



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Committed to living and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition, we are blessed to have as our patron saint someone who continues to call us to reach out to others in charity and compassion.

**Church of
St Francis of Assisi**
1114 Third Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904
507.288.7313
<http://stfrancis-church.org>

Parish Center Hours
Mon-Fri: 8AM - 4PM

Weekday Mass:
Tuesday - Friday 7AM

School Mass:
Tuesday 9:30AM

Weekend Mass:
Saturday 4:30PM
Sunday 8AM, 10AM

In Spanish:
Thursday 7PM
Sunday 12PM

Misa En Español:
Jueves 7PM
Domingo 12PM

Pastor
Rev. Jim Berning

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Luis Vargas



While he was still speaking,
a cloud came and cast a shadow over them,
and they became frightened when they entered the cloud.
Then from the cloud came a voice that said,
"This is my chosen Son; listen to him."
- Luke 9:34-35

A MESSAGE FROM FR JIM BERNING



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT. Lent takes us first into the desert to witness Jesus being tested and tempted; then, on the Second Sunday, we go up the mountain with Peter, James and John to witness the Transfiguration and its accompanying vision. This event takes us more deeply into God's unfolding plan for Jesus - and for us. This beautiful 4th Luminous Mystery of the Rosary invites all of us to get a glimpse of the glory that is our hope. "Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life's truth and beauty may be found not so much in possessing as in giving, not so much in accumulating as in sowing and sharing goodness."
- Pope Francis' Message for Lent 2022

PARISH LETTER. At the beginning of Lent 2022, you received a letter from me in your homes to invite you back and to fully participate in Holy Mass. The time is now and we need everyone. We are looking forward to seeing you at Mass in this Lenten Season as we journey to pledge our allegiance and renew ourselves in the Living God. We need your participation and we thank you for all that you are for us!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL. During this year of 2022, we celebrate 70 years of history of our school here at St. Francis of Assisi. We thank the parishioner's, priests and Sisters of St. Francis who helped begin it all here in 1952. Praise God!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL 2022. We are off to a great start! We are so grateful to the 21 parishioners that have already contributed \$5,190 towards our 2022 goal of \$49,661. Participation is the key to reaching our goal. If you have yet to make a contribution, please prayerfully consider doing so. As always, 100% of the monies reached over our goal will be returned to the parish for our designated building project: refinishing the pews. Let us reach our goal quickly - and exceed it - to help fund our own project!

BILINGUAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS. The Bilingual Stations of the Cross will be on Fridays at 6pm in the church. All are invited to attend!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION. We will have many opportunities to participate in the sacrament of Confession this Lent. Private confessions will be offered on Saturdays in the Cry Room from 3:30PM-4:15PM. This year, 24 hours for the Lord will again be held at the Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist from 4PM on Friday, March 18 to 4PM on Saturday, March 19. Our Communal Lenten Reconciliation Service with the Church of the Resurrection will be held here at St. Francis on Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30PM. Fr Luis and I are also available by appointment.

FEAST DAYS. Happy Saint Patrick's Day on March 17 and Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on March 19.

May this Lenten Season be a time of prayer and fasting for peace in our world. Prince of Peace, pray for us!

Fr. Jim C. Berning

WELCOME

Welcome to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Our church has helped to bring Jesus Christ to the city of Rochester since 1937. We seek to foster the spiritual growth of our parishioners through the celebration of the Sacraments, catechesis, community life, and personal prayer. Like our patron saint, we strive to rebuild the Church and to console the heart of Jesus by serving our neighbors in need.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Center Office

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Parochial Vicar (x 203)

Rev. Luis Vargas

Parish Administrator (x 204)

Sarah Kinsman

Office Manager (x 201)

Michelle Ibarra

Financial Secretary (x 205)

Paula Oates

Director of Music/Liturgy (x 301)

Hope Giesen

Faith Formation (x 207)

Mark Nuehring

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Principal

Andrew Poterucha

Trustees

Bruce Anderson

Rosemary Bengal

Knights of Columbus

Bruce Anderson

Calvary Cemetery

Steve Flynn, Director

(507) 273-0140

Catholic Charities

(507) 287-2047



CAMINO CUARESMA.

