

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

December 27, 2020
The Holy Family

844 S Gregg Road,
PO Box 1920, Nixa, MO 65714

Contacts

Office417-725-1975
Websitestfrancisnixa.org
Email.....office@stfrancisnixa.org

Parish Staff

Msgr. Tom E. Reidy.....Pastor
Fr. Colby Elbert.....Associate Pastor
Fr. Mike McDevitt.....Priest in Residence
Deacon Gary Steffes.....Deacon
Deacon Gary Steffes.... Director of Religious Education
Renee TrubyCoordinator of Religious Education
Debbie Durham.....Music Director
Sheri Duncan.....Office Manager

Support Volunteers

Tracy King & Kent Welch.....R.C.I.A.
Patty HaddockYouth Director
Janet Morehead.....Website Administrator
John RispoliTechnology Administrator

Weekend Masses

Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Saturday..... 5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass

Wednesday — 6:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Anointing of Sick

Contact parish office for appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony

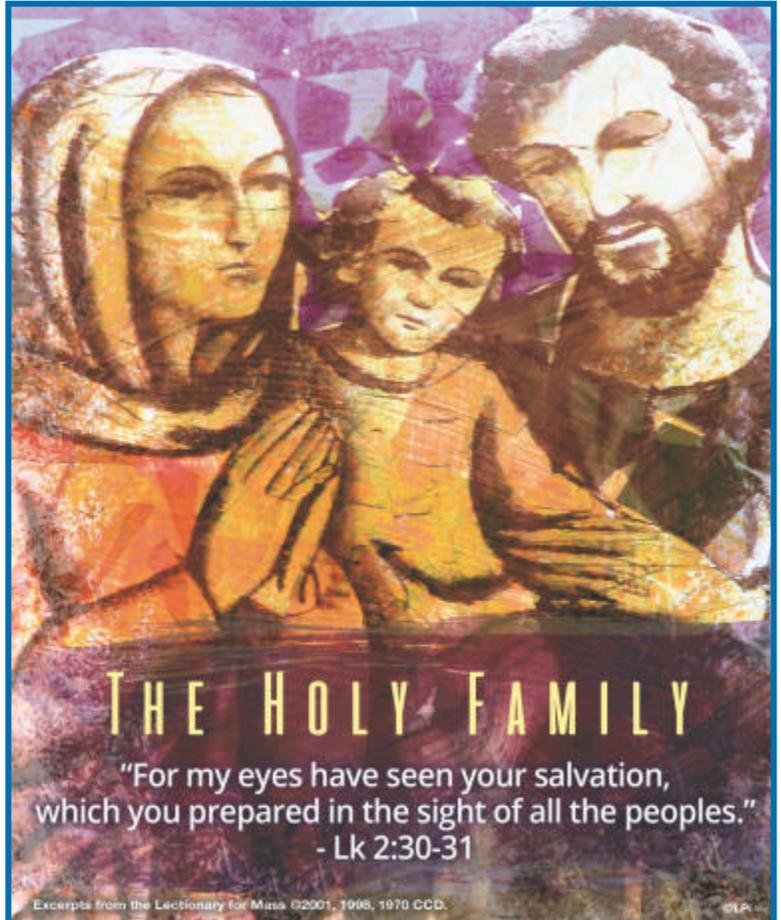
Contact parish office at least six months prior to possible date.

Baptism Preparation

By appointment. Contact Parish Office

Parish Mission

St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners of Nixa, Missouri, being open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, are called to be a welcoming community formed around the Eucharist, a people of prayer serving their faith through their principle of Christian stewardship.



Living the Liturgy

While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In addition to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love. We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face.

Sharing Our Talent

Sunday, January 3, 2021, 9:30 a.m.

