

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 22, 2024

Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Even Christians can fall into the trap of thinking that "big" is "better," and that "biggest" is "best." God constantly reminds us of the opposite! In God's eyes, little things really *do* mean a lot. Throughout salvation history, God took the small and the insignificant in order to accomplish his mighty works. He identifies with the wandering nomad, the outcast, the powerless, the little, and the insignificant.

Countless stories in the Old Testament tell how God took "nobodies from nowhere" to make them great. Consider Abraham. Think of David the last son of Jesse. Think of Bethlehem. In today's first reading, Micah recalls that Bethlehem is the least and the smallest, but from Bethlehem will come the Messiah!

The second reading is from Hebrews. We like a good ritual and a stately and fine liturgy like the temple liturgy of old. But God says that he really doesn't care much for magnificent holocausts or sin offerings; he prefers, rather, the simple offering of a humble and obedient will! Jesus saved us more by his humility and obedience than by his spectacular miracles.

The Gospel is the simple scene of Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth to be of service at the birth of John the Baptist. The infant dances in the womb of Elizabeth, and Elizabeth herself acknowledges that Mary is the Mother of the Savior.

It is not bad to like nice things: pomp, pageants, parades, and paeans make us feel good. But God looks to simple things. He wants the simple and humble service of our hearts. Let us give him that gift at Christmas.

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

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christmas Story

As a kid, I enjoyed Christmas stories (I also do now). I remember going for Christmas Mass on the day of Christmas. I was hoping to hear some Christmas narratives during the Gospel reading but I did not. What I got from the reading was that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Back then, it did not make much sense.

Actually, the Christmas story is not read as a Gospel passage during the Mass on the day of Christmas. Why? The Liturgy of Christmas prescribes four Masses: the vigil Mass, the Mass at night, the Mass at dawn and the Mass during the day. Each of these Masses have specific readings. One fulfills the obligation of attending Christmas Mass when one participates in any of them.

While the Gospel readings in the vigil Mass, the night Mass and the one at dawn tell the Christmas story, that of the Mass during the day gives a theology of Christmas. While the readings on the Christmas story focus on the birth of the child against the backdrop of God's salvation history, the reading on the Christmas theology ponders the identity of the child against the backdrop of cosmic history. By doing so, it proclaims that the newborn child will have cosmic significance.

In the lines that follow, I will summarize the Christmas story based on the Gospel readings of the vigil Mass, the night Mass and the Mass at dawn. The essence is to supply that longing for the Christmas story for those who attend the Mass of the day. Secondly, to give a comprehensive view of the Christmas story for those who participate in any of the three Masses. Since each of the Christmas readings have specific readings, making a summary of the individual Gospel narratives, will give one a sense of the Christmas story in a more comprehensive manner.

The Gospel reading of the vigil Mass comes from Matthew 1:1-25. It begins by giving us the genealogy of Jesus down to Abraham. By tracing the history of Jesus 42 generations (cf Mt 1:17), the Gospel narrator illustrates the humanity of Christ. Having established this, the Gospel passage narrates how the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and instructed him not to divorce Mary whom he had found to be pregnant. The angel further disclosed to him that Mary was conceived of the Holy Spirit and that the child to be born must be named Jesus.

The Gospel reading for the Mass at night is taken from Luke 2:1-14. The Gospel narrator tells us that Joseph and Mary left their dwelling place, Nazareth in Galilee, to their home land, Bethlehem in Judea, to accomplish the compulsory enrollment. There in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus in a manger since there was no place for them in the inn. The passage further narrates that the news of the birth of the new baby was announced to the shepherds keeping watch over their flock that night by the angel of the Lord.

The Gospel reading for the Mass at dawn (Lk 2:15-20) is a continuation of that of the vigil Mass. When the angels went away from them, the shepherds hurriedly went to Bethlehem. They saw and confirmed the veracity of the angelic message for themselves. They made it known to Joseph and Mary. They returned to their duty post glorifying and praising God.

With these narratives in mind, the Gospel reading during the day (John 1:1-18) is set on the background that the child is born. So, it does not focus on how the child was born but on what the birth of this child is for us.

