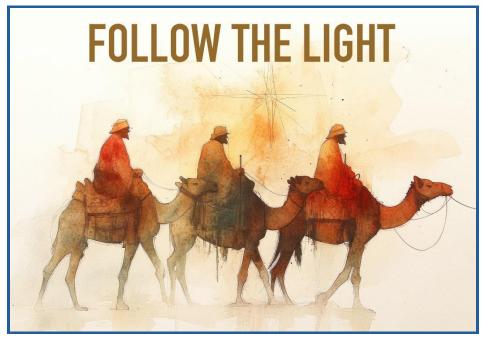
Epiphany of The Lord ~ January 5, 2025



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 <u>www.sfaparish.org</u> <u>contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org</u> ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL 610-543-0546

Rev. Matthew J. Tralies ~ Pastor Deacon W. Timothy Baxter Rev. Henry J. McKee ~ In Residence Deacon James J. McGonigal



#### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Sunday, January 5, 2025 7:30AM Rita D'Avella 9:30AM Eugene Horan 11:30AM Christine Corey Monday, January 6, 2025 8:00AM Seamus Meenagh Tuesday, January 7, 2025 8:00AM John Byrne Wednesday, January 8, 2025 8:00AM Donna McDonnell (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.) ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through Holy Hour) Thursday, January 9, 2025 8:00AM Thelma Ernst Friday, January 10, 2025 8:00AM Richard Goodwin (1st Ann.) 9:00AM School Mass Saturday, January 11, 2025 8:00AM Eugene McRory **3:00PM Confessions** 4:00PM For the People of the Parish Sunday, January 12, 2025 7:30AM Maureen B. McCallum 9:30AM Jill Mariani

11:30AM Joseph E. Coghlan, Jr.

**†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†** May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.



MEMORIAL FOR JANUARY Bread and Wine

**Both Available** 

#### THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of January 5th, the candle will burn in loving memory of Will Colgan as requested by The McMenamin Family.

SFA CYO is the recipient of the United Way under the Honor Option Plan. Your donation supports our activities for the youth of our parish. If you wish to support the CYO, please indicate: CYO/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI/SPRINGFIELD #7046 SFA CYO

### PRAYER REQUESTS **TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY**

**Baby Margot Steindl** Baby DeSantis **Dominic Rosini Colin Murray Monique Carpenter** Anne McGlone Maria DiGiacinto **David Clemmer** Catherine Lindsev **Danny Hynes Robert W. Bollinger** Leslie Dougherty **Margaret Binetsky** Jack Braconnier, Sr. Marvann McCaulev **Bob Buchanan** Alicia Bona Ray Kenney, Sr. **Natalie Berry Carolina Longmore** Maryann Murphy Cathy Bai Jenine Amato **Deacon Joe Gousie** Sandy Keller **Chris Touchton Tim Corlies** Susan Aljets Fox Family **Amy Travers** 

Baby Daniel Ruszaj **Emily Belfie** Arthur LeTourneau Lucretia Murphy Lou DeSantis **Brian Marandola Carmen Salerno Amy Faulls Mary Benedetti Shealyn Mencel Kathy Fritz** Jeannie Brattini Joanne DeSantis **Ron Fraatz Denise DeAngelis Marie Martin Greg Schmidt** Susan Lower Mary Jean Grandizio **Gerald Berry** Ann Farren Dan Bruno Malcolm Wills Joe Mastalski Sadie Keller Mark McKinsey **Paul Ansaldo** Scott Aljets Merkle Family Frank Riehl Joe Mastalski

Evan Farrington **Michael Farley Bill Seavey Dolores Govannicci** Ethel LeVasseur **Michael Costa Joanne Marks** Veronica Suppa **Caroline Donovan Fran Donnelly Emily Meakim** Paula Bazela Patti Frost Cinko Joe Calabrese **Beverly Scarani** Madelyn O'Keefe Hank McElwee **Inger Sexton** Eileen Bowdren **Brian Griffin** Marsha Four Patricia Lafferty Jack Schultz Michelle Rodger Ambrose Hummel Patricia Lindsey Ian Regino Peggy Burke **Franny Devlin Dobbs Family Kevin Fries** 

For Our St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community If you have someone you would like prayed for, OR have **REMOVED** from prayer list, please email Joan Curtis at sfabulletin@hotmail.com or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.

#### **CHURCH UN-DECORATING**

We extend an invitation to all men, women and teens to come and help UNDECORATE St. Francis Church AFTER Christmas. We will gather in Church on Sunday, January 5th following the 11:30AM Mass. Your help will be GREATLY APPRECIATED! All are welcome! All are needed!



