



# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

# Forum

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

Here we are one week into our Advent journey of spiritual preparation and prayer! One week into our post Jubilee Year experience and its continuing challenge to cultivate the fruits of God's tender mercy in our everyday lives. And how our lives and our world need that mercy!

## WELCOME!

We, the people of God of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit are called to continue the mission of Jesus Christ. Whether you come to us from across the street or from across the country, we are honored that you have chosen to spend part of your Sunday with us.

## Issue Highlights:

- P.3 Advent Mini-Retreat, Immaculate Conception mass times
- P.5 Living Nativity-Dec 18
- P.6 Jesus te llama!
- P.8 Service opportunities
- P.10-11 HS youth group, PreK-8 Rel. Ed.
- P.14-15 Just for You
- P.16 Christmas Masses

On this Second Sunday in Advent, I want to consider how that presence of Christ brings the gift of mercy into our own lives. He is, we believe, the *"tender Mercy from on high"* and so all who encounter and are in relationship with him cannot avoid being touched by his gift.

This tender mercy revealed in Christ is more than forgiveness of sins or a spiritual *"band-aid"* that allows us a temporary relief from our faults and failings until the next time. At its heart is God's desire that we not only be forgiven but that we have access to a reservoir of grace that encourages and strengthens us to avoid the pit falls of sin in the future, and the courage to resist temptation.

Today's psalm speaks of *"flourishing justice and fullness of peace."* We all yearn in some way for this holy gift. Once found it is best shared with others. For we who are already in the pews, our challenge is to encounter Christ in an ever deeper way this Advent. *Consider what you are doing to make use of this holy time: through prayer, spiritual activities, acts of service and self-denial.*

The secular culture offers us *"the holidays"* and runs us ragged with a series of parties, get-togethers and gifts. Our faith stands at the other end of the human experience and invites us to sober reflection on the return of Christ, and a joy-filled hope that when he does return we will share in his eternal life. In the meantime, his presence gives us hope and tender mercy even when challenged by the ups and downs of life.

Last week we were joined by Isaiah on our Advent journey, today he is still with us and his words still challenge and give us hope. If his vision of a time when the lion plays with the child and the leopard with the kid is correct, how then do we need to change to be part of that holy vision? If mercy is truly to flourish then it must begin with us. Let us pray that Christ's mercy will be ours this season, and then let us be ready to share that gift with others.

May the tender mercy of God revealed to us in Christ, the dawn from on high, be with all of us this Advent season!

*Fr. James Conlon*  
Pastor

*The tender  
Mercy of God  
has dawned upon us*  
*(c/f Lk 1:79)*

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish Directory**

**Parish Offices: (734) 821-2100 or (734) 769-2550, Fax: (734) 821-2102**  
 2150 Frieze Ave, Ann Arbor MI 48104  
**Internet Web Page:**  
[www.stfrancisa2.com](http://www.stfrancisa2.com)

*Mission Statement*

*We, the people of God of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit are called to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.*  
*We dedicate ourselves to the fulfillment of this mission by proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom of God, by living in love and fellowship, by seeking nourishment in God's Word and in worship and prayer, and by dedicating ourselves to the service of others.*  
*Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, we pledge ourselves to be living witnesses of God's presence to the world.*

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
**Weekend Mass:** Saturday 5:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00, 8:30, & 10:30 a.m., and 12:30 & 5:00 p.m.  
**Weekday Masses:** in main church at 9:15 a.m. on Mon/ Tue/ Wed/ Thurs. 8:15 a.m. on Friday  
**Holy Hour:** Thursdays after 9:15 a.m. Mass, includes: Reconciliation on 1st Thurs. of month, Anointing of Sick on 3rd, with Eucharistic Adoration continuing all Thurs. until 6:30 p.m.  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**Sunday Co-op Nursery:** with Toddlers & 2's is during 10:30 a.m. Mass. Questions: Call Kelly Hernandez (734-904-3946).

**Baptism:** Every Sunday during 12:30 p.m. Mass. A pre-baptism class is required before the baptism. For details and to register, contact Fr. Shaun Lowery at 821-2100 or see the *Baptism* link at our website.

**Marriage Preparation:** Please call the parish office to begin marriage preparation at least nine months before the proposed wedding date.

**Spiritual Direction:** Would you like to speak with a Spiritual Director? We have several commissioned in our parish. To contact one, please call Janene Ternes at 734-436-1351.

**Alcohol or Drug Addiction:** Does that apply to you or a loved one? Help is available through St. Francis. Leave a message in mailbox #1 of the Parish Health Ministry Voicemail, 821-2115.

**Health Ministry Voicemail:** If you have health questions or concerns, please call our parish health professionals & leave a message at 821-2115.

**Parish Library:** Open before & after weekend masses, in church gathering area.

**Are You Experiencing a Life-Changing Event and in Need of Temporary Assistance?** Elizabeth

**Ministry** volunteers serve parish members & families experiencing difficult situations (serious illness, new baby, miscarriage, hospital recovery, etc). We can offer temporary help in the form of a compassionate ear, prayers, meals, laundry help,

<u>PARISH TEAM</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
<i>Council, Commission &amp; Ministry Chairpersons</i>			
Pastor	821-2100...	Fr. James Conlon.....	frjames@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Pastoral Council, Bob Ferris..... 734-528-0211</i>			
<i>Knights of Columbus, Josh Peck..... 734-645-2254</i>			
Parochial Vicar	821-2100...	Fr. Shaun Lowery ...	frshaun@stfrancisa2.org
Deacon	821-2171 ...	Dcn Rich Badics .....	rbadics@stfrancisa2.org
Parish Secretary	821-2100...	Pam Smith.....	parishoffice@stfrancisa2.org
Business Manager	821-2111 ...	Michael Scott.....	mscott@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Finance Council, Mary Krasny</i>			
Stewardship & Development	821-2208...	Colleen Pierce.....	cpierce@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Development Committee, Chuck Stankovic</i>			
<i>Educational Trust Fund, Patti Dobbs</i>			
Bookkeeper	821-2112 ...	Nunu Lysloff.....	nunu@stfrancisa2.org
School Bookkeeper	821-2113 ...	Gail O'Neill.....	goneill@stfrancisa2.org
Communications	821-2114 ...	Jim Russo.....	jrusso@stfrancisa2.org
Service & Justice	821-2121 ...	Scott Wright.....	swright@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Christian Service SvDP, Thomas Powell</i>			
<i>Peace &amp; Justice, Kelly Gauthier &amp; Dick Brown</i>			
<i>Senior Citizen Committee, Sharon Wright</i>			
<i>Parish Health Ministry, Danaica Watson ..... 821-2115</i>			
Music & Liturgy Ministry	821-2124 ...	Jonathan Hasey.....	jhasey@stfrancisa2.org
Worship Coordinator	821-2123 ...	Susan Wawrzaszek .....	liturgy@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Worship Committee, Ken Schmanske</i>			
<i>Altar Society</i>			
Adult Faith Formation and RCIA Ministry	821-2125...	Marty Lucas.....	mlucas@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Adult Formation Committee, Karen Cole</i>			
Adult Faith Groups	821-2122...	Kelly Hernandez..	khernandez@stfrancisa2.org
H.S. Youth Ministries	821-2126...	Jake Kanitz.....	jkanitz@stfrancisa2.org
<i>H.S. Youth Ministry</i>			
Facilitator of Hispanic Ministry	273-9853 .....	Claudia Morales-Farfan...	HispanicMinistry@stfrancisa2.org
Religious Ed. Director	821-2132...	Ellen Ward .....	ward@stfrancisa2.org
<i>Religious Ed. Committee, Mary Foeller</i>			
Religious Ed. Secretary	821-2130...	Julie Kanitz .....	stfired@stfrancisa2.org
Priest In-Residence	821-2100 ...	Fr. Terry Dumas .....	ftrdumas@stfrancisa2.org
School Principal	821-2200...	Julie Pritzel .....	jpritzel@stfrancisa2.org
<i>School Finance Committee, Richelle Babcock</i>			
<i>School Improvement, Merrit Gilliland</i>			
<i>PTG, Marissa Green</i>			
School Secretary	821-2200.....	Kelly VanOirschot.....	school@stfrancisa2.org
Extended School Pgm	821-2290 ...	Christina Busse .....	cbusse@stfrancisa2.org
<i>ESP Committee, Jackie Lapinski</i>			

**Parish Registration:** forms are at the church entrance. Complete the form and drop it into the collection basket or return to the parish office; or use the parish website [www.stfrancisa2.com](http://www.stfrancisa2.com)

**Parish Office Hours:** Mon, Tue, Thursday: 8am-8pm; Wed: 8am-4pm; Fri: 8am-6pm; Sat.: 10am-2pm transportation, etc. Call the parish office at 734-821-2100.



