

# St. Francis of Assisi

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



**APRIL 24, 2022 • 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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**Rev. George-Bede Ajuruchi, SSJ**  
gebee78@yahoo.com

## THE JOSEPHITES

Betty John - *Volunteer Secretary*

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.–12 noon

### MASS SCHEDULE WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

**WEEKDAY MASS**  
Tuesday-Friday 7:00 a.m.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

In the Rectory Chapel  
Friday, 8:00a.m. to Friday 6:00 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

Tuesday through Friday 7:30–8:00 a.m.  
Saturday 3:45–4:15 p.m.  
Sunday 8:45–9:15 a.m.  
and any time upon request.

### BAPTISMS

If you are seeking information about Baptisms please contact Mrs. Melazie Jacobs at 332-1788.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes September through April  
Sundays 8:00–9:00 a.m. (Grades 1–6)  
Sundays 10:45–11:45 a.m. (Grades 7–11)

### PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Lisa Alexander  
Clarence Celestine  
Janice Demouchet  
Ricky Gary Sr.  
Margaret Noel  
Anna Ferraro  
Nataki Faulk

**TRUSTEES**  
Melazie Jacobs  
Raymond Aiguillard

**IF YOU ARE  
WHAT YOU  
*should be,*  
YOU WILL SET  
*the whole world*  
ON FIRE!**

—St. Catherine of Siena

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**LORD**



"My Lord and my God!"

JOHN 20:28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**April 24**—Gina Batiste, Evelyn Menard  
**April 25**—Mandolia Jean Batiste, Travis Neveu  
**April 26**—Clarence Abraham Jr., Carol Aguillard, Eligha Cretian  
**April 27**—Rose Davis, Faye Waters, Linda Wiltz  
**April 28**—Alfred Dalcourt Sr., Marshall Soloman  
**April 29**—Eva Demouchet  
**April 30**—Anthony Alexander, Clifton Galentine Sr, Lance Landry, Melanie Waters  
**May 01**—Marie Celestine, Sherry Dugas

**Happy Birthday**

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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 Alexis Alexander  
 Fannie Alexander  
 Joseph M. Alexander  
 Agnes Amest  
 Fr. Daniel Bastianelli, SSJ  
 Hebert Joseph  
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Mary Anne Jean Batiste  
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 Jeanette Demouchet  
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 Amy Thompson  
 Audrey Wiltz  
 Joseph Matthew Noel Jr  
 Cecelia Soularie  
 Leroy Jones  
 Ada Landry

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults(RCIA) desires to bring the Light of the Holy Spirit to everyone we encounter, and we ask the faith filled Christians here at St. Francis of Assisi to be part of our Evangelization process. Let us embark on a journey of Light following our Lord who will give us the "Light of Life".

For more information call Cassandra Griffin at 337-257-1942 or Betty John at 337-442-1177.



**WEEKLY BULLETIN**

**St. Agnes Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center**

St. Francis of Assisi Church is grateful to all of our bulletin sponsors. Please help show your appreciation by supporting our sponsors.

**MASS ATTENDANCE**

**APRIL 16 4:30 P.M.**

**APRIL 17 7:00 A.M.**

**APRIL 17 9:30 A.M.**

**TOTAL**

**COLLECTION—04/17/22**

**\$—**



## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



### FIRST READING

Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them. (Acts 5:14)



### PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)  
Or Alleluia.



### SECOND READING

"I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever." (Rev 1:17-18)



### GOSPEL

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst. (Jn 20:19)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.*



### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Even Thomas struggles to remove his boulder! Being very pragmatic and determined, he wants to see the risen Christ for himself! Thomas's boulder is heavy with mistrust. Many of ours are too. A certain amount of skepticism is good, as it can save us from being duped or misled. But we can become so skeptical of things that it erodes our ability to trust anything we see or hear. Skepticism can actually be a well-disguised defense mechanism that we use to prevent us from being hurt or perceived as a fool. Having too much ego protection is a real risk. Thomas, because of the boulder blocking his vision, could not even trust the word of his friends.

Boulders are hard to move. It's difficult to seek change or take a risk, especially when we are so afraid to be vulnerable or reluctant to trust another's word. When we are closed minded, overly pragmatic, unwilling to see things in a different way, stubborn or defensive, it is difficult to be surprised by God and stretched. We need to be less guarded, self-assured, and self-absorbed. God cannot break into the ordinary moments of our lives and inspire us when we cling to doubt. If we are going to discover resurrection faith, we have to believe that what the witnesses say is true, especially when they are credible. We also have to trust that the risen Christ is alive in us, too!