#### FOOD COLLECTION

Thanks again for your support to our Food Drive. The food goes to help many needy families. The Food Collection will be next weekend, January 11 & 12th. Thank you! God Bless!



RaiseRight.

SCRIP sales are held in the gym from 9:30-11am every Sunday (except holidays). If you have any questions, please contact Deb Peterson or Amy Foran at sfascripsales@gmail.com or call 484-432-1472 Or visit: https://www.sfaschool.com/scrip/

#### Breaking Open the Word The Baptism of the Lord ~ January 12, 2025



Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Next Sunday we celebrate the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. Here we find that John's ministry has brought many to him and spread an eager hopefulness that Jesus is the longawaited Messiah. Do you share the same eager hopefulness with John the Baptist? How do you spread this hopefulness to others?

#### Titus 2: 11-14; 4:4-7

"Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly and devoutly in this age... How did that go for you this past Christmas season of gifting and receiving?

#### Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

In Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist points people away from himself and toward the one to come. Are you likewise able to check your ego in service to God's plan for you?

#### ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

If anyone is in need of assistance with utility bills, or other bills, or in need of food, or, if you know of someone who needs help, call 610-212-4932 and someone from the St. Vincent will call you.



#### **<u>RIDE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS</u>**

If you are in need of a ride to a doctor or test appointment, please call the Rectory 610-543-0848 and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul Society will call you back to coordinate a ride for you.



Join us as we pray the Novena of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary **Wednesdays at 1:30PM** in the Church. (Except for Christmas Day & New Year's Day)

## FLAME & LOVE

To Host the Pilgrim Queen Statue in your home for one week, (Sunday to Sunday), visit the Parish website at <u>sfaparish.org</u> and click on the link to *Sign Up* to reserve your week and Be Blessed by Our Lady and Our Lord. For more information, call Roseann Squitiere at 610-328-0635.

#### ST. FRANCIS IN ACTION !!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Springfield PA seeks to emulate our patron saint in service to others. We seek to encounter people in need through a variety of offerings that provide us with the opportunity to be Christ like and to meet Christ in those we serve.



#### **ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE COLLECTION**

St John's Hospice- is a men's homeless shelter and also serves meals to homeless men. **The collection is this weekend**, **January 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**. Please bring breakfast items (cereal, breakfast bars, coffee, tea, juice), personal care items (hand sanitizer, bath soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, lip balm and shaving items) and new/gently used men clothes. Items can be left in the church entranceways/ vestibule. Contact Cathy and Mark Kenney at <u>cfkenney@verizon.net</u> if you wish to drop off items at our home or for further information about the ministry Thanks.

#### ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CASSEROLES

The casserole containers and recipes are located in the main vestibule next to the book display and in the basement of the rectory. Casseroles must be frozen and can be dropped off before mass the weekend of St John's Hospice collection. Coolers are at SFA entrances on weekend of collection. Email <u>cfkenney@verizon.net</u> to arrange for pick up or other drop off times. Casseroles are due the same weekend as the St John's collection. Thank you!

#### CARING FOR FRIENDS (CFF)

Until further notice, please drop off meals at St. Kevin's parish in the foyer in the Parish Life Center. Meal tins are located in the SFA rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church. The meals will go to the elderly, homebound, and veterans.

The CFF program is also looking for volunteers to deliver meals to people in Clifton Heights, Drexel Hill, Media, and Broomall. If you are interested in this ministry or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Monkman (610)574-5541 or Jill Hoffner (610)733-1593.

#### **MARY MOTHER OF CAPTIVES**

A Support Group for those coping with a loved one in prison. Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at St. Charles Borromeo Church Hall, 3422 Dennison Avenue, Drexel Hill, Pa 19026. **Attendees remain confidential.** For more information, please call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email: marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

**Visit the Imprisoned. Become a Pen Pal...**In prison, sometimes the only contact with the outside world is in the form of letters. Pen Pal writers are needed to write to the poorest of the poor. For more info, call John or Sue at 610-259-3178 or email: <u>marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org</u>.

#### WEEKLY DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Please join us Wednesday mornings immediately following the 8AM Mass in front of the Sacred Heart statue in Church for the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

#### SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The meeting is this Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be entertained by "Massimo Brutto." Tickets will be on sale for Pizza Day, February 20<sup>th</sup>. REMINDER: Casino trip is Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. The bus leaves at 10AM.

