

# St. Francis of Assisi Newsletter

## July 2020



### NEW FLOCKNOTE PROGRAM WILL HELP ST. FRANCIS REACH MORE MEMBERS



The Diocese of Madison has recently committed to a partnership with **Flocknote**, a program that provides churches with a smarter way to text and email their members. **Flocknote** churches can reach their members in a moment's notice resulting in higher attendance, increased stewardship, and a more connected church.

St. Francis of Assisi, Belleville has embraced this opportunity and joined **Flocknote**, a powerful Catholic email and texting tool used by thousands of Catholic churches throughout the nation. **Flocknote** makes communication simpler and more convenient, and it doesn't require you to use a special app or download any software. You simply sign up via email or text. Note: In most cases, we have already signed our members up and you may have started receiving or will receive communications in the very near future. Once you have joined, you will stay connected to the parish by receiving announcements such as reminders for parish programs, events, and other information to help you grow in your faith!

**What are the benefits?** While **Flocknote** enables the priest, staff, and ministry leaders of the parish to communicate more effectively with you, it will also enable you to control whether and how you receive communication (by email, text or not at all). We will send periodic email announcements to keep you up-to-date with the latest St. Francis news. If you don't have an email, or don't want to receive emails, you can receive a link to the weekly announcement by text. Only if the parish has important, immediate or emergency announcements, will we send texts through **Flocknote**. We welcome your feedback and questions regarding this powerful tool going forward. For those who don't use text or email, it is important that we have an updated phone number for members.

### ICE CREAM TREATS to be served July 18-19



Since social distancing is still very important in our battle against the Coronavirus, St. Francis will not be holding our annual Parish Picnic. In place of a picnic, St. Francis is offering Ice Cream Treats after Masses on the weekend of July 18-19. For those who are uncomfortable being in the large setting of a Mass, a drive-thru will be set up at the outside entrance to the

church.

Volunteers will be there to offer you a selection of six different ice cream treats after the Masses that weekend either inside the church or outside as you drive through.

If the weather cooperates, the congregation can social distance outside in the parking lot while enjoying their treats.

## ST. FRANCIS OFFERS MASS BY LIVE STREAM

The 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturdays can be watched live. The video will remain on Facebook for viewing at a later time or date. To watch the Mass live, watch it on Facebook or on the church's website: [www.stfrancisbelleville.com](http://www.stfrancisbelleville.com).

Initially Father Mick was celebrating the Saturday Mass at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel. Since the State of Wisconsin is allowing larger gatherings, it was decided to move the Mass into the large worship space and go back to the 5:00 p.m. Mass time.

Craig Booth, a parish member, has been doing the recording, using equipment not owned by St. Francis. Because of the popularity of this service, St. Francis is in the process of purchasing permanent equipment.

Future liturgical events are being considered for recording. The ability to view Mass from home is appreciated and is an effort to keep our parish community together. The response has been positive and has been a great service for those concerned about being in large crowds and having to miss Mass.

During each televised Mass, Father Mick offers a prayer of spiritual Communion for those who can't attend. A survey is currently being conducted to see how many people would be interested in receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist on a drive-thru basis until members of St. Francis feel comfortable attending Mass in person again.



St. Francis is following the guidelines set by the Diocese of Madison to offer a safe environment in which to worship.

## GO MAKE DISCIPLES Evangelization Initiative in Diocese of Madison

Bishop Hying is embracing the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Diocese of Madison in the year 2021, to launch a bold, robust evangelizing initiative. When we ponder the mission of the Church, it's clear that Jesus commands us to proclaim the Gospel to every creature—to be disciples ourselves and to make disciples of others. And that is what the Church has been about for 2,000 years. There is a special urgency to that task in this present moment, when we ponder the fact that, in any diocese in our country, roughly 70% of our baptized Catholics are not at church on any given Sunday. There's a myriad of reasons for that, but the bottom-line is, we need to do something about it. The task of evangelization is to proclaim in a fresh way and with a bold impulse the good news of Jesus Christ and God's love for us. To proclaim the offer of salvation and forgiveness won for us by Jesus through his death and resurrection. To speak of Jesus as if people have never heard of him, because in many cases they really haven't, and so the Good News is both "Good" and really "New" for all people.

The Initiative began on Pentecost with the formation of a parish Evangelization Team.

PARISH DINNER	Plans will go ahead for our annual parish dinner on Sunday, October 4. Raffle prizes will again be part of this year's dinner. Your suggestions for raffle prizes are welcome. A planning meeting will take place on Monday, July 20, at 6:30 p.m.. at St. Mary of Lourdes hall.
	Drive-thru and home delivery meals will be available and other important issues will be discussed. Interested parishioners are welcome to attend or submit ideas to the parish office beforehand.

## Baptisms

*Marguerite Francene Parsons,  
daughter of  
Alicia and Michael Parsons*



## FAMILY FOOD BAGS

St. Francis of Assisi has partnered with Grace United Methodist Church, First United Church of Christ, and the Belleville School District to provide Family Food Bags for local families.

There are 30-31 families who are currently being served through this cooperative effort. Deliveries are made on Wednesday mornings..

## FOOD PANTRY

With the latest donations to the Belleville Food Pantry, St. Francis of Assisi has reached 1,000 pounds for the 12th time. Thank you for your generosity in helping those in need with nutritious items for breakfasts, lunches, and suppers.



## LUKE HOUSE

St. Francis has modified our Luke House support by providing sack lunches instead of meals prepared there.

## CANTORS NEEDED

Choir Director, Kelly Garrow, is looking for cantors for weekend Masses. If interested, contact her at 608-886-5243.





## MEMORIAL DAY MASS AT FRENCHTOWN CEMETERY



## HOW COVID-19 SPREADS (cdc.gov)

Updated June 16, 2020

COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. We are still learning about how the virus spreads and the severity of illness it causes.

**The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.**

Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about six feet).

Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.

These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms. The virus spreads easily between people.

How easily a virus spreads from person-to-person can vary. Some viruses are highly contagious, like measles, while other viruses do not spread as easily.

**The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading very easily and sustainably between people.** Information from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic suggests that this virus is spreading more efficiently than influenza, but not as efficiently as measles, which is highly contagious. In general, **the more closely a person interacts with others and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.**

The virus may be spread in other ways. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by **touching a surface or object that has the virus on it** and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about how this virus spreads.

Protect yourself and others

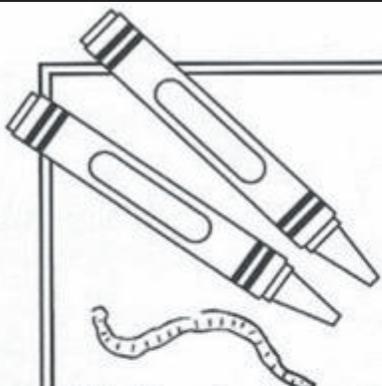
**The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.** You can take steps to slow the spread.

Maintain good social distance (about six feet). This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face covering when around others.



# Just for **KIDS**

## Bugs in the Bible

Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs!

Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible. 

*Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse.  
Circle them in the puzzle below.*

Proverbs 6:6 _____	Exodus 16:20 _____
Psalms 78:45 _____	1 Sam. 24:14 _____
Matt. 23:24 _____	Isaiah 50:9 _____
Judges 14:8 _____	Isaiah 59:5 _____
Acts 12:23 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	
Deuteronomy 7:20 _____	




M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket