

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of January 1, 2017

Sunday, January 1

9:00 am— For a Prosperous New

11:00 am – Year For the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday January 2

No Mass

Tuesday, January 3

6:00 pm – For the Ill and Homebound

Wednesday, January 4

6:00 pm – For Those in RCIA

Thursday, January 5

6:00 pm – For the Safety of our First Responders

Friday, January 6

6:00 pm – For the Needs of our Parish

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

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

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

January 1 —9 am—Vince Maite, Joyce Schneider

11 am – Andy Randel, Marilyn Smith

January 8— 9 am – Rick Miller, Frank Schneider

11 am – Sandy Glasner, Theri Brady

Servers

January 1—9 am—Elizabeth Maite, 11 am – Nolan Rothrock

January 8 – 9 am – Chris Paisley, 11 am – Margaret O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

January 1—9 am—Frank Conway 11 am – Lori Toczorzc

January 8 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – Dan O'Brien

Lectors

January 1 —9 am—Will Brenner, Lori Maite

11 am –Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Gretchen Rivera

January 8 – 9 am – Linda Wolfe, Cecilia McAdams

11 am – Ben Gibbons, Renee Morkassel

Eucharistic Ministers

January 1 - 9 am—Chris Paisley, Linda Wolfe, Jan Rosenfield

11 am – Sandy Glasner, Joanna Nunn, Mary Ann Kerscher

January 8 – 9 am – John Ryan, J. Schneider, K. Kriedermann

11 am – Diane Lemay, Lori Toczorzc, Open

Hours of happy times with friends and family

A bundant time for relaxation

Prosperity

Pletny of love when you need it the most

Youthful excitement at lifes simple pleasures

Nights of restful slumber

Everything you need

Wishing you love and light

Years and years of good health

Enjoyment and mirth

Angels to watch over you

Remembrance of happy years

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

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

Sunday, January 1

▶ Happy New Year!

▶ Hospitality Sunday

Monday, January 2

▶ SFA Office Closed

▶ 6 pm – Flytown Men

Tuesday, January 3

▶ 7 pm – Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 4

▶ 7:00 - RCIA

Thursday, January 5

▶ 10:00 am – Westminster Thurber Bible Study

Friday, January 6

▶ 7 pm – Parish Christmas Party

Saturday, January 7

▶ 8:30 am – Men's Coffee and Prayer Group

Parish News and Information

The **St. Vincent de Paul Society** wishes to thank all who donated to the gift card collection for JOIN. Over \$1200 in gift cards for teenagers was collected and you helped to make someone's Christmas nicer. Thank you!!!!

A member of our Parish is seeking to supplement her family's income through **home and/or office cleaning**. Since English is not her native language, please call/text Andy Randel [614-216-8921](tel:614-216-8921) with **any one time or continual work** you may be able to offer. God bless all those who can help!

Parish Town Hall Meeting – On Monday, January 30, 2017, at 7:00 pm, there will be an all parish meeting to discuss some potential renovations to the church. Please join us to hear the ideas and presentations from the Diocese. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Conway.

The **St. Francis Creation Care Team** will meet in the church hall following the 11:00 Mass on January 8. All are welcome to join the team and work to do our part to care for our common home—Earth.

The next **St. Francis of Assisi Book Discussion Group** meeting will be on January 15 in the church hall following the 11:00 Mass. At that time the group will be discussing *Silence* by Shusaku Endo. All are welcome.

Atrium Sessions –

January 8, 15, 22, 29

February – 12, 19

Potluck Parish Christmas Party, Friday, January 6 - St.

Francis will host a potluck Christmas Party following the 6 pm Holy Mass for the Epiphany on Friday, January 6th, in the church hall. Join your fellow parishioners for the Three Kings celebration—and the kick-off of the Year of Community theme. Please bring a dish to share, or beer or wine. The parish will provide soft drinks, water and meat. **Be sure to bring a White Elephant gift for a fun (and funny) gift exchange.** For more information contact John Ryan, jryan194@gmail.com or Mike Schmidt, michaeljameschmidt@yahoo.com.

Happy New Year!

On the first day of the year people usually exchange wishes of peace and joy. I do wish the same **to you** and pray that this year is one of blessings, progress, and success in every area of life. Blessed are those who take delights in the precepts of the Lord. Goodness and blessings will follow them at every step. May the Lord of history extend his hands of tender mercy upon each and every one of you!