"IRISH CELEBRATION" Join St. Francis Over 50 Club at the Shore Club in Springton Lake, NJ on March 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Cathy Randazzo at 610-389-5225. <u>Casino Trips</u>: 1/8, 2/12, & 3/12. Cost is \$30 with return of \$15 in slot play. Bus leaves at 10am from the St. Kevin parking lot (200 W. Sproul Road). Park in spaces adjacent to the Springfield Country Club. Call Joe Gowen at 610-739-8146.

<u>Membership</u> to our Club is open to the entire community. Anyone who is 50 years of age or older may join the Club regardless of sex, religion, or race. For Membership information, call Cathy Randazzo at 610-328-0408.



Crisis Pregnancy Resource hotline: 610-626-4006. Rachel's Vineyard Post-Abortion healing: 877-HOPE-4-ME www.rachelsvineyard.org. A Baby's Breath 24-hour hotline: 484-571-5540. www.ababysbreath.org. Delaware County Pregnancy Center: 610-872-2229, www.dcpcchester.org Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org . Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

#### THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will hold its December and January meeting in the Family Life Center at Holy Cross on **Wednesday**, **January 22nd at 7PM**. If you would like to join the meeting or if you would like more information, please contact Terry Price at 610.506.6449 or via email

at termprice@verizon.net.

**December book** – <u>Waiting for Christ</u> – St. John Henry Newman

January book – <u>Walking with God in the Unimpressive</u> Seasons of Life – Fr. Mike Schmitz

#### **Our Lady, Queen of Peace Presidium Legion of Mary**



#### Legion of Mary

The Saint Francis Chapter of the Legion of Mary (Our Lady, Queen of Peace Praesidium) invites you to become an active or auxiliary member of Mary's Legion. Active members attend a weekly meeting and commit to doing two hours of work each week for Mary and her Son. Auxiliary members pray the Legion prayers daily for the intentions of our Blessed Mother. **Our Legion meets on Monday afternoons at 1:30 P.M. in the Rectory Chapel.** We invite you to join us to learn more about our work. For more information, call Gus McClay at 610 544-7223.



#### HOLY SPIRIT GROUP MEN'S RETREAT

January 24-26th.

To register, visit: http://www.malvernretreat.com It is a Traditional Men's retreat, including daily Mass, conferences, all meals and overnight accommodations, at a cost of \$275.00. Our weekend begins 5:00PM on Friday, January 24 through Sunday 26th. I'd like you to consider coming out for this retreat. During this time, you will experience prayer, meditation, reconciliation, group discussions, Eucharistic liturgies and special speakers.

- \* This years' Retreat Director is Father William Cocco of St Edmonds Parish Rehoboth Beach DE.
- \* Our speakers are Deacon Tom McGovern of St Joseph Paris High bridge N.J.
- \* Mary Bea with the Carlo Acutis Shrine at Malvern retreat House.
- \* Finally, our special event is Mr. Eustace Wolfington, Executive Producer, of Angel Studio's presenting a private viewing of the acclaimed movie "Cabrini."

Email me with any questions. Carlo Borgia – cqb58@verizon.net

# ST. FRANCIS PARISH MEN'S GROUP

Parish Men's Group meets every Saturday morning virtually from 6:45~8:00AM to share the desire to follow Jesus more closely by being better husbands, fathers, grandfathers, leaders, followers, sons, and friends. All are welcome to join us! Please call in at 6:45AM at 646-558-8656 **Meeting ID**: 738 611 2876 **Passcode**: 111501.

#### Calling all Knitters & Crocheters



Are you looking for a way to serve the Lord using your God given talent? "**PROJECT LINUS**" is a nationwide project where knitters or crocheters donate their handmade blankets for hospitalized children from Preemies to Teens. For more info, call 610-328-0741.



All women are invited to join us in fellowship, aimed at strengthening our faith and journeying closer to the heart of God. This year, we will be using Walking with Purpose's "Touching the Divine" bible study.

https://walkingwithpurpose.com/bible-study/ for more info and to order the book. Meetings will take place in SFA's Library on select Saturday mornings at 8:30am, beginning September 14th. If you have questions or want more info, please reach out to: Jen Lorenz 610-333-3011.



