

ST, FRANCIS SOLANUS parish

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Reverend Rafal Pyrchla, Parochial Vicar

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Ms. Elizabeth Alonzo, Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Susan Holbrook, Office and Business Manager

Mrs. Krista Putman, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Jill Steinkamp, Director of Music

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Mr. Bruce Broemmel, Chairman Finance Council Mr. Saleem Mamdani, President of School Board

Mrs. Jayna Klauser, Chairman Liturgy Planning Committee

Mrs. Chris Meyer, Administrative Assistant

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 bulletin@stfrancissolanus.com

SCHOOL 1720 COLLEGE AVE., QUINCY, IL 62301 • 217-222-4077 Email: school@stfrancissolanus.com

iaii. 3011001@3tirarioi330iariu3.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.

Third Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8,19-28

The Third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" Sunday (pronounced "Gow-DAY-tay"); the word means "Rejoice!" It is taken from the first word of the Latin Entrance Antiphon (Introit) for this Sunday.

On this Sunday, the organ and other instruments may be used, and flowers may appear on the altar. The texts of Mass are filled with joy: In the Collect we pray that we may experience the joy of salvation.

In the first reading, "I rejoice heartily in the Lord...." The second reading tells us, "Rejoice always!" Christianity is *Good News*! Gloomy and doomy people who wallow in self-pity and never see anything good are not very Christian!

We are called to be a people of joy even though this world is imperfect. We rejoice because the Lord has come, and because he will come. We rejoice because even our crosses have meaning. We rejoice because nothing can separate us from God's love and from the eternal joy which awaits us.

The Thessalonian people were worry-warts, afflicted with anxiety and depression. Paul urges them to rejoice always, to persevere in prayer, and not to "stifle" the Spirit.

By this he means, "Don't have a negative attitude; be positive!" We may not live to see everything perfect, but we must be joyfully confident that the Lord will bring all things out all right.

--Msgr. William Carr
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3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gaudete Sunday

This weekend's reading from Isaiah is the announcement of the coming of the Messiah. In fact, this is the reading from which Jesus proclaims in the synagogue the Gospel's capture, where He sits down and teaches them with a new authority stating that this passage is fulfilled in your hearing. Jesus is the one to come to make all things new as Isaiah prophesies.

John has come to announce the coming of the Messiah. To prepare the way of the Lord as Isaiah spoke. He speaks of what the Christ will do, but clearly makes it known he is not the Christ, he is not the messiah. John prepares the coming of the Messiah Jesus Christ, with his announcement of the baptism of repentance, but remember this baptism is not exactly the same as what Jesus commands us to do. Jesus fulfills and transforms ritual washing, baptism, into something that is effective and changing. It's no longer ceremonial or just a cleansing to remind, but it is effective and soul changing, because it is no longer just water, but the Holy Spirit. Jesus has come to make all things new, including you and me. So, heed the warning of John the Baptist and prepare for the coming of the Lord. He is near, and he longs to make you new.

Please do not forget that next weekend you need to attend mass for the fourth Sunday in Advent and for Christmas. Yes, they are back-to-back, but do not put yourselves or your children in mortal sin for not fulfilling the Sunday obligation, as well as the Christmas obligation. We don't just skip things in the faith because it's hard, we see the challenge of faith that brings us holiness and grace. Make sure you prepare your heart and soul through confession. We have a penance service here at St. Francis for the whole city this weekend Sunday, December 17 at 2 p.m., and we have the normal opportunities for confession as well throughout the week. Prepare the way of the Lord in your souls for the birth of Christ.

Fr. Rafal and I are immensely grateful for the cards and gifts we have received. The cash you give helps more than you know for both of us, especially making it possible for him to travel home for vacation/seeing his family. We are extremely thankful. If you are traveling for Christmas, please be safe and know of my prayers.

Lastly, please remember if you need donations for end of the year giving, please know that they are greatly appreciated and can go towards your future pledges for the capital campaign that we are launching this spring.

