

## ST. FRANCIS SOLANUS parish

Reverend Steven Arisman, Pastor Reverend Bruce Scott, Parochial Vicar Reverend Kenneth Ahanonu, Parochial Vicar Deacon Wayne Zimmerman Deacon Dennis Holbrook Mrs. Julie Radel, Principal Mrs. Susan Holbrook, Office and Business Manager Mrs. Krista Putman, Administrative Assistant Mrs. Jill Steinkamp, Director of Music Mrs. Maureen Makarewicz, Chairman Pastoral Council Mrs. Monica Hinkamper, Chairman Stewardship Council 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 Mrs. Jane Ann Petty, Youth Ministry Coordinator

#### 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

#### 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 15, 2024**

Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

Today is called "Gaudete Sunday." "Gaudete" is the Latin word for "Rejoice!" It is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon.

Our first reading is from Zephaniah, a contemporary of Jeremiah. Israel had been destroyed in 721 B.C.; only Judah remained, but Judah and Jerusalem were thoroughly corrupt.

Zephaniah warns of doom unless people repent. Most of the book of Zephaniah is depressing with its threats of "fire and brimstone." But the last part of the book from which today's first reading is taken, is joyful. Zephaniah sees a time when God will restore. We must rejoice because the Lord is in our midst.

The second reading was written by Paul when he was in jail at Ephesus. He suffered miserably, and most of his "friends" abandoned him. The people of Philippi helped him, however, and he wrote this friendly letter to them to thank them. He tells them (and us) to rejoice in the Lord always even when we have problems. For the Lord is with us and will see us through.

John the Baptist, like Zephaniah and Jeremiah and the prophets of old, was fiery in his condemnation of sin and evil. But his message is simple: Do good and avoid evil. If you are a businessman, be a person of integrity and honesty. If you are a laborer, give a full day's work for your wages. If you are a policeman, don't bully anyone.

In other words be sincere, humble, and honest in your treatment of everyone. The world might not be perfect if we put this into effect. But it would surely be more of a place of peace and joy!

--Msgr. William Carr © 2018 by Sunday Missal Service 1012 Vermont Street • Quincy, IL 62301

## **3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## "Gaudete in Domino semper! Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near!" (Phil 4: 4-5).

The Church calls the Third Sunday of Advent "Gaudete Sunday" because the Entrance Antiphon begins with the word Gaudete. But this Gaudete Sunday is so much more than just knowing that Gaudete means "Rejoice" in Latin and that there are rose vestments and candles. Rather, the Church rejoices that the celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ approaches and that the Lord is near!

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming." By God's grace and by our active participation in the liturgy of the Church, we are right there in the Old Testament for centuries waiting for the coming of the Messiah - the Christ! Then, on top of that, since we are on the other side of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are renewing our "ardent desire for his second coming." Yes, we are soon going to be celebrating the Birth of Christ at Christmas, but we really are remembering Jesus' promise to return.

Imagine the Church as a child sitting on the edge of its pew. This little girl has been good all Advent, trying her best to remain faithful to the Gospel. Everyone is silent, especially herself as she takes a sneak peek over her shoulder. She is waiting for the Procession Bell to ring...the bells ring out! So the little girl jumps up and sings: "Gaudete! Rejoice!" Therefore, the Church today, for multiple reasons, rejoices!

This theme of Joy rings out throughout the entire Mass in the prayers, readings, and songs. After praying over the scriptures for this Sunday, I see two things: the necessity of Joy, and personal reflection of where Joy is in our lives. First, the necessity of Joy is essential. We must see today's Joy in light of the Sacred Scriptures: All joy finds its source in God and "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness..." (Gal 5:22). I love the Song of Joy in Zephaniah, the first reading, that God "will rejoice over you...he will sing joyfully because of you..." (Zep 3: 17). Amen! How great is our Heavenly Father that He is eternally joyful and aims His Joy over each of us!

This leads us to the critical question about where is this Joy in your life? Is your joy rooted in a relationship with God? Perhaps you are asking the same question as the crowds in the Gospel, "What should we do?!" It is relatable, because I have my own stressors and anxieties in this chapter of my life. But, I encourage you to listen to John the Baptist who "preached the good news to the people" that our Mighty Savior is coming. Also, St. Paul's words say it best, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Let us lift up our heartfelt prayers this Advent season to God for His coming to be our source for joy.

As a new pastoral associate working at St. Francis Parish, please count on my prayers. I grew up in Quincy going to St. Peter's. I graduated from QHS. I did my undergraduate at Illinois State University while serving in the Army Reserves. I spent three years in seminary formation and discerned out in August 2024. I am excited to serve at this parish in various ministries and pray for the joy of God to be in your life this Gaudete Sunday.