ALL ARE INVITED!!! Come let your heart be soothed and experience the peace and serenity of our Parish Holy Hour on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Church. If you have questions or wish to volunteer and help reach out, please contact Rob Longo (<u>Rob@LiveVertical.org</u>) or Luke LeTourneau (<u>Luke@LiveVertical.org</u>) or call 610-986-6660. For more info, visit: www.livevertical.org

#### The Corner

#### Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

The Epiphany of our Lord gives us a chance to reflect on the family-centered nature of this Feast Day and its original connection to the celebration of the Holy Family. The Magi were willing to take the risk of searching for the Child, in what they believed was a monumental event. They were the first Gentiles to encounter Jesus, and remain a powerful example to us. Search for Jesus, He is right there beside you! p.s. Can you name the 3 wise men? Casper, Melchior and Balthazar.



#### Babysitting on Sundays, during the 9:30AM Masses...

For ages 12 months to 5 years old. The babysitting will take place in the SFA Upper School Building. Enter through the door to the LEFT of the Gym and go in the first classroom on the right. Doors will open starting at 9:15AM. To register your child(ren), or to volunteer to sit, contact: Rebecca Donovan at 607-351-8381 or Katie Birkhead at 484-995-9941. *CLEARANCES NECESSARY FOR BABYSITTERS.* 

#### ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank **MEDICARE QUESTIONS?**  *Kathy Kutufaris ~ Licensed Insurance Broker kathy@tristateseniors.com* 610-639-2480 Please consider using our advertisers' services and tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.

#### ST. FRANCIS PLAYERS WIZARD OF OZ AUDITIONS!



The St. Francis Players are pleased to announce our 2025 production will be "The Wizard of Oz"! Performances to be held: April 25, 26, and 27 as well as May 2, 3, and 4.

Sign-ups and auditions for adults (9th grade and older) will be on Sunday, January 5 at 8:15 PM in Leonard Hall, 136 Saxer Avenue, Springfield PA 19064. (*Callbacks to be held Wednesday, January 8*)

Children's chorus (Grade 1-8) or anyone interested in other volunteer opportunities need only to register on our website. Should lead roles for children be deemed necessary, auditions for children will be scheduled for a later date.

For more information regarding auditions and other special events regarding the St. Francis Players please visit our website <u>www.stfrancisplayers.org</u>.

#### YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS

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Requests for Year-End Financial Giving Statements can be			
submitted online through the St. Francis of Assisi website:			
www.sfaparish.org			
If you contribute electronically, you can also obtain your			
Contribution Report through your Parish Giving Account.			
You can also use the form below to make your request. Request for Year-End Financial Statement If you would like a statement of your yearly contributions for tax purposes, please print and complete this request form. Either mail it to or drop it off at the Rectory, or place it in the collection basket.			
Name:			
Address:			
Phone #:			
For Pick-Up Please Mail to me			

Questions, please call Joan Fogarty (Rectory) 610-543-0848 ext 117

#### BE ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH WEBSITE

#### www.archphila.org/support.

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment and flourishing. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the Be Encouraged website at www.archphila.org/support

#### GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini	Cale Amador Jol	hn Michael Bartivic
Christopher Baxter	Colin Butler J	onathan Butterfield
Davidson Cox	Thomas Cresta An	nthony DelVecchio
Timothy Drabyak	Mike Froeter	Owen Galligan
Kevin Geiger	Jon Hylton	Jacob Johnson
Aidan Jones	Matthew Jones	Matthew Kauffman
Connor Lyons	Dan Marchini	Timothy McCanns
Shawn McConaghy	Bill McDermott	Emma McDonald
James McDonald N	Nicholas McDonald	Michael McGarvey
Francis McGrail	Daniel McLee	Nicholas Peranteau
Stephen Peranteau	Ronan Plummer	Peter Quinn
Katherine Reider	Patrick J. Ryan, Jr.	Joseph Spence
Chase Stewart	Jesse Stewart	Sean Sweeney
	Skip Turner	-
	I GENER INDO	

Let us pray for those who SERVE and PROTECT... Dear Heavenly Father, we lift our sailors, soldiers, marines, airmen, coast guard and families into Your loving care. Protect our Nation from all that is evil. Guide our way through these difficult times. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

#### **MOVIE WITH MEANING: "THE BUTLER"**

Wednesday, January 8, 12:00 lunch; 1:00 movie Stipend: \$20 (lunch). *The Butler* tells the story of a White House butler who served eight American presidents over three decades. The film traces the dramatic changes that swept American society during this time, from the civil rights movement to Vietnam and beyond, and how those changes affected this man's life and family. Forest Whitaker stars as the butler with Robin Williams as Dwight Eisenhower, John Cusack as Richard Nixon, Alan Rickman as Ronald Reagan, James Marsden as John F. Kennedy, Liev Schreiber as Lyndon B. Johnson, and many more.