Durante el tiempo sagrado de la Cuaresma, son muchas las oportunidades que se nos da para crecer espiritualmente y buscar el camino de la conversión, el Tiempo de Cuaresma nos da importantes herramientas para atravesar el desierto de nuestra vida diaria, por este

motivo en nuestra Parroquia de San Francisco de Asís tenemos varias actividades importantes, los invitamos para que estemos atentos a participar.

EL VIACRUCIS. Cada viernes de cuaresma tenemos el rezo del Santo Viacrucis en nuestra Iglesia a las 6 de la tarde, es un momento de encuentro comunitario, es bilingüe, tenemos folletos del viacrucis en los dos idiomas.

RETIRO ESPIRITUAL. Hace ya mas de dos años que no hemos vuelto a tener un retiro espiritual, nuevamente se nos ofrece este gran oasis espiritual, todos los domingos estarán registrando en la zona de hospitalidad, es importante que se registren con tiempo para poder organizar la logística como por ejemplo cuanto comida necesitamos. También pueden traer a los niños, para ellos solo darán una donación voluntaria.

CONFESIONES. Tenemos varios días en los que se nos ofrece el valioso y liberador sacramento de la reconciliación, no hay nada mas saludable para el alma que andar limpios y puros de los muchos pecados que nos manchan el alma, veamos la programación para que estemos al día y podamos acercarnos al sacramento de la confesión.

SEMANA SANTA. La Semana Santa o Semana Mayor como también se le llama, es la semana mas importante de todo el año litúrgico porque en ella contemplamos de una manera mas mística el misterio de la salvación que tiene como centro La Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Todo Cristiano Católico debería estar muy atento a esta semana y participar en todas las ceremonias que nos ayuda a enfocar nuestra vida espiritual en las raíces y base de nuestra Fe.

Bendiciones para todos.

MASS INTENTIONS



For the Week of March 14, 2022

MON Mar 14		NO MASS
TUES Mar 15	7:00 AM	For Peace in Our World
	* 9:30 AM	Joan & Bernie Wehner †
WED Mar 16	7:00 AM	Eileen Harreld †
THU Mar 17	7:00 AM	Jenny Helms
	** 7:00 PM	Morales Family
FRI Mar 18	7:00 AM	Helen & Louie Sell †
SAT Mar 19	4:30 PM	Holy Souls in Purgatory
SUN Mar 20	8:00 AM	Alberta De Asis De la Cruz (103rd Birthday)
	10:00 AM	Abel Subia †
	** 12:00 PM	For the Parish

* School Mass ** Spanish Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

If you have a desire to remember someone who has passed away or simply in need of some extra prayers, Mass Intentions are available every day for our weekday Masses and on the weekends. You are welcome to stop by the Parish Office and schedule a Mass intention during normal office hours.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 13, 2022

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
 Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Next Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 [8a]/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

LAS LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA DEL 13 DE MARZO DE 2022

Domingo: Gn 15, 5-12. 17-18/Sal 26, 1. 7-8. 8-9. 13-14/Flp 3, 17—4, 1 o 3, 20—4, 1/Lc 9, 28-36
 Lunes: Dn 9, 4-10/Sal 78, 8. 9. 11 y 13/Lc 6, 36-38
 Martes: Is 1, 10. 16-20/Sal 49, 8-9. 16-17. 21 y 23/Mt 23, 1-12
 Miércoles: Jr 18, 18-20/Sal 30, 5-6. 14. 15-16/Mt 20, 17-28
 Jueves: Jr 17, 5-10/Sal 1, 1-2. 3. 4 y 6/Lc 16, 19-31
 Viernes: Gn 37, 3-4. 12-13. 17-28/Sal 104, 16-17. 18-19. 20-21/Mt 21, 33-43. 45-46
 Sábado: 2 Sm 7, 4-5. 12-14. 16/Sal 88, 2-3. 4-5. 27 y 29/Rom 4, 13. 16-18. 22/Mt 1, 16. 18-21. 24 o Lc 2, 41-51
 Domingo siguiente: Ex 3, 1-8. 13-15/Sal 102, 1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8. 11 [8]/1 Co 10, 1-6. 10-12/Lc 13, 1-9

