

# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

**LOCATION:** 2650 Parish View, Colorado Springs, CO 80919
**OFFICE PHONE:** (719) 599-5031
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon—Thur, 9am—4pm (closed Fri—Sun)
**EMAIL ADDRESS**: parish@stfrancis**cs**.org
**WEBSITE:** https://stfrancis**cs**.org/

## CLERGY

Fr. Erin Kochivar, x101, ekochivar@stfranciscs.org
Deacon Jim Bachta, jbachta@diocs.org
Deacon Rick Bauer, rbauer@diocs.org
Deacon Andy Berry, aberry@diocs.org



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday: 8:30 & ***10:30 a.m.** & 5:00 p.m.
Monday—Friday: 8:30 a.m.
Nursery is available for Sunday morning Masses
*Livestream Mass available from our website.

**ADORATION—**Thursday Holy Hour from 5-6pm (includes Vespers and Confessions). Fridays 9am—3:15pm (Rosary at 9, Chaplet at 2:55pm)

**CONFESSION**— **See website for exceptions.**
Monday—Friday 7:30—8:15am before daily Mass, Thursdays 5—6pm during Holy Hour, Saturdays 4:00—4:30pm and by appointment.

## FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH GROUPS

Includes Sacramental Prep, Religious Education and Becoming Catholic. For elementary and adult ages: **Jennifer Lehrman, jenniferk@stfranciscs.org, x110.** For middle, high school & young adult ages: **Terrie Hernandez at Theresah@stfranciscs.org, x111.**

**BAPTISM—** Call office to schedule, and/or to sign up for the required prep class held monthly.

**MARRIAGE** - Contact Fr. Erin 12 months prior.

**ANOINTING** - Contact Fr. Erin. Anyone with a serious illness should request this sacrament.

**FUNERALS**— Contact Fr. Erin or the office.

**MUSIC** - Mark B., x104, mbauman@stfranciscs.org

**BUS. MANAGER** - KellyC@stfranciscs.org, x102.

**ASST. BUS. MGR./COMM./WEBMASTER**
Cristi Mourn, x106, Cristi@stfranciscs.org.

**ADMN ASST** - Judy, x100, parish@stfranciscs.org

**FACILITIES** - Jamie, x103, jbettis@stfranciscs.org

**February 25, 2024**




## COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND



Anyone in our St. Francis community who is ill or homebound and who needs communion brought to them. Contact is Donna Carr 719-590-7015.

**PRAYER REQUEST LINE** - A service for parishioners experiencing hardship such as a serious illness or accident, or a family or friend in peril. For prayers contact Angie Fischer at angiefischer@comcast.net or (719) 684-3002





## Rosary Walk For Life this Tuesday morning after Mass!

You are invited to join in a Rosary Walk for Life following the 8:30am daily Mass on **Tuesday, Feb 27** here at St Francis. Walkers will join pilgrims from various parishes who will pray the rosary and other intercessions as they visit the Mount St Francis (MSF) cemetery, the Holy Innocents niche in the columbarium, and the MSF grotto…about .3 miles. For inclement weather, walkers will conduct Stations-of-the-Cross inside the church building. They will be reinforced by special prayers offered at two diocesan Adoration Chapels.

This combined prayer effort by adorers and rosary-walkers is part of a plan to engage more intently in the Spiritual Battle for the Sanctity of Life in Colorado and provide an umbrella of support for sidewalk advocates and prayer partners who witness near the C/S Planned Parenthood. Our prayers are indispensable in the battle for souls compromised by a culture that denies the sanctity and dignity of every precious life.

A similar Rosary-Walk will occur monthly at different places throughout the Diocese, with supporting prayers from different adoration chapels.

## St. Patrick's Dinner and Entertainment, March 9

Everyone is Irish on St Paddy's Day!

The St. Francis Knights of Columbus presents its annual **St. Patrick's Dinner and Celtic Dance Performance in the hall** after Mass, Sat., March 9.



Tickets will be sold in the Narthex after weekend Masses from Feb 24—Mar 3. Look for a Knight at the table and Sign up.

Come one! Come all! To a festive evening of fine Irish cuisine, music & spirited Celtic Dancing. For $10/pp, ($5 age 12 & under), you can enjoy this special night.

Food will be cooked by the Knights and the Irish dancers from ***Celtic Steps*** will perform. The dancing performance will begin around 7:15pm. Food will be prepared by Mike's Mashers.



