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PARISH WEBSITE: stfrancissolanus.com

RECTORY 1721 COLLEGE AVE., QUINCY, IL 62301 • 217-222-2898

Hours: Mon. Tues., Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Wed. *8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. • Friday 8:30 a.m. - Noon

Email: church@stfrancissolanus.com

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Email: school@stfrancissolanus.com

MASSES

Sunday Obligation: Saturday evening: 4:30 p.m. for Sunday

Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday thru Friday 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday thru Thursday 5:30 p.m.

8:00 a.m. Saturday

8:35 a.m. Wednesday during school year

Holy Day Obligation: Anticipated 5:30 p.m.

Holy Day 6:30 and 5:30 p.m.

EXPOSITION AND RECONCILIATION

4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. AND 3:00-4:00 p.m. Saturday,
or call the Parish Office for an Appointment.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JUNE 25, 2023

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15;
Matthew 10:26-33

Quite often, we would like to keep quiet. After all, who wants to make waves except a rabble-rouser or a fanatic? Jeremiah (first reading) would have preferred to keep quiet. God had told him to announce the doom of his nation because of its corruption. Because of his message, people hated him and wanted him dead.

The second reading tells us that we suffer the effects of original sin. We don't always see (or want to see) the pure truth of a matter. We are always tempted to take the easy way out, the line of least resistance. We are tempted to rationalize.

It is easy to settle for mediocrity. But Christ has redeemed us! Original sin is no excuse for mediocrity, for Christ's redemption is more powerful than original sin's effects.

In the Gospel, the Lord tells us not to be intimidated by this world. Why should we be afraid to proclaim the truth? If people stood up to tyrants, there could be no tyranny. If we stood together against evil, there could be no evil!

Remember the old saying of Edmond Burke: "The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is that the good do nothing!" Jesus calls you to stand for him, to witness for him.

--Msgr. William Carr

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1012 Vermont Street • Quincy, IL 62301

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ecce Agnus Dei

Picture this—an Executive Director of a \$25 million non-profit sneaks away to a discernment retreat. The Lord first called him with a gentle desire to be a priest as a grade schooler, and after being bullied for wanting to be a priest when he grew up, that boy actively avoided anything that smacked of discernment. Diocesan events to explore vocations? Nope! Admittedly the media climate around the priesthood two decades ago was chock full of bad men who betrayed trust. I all too readily used this as a mental justification to not pursue a vocation.

As I got into high school, FFA took up all my time and energy, leading me to study agriculture—decidedly NOT seminary. I knew God was calling me to a vocation, so I thought, “how about I work in non-profits instead? Non-profits are good things, right? Lord, you’ll see, my plan to serve you is much better than your plan for me.” Clearly, I had not absorbed the point of Jonah and the whale from my childhood Bible stories—God only is satisfied with our everything.

Fast forward to 2020. I need not remind you about that year’s many unexpected twists and turns, but 2020 was a good year for me. By this point in my life, I finally had cultivated some deep, meaningful, and virtuous friendships where I could be vulnerable. Men who are like my other self, who know my deepest pains and I know theirs. I could write a whole book on the healing I’ve found in real friendship and how we have a crisis of authentic friendships today, particularly for men, but that is not my focus here. My buddy Braden and I both decided to hold each other accountable to discernment. I finally began to get serious about discernment.

In December 2021, our Diocese hosted a discernment retreat. Still uncomfortable about it, I was very secretive with my secretary and family as I sneaked away for a few days. It was in the chapel of the Villa Maria Retreat Center that Quincy native, Fr. Dominic Rankin, gave a conference on how to pray with scripture, known as *Lectio Divina*. Afterwards, the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for adoration. It was in that moment that I turned my eyes to our Eucharistic Lord and prayed a very...well...frank prayer. “Lord, if you want me to be a priest, you better be pretty (word that rhymes with ‘Pam’) clear with me.”

With that I turned my attention to praying with Matthew chapter 6. That chapter is like a greatest hits album of fantastic verses. Then I get to Matthew 6:24: “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

That was it! The Lord replied to my blunt prayer with a blunt hit over the head. In a flash, He showed me how I had made an idol out of my work in the non-profit sector. He showed me my career was the “mammon” I was serving instead of Him. He showed me I was leading a life of works alone when we are called to faith *and* works. Then with stunned gratitude, I returned my eyes towards the monstrance and there I saw the Eucharist, as if it were a beating heart.

