

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

# FOURTH SUNDAY

# *of Advent*



## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, 8:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
 Sunday, 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,  
 1:00 p.m.

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Monday–Friday Morning Prayer, 7:40 a.m.  
 Daytime Prayer, 3:10 p.m.; Evening Prayer, 6:00 p.m.

## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Monday–Friday 4:45–5:25 p.m.  
 Saturday 3:00–4:00 p.m.  
 During all Saturday Vigil & Sunday Masses

## FR. JARROD'S CONFESSION/ADVICE SCHEDULE

Open Canceled Off

	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	12/20	12/21	12/22	12/23	12/24	12/25	12/26
11:30 a.m.		Open	Open	Canceled	Canceled		
3:30 p.m.		Open	Open	Canceled	Canceled		
8:00 p.m.			Open	Canceled			Canceled

## BISHOP ANNOUNCES YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

*Bishop Carl Kemme of the Diocese of Wichita announced that December 8, 2020, to December 7, 2021, would be the "Year of St. Joseph" in the Diocese of Wichita. Shortly afterward, Pope Francis declared this year the Year of St. Joseph for the Church as a whole to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. What follows is Bishop Kemme's homily to the faithful on December 8, 2020.*

### WELCOME!

At St. Francis of Assisi Parish, we strive to be united in the Eucharist and formed as instruments of peace through the practice of stewardship in imitation of God's Triune love. Through the proclamation of the Gospel we invite you to become disciples of Jesus Christ and included within our parish family through worship, fellowship, education, and stewardship.

### NEW TO OUR PARISH?

We'd love to have you join our faith community! Start the registration process by going to [stfranciswichita.com](http://stfranciswichita.com) or by calling the parish office.

### Parish Office

(316) 722-4404  
[sfac@stfranciswichita.com](mailto:sfac@stfranciswichita.com)  
[www.stfranciswichita.com](http://www.stfranciswichita.com)

### Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms:** Saturdays after 6:00 p.m. evening prayer; Sundays after 1:00 p.m. Mass. Schedule with the church office.

**Matrimony:** Call a priest 9 months prior to desired wedding date.

You may be surprised that I do not intend to speak to you today about Mary, even though today is her great feast and the patronal feast of our nation and our diocese, the Immaculate Conception. I mean no disrespect or disregard to the Blessed Mother, but today I wish to speak to you rather about Joseph, and that is because beginning today, I have declared a Year of St. Joseph for the Diocese of Wichita to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St. Joseph as the Patron and Protector of the Universal Church, declared by Pope Pius IX on this day in 1870.

Why St. Joseph? For many reasons. Like Mary, he too was chosen to play a significant role in the history of salvation. Like Mary, the plan of God was revealed to him by an angel. Like Mary, he too was asked to give his fiat, his assent to that plan and trust in the providence of God. His brief and silent presence in the Gospels should in no way diminish his importance. Without his obedience to God's will, the Advent of Jesus in history would not have happened. He said yes to God, to take Mary as his wife, to name their child Jesus, to flee to Egypt in order to protect the child from the forces of evil intent on destroying him, to return to Nazareth and there to provide a home, a livelihood, a religious tradition and the guidance and support Jesus needed in his humanity to accept the mission of Messiah and Lord. As Mary did, so too Joseph did all of this with obedience, fidelity and steadfast love.

It is this example and this profound witness that inspires the church to look to Joseph as our protector and patron. From his place in heaven, Joseph now looks upon each of us as his spiritual children, who form the family of the Church on our pilgrim way to the Kingdom. We very much need his protection and his intercession in our dark and wayward times.

It is my sincere hope that we will all strive to imitate his humility, his obedience and his love, but I am particularly hopeful that Joseph will inspire the men of our diocese, me its bishop, all our priests and deacons, our seminarians, all the husbands and fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, uncles and all single men to accept their role in the families entrusted to their care and the communities to which they belong. I also lift up St. Joseph for our younger men, those in high school and college and those just beginning to live a young adult life, that St. Joseph will inspire them to be men of integrity, chastity, and courage in a time that tempts them to throw away their virtues and live life solely on their own terms. Yes, St. Joseph can be a powerful intercessor for all men in the Catholic Church.