Enjoy the Irish feast of corned beef, cabbage and potato soup. Guests will bring salads, sides and dessert.

**Wear Green**
**and join us for a great time!**

**Pray for our Seminarians & Priests,**
**Calendar thru August 2024**
www.diocs.org/Offices/Office-of-Vocations

## 2024 Diocesan Ministry Appeal (DMA)

As the second week of Lent begins, the Church invites us to contemplate the transfigured Jesus with Peter, James, and John: "His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them" (Mark 9:3).

Before he suffered his Passion, Jesus gave his three closest friends a glimpse into his glorified nature—a glimpse of where he could take them. God loves us where we are and loves us too much to leave us where we are.

We can radiate divine light like Jesus. When we receive Jesus into our hearts, he transfigures us. We can shine with his joy, love, and serenity. He wants to transfigure our whole parish! Please support our Diocesan Ministry Appeal so we can have all the resources we need to shine the way He wishes us to, so we can reach all those He longs for in our community. "I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6). **Thank You!!!**

You can use the envelope mailed to your home from the diocese or your own envelope, and send directly to this address below in Texas. **NOTE:** If you use your own envelope, please mention that you are donating on behalf of St. Francis of Assisi in Colorado Springs, as each church has goals to reach for this appeal.

**Diocese of Colorado Springs, Dept# 42428, P.O. Box 650823 Dallas, TX 75265-0823**

You may make a safe, easy, secure gift online: **https://giving.diocs.org/Diocesan-Annual-Appeal**

## Lent and Easter Schedule

**Fridays of Lent (Feb 16, 23, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22)**
**Lenten Dinner** *(no meat)* 5:30—6:45pm in Hall
**Stations of the Cross:** 7pm in the church

**Penance Service: Tuesday, March 5 at 6pm**

**Holy Thursday Mass, March 28 at 7pm** with Adoration following till midnight.

***- NO daily Mass Thursday or Friday (Mar 28-29).***

**Good Friday March 29: Fasting and Abstinence**
**3pm**: Stations of the cross outside at the sister's Cemetery.
**7pm**: Service with Veneration of the Cross

**Saturday Easter Vigil Mass March 30 at 8:30pm**.
**Potluck Meal after the Easter Vigil to celebrate!**

*- NO 5pm Mass on Saturday or Easter Sunday.*

**Sunday Easter Mass, March 31, 8:30 & 10:30am,** with overflow livestreamed into the Hall.

Parishioners: Please pray for our RCIA candidates and catechumens as they prepare to enter the church at the Easter Vigil Saturday, March 30 at **8:30pm**. You are welcome to join us at the 10:30am Mass Each Sunday in Lent for the Rites of Initiation that will take place for these 18 men and women.



- Thank you and God Bless, Fr. Erin

## Friday Lenten Dinners and Stations of the Cross

The St. Francis Knights of Columbus will host its Lenten dinners for the parish and community the Fridays of Lent thru March 22, from 5:30—6:45pm, just before the 7pm Stations of the Cross.

The price for the Lenten dinner is a donation. (Suggested: $8 for adults, $5 for 0-12, families $25. All proceeds will go to various Knight's charities.

**Is your group interested in leading Stations of the Cross?**

Call/email office to reserve.

**March 15 and 22: OPEN**
**March 1**: Ladies Aux; **March 8:** Knights of Columbus

**Please join us in a Rosary after daily Mass at 9am**

**Please join us in the St. Francis Hall following Sunday morning Mass for Donuts & Coffee!**



## *Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well*

A Faith Formation 4 part Series on Death & Dying
(begins Wednesday, February 21 at 9:30am)



"You are dust, and into dust you shall return."

Lent prompts us to consider how the death of one Man changed the meaning of death for all of us.

*Join us for a 4-part video and discussion* series called *Eternal Rest* from the Augustine Institute, that explores the mystery of death, dying, and everlasting life.

On four Wednesdays in Lent (beginning February 21 from 9:30-11am in D-E and via zoom) we will examine the origin of death, the afterlife, and the powerful reality around the sacrament that ushers us into eternal life. *Eternal Rest* presents the Catholic Church's teaching about death and God's response to it with wisdom & truth, gentleness and compassion, so we can think about and prepare for death in the light of Jesus Christ, the Author of life.

