

December 10, 2023 - Second 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

Parish website: stfrancischurch.com

Facebook: [@stfrancischurchteutopolis](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancischurchteutopolis)

Submit written bulletin notices by noon Monday.

Diocesan website: 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, Hispanic Ministry

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:

Eric Habing

Dennis Runde

Jason Niebrugge

Donna Addis

Monica Stortzum

Dan Blankenship

Shannon Hinkle

Dr. Charles Runde

Rhonda Meyer

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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

Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm

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

Anytime by appointment



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“One mightier than I is coming after me.”

- Mk 1:7a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

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, TEUTOPLIS, IL 62467

From the Pastor



Plenary Indulgence: Christmas

In April, the Franciscan Family appealed to Pope Francis for him to allow plenary indulgences for people, who visit a Catholic church under the pastoral care of the Franciscans. This is part of the 800th anniversary of the Franciscans. Rome responded favorably, “so between December 8, 2023 and February 2, 2024 a person visiting a Franciscan church and praying before the Nativity scene can receive a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions. The bishops made it clear that people physically unable to visit a Franciscan church can still be eligible for a plenary indulgence. “Likewise, those who are sick or unable to participate physically can equally benefit from the gift of plenary indulgence, offering their sufferings to the Lord or carrying out practices of piety.” Franciscan nativities will remain standing until the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus, February 2, rather than the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6.

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, Lector, Gift Bearer, or Communion Minister, please consider sharing your ministry this Christmas season. Please check in sacristy the day of the Holy Day to see where you are needed. Thank you for sharing your time and ministry! Also, a reminder that those regularly scheduled for December are expected to serve on Saturday, December 30 (4:30 pm Mass and Sunday, December 31 (6:30, 8:30 and 10:30 am Masses).

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers:
 Will Niccum, Joe Ruholl, Bill Myers, Andrea Wernsing, Paula Spencer, Mark Roedl, Linus Willenborg, Cole Wellbaum, Kyndal Dasenbrock, Bob and Mary Lee, Vivie Kinkelaar, Dawson Lohman, Tanner Pruemer, Toby McMahon, Debbie Meyer, Nicholas Wente, Gary Cornell, Sharon Ghasst, Jennifer Carlen, Tammy Gebben, John W. Miller, Dustin Borries, Lizzie Westendorf, Joseph F. Huber, Betty Jansen, Art Deters, Bill Frese, Linda Frese, Doug Niemerg, Raymond Vahling, Mandy Schumacher.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 11, 6:30 am: Norma & Henry Weber
 Tuesday, December 12, 6:30 am: Gary Vahling
 Tuesday, December 12, 7:55 am: Patty Pruemer
 Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 am: Margaret Pruemer
 Wednesday, December 13, 7:55 am: Ted Hinkle
 Thursday, December 14, 6:30 am: Kenneth Grunloh
 Friday, December 15, 6:30 am: Leroy Niebrugge
 Friday, December 15, 7:55 am: Anita Holman
 Saturday, December 16, 4:30 pm: Dolores Esker
 Sunday, December 17, 6:30 am: Mary Hoelscher
 Sunday, December 17, 8:30 am: Larry & Mert McMahon
 Sunday, December 17, 10:30 am: Pro Populo

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.

The parishioners extend our sympathies and condolences to the family of Doris Niemeyer. Eternal rest grant unto her, o Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her.

Sympathy

Stewardship of Treasure

| | <u>12/3/23</u> | <u>Year</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 221 Annual donations | \$14,260.00 | \$236,652.00 |
| 42 Online giving | \$2,657.30 | \$61,026.50 |
| Other | \$840.36 | \$22,220.69 |
| TOTAL | \$17,757.66 | \$319,899.19 |
| Assisi to Africa | \$1,385.00 | \$15,325.00 |

The CCW would like to welcome our new officers,

Judy Westjohn, Patty Kreke, and Kathy Bloemer.