**ADVENT MINI RETREAT: *Jesus, The Awesome Gift of God***

*"The coming of God's Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries" (CCC 522)*

During the Christmas season, we all think about the gifts we want to buy for friends and family. We try to find that "perfect gift." It's been said that a gift must meet three criteria for it to be considered "perfect." *First*, the gift should reflect the one who gives it. *Second*, the gift should reflect knowledge of the one who receives it—in other words, knowledge of their needs, desires, tastes, and so forth. *Third*, the gift should be of a nature and quality that will hold its value as time goes on.

*Take 90 minutes away from the bustle of your Christmas preparations and come prepare your heart! Our mini retreat will take place on:*

**Tuesday, December 13**  
*at 7:00 PM in the Chapel*  
 and repeated on  
**Thursday, December 15**  
*at 11:00 AM in Chapel*

**God gave us the perfect Gift when He sent His Son Jesus.** The Gift of Jesus meets all of the criteria for being a perfect gift: Jesus reflects the One Who gave Him—God the Father. God's gift of His Son reflects knowledge of *our* needs. The Gift of Jesus is of a nature and quality that always holds its value as times goes on.

**Tony Sprenedi is our retreat director.** He is a lay ecclesial minister of the Diocese of Lansing. His ministry called "Hearts Renewed" shares the message and love of Jesus to transform and renew hearts, lives, and families. There will be a basket for a free will donation.

**No need to register!** For questions, please contact Marty Lucas at 821-2125 or [mlucas@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:mlucas@stfrancisa2.org).

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary**

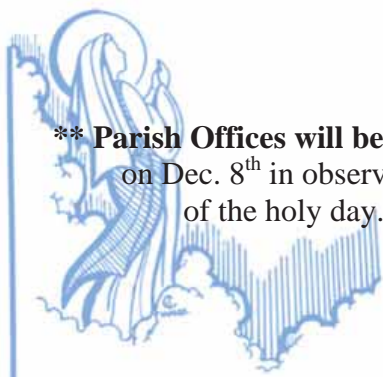
*(a holy day of obligation) is*

**Thursday, December 8**

Masses for this Holy Day will be held in the main Church on:

**Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 7:00pm**  
and

**Thursday, December 8 at 9:15am and 7:00pm**



**\*\* Parish Offices will be closed \*\***  
on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> in observance of the holy day.

**Sacrament of Penance during Advent**

Each year, Advent reveals to us the love of God in the birth of Jesus Christ. What better way can we respond to this love than by reconciling ourselves with God and the community through the Sacrament of Penance?

If you have not received this Sacrament in a while, now is the time to do it. The times for Penance here at St. Francis Parish between now and Christmas are:

**Each Saturday** 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
Please note: **NO Confession on Saturdays, Dec. 24 & 31**

**Thurs, Dec. 1** 9:45-10:45 am *(during Holy Hour)*

**Thurs, Dec. 15** 7:00 – 8:00 pm **Advent Communal**

**Penance Service**

**Saturday, Dec. 17** 11:00 am—12 noon, 3:30-4:30 pm

**Tuesday, Dec. 20** 10:00 am – 11:00 am

*To help you prepare, you will find an Examination of Conscience on the Parish website.*

**\*Regional Penance Services will be held:**

- Mon, Dec.12 – 7PM – St. Thomas the Apostle
- Tue, Dec. 13 – 7PM– St. Mary Student Parish
- Wed, Dec.14 – 7PM– Old St. Patrick, Whitmore Lake Rd and 7PM– St. John the Baptist (Ypsilanti)



## This Week at St. Francis December 5—11, 2016



### Monday

9:00 AM Preschool Enrichment (nursery)  
**9:15 AM Mass:** +Douglas Peck—Olga & Allan Bike  
 2:00 PM Spanish preschool (nursery)  
 3:00 PM Strings class (church)  
 6:00 PM Pastoral Council meeting (rectory)  
 7:00 PM BSA Troop 27 (gym)  
 7:00 PM Divorced/Separated (s.library)  
 7:00 PM Meditation (chapel)  
 7:30 PM Peace & Justice Committee (t.lounge)

### Tuesday

9:00 AM Preschool Enrichment (nursery)  
**9:15 AM Mass:** +Mariel Almendras—The Almendras Family  
 10:00 AM Senior Ministry Leadership meeting (POMR)  
 5:30 PM Christmas Party for Foundations Preschool (PAC)  
 6:00 PM Assisi Ringers Rehearsal (church)  
 7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal (church)  
 7:00 PM Worship Commission (POMR)

### Wednesday *St. Ambrose*

9:00 AM Preschool Enrichment (nursery)  
**9:15 AM Mass:** +Jack Distler—Maria Wang  
 10:00 AM Gospel Group (p.library)  
 3:00 PM Strings class (church)  
 6:30 PM Rel. Ed. classes for grades K-8 (school)  
 7:00 PM Parish Choir rehearsal (choir)  
**7:00 PM Vigil Mass:** +Anne Stemmerich—Ruthann Distler

### Thursday *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* \*\*\* Holy day of Obligation \*\*\*

9:00 AM Preschool Enrichment (nursery)  
**9:15 AM Mass:** +Dr. Peter Wong—Colleen Pierce  
 10:00 AM Adoration until 6:30 pm (church)  
 1:00 PM Light Weigh Bible Study (choir)  
 5:30 PM Parish Children's Choir (choir)  
 7:00 PM Spiritual Directors - peer supervision (choir)  
**7:00 PM Mass:** +Ferdinand Cohorst—Alana Guiney

### Friday

**8:15 AM Mass:** Intentions of Natalie Nagpal—Magaly Nagpal  
 10:00 AM Mother & Child Network (nursery)

### Saturday

8:00 AM Pew Cleaning - Troop 27 (church)  
 10:00 AM Commonweal (choir)  
 10:30 AM Daughters of St. Francis de Sales (p.library)  
 3:30 PM Confession (church)  
**5:00 PM Mass:** In thanksgiving for a grandchild—Ewa & Darek

Continued next column —>



*The tender Mercy of God  
has dawned upon us  
(cf Lk 1:79)*

## Scripture Readings December 5—11

**Monday** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab,10,11-14; Lk 5:17-26  
**Tuesday** Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3,10ac,11-13; Mt 18:12-14  
**Wednesday** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4,8,10; Mt 11:28-30  
**Thursday** Gn 3:9-15,20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
**Friday** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4,6; Mt 11:16-19  
**Saturday** Sir 48:1-4,9-11; Ps 80:2,3,15-16,18-19; Mt 7:9-13  
**Sunday** Is 35:1-6a,10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