Sign up in the narthex next Sunday, Feb 18 or contact Deacon Jim Bachta at jbachta@diocs.org.
Discussion workbooks can be purchased at class (or online via FORMED | Program | Sacraments).

Help save lives in Colorado Springs **Feb 14—Mar 24!**

Get involved and sign up for prayer time at the public right of way on the sidewalk of Planned Parenthood at 3480 Centennial Blvd. Come in pairs or form groups and pick a date to go out and pray!

40 Days for Life campaigns consist of **Prayer and Fasting, Constant Vigil** in front of a Planned Parenthood and **Community Outreach.** To sign up and to learn more about the 40 Days for Life go to www.40daysforlife.com/coloradosprings. For more info contact Stacie Mohrman at 719-332-7186.

*REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL*

Young Adult Ministry (YAM) presents

# Candlelight Mass

Tuesday, February 27 at 7pm

Here at St. Francis of Assisi Church

Celebrant: Fr. Erin Kochivar

Confession: 6:30-7:00pm

Followed by a Fellowship Social in Hall!



**Wisdom of the Saints**

"God governs the world,
but prayer governs God Himself!"

*- St. John Chrysostom*

**Pope's March Intentions** **For the new martyrs**

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

**Why Do Catholics Pray Repetitious Prayers ? From The New Catholic Answer Bible**

***(1 Sm 16:7; Ps 136; Mt 6:7-13, 21-23; 15:8-9; Lk 4:16), (CCC 2625; 2678; 2700-2704 )***

**The Psalms formed the prayer book and hymnal of the ancient Jewish people. Psalm 136 has twenty-six lines, each one ending with the refrain: "God's love endures forever!" This and similar psalms, which were chanted responsively, are the forerunners of several popular forms of repetitive Catholic prayer.**

**In light of such biblical examples, it's puzzling how some Christians claim that repetitious prayers are condemned by Jesus. They quote his words: "in praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words". But Jesus was a faithful Jew who took part in weekly Sabbath worship at the synagogue. So he himself would have prayed psalms with repetitious elements.**

**In both Jewish and Catholic worship and prayer, repetition simply indicates emphasis on the importance of a thought. Repetition, then, isn't a bad thing in itself. Rather, Jesus is condemning *empty repetition,* not all forms of repetition. The Greek word *battalogeo* here means "to repeat idly," or "meaningless and mechanically repeated phrases," as in pagan (not Jewish) modes of prayer. Our Lord is thus rejecting prayers uttered without the proper reverence for God.**

**As usual, Jesus is concerned with the inner dispositions of the worshiper, not with mere outward appearance. "The Lord looks into the heart".**

**The same is true of *formal* prayers—that is, prayers whose words have a set form. Again, some Christians think that Jesus' words quoted above condemn such prayers. But Jesus himself would have used formal prayers in the synagogue. In fact, after warning against babbling, our Lord goes on to provide us one of the most famous *formal* prayers of all: the Our Father.**

**Actually, all Christians probably make use of spiritual songs whose words have a set form. Since many of these songs are prayers addressed to God, then all of these Christians in fact use formal prayers, just as Catholics do.**

**Formal prayer allows groups of believers to pray in unison, not just in a particular gathering but also all over the world and even across generations—an important expression of the unity of our faith. At the same time, formal prayers, especially those taken from sacred Scripture and Tradition, shape our thoughts and desires as we pray, making them more in keeping with God's revelation.**

## Call to Action! Help local families experiencing temporary homelessness

Do you enjoy serving others by providing food, doing laundry, moving furniture, cleaning, or being a friend? Or do you just like to help with whatever's needed?

The diocese and St. Francis Parish support the mission of **Family Promise** (a homeless outreach nonprofit) through volunteer support for their local initiative called Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). Our parish is currently scheduled as a support congregation for an upcoming IHN Hosting Week. The host, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, will provide temporary shelter and food for 4 local homeless families on Holy Week - **March 24—31**. This has been a great joint-service in the past and parishioners are encouraged to sign up as volunteers. There are various roles involved with hosting the families; children and youth are invited to participate as well by accompanying adult volunteers.

**If you'd like to serve,** you sign up on the St. Michael Episcopal website at **www.stmikeschurch.com** and look for the IHN link on their homepage a little ways down on the main screen. This link will take you to a Signup Genius website. Select a slot, scroll to the bottom of the page and click *Save* and *Continue*. Then input all your information. A St. Francis volunteer coordinator will reach out to you to provide any additional instructions needed to server in your role.

