

December 18, 2022 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



## 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

## Parish Pastoral Team

Fr. Joe Carlos, OFM, Pastor

Fr. Dat Hoang, OFM, Associate Pastor

Fr. Dennis Koopman, OFM, Sr. Associate Pastor

Fr. Juan Carlos Ruiz, OFM, Visiting Priest

Dan Williams, Director of Music Ministry

Anita Broom, Bookkeeper

Barb Weber, Secretary

Ron Ruholl, Maintenance

## Religious Education:

Dan Niemerg, GS CRE: 217-961-6477

Maria Kingery, Youth Director & JH/HS CRE:

217-961-1500

Camille Neihls, Part-time Rel. Ed. Secretary:

217-961-6477

## Parish Council:

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Monica Stortzum

Clem Ruholl

Shannon Hinkle

Barb Weber

Rhonda Meyer

Eric Habing

Dennis Runde

Jason Niebrugge

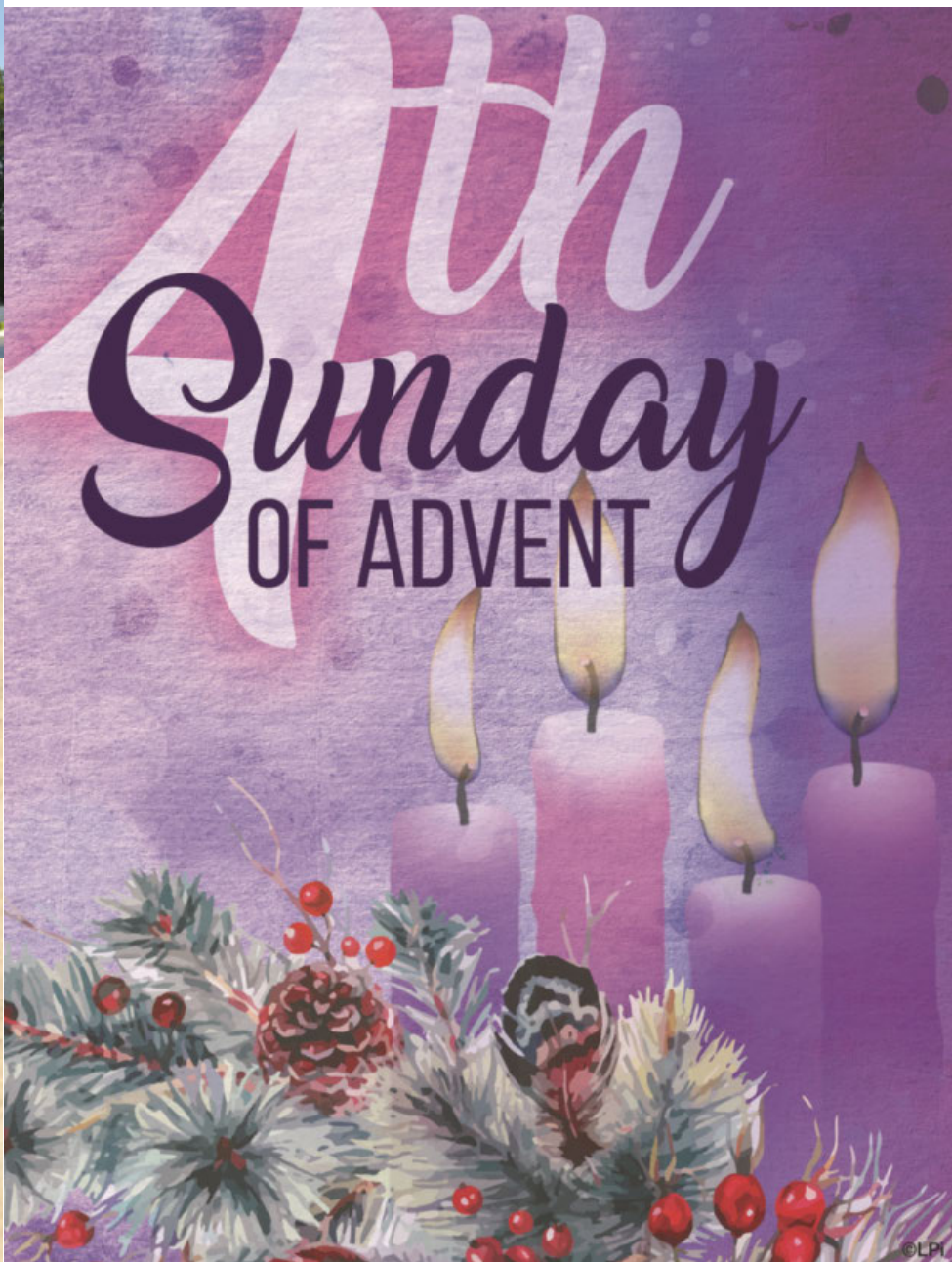
## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday & Thursday: 6:15-6:45 pm

Saturday: 3:00-4:00pm

Thursday before First Friday: 3:00-4:00 pm

Anytime by appointment



## Sacrament of Matrimony:

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

## Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptism Prep class is required before baptism. Please call the office to pre-register.

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

## From the Pastor

If you couldn't attend our music program last Sunday afternoon, which incorporated all the various groups in our music ministry, then you missed a beautiful experience. Thank you to Dan Williams and his wife, Sandy, for all the work they put into the program. I got worn out just watching Dan move around from group to group in the church!! God has certainly gifted the members of our community in so many ways, and music is one of them. This is another example of stewardship – think of the time the groups spent preparing and getting ready, plus the performance in the afternoon. Thank you to all who participated.

Seems difficult to believe, but it's true: Christmas is only one week away!!! I remember getting excited as Christmas drew near, and I was 67 years old at the time! Seriously, excitement does grow especially for our children as the days march closer to Christmas Eve and of course Christmas. For older people, mothers for example, I'm not sure "excitement" is the term to use to describe the emotions we experience as we get closer to the big day. It could be a time of stress and deadlines, making sure all the "t's" are crossed. Christmas is a time for love. We are reminded of the love Jesus has that he would empty himself of his divinity and take on our humanity. We receive the love of Jesus and share that love with others.

I thank those of you for participating in the Giving Tree program this year. Some of you have been steady members of this group and have shopped and wrapped presents for many years, and you have no idea who received them! When I see that pile of gift wrapped packages in front of the Blessed Mother's altar, just before they are taken out to be distributed, I marvel at the love God has for us and the love we have for others, bringing the love of Christ to all. It is an excellent example of stewardship, sharing God's blessings with others.

Please keep in mind this Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, when we'll have the opportunity for you to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. There will be 3 priests available, possibly four if we can find another "confessional." We start at 7:00 p.m. with confessions. There isn't a Penance Service or Scripture Service first. We will continue with the sacrament until the last confession is heard. If it has been a long time since you have experienced the power of God's forgiveness and mercy, then give yourself a Christmas present. Come to confession. The last scheduled time for confessions is Thursday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:15 to 6:45.

There is a schedule of people involved with the various ministries for Christmas Eve and Christmas in this bulletin. You might note that Fr. Juan Carlos Ruiz will be the celebrant for the 9:00 Mass Christmas morning. You can come to Mass and then welcome him to St. Francis Parish.



### CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SIGN-UP



There are ministry sign-up sheets for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in the main entrance of church. If you are commissioned to be in any of the ministries: usher, lector, gift bearer, or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, please consider sharing your ministry this Christmas season. Also, please check in the sacristy the day of the Holy day to see where you are needed. Thank you for sharing your time and ministry!

**ASSISI FOR AFRICA:** From Fr Damien: "Despite the 280 meter well, it stopped giving water. The boys have to fill buckets of water in the dirty lake. Hungry mosquitos have attacked two boys who had to hospitalized 4-5 days. Malaria is a killer, but our hospitals have the medicines. May God bless you for your love for these poor children. Our people hold up one finger and say "MUNGU TU" (God alone). Yes, we are all united in God's love".



### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 19, 6:30 am: Hank Ruholl  
 Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 am: Jim Esker  
 Tuesday, December 20, 7:55 am: Anita Holman  
 Wednesday, December 21, 6:30 am: Sue Borries  
 Thursday, December 22, 6:30 am: Marilyn Meyer  
 Thursday, December 22, 7:55 am: Hank Ruholl  
 Friday, December 23, 6:30 am: Mary Ann Tegeler  
 Friday, December 23, 7:55 am: Eileen Yeh  
 Saturday, December 24, 4:00 pm: Pro Populo  
 Saturday, December 24, 6:00 pm: Rich Goldstein  
 Saturday, December 24, 10:00 pm: Philip Wendt  
 Sunday, December 25, 9:00 am: Larry & Mert McMahon



### PRAYER REQUESTS

*Please remember in your prayers:*

Will Niccum, Joe Ruholl, Bill & Rosie Myers, Andrea Wernsing, Paula Spencer, Mark Roedl, Linus Willenborg, Cole Wellbaum, Kyndal Dasenbrock, Bob and Mary Lee, Vivie Kinkelaar, Dawson Lohman, Marilyn Zerrusen, Tanner Pruemer, Steve Runde, Toby McMahon, Debbie Meyer, Nicholas Wente, Gary Cornell, Sharon Ghasht, Jennifer Carlen, Tammy Gebben, Chad Nelson, John W. Miller, Dustin Borries, Martha Fearday, Lizzie Westendorf, Lisa Vahling, Ray Lohman.

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



## Liturgy Schedule 4th Week of Advent December 19—December 25

Monday,	Mass at 6:30 am Adoration 1:00 pm Monday until 6:00 am Tuesday
Tuesday,	Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am
Wednesday,	St. Peter Canisius Mass at 6:30 am
Thursday,	St. John of Kanty Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am
Friday,	Mass at 6:30 & 7:55 am
Saturday,	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Mass at 4:00, 6:00 & 10:00 pm
Sunday,	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> Mass at 9:00 am

### Confession Schedule

Tuesday, December 20, Penance Service—7:00 pm  
Thursday, December 22—6:15-6:45 pm

### Liturgy of the Hours with Friars

Monday-Friday—11:45 am & 4:45 pm

## THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

### Monday, December 19

- Adoration, 1:00 pm Monday—6:00 am Tuesday
- OCIA, 7:00—8:15 pm, Sr. Ethelbert center

### Tuesday, December 20

- Parish Penance Service 7:00 pm

### Wednesday, December 21

- Children’s choir, 3:45—5:00 pm

### Thursday, December 22

- Confessions, 6:15—6:45 pm
- Youth & Adult choirs, 7:00 pm

### Friday, December 23

- Parish office closed at noon

**Please Note:** The parish office will close on Friday, December 23rd at noon for the Christmas holiday, and reopen on Tuesday, December 27th at 9:00 am.

**2023 Catholic Calendars** are at all entrances of church. A gift to you from the parish.

### Happy December Birthday

- 1/1 Joe H. Beckman (80)
- 1/4 Don Meyer (87)
- 1/5 John Meyer (87)
- 1/6 Bob Lee (85)
- 1/7 Dorie Deters (81)
- 1/7 Barb Pals (88)
- 1/11 Anna Kitten (81)
- 1/12 Stella Esker (91)
- 1/18 Rita Pals (86)
- 1/24 Jim Weis (86)
- 1/24 Joe Weis (86)
- 1/28 Jerry Wentz (80)



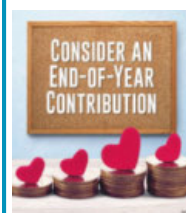
### Attention Homebound

*Note: There will be no Holy Communion brought to the Homebound on Christmas and New Years weekend Masses.*



**Collection on Christmas Day** Since 1879, the Catholic Children’s Home has served as a ‘beacon of hope’ for thousands of children in need of a safe harbor and a place to call home. The Catholic Children’s Home has been there to give the love and compassion these children desperately need. In the spirit of Christ’s special affection for all children, please support the work for the Catholic Children’s Home and contribute generously to this collection at all the Masses on Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

**Calendar Year End Contributions**  
Please note that the 2022 contribution ledger will be closed as of December 31, 2022. If contributions are to be considered in the year of 2022 for tax purposes, they must be received in the parish office by 4:00 pm on December 31st or be post-marked before January 1st. All contributions received or postmarked after December 31, 2022 will be posted to the year of 2023. Thank you.