### Pray for the Sick

**Please call the parish office to add a name to our prayer list. Help us to keep our list current by letting us know when we may remove a name. Please remember in your prayers:**

Joyce Mallory, Robert Redman, Dionisia Frando, Rita Vorek, David Iocca, Robert Iocca, Ken Gaertner, Margaret Sandstrom, Evelyn Bush, Kelly Dishman, Inass Badran, David Chapman, Cindy Bonzak, Mary Ann Gaertner, Jean Massie, Don Emch, Lourena DeAbreu, Bill Ruzicka, Tricia Suttman, Richelle Nicolaus, Nicholas Njoku, Billy Reiter, Kathy Reiter, Mark Derenthal, Catherine Shields, Mike Fleszar, Raziell Tungol, Theresa Mhangami, Doyle Barnes, Rosemary Korkowski, Elizabeth Crisostomo, Marion Sczykutowicz, Molly Volz, Ruth Downer, Paula Savaglio, Brian Boyer, Dorothy Heath, Ernest Beaulieu, Jim Conlon, Debra Ruthven, Katie Stepnitz, James Kimmet, Hilda Field, Richard Dorr, Margaret Ross, John Schwarz, Libby Derenthal, Deborah Johnson, Mary Stoddard, Nemesia Publico, Gerri Sullivan, Dominic Bitondo, Leo Zarins, Mary Hayes, Luz/Mila Fernandez.

### Baptized in Christ

Nora Rose Church, daughter of Joseph & Mary (Sweeney) Church.  
 Clara Brittany Hannigan, daughter of Geoffrey & Brittany (Bauer) Hannigan  
 George Jan Murray, son of Geoffrey & Marta (Chojnowska) Murray.  
 Alexa Audrey Wood, daughter of Ryan Wood & Kelly Walkovich.

### Died in Christ

Martha Calahan, wife of Donald Calahan.  
 Michael Johnson, husband of Mary Kentes Johnson.  
 Fernanda Milea, mother of Alessandra Milea Bertuccelli.

**For the latest on parish events,  
activities, and prayers see our  
website: [STFRANCISA2.COM](http://STFRANCISA2.COM)**



### Sunday **Third Sunday of Advent**

Enjoy coffee & donuts after 8:30 & 10:30 mass (PAC)

7:00 AM **Mass:** St. Francis Parish Family  
 8:30 AM **Mass:** +Toni Kiwak—David & Kathy Naebeck  
 8:30 & 10:30AM Children's Liturgy of the Word (chapel)  
 10:00 AM RCIA-Christian Initiation (POMR)  
 10:20 AM Family Rel. Education (PAC, school)  
 10:30 AM Nursery and Toddlers & 2's (nursery)  
 10:30 AM **Mass:** +Dorothy & Ervin Barnowsky—son, Jim  
 12:30 PM **Mass:** +Gerald Sutter—Sutter/Kwiatkowski Family  
 2:00 PM Secular Franciscans (music)  
 4:30 PM *La Serenata de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe* (church)  
**5:00 PM Mass:** +Marilyn Canham—Her Family  
 6:00 PM Fiesta for Our Lady of Guadalupe (PAC)

## LIVING NATIVITY AND CAROL SERVICE:

### Sunday, December 18 at 5pm in Church

You and your family are invited! The Living Nativity is an interactive service with scripture narratives, live animals, and adult and child actors enhancing the story of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. The vibrant music features many of our talented parish and school music groups. Afterwards, refreshments and friendship are offered in the Parish Activities Center.



*Come Experience with Joyful Anticipation:*

- ❖ The Scripture Narratives of the Coming of our Savior Jesus Christ
- ❖ Live Animals to Honor the Birth of the Christ Child
- ❖ Resplendent Music to Glorify the Lord
- ❖ The Peaceful Wonder of the Nativity

Our service will last an hour and half. All ages, from the youngest to the eldest, are welcome.

Please note that there will *not be a 5pm Sunday Mass on December 18*. Please attend one of our other Masses and join us for this Service anticipating the wonder of the birth of our Savior.

For questions, please contact Ellen Ward at (734)821-2130 or ward@stfrancisa2.org or Jonathan Hasey at jhasey@stfrancisa2.org or (734)821-2124.

## Blessing of Expectant Mothers & Fathers



During Advent, we reflect upon Jesus' impending birth and Mary's pregnancy. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we invite all expectant mothers and fathers (including adopting) to come forward for a special blessing. This will

take place after Communion at all masses **next weekend, December 10/11.**

## Christmas Poinsettias & Decorations



St. Francis Altar Society is offering you an opportunity to remember your deceased loved ones, or honor someone special in your life, by contributing toward the cost of our Christmas poinsettias and decorations in the Church. All names will be remembered during the Christmas Masses and will be printed in the Christmas Forum.

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS DONATION

Please fill out this form and place it, along with your donation, in the collection basket, or bring it to the Parish Office on or before 12 noon on Monday, December 19.

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Your Name*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Your phone*

In Memory /or  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(please circle) Name*

Suggested donation: \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \$\_\_\_\_\_ other

## Advent Weekday Masses

*Please join us this Advent Season as we ready our hearts and prepare the way for the Christ Child.*

During Advent, all weekday Masses will be celebrated in the main Church. Mass is at **9:15AM** on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and a **NEW** time on **Friday mornings**, at **8:15AM**.

En esta página encontrarás diferentes oportunidades de participar en la vida de nuestra parroquia. Algunas de estas actividades serán en inglés y otras en español. ¡Jesús te espera con los brazos abiertos!

**¡Jesús te llama!**

**Hora Santa todos los jueves** después de la misa de 9:15 a.m.: 9:45 a 10:45am: Exposición y Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento, oración en silencio, oración comunitaria y rezo del Rosario. El 3er jueves de cada mes se ofrece el Sacramento de Unción de los Enfermos. El **Santísimo Sacramento** es retirado hasta las 6:30pm. Ven a pasar un momento con Cristo Sacramentado.



**Misas durante el Adviento:**

Todas serán celebradas en la iglesia. Lunes, Martes, Miércoles y Jueves a las 9:15 am, Viernes a las 8:15 am. ¡Prepárate para la venida del Señor!

**Grupo en español:**

Todos los martes a las 7pm nos reunimos a conversar sobre temas de la fe. Te invitamos a nuestra última reunión del 2016 y Convivio Navideño este Martes 6 de diciembre. **Nuestra próxima reunión será el 17 de enero.** Más información con Kelly Hernandez: [khernandez@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:khernandez@stfrancisa2.org).



**Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.**

11 de diciembre. Serenata a las 4:30 de la tarde, Santa Misa bilingüe a las 5pm, seguida de recepción en el Centro de Eventos de la Parroquia (PAC). Trae una flor para Nuestra Señora durante la misa y tu plato favorito para compartir durante la recepción.



**Pastorela: (Living Nativity) Domingo 18 de diciembre a las 5pm.** Narración en vivo de las escrituras referentes a la Natividad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Seguida de celebración en el PAC. Por esto, el **DOMINGO 18 DE DICIEMBRE NO HABRA MISA A LAS 5PM**, haz planes para ir a otra hora.

**Para los más pequeños y sus padres-**

**Ministerio de Mamás** (M.O.M.S. - Ministry of Moms Sharing) Nos reunimos el 1o. y 3er. viernes de cada mes. Mediante oración, presentaciones y experiencias compartidas nos ayudamos a entender e incrementar la presencia de Dios en nuestra vida familiar (en inglés). Información con: [stfrancismoms@umich.edu](mailto:stfrancismoms@umich.edu)

**Red de Mamás e Hijos** Somos un alegre grupo de madres y niños pequeños. Nos reunimos para conversar informalmente mientras los niños juegan (en inglés). Más información con (734-395-6651) [tanyasutton81@gmail.com](mailto:tanyasutton81@gmail.com)

**Educación Religiosa para niños de PreK -8o grado:** **Miércoles** 6:30-7:45 pm y **domingos** 10:20am-12:20pm

**Clases de español para niños de 3-5 años.** Lunes desde el 3 de octubre hasta el 22 de mayo, de 2 a 3 pm. Costo: \$50/niño.