Liturgical Ministries

Mass Facilitator..... Andrew Sehie
Sacristan Chris Kahl
Rosary Devine Mercy
Children’s Liturgy Paul Durham
Children’s Assistant Abigail Muniz
Reader 1 John Binder
Reader 2 Tracy King
General Intercessor Don Schortgen
Music Leader Debbie Durham

Ushers/Greeters:

Kent Welch—Lead Randy Sehie
Marge Welch Mike Ecker

Money Counters Ministry:

Greg Eck Mike Ecker Margie Arens

Laundry Ministry: Joan Baltz

Building Cleaning: Team #

Plant Care: Harold & Rose Kuppinger

Liturgical Ministers ~ Saturday, Jan. 2, 5:30 p.m.

Mass Facilitator/Sacristan..... Virginia Pojar
Reader 1 Jeff Chan
Reader 2 John Staudt
General Intercessor John Staudt
Usher(s): John & Nancy Staudt
Music Jessica Durham



Stewardship

A Way of Life

“Whatever you do,” says St. Paul to the Colossians, “...do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks to God the Father through Him.” And so it is that we offer our gifts in the Eucharist “through Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.”



**Save ALL Best Choice
UPC Label**

PLEASE place your Best Choice UPC Labels in the box on the Information Table. Each label is worth \$0.03 to our parish. **ALL BEST CHOICE products** are eligible. *Funds will be used to provide ministries for the youth in the parish.*



Un-Deck The Halls!!

Sunday, Jan. 10th Please Help!!

Following Faith Formation classes, at NOON, we need **MANY** to help take Christmas decorations down. This will go **FAST** if you help!! Plan to **HELP!**

December		Sunday
27	The Holy Family 9:00 a.m. Rosary 9:30 a.m. Mass No Classes	
		Monday
28	6:30 p.m. RCIA Zoon Meeting	
		Tuesday
29	6:30 p.m. Book Study Zoom Meeting	
		Wednesday
30	7:00 a.m. Early Risers 6:30 p.m. Mass	
		Thursday
31	Vigil Mary, Mother of God 5:30 p.m. Mass	
January		Friday
1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 9:30 a.m. Mass	
		Saturday
2	7:00 a.m. Early Risers 5:00—5:15 p.m. Rosary 5:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30 p.m. Mass	
		Sunday
3	The Epiphany of The Lord 9:00 a.m. Rosary 9:30 a.m. Mass 10:45 a.m. Youth & Adult Faith Formation Classes	



**No Youth or Adult Faith Formation Classes
 Sunday, December 27th
 Classes resume January 3rd**



Our Advent and Christmas liturgies were very prayerful and beautiful liturgical experiences because of the efforts of so many people: the choir, readers, Advent candle lighters, ushers, liturgy coordinators, all those who decorated the church so beautifully and those who contributed flowers in memory of loved ones. We are grateful to all for their dedication and hard work.

My sincere thanks to the many parishioners who so thoughtfully remembered me at Christmas. I do appreciate your prayers, cards and gifts and the many kindnesses, support and generosity which I experience throughout the year. God Bless you all!

--- Fr. Tom

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Best wishes to all members of the St. Francis of Assisi parish family for a most blessed and happy New Year. Let us make a special effort to pray for peace today and throughout the coming year.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation,

the "enfleshment" of God as a human person. In Jesus, God is bodily present in the human story. Today we honor the Holy Family, helping us to see that God is active in daily family life. God is near at hand, amidst the tensions, joys, and uncertainties of family life. As our Gospel passage describes, even with family miscommunications and with limited understanding of Jesus' mission, the Holy Family persevered in their life together. Like many family conflicts, there was no immediate or clear resolution of the issues raised by Jesus and by Mary. God's intentions for the family, and for Jesus, were still unfolding. They continued to stay connected with each other and with God. Within the turbulence of family life, they trusted God to actively sustain and guide them into an uncertain future. We are invited to follow their example.

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Solemnity of Mary

Thursday, Vigil Mass,

December 31, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 9:30 a.m.