A special thank you to our outgoing officers, Jodie Pruemer, Karla Probst, and Nancy Deters!

Liturgy Schedule

Second Week in Advent December 11—December 17

| | |
|------------|---|
| Monday, | St. Damasus I Mass at 6:30 am Adoration 1:00 pm Monday until 6:00 am Tuesday |
| Tuesday, | Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at 6:30 am & 7:55 am |
| Wednesday, | St. Lucy Mass at 6:30 am & 7:55 am |
| Thursday, | St. John of the Cross Mass at 6:30 am |
| Friday, | Mass at 6:30 am & 7:55 am |
| Saturday, | Mass at 4:30 pm |
| Sunday, | Third Sunday of Advent Mass at 6:30, 8:30, & 10:30 am |

Confession Schedule

Tuesday, December 12, 6:15-6:45 pm
Thursday, December 14, 6:15-6:45 pm
Saturday, December 16, 3:00-4:00 pm

Liturgy of the Hours with Friars

Monday-Friday—11:45 am & 4:45 pm

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

Monday, December 11

- Adoration, 1:00 pm Monday—6:00 am Tuesday

Tuesday, December 12

- Confessions, 6:15-6:45 pm
- Guitar practice, 6:45 pm
- Religious education Christmas gatherings

Wednesday, December 13

- Childrens choir, 3:30—5:00 pm
- JH/HS Religion, 7:00—8:15 pm
- Bible Study 8:15—9:30 pm, Teen center

Thursday, December 14

- Confessions, 6:15—6:45 pm
- Adult & young adult choir, 7:00—9:00 pm
- Parish council meeting, 7:00 pm, Sr. Ethelbert Ctr.

Saturday, December 16

- Confessions, 3:00—4:00 pm
- Santa Stomp 5K caroling 8:30—10:00 am
- CHWC Cookie Sales, 5:30 pm, St. Clare hall

Sunday, December 17

- CHWC Cookie Sales, noon, St. Clare hall
- Secular Franciscans, 1:00-5:00 pm, church and St. Clare hall

2024 calendars are available for pickup at all the church entrances.



Attention Homebound

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound for Sunday, December 17 are Lenora Drees 217-857-3583 and Lori Mette 217-663-0869.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES FOR THE NEEDY

We are responsible for buying Bibles for each box and paying the shipping cost of \$10 per box. We will be shipping approximately 120 boxes. If you can help with shipping, put money in an envelope marked Christmas Shoeboxes and put it in the Sunday collection.

Thank you!

Donations for Flowers

We are accepting donations for flowers for Christmas and special occasions during 2024. Please put your donation in an envelope marked "FLOWERS", and place it in the collection basket, 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.



The St. Francis Giving Tree project began on Thanksgiving!

Join your parish family in this season of giving by sponsoring a gift from the Giving Tree!

How does it work?

Area nursing homes and group homes are gathering their residents' wish lists. We'll take those lists and make tags for each person. On Thanksgiving, the Giving Trees

will be set out at the entrances of church. Take a tag, purchase one (or more) items on it, wrap it, bring it back to the Mary altar at St. Francis by December 10. It's that easy! Want to spread the joy even a little further? Come to St. Francis on December 11 at 9:00 am & help sort and deliver gifts to the locations! The recipients are always so appreciative and it truly brightens their Christmas! St. Francis parish has been hosting the Giving Tree for over 25 years! **THANK YOU** for your continued generosity and for spreading Christ's love to others!



Religious Education News

Religion Volunteers' Christmas

Party is December 12 in the Sr. Ethelbert Center. Teachers are scheduled for 8:00 am. All other volunteers are scheduled for 8:45 am. Thanks to all volunteers!

Reminder--Religion Program for children ages 3-7 during the 10:30 am Sunday Mass. If you can help, please call Stephanie Rauch 217-821-1868.



Grade 1 & 2 Christmas play is scheduled for December 18 in Church at 8:00 am.



