

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 11, 2016

Sunday, December 11

9:00 am— Anne Marie Loutzenhiser (Michael Loutzenhiser)
11:00 am—For the Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday December 12

No Mass

Tuesday, December 13

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

Wednesday, December 14

6:00 pm – For the Needs of our Parish

Thursday, December 15

6:00 pm – Joan Randolph (Jack Randolph)

Friday, December 16

6:00 pm – For All Those in Need this Holiday Season

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

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

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

December 11 – 9 am – Skip Camerucci, Lorri Kuczynski

11 am – Theri Brady, Andy Randel

December 18 —9 am—Ted Klupinski, Jeanna Diederich

11 am – Jackie Emch, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy

Servers

December 11 – 9 am – Linda Wofle 11 am – Margaret O'Brien

December 18—9 am—John Ryan, 11 am – Nolan Rothrock

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

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

December 18—9 am— Frank Schneider 11 am – Julie Byrne

Lectors

December 11 – 9 am –Cecilia McAdams, Elise Ryan

11 am –Diane Meves, Ben Gibbons

December 18 —9 am—Louisa Celebrezze, Open

11 am –Michel Hindeme, Diane Meves

Eucharistic Ministers

December 11 – 9 am – Kathy Porter, F. Schneider, MA Kerscher

11 am – Lori Toczorczic, Sandy Glasner, Marilyn Smith

December 18 - 9 am—J. Capestany, J. Rosenfield, K. Porter

11 am – Diane Lemay, Susan Sarwark, Mark Coleman

Rejoice
IN THE *Lord* ALWAYS.
I WILL SAY IT AGAIN:
Rejoice!
-PHILIPPIANS 4:4

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

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

Sunday, December 11

▶ Children's Choir Rehearsal after each Mass

▶ 2:00 pm – St. Francis Seniors

Monday, December 12

▶

Tuesday, December 13

▶ 4:00 pm – Executive Finance Meeting

Wednesday, December 14

▶ 7:00 - RCIA

Thursday, December 15

▶ 10:00 am – Westminster Thurber Bible Study

Parish News and Information

Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference is collecting gift cards for teens to be taken to JOIN, where they will be distributed to those in need. There is a Christmas tree at the back of the church with ornaments that are suggestions for gift cards. Please consider giving a gift card to help make a young person's Christmas a bit nicer this year. Have your gift cards (a box will be under the tree) to us by Sunday, December 18, 2016, so they can be delivered to JOIN for distribution. Thank you!



Christmas Mass Schedule – We will be having Christmas Eve Mass on Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 pm, and Christmas Day Mass on Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 am. Please plan to worship with us to celebrate the true meaning of the Holiday.

Church Decorating – On Sunday, December 18 after the 11:00 Mass, Tom O'Reilly will lead a team in getting the church decorated and ready for Christmas. If you are able to help, please plan on staying after Mass next Sunday. Many hands make light work. Thank you, Tom, for your willingness to lead this endeavor.

Bible Study Leader – Heartland in Victorian Village is looking for someone who could lead a Bible Study. They have between 5-10 residents who would like to participate in a study on Sunday mornings at 10:30, two times a month. If you are interested, please contact Jeanna in the church office for more details.

Congratulations – Sophia Ruff has earned first quarter honor roll. Students named to honor roll at Bishop Watterson HS have attained a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the quarter. Congratulations, Sophia! Keep up the great work!

Next Week's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 7:10 - 14
Romans 1:1 - 7
Matthew 1:18 - 24

Pastoral Reflection - December 11, 2016

Rejoice! This Gaudete Sunday brings us exactly to the middle of Advent, and the liturgy calls us to rejoice. The reasons for rejoicing are manifold.

First the anniversary of the birth of Jesus awakens in our minds the moving events of Bethlehem that manifested God's tenderness toward us and marked the beginning of the new covenant.

Second, we remember also with special joy that Christ will come again to bring to fulfillment his plan of salvation. The fact that he came the first time confirms our assurance that he will surely come again. That is definitely very good news!