Fr. Kenneth Ahanonu



Weekday Mass Intentions

	<u> </u>			
December 23 Monday	6:30 a.m.	Dan Richmiller and Norma Johnson		
Christmas Eve December 24 Tuesday	4:00 ,6:00, 9:00 p.m.			
	Midnight			
Christmas Day	9:00 a.m.	Doug Frese and Corey Michael John Haxel		
December 25 Wednesday	5:30 p.m.			
December 26 Thursday	6:30 a.m.	Donald A. Bickhaus and Janet Hellhake Shaughnessy		
	5:30 p.m.	Stan Musholt and Marian Wensing		
December 27 Friday	6:30 a.m.	Nate Gilbert and Jimmy Davis		
December 28 Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Dick Gengenbacher		
	4:30 p.m.	Carl, Connie and Fr. Gary Bernhardt		
December 29 Sunday	7:00 a.m.	The Parishioners of St. Francis		
	9:00 a.m.	Marilyn Barry and Launa Blickhan		
	11:00 a.m.	Don McCaughey and Kathleen Schullian Leo		

Week of 12/15/202	4 Week	YTD		
Regular Collection	\$90,162.36	\$658,929.45.00		
Loose Collection	\$1,827.31	\$42,699.56		
Total Collection	\$91,989.67	\$701,629.01		
Needed Support	\$32,000.00	\$768,000.00		
Difference	\$59,989.67	\$-66,370.99		

Annual School Fund: Week: \$16,980.44 YTD: \$115,128.30

This week in the Parish:						
Monday, December 23						
6:30 a.m. Mass						
<u>Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve</u>						
4:00 p.m. Mass						
6:00 p.m. Mass						
9:00 p.m. Mass						
Midnight Mass						
<u>Wednesday, December 25</u> Christmas Day						
9:00 a.m. Mass						
<u>Thursday, December 26</u>						
6:30 a.m. Mass						
5:30 p.m. Mass						
Friday, December 27						
6:30 a.m. Mass						
Saturday, December 28						
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.

<u>Holiday Parish Office Hours:</u> Closed Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25, Tuesday, December 31, and Wednesday, January 1.



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

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

Capital Campaign Update:

Final Total Pledge Amount: \$2,096,840.37 Pledges Fulfilled Amount: \$1,483,448.44 Interest Earned: \$4,107.11 Outstanding Pledge Amount: \$613,391.93

Campaign Total Expenses: (\$78,772.06) Tithe to Diocese Expense: (\$140,188.50) Capital Improvement Expenses: (\$778,972.88) Capital Campaign Funds at the Bank: \$489,622.11 Projects "To Do" Approved for the Capital Campaign: Replace Savings at the Diocese: \$600,000. House Purchases and Demolition: \$100,00-\$200,000. Refinish Pews: Potential — \$250,000.00 Ten percent Tithe to the Diocese Outstanding: estimated \$61,500.00. Thank you all for your support of the Growing in Faith Capital Campaign!

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.

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, Il. 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



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!

<u>Holy Name News:</u> The men of the Holy Name wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

<u>Knights of Columbus News:</u> The Knights also wish everyone a Merry Christmas! The Thursday Night Raffle and Friday Night Chicken Dinners will return January 9 and 10. Meal ticket gift certificates and K of C calendars make great Christmas gifts! Go to quincykofc.org for details.



Fr. Scott poses next to his new quilt, which he won in the quilt raffle at the holiday bazaarDecember 7. The quilt was made and donated by the Ladies of St. Francis quilters.

QND Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, January 5, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Children under 5 eat free. All proceeds benefit the Catholic Heart Workcamp trip this summer.

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.



Ladies of St. Francis News: The Ladies of St. Francis will start meeting again in March. Stay tuned to this space for more details! We wish everyone a blessed Advent. We still have several Ladies of St. Francis cookbooks and we're marking them down to \$10. These make great Christmas gifts! If you would like to buy one, contact Jane Gregory, 217-242-5302.

End of Year Contributions— Please have these turned into the parish office or dropped in the collection basket by Monday, December 30. Thank you!

We are looking for a few new volunteers to visit St. Francis parishioners who are in Blessing hospital. You can pick the day of the week and time of day for the visit. For more information please call Mary Fitzsimmons at 217-553-8871.

QCES Foundation "Faith in Our Future" Campaign

Supports our efforts to ensure Catholic education is within reach for many families. This year, more than 100 students received \$130,000 in tuition assistance. Your generosity keeps students in the classroom, maintains strong enrollment, and helps to ensure that Catholic education continues to thrive in our community. To learn more call 217-779-3157 or visit quincycatholicschools.org.

Donations may be made online through the QR code.



St. Francis Solanus School INSPIRING FAITH, KNOWLEDGE & SERVICE



BEAR Mass & Cookie Sale Saturday, December 7 - Cookie Sale after 4:30pm Mass Sunday, December 8 - BEAR participants serve Mass Cookie Sale after 7, 9, and 11am Masses

QCT'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

Thank you from St. Francis School!