**¿Conoces a alguien con adicción a las drogas?**

Dawn Farms da cursos gratuitos en inglés para informar y ayudar. Más información en: <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series/> o al 734/485-8725 o [info@dawnfarm.org](mailto:info@dawnfarm.org)



**Planificación Natural de la Familia (PNF)**

Parejas pueden aprender sobre la PNF y enriquecer su vida matrimonial evitando los riesgos a la salud de la anticoncepción artificial. Próximas sesiones en inglés en Saline los **sábados 11 de Febrero, 11 de marzo y 8 de abril** de 9am-12pm. Contacta a: Kelly [Kelly.Kopinski@gmail.com](mailto:Kelly.Kopinski@gmail.com).



**Dios te invita a servirte**

Considera estas oportunidades dentro de tu oración, quizás Dios te llama a servirte a través de ellas:

El "Northside Food Bank" necesita de voluntarios. Los martes de 4:30 a 7pm y los Jueves de 8:30 am a 12 del mediodía y de 12 a 2:30 pm. insíbete [aquí](#) on llámalos al (734) 662-4462.



Si quieres participar leyendo las lecturas o peticiones en español en la misa bilingüe de 5pm los domingos, contacta a Sue Wawrzaszek: [liturgy@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:liturgy@stfrancisa2.org)

¡Buscamos Asistentes para Declaraciones de Impuestos! Proporcionamos entrenamiento y oportunidades de usar los conocimientos en los sábados de febrero a abril. Regístrate [stfrancisa2.org](http://stfrancisa2.org) o contacta a Scott (734-821-2121).



Si quieres crecer en la fe y compartir tu experiencia y talentos musicales, únete al coro de la misa bilingüe de 5pm los domingos. Los ensayos son antes de la misa, a las 4:00 pm. Contacta a [jhasey@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jhasey@stfrancisa2.org).



**¡Nuevo horario de atención en español en la oficina de Educación Religiosa!** Para programas de Educación Religiosa (preparación infantil y juvenil para Sacramentos, Catequesis, Escuela Bíblica Vacacional y Programa Navideño), contacta a Helena Bichakjian, asistente en la oficina los Jueves y Viernes de 10 a.m. a 4 p.m. y los domingos 9:30 am--12:30 p.m. Teléfono: [734-821-2130](tel:734-821-2130) Email: [stfreled@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:stfreled@stfrancisa2.org)

**¿Eres adulto y necesitas preparación en español para recibir algún sacramento, o necesitas algún otro servicio espiritual?** Contáctanos: [hispanicministry@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:hispanicministry@stfrancisa2.org) o al: [734-273-9853](tel:734-273-9853). ¡Estamos para servirte!

## Thursday Prayer Opportunities!

*Do you feel like your celebration of Christmas has become too frantic, too stressful? Would you like it to be more peaceful and prayerful? Why not join us on Thursday evenings during Advent for four special prayer opportunities.*



★ **December 8th, 7PM Mass celebrating the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

★ **December 15th** at 7pm, come and experience the mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation! Christmas is supposed to be a season of great joy, but for many of us, it is a time of regret and shame for the ways we have failed in the past year. We are hosting a **communal penance service**, and there will be several priests available for private, individual confessions.

★ **December 22nd** at 6:30pm, join us in **praying Evening Prayer**, from the Liturgy of the Hours, or Divine Office. This prayer consists of a communal praying of the Psalms and other passages of Scripture, and like the Mass, is prayed by Christians around the world, and has been prayed in some form since the beginning of the Church.

## Tax Aides Needed!

Spanish translation by Carolina Fulper

¿Buscamos Asistentes para Declaraciones de Impuestos! ¿Le gusta ayudar a los demás?



La Parroquia de San Francisco busca voluntarios para ayudar a familias de bajos ingresos obtener créditos tributarios de Michigan y para asistir en la preparación de formularios básicos de declaración de impuestos. Proporcionamos el entrenamiento necesario y la oportunidad de usar los conocimientos en los sábados de febrero a abril. ¿Interesado? Regístrese en el sitio web de St. Francis o contacte a Scott (821-2121).



### Tax Aides Needed!

Do you enjoy helping others? St. Francis Parish seeks volunteers to assist lower income families obtain Michigan tax credits and to help complete basic income tax forms. Bilingual individuals encouraged to join. Must be 16 or older to volunteer as tax preparer. We provide the training and the opportunity to apply the knowledge on Saturdays in February – April. **Interested? Contact Scott** (821-2121) or **sign-up on St. Francis web site:** [stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms](http://stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms)

## Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Domingo, 11 de Diciembre  
con la Serenata a las 4:30 de la tarde  
y la misa a las 5 de la tarde



Te invitamos junto a tu familia a nuestra celebración bilingüe (Español e Inglés) en honor a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, patrona de las Americas. Invitamos a los niños a traer una flor a la misa. Después de la misa tendremos una recepción en el Centro de Eventos de la Parroquia (Parish Activities Center).

### CELEBRATION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Sunday, December 11

Musical Tribute to Our Lady begins at 4:30 PM  
Mass begins at 5 PM

You and your family are invited to join in a bilingual celebration (Spanish and English) in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of all the Americas. Children are invited to bring a flower to Mass. A reception follows Mass in the Parish Activities Center (PAC). Please bring your favorite food to share. **Questions:** [stfired@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:stfired@stfrancisa2.org) / 734-821-2130

## Prayer for the 2nd Week of Advent

O, Lord, you know the stirrings in our souls this Advent season. You are the source of the longing you have placed in each of our hearts. Help us to respond to that grace and open our hearts to each other with the light of your love. Share your patient love with us so that we may bring that gift to each other and cherish each other in a special way this night.



Please keep our hearts open to those in our lives and in this world who need, as we do, to be healed by your loving light. Send us to carry that light into the world and open our eyes to those in our midst in need of your healing touch this night. Amen .

## Advent Materials for Daily Reflection!

### Little Blue Books

Remember to use your *Little Blue Book* to spend a brief 6-10 minutes a day in prayer and reflection on the coming of Christ at Christmas. They are *also available in Spanish and Vietnamese*. English copies are sold out.

A limited selection of **other Advent materials** are also available.

**OUTREACH, SERVICE + JUSTICE**  
 734-821-2121 ♦ justice@stfrancisa2.org  
 Visit our parish website, "Sign Up Forms" link.



**Christmas Dinner Party**

for

**Foundations Preschool of Ann Arbor**

**Tuesday, Dec. 6 ~ 5:30PM**

in St. Francis Parish Activities Center.

This event benefits the at risk low-income families of our area. Please help with this buffet style meal serving about 150 – 200 persons.

**Sign-Up on-line** at: stfrancisa2.com Or please submit the form below in the weekend collection

Coordinating: (food/kitchen) Mary Hayden (973-0461);  
 (decorations) Doris Filisko (995-0643);  
 (kid's activity) Chris Kempton (623-9845)

*We look forward to seeing you at your committed sign-up time. Thank you!*

**I will Help with the Christmas Dinner Party  
 for Foundations Preschool of Ann Arbor  
 Tuesday, December 6**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- 4:15 - 5:30pm**, help set up.
- 5:30 - 7:30pm**, assist with serving.
- 6:30pm**, help with kids' activities: arts, crafts or games.
- By 5:30pm (after 8am), **Deliver a Dish** for about 8 persons
  - ★ any casserole.   ★ any cooked vegetable.
  - ★ any salad.       ★ any dessert.
 (We prefer disposable containers. Otherwise, pick-up well-labeled containers from the parish office.)