Words struggle to say enough about the incredible gift that Jesus is. “*Ecce Agnus Dei*,” or, “This is the Lamb of God,” is a truly profound statement we hear at every sacrifice of the Mass. It is there on the altar that the lamb is slain for our sake and from there that we encounter God, face to face. Prayer, confession, and Eucharistic adoration changed the trajectory of my life for the better. Where does Christ want you to surrender? Where are you afraid to let Him in? Consider asking Him just that in a period of adoration, be it in some prayerful silence after Mass or on Wednesday afternoons here at St. Francis.

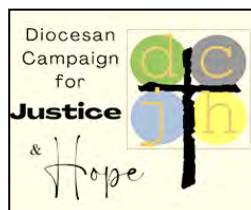


St. Francis picture directory scheduled for June 22 delivery

Directories tentatively will be available for pick-up after all Masses July 1-2 and July 8-9. If you could volunteer to hand out directories after one of the Masses please call the office at 217-222-2898.

The directories are free to anyone who came in and had their photograph taken here. Anyone else may buy a directory for \$15 by coming to the parish office.

Summer hours for adoration— We are offering adoration on Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. this summer. Please consider taking an hour! A sign -up sheet is in the gathering space.



Food pantry receives diocesan grant

Our food pantry ministry (St. Francis Community Assistance) has been awarded a \$3,000 grant from the Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope. The food pantry continues to supply the Food Nook here at St. Francis and others in the community, but volunteers will also encourage nook users to set up a grocery order with the food pantry. Nooks are only meant to provide for the immediate need of a small meal or snack. The goal is to supply people in need with more sustenance. The food pantry ministry is grateful to the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois for this funding!

Attention Mid-Life Singles! Many never-married, divorced or widowed people in mid-life are wondering what this phase of life means for them. That's where the **REFLECT Catholic Singles Retreat** comes in. There will be planned talks, reconciliation, Mass and caring fellowship.

The next retreat is **July 21-23** at LaSalle Retreat Center in Wildwood, Mo. outside St. Louis. Early bird cost is \$240.

Visit ReflectRetreat.com or call 314-283-0044 for more information.

Biking for Babies— is a pro-life organization that will bike into Quincy on Friday, July 14 and hold a mission event at Madison Park. The riders will share their approach to building a culture of life and the ways they support pro-life pregnancy resource centers. **There also will be a prayer service conducted by Fr. Arisman at 6 p.m.**

Learn more about the mission by going to their website: bikingforbabies.com or contact Vicki Wittland, 217-316-9936.

Pilgrimage to Poland with Fr. Rafal

Take 11 days in May 2024 to explore Fr. Rafal's home country of Poland, departing May 12. Your itinerary includes stops in Warsaw, Krakow, Gdansk, the Black Madonna Shrine and the concentration camp at Auschwitz. Cost of the trip is about \$4,000, which includes your flight from St. Louis, lodging, two meals a day and transportation to our sites. A \$500 deposit per person will be required.

This will be a memorable trip filled with prayer and the discovery of Polish culture.

For more information please contact Fr. Rafal at rpyrchla@stfrancissolanus.com.

Holy Name News

Everyone is invited to our annual Red, White and Blue Breakfast on Sunday, July 2. Serving pancakes, sausage, biscuits and gravy after the 7 and 9 a.m. Masses. Free will offering. Our next Holy Name meeting will be Wednesday, July 12 at 6 p.m. All men of the parish are welcome! Bring a friend or family member. Food and drinks will be served after the meeting.

Knights of Columbus News

The Thursday night Big Raffle Jackpot is now at \$20,980. Tickets are sold from 6-7:45 p.m. with the drawing at 8 p.m. every Thursday night. Funds from the previous Big Raffle went out recently, with \$8,000 given to each of Quincy's Catholic grade schools; \$5,000 to QND and \$3,000 to the area Catholic churches without a grade school. Please go to our website, quincykofc.org, to get all of the details about happenings at the Quincy Knights of Columbus. This year's BBQ will be August 11-13.

Peter's Pence Collection—This special collection, which will be taken up **July 1-2**, helps fund projects that assist Pope Francis in the exercise of his ministry, such as a donation to the people of Haiti after the earthquake in 2021. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection to help Pope Francis carry out his ministry to the Universal Church and reach out to the most marginalized in our world. Thank you!

Ladies of St. Francis News:

Recipe Reminder— Ladies and gentlemen, please share your favorite recipe with the Ladies of St. Francis. Please include your name and phone number. You may place your written recipe in the envelope in the gathering space, or you can drop it in the collection basket, or bring it by the parish office. You also may email it to [Jan Zeidler at rzjz2010@hotmail.com](mailto:JanZeidler@hotmaill.com).

Deadline for submission is July 1.



St. Francis Blood Drive

Wednesday, July 5, 12-5 p.m.

In the Parish Center

For an appointment call

1-800-RED CROSS or visit

RedCrossBlood.org.