Ber Gleven Stimmer

Weekday Mass Intentions

December 18 Monday	6:30 a.m.	Virginia Mulhern and Dale & Carl Aschemann	
December 19	6:30 a.m.	Carl Stegeman Jr. and Rosie Madison	
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	Mr. and Mrs. Milton Dietrich and Lawrence Paben	
December 20	6:30 a.m.	Priscilla Morrison	
Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Dietrich and Allison Holbrook	
	6:30 a.m.	Linda Cornwell	
December 21 Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Samuel Massey and Mary Huckstep	
December 22 Friday	6:30 a.m.	Patricia Bockenfeld-Meado and Ray Cannady	
December 23	8:00 a.m.	Thompson Poore and John Ohnemus	
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	The Parishioners of St. Francis	
	7:00 a.m.	Recently deceased priests of the Springfield diocese	
December 24 Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Robert Blickhan and Sharon O'Donnel	
	11:00 a.m.	No Mass	

Week of 12/10/2023	Week	YTD
Regular Collection	\$17,025.50	\$596,067.05
Loose Collection	\$1,703.81	\$38,452.90
Total Collection	\$18,729.31	\$596,067.05
Needed Support	\$30,235.00	\$695,405.00
Difference	-\$11,505.69	-\$99,337.95

This week in the Parish:	
Monday, December 18	
6:30 a.m. Mass	
4:30 p.m. QCS meeting	
6:30 p.m. SFS Christmas program	
7:00 p.m. Rosary	
7:15 p.m. BEAR youth group meeting	g
Tuesday, December 19	
6:30 a.m. Mass	
9:00 a.m. Ladies of St. Francis Quilte	rs
6:30 p.m. Truth Seekers	
7:00 p.m. The Belonging	
Wednesday, December 20	
6:30 a.m. Mass	
4:00 p.m. Adoration	
5:30 p.m. Mass	
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	
Thursday, December 21	
6:30 a.m. Mass	
9:00 a.m. Ladies of St. Francis Quiltin	ng
5:30 p.m. Mass	
6:30 p.m. OCIA	
6:30 p.m. Troop 22 Meeting	
6;30 p.m. Finance Council meeting	
Friday, December 22	
6:30 a.m. Mass	
Saturday, December 23	
8:00 a.m. Mass	
8:30 a.m. Reconciliation	
3:00 p.m. Reconciliation	

Reminder!

4:30 p.m. Mass

Your yearly contribution to St. Francis is due by December 29 in order to include it in this year's tax filings.

Annual School Fund	\$7,467.00
Capital	\$2,690.00
Campaign	

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish and School.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Christmas Eve: 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 10 p.m., Midnight. Christmas Day: 9 a.m.

Please check your ministry schedule email for the Christmas serving schedule.

If you're a visitor to our church or maybe returning to the Catholic faith after time away we have cards with the Mass prayers and responses located near the rosary baskets at each entrance. Please return the card to the holder after Mass.

Welcome New Members!

Kristina and Dr. Clayton Liesen
Chad and Heather Altgilbers
Ryan and Sydney Elaine Eifrid
Danielle and Dr. Samuel Healy
Mary Koetters
We are so happy you have chosen
St. Francis Solanus as your new
parish home.

Catholics Returning Home

Have you been away from the Church for a while? Has the Covid pandemic brought feelings of restlessness or loneliness to your life? If so, we would like to welcome you back to St. Francis Solanus Parish.

We have a special ministry for people like you who have been away from the Church. Please join us for a six-week series that begins Wednesday, January 3 in the parish center at 6:30 p.m. We would like to address your questions and make you feel at home once more in the Catholic Church. For more information please call Deacon Wayne Zimmerman, 217-430-7792.