On this octave day of Christmas, it is fitting to honor Mary as Mother of Jesus. When we celebrate this solemnity, we are not only honoring

Mary who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Calling Mary, "mother of God" is the highest honor we can give Mary.

Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," this feast honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace." New Year's Day is also designated the World Day of Peace.

Our collection will be for Catholic Charities Lifehouse.



The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son. ~ Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Readings for Week of December 27, 2020

Sunday

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1--5/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:22-40

Monday

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5, 7-8/Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-3, 5-6/Lk 2:22-35

Wednesday

1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-10/Lk 2:36-40

Thursday

1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-13/Jn 1:1-18

Friday

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Saturday

1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 1:19-28

Next Sunday

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/Eph 3:2-3, 5-6/

Mt 2:1-12

Rosaries as Decorations

Question: I've seen people hang rosaries over the rear-view mirrors in their cars and a few of them wear them around their necks. Is it OK to do that?

Answer:

The practice of hanging a rosary or a religious medal off of the rearview mirror of one's car is a fairly popular custom across many cultures. While there is no particular rule approving or condemning this practice, we should also be mindful of the respect and reverence due to religious objects and devotional items (i.e. sacramentals).



An important point to consider would be the reason why one chooses to place a rosary or religious medal in our cars. Is it a reminder of the protection and intercession of Mary and the saints? Does it encourage us to be mindful of God's presence, even in such a mundane task as driving? Is it an outward expression of our more private devotions?

One advantage of having a rosary or religious medal in our cars is that it can also serve as a reminder to pray when we travel, asking for protection for ourselves and for other motorists or commuters. Certainly, invoking the protection and prayers of the saints is a wonderful practice for families, helping to reinforce our belief in the communion of saints and the care and concern we owe to one another.

Pray the Rosary on Saturday

January 2nd, 5:00—5:15 p.m.

Jennifer Chan will lead the Rosary in the Chapel. This is done the first Saturday of each month. With more volunteers helping, we may be able to expand to weekly in the future. If you would like to help lead the Rosary, please contact Jennifer at chanjen@mac.com or 480-225-0857.

We continue to have Rosary every Sunday, 9-9:15 a.m. in the Chapel.



Book for Prayer Request

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, write your name or the person's name in the Prayer request book *located on the Usher's Stand* or email parish office. Requests are emailed to Prayer Network Team.



Wednesday Evening Mass

6:30 p.m.

Try to come at least once a month.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, December 27th

9:30 a.m.St. Francis of Assisi Parish Family

Wednesday, December 30th

6:30 p.m. † Stacy Lacey

Thursday, December 31st

5:30 p.m. † Paul Bramer Jr.

Friday, January 1st

9:30 a.m. † Sr. Jeanne Johnson

Saturday, January 2nd

5:30 p.m. † Sr. Elizabeth Mary Nugent

Sunday, January 3rd

9:30 a.m.St. Francis of Assisi Parish Family

Question of the Week

Luke 2L22-40



Key Passage: The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him.

Adult: Reflect and talk about: What is special about your family?

Children: What do you like best about your family?



Flowers For Christmas Season

We are grateful to those who made a contribution toward the flowers for this Christmas Season. The following were omitted from our previous list.

Donor

Jerome Ballman

In Memory of

Emily Ballman

Dan & Joan Baltz

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Baltz
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Gerbert
Fr. Wm Devries
Billy Kiefer
Chancey York

Frank Horvath

Susan Horvath

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting Wednesday, January 6th at 2:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in joining our group is always welcome! We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the O'Reilly Community Room. No experience necessary! Contact Jennifer Chan at 480-225-0857 or chanjen@mac.com



YOUTH GROUP

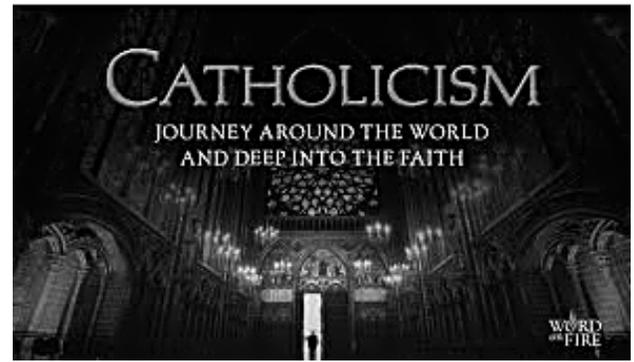
Youth Group News Meeting, Sunday, January 3rd at Noon
All 5th -12th Grade WELCOMED!