Grade 1 & 2 Students Christmas shoeboxes were shipped. We are responsible for paying for the shipping of each box. It will cost \$10 per box. If you can help pay for the shipping, put

money in an envelope marked Christmas Shoeboxes and put it in the Sunday collection. Thanks for your help!

The Monastery Museum will be selling wooden shoe souvenirs, cookbooks, and Teutopolis history books in St. Clare hall after the Masses on the weekend of December 16 & 17. Stop by and help support the Museum.

YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

- Dec. 13—Religious Ed 7:00-8:15 pm
- Dec. 15—Teen center open 7:00-10:00 pm
- Dec. 16/17—CHWC cookie sale (St. Clare Hall)
- Dec. 20—Religious Ed 7:00-8:15 pm
- Jan. 10—Religious Ed resumes

CHWC News - St Francis CHWC 2024 is fundraising for their trip to Nashville, TN. We have several fundraisers going on in December...



***Scrip sales** – This is a great way to buy the gift cards you need for Christmas. Forms are available on the church website or where cards are sold. Our CHWC group will sell Scrip cards on Saturday mornings at the Teutopolis State Bank from 9:00-11:00 am and at the Kountry Kitchen from 7:00-10:00 am during December. Scrip cards are also sold at the Teutopolis State Bank during regular lobby hours for your convenience.

***St. Louis Cardinal calendars** – These will be sold from now until Christmas. \$17 each. Contact a camper to order yours!

***Our annual Cookie Sale**—Our group will be selling Christmas cookies and candy on December 16 & 17 after Masses in the 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 2024!



SAVE THE DATE—CHWC Trivia night will be February 17 at the Teutopolis banquet hall. Get your team ready!

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT!!!



Come Caroling with your Adult, Youth and Children's Choirs SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 for the Santa Stomp. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Let's fill the race route with groups of carolers to encourage those running as they pass by. **Bring jingle bells and strong voices**, WARM holiday apparel, Santa hats, etc.

We will meet in the Ethelbert Center at 8:30 am to divide into groups, get song sheets, and then be on our way to caroling. The race/ walk kicks off at 9:00 am and will return to the KC Hall after the race for refreshments. If you are not joining your singer, they can be picked up at the KC Hall following the race, around 10:00 am.

I will need drivers with room in their vehicle for a few extra singers. Please inform Dan Williams, Music Director, if you are going to join us for this festive opportunity to serve your community. Contact Dan at dwilliams@stfrancischurch.com.



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, Gift Bearer, or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, please consider sharing your ministry this Christmas Season. Thank you!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, PATRONESS OF THE UNBORN AND OF THE AMERICAS --

In 1531, the Blessed Mother appeared to Saint Juan Diego, a poor Aztec Indian who lived near Mexico City. She instructed him to have the bishop build a church on the site. The last time she appeared to St. Juan, on December 12, she arranged roses in his tilma (or cloak) for him to bring to the bishop. When he brought the roses before the bishop, the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was miraculously present on his tilma. Made from a poor quality cactus-cloth, the tilma should have deteriorated within 20 years but shows no sign of decay after over 490 years. To this day the image defies all scientific explanations.

In 1531, the Aztec culture practiced bloodthirsty paganism with human sacrifice, especially of children. Nine million pagan Aztecs converted to Christ by the power of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the practice of human sacrifice was abolished.

It is the only apparition where Mary is pregnant with Jesus. Like St. Juan Diego, we now live in a world in which child sacrifice is practiced -- through abortion. Let us humbly pray to our Lady for miracles of conversion to happen.

Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "A Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe"

REASONS KNIGHTS SHOULD JOIN THE FOURTH DEGREE

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6. We oppose the institution and development of forces adverse to good Christian government.
7. We educate our members and the world at large to be defenders of our democratic institutions.

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 of Assisi Church, 203 E. Main St. Teutopolis Sunday, February 4, 2024, call 217-961-6404 to register.

