

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

7075 ASHWORTH ROAD | WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266  
PHONE 515-223-4577 | FAX 515-223-4768 | [www.saintfrancischurch.org](http://www.saintfrancischurch.org)

*We, the parish family of St. Francis of Assisi, are a Catholic, Christian community striving to live the mission of Jesus Christ. As partners in faith, we witness our love of God through liturgy, social outreach and life-long faith formation. We embrace the spirituality of St. Francis, challenging us to be instruments of peace and love.*

## JANUARY 9, 2022 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.  
Lk 3:21-22a

### MASS TIMES

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am  
Youth Mass: 4:30 pm | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. of month

#### Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday: 7:15 am  
Tuesday: Noon

#### Reconciliation

Wednesday: Noon-1 pm  
Saturday: 8:30-9:30 am  
*Or by appointment*

#### Adoration

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. each month: 8 am-8 pm  
Adoration w/ Benediction: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. at 8 pm

#### Rosary

Monday - Friday at 6:30 am  
Monday at 7 pm in Assisi Room

### OUR CLERGY

**Fr. Ray McHenry**  
*Pastor | Ext. 109*

**Fr. John Kwaku Brobbey**  
*Associate Pastor | Ext. 107*

**Deacon Bill Richer**  
*Pastoral Associate | Ext. 110*

### CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

Facebook: @sfawdm | @stfrancisassisischool  
Instagram: @sfawdm | @sfawdmschool  
Twitter: @sfawdm | @SFASchool\_WDM  
YouTube

# THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### SFA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Ph: 515-457-7167  
[www.sfawdm.org](http://www.sfawdm.org)

## PARISH OFFICE INFORMATION

### Parish Contacts

Parish Office.....	515-223-4577
Parish Fax.....	515-223-4768
St. Francis School .....	515-457-7167
Pre-School.....	515-223-4577, Ext. 116
Faith Formation Office.....	515-440-1030

### Parish Staff

Director of Operations.....	Paula Courter
Director of Liturgy & Music .....	Emily Schmid
Parish Receptionist.....	Sue Kirkhart
Executive Assistant.....	Sheila Timmerman
Communications Coordinator.....	(vacant)
Accountant (incl. ACH, Abundant & tithing).....	Debbie Muse
Bookkeeper (incl. ACH, Abundant & tithing) .....	Pam Danzer
HR Coord. (incl. IRA, matching gifts & stocks)....	Monica Lihs
Director of Facilities & Maintenance .....	Mario Lastro
Director of Faith Formation .....	Lisa Schmidt
Director of Adult Faith Formation .....	Vivian Day
Faith Formation Administrative Assistant.....	Heather Rohe
Youth Ministry Coordinator .....	Deacon Bill Richer
Early Childhood Faith Formation Coord. ....	(vacant)
Family Faith Formation Coordinator .....	Erica Schieffer
Special Needs Coordinator .....	Amy Tallman
St. Francis Pre-School Director.....	Heather Gunson
Kids Care Director .....	Connor Dooley
St. Francis School Principal.....	Jon Aldrich
St. Francis School Assistant Principal...Gretchen	Watznauer
IT Support .....	Diane Nitzel
IT Support .....	Dominic Muse

### Parish Representatives

Pastoral Council.....	Rob Manning
Finance Council .....	Mike Brinker
Board of Education .....	Jeremy Masterson
Faith Formation Council .....	Nicole Saegh

Parish Office hours: 8 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.

## MASS INTENTIONS

1-08	Sat.	4:30 p.m.	† Dick & Kathleen McKeen
1-09	Sun.	7:30 a.m.	† Madilynn Manning
		9:30 a.m.	† Ray Essick
		11:30 a.m.	For the parishioners of the parish
1-10	Mon.	7:15 a.m.	† Madilynn Manning
1-11	Tues.	7:15 a.m.	† Rudy Guara
		Noon	† Vavroch & Weiler deceased family members
1-12	Wed.	7:15 a.m.	† Jerry Kennebeck
		8:45 a.m.	William Augspurger
1-13	Thur.	7:15 a.m.	† Dorothy McClure
1-14	Fri.	7:15 a.m.	† Joseph Sciorrotta
1-15	Sat.	4:30 p.m.	† Jerome Boge
1-16	Sun.	7:30 a.m.	For the parishioners of the parish
		9:30 a.m.	† William & Dorothy Stolzman
		11:30 a.m.	† Grace Mauro

## SACRAMENTS AT ST. FRANCIS

### Baptism

Congratulations on preparing to be baptized into the community of the Church! Baptisms are scheduled on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass & the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. For more info, please call the Parish Office. The next baptism class will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.