**All other volunteers serving as overnight hosts or in any onsite capacity will need to attend a mandatory volunteer training** held on Sunday, March 17, at 11am —1pm ay St. Michael's, *7400 Tudor Road* (not far from St. Francis). **Lunch will be provided.**

*For more information, contact St. Francis volunteer coordinators Chelsey Cerrillo (chelsey_cerrillo@yahoo.com) or Amy Spencer (editunited@gmail.com).*

**Nursery available** during the Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am Mass, **for Ages 6mo-5yrs**

Our parish provides a nursery staffed with two caring adults and fun toys for your little ones to enjoy while you spend a peaceful hour in Mass.



## Two or more Coordinators are needed to help with Funeral Luncheons

The job of the coordinators would be to arrange for 2-3 volunteers from an existing team to help the day of a funeral, (when a reception is requested), to support a catered meal or snack.

The volunteers would prepare coffee and lemonade, decorate the tables, assist in serving delivered food and cleaning up if needed. The hall will be setup by volunteers ahead of time, so moving tables will not be part of the job!

Make a meaningful impact by providing support and solace to grieving families. Your skills and heartfelt dedication will help create a comforting atmosphere during challenging times.

Margaret Kinney will help with the transition. Please contact the office or Margaret at 719-439-5146, magsanaya@gmail.com.

Thank You!!!

## High School Ski Trip March 1—3



**St Francis high school students are invited to Ski Monarch with Father Erin and other youth from our parish. The cost is $150 per person which includes lodging at Creekside Chalets and all meals Saturday and Sunday. *(Lift tickets & ski rental are not included.)***

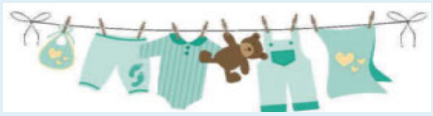
**Carpools will leave from St Francis at 5 PM on Friday and will return on Sunday afternoon. Don't forget to bring a bathing suit to relax in the hot tub after skiing on Saturday.**

**Space is limited and registrations will be accepted in order of being received and must include payment and permission slip.**

**Register today or get more info from Terrie Hernandez at theresah@stfranciscs.org or call 719-599-5031 x111.**

## KIDS IN NEED Drive March 2—3 and 9—10

***Benefiting Family Connections***



**Catholic Charities** programs provide a supportive community for expecting mothers. These programs offer basic items needed to care for their newborns and celebrate their courage to protect new life.

These **NEW** items are a blessing to families who struggle financially.

Please bring your donations to the bin labeled **Kids In Need**, located in the main entryway. These items will be collected following all Masses for the two weekends listed above. Thank You!

**BABY ESSENTIALS NEEDED** (listed in order of most demand): Bottles, diapers (Size newborn – 1), wipes, diaper rash ointment, baby clothes (size 0 - 3, 3-6, 6-9 months), sleepers/sleep-sacks, onesies, outfits (boy, girl, gender neutral), booties/socks, rattles/teethers, baby wearing carriers/slings, Boppy® /nursing pillows, bouncy seats, diaper bags, baby blankets, bath supplies (shampoo, soap, towels, washcloths), books about baby development, baby books & developmental toys, high chairs, and strollers.

## TODAY'S READINGS



**First Reading:** "I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." (Gn 22:12) **Psalm 116:** I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. **Second Reading:** He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? (Rom 8:32) **Gospel:** Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." (Mk 9:7)

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10,16-20/Ps 50:8-9,16-17, 21-23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14-16/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 105:16-21/ Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8-11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/ Jn 2:13-25 **Scrutiny**: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/ Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42, 19b-26, 39-42



The Liturgical Environment Ministry is preparing for the Easter Liturgies. **We invite you to share in the joy of Easter by joining our parish tradition of individuals and families providing Easter plants for our sanctuary.**

Envelopes for donations are available at each exit. Please make checks payable to St. Francis and indicate the names of those you wish to remember. You can give to the business office or place the envelope in the collection basket. The cost per plant is $15 and you can order as many as you wish.

