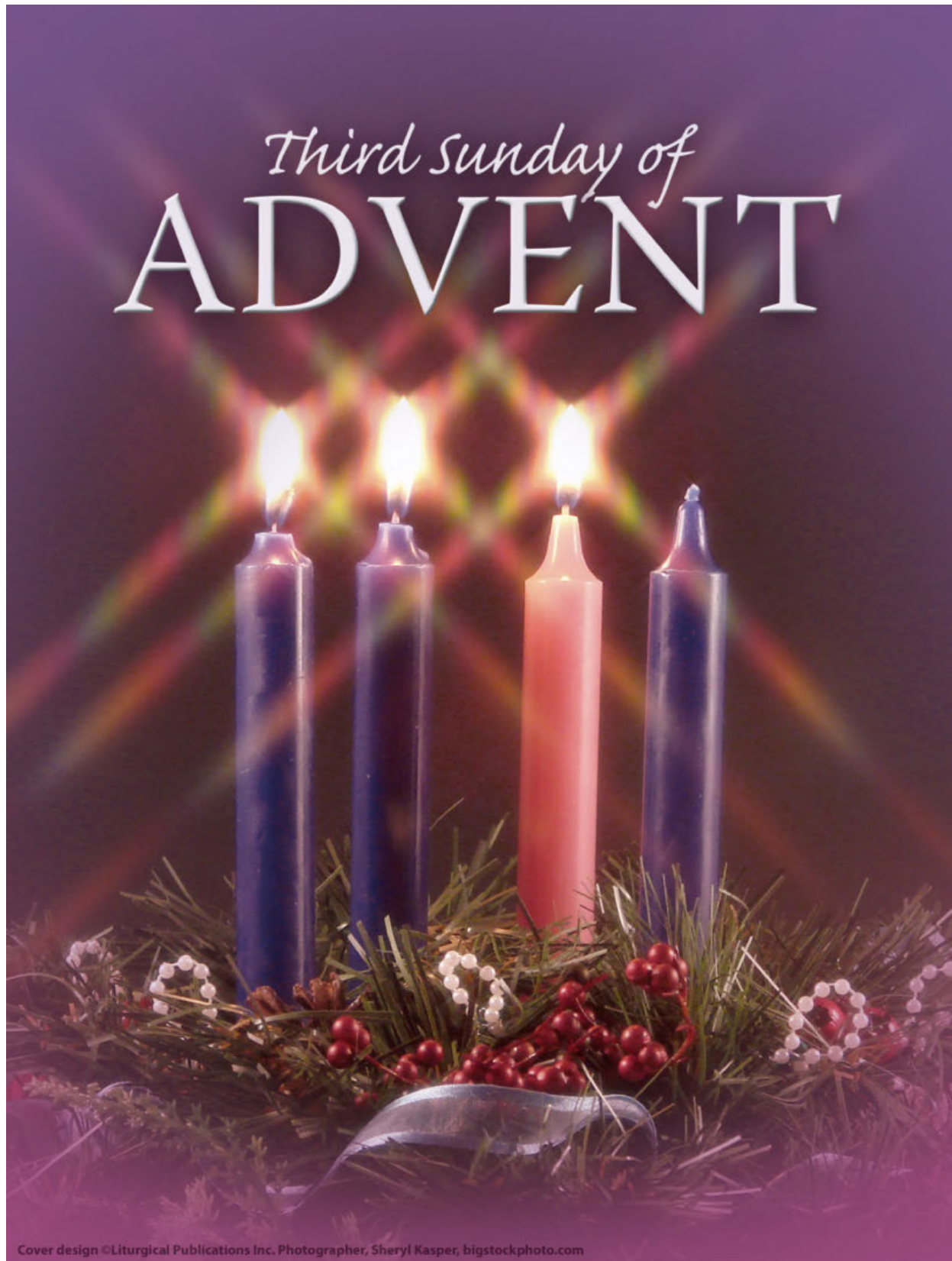


December 12, 2021 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



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203 EAST MAIN ST., PO BOX 730, TEUTOPOLIS, IL 62467

## From the Pastor

In my homilies at the Masses last weekend I encouraged you to “save the date” for the next Penance Service, which will be this Tuesday evening at 7 o’clock. There won’t be a Penance Service per se, but there will be 3 priests to hear the confessions of those ready to confess. Fr. Sunder Ery, the pastor from St. Michael’s in Sigel, will assist your parish priests so that you won’t have to wait an excessive amount of time.

The next evening, 15 December, our high school students will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament, and this time Fr. Michal Rosa, the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Effingham, will be assisting your parish priests.