To the Stewardship Committee: We thank you for the large donation of consumable supplies. Those gifts of tissues, paper towels, colored copy paper, snacks and much more will provide for our student needs during the second semester. Your generosity is truly appreciated!

To the Holy Name Society: Thank you for your generous gifts. All of our teachers were given gift cards to purchase items for their classrooms. We also greatly appreciate the generous check from the golf outing. That gift will be used to update the aging school security system. You have a heart for our school. Thank you so much on behalf of the students and staff.

Julie Radel, School Principal.





Preschool students enjoy playing with a set of hardwood unit blocks gifted by the Ladies of St. Francis. Block play is an essential part of preschool and aids language and math development. Thank you Ladies of St. Francis!

December 28-29	Altar Server - Weekend	Communion Minister		Usher	Reader		Greeter/Gift Bearer		
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Chloe Terwelp Hadley Carrier Isaiah Wear	Theresa Rohrer Rose Pillars David Pillars Teena Fisk	Michael Eling Harold Vahle Reber Tim Reichert Greg Ehrhardt Nancy Philip Kemner Andrew Wemhoener				Betty Kaufmann Russell Rohrer Gift Bearer Kim & Randy Zecchel		
Sunday 7:00 a.m.	Markius Lugering Owen Wheeler	Steve Peters Kay Gallaher Jane Gregory Tony Freiburg	Roger Ga	Auris McGee Roch Schulte Roger Gallaher Paul Eling Gary Terwelp Ed Zanger		ldle	Larry Klauser Jerry Meyer Gift Bearer Sarah Lugering		
Sunday 9:00 a.m.	Tinley Genenbacher Makayla Patton Macy Patton	Ted Genenbacher Amanda Genenbacher Kristen Patton Vieve Veith	Mike Pat Mike Zan				Mary Fitzsimmons Jill Blickhan Gift Bearer Prudy Patterson		
Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Priya Mamdani Teo Mamdani Emily O'Leary	Brenda Wand Michael Wand Marsha Collins Mike Holbrook	James Do Melissa A Steve Ob	Arnold Bud Voss Rachel Water			Margaret Steinbrecher Gift Bearer Jamie Friye		
	rning <u>Mass Server</u>	December 28, 8:00 a.m.		James Bickl	haus and Dav	id Bick	haus		
<u>Children's Lit</u>	urgy of the Word	December 29, 9:00 a.m.			Anne Meyer				
Please check your email for the update on the new Scheduling System									
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217-2	Performance Health Melinass Holmass Hurtion Personal Training Nutrition Performation Performation Performation Performation Performation Performance P	REFRESHMEN SERVICES 1121 Locust Stree Quincy, IL 62301 217-223-8600	et	FRESH, FLAVORFUL, FABULOUS.			GLASS ONE 600 Jersey St., Quincy 217-222-1122 Rob Gengenbacher		
Dr. Kristie Chevalier	B y EyeCare - Dr. Austin Krohn yecareqcy.com	FLORISTS & GIFTS		BRING THE FAMILY A 217-214-7 3726 Broadway, Between Hy-Vee & Ho	335 Quincy		Ruincy University rdable Master's Programs" www.quincy.edu		
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).				Fray For Pro-Life and Vocations					
Valter Scott Reed If you know of someone who would benefit fr missal with Sunday and Daily Liturgies, CONTACT Terry Obert and we will send Pray Together Missal FREE OF CHARGE Terry Obert, Faithful Navigator, 217-257-3		s, d a GE.	2000 N. 12th Street			Communications Steinkamp Nick Steinkamp			
312 North 33rd Quincy, Illinois	s 62301		223-7022 223-0859	217-223-37 woodmartbuildingce Your Project Pa	91 enter.com	In P	siness Telephone & ternet Consultants Phone: 217-224-8840 www.ms-comm.com		
Colletta Mic Mary Al Irene Fre	lthoff J	Angel Mary Wavering osephina Bohne adina "Birdie" Freund	A T	2 Little An Collection uition Assistance in honor the twelve little	N ce Fund	Cr			

Irene Freiburg Mary Futterer Wilhelmina Kottendorf Olivia Timpe

Bernadina "Birdie" Freund Mary Hickey Cecelia VonderHaar Margareth Werner

of the twelve little girls who died from the school fire of 1899. Every Donation Makes a Difference!

Artwork by Delaney Beard EST 2016

Sunday Missal Service • 1012 Vermont St. • Quincy, IL • 222-4030 • justin@sundaymissal.com • www.sundaymissal.com



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