I am personally praying that St. Joseph will inspire us in the important work of implementing our Diocesan Pastoral Plan, "Fully Alive as Missionary Disciples." As we embrace in this diocese the mission of the Joy of the Gospel,

we can look to no better examples than Joseph and Mary, who accepted the mission entrusted to them and fulfilled it so perfectly as Jesus' first and best disciples.

But as I reflect on the darkness of our times and the many challenges we face in the Church, for any number of reasons, but mostly because of a secular culture which fosters a growing hostility toward religious liberty and practice, and given that I have heard the lament and anxiety of our pastors and parish priests, as well as the same from faithful family members of the many in our parishes and families who no longer attend Mass, which is the source and summit of the Catholic faith, I and my advisors are convinced that we will never be able to make

*Continued on next page*

sufficient progress in implementing our Pastoral plan unless and until we can bring back many of those who absent themselves each Sunday and who for various reasons no longer feel the need to worship and receive the Eucharist.

And so, on this great day in which we acknowledge God's transformative grace in the very being of the humble virgin and on which we dedicate this year to the patronage and protection of her obedient spouse, St. Joseph, I call all of us to an urgent period of prayer and discernment on all levels of diocesan life, curia, parishes, schools, hospitals, college campuses, families, indeed wherever our people are to be found, in order to execute a diocesan wide search and rescue mission: to bring back the lost, the wayward and the wandering souls to Christ, the Bread of Life. While I do not pretend that our goals in this regard will be readily or easily accomplished and am certain will require a multi-faceted approach in order to bring about a true conversion of heart, I am confident that this is an urgent, timely and critical mission for our diocese, one that if left unaccepted will have devastating consequences for the future dynamism of the faith, for evangelization, discipleship and stewardship. Therefore, I wish to commit the resources and the energy of our diocese to forming us all as missionary disciples who will go out to invite back and accompany our brothers and sisters who no longer join us at the altar of the Lord at Holy Mass. As your bishop and successor of the apostles, let me be the first to call all those in our diocese, in our parishes, and in our families, who no longer share with us the Holy Eucharist, to return now or as soon as possible to be one with us at the Lord's banquet.

Will you, my brothers and sisters in the faith, join me in intense prayer and frequent fasting to ask God to send us the Holy Spirit, to anoint these efforts in the months and years ahead and to give us the resolve and determination, the compassion, wisdom, courage and the understanding to put our humble efforts at the service of the Lord in seeking out and rescuing the lost and lapsed who are our brothers and sisters in the faith? Together and throughout this year, let us call upon St. Joseph to help us in this critical mission. With his guidance and intercession, I am confident we will witness many returning to the Eucharistic banquet of the Lord and strengthening the Church, over which he serves as Patron and Protector. St. Joseph, Pray for us!

+ The Most Reverend Carl A. Kemme  
Bishop of Wichita

*For more information, and to view each month's virtue of St. Joseph, visit [www.catholicdioceseofwichita.org/year-of-st-joseph](http://www.catholicdioceseofwichita.org/year-of-st-joseph).*

All high school students in the parish are invited to join us for CYM on Wednesday nights. Throughout the year, we participate in activities that allow us to meet new people, grow in our faith, and serve our community. We have students from five different high schools who attend on a regular basis.

*Save THE Date!*

**December 23 – NO CYM**  
Merry Christmas!

**December 30 – NO CYM**  
Happy New Year!  
*CYM will resume  
in the New Year.*

*What's Happening*

**ADORERS NEEDED**

Perpetual adoration at SFA has resumed, with social distancing and face coverings. Some hours still need coverage. If you are interested and willing to commit to one of these hours for adoration, please contact Jenny Morgan at [mollyshome@att.net](mailto:mollyshome@att.net).



- **Monday**, 3:00 to 4:00 a.m.
- **Monday**, 4:00 to 5:00 a.m. URGENT
- **Tuesday**, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
- **Thursday**, noon to 1:00 p.m. URGENT
- **Friday**, 6:00 to 7:00 a.m.