If it has been some time since your last confession – like years – resolve now to change that. Just tell the priest it has been some time, and you would like his help. He will be happy to assist you.

Our men showed up last Saturday morning and worked to unload the truck and assemble the stage for the play Maximilian. After the performance, another group of young men came and took down the curtains and lights and speakers and loaded the truck. The morning crew and evening crew did an outstanding job – thank you, Gentlemen. I know Larry and Darlene Hardiek are very proud of their sons and grandsons while Joan Smith is also proud of her sons as well. Those are the families, and there were a couple individuals, who helped.

Unfortunately, the attendance was low, under 100 people. And the collection didn’t come close to covering the cost of the performance and the advertising – you might have seen the ads in the diocesan newspaper. These publicity costs are being divided among the 5 parishes that hosted the play – parishes from Quincy to Troy to Teutopolis to Mattoon to Vandalia. It was a very good play. One thing I came away with was the strength of St. Maximilian’s faith. If you were going to discuss your belief system, what would you say? I don’t mean going through the Creed like we do at Mass, but for whom or for what would you be willing to die for? That is really what it comes out to. If you would like to help cover the cost of having the play here at St. Francis, please mark the envelope so we know. Thank you. Your financial help will be appreciated.



## Holiday Schedule

**Friday, December 24, Mass at 4:00, 6:00, 10:00 pm**

**Saturday, December 25, Mass at 9:00 am**  
(No 4:30 Mass)

**Sunday, December 26, Mass at 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 am**

**Help Needed:** There are **ministry sign-up sheets for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day** in the main entrance of church. If you are commissioned to be in any of the ministries: usher, reader, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, please consider sharing your ministry this Christmas. Thank you!



Tuesday, December 14  
7:00 pm

## Mass Intentions

Monday, December 13, 6:30: Living and Deceased  
Members of Clete and Agnes Brummer Family  
Tuesday, December 14, 6:30: Bob Deters  
Tuesday, December 14, 7:55: Ken Will  
Wednesday, December 15, 6:30: Leroy Niebrugge  
Thursday, December 16, 6:30: Brian Buening  
Thursday, December 16, 7:55: Hank Ruholl  
Friday, December 17, 6:30: Larry McMahon  
Friday, December 17, 7:55: Living and Deceased  
C D of A Members  
Saturday, December 18, 4:30: Joseph H. Buscher  
Sunday, December 19, 6:30: Pro Populo  
Sunday, December 19, 8:30: Jack Hardiek  
Sunday, December 19, 10:30: Paul Niebrugge Family



## The Third Week of Advent



| Sunday<br>December 12                                                                                                    | Monday<br>December 13                                                                                                           | Tuesday<br>December 14                                                  | Wednesday<br>December 15                                                                                              | Thursday<br>December 16                                                                            | Friday<br>December 17                                                | Saturday<br>December 18                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Look for one new thing at Mass today that you haven’t noticed before. | The presence of Jesus in our lives speaks of our hope in God’s mercy and love. Today, list your reasons for hope in the future. | Spend some time today examining your life for areas needing repentance. | Choose a candle as your “Jesus Candle.” Light it every night until Christmas to remind you of the light Jesus brings. | Put a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ child. Light it each night until Christmas. | Gather some family, friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling. | The holidays can be a lonely time for anyone who is alone. Today, offer someone companionship. |

## Liturgy Schedule 3rd Week in Ordinary Time December 13 - 19

|            |                                                                                   |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday,    | St. Lucy<br>Mass at 6:30 am<br>Adoration 1:00 pm until 6:00 am<br>Tuesday morning |
| Tuesday,   | St. John of the Cross<br>Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am                                   |
| Wednesday, | Mass at 6:30 am                                                                   |
| Thursday,  | Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am                                                            |
| Friday,    | Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am                                                            |
| Saturday,  | Mass at 4:30 pm                                                                   |
| Sunday,    | 4th Sunday of Advent<br>Mass at 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 am                              |

### Confession Schedule

Tuesday, December 14 - 7:00 pm  
Thursday, December 16 - 6:15-6:45 pm  
Saturday, December 18 - 3:00-4:00 pm

### Liturgy of the Hours with Friars

Monday-Friday -- 11:45 am & 4:45 pm



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers:

Margaret Pruemer, Will Niccum, Joe Ruholl, Bill and Rosie Myers, Andrea Wernsing, Paula Spencer, Mark Roedl, Linus Willenborg, Cole Wellbaum, Kyndal Dasenbrock, Bob and Mary Lee, Vivie Kinkelaar, Dawson Lohman, Heather Ordner, Sara Ordner, Marilyn Zerrusen, Roddnie Deters, Korrie Hartke, Tanner Pruemer, Steve Runde, Toby McMahon, Debbie Meyer, Nicholas Wente, Barb Worman, Leah Newlin, Gary Cornell, Sharon Ghast, Jennifer Carlen, Tammy Gebben, Chad Nelson, Liz Kremer

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please call the office at 217-961-6404.

