

CHURCH OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

in the Diocese of Belleville

303 South Poplar Street, Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Phone: 618-457-4556

Fax: 618-457-7368

M—Th: 9am–3pm

www.stfxcarbondale.org

sfrancis@mediacombb.net

STAFF of Saint Francis Xavier

Pastor: Father Robert B. Flannery

Pastoral Associate: Sister Barbara Blesse, OP

Director of Religious Education: Sister Barbara Blesse, OP

Secretary: Marilyn Bush

Bookkeeper: Jeff Chmiola

Choir Director: Dominique Kinchen

Musicians: Jamal Kinchen, Joyce Hesketh

Custodian: Nic Duran



Newman

Catholic Student Center

erving SIU Carbondale and John A. Logan College

715 S. Washington Street, Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Phone: 618-529-3311

Fax: 618-549-9401

M—Th: 9am–4pm

www.siucnewman.org

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STAFF of the Newman Center

Director: Tim Taylor, tim@siucnewman.org

Chaplain: Father Robert B. Flannery

Pastoral Associate:

Dawn O'Leary, dawn@siucnewman.org

Secretary: Kelly Kurtz, kelly@siucnewman.org

Campus Ministry: Jenette Vogt, jenette@siucnewman.org

Development: Terry Marmion, terry@siucnewman.org

Custodian: Nic Duran



Sacramental Life



Baptism preparation is required for parents and godparents, preferably before the birth of the child.



Marriage preparation is required for every Catholic planning to get married—regardless of where or to whom. Please contact Fr. Bob **at least** nine months before the wedding to be made aware of proper guidelines.



Reconciliation is normally celebrated at Saint Francis Xavier on Saturday from 4:30-5:00pm and at the Newman Center on Tuesday after 5:15pm Mass.



Mass SCHEDULE

Saint Francis Xavier

Saturday 5:30pm;

Sunday 9:00am & 12:15pm (Spanish)

Monday 12:15pm; Friday 5:30pm

Newman Center

Sunday 11:15am & (when SIU is in session) 5:15pm

Tuesday, and Thursday at 5:15pm

Wednesday, 9:00 am

Saint Andrew Church (618-687-2012)

724 Mulberry Street, Murphysboro, IL

Mass on Saturday 5:30pm & Sunday 11:00am

Saint Andrew Parish School (618-687-2013)

723 Mulberry Street, Murphysboro, IL



Second Sunday of Advent
December 5, 2021

Welcome, New Parishioners
and New Students!
Please register.



GIVE BLOOD

Blood Drive
St Francis Xavier Catholic Church
Fellowship Hall
303 South Poplar Street
Carbondale, IL 62901

Tuesday, December 14, 2021
1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

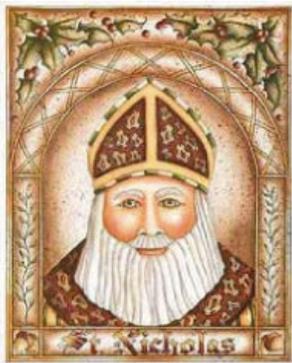
Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: StFrancisXavierCatholic to schedule an appointment.

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1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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On Monday, December 6, we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicolas. St. Nicholas of Myra, the “real Santa Claus”, was a fourth century bishop who was remembered for both his acts of charity and his denunciation of the Arian heresy. His reputation for his generosity to the poor and reputation as a miracle worker made him one of the best-loved saints

in the Eastern and Western Churches. Many families celebrate this feast by leaving fruit, candy, and such by the doors of their children. Another way to celebrate his feast, throughout all of Advent, would be to collect change that would then be used for random acts of kindness, or donated to the needy.

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Call 618-233-8670.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. “You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him.” When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit down-hearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God’s gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God’s promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts’ doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God’s simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.



Happenings and Musings

Sr. Barbara Blesse

Advent/Christmas Outreach To Parishioners who are Homebound

Many thanks to all of you who were able to help with the distribution of the Advent/Christmas gifts to our parish members who are homebound. Thanks for taking the time to personally deliver them representing our parish, carrying our love and prayers to those who can not always be with us in person. Special thanks to Nancy Hartman and Kathryn Capps (members of Saint Francis Xavier's **Gifts of Compassion Ministry**), Suzanne Schmitz, Marilyn Bush and Father Bob whose generosity, time and talent made these gifts possible! If you're a **Facebook** user, please consider checking out our parish **Gifts of Compassion: A Healing Ministry** page, clicking "**Like**" and becoming a follower!



Nancy and Kathryn

Postcard from God

Beloved,

Some folks are discouraged about the world
but I see you. Your little flame of love,
the light in your heart that has not gone out,
even your desire for hope is a spark
that gives me hope. Even if night
were to consume the world in its fire and ash,
seeing you would still give me delight,
even to the end.

Stay there for me, will you?

Thanks. Love, God

[Steve Garnaas-Holmes *Unfolding Light* www.unfoldinglight.net]

This "postcard," coupled with the Season of Advent, reminds us that we are collaborators with God, spreading joy, peace, justice and love wherever we find ourselves. Are we reliable?