**CHRISTMAS ADORATION**

The adoration chapel will close for the Christmas holiday on Thursday, December 24, at 4:00 p.m., and reopen on Sunday, December 27, after the 1:00 p.m. Mass. Additionally, the adoration chapel will close for the New Year's holiday on Thursday, December 31, at 4:00 p.m., and reopen on Sunday, January 3, after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

**K OF C COLLECTING WINTER ITEMS**

The Lord's Diner needs NEW gloves, hats and socks for its guests. The parish Knights of Columbus is coordinating this holiday drive. Please place these items in the marked boxes in the vestibule.

**PARISH DIRECTORY PICKUP**

If you had your photo taken for the parish directory, you can pick up your directory in the parish office. If you did not have your photo taken but would like a directory, call the office to be put on the waitlist.

**FORMED ADVENT RESOURCES**

FORMED has a library of videos, podcasts, and books to help you prepare for Christmas during the Advent season! Additionally, visit [formed.org/advent](http://formed.org/advent) to sign up for daily Advent reflections for you and/or your children! And check out these other Advent resources from FORMED:

- *Advent: Rethinking the Season*, Dr. Tim Gray (podcast)
- Advent video series (starts with "Prepare the Way")
- Opening the Word Advent reflections

**CHARITIES COMMITTEE FOOD DRIVE**

In lieu of our food drive, the Charities Committee invites you to donate to the Our Daily Bread food pantry. You can make your check payable to Catholic Charities and, on the memo line, indicate "For Our Daily Bread." Please mail your check to Catholic Charities, 437 N Topeka, Wichita, KS 67202-2314, or donate online at [CatholicCharitiesWichita.org](http://CatholicCharitiesWichita.org), selecting "Our Daily Bread Food Pantry" as the designation.

**MEDJUGORJE PRAYER MEETING**

Join the Medjugorje Prayer Group for a Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Monday, December 28. After prayers, we will meet in the Clare Basement for sharing and fellowship. You may bring a snack or leftover Christmas goodies to share.

**SAVE THE DATE: DAY OF GIVING 2021**

Save the date for St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School's 2021 Day of Giving! The Day of Giving is an annual celebration of Catholic schools nationwide, and is held during Catholic Schools Week. The 2021 Day of Giving will be held for 24 hours starting on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Please consider making a gift to SFACS to commemorate this occasion.

**UPCOMING BULLETIN DEADLINES**

Due to our publisher's holiday printing schedule, bulletin deadlines will be earlier than usual through the January 3 bulletin. We will resume our regular schedule January 10.

Bulletin Published	Deadline
January 2-3	Monday, December 21

<b>OPERATIONS COUNCIL REPORT</b>	
<b>Through week ending December 6, 2020</b>	
Year-to-date Contributions.....	\$1,981,516
Year-to-date Ordinary Income.....	\$59,202
Year-to-date Extraordinary Income .....	\$13,004
<b>Total Receipts - Year to Date.....</b>	<b>\$2,053,722</b>
<b>Total Budget - Year to Date.....</b>	<b>\$2,277,000</b>
<b>SFA Building Fund</b>	
Total Receipts - Year to Date.....	\$108,409
YTD Required Funds .....	\$92,000

**COUPON INSERTS**

Thank you for the Sunday paper coupon inserts which many of you place in the red box in the front walkway! I pair these with grocery sales to purchase free or nearly free grocery items to donate to Catholic Charities. All are welcome to donate! - *Parishioner Melissa Nance*

**JOY OF GIVING TREES**

Please visit our Respect Life Joy of Giving Trees located in the front walkway and adoration walkway. Take one or more "need" ornaments and return your donations to the FRONT walkway Christmas tree on or before Sunday, December 20. Please attach the ornament to your unwrapped donation. Gifts are collected for A Better Choice, Birthline, Guadalupe Clinic, Center of Hope, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Anthony Family Shelter, Adult Day Services, Our Daily Bread Food Pantry and Harbor House. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



**JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

In honor of Fr. Michael McGivney's beatification, join the Knights of Columbus online now through December 31 and receive FREE membership for one year.