**Giving Tree!!!**

St. Francis parishioners will be donating Christmas gifts for at-risk families in our area during Advent season.



**Take a gift tag off the tree.** Directions are on the tag. Go find the gift, wrap it and securely fasten the tag to your gift package. (All Gift Certificates must be boxed.)

Return your gift to the Giving Tree as soon as you can. **Return all gifts by December 11.** (If your gift is late please bring it to the Parish Office.) **Thank you for shopping !**

We have ornament-gift-tag-labels for these organizations:  
 Alpha House Family Shelter (IHN); Angel Tree (Prisoners children through Lansing Office); ArborVitae Women's Center; CAN, Community Action Network; Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County; CSTS, Community Support and Treatment Center; Foundations Preschool of Ann Arbor (Perry); Unified - HIV and beyond; Home of New Vision – Recovery; Hope Clinic; Ozone House; Project Transition; SOS Homeless Children's Services; St. Louis Center.

**Sign-up to help move gifts:** stfrancisa2.com at *Sign-Up Forms* link.

**Questions?** Contact Scott Wright swright@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2121

**Thank you, SAM!!!** Our Giving Tree gift storage is donated each year by **SAM, Store And Move** in Ann Arbor. Visit: getasam.com



**Help Serve a Meal for the Hungry!**  
**December 16**

Sixteen volunteers ( 8 per shift) are needed for each meal. Cook at 3-5PM / Serve at 5-7PM. A crew from St. Francis Parish serves **every third Friday (Dec. 16)** evening of the month at Food Gatherers' Community Kitchen, located in the Delonis Center, Shelter, 312 W. Huron, Ann Arbor. **To volunteer:** sign-up at: stfrancisa2.com or contact Food Gatherers (734-761-2796) or Bridget (734-883-9112).

**Tax Volunteers needed:**



In addition to our St. Francis Parish Tax Assistance Program, *The Tax Aid Program of Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County* is an all-volunteer program that helps seniors and disabled adults obtain Michigan tax credits. *Additional volunteers are needed.* No experience necessary; free training is provided. The scheduling is flexible. Please call **734-712-0547** or **734-712-0588**.



## Allergies & Communion

### Are You Gluten Intolerant?

Are you gluten intolerant and therefore cannot receive Communion? If so, we have a special low gluten host that you can receive at Communion time. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 734-821-2100.



### Precious Blood for Those Who Cannot Drink Alcohol

If you cannot share in the Precious Blood at Communion time because you are not able to drink alcohol, the Church allows a special non-alcoholic wine, called "mustum," to be consecrated along with the regular sacramental wine.

Here at St. Francis, this non-alcoholic Precious Blood is available at ALL weekend Masses and is ALWAYS at the Communion station closest to the organ. If you would like to avail yourself of this non-alcoholic Precious Blood, please use this Communion station each week.

## PASTERKA - Polish Shepherds' Mass

**Saturday, January 7, 2017  
at 5:00PM Mass at St. Francis**

All are invited to celebrate this Polish tradition with Bishop Earl Boyea in English and in Polish language. Choir Filareci from Hamtramck, Michigan, will sing kolędy, traditional Polish Christmas carols in the spirit of joy.



The Mass is followed by a light reception in our PAC (Parish Activities Center). All are invited to bring a dish of baked goods to share.

The Polish community has been enjoying this tradition at St. Francis for more than 30 years, since about 1982. It is organized by the Polish American Congress, Ann Arbor Chapter - annarborpolonia.org .

*Like those shepherds, in haste, let us go to adore Him!* For more information, please contact Krystyna Bobowski at 734-973-1226 or kgbobowski@gmail.com Or Scott Wright at (734-821-2121) swright@stfrancisa2.org

*"Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." (Luke 2:8-20)*



## "Nollaig na mban" or "Women's Christmas"

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the P.A.C.**

"Nollaig na mban" is an Irish tradition, celebrated on the Epiphany of the Lord, in which women gather in each other's homes or the local pub for relaxation and celebration after the long holiday. Come join in this special Irish tradition, with special gifts to celebrate your hard work and dedication to your families, and learn about the Feast of the Epiphany from our Ireland-native pastor, Fr. James.



*"Even God rested by the seventh day,*

*Irish women didn't stop until the twelfth"*

*(excerpt from the Irish Times 1998)*

Are you in K-12<sup>th</sup> Grade?  
Do you like to sing?



Join the  
**Parish Children's Choir  
and Parish Youth Band**  
for the  
**Living Nativity  
and Christmas Eve Mass.**

For rehearsal dates and more information,  
please contact Kelly Hernandez at  
khernandez@stfrancisa2.org  
or 734-821-2122.

*For the children of our Parish*

# G

## ood Deed Straw

Would you like to do something special for Jesus? Each week during Advent, following Mass, you are invited to place a piece of straw in the crib for each act of service you have done during the week. The gift of your good deeds could be an act of kindness, an extra chore, a rosary or other special prayers for the sick, or a part of your allowance for the poor. At Christmas, this straw – representing your good deeds – will form a soft, warm bed for the Baby Jesus!



## Nursery and Toddlers & 2's

During the 10:30 a.m. Mass, St. Francis offers the **Toddlers and 2's program** for children aged 1 to 3 years of age as part of the Nursery. Interactive games, songs, and bible stories designed for the very young will be offered during the nursery Mass times. The nursery is located downstairs in church and is best designed for children aged 1 to 3 (and okay for up to 5) years. No pre-registration is needed. Parents may check their children into the nursery when they arrive for Mass. The Toddlers & 2's program runs most Sundays until early May.

**Adult, Middle School, and High School Youth Volunteers are needed.** For questions or to sign up to help in the Toddlers and 2's program, please contact Suzanne Kaji, coordinator (at 517-937-3305 or suzannekaji@yahoo.com) or Ellen Ward (at ward@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2132).

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

In the Children's Liturgy of the Word, children hear the scripture readings proclaimed and explained to them at an age appropriate level. During the 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Masses, at the time the scriptures are to be read, the priest invites the children in grades K-3 to come to the front of church for the Children's Liturgy of the Word. Adult volunteers then lead the children to the chapel, located in the basement of the church. Here the children hear and participate in the Word of God at their own level. At the time of the collection, the children are led back upstairs and return to their parents for the Eucharistic prayers. All children aged K-3 attending the day's 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Mass are invited to participate. No pre-registration is required.

**Adult, High School, and Middle School volunteers are needed** to help lead or assist in the Children's Liturgy of the Word during Mass. If you can help, please contact Melissa Milton-Pung at miltonpung@gmail.com or 517-230-6881

## R

### eligious Ed. Classes for Children in grades PreK-8!

*Give your child or  
grandchild  
the gift of Faith!*



Enroll your child in Religious Education classes. Forms can be found on our website [STFRANCISA2.COM](http://STFRANCISA2.COM) or call 734-821-2130.

Horario de atención en español en la oficina de Educación Religiosa (formación para niños, clases de español para niños en edad preescolar, Primera Comunión, Confirmación o Quinceañera): Jueves y viernes (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) o domingo (9:30 a.m.--12:30 p.m.) al 734-821-2130, con nuestra asistente Helena Bichakjian.

Would you be more comfortable speaking in Spanish for questions regarding Religious Education classes for children (grades preK-8), Sacramental preparation (First Eucharist or Confirmation), or Preparation for Quinceañera? Please contact RE assistant secretary, Helena Bichakjian Thursdays and Fridays (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) or Sundays (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) at 734-821-2130 or stop in the Religious Education Office during those hours.