While the first witnesses to the resurrection have faded into history, there are many others who have come after them. They continue to inspire by walking the talk of faith. They are the martyrs who offer their lives for the Gospel, the simple holy people in our communities who cling so steadfastly to their faith, those who have touched despair and found new hope and the ones who, even in spite of ridicule, still pursue their hunger and thirst for God. They are our friends, acquaintances, biblical heroes, and saints, and many others who are convinced that they have seen the Lord! The risen Christ may not surprise us with the same kind of visit as he did the first disciples, but God finds other ways. All we have to do is open our eyes, remove whatever is preventing us from seeing and believing and exclaim: "My Lord and my God!"

### From the Pastor's Desk

#### Food for Thought

##### A GOOD GESTURE.

Mark was walking home from school one day when he noticed the boy ahead of him had tripped and dropped all of the books he was carrying, along with two sweaters, a baseball bat, a glove, and a small tape recorder.

Mark knelt and helped the boy pick up the scattered articles. Since they were going the same way, he helped to carry part of the burden. As they walked Mark discovered the boy's name was Bill, that he loved video games, baseball, and history, that he was having lots of trouble with his other subjects, and that he had just broken up with his girlfriend.

They arrived at Bill's home first and Mark was invited in for a Coke and to watch some television. The afternoon passed pleasantly with a few laughs and some shared small talk, then Mark went home. They continued to see each other around school, had lunch together once or twice, then both graduated from junior high school.

They ended up in the same high school where they had brief contacts over the years. Finally, the long-awaited senior year came and three weeks before graduation, Bill asked Mark if they could talk.

Bill reminded him of the day years ago when they had first met. "Did you ever wonder why I was carrying so many things home that day?" asked Bill.

"You see, I cleaned out my locker because I didn't want to leave a mess for anyone else. I had stored away some of my mother's sleeping pills and I was going home to commit suicide. But after we spent some time together talking and laughing, I realized that if I had killed myself, I would have missed that time and so many others that might follow. So, you see, Mark, when you picked up those books that day, you did a lot more, you saved my life."

- John W. Schlatter (true life story).

Be a Helper to someone today and not a destroyer.

Happy Divine Mercy Sunday to you all, and congratulations to those receiving their First Holy Communion today.

#### Announcement.

1. Next Sunday, May 1, 2022, at our 9:30 AM Mass, our brothers and sisters who just made their First Holy Communion today, will be doing our May Crowning of Mary. We ask their parents/guidance to please take note.



## PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

*“Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen*

*April 24—Rev. Msgr. Russell J. Harrington*

*April 25—Rev. David Hebert*

*April 26—Rev. Matthew Hebert*

*April 27—Rev. T. J. Hebert*

*April 28—Rev. Gregory Heslip, LC*

*April 29—Rev. Matthew Higginbotham*

*April 30—Rev. Stephen Irudayasamy, HGN*

*May 01—Pope Francis*

*“For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.” (Hb. 5:1)*



### Baptism Requirements for St. Francis of Assisi

Parents or guardian requesting Baptism must pick up a copy of the Baptism Requirements from the office.

All information must be turned in by the week before Baptism.



### How does our sorrow translate into penance?

When we are truly sorry for our sins, we regret having ever done them. That leads naturally to our trying to remedy the damage caused by sin and to having a firm purpose of amendment to avoid that and other types of sins in the future.

The priest normally assigns us a penance (for example, prayer, fasting or other types of self-denial, sacrifices, almsgiving, spiritual or corporal works of mercy, or service of neighbor) as medicine to begin to repair the damage caused by sin, but this penance is light in comparison to the infinite harm our sins have done in bringing about Christ’s death.

- So we should voluntarily do penance to seek, with God’s help, to expiate our sins and repair that damage (CCC 1460)

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 2022

**Sunday:** Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

**Monday:** 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20

**Tuesday:** Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15

**Wednesday:** Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21

**Thursday:** Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36

**Friday:** Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15

**Saturday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21

**Next Sunday:** Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 2022

**Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy); St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

**Monday:** St. Mark, Evangelist

**Wednesday:** Administrative Professionals’ Day

**Thursday:** St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest

**Friday:** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Arbor Day

**Saturday:** St. Pius V, Pope

**Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Easter; St. Joseph the Worker

### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

Life is about to get very interesting for the disciples. Finding themselves questioning what happened to Jesus and whether he actually was raised from the dead, they are afraid and uncertain. In the midst of this fear, questioning, and uncertainty, Jesus decides to surprise them with a visit! This visit, complete with the gift of peace, fills the disciples with great excitement and joy. But their detailed testimony is not enough to convince their absent friend Thomas. He wants to see for himself. We struggle with belief as well. It is hard for some to give themselves over to the testimony of another. We want to see the resurrected Christ in person. God, through the gift of eyes of faith, gives us the ability to do precisely that: when we witness the healing that comes from forgiveness, the beauty that flows from love, the wonder of creation, the new life that comes after we fall, and the unique soul that lives behind each person’s life. Christ is risen. Life will get very interesting for us too, when we stop unbelieving and believe!

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