May the Blessed Virgin Mother walk with you on the narrow paths of the future and teach you to love and serve her divine Son! "Whatsoever he said to you, do it" (Jn 2:5). If you say yes to the Lord, I am more than certain that the year will be prosperous and there will be peace on earth, and soul and mind will be enriched.

Through the Incarnation of Jesus, God wants all of us to bring to achievement with our own hands and hearts, sweat and sacrifices the mighty deed fulfilled by the one who is the head of the Church. When we remain in union or communion with him and with one another, we grow in faith, we become firm in hope and charity.

As we begin this year, let us ponder what St Francis of Assisi community has always been for us throughout these years, and get ready to continuously participate in building this community up, so it can enrich the souls and the hearts of the faithful. With everyone's support and our undying faith in divine providence, we trust that all will be well in a not too distant future.

With that, I introduce the theme that we will be focusing on this calendar year: **Our Community!** We are celebrating **the year of community** by our good works, our prayers and sacrifices, a community where Jesus (together with us) is building a place for us to enjoy our heavenly Father, his presence and his love and the love of all our brothers and sisters, for all eternity.

**Peace and every good,
Fr. Fritz Valcin**



A Note of Thanks

Thank you to the members of our Flytown Women and our Secular Franciscan Order for making donations to St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Your gifts of \$100 will bless our parish into furthering our mission. Thank you for your generosity.

Prayers Needed

Please keep in your prayers Sharon Wing. Sharon runs the food pantry at Holy Family, and will begin chemotherapy after the first of the year. Currently the pantry is closed waiting for someone to step up and run it while Sharon is going through treatment. Please pray for Sharon and her health and pray for the pantry and all the families it serves.

If Jesus was a Jew, why are we Catholic?

Answer

The term *Jew* is used in at least two senses in Scripture: to refer to those who are ethnically Jews and to those who are religiously Jews. Jesus was a Jew in both senses. In fact, he completed the Jewish religion by serving as the Messiah (Christ) whom the prophets had long foretold.

The completed form of the Jewish religion is known as *Christianity*, and its adherents are *Christians* or "followers of the Christ." Unfortunately, many people who were ethnically Jewish did not recognize Jesus' role as Messiah and so did not accept Christianity, the completed form of Judaism. Instead, they stayed with a partial, incomplete form of Judaism. Other Jews (the apostles and their followers) did recognize that Jesus was the Messiah and embraced the new, completed form of Judaism.

Shortly thereafter it was recognized that one could be a follower of Christ even if one did not ethnically join the Jewish people. Thus the apostles began to make many Gentile converts to the Christian faith. It is thus possible for a person to be a Jew religiously (because he has accepted Christianity, the completed form of the Jewish faith) but not be a Jew ethnically. This is the case with most Christians today.

It is this difference between being a Jew ethnically and religiously that lies behind Paul's statement in Romans 2:28-29: "For he is not a real Jew who is one outwardly, nor is true circumcision something external and physical. He is a Jew who is one inwardly, and real circumcision is a matter of the heart, spiritual and not literal."

Christians are those who Paul refers to as being inwardly (religiously) Jewish, while non-Christian Jews are those who he refers to as being outwardly (ethnically) Jewish. The former condition, he stresses, is the more important.

Unfortunately, over the course of time some Christians broke away from the Church that Jesus founded, and so a name was needed to distinguish this Church from the ones that broke off from it. Because all the breakaways were particular, local groups, it was decided to call the Church Jesus founded the "universal" (Greek, *kataholos* = "according to the whole") Church, and thus the name *Catholic* was applied to it.

That is why Jesus was a Jew and we are Catholics: Jesus came to complete the Jewish religion by creating a Church that would serve as its fulfillment and be open to people of all races, not just ethnic Jews. As Catholics, we are those who have accepted the fulfillment of the Jewish faith by joining the Church that Jesus founded.

Source: <http://www.catholic.com/quickquestions/if-jesus-was-a-jew-why-are-we-catholic>

Next Week's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 60:1 - 6
Ephesians 3:2 – 3a, 5 - 6
Matthew 2:1 - 12