## You're invited to Youth Group!

**Sunday, December 4**  
after our 5pm Mass, until 8pm  
in the Youth Room (rectory basement)

**All Parish High School Youth  
and Friends are invited!**



### Celebrating Advent!

Join us today—December 4th. Come hang out and have fun! Interesting discussions, AND food will be provided. Drop in or let us know ahead of time ... just email me at [jkantz@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jkantz@stfrancisa2.org)

God bless you! *Jake Kanitz*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

1 Chronicles 16:34

## Help support St. Francis School's Student trips to Chicago, Washington D.C. and Barcelona, Spain

Do you shop at Amazon.com?  
Start your shopping at either ~  
<http://StFrancisA2.org/finearts> or  
<http://StFrancisA2.org/8thgradetrip>

Start your Amazon search from either web address above, and Amazon will pay a percentage of your purchases to St. Francis School. AT NO COST TO YOU!

This year our choir is singing at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, and next year they will travel to Barcelona, Spain. In both cases they will sing in *Pueri Cantores Festivals* with children from around our nation, or around the world. Additionally our 8th grade class is traveling to Washington, D.C. this spring to explore our nation's capital. This fundraiser will defray the costs of these trips for our children. **Questions?** Kelly Palkowski at [kellypalkowski@yahoo.com](mailto:kellypalkowski@yahoo.com)



## Good Samaritan Appeal: Dec. 3/4

Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County Good Samaritan Appeal. We are honored by your support, the investment that allows us to do the work we do.



Honor means respect for the dignity of all we serve, the privilege to be stewards of important, meaningful work, and expresses our esteem for you, the partners who make success possible—donors who invest in and support our work. You recognize what is important and care enough to ensure the good work can be accomplished.

We draw inspiration and perseverance from the courage and hard work of the individuals and families in our programs. Your generous financial help supports those with the greatest struggles. Your partnership makes all the difference.

Please consider making a gift to the **CSSW Good Samaritan Appeal**. Your contribution helps us help others. This weekend, Dec. 4, donation envelopes are in the Forum bulletin, or you may donate online at [csswashtenaw.org](http://csswashtenaw.org). For more information, please call 734.971.9781, ext. 313.

## Consider a Planned Gift.

*Our future depends on you!*

Remember St. Francis of Assisi  
in your **will or trust**.



### Our legal titles include:

- ❖ St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. *In support of the overall parish mission.*
- ❖ St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Educational Trust Fund. *In support of the school's long-term financial stability.*
- ❖ St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School. *In support of the school's current needs.*
- ❖ St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School Tuition Assistance Fund. *In support of helping deserving families meet tuition obligations.*

**Our address (for all of the entities above) is:** 2150 Frieze Ave, Ann Arbor MI 48104.

**Our tax identification number (for all of the entities above) is:** 38-1404594

### **For more information, please contact:**

Michael Scott, Business Manager ([miscott@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:miscott@stfrancisa2.org), 734.821.2111) or Colleen Pierce, Director of Stewardship & Development (734.821.2208, [cpierce@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:cpierce@stfrancisa2.org)).



## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### What's in your spiritual DNA?

Genealogy is popular these days. Perhaps you've traced your family lineage and learned where your ancestors came from and what their names were. It's meaningful to learn your family history and heritage because it's a part of your identity. From the Bible, we know the genealogy of Jesus, and at Christmastime we hear about Jesus' ancestor, Jesse, a good man from Bethlehem who fathered King David. Teach the children in your life about their faith inheritance as Christians by making a Jesse Tree with them as a crafts project—and reflect on what you've inherited from Jesse, too.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12 (4)*. "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom."

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 5 ADVENT WEEKDAY

### Civil rights are sacred

On this day in 1955, the day of Rosa Parks' trial, the historic bus boycott began in Montgomery, Alabama in protest of her arrest. That day, some 40,000 African-American commuters chose to walk to work, no matter the distance. Despite many efforts (some violent) to put an end to the boycott, it lasted for a year. In June 1956, a district court declared that racial segregation laws were unconstitutional and in November of that year the Supreme Court upheld that ruling. We often forget that our notion of civil rights comes from our Christian heritage. Let's pray for rights for all, especially those who are most marginalized by our society.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181)*. "Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God."

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6 MEMORIAL OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

### Generous thoughts

Nicholas was a beloved fourth-century bishop who has been appropriated as a patron saint of sailors, fishermen, merchants, broadcasters, the falsely accused, repentant thieves, brewers, pharmacists, archers, pawnbrokers, and students! But for most of us, he is associated by legend with Christmas and immortalized in Clement Moore's poem, "A Visit from Saint Nicholas." His feast is like a little Christmas, a reminder that the feast you are about to celebrate in 18 days has little to do with material gift-giving and everything to do with generous love-giving. Stories about Nicholas involve anonymous generosity to someone in need. Be generous today in honor of old Saint Nick!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182)*. "Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord God."

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

MEMORIAL OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

### Be a spirited voice for unity

We live in polarized times. How can we find our way past our divisions? Perhaps Ambrose, a holy man from the fourth century, can suggest a way forward. Back in the day, arguments over the divinity of Christ spilled into disputes over church leadership. Ambrose, who at the time wasn't even a baptized Christian, appealed to all factions and was spontaneously called forth as bishop by popular acclaim. The Spirit moves in surprising ways. Be a force for unity wherever you find division: in your church, your community, your family.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183)*.

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart."

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY; PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE UNITED STATES

### Mary, mother of America

It's been one month since Election Day in the United States. Whether your candidate won or lost, today is an opportunity to pray for our nation. In tumultuous times, it's comforting to know that we have an advocate in the Blessed Mother, patroness of the United States. Mary watches over each one of us and in a special way our country. As we celebrate her Immaculate Conception, let us ask her intercession on behalf of our nation—that we might have the courage and perseverance to follow her example of fidelity to grace and obedience to God's will.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689)*. "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 MEMORIAL OF JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATZIN

### Happy Juan Diego day

Some Europeans in the newly conquered Americas considered natives to be less than fully human. But God chose Juan Diego, a poor, humble native man, to be his messenger by sending Our Lady of Guadalupe to him. This meant that all indigenous people were important. In 2002 Pope John Paul II canonized him as the first indigenous saint of the American continent, saying, "Happy Juan Diego, true and faithful man! Look with favor upon the pain of those who are suffering in body or in spirit, on those afflicted by poverty, loneliness, marginalization, or ignorance. May all people, civic leaders and ordinary citizens alike, always act in accordance with the demands of justice and with respect for the dignity of each person, so that in this way peace may be reinforced."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185)*.

"Wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 ADVENT WEEKDAY

### What are we waiting for?

An empty chair at the Passover table waits for Elijah. He's the mysterious prophet in 2 Kings who flew to heaven on a fiery chariot. Elijah's return is anticipated as the hour of restored justice. Jesus tells us not to wait on Elijah: The time for justice is already here. Since 1948 on this day, the United Nations has promoted International Human Rights Day. It's a time to declare that equality, freedom, peace, hope, dignity, rule of law, prosperity, and justice belong to all, not just to the lucky ones. Stand up for global human rights.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186)*. "Elijah will indeed come and restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come."



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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## Dearborn Ham Fundraiser for the St. Francis School Choir

The St. Francis of Assisi Middle School Choir is raising money to attend the Great Lakes Pueri Cantores Festival in Chicago (March 2017) and the International Pueri Cantores Festival in Barcelona, Spain (Summer 2018).

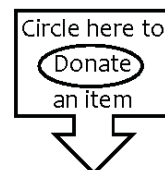
**Online Ordering Ends December 11!**

\*Orders will arrive on Monday, December 19, for pick up from the PAC between 3pm and 6pm\*  
Now you can make a donation to a family in need. Just by circling DONATE in the donation column and we'll arrange delivery through the parish office.

