

## Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 25, 2016

### Sunday, December 25

10:00 am— For the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

### Monday December 26

No Mass

### Tuesday, December 27

6:00 pm – For the Poor and Homeless of our Community

### Wednesday, December 28

6:00 pm – For the Needs of our Parish

### Thursday, December 29

6:00 pm – For the Leadership of St Francis of Assisi

### Friday, December 30

6:00 pm – For Safety in Travel this Holiday Weekend

## Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

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

### Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

December 25 – 10 am – Andy Randel, Open

January 1 —9 am—Vince Maite, Joyce Schneider

11 am – Andy Randel, Marilyn Smith

### Servers

December 25 – 10 am – Nolan Rothrock

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

### Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

December 25 – 10 am – Kathleen Porter

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

### Lectors

December 25 – 10 am – Renee Morkassel, Cecilia McAdams

January 1 —9 am—Will Brenner, Lori Maite

11 am –Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Susan Sarwark

### Eucharistic Ministers

December 25 – 10 am – Mary Ann Kerscher, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Rick Miller

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

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

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

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

### Sunday, December 25

▶ Merry Christmas!

### Monday, December 26

▶ SFA Office Closed

### Tuesday, December 27

▶ 12:00 pm – Flytown Women

### Wednesday, December 28

▶ 7:00 - RCIA

### Thursday, December 29

▶ 10:00 am – Westminster Thurber Bible Study

## Parish News and Information

**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.

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!

**Gourd Nativity** – Amy Knight has her Nativity Scene made from gourds set up in the Parish Hall. This year there are 3 new animals, new angels with instruments and a new Queen's Attendant. Be sure to stop in the hall sometime to see the amazing talent of Amy.

**Christmas Flowers** – It's not too late to make a donation to the Christmas Flowers. Envelopes are provided in the pews for your convenience.

**Parish Town Hall Meeting** – On Monday, January 30, 2017, 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.

**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 6<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:jryan194@gmail.com) or Mike Schmidt, [michaeljameschmidt@yahoo.com](mailto:michaeljameschmidt@yahoo.com).



## Christmas Gift Suggestions:

To your enemy, *forgiveness*.  
To an opponent, *tolerance*.  
To a friend, *your heart*.  
To a customer, *service*.  
To all, *charity*.  
To every child, *a good example*.  
To yourself, *respect*.

- Oren Arnold

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## Catholic Education Section

### Christmas

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. It is the feast of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him...including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends as a way to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

Source: [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)



*Merry Christmas*

## Around the Diocese

**Catholic Social Services Spirit of Hope Gala** - Are you looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities? Have you thought about volunteering for Catholic Social Services, but never got around to contacting us? Well, now is your chance!

We are in need of volunteers for our Spirit of Hope Gala event. Volunteers are needed in the months leading up to the event (for help collecting and organizing auction items, making phone calls, and participating on our committee) and volunteers are also needed on the day of the event to ensure things run smoothly.

The Gala will be on March 11th from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Columbus Hilton Downtown, 401 North High Street. Contact Mackenzie Burton at [mburton@colscss.org](mailto:mburton@colscss.org) or [614-857-1254](tel:614-857-1254) for more information or to volunteer!

**LATE SUNDAY MASS ON JANUARY 1:** If you or someone you know is seeking a late Sunday Mass on January 1, the Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God (New Year's Day) because of work or other obligations, Saint Joseph Cathedral, 212 East Broad Street, Columbus, will be offering a late Sunday Mass at 5:15 p.m. as part of their regular Sunday Mass schedule. For more information call the Cathedral at [614-224-1295](tel:614-224-1295), or visit [www.saintjosephcathedral.org](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.org).

## Around the Diocese

### RESPECT LIFE MASS - JANUARY 23 – DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

The annual Respect Life Mass will be held on Monday, January 23, 2017, 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 E. Broad Street, Columbus. Bishop Frederick Campbell celebrant. Since January 22nd, the anniversary of the United States Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*, falls on a Sunday, our diocese will join all of the dioceses of the United States in observing a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on Monday, January 23rd. All are invited to attend. For more information about the Church's teaching on pro-life issues, visit the U.S. Bishops' website at [www.usccb.org/prolife](http://www.usccb.org/prolife) or contact the diocesan Office for Social Concerns at 614-241-2540.

### NNEMAP December Needs in the Pantry -

Current Needs: Toilet Paper! Toilet Paper! Toilet Paper! (Did I say Toilet Paper?) Packages of Sugar, Detergent, Flour Cat Food/Dog Food

Note: Our hygiene items are always low! We are needing dental items, razors, and shampoo.



**Poverty Awareness Month Materials:** The USCCB's Poverty Awareness Month (January) materials include an online and print calendar with daily ways to learn about poverty, get inspired by how communities are responding, and take action with others. You can also sign up for daily reflections. For these and other resources, go to [www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org) or contact Social Concerns at [614-241-2540](tel:614-241-2540).

**World Day of Peace Message - "Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace":** In his message for the 50<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace (January 1), Pope Francis will urge families, faith communities, government leaders, and the international community to practice nonviolence and work to build a just peace. For the Holy Father's message and a two-page handout, visit [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm)

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## Next Week's Scripture Readings

Numbers 6:22 – 27

Galatians 4:4 – 7

Luke 2:16 - 21