

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 20, 2015

Sunday, December 20

9:00 am—Christine Baldy (Sister Sharen)
11:00 am—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

Monday, December 21

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 22

6:00 pm—Gary Hillyer (Steven Hillyer)

Wednesday, December 23

6:00 pm—Special Intention

Thursday, December 24

5:00 pm—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

Friday, December 25

10:00 am—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

Saturday, December 26

NO MASS

Sunday, December 27

9:00 am—Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish
11:00 am—Bill Scharlott (Fran Scharlott)

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Dec 20—9 am—Tera Kovar, Skip Camerucci
11 am—Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Jackie Emch
Dec 27—9 am—Terry Gattton, Ted Klupinski
11 am—Jackie Emch, Gretchen Rivera

Servers

Dec 20—9 am—Steven Hillyer; 11 am—Gaeten O'Brien
Dec 27—9 am—Elizabeth Maite; 11 am—Margaret O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

Dec 20—9 am—Bob Geoghegan; 11 am—Julie Byrne
Dec 27—9 am—Frank Schneider; 11 am—Lori Toczorczic

Lectors

Dec 20—9 am—Cecilia McAdams, Will Brenner
11 am—Jon Murphy, Ben Gibbons
Dec 27—9 am—Linda Wolfe, Joe Dallacqua
11 am—Larry Charles, Sophia Brown

Eucharistic Ministers

Dec 20—9 am—Frank Schneider, J Schneider, Jan Rosenfield
11 am—Sue Cruickshank, Lori Toczorczic, Louisa Celebrezze
Dec 27—9 am—Steven Hillyer, Rick Miller, Mary Ann Kerscher
11 am—Sue Cruickshank, Sandy Glasner, Marilyn Smith

Prayers

Please keep **Ron Atwood** in your prayers as he continues with chemo (periodically at The James at OSU) and then receives rehab treatment at First Community Village. Thank you. **P.S. You can also send messages of support to Ron's Caring Bridge website at www.caringbridge.org/visit/ronatwood**

Prayers are requested for parishioner **Dorothy Spiva**, who was recently hospitalized (after recuperating from a long illness this summer, she had a relapse last month) and was hospitalized again this week.

Keeping **Catharine Damm** in our prayers as she recuperates!

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

TODAY ... Sunday, December 13

- ▶ SVDP Sandwiches for St Lawrence Haven, 10 am
- ▶ Baptism Workshop, 12:30 pm, Ocean Room
- ▶ Family Hall Rental in afternoon

Wednesday, December 23

- ▶ RCIA Inquiry Sessions, 7 pm, hall

Thursday, December 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE

- ▶ 5 pm Mass

Friday, December 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

- ▶ 10 am Mass

Monday, December 28

- ▶ PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Parish News and Information -- Help Wanted



Cleaning the church ... We are hoping to find volunteers to help clean the church (dusting, vacuuming) on a weekly basis. If you can spare an hour or two, once a week / every other week/ or once a month, and are interested in helping with this ministry, please call the parish office (office@sfacolumbus.org / 614.299.5781).

HELP WANTED – Office Manager

Qualifications for the position: Saint Francis of Assisi Parish is seeking an administrative professional to manage the church office and serve in support of the Pastor and as a staff resource, ensuring that parish needs in administration, personnel, finance and facilities are fulfilled. This position directs and manages these efforts with technical and legal expertise within the framework of shared ministry in Catholic and Christian values.

All the duties will be performed according to the established policies, procedures and guidelines outlined in diocesan and parish policy and procedures manuals. This position will prepare the weekly bulletin and worship aid; update parish census system, sacramental records, and other clerical tasks; assistance in coordinating annual parish events and working with volunteers.

Job Related Skills: This position requires strong business management skills, flexibility, and aptitude. To perform this job successfully, an individual must have proficiency in MS Office (Word, Excel and Publisher); familiarity with payroll/accounting practices/QuickBooks, and payroll systems is a plus. Excellent oral and written communication and human relation skills are essential when dealing with co-workers, other parish or Diocesan employees, families and the general public.

Education/ Experience: Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in Accounting or Finance experience is preferred. Previous business management experience or equivalent combination of education and experience is required.

Passing a background screening and completion of the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" course are mandatory. Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits are according to Diocesan policy. Send cover letter, resume, references and salary requirements by December 31, 2015 to office@sfacolumbus.org.