**YEAR-END GIFTS TO THE SFA BUILDING FUND**

In response to our several building and maintenance needs, over the past year, many parishioners have contributed \$200,000 to the Building Fund. Within the last couple of weeks, two more anonymous donors offered gifts of \$50,000 and \$25,000 in response to our ongoing needs specific to the Building Fund. These gifts have been given as "seed" or "challenge" gifts to encourage other possible donors to consider giving to our building fund. These extraordinary gifts contribute to immediate needs in the area of HVAC, roofing and campus lighting. Building Fund envelopes are included in your monthly packet for you to use, or you may write "Building Fund" in the memo of your check. If you are able, please consider a gift to the St. Francis Building Fund as part of your year-end giving.

**STEWARDSHIP FORMS**

It's not too late to turn in your stewardship forms! You can drop them off at the church office during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you have not received a stewardship form, or need to register for the parish, please contact the church office at (316) 722-4404 or [sfac@stfranciswichita.com](mailto:sfac@stfranciswichita.com).

**LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED**

If you are currently attending weekend Mass and are willing to return to the position of lector or Eucharistic minister, please contact Harriet at [hrosa@stfranciswichita.com](mailto:hrosa@stfranciswichita.com) if you have not already done so. We are most in need for Saturday Vigil Masses and the Sunday 1:00 p.m. Mass.

# This Week

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

**ROSARY GROUP** Church, 5:00 p.m.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 21**

**MARIAN MANTLE ROSARY GROUP** Church, after 8:00 a.m. Mass

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22**

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY ROSARY GROUP** Church, 7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP** Clare Basement, 6:30-7:30 a.m.

**RCIA** Clare Hall, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**CHRISTMAS EVE** 8:00 a.m. Mass & morning and evening prayer **CANCELED**; Masses at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

**ADORATION CHAPEL** Closes at 4:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

**CHRISTMAS DAY** Masses at midnight, 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

**ADORATION CHAPEL** Closed

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26**

**ADORATION CHAPEL** Closed

**FR. JARROD'S CONFESSIONS/SPIRITUAL ADVICE** Canceled

**REGULAR SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES**

Regular 3:00-4:00 p.m. confessions and Masses will be held



MERRY  
*Christmas*



## Mass Intentions

**DECEMBER 21 - 28, 2020**

<b>Monday 21</b>	8:00 a.m. † Edward Kocian 5:30 p.m. † Joe Murillo
<b>Tuesday 22</b>	8:00 a.m. Liv & Dec Mem of Bortnick Fam 5:30 p.m. Christian & Angela Taylor Anniv.
<b>Wednesday 23</b>	8:30 a.m. For Peace 5:30 p.m. † Gerald Kass
<b>Thursday 24</b>	5:00 p.m. Sophia & Norman Boyle 7:00 p.m. Rodney Sweetman
<b>Friday 25</b>	12:00 a.m. Dec Mem of Rutherford Fam 8:30 a.m. † Florene Miller 10:00 a.m. Dec Mem of Streit Fam 11:30 a.m. † Jim Stang
<b>Saturday 26</b>	8:00 a.m. All Souls in Purgatory 5:00 p.m. † Don Miller 7:00 p.m. † Paul Lopez
<b>Sunday 27</b>	7:00 a.m. † Nancy Schmidt 8:30 a.m. † Tu Van Nguyen 10:00 a.m. For the People 11:30 a.m. † Paul Mies 1:00 p.m. † Fr. Kent Hemberger

## Around the Diocese

### BE THE BLESSING FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Double your donation and help Catholic Charities meet a \$60,000 match challenge with your gift to its Be the Blessing appeal by December 31, 2020. To learn more or to give, visit [give.CatholicCharitiesWichita.org/be-the-blessing](http://give.CatholicCharitiesWichita.org/be-the-blessing).

### LORD'S DINER FOOD PANTRY

The Lord's Diner is opening a food pantry. The pantry will have two outreach programs to serve those in need. Those interested in donating to the pantry may call Sarah at 316-266-4966 or email [beth@TheLordsDiner.org](mailto:beth@TheLordsDiner.org). Items such as granola bars, peanut butter and cheese crackers, fruit cups, individually packaged snacks, socks, and travel-size toiletries are greatly needed. Financial support for the pantry is also needed. Drop off donations at The Lord's Diner, 520 N. Broadway, 7 days a week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### CATHOLIC IN RECOVERY RETREAT