Thoughts FROM... ...Jim

"The one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus" (2nd reading).

We all have seen people standing on the corner near Walmart or other places holding signs and looking for handouts. Most of us want to help but we wonder—are they truly in need? Will my money really help them in the long run? Am I enabling their addiction or their poor choices? Should I give them a sandwich instead? Could my money be better spent on a charity that would help them restart their lives?

You might not know this, but the Newman Center sets aside 5% of what we collect on Sundays to help those in need—students, parishioners, people off the street. Several times a week we get calls or visits here in the office from people looking for help. Maybe they need help paying a utility bill or their rent; maybe they are getting evicted; maybe they lost their job or got sick. **It is difficult to determine who to help and how much to give.** I worry about those same things—is helping this person the best way for this money to be spent? Is it really helping? Are they lying to me? How can I know that this money will make any difference?

A few years ago, we began working with the Carbondale Public Library and some social work students from SIU to develop a **Carbondale Cares** emergency fund that helps people apply for jobs, get off the streets, stay in their homes, pay their bills, get transportation to work, and otherwise flourish. Those in need of these funds work with the social work interns to **verify their need, develop a plan, and see that the money is spent effectively.** I wanted donors to know that their money is being used to address needs that are immediate, obvious, important, and **fixable** with the amount we are able to give. I have confidence that this money is better spent with the help of those social workers, who can spend more time assessing people's true needs.

Since we began in March of 2019, the Newman Center has given out over \$15,000 (usually in amounts of \$200 or less). Most of that money came from 5% of our Sunday collection, as well as individual donors but also contributions from Saint Francis Xavier, other area churches and organizations who believe in what we are doing. The effect on the people we have helped has been life changing, and I want to thank all of you for continued support. That is your money, and I want you to know where it is going. If you would like to make a special donation to the emergency fund during this season of giving, please let me know or make your check payable to the Newman Center but marked "Carbondale Cares."

"See your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God" (Today's 1st Reading).



Mass INTENTIONS

Saturday 5:30 PM	December 4, Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent Mrs. Frances C. Harackiewicz Our Parish Family
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:15 AM 12:15 PM 5:15 PM	December 5, Second Sunday of Advent Carl Mitchell Beverly Moore—Mass at Newman Center Spanish Mass Mass at Newman Center
Monday 12:15 PM	December 6, , Saint Nicholas Prayer/Communion Service with Adoration
Tuesday, 5:15 PM	December 7, Vigil: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) Mass at Newman Center
Wednesday, 7:00 PM	December 8, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation) For the Sick
Thursday 5:15 PM	December 9, Advent Weekday Mass at Newman Center
Friday, 5:30 PM	December 10, Advent Weekday No Intention
Saturday 5:30 PM	December 11, Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent Debbie Roudybush
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:15 AM 12:15 PM 5:15 PM	December 12, Third Sunday of Advent Our Parish Family Jacob Jurinek—Mass at Newman Center Spanish Mass Mass at Newman Center



Prayer INTENTIONS

All that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours (Mark 11:24).

Newman CENTER: Please join us in prayer for Fred Marsh, Rebecca Cerven, Coleen McGrain, Brian Bruce, Mark Cornell, George and Carol Timson, Terry Silas, Antonio Henrique, Beth Koehler-King, Rowan King, Fionna Angelis, Paul Angelis, Gary Ellis, Rozella Campbell, Andra and Gary Florer, the Newman Auxiliary, the Knights of Columbus, and all in our community in need of prayer. To add a name call 529-3311.

Saint Francis XAVIER: Wednesday is designated as a Day of Prayer for the sick and hospitalized parishioners and their families. Please remember: Jim Merkle, Jeanine Maloney, Kimberly Murray, Jamie Yancy, Carmen Merod, Austin Chew, Richard Walsh, Marie Ice, Barb Grace, Tracy Hall, Sheffield Boardman, Matt Murphy, Andrezej Mietelsk, Harper Smith, John Huffman, Carolyn Huffman, Julia James, Douglas Laczynski, Audra Harrison, Howard W. Hesketh, Kay BA., Jesse Weaver, Diana Chervinko, Pat Volk, Helen McCormick, Pat Waters, Sarah Hefferman, Frank Smith, Rebecca Hernandez, Tristin Dooley, Shirley Reimbold, Marge Huffman, Steve Galt, Savy Knight, Gary Tretter, Lee Hartman, Patricia Broemmel, Marilyn Kilby, Father Joe Rascher, Bill Tolliver, Charles Lightfoot, Fr. Gary Gummersheimer, Sally Varsa, Thomas Margolis, Theresa Saporoschenko, Frances White, Michael Bracy, Cora Frazier, Steve Wunderle, Teresa Burns, Willis Rendleman, John McCarthy, Barbara Burns, Chris Wisinski, Craig Wisinski, Mary Amel, Ron Lisak, Sally Potter, B. Skelton, and all those in need of our prayers.