### Becoming Catholic

If you or someone you know is thinking about joining the Catholic Church or is inquiring about the faith, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

### First Communion

First Communion is celebrated in April. For more information, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

### Confirmation

Confirmation is celebrated once a year for our high school sophomore students. If you have a student who'd like to be part of this, contact Lisa Schmidt at Ext. 156. For info regarding Adult Confirmation, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

### Marriage

Congratulations on your engagement! We look forward to helping you prepare for life together. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

### Homebound Ministry

If you're unable to attend Mass & would like to receive communion, please email [homebound@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:homebound@saintfrancischurch.org).

### Hospital Visits

As hospital visits start to reopen during COVID-19, Fr. John

## REMEMBERING OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please pray for those individuals who have passed away as well as their families.

Tim Caton

Joseph "Joe" Burns

*Give them eternal rest, O Lord, and let them share in your unending glory.*

## LIVING OUR FAITH CALENDAR

### **Saturday, January 8**

7:30 a.m.: Men's Faith Sharing  
8:30 a.m.: GriefShare

### **Sunday, January 9**

12 Noon: Days for Girls  
6:30 p.m.: Men's Bible Study

### **Monday, January 10**

6 a.m.: Adoration/Rosary  
7 p.m.: Rosary  
6 p.m.: Pre-K Info Night  
7 p.m.: Kindergarten Info Night

### **Tuesday, January 11**

6 a.m.: Adoration/Rosary  
6 p.m. Pre-K & KN Parent Advisory Mtg.  
6:30 p.m.: KC Council Mtg.  
7 p.m.: SFA Young Adults  
8 p.m.: Men's Faith Sharing

### **Wednesday, January 12**

6 a.m.: Adoration/Rosary  
9:45 a.m.: Mark Study  
5:30 p.m.: EDGE  
7:30 p.m.: FISH

### **Thursday, January 13**

6 a.m.: Adoration/Rosary  
6 p.m.: Board of Educ. Mtg.  
7 p.m.: Theology of the Body

### **Friday, January 14**

6 a.m.: Adoration/Rosary  
7 a.m.: School Chess Club

### **Saturday, January 15**

7:30 a.m.: Men's Faith Sharing

### **Sunday, January 16**

Coffee & Donuts  
4:30 p.m.: Youth Mass

## FROM FR. RAY

**Welcome parishioners, newcomers and to those visiting!**

Happy New Year! The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus; the god with two faces, one looking forward and one looking backwards. Isn't this what we do in January? We look back on the year just past sometimes with nostalgia reliving the good things and sometimes with relief that we made it through the year. We also look forward to the coming year with anticipation and hope.

Pope Francis in his urbi et orbi address at the beginning of the New Year, said, "Let us place ourselves under the protection of this Mary the Mother of God, who is also our mother. May she help us to keep and ponder all things, unafraid of trials and with the joyful certainty that the Lord is faithful and can transform every cross into a resurrection."

**Parish Solidarity Fund:** Bishop William Joensen invites us to help a sister parish, St. Mary of Hamburg, that needs a religious education center for its youth. The diocese has established the Parish Solidarity Fund so that parishes may assist each other in a time of need. We will take up a second collection the weekend of January 15/16 to assist St. Mary's in Hamburg. Go directly to [dmdiocese.org/giving](http://dmdiocese.org/giving) to make your contribution today.

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This feast brings the Christmas season to a close. On Monday we begin Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time continues until March 1. On Wednesday March 2 we will begin the season of Lent. As we celebrate Jesus' baptism and how it sent Him into ministry let us contemplate our baptisms and the mission and ministry it called us into.