CATHOLIC EDUCATION



THE NEST PRESCHOOL AT RCS IS EXPANDING IN 2022-2023! The Nest preschool at Rochester Catholic Schools is growing and will feature expanded offerings including programs at all five of our convenient RCS locations for the fall of 2022. New offerings

include an all-day Pre-Kindergarten (Age 4) program at our St. Francis of Assisi and Lourdes High School campuses. In addition, we have added a Preschool (Age 3) classroom at the Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Middle School, and opened an Early Preschool (Age 2) program at Holy Spirit Catholic School! Our classrooms are filling - learn more and register today by visiting rcsmn.org/thenest

IHM SEMINARY: COME AND SEE. Men from our parish are invited to come for a fun, informational, and prayerful weekend at IHM Seminary. There will be two weekends for men to visit the seminary this spring: March 12-14 & March 19-21. The target age is high school, but older men are welcome. Contact Fr. Jason Kern at jkern@dowr.org to register.

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY: THE VALUE OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION. Catholic education solidifies a student's character and ethical framework for life as well as their personal relationship with and love for Christ. At St. Mary's University of Minnesota, the state's Lasallian Catholic university, each student receives an education that nourishes their intellect, body, and spirit and offers an incomparable community with committed faculty who seek to have each student thrive. Saint Mary's is recognized as a 2021-22 Catholic College of Distinction. It was also ranked as Minnesota's 'Best Value' by U.S. News & World Report, 2022. For parents and students planning their college search, consider visiting St Mary's University in our diocese. Learn more about St Mary's at: smunmn.edu/admission/undergraduate



MASS OF ANOINTING FOR THE ELDERLY AND SICK.

There will be a Mass of Anointing for the Elderly and Sick on Wednesday, March 30 at 10:30AM at the Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. Mass will be followed by Fellowship and Treats.

2022 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL



2022 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL PRAYER.

"Heavenly Father, may we become Your disciples through our support of the 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal. We thank you, Lord, for the many blessings of our lives. We cherish the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that each member of our universal Church family makes to build up Christ's Church in love. We ask you, Lord, to send us forth in this

spirit of love to serve our communities and our world with open hearts. Amen. "

Please give generously to this year's Appeal. **To give online, visit www.catholicfsmn.org**

Easter Flowers

If you would like to donate Easter flowers or decorations for our church, either as a gift or in memory of a loved one, please complete and return this form with your donation either in the collection or to the Parish Center. Thank you!

Your Name: _____

In Honor of/Memory of: _____



WELCOME BASKETS. The Jeremiah House, a home for single mothers, tries to provide every new mom a "welcome basket" when they arrive to help them furnish their new apartment. Saint Francis is hoping to create 10 complete Welcome Baskets during Lent. Please consider donating one or more items on this list? (We are halfway through our 4th basket, already.)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Bath Towel Set (2) | 2. Bedding for Single Bed |
| 3. Pots/Pan Set | 4. Corelle Ware Set for 4 |
| 5. Foldable Wagon | 6. Silverware Set for 4 |
| 7. Cooking Utensil Set | 8. Bedspread (Single Bed) |
| 9. Pops | 10. Large laundry basket |

RCIA. RCIA is the process for how adults who wish to become Catholic enter the Church. In the last two weeks, three adults; Sam, Kayla, and Eva have joined a new group to explore, study and pray about becoming Catholic. Please say a prayer for them as they really begin this journey.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION. St. Francis is hosting Bishop John Quinn on Friday, April 29th to anoint our 15 Confirmation students with the Seal of the Holy Spirit. We will also be welcoming 5 St. Pius Confirmandi and their families. It should be a beautiful celebration. Please feel free to join us.