#### CONFERENCE DAY: SACRED HEART

January 14, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Stipend: \$40 (includes breakfast, lunch and Mass)

Presenter: Sister Rose Adams, IHM. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a sacred way for us to encounter the fullness of the Gospel, the good news of God's saving love poured out for us in Jesus Christ. In our time together we will trace this devotion through the years and discover through scripture and art new ways to deepen our love and appreciation that God became one of us.

Please register for these events by calling 610-581-0120 or emailing S. Marie at ihmconferencecenter@gmail.com

#### HOPE IN CHRIST: SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR ADDICTIONS

Seeking solace and spiritual support in the journey towards recovery? Many local parishes are offering ways to experience Christ's extended hand of love and mercy in your time of need. Find Catholic resources for addiction for you or your loved one at www.archphila.org/hope

Also available for support is Faith-based drug rehab website: <u>www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab</u>

#### VILLA MARIA BY THE SEA RETREAT CENTER

101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

609-964-7696, <u>www.VMbytheSea.com</u>

Wednesday, January 22, 10:00 am-4:00 pm \$25.

**Private Day of Prayer**—On the Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of the Unborn, spend a quiet day praying for the intention of the right to life from conception until natural death. Throughout the day, there will be periods of communal prayer for this very special intention. Lunch and Mass is provided.

Friday, January 31, 8:45 am-2:15 pm \$60\*

Arise and Call her Blessed Presented by Sr. Sheila Galligan, IHM Come to celebrate God's gift of his Mother – whom we usually refer to as the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let's "push pause" and take some time to slowly squeeze the juice out of the descriptive "Blessed" as well as our everyday "go to" prayer: the Hail Mary. Let's come to appreciate the role the Blessed Mother plays in keeping us close to Jesus. Coffee and check-in begins at 8:45 am. The day includes Mass and lunch. \*You may opt to stay overnight the evening before this event for an additional \$95.

<u>WOMEN OF HOPE</u> (formerly known as Dominican Women) Retreat: March 14-16, 2025. Come to Malvern

Retreat House to renew and strengthen your relationship with our Lord. Take time to deepen your faith, in the company of other women who seek more from their faith lives. The theme is "The Eucharist- Food for the Journey." Speakers include Jeannine Peters, Sr. Shiela Galligan, IHM, and Nicky Verna. Visit and learn about the first Archdiocesan Shrine dedicated to Blessed, soon to be Saint, Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint of the youth. Mary Bea Damico will speak about him in the shrine and a first-class relic can be venerated. Please consider the gift of this weekend retreat for yourself and other

women in your lives. The cost is \$275 and a \$75 deposit minimum is requested to secure your spot. To register, call 610 644-0400 or visit www.malvernretreat.com

CARDINAL O'HARA CLASS OF '75, 50TH REUNION SAVE THE DATE - October 11, 2025 – Llanerch Country Club. We Need Your Help! Submit your contact information to

<u>Oharaclassof75@gmail.com</u> ...follow us on Facebook at Cardinal O'Hara Class of '75...Let other classmates know too! See you next year!

**THE CALIX SOCIETY** "A.A. restores your health and keeps you from an early grave. Calix saves your soul and puts you on the road to heaven." - William J. Montroy, a founder of the Calix Society. Are you in a 12-step recovery program? Do you have family or friends in recovery? Tell them about The Calix Society! **We meet the last Saturday of every month at St. Francis of Assisi after the 4:00pm Mass in the Church Library/basement**. For more information about the Calix Society please visit <u>www.calixsociety.org</u>. You can also contact Ken Johnston at 215-327-3236 or

ken@notsaintsyet.org. For more info about our meeting at SFA: please contact Luke LeTourneau at 610-986-6660.

#### PRAYER AGAINST NEGATIVITY

Dear Heavenly Father,

I feel as if the walls of my mind are closing in upon me. My head is filled with negativity. Help me, Father. Free me, Lord, from this prison of negative thoughts. I don't want to expect the worst from situations or people. I don't want to lose hope. But my wounds and my weakness limit me. So I go to the only place where I might have a fighting chance. In Your presence, I begin to see the light. In Your Word, I find the rock to grab hold of. Cleanse me, Lord. Free my mind just as only You can. Free my soul. Let me be free to be me again, Father...filled with hope, alive in love, in Jesus name. Amen.



175 St. Francis of Assisi, Springfield, PA (I)

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