Peace in Christ, Andrew Bilgri



## Weekday Mass Intentions

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December 16 Monday	6:30 a.m.	Phyllis Metzger and Janet Hellhake Shaughnessy	
December 17	6:30 a.m.	Louis and Joanna Venegoni	
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	John Maxwell and John Schonarth	
December 18 Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	Mary Effrein and Paul Moenning	
	5:30 p.m.	Dick Gengenbacher and Steve McNally	
December 19 Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Donna Rischar	
	5:30 p.m.	Lawrence Paben	
December 20 Friday	6:30 a.m.	Barbara Mitchell and Marian Wensing	
December 21 Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Nancy Terwelp and Florence Smith	
	4:30 p.m.	Dick Knepler and Billy Moore	
December 22 Sunday	7:00 a.m.	The Parishioners of St. Francis	
	9:00 a.m.	Bill and Katie Brink and Norma Johnson	
	11:00 a.m.	John and Ruth Holman and Jim and Mary Rose Prior	

Week of 12/8/2024	Week	YTD	
Regular Collection	\$18,200.95	\$568,767.09	
Loose Collection	\$1,574.50	\$40,872.25	
Total Collection	\$19,775.45	\$609,639.34	
Needed Support	\$32,000.00	\$736,000.00	
Difference	\$-12,224.55	\$-126,360.66	

**Annual School Fund:** Week: \$5,018.75 YTD: \$97,819.87 **End of Year Contributions**— Please have these turned into the parish office or dropped in the collection basket by Monday, December 30.

This week in the Parish: Monday, December 16 6:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Ministry Team meeting 6:00 p.m. PSR 6:00 p.m. SFS Scouts church tour 7:00 p.m. Rosary 7:15 p.m. BEAR youth group meeting Tuesday, December 17 6:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Ladies of St. Francis Quilters 5:30 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. Truth Seekers Wednesday, December 18 6:30 a.m. Mass 4:00 p.m. Reconciliation 5:30 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. SFS Christmas program 7:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Group Thursday, December 19 6:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Ladies of St. Francis Quilters 1:00 p.m. Scripture discussion 5:00 p.m. SFS Scouts Christmas 5:30 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. Lector training 6:30 p.m. OCIA 6:30 p.m. Scripture discussion Friday, December 20 6:30 a.m. Mass Saturday, December 21 8:00 a.m. Mass 8:30 a.m. Reconciliation 3:00 p.m. Reconciliation 4:30 p.m. Mass

Fr. Scott is hearing confessions before all Masses when he is available. The door will be open and the light on. As we wait for Jesus let us make ourselves ready!

> Area-wide Reconciliation Service Sunday, December 22, 3 p.m. at St. Peter Church in Quincy. Multiple priests from around the area will be available to hear confessions before Christmas.

Get Well Wishes for Fr. Arisman: If you would like to send get well cards, Christmas cards/gifts, etc., please send them to Fr. Zach Samples at St. Agnes in Springfield and he will deliver them to him. Please address the cards and/or packages as follows:

> Fr. Steve Arisman C/O Fr. Zach Samples St. Agnes Catholic Church 245 N. Amos Ave. Springfield, II. 62702

#### Reverse Advent Calendar to Benefit the Food Pantry

If you are looking for a good way to prepare for Christmas, throughout the Advent Season, we would like to suggest this idea to you. Each day you 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:

- Dec. 1 box of cereal Dec. 2 - peanut butter Dec. 3 - macaroni and cheese Dec. 15-spaghetti Dec. 4 - canned tuna Dec. 5 - simple crackers Dec. 6 - can of mixed fruit Dec. 7- can of corn Dec. 8 - can of green beans Dec. 9 -hamburger helper Dec. 10 - instant potatoes Dec. 11-canned chicken Dec. 12 - tuna helper Dec. 13— pancake mix
- Dec. 14—can of spaghetti sauce Dec. 16—pork and beans Dec. 17—canned soup Dec. 18—applesauce Dec. 19—syrup Dec. 20-jelly Dec. 21—dish soap Dec. 22—toothpaste Dec. 23—bar soap Dec. 24—toilet paper



#### **Socks and Underwear Collection**

Once again we will be collecting new socks and underwear for those in need. Men and women, young and old, all sizes are needed! Marked totes will be at the West main door and North doors of church for drop-off. All donations will stay local. You may call Deacon Dennis or Pat Holbrook with any questions at 217-257-4384. Thank you!