FORMED. The Diocese of Winona-Rochester has provided our parish with a FREE subscription to FORMED. Take some time this week to visit <https://formed.org> (select St Francis parish) and see how valuable it could be to your Lenten journey!

- Mark (youthminister@stfrancis-church.org)



The St Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus Council 14170 meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7-8PM in the St Clare Room in the basement of the church. We invite all men of the parish to join us to find out more about the Knights of Columbus and about the men who belong to Council 14170.

Questions? Please contact Bruce Anderson via email (branderson781983@gmail.com) or phone (507-358-5478). We look forward to seeing you!

OUR CHOIR WILL BE STARTING ONCE AGAIN! Cantors and Choir Members needed! We are excited to announce that our Church Choir will be starting once again! St. Augustine said that when we sing, we pray twice. If you are a singer and are interested in sharing your gift by singing in the choir at St. Francis, please join us as we start up our choir for Palm Sunday and Holy Week liturgies.

"The Church needs musicians. How many sacred works have been composed through the centuries by people deeply imbued with the sense of the mystery! The faith of countless believers has been nourished by melodies flowing from the hearts of other believers, either introduced into the liturgy or used as an aid to dignified worship. In song, faith is experienced as vibrant joy, love, and confident expectation of the saving intervention of God." - Pope Saint John Paul II

May all our voices join together to proclaim the goodness of the Lord!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 12/13:

	Reader	Hospitality Minister	Minister of Holy Communion
Saturday, 4:30 PM	Robin Erickson	John Sibley Natalie Norris	Beth Lamsam
Sunday, 8:00 AM	Tim Lawler	Tim Macken Sue Macken	Gwen Cameron
Sunday, 10:00 AM	Sarah O'Brien	Becky Cleveland Bill Cleveland	Sherri Kirk

- Hope (liffranc@stfrancis-church.org)



Due to attrition and especially COVID, we are presently in very great need of additional Ministers of Holy Communion, Hospitality Ministers and Readers.

If you can share your time with the parish community, please contact the Parish Center Office at 288-7313. Everyone Confirmation age and older is asked to prayerfully consider this request. Training provided. We try to schedule per your request and no more than twice a month. Thank you!



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL: ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CONFERENCE. Our St Francis of Assisi Society of St Vincent de Paul Conference would like to let our parish know the support provided to families in need.

During the most recent year, our conference assisted over 200 families and almost 600 family members with financial assistance of approximately \$71,000. This financial assistance was comprised primarily of housing assistance (\$31,000), a program to provide mattresses to families in need (\$26,000), utilities (\$6,300), transportation/car repairs (\$1,200) and food (\$1,100). In many cases, the assistance we provided prevented eviction or utility cutoffs.

The mattress program was made possible by a bequest made by a deceased parishioner in a prior year. We could not provide this ministry without the parish support including the financial support from parishioners, members and memorials of \$30,000. Our total revenue of \$41,000 included a \$6,100 grant from Catholic Charities, Olmsted County and the Knights of Columbus and the Walk for the Poor fundraiser of \$5,400.

Our conference works very closely with other parish ministries serving those in need including the Social Concerns Committee, Neighbors in Need envelope program, Resource Room, the Sunday Lunch program and the Angel Advent Tree. Our parish can be proud of the social ministry provided by the parish. Thank you for your support and prayers. Financial support may be provided by contributing to the Neighbors in Need envelope or by sending a contribution to the parish with a designation for the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Interested in participating in SVDP? Our parish conference meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 6:30PM in the Parish Center Conference Room. It includes discussion of our spiritual development and how we can assist our community members in need. Many of our members have commented that their initial involvement was to answer a call to help the poor but that they have stayed involved because of the spiritual development and friendships formed with other Vincenians.