"And the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Luke 3:22

**Fr. Ray McHenry**



## WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS!

**Thank you for joining us at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church! We're glad to have you as part of our family.**

We offer various possibilities to grow in faith and love, from education, faith and social ministries, local and international outreach, to celebrating the word of God.

For more information regarding membership and new member activities, please contact the Parish Office. Stop by the Parish Office to pick up a parish registration card or register online!

If renting our Parish Hall, please contact Paula Courter at [PCourter@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:PCourter@saintfrancischurch.org). Requests for reserving meeting rooms for parish-sponsored campus events should be sent to Sheila Timmerman at [STimmerman@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:STimmerman@saintfrancischurch.org).

As always, make sure to check out our website at [www.saintfrancischurch.org](http://www.saintfrancischurch.org) for a wealth of information to assist you.



## ST. FRANCIS COMMUNICATIONS

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE BULLETIN

Subscribe to receive email notifications once new bulletins become available online.

- On the homepage of our website, scroll down and click on "View Bulletins" (next to Upcoming Events).
- Once you click "View Bulletins", click on "Subscribe" for St. Francis' bulletins and enter your email address.

### LIVESTREAMING MASS

Livestreaming at 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. (ASL interpreted.)

Go to: [Youtube.com/StFrancisofAssisiCatholicChurchWDM](https://www.youtube.com/StFrancisofAssisiCatholicChurchWDM) or [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and enter SFAWDM in the search box.

## LITURGY AND MUSIC

**St. Francis needs** Mass Coordinators, Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Projection Assistants, and Musicians **to help with our liturgies for all Masses**

Please contact Emily Schmid in the Parish Office if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

## WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR NEWS

**Have something you need announced in the bulletin?**

Send an email to [Communications@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:Communications@saintfrancischurch.org).

**Upcoming deadlines (by 9 a.m.) are as follows:**

January 16<sup>th</sup> bulletin: January 10<sup>th</sup>

January 23<sup>th</sup> bulletin: January 17<sup>th</sup>

**\*Check out the communications page on our website** for all the ways we can share your news & how to submit info. <https://saintfrancischurch.org/our-parish/communications/>

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

### Thank you for remembering your loved ones by purchasing a white Christmas poinsettia.

Judy Ackerman, in thanksgiving of The Angelo Provenza Family  
Jay & Lisa Altringer, in honor of our Beloved Grandparents  
Annette Bair, in memory of The Farao Family  
Jeffrey & Pamela Baker, in memory of June Rizzuti  
Rose Bonanno, in memory of The Rivera Family  
Lam Bui, in memory of Huynh Ngoc Dung & Huynh Van Hai  
Diane Carr, in memory of Joe Carr  
David & Helen Coppinger, in memory of The Coppinger and Ascherl Families  
Carol Corrigan, in memory of Jim Corrigan  
Joseph & Christine DeAngelis, in memory of Vincent DeAngelis  
Dolores Denner, in memory of Dr. Francis J. Denner  
Thomas & Mary Diemer, in honor of Brandon & Lonnie Logan  
John & Carolyn Dorrian, in memory of David Dorrian  
Connie Guara, in memory of Rudy Guara  
Dixie Harmeyer-Knowles, in memory of John Harmeyer  
Amy & Lawrence Hemphill, in memory of Tom Zaputil  
Vern Henkenius, in memory of Kathie Henkenius, Dr. Jim & Virginia Tierney, and Louis & Louise Henkenius  
Jon & Suzanne Hughes, in memory of Tim Hughes  
John & Carol Eubank, in memory of Leon & Harriet Maiers  
Patrick & Patricia Fraizer, in memory of Nick Fraizer  
Royce Hall, in memory of John Hall  
Linda Heinrich, in memory of The Heinrich Family  
Alan & Debbie Hummel, in memory of Donald & Donna Hrubes  
Kathy Kahoun, in memory of Frank & Helen Kahoun  
Mary & Tom Klein, in memory of Melvin & Jeanette Koch  
Mike & Jessica Krogman, in memory of Charlotte Thielen  
Patrick & Deanna Kueter, in memory of our grandparents  
Ginger Kuhn, in memory of Phil Kuhn  
John Loughry, in memory of Laura Loughry  
Jean Lynch, in memory of Ray Lynch  
John & Sharon Mullarkey, in memory of Vince Mullarkey and Orval & Arlene Evans  
Gerald & Mary Otten, in memory of Lisa Otten  
Johnathan Price, in memory of Nick Price  
Pat Rice, in memory of Austin Rice, Sr.  
Larry & Sofia Richards, in memory of Claude & Esther Richards and Michael & Anna Graziano  
Francis & Eileen Paulus, in memory of The Paulus & Imholte Families  
Regina Serio, in memory of Robert Serio and John & Beverly Prosuiewski  
Don & Lori Lyons, in memory of Lynne Rihner  
Stephen & Sharon Marlow, in memory of Myron & Bernice Naber, John & Delores Marlow, and Joyce Naber  
Brock & Jennifer Norton, in memory of David & Laura Klein, Thomas Lensing, Dale & Nadine Perry, and Earl Norton  
Carol Richmond, in memory of Bill Morphe, Ron Richmond & Chip Keeler  
Brian & Teri Reiff, in memory of Ronald & Judie Reiff  
James & Nancy Sandor, in memory of Louis Wellinghoff  
Amado & Susan Siasoco, in memory of Alita Siasoco