## Stewardship of Treasure

|                     | <u>Sunday</u><br>12/5/2021 | <u>Total Fiscal</u><br><u>Year</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 204 Adult envelopes | \$13,017.50                | \$212,211.08                       |
| 59 Online giving    | \$2,406.00                 | \$54,815.00                        |
| Other               | <u>\$857.00</u>            | <u>\$18,074.16</u>                 |
| TOTAL               | \$16,280.50                | \$285,100.24                       |
| Assisi to Africa    | \$1,029.00                 | \$20,935.00                        |



## Parish Calendar

### Monday, December 13

- Giving Tree gifts delivered
- Adoration, 1:00 pm - 6:00 am Tuesday
- RCIA, 7:00 pm, Sr. Ethelbert Center

### Tuesday, December 14

- Rosary after 7:55 Mass
- Penance Service, 7:00 pm

### Wednesday, December 15

- Christmas play for Grade 1 and 2, 8:00 am
- Children's choir, 3:30-4:45 pm
- Young adult choir, 6:00 pm
- JH/HS religion, 7:00 pm

### Thursday, December 16

- Religion teacher/walker Christmas party, 8:00 am, St. Clare hall
- Confessions, 6:15-6:45 pm
- Adult choir, 7:00 pm

### Friday, December 17

- Teen center open, 7:00-10:00 pm

### Saturday, December 18

- Confessions, 3:00-4:00 pm
- CHWC cookie sale after Mass, St. Clare

### Sunday, December 19

- CHWC cookie sale after Masses, St. Clare
- Christmas caroling, 6:30 pm



## Homebound Ministry

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound for Sunday, December 19th are Lenora Drees 217-857-3583 and Lori Mette 217-663-0869.

## ATTEND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which translates as "House of Bread." Even in his birth, Jesus was preparing us to approach him under the form of bread. Spending time with Jesus is never a waste. --Taken from "Ten Ways to Make Your Advent More Joyful" by Fr. Dominic Vahling in a special to Catholic Times.

**Donations for Flowers** We are accepting donations for flowers for Christmas and special occasions during 2022. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "FLOWERS" and mail it or drop it off at the parish office. If the donation is being made in memory of a loved one, please note this on the envelope also.



**Cemetery News** - The age requirement for pre-sales of cemetery graves and columbarium niches has been changed to 70 years and above. The columbarium pre-sales are open to all ages. Please contact the parish office at 217-961-6404 if you are interested in pre-purchasing.





## Religious Education News

**Grade 1 and 2 Christmas Play:** The students will perform for family members in Church on December 15 at 8:00 am. Parents can help by helping them practice singing their song at home.

**Grade 1-6 Religion Teachers and Walkers Christmas Party is December 16:** Teachers will meet at 8:00 am in St. Clare hall. Walkers will meet in St. Clare Hall at 8:45 am. Students will have an all school Mass on December 16.

**Christmas Holiday:** Students will be on holiday December 23 through January 3. Religion classes resume on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.

### DECEMBER YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

December 15 – Religion class 7:00-8:15 pm

December 17 – Teen Center is open

December 18/19 – CHWC Cookie Sale

December 19 – Christmas Caroling (meet at the Teen Center)

December 22- NO RELIGION CLASSES for Christmas break



Join us for Christmas Caroling, Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Jr high, high school, alumni in town for break, parents and friends are all invited. Meet at the teen center at 6:30 pm. We will sing around town and then return to the teen center for hot chocolate and snacks!



**SCRIP CARD SALES** – There are many opportunities to support the St. Francis Catholic Heart Work camp group Scrip card program during Advent!

1. We will be selling cards each Saturday morning at Kountry Kitchen from 7:00-10:30am.
2. Cards will be sold after 8:30 & 10:30 Masses on Sundays.
3. Volunteers will be selling cards at the entrance to the church office during the lunch hour (11:30 am-1:00 pm) each day from December 1<sup>st</sup> – December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please help our fundraising efforts and get your shopping done at the same time!



**The Catholic Heart Work Campers are fundraising** for their next service experience in Montague, Michigan in June 2022. We are selling St. Louis Cardinal calendars again this year! These calendars make the perfect gift for the St. Louis Cardinal fan! The Cardinal

schedule is printed on each day for all spring training and regular season games. Great pictures and Cardinal history each month plus an insert of a variety of family-oriented coupons. Calendars can be ordered from any camper or call Maria at 217-961-1500 to order yours today! We are taking orders now through December 16<sup>th</sup>. Calendars are \$16 each and payment is due at the time of the order. THANK YOU for supporting CHWC!



