (Dorothy Spiva)
11:00 am—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Mar 15—9 am—Skip Camerucci, Terry Gatton

11 am—Marilyn Smith, Maggie McCoy

Mar 22—9 am—Lorri Kuczynski, Terry Gatton

11 am—Jackie Emch, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy

Servers

Mar 15—9 am—Frank Conway; 11 am—Fallon O'Brien

Mar 22—9 am—Chris Paisley; 11 am—Margaret O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

Mar 15—9 am—Bob Geoghegan; 11 am—NOT FILLED

Mar 22—9 am—Bob Geoghegan; 11 am—Julie Byrne

Lectors

Mar 15—9 am—Gretchen Rivera, Joyce Schneider

11 am—Julie Byrne, Diane Meves

Mar 22—9 am—Lynn Willford, Linda Wolfe

11 am—Larry Charles, Jon Murphy

Eucharistic Ministers

Mar 15—9 am—Catherine Damm, Steven Hillyer, F Schneider

11 am—Joanna Nunn, M O'Shaughnessy, Diane LeMay

Mar 22—9 am—Sister Sharen, J Rosenfield, L Celebrezze

11 am—Mark Coleman, Lori, Tocorzic, Sandy Glasner

Thanks to the 25+ of you who came out on a cold night on February 12th to hear Sister Nadine Buchanan speak about **human trafficking**. I know she appreciated your interest and concern. The group of St. Francis of Assisi parishioners who has been exploring this issue will be meeting on Thursday evening, **March 19 at 6:30 p.m.** in the church hall to discuss possible future activities to create awareness of and/or to help victims of trafficking here in Columbus.

We very much would like to "grow" that group, so we invite any of you who are interested to join us.

~ Karen Scheid

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

LOOKING AHEAD ... Sunday, March 15

- ▶ SECOND COLLECTION / Catholic Relief Services
- ▶ Baptism Workshop, 12:30 pm, Desert Room

Monday, March 16

- ▶ Drumming Circle, 7 pm, hall

Tuesday, March 17

- ▶ Westminster Thurber Monthly Mass, 11 am
With Anointing Service to follow
- ▶ Dulcimer Music Group, 7 pm, hall

Wednesday, March 18

- ▶ Soup Supper, following 6 pm Mass
Speaker: Shannon Easter, Faith Mission
- ▶ RCIA meeting, following Soup Supper

Thursday, March 19

- ▶ Bible Study at Westminster Thurber, 10:30 am
- ▶ Choir Practice, 7 pm, choir loft

LOOKING AHEAD ... Sunday, March 22

- ▶ Book Discussion Group, following 11 am Mass
- ▶ Secular Franciscan Order, 2-5 pm, church and hall

Monday, March 23

- ▶ St Vincent dePaul Conference, 7 pm, hall

NOTE: during Lent, Confessions will be heard Tuesday-Friday beginning at 5:30 pm

Parish News and Information

This week's Lenten soup supper event will feature Shannon Easter, of Faith Mission, who will speak about the services of the mission, and the journey of the clients who visit there. The event will follow Mass on Wednesday evening, March 18.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS will be held Wednesday evenings after 6 PM Mass in the church hall through April 1. **We need volunteers to provide soup and bread, and there are sign-up sheets in the back of church where you can sign up.** Help us continue this wonderful Lenten

tradition of a simple meal and prayerful reflections.

Upcoming Soup Supper presentations ...

March 25 – Mark Segal, parishioner and oncologist, who will talk about the journey of doctors and patients in cancer-related settings ...

April 1 – Personal Stations of the Cross ... parishioners will give testimony about a particular station that represents a special time in their lives

The **St. Francis Drumming Circle** will convene in the church hall tomorrow evening, March 16 at 7 pm. Come and discover the joy of drumming. No drum? No problem; we have extras!

The **Catholic Relief Services Collection** supports Catholic Church organizations that carry out international relief and solidarity efforts. Programs include relief and resettlement for victims of persecution, war, and natural disasters; development projects to improve living conditions for the poor; legal and support services for poor immigrants; peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence; and advocacy on behalf of the powerless.

Pastoral Reflection for March 15, 2015

The Fourth Sunday of Lent marks the halfway point in the Lenten season. It has been traditionally named "Laetare" or "Rejoice Sunday" after today's opening antiphon: "Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied...."