Cont'd

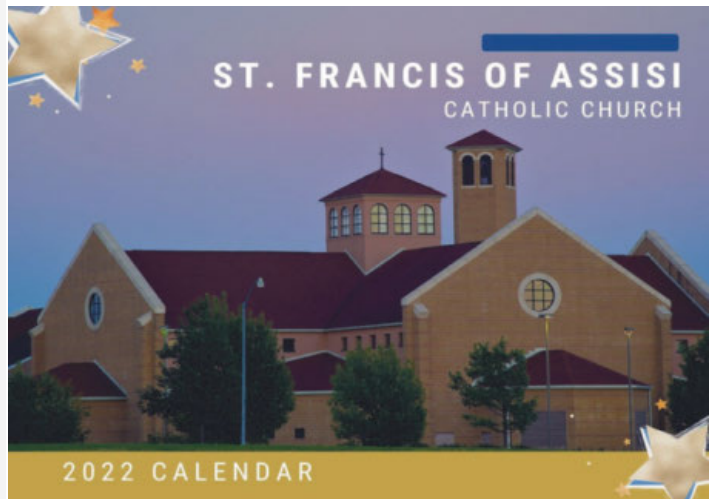
Steve & Debbie Smith, in memory of Clyde & Mary Zaun & Bob Smith, Sr.

Mary Fran Stauter, in memory of Louis Stauter  
Lois Voyna, in memory of Donald & Marie Sebastian  
Arleene Wajda, in memory of Robert J. Wajda  
Gloria Ward, in memory of Dave & Morey Ward  
James & Laura Wenman, in memory of Charles Carman  
James & Laura Wenman, in memory of Jim & Ginny Wenman  
Wilmot & Padmini Wijeratne, in memory of our loved ones.  
Tracey Wilson, in memory of Howard London, Bill Cone, and Deacon Michael Puscas

## SFA 2022 CALENDARS

### 2022 SFA parish calendars are now available.

There is a limited supply in the Gathering Space. If you would like to make a freewill donation, you can place it in the mailbox in the Gathering Space.



## ST. FRANCIS PARISH EMPLOYMENT

St. Francis of Assisi is seeking an individual to fill the following full-time position:

### Youth Ministry Coordinator.

St. Francis of Assisi is seeking a full-time Youth Ministry Coordinator. This position provides vision and coordination for SFA's efforts in ministry to youth (7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades). This includes FISH/EDGE weekly sessions, monthly activities, catechesis, service opportunities, and coordination of Confirmation sacramental preparation. The start date is flexible, with the goal of having an employee fully on-board by July 1, 2022.

### Please submit your resume and cover letter to:

Human Resources Coordinator  
7075 Ashworth Road  
West Des Moines, IA 50266.