Questions? Please contact Dave Oeth, the current conference president, at 259 3170. Thank you!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul,
St. Francis of Assisi Conference

THE GREATER CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



#MERCYINMOTION CAMPAIGN. Inspired by this "little way," Catholic Charities is inviting you to join us in our 2nd Annual #MercyInMotion Campaign. Like last year, we will focus on one of the Corporal Works of Mercy each week, offering concrete ways in which you can take up the Lenten call to Pray, Fast, and Give alms. This year, we will also be offering Zoom small groups so that you can share your Lenten journey with others. To join, email Isaac Landsteiner (ilandsteiner@ccsommn.org). Check your parish bulletin, or our Facebook page (Catholic Charities of Southern Minnesota), for weekly updates. To learn more, visit www.ccsommn.org/mercyinmotion

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (Jn 4:13-14). This week, answer Christ's call to Give Drink to the Thirsty by 1) Using Lectio Divina to pray with the story of the Woman at the Well; 2) Drinking only water for a day (no other beverages) or making a conscious effort to conserve water when you shower or brush your teeth; 3) Giving the gift of water by supporting the work of Catholic Relief Services in digging wells in other countries. For more ideas, please visit www.ccsommn.org/mercyinmotion



PARISH LENTEN OPPORTUNITY.

During Lent the Church invites us to participate in three traditional practices – prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The Resource ROOM is dedicated to providing love, hope and a new beginning for persons in need. We invite you to give to our neighbors in one of two ways. Either purchase an

item from the list below for the Resource Room or make out a check to Neighbors in Need and place it in the collection basket. Thank you for your incredible generosity!

Silverware	Frying Pans	Crockpots
Toasters	Paper Towels	Dish Soap
Laundry Soap	Toilet Paper	Hand/bar Soap
Toothbrushes	Toothpaste*	Shampoo*
Conditioner*	Deodorant*	Cleaning Supplies
Sheets (Queen)	Blankets (Queen)	

* Full-Size



FAMILY CONNECTION.

In today's Gospel, the voice from heaven speaks to the disciples saying, "Listen to him." The Transfiguration was a focused moment for the disciples when they heard God speaking to them and experienced Jesus in glory. They most certainly left this focused moment with a new appreciation for the

importance of Jesus' words even if they did not yet understand everything that he had taught them. During Lent, we are invited to consider our attentiveness to Jesus and to one another. In the pace and noise that often characterizes family life, how well do we listen to one another? What opportunities do we have for quiet prayer?

As you gather as a family, count the number of pieces of equipment in your home that produce sound: televisions, radios, CD players, computers, video games, etc. Observe if sometimes more than one piece of equipment is playing simultaneously and how this might affect communication. Discuss the question: What is it like to try to talk with one another when this equipment is on?

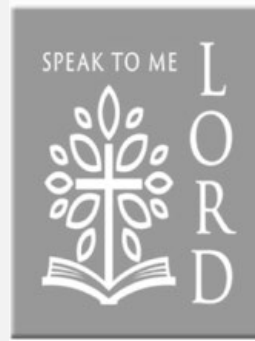
Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 9:28-36. Consider whether the noise and pace of your family life allows family members opportunities for quiet prayer. During Lent, it may be appropriate for your family to choose a time for quiet in the household by turning off televisions, radios, and CD players. Consider whether your family would like to establish such a time during this Season of Lent and suggest that it might allow you the opportunity to listen more attentively to one another and to find time for quiet prayer. Spend a few such moments as a family, asking God to help you listen well to one another and to Jesus.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>

(cont., from right)

Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>



On the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus' Transfiguration. On the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel always tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday, we always hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The report of Jesus' Transfiguration is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The context for Luke's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew and Mark. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his Passion. After the prediction there is a discussion of the cost of discipleship in each of these Gospels. The placement of the Transfiguration story close to Peter's confession and Jesus' prediction encourages us to examine the Transfiguration in the larger context of the Paschal Mystery.

The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples - Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel. We recently heard this Gospel at Mass, on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death. As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, there is reference to conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus' later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as his exodus, connecting Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

On witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus "master" instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. (cont., at left)

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