St. Mary Church, Ste. Marie, Saturday, March 9, 2024, call 618-455-3155 to register.

Dates are available on the diocesan website at www.dio.org under marriage and family life.

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

January 6, 2024 April 6, 2024

July 6, 2024 October 5, 2024

All sessions begin after 4:30 pm Mass in St. Clare hall.

To register call 217-961-6404.

Upcoming Natural Family Planning Classes

- Saturday, February 10, 2024 1:00-2:30 pm, on **WebEx.**

To register contact Kate Pruemer, CFCP. Email her at kpruemer@gmail.com or call or text 217-821-1840.



BAPTISM

Prep Dates

- Thursday, January 4, 2024 at St. Francis
- Thursday, February 4, 2024 at St. Rose
- Thursday, March 7, 2024 at St. Francis
- Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 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.



Liturgical Ministers for December 16/17

| <u>Ministry</u> | <u>4:30 pm</u> | <u>6:30 am</u> | <u>8:30 am</u> | <u>10:30 am</u> |
|-----------------|---|---|--|---|
| Readers | Dan Niemerg Jamie Habing | Pat Wentz | Shannon Hinkle Monica Kremer | Dick Hawickhorst Patty Ruholl |
| Ushers | *Glen Waldhoff Tim Ordner Larry Habing Toby McMahon Scott Brumleve Todd Probst | *Mike Tipton Allen Koester Steve Mette Dave Runde Joe Runde Chris Hartke | *Steve Witges Dennis Gillespie Todd Voelker Mark Probst Cory Wermert Dan Habing | *Denny Runde Carl Waldhoff Logan Waldhoff Russ Deters Brian Ruholl Jeff Thoele |
| Servers | Maddie Zane Abby Zane Lily or Tess Stortzum | Meriel Schumacher Xavier Schumacher Sapphira Schumacher | Joey Probst Mark Probst Gwen Probst | Gavin Tegeler Gabriella Tegeler Grant Tegeler |


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UPCOMING EVENTS

Teutopolis Park District
Fitness Programs (January 1-March 29): Sign up by December 17

The ladies of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Effingham would like to invite you to shop at our annual **Holiday Cookie/Candy Sale** which will be held this year only on Saturday, Dec. 16 from NOON to 6:00 pm. The sale is held in our Parish Center located west of the church. In addition to our wonderful array of cookies, snack mixes, candies, and fudge, there will be delicious breads, coffee cakes, and cinnamon rolls. In addition, there will be a raffle featuring a gorgeous quilted Christmas throw handmade by one of our CCW ladies. Please come and stock up on our delicious homemade holiday treats for your family and guests.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Below are listed the next three experiences. Sign up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.
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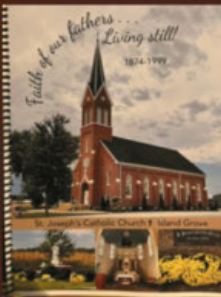


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Your support helps us to continue to help moms and their babies to stay in the home. We appreciate your continued support
Any questions: 217-690-4380

Sesquicentennial Celebration
St. Joseph's Church



St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Island Grove will be commemorating 150 years as a Faith Community throughout 2024. A public celebration is in the planning for September 8th, 2024. Orders for spiral reprints of prior centennial books are now being accepted. Pickup dates for purchases will be conducive for Christmas (2023) gift giving on orders placed in a timely manner. The purchase price for the 1974 & 1999 combination reprint is \$25 dollars (cover image included here); \$15 for the 1924 reprint. For inquires and orders, please contact Sandy Meinhart: 217-273-1758 sameinhart@gmail.com or St. Isidore Parish Office: 217-925-5788 office@stisidore.dio.org

Samples of the books are in the office entrance.

PARISH CENSUS—Please fill out the census *as soon as you can, preferably electronically*. If you need to fill out the information manually, that's fine. Parish volunteers will be calling on people we do NOT hear from. We need the cooperation of everyone. Thank you.

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