Or by email to:

[communications@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:communications@saintfrancischurch.org)

**Come serve in ministry with us!**

An introduction to the

# THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life

Thursdays, Jan 13–Mar 10  
7–8:30 p.m. in Serra Room  
Suggested donation of \$25  
Register on the Parish Website

WWW.SAINTFRANCISCHURCH.ORG /  
FORMATION/ADULT-FAITH-FORMATION /

## The Theology of the Body: Discovering the Master Plan for Your Life

Have your children or friends ever left you stumbling when they asked you about premarital sex, pornography, contraception, LGBTQ+ rights, abortion, gender equality and identity, or substance abuse? These are heavy topics in the midst of a world with so many voices telling us what to believe about our bodies. Through the Theology of the Body, St. Pope John Paul II offers a loving lens to view the world with great mercy, healing, and hope for the future.

The Theology of the Body seeks to answer two basic questions:

1. *What does it mean to be made human, male and female, in the image and likeness of God?*
2. *How can I live my life in a way that brings happiness and fulfillment?*

Join this 9-week study to dive deeper into the overwhelming love of Jesus.

- **When:** Thursdays, Jan 13-Mar 10, 7-8:30 PM, (1st night 7-9pm)
- **Location:** Serra Room
- **Cost:** Suggested donation of \$25 for materials & facilitator expenses. Can be paid at first session via cash or check made out to SFA Faith Formation.

**Register:** <http://saintfrancischurch.org/formation/adult-faith-formation/> or use the QR code below:



## MASKS ENCOURAGED

The Diocese continues to strongly encourage masks.



In light of our increasing number of hospitalizations and COVID cases, this is a friendly reminder that the Diocese continues to strongly encourage masks at all indoor liturgies and other events, especially for those who are unvaccinated and without natural immunity, as a small sacrifice that can assist our health care professionals and help all members of our community feel comfortable worshipping together. Thank you.

## THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Many thanks to the Arts & Environment Team for beautifying the church this Christmas!

Tim Meyer, Randy Jenson, Molly Myers, William & Barbara Unger, Luke Meyer, Lindsay Struecker, Norma Doenecke, MJ Meister, Chris Van Kirk, Charlie Flippen, Mario Lastro, Milan Leka and Emily Schmid.

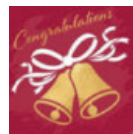
## PRAYER REQUESTS

### ST. FRANCIS PARISH PRAYER CHAIN

Our prayer chain involves dozens of people praying for the needs of others. If you would like to become a prayer warrior or by committing yourself to develop and sustain not only our own personal prayer lives, but to bear the burdens of members of our parish community and beyond through intercessory prayer. If you would like to submit a prayer request to our prayer chain or be a prayer warrior please contact Sheila Timmerman.

**Email:** [prayerchain@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:prayerchain@saintfrancischurch.org). Please indicate if you would like your name linked to the prayer request.

## WEDDING MUSIC INFO MEETING



### Congratulations on your upcoming wedding at St. Francis!

It is required that all couples getting married at St. Francis must meet with Emily Schmid, the Director of Liturgy and Music. Wedding music informational meetings will be offered every other month at St. Francis. Attending this meeting will fulfill the requirement to meet. **The next information meeting is Sunday, January 9, at noon via Zoom.** If you are able, please consider attending this meeting. Future informational meeting dates include March 13, May 8, and July 10, 2022.

Please RSVP to [eschmid@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:eschmid@saintfrancischurch.org) if you plan to attend one of these dates.

## Baptism of the Lord

**CHRISTMAS TIME** comes to its close when we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, an event recorded in all four Gospels. To begin his public ministry, Jesus presented himself to be baptized by John the Baptist, and God manifested Jesus as the Divine Son.

Because we associate baptism with the forgiveness of sins, the idea that the sinless Jesus would undergo baptism seems out of place. The evangelists must have thought the same; as a whole, they downplay the incident. But the baptism of Jesus had nothing to do with forgiveness; it had everything to do with manifestation. It was a new beginning because it publicly revealed Jesus' identity, and that testimony came not from just any witness but from God.

Three incidents in the Bible are traditionally called the "epiphany" events or the "manifestations" of Jesus, newly arrived on the biblical scene: the visit of the Magi, the baptism, and the miracle at the wedding in Cana. Prior to 1969, we heard all three of these Scriptures in successive weeks: January 6, January 13, and on the following Sunday. All three stories form a unit because they progressively reveal the identity, the authority, and the power of Jesus.