Holiday Cards for Priests and Seminarians

If you would like to send a holiday greeting to priests who have served at St. Francis or a seminarian from our diocese, here are some of their addresses:

Fr. David Beagles: 207 E Walnut, Robinson, IL 62454

Fr. Don Blaeser OFM and Fr. Kurt Hartrich OFM:

St. Peter Catholic Church, 110 W Madison, Chicago IL 60602

Fr. Bob Barko OFM (new address): 26W171 Roosevelt Road, Wheaton, IL 60187

Fr. More Torres OFM: San Jose Friary, 701 E Pyron Dr., San Antonio, TX 78214-2798

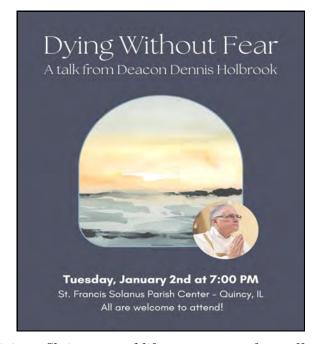
Fr. Duc Pham OFM: Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, IN 46225

Br. Ed Arambasich OFM: St. John the Baptist Friary, 3508 Bankview Dr., Joliet, IL 60431

Alex McCullough: St. Meinrad, 200 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad, IN 47577 **Thomas Marten**: Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, 5200 Glennon Dr.,

St. Louis, MO 63119

Holy Cross Friary: 724 N 20th, Quincy IL 62301



Living a Christ-centered life means we can face suffering and death without fear. I pray that this talk will enlighten our perspective on this topic and how our relationship with God can truly help us approach the end of our earthly life. Ray Wheeler will accompany us that evening with music and songs.

Holy Name News: A big thank you to everyone who purchased a Holiday Fruit Basket. We may still have a few left for sale. If you would still like one, call or text John Benz, 217-440-0875. Cost is \$20. Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year from the Holy Name Men!

Knights of Columbus News

We are taking a few weeks off for the holidays from The Thursday Night Raffle and Friday Night Chicken Dinners. We will start those back up the first week of the new year. Our next Sunday morning buffet breakfast is January 7 from 8:30-Noon. Visit quincykofc.org for more information.

Are you looking for stocking stuffers?

The Knights of Columbus raffle calendars make great Christmas gifts with chances to win cash every day in 2024 for only \$25 per calendar. Buy them at the bar or call John Veith at 653-0258 or Mike Schlipmann, 653-9318 for more details or to buy a calendar. Your purchase will help support Knights charities, including our catholic schools, Ladies of Charity, Birthright and many others. Thank you for your support!

Help Our Food Pantry this Advent

If you are looking for a good way to prepare for Christmas this Advent Season, we would like to suggest this idea to you. Each day add a grocery item to a bag or box and on Christmas Eve donate the items to our Food Pantry. Bags with this list can be found at the entrances to church. Below are some ideas for items that are most needed:

December 1 - box of cereal	December 13 - pancake mix			
December 2 - peanut butter	December 14 - can of			
December 3 - mac and cheese	spaghetti sauce			
December 4 - canned tuna	December 15 - spaghetti			
	December 16 – pork & beans			
December 5 - simple crackers	·			
December 6 - can of mixed fruit	December 17 - canned soup			
	December 18—applesauce			
December 7 - can of corn	December 19—syrup			

December 8 - can of green beans December 20—jelly December 9 - hamburger helper December 21—dish soap December 10 - instant potatoes December 22—toothpaste

December 11 - canned chicken December 23—bar soap

December 12 - tuna helper December 24—toilet paper

Thank you!

Ladies of St. Francis News:

The Ladies of St. Francis wish everyone a blessed Advent!

Please be thinking about an opportunity to become an officer of the Ladies of St. Francis. In May the current officers will have served two years and it's time for some new ladies to take over and try some new and exciting ideas with this wonderful group of faith-filled ladies.

Think about this opportunity to share your gifts and talents with this group, your parish and our community. We will organize a nominating committee at our next meeting Tuesday, March 19. Please be willing to volunteer! Thank you.

humanamit.