But there is a surprising uncertainty about Jesus on the part of John and his disciples. That may be the same uncertainty that we deal with, especially when we are burdened by the struggles of this life and tempted to despair. Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another? We all need reassurance when disappointment, distraction and doubt seem prevail. Third, we rejoice as well because every liturgical celebration brings forth to all believers the same grace and the same gift that highlighted the initial event.

Gaudete! Rejoice! The pains and hardships of history should never dampen our spirits. The fulfillment of the promise is in progress. This Christmas is a step forward to its achievement. No matter the sufferings of this present life, Gaudete! Rejoice! THE LORD IS COMING! JOY TO THE WORLD.....

Catholic Education Section

Catholic Trivia

1. Who is the second longest reigning pope:
2. In the gospel of John what is Jesus' first miracle:
3. The Summa Theologica was written by:
4. What is the name given to the series of 129 Wednesday Audiences delivered by JP II on the meaning of human embodiment:
5. How many books are there in the Catholic Bible:
6. The four cardinal virtues are justice, fortitude, prudence and
7. What was the name of the papal bull issued in response to Martin Luther's criticisms of the Church:
8. What is the name of the 20th C Italian Saint who sacrificed her own life for that of her child and is now the patron St. of the pro-life movement:
9. The first Catholic Church in the United States was founded where:



Around the Diocese

Late Christmas Day Mass - If you or someone you know is seeking a late Sunday Mass on Christmas Day because of work or other obligations, Saint Joseph Cathedral, 212 East Broad Street, Columbus, will be offering a late Christmas Day Mass at 5:15 p.m. as part of their regular Sunday Mass schedule. For more information call the Cathedral at (614) 224-1295, or visit www.saintjosephcathedral.org.

Vehicle Donations To The Josephinum - The Pontifical College Josephinum is a Roman Catholic Seminary located in Columbus. Seminarians at the Josephinum that are studying for the priesthood need transportation from time to time for a variety of local needs. The Josephinum has a fleet of vehicles that seminarians utilize for transportation and could use additional vans. If you have a used van that you would like to donate to the Josephinum and obtain an income tax deduction for 2016, please contact the business office at 985-2230 so that arrangements can be made to deliver the van before December 31, 2016. The Josephinum is a non-profit charitable organization and will provide you with the appropriate documentation for the donation of a vehicle.

An Advent Afternoon of Music - Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 1559 Roxbury Rd., Columbus, OH 43212 Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. The choir, accompanied by an orchestra, will perform Advent and Christmas music, beginning with the simplicity of the 15th century melody "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and concluding with the joyful chorus "And the Glory of the Lord" from Handel's *Messiah*. Music of several traditions and styles will be sung: a beautiful 16th century Christmas anthem, pieces by American composers, rhythmic African and Brazilian songs, a lovely arrangement of Silent Night. Come and experience the message of Advent and Christmas through music. Free-Will offering.

Join The Catholic Foundation's Young Professionals Group as we travel to St. Vincent Family Centers! (<http://svfc.org/>) We will meet on 1/18/17 from 6pm – 9:30pm at 1490 East Main Street Columbus. We will have a speaker discuss the mission and purpose of the center as well as how it helps our community. Tours will also be given. Following the presentation and tours, we will then meet at Rusty Bucket (2158 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio) for networking and drinks! To RSVP please visit: www.meetup.com/Catholic-Young-Professionals-Columbus-Meetup/ or contact Craig Heppner at 614-443-8893.

A Note of Thanks

Please accept this donation (\$100) to the parish in memory of one of your long time parishioners, Mary Ann Theado, whose 85th birthday is December 4. Mom loved St. Francis parish and told lots of fond stories of the goings on here, and of many many people she often referred to as "my family, you know." It has been a blessing to know she was so emotionally and intellectually engaged and felt so very much at home. With heartfelt thanks and many good wishes, Mary Ann's kids and grandkids.

1 Plus IX, 2 Changing water into wine (wedding feast at Cana), 3 Thomas Aquinas, 4 Theology of the Body, 5 73, 6 Temperance, 7 Exsurgere Domine (Rise up Oh Lord), 8 St. Gianna Beretta Molla, 9 St. Augustine