- Fill out this order form and place in the offering basket with your check (or drop it off at the school office). Make checks out to St. Francis of Assisi School Fine Arts Dept. **Hard copy orders are DUE BY Friday, December 9th**
- OR, Order online at [www.stfrancis2.com/ham](http://www.stfrancis2.com/ham) by **Sunday, December 11 at 5 PM**

Questions? Contact Kathy Ignatoski, 734-213-1521 or [kwi@umich.edu](mailto:kwi@umich.edu) OR Kari Walworth, 734-644-6313 or [kari.walworth@comcast.net](mailto:kari.walworth@comcast.net)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



___ #6005 WHOLE SPIRAL SLICED TORCHED GLAZED HAM: Average weight: 14 lbs	Price \$74.00	Donate
___ # 6006 HALF SPIRAL SLICED TORCHED GLAZED HAM: Average weight: 8 lbs	Price \$45.00	Donate
___ # 6001 WHOLE SPIRAL SLICED HAM WITH GLAZED PACKET ON SIDE: Average weight: 14 lbs	Price \$67.75	Donate
___ # 6002 HALF SPIRAL SLICED HAM WITH GLAZED PACKET ON SIDE: Average weight: 8 lbs	Price \$40.80	Donate
___ # 6003 WHOLE CLASSIC TRIM HAM – SEMI BONELESS: Average weight: 14 lbs	Price \$55.25	Donate
___ # 6004 HALF CLASSIC TRIM HAM – SEMI BONELESS: Average weight: 8 lbs	Price \$37.30	Donate
___ # 6026 HUNTER’S SAUSAGE - HOT: 5 lb pkg	Price \$32.70	Donate
___ # 6027 HUNTER’S SAUSAGE – MILD: 5 lb pkg	Price \$32.70	Donate
___ # 6021 SMOKED KIELBASA: 5 lb pkg	Price \$24.75	Donate
___ # 6023 FRESH KIELBASA: 5 lb pkg	Price \$24.75	Donate
___ # 6019 SPIRAL SLICED BREAST OF TURKEY: Average weight: 4.5 lbs	Price \$29.95	Donate
___ # 6040 BEEF SKINLESS FRANKS: 5 lb pkg, 40 franks	Price \$21.00	Donate
___ # 6041 SKINLESS FRANKS: 5 lb pkg, 40 franks	Price \$17.70	Donate
___ # 6042 NATURAL CASING FRANKS: 3 lb pkg, 24 franks	Price \$13.75	Donate
___ # 6049 1904 BRAND HOT DOGS: 3 lb pkg, 18 hot dogs	Price \$15.10	Donate
___ # 6051 MINI STIX - MILD: 7 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ # 6052 MINI STIX - HOT: 7 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ # 6053 MINI STIX - TERIYAKI: 7 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ # 6054 MINI STIX - GARLIC: 7 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ # 6057 MEAT SNACKS - STEAKHOUSE STRIPS from ANGUS: 3 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ # 6058 MEAT SNACKS - BBQ BEEF BRISKET: 3 oz pkgs, 1-8pk case	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ HUNTER SAUSAGE MINI BITES –HOT (6064), MILD (6065): 8x6 oz pkgs/ case <span style="color: blue;">Please circle choice</span>	Price \$36.50	Donate
___ NEW! Chicken Sausage - Kielbasa (6073), Bratwurst (6072), Jalapeno (6074), Mild Italian (6070), or Hot Italian 6071)		Donate
Sold by Case Only/12 pkgs per case/13 oz per pkg <span style="float: right; color: blue;">Please circle choice</span>	Price \$41.00	Donate

\_\_\_ Total Items Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Choir member to credit for this order (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

# Grieving with Great HOPE



## Grief Support Workshop: January 13 & 14

- ❖ Opening Session **Friday January 13**, at **7:00-9:00p.m.** (in Church)
- ❖ Continues **Saturday January 14**, at **10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** (in Parish Activity Center)

*Grieving with Great HOPE* is a weekend grief support workshop that offers a prayerful, practical and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. If you have lost a spouse, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grandchild, a parent, another family member or a friend, you are encouraged to attend. Presenters are *John and Sandy O’Shaughnessy* from *Good Mourning Ministry*, a Catholic bereavement organization.

**To register**, please visit [stfrancisa2.com](http://stfrancisa2.com) or visit the parish office. *Registration is a suggested donation of \$20.* For more information, contact Kelly Hernandez at (734) 821-2122 or [khernandez@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:khernandez@stfrancisa2.org).

*“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.” Mt 5:4*

## Thursday Holy Hour ... *Spend an Hour with Jesus!*

Our *weekly* Holy Hour begins immediately after the 9:15a.m. *Thursday morning Mass that is celebrated upstairs in the main Church.*



**The Holy Hour:** ( 9:45 to 10:45AM in the church)

- Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Silent Prayer time.
- On the 1st Thursday of each month, we offer the *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
- On the 3rd Thursday of each month, we offer the *Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick*
- Rosary
- Prayers for our school children, our community and for the needs of the universal Church

*Eucharistic Adoration continues all day Thursday in the main church.* You’re invited to spend an hour of prayer in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament—any time on Thursdays from 10AM to 6:30 PM.

## Christian Meditation: *Meets Every Monday* 7:00-8PM in the lower level Chapel

Learn to use silent meditation to further your personal relationship with God. Meditation is rooted in the Gospel and practiced by the early Desert Fathers. Whether you are new to meditation or someone wanting to rekindle their meditative life, please contact parishioner Paul Thompson at 734-646-5591 for more information or just show up.



## What does the Sunday Gospel Mean?

*Meets Wednesday Mornings*

The Gospel Group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the parish Library. *No prerequisites, drop in anytime.* Notes are posted on the parish website, on the *Church Community* page at “*Sunday’s Gospel*”. *Questions:* call Marty at 734-821-2125.



## Just For You!

### Seniors @ St. Francis

Join us at 9:15am Mass in the Chapel, *after Mass enjoy these events, which are open to all interested, friends and family of any age!!!*

**Tuesday, December 13**

***Cheese & Chocolate Christmas Celebration  
on Feast of Saint Lucy***



At 10:00 AM in Parish Activities Center. enjoy Christmas goodies, snacks, tea, coffee, and some Christmas music. Please bring a treat to share and/or offer a free will donation. No RSVP is expected. Questions? Call 734-821-2121.

**Feastday: December 13:** *Lucy, whose name means "light" or "lucid," is the patron saint of the blind. She is often seen with the emblem of eyes on a cup or plate. In paintings, she is often depicted with a golden plate holding her eyes and often holds a palm branch, which is a symbol of victory over evil.*

**Saint Lucy's Prayer:** *Saint Lucy, you did not hide your light under a basket, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation -- every corner of our day. Amen*



### Support for Divorced or Separated Meets Every Monday 7:00 pm in the School Library



This is a difficult time in your life but there is comfort with others along the same journey. Looking for ways to move forward with your healing? Wondering where God is in your life as you rebuild your life?

Despite how you feel, you belong to the church and with God in these difficult and confusing times. Come share your thoughts and feelings and get answers to many frequently asked questions. Members of the group are in various stages of the process and can offer comfort and community. You might help yourself and others as you discover you are not alone. We all have something to offer. No need to register, just come and check us out. Feel free to bring a friend. For questions, contact Jeff at 734-678-0995.

### Moms and Dads with Young children



Join us for **8:15 a.m. Mass** every 2nd & 4th **Friday** of the month

**This FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9**

Mass will be in the main church (upstairs) with the school and all children are encouraged to come!

Afterwards, you are invited to stay for a fun playgroup in the church nursery from 9:00—11a.m.! You are welcome to bring a snack to share.

