

## Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 18, 2011

### Sunday, December 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am – Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

11:00 am – Tom & Joan Gorman & Kathleen Rurak (Gorman Family)

### Monday, December 19

NO MASS

### Tuesday, December 20

6:00 pm – Sr Regina Marcum (Steven Hillyer)

### Wednesday, December 21

6:00 pm – Safe Journey for all Travelers

### Thursday, December 22

6:00 pm – Gary Hillyer (Steven Hillyer)

### Friday, December 23

6:00 pm – Maryann Maher & her parents Pat & Julia Volpe  
(Roseann Volpe)

### Saturday, December 24

5:00 pm – Evelyn Seabright (Karen Hottinger)

Midnight – Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish

### Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

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

## Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

### Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

**Dec 18** – 9 am – Michael Loutzenhiser, Maggie McCoy

11 am – Sandy Glasner, Rachel Glasner

**Dec 24/25** – 5 pm – **VOLUNTEERS**

Midnight – Tom Main, Lorri Kuczynski

10 am – **VOLUNTEERS**

### Servers

**Dec 18** – 9 am – Michael Loutzenhiser

11 am – Sophia Brown, Isabelle Bocija

**Dec 24/25** – 5 pm – Sam Khoury

Midnight – Frank Conway

10 am – **VOLUNTEER**

### Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

**Dec 18** – 9 am – Frank Conway; 11 am – Pat Cassidy

**Dec 24/25** – 5 pm – Sam Hulett

Midnight – **VOLUNTEER**

10 am – Frank Schneider

### Lectors

**Dec 18** – 9 am – Sister Sharen, Lorri Kuczynski

11 am – Joe Fullenkamp, Matt Jordan

**Dec 24/25** – 5 pm – Sue Cruickshank, Diane Meves

Midnight – Louisa Celebrezze, Maggie McCoy

10 am – Ben Gibbons, Carolyn Jurkowitz

### Eucharistic Ministers

**Dec 18** – 9 am – Carolyn Jurkowitz, K Kriedermann, S Hillyer

11 am – Joanna Nunn, Mark Coleman, Sue Cruickshank

**Dec 24/25** – 5 pm – C Paisley, Joanna Nunn, Felicia Maxwell

Midnight – Linda Wolfe, Carolyn Jurkowitz, Sister Sharen

10 am – Pat Cassidy **and VOLUNTEERS**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Opportunity to reflect and discuss Scriptures of the Sunday liturgy  
JOIN US IN BASEMENT AFTER THE 9AM MASS until 10:50AM

TODAY'S READINGS LISTED IN WORSHIP AID

## Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

### TODAY, Sunday, December 18

- Breaking Open the Word, 10:15 am, Desert Room
- CHURCH CLEANING and DECORATING Following 11 am Mass
- Baptism Workshop, 12:30 pm, Desert Room
- Secular Franciscan Order, 2-5 pm

### Tuesday, December 20

- Monthly Mass at Westminster Thurber, 11 am

### Wednesday, December 21

- RCIA Inquiry Session, 7 pm, hall

### Thursday, December 22

- Bible Study at Westminster Thurber, 1:30 pm (7th flr)
- Study of First Christian Teachers, 7 pm (Ocean Rm)

### LOOKING AHEAD ...

#### Next Sunday, December 25

- ONE MASS ONLY at 10 am

#### Monday, December 26

- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
- **NO** SVDP monthly meeting, due to holiday

#### Tuesday, December 27

- PARISH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

#### Wednesday, December 28

- **NO** RCIA Inquiry Session, due to holiday

#### Thursday, December 29

- Bible Study at Westminster Thurber, 1:30 pm (7th flr)
- Study of First Christian Teachers, 7 pm (Ocean Rm)

NO DAILY MASS ... during the week of Dec 25, the only daily Mass will be held on Friday, Dec 30 at 6 pm (with Confessions at 5:30 pm). There will be no daily Mass on Dec 27, 28, and 29 of that week.

## Parish Council Meeting Summary -- December

- Finance Council spoke on an approach to improve Stewardship participation. Ellen Weibacher from Diocesan Development Office has been consulted to help us in this area. Parish census data will be updated as part of this activity.
- Mark Huddy of Diocesan Social Concerns Office will be scheduled to speak in February.
- A need for Lenten soup supper coordinator was expressed.
- Education committee is working on 3-5 year plan, to be ready in Feb 2012.
- Updates of the roles, as well as training, of Eucharistic ministers, servers, and lectors/greeters are in the works.
- Pat Wadsworth was unanimously accepted as full member of council.
- Council discussed upcoming elections process.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the Randolph family ... parishioner **Joan Randolph** died earlier this month. Her husband Jack is a resident of Westminster Thurber and faithful member of our community. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.