### Stewardship of Treasure

	<u>Sunday</u> 12/4/22	<u>Total Fiscal</u> <u>Year</u>
205 Adult envelopes	\$14,990.50	\$225,695.74
73 Online giving	\$4,286.00	\$56,443.00
Other	<u>\$637.36</u>	<u>\$22,017.32</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,913.86</b>	<b>\$304,156.06</b>
Assisi to Africa	\$1,579.00	\$25,031.00

### God Bless Those Serving our Country.

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

### Religious Education News

**Christmas Vacation**—December 23 through January 3; January 4 is the first day of religion for students in Grade 1-6.

**First Reconciliation**—Grade 2 students start preparing for Reconciliation in January. Parent meetings are scheduled for January 23 and January 26 at 7:00 p.m. in Sister Ethelbert Center. Grade 2 Parents need to attend one of the meetings. First Reconciliation is scheduled for March 18, 8:30 a.m. or 10:00 a.m.

**Bake Sale**—Grade 4 students will host the next bake sale on January 18 in the Sister Ethelbert Center. Each student will be asked to bring items to be sold. Proceeds goes to the Missions in Africa.

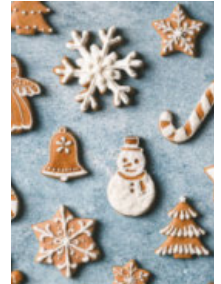
### YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

Dec. 17/18 – Cookie Sale in St Clare Hall

Dec. 21—Religion class CANCELLED

Jan. 11—Religion classes resume.

**CHWC Annual Cookie Sale** – Our group will be selling Christmas cookies and candy **THIS WEEKEND** after all Masses in St. Clare Hall. We will also have Cardinal calendars and scrip cards for sale at the same time. All proceeds go towards our mission trip in June of 2023!



**St. Louis Cardinal calendars** – These will be sold from now until Christmas. \$17 each. Call or text Maria if you still need one at 217-961-1500.

### SUBMITTED PHOTOS

If you submitted a photo for the directory, please stop by the office to pick up.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am—4:30 pm

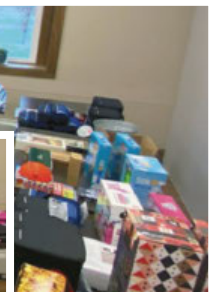
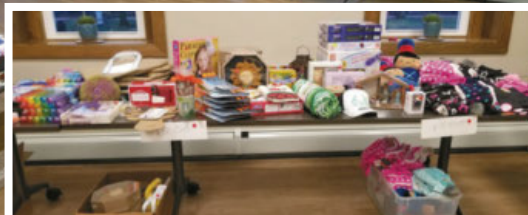
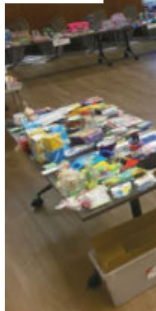
### Substitute Teachers needed

for Wednesday night religious education classes!  
Please call Maria at 217-961-1500 to set up a training session if you are interested in being on the list.



### Christmas Store 2022

We raised \$3,120!  
Proceeds go to the Missions.





**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:

- St. Francis, Teutopolis, February 5, 2023. Call 217-961-6404 to register.
- St. Mary, St. Marie, March 11, 2023. 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 7, 2023 — April 1, 2023 — July 1, 2023 October 7, 2023

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

**Upcoming Natural Family Planning Classes**

- Saturday, January 14, 2023, 1:30-3:00 pm on WebEx. To register contact Kate Pruemer, CFCP. Email her at [kpruemer@gmail.com](mailto:kpruemer@gmail.com) or call or text 217-821-1840.