**The last day to order is Sunday, March 24.**

**Regardless of weather**: Mass & Confessions will take place. Check the website for exceptions/updates.

## Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat, Feb 24, 5:00pm: † Hector Cerrillo

Sun, Feb 25, 8:30am: The deceased members of the O'Shea and Peterson families

10:30am: † Marion Bohnsack

5:00pm: Parishioners & Visitors

Mon, Feb 26: 8:30am: Matthew, Christina and Chi Won Kearney

Tue, Feb 27, 8:30am: † Marion Bachta

Wed, Feb 28, 8:30am: † Chi Won's family

Thurs, Feb 29, 8:30am: Hannah Wilsey

Fri, Mar 1: 8:30am: Respect Life Mass

Sat, Mar 2: 5pm: Kathleen Ann Knappman & Family

Sun, Mar 3, 8:30am: † Aurelia Weinthaler

10:30am: † MaryJane Watson

5:00pm: Parishioners & Visitors

You may have a Mass offered for the living, deceased (†) or a special need. Contact the office to schedule. No charge but a typical offering is $10.

## Weekly Activities

**Monday, February 26**
6:30am Men's Inferno COR-1 (D-E)
7:30am Confessions (Church)
8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
9:00am Quilters (D-E)
**10:30/11am Rosary/Funeral Mass for Elaine Nethercot**
6:00pm Marian Rosary Group (Hall, 7pm in church)

**Tuesday, February 27** **Saint Gregory of Narek**
7:30am Confessions (Church)
8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
9:30am Tai Chi (Hall)

**Wednesday, February 28**
7:30am Confessions (Church)
8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
9:30am Eternal Rest class (D-E)
4:30/7pm Faith Formation classes (all classrooms)
7:00pm RCIA class (Hall)
7:00pm Holy is his Name class (St. Clare)
7:00pm Choir Practice (Church)

**Thursday February 29**
7:30am Confessions (Church)
8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
5:00pm Holy Hour: Adoration, Vespers & Confessions
6:30pm Cub and Boy Scouts (A, D-E)

**Friday, March 1** **Abstinence**
7:30am Confessions (Church)
8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
9:00am Adoration til 3pm (Rosary 9am, chaplet 2:50pm)
12:00pm Men's Inferno COR-2 (F)
5:30pm Lenten Dinner (Hall)
7pm Stations of the Cross in Church led by Ladies Aux

**Saturday, March 2**
7:00am That Man is You (St. Clare)
4:00pm Confessions (Church)
5:00pm Vigil Mass (Church)

**Sunday, March 3**
8:30/10:30am Mass (Nursery, LOH@9:45, Donuts)
5:00pm Mass (Church)
**6:30pm Confirmation Class (B-C)**
**6:30pm HS Youth Group (St. Clare)**

# Welcome to our Church!

We are happy to have you here with us.

If you are new to the parish or have not yet registered, please visit our website or fill out a registration card and drop in the offertory or to the office. Thank You!

**Why Register?** It is the official way to join a parish community and shows a commitment to practice your faith. It entitles you to receive sacraments, enroll in religious education and serve as a godparent.

Registration creates a two-fold obligation: On one hand, the Pastor and his Apostolate of Lay People take on the obligation to serve the spiritual needs of each parishioner. On the other hand, the parishioner takes on the obligation to support the mission and needs of the parish.

## Stewardship of Treasure
## FINANCIAL INFO
## February 5—11, 2024

**Offertory**

| | |
|---|---|
| Envelopes ($16,042; Online $5,875) | $21,917 |
| Capital Repair & Replacement | $821 |
| Other income (Grants, etc) | $410 |

**For Secure Online Giving, go to the 'Online Giving' tab from our website at:** https://stfranciscs.org/online-giving

Diocesan Ministry Appeal (DMA) - Goal ($150,949)
To donate: https://giving.diocs.org/Diocesan-Annual-Appeal.
78 pledges; Intentions—$55,395; Collected—$20,799

Corpus Christi Catholic Academy is now open for new enrollment for the 2024/25 school year. Please visit our website: **CorpusChristicos.org** for more information and to begin your free application. You may also contact Erin in admissions at EGanis@CorpusChristicos.org. Spaces are limited.

Campus Minister position at St. Mary's High School

Job opening for a Teacher/Director of Campus Ministry, responsible for nurturing student faith life through Catholic and Christian programming and creating ongoing opportunities for faith development. For more details, visit the ad on their website: **https://www.smhscs.org/page/employment-opportunities**

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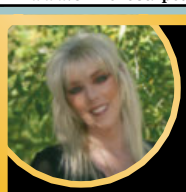

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