**Are you able to help?** Please consider signing up to help with unlocking/locking the nursery door and coffee setup/cleanup:



<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050f4baeaf29ab9-unlocklock>

### Mothers Support Groups!!!

All Mothers are Invited to join  
**MOMS – Ministry of Moms Sharing on  
Friday, December 16** for

**Potluck and White Elephant!**

Join us for our Christmas Potluck and (optional) White Elephant gift exchange! Bring a dish to share and/or a wacky gift to exchange.



The M.O.M.S. group meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month. Through prayer, presentations and shared experiences, we help each other understand and nurture God's presence in our lives, our families and our homes. Connect with other active moms on a diverse range of topics, participate in service projects, book reviews and more. Share your intentions, experiences and ideas in a supportive environment, and join us for the occasional *Mom's Night Out!* All are welcome. For details, please email us at: [stfrancismoms@umich.edu](mailto:stfrancismoms@umich.edu) or find us on Facebook.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Please note: All Masses will be held in the main Church (none in the PAC).

### Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 Masses:

4:00pm; 6:00pm; 8:00pm; and 10:30pm  
*(Caroling begins at 10:00pm. The 10:30 Mass is also live-streamed and will be available to view anytime.)* **No 5:00pm Mass today.**

### Christmas Day, Dec 25 Masses:

9:30am and 11:30am  
**No 5:00pm Mass today.**

### Mary, Mother of God Masses:

*(A Holy Day of Obligation)*  
 Saturday, December 31, at 5:00pm, and  
 Sunday, January 1, at 7:00am; 8:30am; 10:30am,  
 and 12:30pm **No 5:00pm Mass today.**

## Job Openings:

### St. Francis School

Needed Immediately

- ☐ Part-Time Math Teacher
- ☐ Part-Time Physical Education Teacher

Must be a practicing Catholic in full communion with the Church, with a strong working knowledge of the Faith. Must have Michigan teaching certification, pass a criminal background check and complete the Protecting God's Children program. If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to the principal, Julie Pritzel at [jpritzel@stfrancisaa.org](mailto:jpritzel@stfrancisaa.org)



## LIVE UNITED

### Attention United Way Donors!

You can designate your contribution to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School and/or Parish. Call [Paula Jefferson at 734/677-7229](tel:7346777229) at the United Way of Washtenaw County for details.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## Happy Birthday to You!!!

We hope that you will wish a "Happy Birthday" to those you know, and say a prayer for all those celebrating their birthday this week. Please call the Parish Office (769-2550) with corrections. Thank you!

<u>12/5</u> Paul DeSomma Amelia Franceschi Bolaji Gaba Janice Gasidlo Gabriel Gonzales Lisa Herbert Emily Heung Tiffany Leflar Emily Maier Peter Murau Kate Noll-Greene Juan Sancho Gene Senn Nora Spector Ryan Stack Jill Stante Brian Stoy	Osun Graham Natalie Herrod David Horvath Katherine Keeton Carol Leitch Carol Lemke Caroline Litzinger Ashton London Thomas Morton Kenneth Overholser Christopher Ozog Charlotte Peterson Stanislav Rehak Mary Jo Sandberg Nicholas Sekerak Angela Smentowski Andrew Stando Anna Mae Trost Courtney Ziemba	<u>12/6</u> Victor Aguilar Samuel Chapman Barbara Charns Blanche Felice Kelsey Geppner Theodora Givens	<u>12/7</u> William Alarcon M.D. Issabella Badillo- Malek Will Beaupre Holly Bellaire	<u>12/8</u> Severino Bautista Jr. Donald Carey Creg Carpenter Martha Carroll	Isabel Corona Cynthia D'Agostino Joel Denney Timothy Freer Mitchell Garner Angela Jude Jennifer Karcher Andrea Kempton Jerry McKay Lynette Mollo Nicholas O'Brien Jordan Pilarski Daniel Purnama Donna Quiery Dorothy Rehak Courtney Runchey John Thomas William Weadock Mac Whitehouse	<u>12/9</u> Rachel Aulisa Alia Cornell Elena DiMagno Debra Hermann Carlos Moncada Adam Olszewski Mark Pitcher Janet Reid Patrick Seitzer	Mary Beth Difrancio Dominique Doades Jenny Haudan Adelaide Hemwall Chuck Huffman Rita Kieras Edward Masten Kaylinda Mastie Kevin McKay Cecilia Mills Bridgette Muntean Eric Parker Robert Robinson Adrian Weyhing	Sarah Tankson Isabella Waite Ryan Williams	<u>12/10</u> Avery Burmann Mark Coley Terry Czubko Emmet Deyer Michael Edwards Steve Herbert Sahas Ihalaranaweerage Ruth Koelling Mary Lou Kramer Andrew Lawrence Rebecca Lemke Natalie Malbone Katherine Matton Laura Perez Sara Platte Daniel Purcell Claire Purman Christine Schulz	<u>12/11</u> Tom Bovio Christina Busse Sophia Dubreuil Amy Fencyk Ryan Frieler Jane Gordon Kathryn Huntzicker Elizabeth Kiley Spencer Lassaline Marta Malecki Krystyna Ozog Steven Reynolds Otto Riegger Tiffany Rodrigues Jillian Roth Robert Schumacher Thomas Smigielski Tanner St. Pierre Michael Tobey John Tramontin Catherine Waldecker Michael Zajchowski Amy Zampi
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# Bulletin Board

## Got an Hour for God's House?



The **Monday Morning Crew** needs a few more hands to help straighten up the hymnals in the pews, sweep the aisles, etc. Join us at 7:00—9AM on Mondays. Come

for any part of our time. We finish with a cup of coffee, and some stay for morning Mass.

Some of our members are heading south for the winter, and we need YOU to help us. We save the parish a great deal of money over the course of a year, through this weekly gift of our time. Questions? Call Mike Scott in the parish office at 821-2111.

## Come Decorate God's House!

Your help is needed in decorating the inside of the church for Christmas! (This is a great project for those looking for service hours.)



- Friday, Dec. 16** – 6:00-9 pm  
set up inside decorations
- Saturday, Dec. 17** – 8:00-11:00 am  
finish decorating large Christmas trees
- Wednesday, Dec. 21** – 6:00-8:00 pm  
final preparations for Christmas

*No need to sign up.* Just show up at the church! Come for all or part of the time. Many hands make light work.

An artistic eye is helpful but not required. Guidance is provided. If you have any questions, please contact Sue at 734-821-2123 or [liturgy@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:liturgy@stfrancisa2.org).

## Christmas Tree Sale:

Our Parish *Knights of Columbus Council* is once again selling fresh-cut Michigan-grown Christmas Trees in the parking lot to raise money for their general fund.

The trees are very reasonably priced:

- Discount Firs - \$30 each
- Douglas Firs - \$40 each
- Frasier Firs - \$60 each

Payment by cash and local check only, please. The tree lot is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., until all trees are sold. (They usually sell out about one week before Christmas).



## Thank You for Your Support!!!

### Sunday Collection:

Thank you for your generous support of our parish and its ministry! **Tithing for November 20** was \$22,093 including Children's good deeds, and 2 envelopes with \$2.00. **Tithing for November 27** was \$20,370 including Children's good deeds, and 4 envelopes with \$6.00. Donations for the St. Vincent Service Ministry 'Needy Fund' as of 11/27/16 were \$3,325.00.

**Please be sure to mark your envelope with the amount donated.** This will ensure proper credit to your account. If you move, please let us know as soon as possible.

Thank You! *Bookkeeping Department*

### \* FREE Direct Debit!!!

Have your Sunday Contributions transferred electronically from your checking account, with no fee charged to you! If interested, please call Michael Scott at the parish office, 821-2111.