In today's liturgical calendar, the Sunday readings spread over a three-year cycle. On the Baptism of the Lord, we hear a different evangelist's account each year. Only in year C does the following Sunday feature the Gospel of the Wedding Feast at Cana to unify the three celebrations.

In the United States, we celebrate Epiphany on a Sunday. But in countries where the Epiphany is a holyday of obligation, it is celebrated on January 6. In the United States, the Baptism of the Lord is usually the Sunday after the Epiphany, but if Epiphany comes late, falling on January 6 or 7, the Baptism of the Lord goes to the next day, January 7 or 8, a Monday, in order to make room for the weeks of Ordinary Time.

*Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year* © 2020  
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Written by Paul Turner.

## SUNSATIONAL SENIORS

Mark your calendars for **January 20, 2022 from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 pm in the Serra Room**. We will be offering red and white chili and crackers. As always, we would appreciate your contributions to the meal. To ensure variety, seniors with last names beginning with letters A - C please bring cornbread, garlic bread, breadsticks or cinnamon rolls, D - G desserts, and H - Z hot dishes or salads. We look forward to seeing you for some good food, fun, and fellowship. See you then!



## SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY CHECK

Grand Knight Ryan Johnson presented a check on behalf of Council 12422 to Fr. Ray McHenry from St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. The donation of \$2,021.31 is a portion of the annual CPID fundraiser and will go toward the Special Needs Ministry. Special thanks to Hy-Vee for letting us accept donations. Also pictured are Hy-Vee Store Director Jason Sheridan and employee Katie Ball.



## SURVEY FROM THE DIOCESE

### The Bishop would like to hear from us.

Bishop William Joensen invites us to take part in a brief survey that will assist our visioning process for the Diocese of Des Moines. We want to hear of your joys and disappointments, your hopes and priorities for our diocesan future. To complete the survey in English, go here: <https://forms.gle/1mp721t5b8TFcAid8>.

En espanol: <https://forms.gle/nnPzXFtVJcs4oTXj6>. The Bishop also invites us to pray that God will grace us with clear vision of His will for the way forward.

English QR Code



Spanish QR Code



## ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Your contribution to the Annual Diocesan Appeal makes an impact!

A big "Thank You" to everyone who continues to make gifts to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Each and every person's gift is important. Remember, when we reach our parish goal, any additional gifts stay right here for our own use.

**Every gift matters. No gift is too small!**

We're slowly moving closer to our goal! Help us get there!

**\*\*Our 2021 Parish Goal is \$399,532.**

**\*\*To date, we have pledged or paid \$363,240(90%)!**

**We need everyone's participation in order to reach our goal.**

Make an online gift today.

Gifts can be made online at [dmdiocese.org/giving](http://dmdiocese.org/giving). (Be sure to select SFA as your parish.)

Thank you for your generosity and your support of the Annual Diocesan Appeal.



## ABUNDANT GIVING

**Now there are even more ways to support all the great things happening at St. Francis!**

For the last two years, we've used the online application Abundant Giving to give you an additional way to tithe. We've now added additional categories, including School, Faith Formation, our Campus Project Wish List, and Annual Diocesan Appeal.

Go to our website and click on Our Parish/Tithing & Donations or go directly to <https://abundant.co/stfrancisofassisi/give> to see all of the ways you can support St. Francis.

## PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

**Would you like to learn more about praying the rosary in a non-intimidating atmosphere?**

All are welcome to join the Rosary group on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Assisi Room at St. Francis. It is a most powerful prayer opportunity which lasts about 45 minutes.

Please join us!



## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

A big "Thank You" to one of this month's featured St. Francis advertisers:

**\* TD Interiors & Exteriors\***

*Please consider reciprocating our advertisers' generosity by supporting their business.*

### Grow Your Business!

We are always looking for businesses that would like to expand their reach locally by advertising in the St. Francis weekly bulletin. You will be able to build your business and help grow a vibrant faith community at your parish at the same time. As an advertiser, you can count on support from the parish leadership and parishioners. Your business will be seen as a trusted resource in the community.

The St. Francis bulletin serves as the primary publication tool to the parishioners each week. The cost covers the cost of the bulletin and even serves as a fundraiser for the parish once the bulletin has been paid for.



