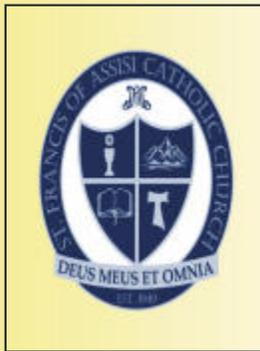


MARCH 28, 2021

• PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Text to Give: (833) 938-2034

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

## PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Fr. Rob Adams

**Deacon:** Dcn. Joe Jacobs

**Director of Religious Education:**

Sr. Amy Westbrook, 614-282-2103

**Administrative Assistant:** Becky Griffith

**Custodian:** Lisa Scalf

**137 Bryan Street  
Pikeville, Kentucky 41501  
Phone: 606-437-6117**

**Website: [www.stfrancispikeville.org](http://www.stfrancispikeville.org)**

**Email: [stfranchischurch@cdlex.org](mailto:stfranchischurch@cdlex.org)**

**App: St Francis Pikeville**



## PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8



## From the Pastor's Desk....

### Sunday Offertory

3-21-202.....\$2,465  
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700  
 Surplus/**Deficit**.....\$235

YTD  
 Offertory.....\$107,965  
 YTD Budget.....\$102,600  
**Surplus/Deficit**.....\$5,365

3-21-2021 Building Fund .....\$45

**BUILDING FUND UPDATE:** We currently owe **\$79,628** on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



**Isaiah 50:4-7**  
**Philippians 2:6-11**  
**Mark 14:1-15:47**

Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love.

**Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 949**

Happy Sunday everyone!

It's already the beginning of Holy Week! I hope this has been a fruitful Lent for everyone. Please remember to check the schedule for our Holy Week liturgies. You can find the schedule in the bulletin, on the website, and on of the St. Francis Pikeville app.

I am so glad to see people starting to return to Church after being away due to the pandemic. Unfortunately, we are still bound by restrictions on our building's capacity. If the church is too full, we will do our best to get people seated in the lobby. However, once the building is full, we will have to turn people away. This is not out of spite or ill-will, but we have to be responsible and follow the bishop's directives. Please do not squeeze to fit more people into pews and other areas!

I would highly encourage people to consider coming to the Vigil Mass instead of the regular Sunday Mass. For Easter, I am considering offering an additional Mass at 12:00 pm on Easter Sunday. This is only tentative, and I need to know that there is sufficient interest. If you would like to come to a noon Mass on Easter, please let me know!

God Bless,  
 Fr. Rob

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a Eucharistic family of Catholic Christians. Nourished by the sacraments and guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim Jesus Christ and the Good News of salvation. Following the spirit of the Gospel, St. Francis parish provides continuous religious education and spiritual growth for all parishioners, varied opportunities for social enrichment, and support for the needs of families in Pike County, our nation and the world.

### Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, March 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Covie Joseph Schmidt
Sunday, March 28	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, March 29	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tuesday, March 30	10:30 am Chrism Mass at Christ the King	
Wednesday, March 31	Noon Mass	Intentions of Sr. Amy
Thursday, April 1	7:00 pm - Holy Thursday	+Dr. Max Tan
Friday, April 2	<b>No Mass - Good Friday</b>	
Saturday, April 3	8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass	For the People
Sunday, April 4	10:30 am Mass	For the People

# Parish Calendar & Announcements

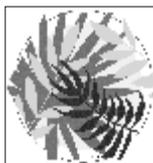


## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Many struggle with Jesus. Some who consider themselves faithful hail him in their churches but still struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. The message is somehow more palatable when it echoes pious renderings and sentiments and involves singing hosannas during worship. It becomes a bit trickier when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct the business of our lives, becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor, and marginalized, and living as servants of our Loving Creator. Ultimately, it is a struggle between wanting to be God ourselves and letting God be God as God is. That's why it's so easy to become hypocritical. We, like those who hailed Christ as he arrived in Jerusalem and sent Christ to the cross to die, also talk out of both sides of our mouths. We entertain what suits us at the time and walk away from the rest.

Many neglect God's beautiful creation because they prefer what humans have made instead. Progress isn't seen in preserving and enhancing what God has made but replacing it with something we believe is better and more useful. The earth, flowers, and animals are all expendable if they stand in the way of the "more" we want to achieve. We seek to remove as many obstacles and hurdles as possible in search of the easiest, quickest, and most efficient path we can find. We have created drugs and laws that preserve our free choice, even though it may mean setting aside God's vision and example. Why suffer when we can easily be put to rest? Why endure insult or injury when we can retaliate, eliminate or subdue? Why accept life when it is acceptable to choose otherwise? We want to be God and resist accepting the fact that our real Creator has already given us the blueprints for the life we need to live in the Beatitudes and in the example of his Passion. We don't like being stewards and managers and really want the power to do as we wish and desire. We want to create our own way.

Where has the true, effective Christian voice been through all of the wars and violence, prejudice and unjust conquests, abuse of human beings and attempted extinctions of nationalities, the establishments of procedures and protocols that serve only a few and not the many and all of the injustices and exploitations that are a part of our human history? A few courageous prophets have stood up and out throughout all of the comings and goings of our human journey with many receiving the same fate as the Crucified One we hail this week. Some still walk among us as shining stars showing us how it really can be. How would Jesus' journey have ended if he lived life as we do? Unless we encounter the good with the bad, the just with the unjust, the grace with the sin, the glory with the cross, the death with the life we most certainly risk rendering God obsolete. After all, haven't we already convinced ourselves that we can do better?  
©LPi



## PALM SUNDAY

It was during the fourth century in Jerusalem that Christians first starting using palm branches in commemoration of

Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. Today, we continue to use palms in most churches on this Sunday, Catholic and Protestant alike. It is one of those traditions of worship that, no matter how far apart we may seem at times, we continue to share due to our common heritage.

But Palm Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday, because we hear an account of the passion of Jesus Christ during the liturgy. Most churches also share this reading in common. Many Catholic parishes use multiple lectors to proclaim the Gospel, while it is not uncommon for a similar reading or even a performance in many mainstream Protestant churches.

The commonality found in the worship on this particular Sunday seems to highlight the fundamental truth in the observance: Jesus Christ died for everyone. He did not die on a cross for just Catholics, or just Orthodox, or just Protestants. Whether one acknowledges it or not, he was crucified for all those who are born of man. Today, we rejoice not just for what he has done for us but also for what he has done for all of creation.



**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.**



## PRAYER REQUEST



Jerry and Ann Bilicek

Gloria Wagner (Mother of Linda Justice and Susan Chafin)

Steve McCoy, stroke, Lisa Scalf's Cousin  
Jim Goss

Ron Saros

Jonthan and Michelle Meece, pregnancy. Pat and Ron Saros, nephew

Dave Such, Mollie Dawahare Such's father in law

Cindy and Christy Hedinger

Tedric Evangelista, Gloria Newsom's cousin, cancer

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Alpha Carroll, Signature Health Care

Dr. Harry Altman

Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

Peggy Brown, Jennifer Brown Day's grandmother

## **VOTIVE CANDLES:**

Suggested donation: Large votives \$3.00 and small votives \$0.50

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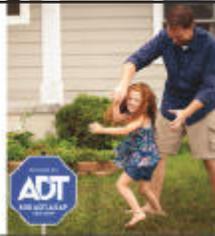
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