The Scripture readings invite us to look up and believe in the one who was glorified on the Cross: Jesus Christ. When we look at the Cross, indeed we see the tortured body of a man. But when we look with the eyes of faith we perceive the burning love in the heart of God who loved to the end. "There is no greater love than to give one's life for a friend," and "God has so loved this world that he gave his only Son that everyone who believes in Him might have eternal life." The Cross is a mystery of double love!

Whenever we set our eyes on the Cross, may we see the glorious revelation of a loving God. The Father gave his Son and the Son gave his life for us. Likewise, in order to express our love for God, we will need to give up our distorted priorities, and our self-sufficiency.

Lent trains us to uproot those habits that block our capacity for giving and loving. A certain "death" and a certain "rebirth" must happen if we are to fulfill our calling as witnesses of love. Jesus has a way to refer to the Cross on Good Friday and Easter as the place of his glorification. In both cases he is "lifted up". In our case too, we are "uplifted" when we sacrifice our time, our talents and our treasures out of love for others. Self-sacrifice is the inevitable part of the journey

In Christ ~ Fr Fritz

Parish News and Information

From Catholic Stewardship Consultants

March 15, 2015 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36: 14-16, 19-23; Ps 137: 1-6; Eph 2: 4-10; Jn 3: 14-21

It has been said many times over and in a variety of ways that stewardship is based upon gratitude. Gratitude for what, we might ask? For the variety of blessings each of us receives, understanding full well that each of us is gifted in different ways and perhaps even in different measures. However, there is one gift in which we all share equally.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16) It is difficult for us to even conceive of the magnitude of that multifaceted gift, from God's unconditional love for us to the extraordinary gift of his son Jesus to the fabulous gift of everlasting life.

Stewardship calls us to appreciate all of God's gifts, but if we only focus on the gifts listed above, our gratitude should know no bounds. Pope Francis has said, "God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. We all have the ability to understand and receive God's gifts." We need to recognize God's gifts and especially during our preparations for Easter, find ways to show and live out our gratitude.



Parish News and Information

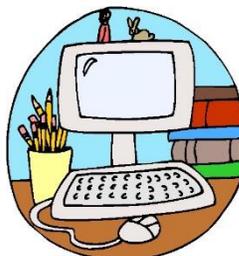


Planning Ahead? Mark your calendars -- **The St. Francis Book Discussion Group will meet on Sunday, March 22** after the 11 o'clock Mass in the church hall. (Note this change from the usual third Sunday.) The group will discuss "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr

Help Wanted ... we are looking for **collection counters**, either to serve once a month, or to be placed on a sub list. Qualifications = using a calculator, maintaining confidentiality. Counters work in teams for accounting standard and safety purposes. Contact the parish office (office@sfacolumbus.org / 614.299.5781) if you can help.

Around Town ... Around the Diocese

Catholic Social Services' Service Saturday -- May 16, 2015 Do you know a Franklin County low-income senior who could use some extra help with yard work, painting, or small repairs? Contact them today and ask if they'd like some help from our volunteers on this year's Service Saturday. On Service Saturday, Catholic Social Services organizes hundreds of volunteers to do home maintenance projects for Franklin County low-income seniors. Please contact Peggy Sirbaugh at psirbaugh@colscss.org or 614-857-1251 with information about your neighbor in need.



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES is looking for a highly motivated individual with at least two years of front-office experience and a passion for organization and detail. Will maintain a multi-level scheduling system, route incoming phone calls, greet clients, track staff activity, and coordinate mail service. Proficiency in Microsoft Office products is needed to perform administrative duties and projects as assigned. Familiarity with community resources is preferred. Strong interpersonal skills required. Will serve as member of a cohesive support team in serving our staff and clients. Associate's Degree or technical school preferred. To apply, please send cover letter and resume to thurtt@colscss.org prior to March 20.

Catholic Youth Summer Camp

A High Adventure Camp that fosters High Adventure Faith

Catholic Youth Summer Camp is Ohio's one and one week-long, residential high adventure camp for students entering grades 6-12. Activities typically include: jet skis, water tubing, paintball, blobbing, go-carts, archery, zip lining, rock climbing, ropes course, mountain boarding and more! CYSC offers a truly catholic and safe environment with daily catechesis that awakens faith and builds missionary disciples. A week at camp includes daily Mass, adoration, reconciliation, small group conversations, worship, service and authentic community. See www.cysc.com to get more information and to register.