We need ALL to attend. Come visit with friends and have fun!

Questions, sign-up for an event, contact Coordinator: Patty Haddock, 417-230-5999, or email at pattycakes1189@gmail.com.



St. Francis of Assisi has purchased an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). We are looking for 10 to 12 parishioners who are willing to get training for CPR and AED. Training will be on January 16, 2021, from 9 am till noon. Please contact Mike Ecker at 417-763-0702 to register for training.



We are excited to announce that we will host the acclaimed CATHOLICISM Series Study Program beginning January 3rd.

Bishop Robert Barron is an author, theologian and podcasting priest from Chicago, the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. He created this program, based on his 10-episode film, CATHOLICISM, as a thematic presentation of what Catholics believe and *why*, so that all adults can come to a deeper understanding of the Catholic Faith. This engaging and formational program uses art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church.

Filmed in 50 locations throughout 15 countries, the series is on-location and in the streets illustrating the splendor of the global Church.

Please join us to take this epic journey around the world and deep into the faith. If you miss one session, you can still join us for the next.

Upcoming Sessions

January 3 - Lesson 1 - "Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man"

We journey with Bishop Robert Barron to the mysterious and sacred sites of the Holy Land. From Caesarea Phillipi, to the Sea of Galilee, to Jerusalem and finally to the eternal city of Rome, Bishop Barron illuminates the Catholic Faith's conviction that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised Messiah and the revelation of God become man in Christ.

January 10 - Lesson 2 - "Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus"

The revelation of Jesus as God is accompanied by a stunning invitation to a unique new way of life, explained in the teachings of Jesus. To every generation, the words of Jesus have proven fascinating, sometimes confounding, deeply transformative and always unforgettable.

Our Gifts to God

Week of December 13, 2020

Early Publishing Deadline no

Dec 27 information

Operating Fund

Envelopes.....	\$3,690
Plate.....	\$25
ACH.....	\$2,113
Total.....	\$5,828

Monthly Receipts Needed.....	\$20,511
Received	\$10,716
Needed for Month.....	\$9,795

Building Fund

Balance Forward	\$19,094
Received this week.....	\$1,998
Total Received Month.....	\$3,028
Balance Checking.....	\$22,122

Building Trust Fund at Diocese.....	\$189,665
Total Building Funds	\$211,787



We Need Your Contributions!

Many parishioners are placing contribution in offertory basket or mailing to the parish or donating through ACH or WeShare. Thank you! The Parish deeply appreciates your sacrifices in supporting our parish. May God bless you for your generosity!

Mail contributions to:

St. Francis of Assisi

PO Box 1920

Nixa, MO 65714



Employment Opportunity

St. Agnes School Seeking a Principal

St Agnes is one of four schools in the Springfield Catholic School System and offers classes from Pre-school through 8th grade. To submit an application, go to scspk12.org

Responsibilities: Leadership in Community of Faith; Providing Instructional and Professional leadership to the faculty; Managerial Leadership and Interpersonal Relationships; Supervision of extra-curricular activities

Qualifications: Must be an active, practicing Catholic; 5 years teaching experience in an elementary (K-8) school; Missouri Teacher/Administrative certificate; A Master's Degree in Education or School Administration; Administrative experience in Catholic Schools, preferred



CATHOLIC RADIO

Have you heard Catholic Radio? Tune in to 91.9 FM, KQOH, for Catholic programming in Southwest Missouri.