**CHWC Group** – Our Christmas cookie/candy sale is coming up! Please drop off 4 dozen cookies/candies at St. Clare hall from 9:00-11:00 am on Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. I will be sending out an email to remind you of all the details!

Let us do the baking for your Christmas party! Cookies/candy will be sold after each Mass on the 18th and 19th. Price is \$8/dozen.

**INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK** Shout for joy! When was the last time you ever felt like doing that? Fear, uncertainty, pressure, negativity, disappointment, and myriad other human experiences can rob us of joy. We can never predict what life will bring. As unsettling as that can often seem, life's unpredictability is also the very thing that allows it to be exciting and adventuresome! We know that life can be difficult, and it is unrealistic to expect it to be otherwise. God never promised an easy road. But, when a person truly falls in love with God and discovers the peacefulness and assurance of God's presence, then a depth of understanding will be brought to everything they do and experience. Nothing will be able to rob them of joy! When we realize that God, the King of Israel, is in our midst and with us, there is no further misfortune to fear. We celebrate the beauty and wonder of God's gift of joy today as we ready ourselves, even more excitedly, for the coming of our Savior. Do not fear and do not be discouraged. There is a power and presence within us, our God, who has made us, who loves us and who will keep us. What more do we need? Rejoice!

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS IN YOUR MIDST,  
A MIGHTY SAVIOR;  
HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH GLADNESS,  
AND RENEW YOU IN HIS LOVE.

—ZEPHANIAH 3:17

**St. Francis Church Choirs and Music Ensembles** are busily preparing for an exciting Christmas Season.

The children's choir will cantor the 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass with anthems and carols beginning at 3:30.

The guitar ensemble will cantor the 6:00 Christmas Eve Mass with anthems and carols beginning at 5:30.

The adult choir and the youth choir will join to cantor the 10:00 Christmas Eve Mass with anthems and carols beginning at 9:30.

Saturday's Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am will be led by a variety of singers. Contact Dan Williams if you are interested in singing with a small group that morning. Music/caroling will precede the Mass beginning at 8:30 am.

Five of your talented members have recently started a Brass Ensemble. They will play Sunday, December 26th at the 10:30 Mass.

Saturday morning, December 18th, your choristers and Brass players will be caroling and playing during the Annual 5K Santa Stomp run in Teutopolis. The race begins at the KC hall at 9:00 am. If you have the opportunity, please come out and support the runners/walkers, and the musicians entertaining along the race route. AND...please join us if you would like to carol for the runners along the way. Contact Dan Williams, Director of Music Ministry, if interested.



**Join us at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Teutopolis as we study the biblical roots of the Eucharist!**

## EUCHARIST

DISCOVERING THE MASS IN THE BIBLE

**Lectio: Eucharist**  
*Discovering the Mass in the Bible*

Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching.

"The Lamb of God," "The Bread of Life," "The Body and the Blood of Christ"... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching? We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation.

***Be sure to bring your Bible!***

**Beginning Wednesday, January 12 at 4:00pm**

**10 Sessions**  
**continuing every Wednesday from 4:00-5:30pm**  
**in the Sr. Ethelbert Center**

**Email Laura**  
**at [landerson@stfrancischurch.com](mailto:landerson@stfrancischurch.com) to register!**

**Springfield March for Life** is Friday, January 21, 2022. Mass with Bishop Paprocki at the Cathedral at 10:00 am, followed by an 11:00 am march to the Capitol and back. We will be leaving Effingham Events Center (KC hall) on charter bus at 7:30 am and returning 4:00 pm. The ADULT and YOUTH registration and information paper is in the entrance of church. Deadline is **January 10**. Questions? Call Diann Ruholl 217-663-2056.



### **St. Lucy |Feast Day December 13**

A name that means "light," St. Lucy (283 – 304) is the patron saint of those blind or suffering with eye trouble. Not much is known about her life, except that she was determined to remain a virgin and thus refused marriage. History tells the story of a frustrated suitor who eventually accused St. Lucy of being a Christian (a crime at the time), and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304.

Today, we celebrate a number of traditions that incorporate symbolic meaning of St. Lucy as the "bearer" of light in the darkness of winter. This is particularly seen in Scandinavian countries, with their long dark winters. There, a young girl dressed in a white dress and a red sash (as the symbol of martyrdom) carries palms and wears a crown or wreath of candles on her head. In Denmark, Norway and Sweden, girls dressed as Lucy carry rolls and cookies in procession as songs are sung.