Pastoral Reflection for December 20, 2015

During the four weeks of Advent, we have heard Prophet Isaiah announcing the event, "a virgin will be with child" and John the Baptist pleading with us "to prepare the way of the Lord." The practical preparations needed for the birth of a child is the story of the visitation: Behold, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of the Incarnate Word. A loving look at her lights up the mystery. Her peaceful appearance speaks volume.

In response to Elizabeth who greets her as "The Mother of the Most High," she proclaims a splendid hymn of praise, an unforgettable heavenly poem -- "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior...All generations shall call me Blessed."

Christmas is upon us. God has become man in the womb of Mary the Virgin. Like her, believe that the Most-High has made himself near to you. "For us men and for our salvation, he descended from heaven." If you are spiritually ready for Christmas this year, welcome your Lord with awe and thanksgiving and bring him to those who haven't been to Church in a while. "Jesus makes God's mercy visible; his birth opens the way for reconciliation with God, his father."

In Christ ~ Fr Fritz

Parish News and Information

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Today at the 11:00 Mass, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming with two recent candidates in the RCIA process. Armando Prince will prepare for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Rebekah Betts, already baptized in Christ, will prepare for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Please keep Armando and Rebekah in your prayers and offer them your support today and throughout their journey in the initiation process.

ADVENT MOMENTS OF MERCY



God's sending of Jesus is an act of mercy for the world, and so the season of Advent is a perfect time for reflection on themes of mercy and hope. Visit the link below to sign up to receive a daily message via email from the Loyola Press. Each message explores the Scripture and feast days of Advent, especially paying attention to themes of mercy and incorporating the words of Pope Francis each day. By embracing the Pope's call to mercy, we will know the full grace of the season.

<http://www.loyolapress.com/advent-moments-of-mercy.htm>

Special Items for Your Calendar!

We will have **ONE Mass only** on Christmas Eve at 5 pm

(NO midnight Mass)

and one Mass on Christmas Day at 10 am

Parish News and Information

Want to heed Pope Francis' call to "care for our common home?" Join with other St. Francis of Assisi parishioners to discuss how we as a parish and as individuals can be better stewards of God's creation. **An initial meeting of St. Francis's Creation Care Team will take place in the church hall on January 10 between Masses.** All are welcome. (For more information see "St. Francis' Care for Creation" in the Winter 2015-2016 newsletter--<http://sfacolumbus.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Winter-2015-16-K-Scheid.pdf>)

Our parish celebration of First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, April 17, 2016 at the 11:00 AM Mass. Ten preparation sessions for this sacrament and for First Reconciliation (celebrated after Easter) will be held on Sundays starting January 10, 2016 and continuing through March 13. Each session will begin at 12:30 pm and last until 2 pm. Sessions will be in the religious education room (Atrium) in the church basement. Please contact Therese Terndrup at tterndru@kent.edu or leave a message for her with the parish office at 614-299-5781 if you have any questions. Registration forms can be found at the back of the church and should be turned in at the first preparation session.

The Nativity gourd display by Amy Knight at St. Francis of Assisi will be on this week's episode of "**Broad & High**" on **Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m. on WOSU-PBS.** It will also repeat several times over the holiday weeks. Below are the airdates/times when you can catch it.

Weds. 12/23 - 7:30 p.m. / Sun. 12/27 - 5:00 p.m.
Weds. 12/30 - 7:30 p.m. / Sun. 1/3 - 5:00 p.m.

The segment, as well as the full episode, will be available at www.wosu.org/BroadAndHigh (as well as on the free WOSU Public Media mobile app) immediately after the initial broadcast.

Gluten "Free" / Low Gluten Hosts ... we now have Low Gluten hosts 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 maintain safety protocols for those who are sensitive or allergic to gluten. Any questions? Call the parish office (614.299.5781 / office@sfacolumbus.org) or see one of the Mass Coordinators. Thank you!

From the Pastor's Desk ...

Two weeks ago, Therese has announced that she will be leaving her position as Secretary/Office Manager at St. Francis Assisi Parish at the end of the year. Therese has been working in our office for the past 15 years. She will be missed. But, we are also happy that she is promoted at the Grove City Library, where she will have a full time job.

We have already posted a "Job Opening Position" throughout the diocese and we will keep you updated.

We will have a parish potluck celebration on Saturday, January 9 at 6:00 pm to thank her, and also to start joyfully the New Year as we continue to build up together this amazing community of faith.

Please RSVP to office@sfacolumbus.org