From January 29 at 7:00 p.m. to January 31 at 1:00 p.m., Scott Weeman will be hosting a healing retreat at the Spiritual Life Center. This event is open to anyone struggling with an addiction or unhealthy attachments. Participants will be encouraged to encounter the Lord and grow closer to him through talks, reflection, prayer and sharing, as well as a faith-centric approach to the 12-Steps of Addiction Recovery principles. Confession and Mass will be offered. Register online at [www.slcwichita.org](http://www.slcwichita.org)

FORMED®

PICK OF THE WEEK

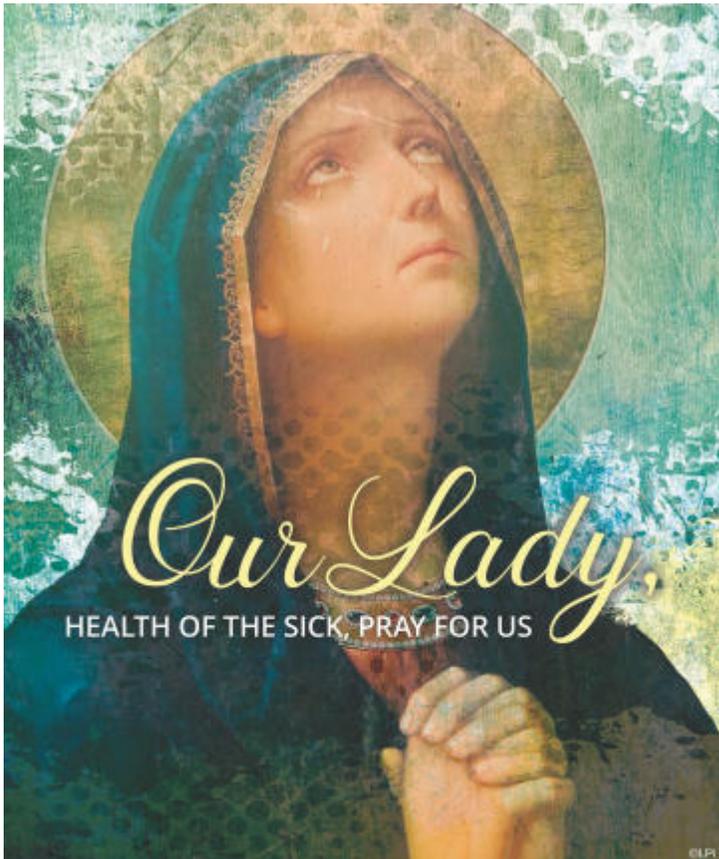


LEARN

THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. Join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

To sign up for FORMED, visit formed.org/signup and search "St. Francis of Assisi Wichita."



PARISH STAFF

- Fr. C. Jarrod Lies.....frlies@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Drew Dellasega....frdellasega@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Luke Downing.....frdowning@stfranciswichita.com
Pat Burns, Director of Stewardship & Finance
.....pburns@stfranciswichita.com
Travis Pearson, Parish Life Administrator
.....tpearson@stfranciswichita.com
Emily Savage, Youth Director/Confirmation
.....esavage@stfranciswichita.com
Rebecca Vodola, Director of Communications
.....rvodola@stfranciswichita.com
Mary Carter, School Principal.....316.722.5171

PARISH OFFICE/RECTORY

- Office.....316.722.4404
Medical Emergency Number.....316.531.0184
This number is for emergencies only.
Website.....www.stfranciswichita.com
E-mail.....sfac@stfranciswichita.com

SCHOOL

- Phone.....316.722.5171
Fax.....316.722.0492



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Kevin or Karen: (6:00-10:00 p.m.) .....316.721.1771
E-mail..... sfapraychain@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #4118 316.461.6481

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA LIBRARY

Hours: Friday 8:30-9:30 a.m. & Sunday 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Call 706-7185 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

CALL 1.800.848.LOVE

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Those interested in attending NFP classes may contact the diocesan office at 316-685-5240. Website: www.nfpwichita.org.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check Lost and Found in front walkway. Items will only be kept for two weeks before being donated to Goodwill.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please keep the church office informed of changes in names, addresses, phone numbers, etc. By letting us know you have moved, we can save money on postage returns and keep our membership roster up to date.

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