If you or anyone in your family is hospitalized, please let the parish office know so Father Bob can visit and administer the Anointing of the Sick.



Bible READINGS

Readings for the week of December 5, 2021

Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18



Liturgical MINISTERS

For the Weekend of December 11 & 12, 2021

Minister of the Word: Sister Barbara
Minister of Hospitality: Scott Thorne
Eucharistic Ministers: Laura Kidd, Sandy Warhausen

Sunday, 9:00 AM

Minister of the Word: Danuta DelRio
Minister of Hospitality: Jimmy Karayiannis
Eucharistic Ministers: Leeta Wilson, Julie Draper



Weekly OFFERING

**Your gifts to God and parish
Contributions for the weekend of
November 20 & 21, 2021
\$7,483.00**

**The 2021 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do... -
John 14:12**

The ministries and programs that rely on The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal ensure the healing, teaching and redemptive presence of Jesus Christ for the people of our Belleville Diocese. **Yet, their work cannot continue without YOUR help and support.** We ask for your continued prayers for the success of The Appeal and, if you are able, please consider making a gift. **No amount is too large or small and donations are accepted throughout the year.** Thank you and God bless!

Weekly EVENTS

at St. Francis Xavier

at Newman Center

Sunday	December 5	Second Sunday of Advent
9:00 am Mass (NO Babysitting in Xavier Hall) Coffee & donuts after 9 am Mass 12:15 pm Spanish Mass	11:15am Mass—Fr. Brown 5:15pm Mass—Fr. Brown	
Monday	December 6	
Office Open 9am-3pm 12:15 am—Prayer/Communion Service with one hour adoration	Office Open 9am-4pm 7:00pm RCIA	
Tuesday	December 7	
Office Open 9am-3pm	Office Open 9am-4pm 6:00am Men's Rosary 4:30 Confessions 5:15 pm Vigil: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Adoration following Mass	
Wednesday, December 8		
Office Open 9am-3pm 7:00 pm Mass—The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)	Office Open 9am-4pm NO 9:00 am Mass	
Thursday, December 9		
Office Open 9am-3pm	Office Open 9am-4pm 5:15pm Mass 6:00 pm Thursday Night Supper	
Friday, December 10		
Office Closed 5:30 pm Mass	Office Open 9am-12pm	
Saturday, December 11		
Office Closed First Reconciliation 4:30—5:00pm Confessions 5:30 pm Mass	Office Closed	
Sunday, December 12	December 12	Third Sunday of Advent
9:00 am Mass (NO Babysitting in Xavier Hall) 10 am PSR 12:15 pm Spanish Mass	11:15am Mass NO 5:15pm Mass until January 9th	



Newman

Catholic Student Center



Happenings at NEWMAN

The Newman Center is accepting applications for student housing (for both men and women) at the Red House and Grey House. There are spaces available for women in Spring 2022 and Men starting in the Fall of 2022. Rent is just \$320 and includes all utilities except internet service. For more information about the houses or to schedule a visit please email office@siucnewman.org.

SIU finals begin on December 6 and end December 10. Please pray for our students as they finish their semester and travel home.

SMT Student MINISTRY

The Student Ministry Team is taking nominations for next year's team. Terms run from January to December. Anyone can nominate a student to serve; self-nominations are accepted. Nomination forms are available in the Newman Center lobby, or email names to office@siucnewman.org.

The Student Ministry Team is the group of students in charge of leading our student ministries. Social events, small groups, liturgy, educational opportunities, retreats, social justice and service projects, student outreach, prayer, and spiritual life are all areas in which the Student Ministry Team provides important leadership and service to our student community. If you have ideas or suggestions for how to improve our college faith community, please nominate yourself to serve!



Adult CONFIRMATION

The Newman Center and St. Francis Xavier Church are looking to host a new six week program for Catholic adults who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation (but have been baptized and received Holy Communion). The program will start in January, with Confirmations taking place near the end of February. College students, parishioners, and Catholics from throughout the area are welcome to take advantage of this opportunity to become fully initiated in the sacramental life of the Church. For more information or to register please call the office at 618-529-3311 or email office@siucnewman.org. You can also call the Saint Francis Parish office at 618-457-4556.

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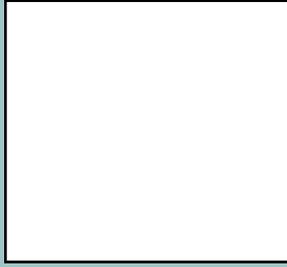
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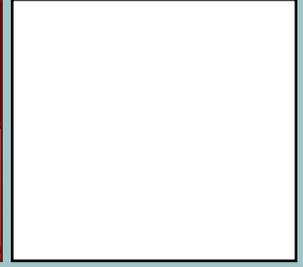
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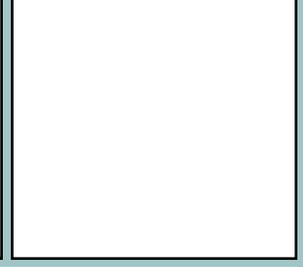
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