Chrístmas Mass Tímes: Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve: 4 o'clock, 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock and midnight Wednesday, December 25, Chrístmas Day: 9 o'clock

The Liturgy Planning Committee will be switching the decorations from Advent to Christmas after the 11 o'clock Mass next Sunday, December 22. Please consider joining them for the fun of adding to the beauty of our church for the Christmas Season.

#### Straw in the Stable

The Liturgy Committee would like to invite everyone to help fill our manger with straw. Please come to the Nativity and add a handful of straw from one of the baskets. Help us prepare for the coming of Jesus.

Thank you! To all of the volunteers who delivered poinsettias to our homebound parishioners who are 90-plus years old. You are a vital part of this ministry by bringing Christmas joy to these parishioners.

St. Francis Community Assistance

#### **Holiday Cards for Priests**

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

Fr. James Wheeler, OFM, Fr. Bob Barko, OFM: 724 N. 20th St., Quincy, Il. 62301 Fr. Rafal Pyrchla: 400 N. Whitetail Circle, Mt. Zion, Il. 62549 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, II. 60602 Fr. More Torres OFM: Mission San Luis Rey Parish, 4070 Mission Ave., Oceanside CA 92057 Fr. Duc Pham OFM: Sacred Heart of Jesus, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, IN 46225

<u>Holy Name News:</u> Thanks to all of the guys who came out for the Holy Name Christmas Dinner last Wednesday evening. Instead of selling fruit baskets this year we took up a free will donations at the dinner and all proceeds will be donated to the St. Francis food pantry.

<u>Knights of Columbus News:</u> The Thursday night raffle will be back this week. Tickets are on sale from 6-7:45 p.m. with the drawing at 8. The jackpot is up to \$24,000. Our delicious Chicken Dinner is back. Come out and get half a chicken and all the sides for \$13. Eat in or drive through from 5-7 p.m. Meal ticket gift certificates and K of C calendars make great Christmas gifts! Go to quincykofc.org for details.

#### Christmas Cards for Parishioners in Nursing Homes

The final deadline for submitting cards is this Monday, December 16.

<u>Good Samaritan Home:</u> Phyllis Ehrhardt, Phyllis Hemm, Betty Klingele, Barbara Niewohner, Joyce Weiss, Bengta "Bink" Wiemelt, Carlene Wolf.

<u>Illinois Veterans Home:</u> Vicki Kurtz, Leo Luttrell, Ronald Whittaker.

<u>Quincy Healthcare and Senior Living</u>: Norma Russell, Margie Bernhardt, Charlotte Poore, Judith Schmitz.

<u>Sunset Home:</u> Charlotte Adam, Regina Blickhan, Michael Mason, Doris Ohnemus, Bernice Walz, Janet Waterkotte, Gayle Happekotte, William Jansen.

The Arbors at Adams Pointe: Jean Frericks, Barbara Kaiser, Angela Huner.

High Point Residence (formerly Cedarhurst):

Margaret Andrews, Marjorie Spoonmore, Nancy Walker, Ann Harness.

**<u>Rushville Nursing & Rehab Center:</u>** Dorothy Huber. There will be a bin in the back of church and a bin inside the main entrance to the parish center to drop off the cards, which will be delivered in time for Christmas. Please sign your name in each card and state you are from St. Francis Solanus Church. Put the resident's name and nursing home on the outside of the envelope. **DO NOT SEAL THE ENVELOPE.** 

Check out the new St. Francis Parish App! Scan the QR code to install the new app, select "Find my church by name" and pick St Francis Quincy.



A Note from Father Arisman: I just wanted to write something for you all to hear from me. I am shocked by this diagnosis and surgery. It still seems surreal. Multiple doctors seemed equally shocked at how bad things were. I am grateful to God I am alive! And to think, 22 thousand steps with our eighth graders in DC just a month ago! I had many substantial blockages in my heart and three 99 percent blockages in differing vessels. I am grateful for the surgeon and all the doctors and nurses who cared for me at Blessing and St. John's in Springfield. I am thankful for my parents and siblings and family that was with me and have been taking care of me. For now the doctors are limiting my visitors to guard against infections.

I am beyond grateful for your prayers and love. It has been felt this entire time. Quadruple bypass surgery is probably the most invasive and aggressive surgeries one can endure. The recovery is immensely painful and very long and slow. You don't realize how much your chest moves just from breathing, coughing, laughing, etc. I am making progress. I see it. It's actually way ahead of the game. I am still on oxygen at this time. Hearing from you has meant the world to me. Please keep praying. I was finally able to celebrate Mass Sunday and Monday for the Holy Day. I miss you all so very much. I miss being at home at St. Francis. Know of my love and eagerness to return, but I know it will be some time before the doctors release me to return. Thank you to Fr. Bruce Scott and Fr. Ken Ahanonu for their tireless work. Being gone at this time of year is really difficult as you all know I love the Christmas season! I won't really get to sport my Christmas suits at all this year! Please hug your kiddos for me and tell them how much I miss them. May you continue to have a blessed Advent and know of my prayers and offerings of sufferings for you and our parish. I look forward to seeing you again. Until then let us pray for one another and see each other in the Eucharist.