The need for blood is always great.

Please consider donating. Thank you!



It's Cardinal Baseball!

Friday, August 18 at 7:15 p.m.

Cardinals vs. New York Mets

Tickets are \$85 including transportation.

Bus will load at 3:30 p.m. from the Blessed Sacrament School parking lot off South 8th Street.

Seats: Section 267. Handicap accessible area.

Stadium does not take cash!

Checks payable to Gary Beckman and paid at the Blessed Sacrament Church office.

Call 217-222-2759 for more information.

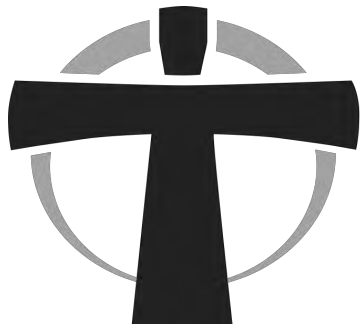
Divorce and Beyond

Is a workshop designed for divorced people to offer support beyond the pain of divorce. Registration is required and a \$10 donation for materials is requested.

People of any faith, or no faith at all are welcome.

Sessions will be on Tuesday nights in the Parish Center from 6:30-8 p.m.,

beginning September 5 and running through October. Facilitators are Drew and Julie Erwin. To register, call Julie at 217-257-5313 or julie.gunn@comcast.net.



St. Francis Solanus School

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RSVP to pto@stfrancissolanus.com.

School Dates:

Wednesday, August 2—PTO sponsors “Play in the Park.”

Join us at Upper Moorman Park from 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, August 13—Blessing of the backpacks, 4 p.m. in church and at school. Drop off your school supplies after. PTO is sponsoring treats.

Wednesday, August 16—First day of school for grades K-8. 11:30 dismissal. No childcare or lunch that day.

Thursday, August 17—First full day of school. First day of school for preschool.

Gym Use Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all coaches and sponsors who use the St. Francis school gym for sports and activities on **Tuesday, August 8 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.** The meeting will start in the Faculty Meeting Room on the middle floor and proceed to the gym. Please enter through the College Avenue doors.



June/July Events St. Francis Youth Group

June 30— Friday Swim. 6-7:30 p.m. at Kroc Center. Parents drop off at the desk and sign a waiver. Members are free; \$5 for non-members. Pick up at the pool.

July 15-17—TEC Retreat ages 16+; www.greatrivertec.org.

July 23-26— Called and Sent. A high school retreat led by the Totus Tuus team; <https://dio.org/event/called-and-sent-retreat/>.

July 30— Board games and pizza— 6:30-8 p.m. in the parish hall. BYO board games. Pizza and soda provided.

July 1-2	Altar Server - Weekend	Communion Minister	Usher	Reader	Greeter/Gift Bearer
Saturday 4:30 P.M.	Dylan Fischer Drake Dodd	Phyllis Knuffman Roger Knuffman Bobbie Talken Teena Fisk	Tim Reichert Brian Dreier Harold Vahle Tom Liesen Greg Ehrhardt Michael Eling	Jim Waterkotte	Betty Kaufmann Tim & Cindy Reichert Gift Bearer Chrystia Hea
Sunday 7:00 A.M.	Isaac Steinkamp Adler Hamann	Steve Peters Cindy Peters Don Winking Pat Winking	Joe Bernhardt Robert Harman Perry Terwelp Jerry Carnivale Jim Wilper One Needed Please	Roseann Gosnell	Sandra Banning Jerry Meyer Gift Bearer Terry Niemann
Sunday 9:00 A.M.	Austin Genenbacher Emmett Wiemelt	Ric Hinkamper William Paxton Amanda Genenbacher Ronald Upper	Neal Blickhan Terry Nall Mike Zanger Terry Kistner Ryan Klausner Jeannie Thomas	Donna Mangold	Jill Blickhan Nancy Friye Gift Bearer Rob Frese
Sunday 11:00 A.M.	Hayes Frericks	Sue Holbrook Mike Holbrook One Needed Please	Marty Karhoff Ron Gengenbacher Steve Obert Mike Fessler Don Olps One Needed Please	Maryann Cornwell	Nancy Hufendick Patricia Tomczak Gift Bearer Doris Karhoff
Saturday Morning <i>Mass Server</i>		July 1, 2023	Brady Koetters		



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TV Mass for Shut-ins
The Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus broadcasts Mass for the Shut-ins every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on Channel ABC (Basic Cable Channel 3).
If you know of someone who would benefit from a missal with Sunday and Daily Liturgies, CONTACT Terry Obert and we will send a Pray Together Missal FREE OF CHARGE.
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