**Baptism Prep Dates**

- Thursday, January 5, St. Francis
- Thursday, February 2, St. Rose
- Thursday, March 2, St. Francis
- Tuesday, April 4, St. Isidore

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.

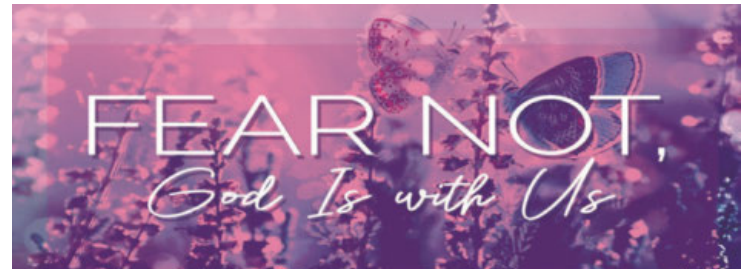
**Please Note:** Baptisms will take place on the first, second and third weekends of each month.

**Monastery Museum Fundraiser**

The Monastery museum has small gift ideas for that Christmas stocking. These will be used to raise money for much needed painting and patching of the walls on the second floor of the museum. We will offer souvenirs and books in the St. Clare hall after Masses this weekend.



**The Young 3 Kings** will be making their annual visit on January 6, 7 and 8. Contact Clint Goeckner at 217-821-5311.



**Music Ministry Notes**

Thank you to all the musicians who participated in the “Somebody’s Knockin’” concert Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a great success due to your dedication and extra effort during this busy holiday season! The Adult Choir, Children’s Choir, Guitar and Brass Ensembles combined to create a unique Mosaic concert that surely encouraged the audience to “Get Ready” for the coming of our Savior! Thanks also to all those who assisted with sound, lights, and programs. So much work is required by so many to present a concert DURING DECEMBER when there are opportunities to be elsewhere. Your willingness to share your incredible gifts with your parish family is greatly appreciated!!

AND, THANK YOU to those carolers and chaperones who assisted with the 5K Santa Stomp Race hosted at the KC Hall yesterday. 3 groups of carolers and our Brass ensemble performed Christmas carols along the race route to encourage the participants and to have a good time!! Pictures will follow in the coming weeks.

If you are a student home for the holidays and interested in playing or singing for your church family at a Mass while you are home, please contact Dan Williams, Director of Music Ministry. All are welcome to be a part of St. Francis’ Music Ministry Program.

The following link is available to view the Advent concert: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpuZIsq-3DQ>



**THANK YOU!!!!**

# Joy to the World

## Holiday Mass Schedule Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Saturday, December 24, Mass at 4:00, 6:00, 10:00 pm

Sunday, December 25, Mass at 9:00 am

## Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, December 31, Mass at 4:00, 6:00 pm

Sunday, January 1, 2023, Mass at 8:30, 10:30 am

## Presiders for the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses

Christmas Eve	4:00 pm	Fr. Joe Carlos
Christmas Eve	6:00 pm	Fr. Dennis Koopman
Christmas Eve	10:00 pm	Fr. Dat Hoang
Christmas Day	9:00 am	Fr. JuanCarlos Ruiz

## 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.

Sunday's Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am will be led by a Schola group and accompanied by a brass ensemble. Music/caroling will precede the Mass beginning at 8:30 am.

## Christmas Eve and Day Server Schedule

### December 24-4:00 pm

Andrew Probst  
Claire Probst  
Keegan Swingler  
Stella Deters

### December 24-6:00 pm

Eric Weidner  
Evan Weidner  
Julien Blim  
Exavier Smothers

### December 25-9:00 am

Lauren Heurman  
Emily Meyer  
??????

### December 24-10:00 pm

Jack Hartke	Mark Lynch	Logan Westendorf
Maddie Habing	Ella Neihls	Korynn Westendorf
Chris Habing	Jacob Neihls	Brianna Westendorf
Sarah Habing	Grace Koester	Anthony Roley
Owen Lynch	Charlie Koester	Olivia Roley
		Alex Habing



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