If you are interested in advertising, please call our bulletin provider at 1-800-950-9952.

## RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

**The Respect Life Committee would like to extend a huge thank you** for your participation in the InnerVisions Baby Bottle Campaign! The final tally is in and SFA parishioners donated over \$3,404 for InnerVisions HealthCare! This will go a long way in helping the women and babies who are served by the compassionate medical staff at InnerVisions HealthCare on a daily basis. God bless you and your generosity!

(If you have old bottles or envelopes, feel free to bring them directly to InnerVisions West or South.)

## FORMED. CATHOLIC CONTENT

### FORMED RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations are based on the Catholic liturgical year, saints and feast days.

**Program** – FORMED Now! The Baptism of the Lord

**Movie** – Trappist

**Audio** – Defying Gravity by Joe Sikorra

**Books** – Sacraments in Scripture by Dr. Tim Gray

**Kid's Choice** -- Born into the Kingdom: The Miracle of Baptism

Details on our website by clicking on Formation/FORMED.



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

## FAITH FORMATION HAPPENINGS

### Family Formation

- January 19: Catechist Meeting | 7-8:30 | Serra Room
- January 22/23: First Reconciliation Retreat
- January 26/29: Sacrament of First Reconciliation

### Youth Ministry

- January 12: EDGE meets from 5:30 – 7pm;  
FISH meets from 7:30 – 9pm. Gather in Parish Hall.
- January 19: EDGE meets from 5:30 – 7pm;  
FISH meets from 7:30 – 9pm. Gather in Parish Hall.
- January 26: EDGE meets from 5:30 – 7pm;  
FISH meets from 7:30 – 9pm. Gather in Parish Hall.

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

All CGS levels will meet from 5:15 – 6:45pm on the following Wednesdays: January 12 ♦ January 19 ♦ January 26

### Youth Mass

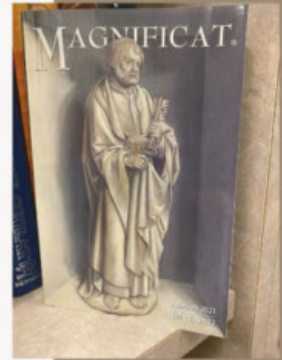
Our next Youth Mass will be celebrated **Sunday, January 16** at 4:30pm. Contact [Lindsay Struecker](#) for more information.

## MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTIONS

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE MAGNIFICAT TODAY!

We are submitting a bulk subscription order.

The Magnificat is a monthly Catholic publication that contains daily readings, prayers, reflections and articles on Catholic topics.



- Cost \$35
- First issue April 2022
- Delivered to St. Francis for pick up
- Order and payment due Feb 1, 2022

To order, call Heather in the Faith Formation Office, 515-440-1050

**ALPHA**– Catholic Context is a great way to connect with our parish community and grow in your relationship with Jesus! **Alpha begins January 18** with a Retreat Day on March 5, and wraps up April 5. With no strings attached and no cost to participate, Alpha is the perfect opportunity to share our faith in a relaxed atmosphere over a meal, watching a video, and asking the questions we all wrestle with from time to time.

Reserve your place at the table here: <http://saintfrancischurch.org/formation/alpha/>

Invite a friend to sign up with you! Come. Experience Alpha!



Where questions  
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"Alpha is for meeting Jesus. What I like in all that I have seen and heard about Alpha is the simplicity. For me, the Christian life has something to do with simplicity, friendship, closeness and joy. That's what I feel about Alpha and I think that's a sign that it works and that it's given from the Lord."

-Cardinal Christoph Schonborn,  
Archbishop of Vienna, Austria


**Tuesdays 6 - 8 p.m.  
begins 1-18-2022**

Reserve your spot:  
[saintfrancischurch.org/formation/alpha](http://saintfrancischurch.org/formation/alpha)





## PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN INFO NIGHT



**St. Francis School  
Preschool & Kindergarten  
Information Night**

Monday, January 10, 2022  
Preschool at 6 p.m.  
Kindergarten at 7 p.m.

Learn more at [www.SFAWDM.org](http://www.SFAWDM.org)

We look forward to seeing you and invite you to call the School Office (515-457-7167) with any questions you may have.