### **God Bless Those Serving our Country.**

Anthony Vahling, Ryan Weber,  
Cody Bushue, Andrew Isley,  
Shawn Zerrusen, Ali Kingery,  
Andrew Simmons, Justis Coventry,  
Jesse Koester, Braydan Bushue,  
Mallory Stone, Paul Schumacher,  
Damon Sabo.

**Liturgical Ministers for December 18/19**

| <b>Ministry</b> | <b>4:30 pm</b>                                                                                 | <b>6:30 am</b>                                                                          | <b>8:30 am</b>                                                                                    | <b>10:30 am</b>                                                                            |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Readers</b>  | Sr. Sandra Sudkamp<br>Jamie Habing                                                             | Pat Wente                                                                               | Shannon Hinkle<br>Monica Kremer                                                                   | Dick Hawickhorst<br>Patty Ruholl                                                           |
| <b>Ushers</b>   | *Glen Waldhoff<br>Tim Ordner<br>Larry Habing<br>Toby McMahon<br>Scott Brumleve<br>Dave Tegeler | *Mike Tipton<br>Allen Koester<br>Steve Mette<br>Dave Runde<br>Joe Runde<br>Chris Hartke | *Mark Probst<br>Dennis Gillespie<br>Todd Voelker<br>Steve Witges<br>Cory Wermert<br>Gerald Witges | *Denny Runde<br>Dan Beckman<br>Brian Ruholl<br>Collin Niemerg<br>Greg Addis<br>Jeff Thoele |
| <b>Servers</b>  | Michael Habing<br>Alex Habing<br>Owen Kremer                                                   | Kayden Zerrusen<br>Kayleigh Zerrusen<br>Karson Zerrusen                                 | Derek Niemerg<br>Lucas Niemerg<br>Kelsey Niemerg                                                  | Nolan Runde<br>Gavin Runde<br>Gus Siemer                                                   |

**Clean Linens - Dolores Kroeger****Sacrament of Matrimony:**

Arrangements must be made a minimum of 6 months in advance with the pastor.



**Marriage Requirements** If you have your wedding scheduled at St. Francis, you will be required to attend the following for preparation:

**Pre-Cana** workshops offered in the Effingham area:

- St. Francis, Teutopolis, January 30, 2022.  
Call 217-961-6404 to register.
- St. Mary, St. Marie, March 12, 2022.  
Call 618-455-3155 to register.

Additional dates are available on the diocesan website at [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org) under marriage and family life.

**FOCCUS:** Scheduled dates at St. Francis are as follows:

- January 8, 2022
- April 2, 2022
- July 2, 2022
- October 1, 2022

All sessions begin after 4:30 pm Mass in St. Clare hall. To register call 217-961-6404.

**Upcoming NFP Classes**

- Saturday, January 15, 2022 9:30-11:00 am on WebEx.
- Saturday, February 26, 2022, 2:00 pm, Sr. Ethelbert Center.

To register contact Kate Pruemer, CFCP. Email her at [kpruemer@gmail.com](mailto:kpruemer@gmail.com) or call or text 217-821-1840.

**Parish Office**

203 E. Main St., P.O. Box 730, Teutopolis, IL 62467-0730  
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 am-4:30 pm

Phone: .....(217) 961-6404  
Fax: .....(217) 961-0680  
Parish E-mail:.....[sfc@stfrancischurch.com](mailto:sfc@stfrancischurch.com)  
Parish website:.....[stfrancischurch.com](http://stfrancischurch.com)  
Facebook:.....[@stfrancischurchteutopolis](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancischurchteutopolis)

Submit written bulletin notices by noon Monday.

Diocesan website: [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation Number  
(217) 321-1155

**Baptism Prep Dates**

- Thursday, January 6, 2022 St. Francis
- Thursday, February 3, 2022, St. Rose
- Thursday, March 3, 2022, St. Francis

All classes begin at 7:00 pm. To register for classes at St. Francis call 217-961-6404; at St. Rose call 217-924-4553; and at St. Isidore call 217-821-9178. All dates are subject to change.

**Please Note:** Baptisms will take place on the first, second and third weekends of each month.

**Address Correction**

Sr. Ann Pierre Wilken, OSF  
9360 A Kingsmont Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**Sharing the Gospel**

Today John the Baptist is visiting your church. You ask him, "What should my family do to serve God?" He answers, "If you have two winter coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else." You tell him, "I can give away a coat and a pair of shoes that's too small for me. I can share a can of carrots from our shelf at home."

**Prayer**

Help me share what I have with others, Lord.





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