*Pastoral Reflection ~ for Sunday, December 18, 2011*

O Come Lord, Flower of Jesse's Stem, Key of David, Radiant Dawn, King of All Nations, Emmanuel. These are the groans of labor pains that the Church has breathed and cried in its Evening Prayer beginning on December 17 for the last 1700 years. Las Posadas has been a celebration in Mexico and Southwest USA from December 16 until December 24 for 450 years. People (pilgrims) go from house to house led by an angel who conducts a little donkey with the seated Virgin accompanied by Joseph. They sing songs as they look for shelter. Families open their doors to the pilgrims for food and drink. How do we open our lives to the Coming of God? How do we share the breathing and midwifery of the Birthing? as the time of God's coming is soon. ~ Fr. Ron

*Parish News and Information*

**MUSIC IN THE AIR.....**

Christmas Eve has a special atmosphere like no other time of the year. Here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish there will be lots of singing – carols, the ordinary parts of the Mass, Psalms, and hymns. The choir will offer several selections, and add harmony and descants to the ensemble. Because of the calendar, many of the regular choir singers are going to be out of town, and additional singers are needed. Now is the time to hop in and give something to the worship life of this parish that only you can give – **your voice**. Some folks are needed to ring English handbells for “Silent Night”. Making music opens the heart to help us celebrate the birth of Christ in our inner-most being. The musicians will rehearse Thursday evening at 7pm.

If you can join in the singing, ringing, and music making, contact Bill Miller for further information. 614-439-0096 or [wmkmiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wmkmiller@sbcglobal.net).



**CAROLING, CAROLING, CAROLING...**

The St. Francis of Assisi Choir and parishioners have gone caroling the Sunday after Christmas. This year that is New Year's Day. What better way to bring in the new year than sharing the singing of carols with folks less fortunate. We will go to the Heartland Victorian Village Nursing Home after the second Mass on New Year's Day. Join the fun and share the carols of the season. Contact Bill Miller if you have further questions. 614-439-0096 or [wmkmiller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wmkmiller@sbcglobal.net).

**Our parish celebration of First Holy Communion** will be on Sunday, April 29, 2012 (time to be determined). Ten preparation sessions for this sacrament and for First Reconciliation will be held on Sundays beginning on January 29 and continuing through April 1, 2012. Each session will begin at 12:30 pm and last about one hour. Our first meeting will be in the parish hall in the church basement. Please contact Therese Terndrup at 614-853-0322 or [tterndrup00@hotmail.com](mailto:tterndrup00@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** To recent wedding couple and parishioners **Casey Martina and Molly Spitzer**, who were married here on December 10. We wish you all the best!

And Congratulations to newly baptized member **Charlie Ray Fenner** and his family. Charlie was welcomed into our community of faith at the 11 am Mass today.

*Advent and Christmas at Our Parish*

**GIVING TREE**

St Vincent dePaul Society is collecting gift cards for J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner City Needs) geared to teenagers for the Christmas season. These cards will be distributed the week of Dec. 19 to help families enjoy a better Christmas. Teenagers are in a group that oftentimes is overlooked when collecting gifts at this time of year. The tree in the back of the church has ornaments with gift card selections, and the back of each card has directions on what to do. Buy gift cards for whatever venue you think a teenager would like – movies, McDonald's, Wendy's, Old Navy, Best Buy, etc. Thanks for any thing you can contribute to help make some one else have a good Christmas. The box for gift cards is under the tree.

**DECEMBER 24 and DECEMBER 25**

Schedule of Christmas Masses

**Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24**

**Mass at 5 pm**

**Mass at Midnight, with Carols starting at 11:30 pm**

**Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25**

**ONE MASS ONLY at 10 am**

**Blue Christmas Mass:** The St. Thomas More Newman Center (64 West Lane Avenue) will offer its 7th annual Blue Christmas Mass at 8 p.m. on December 24. This Christmas Eve Mass is intended especially for people who may not feel joyful during the holiday season or who may be experiencing life challenges. The differences between Blue Christmas and other Christmas Eve liturgies are small but poignant. The liturgy is geared towards the specific audience; the music, homily and entire tone of Blue Christmas is quiet and reflective. If you know of anyone who may benefit from attending, please invite them to join us. While this is a Roman Catholic Mass, we welcome all who are seeking a place of comfort and healing. For more information, call (614) 291-4674 ext. 101 or e-mail [rbass@buckeyecatholic.com](mailto:rbass@buckeyecatholic.com).

**Special note about January Hospitality ...** Due to the New Year's Day holiday falling on a Sunday this year, we have moved our January Hospitality from the 1st Sunday of the month, to the 2nd Sunday of the month – JANUARY 8.

Also on the day of January Hospitality (January 8), we will host an **Appreciation Reception** following the 9 am Mass, for **Butch Goffos**, in recognition of the many (20+) years he spent here as a part-time and full-time employee. Even after retiring, Butch continues to be an active member of the parish, and we want to celebrate and thank him! Please join us on Jan 8!

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Good news; but if you ask me what it is, I know not;  
It is a track of feet in the snow,  
It is a lantern showing a path,  
It is a door set open.

G. K. Chesterton, in *The Spirit of Christmas*  
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