## ANNUAL SPELLING BEE

**The Knights of Columbus will be conducting their Annual Spelling Bee** on Sunday, January 23, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at St. Francis School (2<sup>nd</sup> floor classrooms). Boys and girls\* in grades 4 through 7 are eligible to participate in this competition. Children interested in competing can obtain an entry form at the school office. Entry forms will also be available on the date of the competition in the School library.

\*Open to ALL registered SFA parishioners within age group.

## FREE THROW COMPETITION


**The Knights of Columbus will be conducting their Annual Free Throw Competition** on Saturday, January 15, 2022 in the St. Francis of Assisi Gymnasium beginning with registration/check-in at 5:30 p.m. Competition will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Boys and girls\* who on January 1, 2022 are between the ages of 9 and 14 years are eligible to enter this competition. Children interested in competing can obtain an entry form from Mr. Hazel, SFA School Athletic Director. Entry forms will also be available on the date of the competition.



\*Open to ALL registered SFA parishioners within age group.

## CHILDREN'S SECTION



**Color**  
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



**Puzzle**  
Circle the picture that is the same as the first one. Then color in all the pictures.

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## EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE

### **MAN-UP WEST, JANUARY 2022**

**Join Us for Our 2022 Kickoff!** Our January meeting will be a two-part meeting. First, Matt Willkom, Iowa Catholic Radio's Executive Director, will join us to launch our 4<sup>th</sup> year of Man-Up West Power Lunch. A discussion of Lenten activities will follow.

#### **Our Agenda includes:**

- An update on Iowa Catholic Radio's Plans for 2022
- A description of the "Eucharistic Miracles Display" and the stories behind it as well as an explanation of the process to schedule it for your parish
- An update on "Exodus 90", which begins January 17<sup>th</sup>
- Updates on other "Men's Small Group" offerings in the Des Moines Area
- A preview of some of the presentations scheduled for the Power Lunch in 2022.

#### **Friday, January 14th, Noon/St. Francis of Assisi Parish**

A lunch from Chick-fil-A will be available for a free-will offering. **Register for this event at:**

**<https://www.iowacatholicradio.com/events>**

### **ENRICH YOUR MARRIAGE**

#### **Consider Teams of Our Lady for a Better Marriage**

If you are interested in enriching your marriage, come and meet couples that are already involved with doing just that! TEAMS is a group of 5-7 couples that meet monthly to share a potluck meal, prayer, and discuss topics reflecting on faith and marriage. There are couples of all ages in Teams, with and without children. Join us Monday, January 17, 2022 at 7 pm at St. John's Basilica, 1915 University Ave, Des Moines, to learn more. Childcare provided. Please email Maria & Mark Campbell at [maria.campbell@msn.com](mailto:maria.campbell@msn.com) or Ann & Brian Moylan at [ammoyot@yahoo.com](mailto:ammoyot@yahoo.com) with questions and childcare needs.

### **JOB OPENINGS**

For employment opportunities in the Diocese of Des Moines visit: [www.dmdiocese.org/about-us/employment](http://www.dmdiocese.org/about-us/employment).



**January 22, 2022 | 5:30-9:00 p.m. | SFA Parish Hall**

Chili Cook-Off to support Sleep in Heavenly Peace

- Do people rave about your chili?
- Do you love to eat chili?
- Have you missed attending social events in the parish hall?
- Do you know there are kids in the Des Moines area who don't have a bed to sleep in?

We are looking for chili makers and chili tasters to help raise funds for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization that builds and delivers beds to kids in need. Join us to help raise funds for this organization and find out more about how you can help with their mission. For more information or to sign up as a chili maker, please contact Dan Buscher or John Lensing through our parish website: <http://saintfrancischurch.org/our-parish/contact-us/>. Ticket sales for the event will go on sale early January.

### **TRIVIA NIGHT**

**Join in for a fun Trivia Night at St. John the Apostle, 720 Orchard Hills Dr., Norwalk, Saturday, January 15, 6:45 pm (doors open at 6:00). Prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams! Sloppy Joes available for purchase.**

\$15 per person tickets may be purchased in the church office or call 515-981-4855.