Socks and Underwear Collection

From now until Christmas our parish will once again be collecting new socks and

underwear for those in need. Totes will be at the West main door and North doors of church for drop-off. All sizes are needed for men, women, boys, and girls. All donations will stay local and support our parish, school and Ladies of Charity.

You may call Deacon Dennis Holbrook with any questions at 217-257-4384. Thank you!

QND Pancake & Sausage Breakfast Benefitting the Catholic Heart Workcamp trip Sunday, January 7, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at QND \$9 for adults, \$5 for children. Kids under 5 eat free.



School Dates to Note:

Monday, December 18-

Christmas program in church for K-5, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20—

Christmas parties for preschool-8th grade, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 20-

End of the second quarter.

Christmas break begins with 11:30 a.m. dismissal.

December 21-January 3-

No School. Christmas break.

Our school is still enrolling students for the half-day, three days a week preschool class. The child must have had their third birthday to enroll and may be up to age five. This class meets on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 8:10-11:00. Jennifer Mast and Connie Sibbing are the teacher and assistant.

Contact Principal Julie Radel if you are interested in learning more at jradel@stfrancissolanus.com or 217-222-4077.



Preschoolers in the three-year-old class made a colorful paper chain, then stretched out on the floor to measure their work.



December schedule

Pop-Socket Selling (to earn money for stewardship)
Refer to Sign-Up Genius for your time or email Jane Ann for more information

Saturday, December 16 -

Buy & Wrap Gifts for Parish Giving Tree
Please email Jane Ann or call parish office to sign up.

Monday, December 18 - Faith Formation with Nacho Bar (g/F options available)

Regular Monday Meetings will resume on January 9th Who: 6th - 12th grades Where: Parish Hall When: Mondays 7:15 - 8:30 coordinator Jane Ann Petty (217) 222-2898 x101 jpetty@stfrancissolanus.com

Merry Christmas! Enjoy your holiday break.

December 23-24	Altar Server - Weekend	Communion Minister	Usher		Children's Liturgy	Reader	Greeter Gift Bearer
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	William Hea Callie Longlett	Logan Callahan Jane Dietrich Carla Slough Michelle Obert	Jim Kaiser Greg Ehrhardt Philip Kemner	Mark F. Dietrich Joe Venvertloh Michael Bickhaus		Martin Makarewicz Maureen Makarewicz	Russ & Terry Rohrer Gift Bearer Chryssia Hea
Sunday 7:00 a.m.	2 Needed Please	Cindy Venvertloh Jane Gregory Tony Freiburg Paulette Freiburg	Joyce Frericks John Beckman Larry Venvertloh	Kevin Frericks Janet Marquette Tim Venvertloh		Ron Gengenbacher	Judy Akers Sandra Banning Gift Bearer Terry Niemann
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Bradyn Klauser Adayre Klauser Mackenzie Sousa	Jayna Klauser Terry Kistner James Cramsey Katherine Cramsey	Ryan Klauser Diann Cole Samuel Zanger	Neal Blickhan Joseph Darnell Mike Zanger	Liz Gengenbacher	Steve McMillen	Nancy Friye Jill Blickhan Gift Bearer Roberta Meyer
No 11:00			Merry Christmas!				
<u>Saturday Morning</u> De <u>Mass Server</u>		December 23, 2023	Brady Koetters and Jack Costigan				



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MIDAS

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.

Terry Obert, Faithful Navigator, 217-257-3161

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Our twelve Angel

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Mary Althoff Irene Freiburg Mary Futterer

Wilhelmina Kottendorf Olivia Timpe

Mary Wavering Josephina Bohne Bernadina "Birdie" Freund Mary Hickey

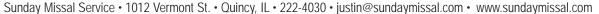
> Cecelia VonderHaar Margareth Werner

12 Little Angels Collection

A Tuition Assistance Fund in honor of the twelve little girls who died from the school fire of 1899.

Every Donation Makes a Difference!





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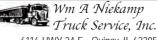
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