Year End Charitable Giving

More than half of all charitable giving is made at the end of the year. Why? It is the time of year when we express thanks for the many blessings we have received. It is the time when we review our finances and do our tax planning. It is the best time to remind parishioners that you can help the mission and activities of our parish through your generosity.

As you consider your end-of-year donations, please consider a gift to St. Francis of Assisi Church. Won't you consider a year-end-gift to your parish?

Please remember St. Francis of Assisi in your will

Legal language to make a bequest:

"...to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, a Missouri not-for-profit corporation, for the exclusive use and benefit of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Nixa, Missouri."

Welcome!

We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, whether longtime residents or newly arrived in the parish. If you are not registered, please fill out the form below and place in the collection basket or mail to the Parish office. Or visit our website, www.stfrancisnixa.org for a New Member Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

New Parishioner

New Address

New Phone

Moving, please remove from parish list



**"Keeping Christ in Christmas"
Poster Contest
Sponsored by Knights of
Columbus Council
13748**

Kids, get your art supplies ready! This year's contest will kickoff December 6th after Mass. The Knights will distribute poster paper and parent consent forms for all kids 5 through 14 years old. Age as of 11/01/2020.

There are three age groups, 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. **All posters and consent forms must be turned in NLT 01/10/2021 after Mass.** The best poster in each group will win \$25 and will be submitted to the District level contest!

Judging will be based on: Slogan(30pts), Visuals (30pts) and Overall Impact(40pts). Questions from parents can be answered by Ron Pojar via email at bosunron@msn.com or 417-693-7507. Thank you in advance for your participation. Good Luck!



Knights of Columbus Ozark Chapter

An opportunity to purchase a cookbook as a Christmas gift and HELP raise funds for *COATS FOR KIDS*. Over 300 recipes in the book were contributed by Knights. The cost of the books is \$15.00 in which \$5.00 will go to purchase new coats for children in our community.

Contact Frank Barchak @ 230-4933 to purchase a book for you or family members.



**Ladies Auxiliary
15th Annual
Chili/Soup Cook-off**

Flowers for the Sanctuary

Flowers in the sanctuary always looks so beautiful You can provide flowers by remembering loved ones or celebrating special occasions. A minimum donation of \$35 is asked for the florist. Your intention will be acknowledged in the bulletin.



Select a date that you wish to provide flowers. Place your donation in envelope marked "Flowers" with the date you selected and place in offering basket. Questions, contact parish office.



1:00-4:00 P.M.

Check in time: 12:00 Noon, Bowl 1:00

Century Lane * Nixa, MO

This family friendly event makes a difference in the lives of homeless children, youth, veterans, families and individuals. This year you can chose for your donation to benefit Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Least of These Food Pantry and/or The Kitchen. The goal is \$60,000! Your sponsorship ,the bowlers and your donations will make this a success.

You can help by buying Raffle Tickets:



Purchase raffle tickets for a two night stay and \$500 Visa Cash. \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. Contact Linda Howard 417-818-6220 or John Clarke 417-880-4292 for tickets or call 417-225-7415 to purchase.

The \$15 advanced; \$20 day of registration, per bowler covers the cost of bowling (3 games) plus shoes and bowling ball.

This year, everyone is asked to bring a canned food and/or non-perishable item for those in need.

For more information and forms: <https://www.thekitcheninc.org/knights-striking-out/>

For further information contact: John Clarke - 417.880.4292 or Dean Arens - 417.844.1293

Diocesan Perpetual Adoration at Holy Trinity

Please observe mask and social distancing.

Adoration Hours: Weekdays 1pm-5pm
Adoration will be suspended for Christmas and New Year's Celebrations starting Tuesday, Dec. 22 and will resume Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021



Join our substitute list to experience the peace of adoration.

Please call Nicola Mullins at 417-300-0840 to sign up for the Diocesan Perpetual Adoration.



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