# St. Francis Solanus School INSPIRING FAITH, KNOWLEDGE & SERVICE



"Friends Who Bear the Love of Christ" St. Corbinian, pray for us!

### BEAR Mass & Cookie Sale

Saturday, December 7 - Cookie Sale after 4:30pm Mass Sunday, December 7 - Cooke date difer 4.50pm has Sunday, December 8 - BEAR participants serve Mass Cookie Sale after 7, 9, and 11am Masses

#### OCT's Cinderella

Thursday, Dec 12 @ 7:30 - There are 6 tickets available. More can be purchased if need be but time is of the essence. The cost is \$27. Please contact Mrs. Petty ASAP if interested.

Dinner & Shopping Monday, Dec. 23 - Meet at Walmart for Dinner at Subway (provided by BEAR) and shopping for our Christmas giving. Arrive at 7:15. Pickup at 8:30.

There will be a brief recess in activity from Dec. 24 - Jan 13 Coordinator Jane Ann Petty (217) 222-2898 x101 jpetty@stfrancissolanus.com Who: 6th - 12th grades Where: SFS Parish Hall When: Mondays 7:15 - 8:30



#### **Upcoming School Dates**

Monday, December 16; PMO Choir Concert, 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter Church.

Wednesday, December 18: Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m. in St. Francis Church.

Friday, December 20, class Christmas parties. Dismissal is 11:30 a.m.

Christmas break is Saturday, December 21 through Monday, January 6. School resumes Tuesday, January 7.



Members of the BEAR youth group made Advent wreathes at one of their recent gatherings.



December 21-22	Altar Server - Weekend	Communion Minister		Usher	Reader	Greeter/Gift Bearer
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	William Hea Reese Meehan Callie Longlett	Jessica Veith Darlene Mayes William Niewohner Carla Slough	0		Helen Zimmermar Chryssia Hea	Joe Venvertloh Karen Venvertloh <b>Gift Bearer</b> Bruce & Amanda Venvertloh
Sunday 7:00 a.m.	Chloe Terwelp Eli Terwelp	Paulette Freiburg Carolyn Briddle Craig Budde Joan Beard	Joyce FrericksKevin FrericksSteveJanet MarquetteJerry MeyerJohn BeckmanTerry Obert			Sandra Banning Terry Niemann <b>Gift Bearer</b> Joe & Amber Terwelp
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Carson Kerkhoff Jacob Collins Mackenzie Sousa	Marsha Collins Samantha Cramsey Marty Steinkoenig Carol Darnell	Jason Cr Karl Ver Mike Za	vertloh Diann Cole	Donna Mangold Aaron Kerkhoff	Jill Blickhan Nancy Friye <b>Gift Bearer</b> Mary Fitzsimmons
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Urban Venvertloh Reno Venvertloh August Venvertloh	Chris Duvall Mike Holbrook Sue Holbrook Rebecca Wear	Evan Re	Brent Frericks Dennis Greving Kara Evan Reichert Mike Fessler Pa Marty Karhoff Rose Willer		Doris Karhoff Jane Haas <b>Gift Bearer</b> <u>Two Needed Please</u>
	lay Morning Iss Server	December 21, 8:00 a.m.		Em	nmett Wiemelt	
<u>Children's Li</u>	turgy of the Word	December 22, 9:00 a.m.		Liz	Gengenbacher	
	Please	check your email for t	the upo	late on the new Sch	eduling Syste	m
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217-2	Performance Health Vel/Ingeswutrition velopment - Youth Development 214-3482 elperfom.com	REFRESHMENT SERVICES 1121 Locust Street Quincy, IL 62301 217-223-8600		FRESH. FLAVORFUL. FAI		GLASS ONE 600 Jersey St., Quincy 217-222-1122 Rob Gengenbacher
Dr. Kristie Chevalie	<b>B</b> y EyeCare r · Dr. Austin Krohn eyecareqcy.com	FLORISTS & GIFTS 223-1		BRING THE FAMILY AFT 217-214-73 3726 Broadway, C Between Hy-Vee & Hobl	35 Duincy	ordable Master's Programs" www.quincy.edu
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