Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 8, 2024



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



Interested in having your child Baptized here at St. Francis? Please contact Joan Curtis at the Rectory 610-543-0848 or email us at:<u>BaptismsSFA@gmail.com</u>

St. Francis of Assisi

"2024 Christmas Tableau"

St. Francis of Assisi Church Thursday, December 19th ~ 7:00 ~9:00 PM Live Performance by the St. Francis of Assisi School Students

All Are Welcome!!



For Information regarding Upcoming Funerals & Services, please visit our Parish Website at www.sfaparish.org and click on...





In preparation for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Christ, Advent Penance Service will be hosted by St. Kevin's Parish Wednesday, December 11th ~ 7:00 PM

All are welcome to attend.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Sunday, December 8, 2024 7:30AM Deceased Members of Alessi and Salladino Families 9:30AM Kelly and Jacki Allen 11:30AM Marie and Armand DiClemente Monday, December 9, 2024 8:00AM Mollie Peranteau Tuesday, December 10, 2024 8:00AM Marie Hoey Wednesday, December 11, 2024 8:00AM Carlo DiFabio 7:00PM Advent Penance Service at St. Kevin. NO ADORATION ~ ONLY 7PM HOLY HOUR. Thursday, December 12, 2024 8:00AM Bill Heider Friday, December 13, 2024 8:00AM Denise McCauley (2nd Ann.) Saturday, December 14, 2024 8:00AM Emidio and Natalia Galie **3:00PM Confessions** 4:00PM For the People of the Parish Sunday, December 15, 2024 7:30AM Augustine and Thomas Smolik

9:30AM Janet Bollinger Doherty 11:30AM Joseph Baj (13th Ann.)

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



MEMORIAL FOR DECEMBER Bread and Wine Hoagland and Debany Families



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the week of **December 8th**, the candle will burn in loving memory of **Marion McCorriston** as requested by her **family**, **Tom and Jean Binkley**.

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. Maryann McCauley **Bob Buchanan** Alicia Bona Ray Kenney, Sr. **Natalie Berry Carolina Longmore Maryann Murphy** Cathy Baj Jenine Amato **Deacon Joe Gousie** Sandy Keller **Chris Touchton** Tim Corlies Susan Aljets Fox Family **Amy Travers**

Emily Belfie Arthur LeTourneau Lucretia Murphy Lou DeSantis **Brian Marandola Carmen Salerno Amv 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 Michelle Rodger Sadie Keller Mark McKinsey Paul Ansaldo Scott Aljets Merkle Family Patti Frost Sinco

Evan Farrington Michael Farley Bill Seavev Dolores Govannicci Ethel LeVasseur Michael Costa Joanne Marks Veronica Suppa **Caroline Donovan Fran Donnelly Emily Meakim** Paula Bazela **Cathy Kenney** Joe Calabrese **Beverly Scarani** Madelyn O'Keefe Hank McElwee **Inger Sexton** Eileen Bowdren **Brian Griffin Marsha Four** Patricia Lafferty Jack Schultz **Ambrose Hummel** Patricia Lindsev Ian Regino Peggy Burke Franny Devlin **Dobbs Family** Frank Riehl

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 <u>sfabulletin@hotmail.com</u> or call the Rectory at 610-543-0848. Thank you for your prayers.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

Just a reminder that there is NO ADORATION during the month of December. Holy Hour will continue at 7PM with the exception of Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

FOOD COLLECTION

Thanks again for your support to our Food Drive. The food goes to help many needy families. **The Food Collection is THIS** weekend, December 10th & 11th. 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 <u>www.sfascripsales@gmail.com</u> or call **484-432-1472.**

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

1-175

Breaking Open the Word 3rd Sunday of Advent ~ December 15th, 2024



Zephaniah 3:14-18a

As the pink candle on the Advent wreath is lit, we are reminded that Advent is a season of rejoicing as the coming of Christ is anticipated. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday (meaning "rejoice"). Make time for prayerful rejoicing this week.

Philippians 4:4-7

"Your kindness should be known to all." From December 16 to 24, Las posadas (from Spanish meaning "the inns"), a widely observed Advent tradition, celebrates Christian hospitality. The posadas symbolize Mary and Joseph's difficult search for a place to stay where Jesus could be born. Through the celebration we are reminded that by welcoming the poor and the needy, we also welcome Jesus. How can you help someone else to prepare the way for Christ?

Luke 3:10-18

Which message from John the Baptist in this week's Gospel do you need to heed? How will you answer John's call to prepare?

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.



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.



Once again, we have adopted 30 families from St. Martin de Porres parish in North Philadelphia for our parish Christmas giving. Please take a tag from the tree which is located near the St. Joseph statue and purchase a gift for the name specified on the ornament.

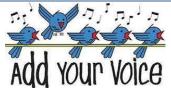
Wrap the gift and tape the tag securely on the package. Tags are also included for gift certificates to supermarkets, Kohl's, Target and Walmart.

Place wrapped gifts under the tree after any Mass. The last day to return your gift(s) is Friday, December 13th.



Individuals, couples and families are asked to **call Madelyn McBride at the rectory to sign up** if they wish to be part of the delivery of the gifts on **Sunday, December 15th**. We will leave from the Parish Library on 8:30AM to deliver the gifts and join St. Martin de Porres for their 10AM Mass. (Participants are asked to bring a gallon of orange/apple juice

and a dozen donuts). (To sign up/or for questions, call Madelyn at 610-543-0848 ext. 118)



"Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous deeds." (Psalm 98) Come sing to the lord and join the Saint Francis of Assisi Choir!

We are looking for men and women of all ages and levels of experience. If the Lord is calling you to minister in song, expand your musical skills, and feel like part of a family, then the choir is just the right group for you. We practice once a week and typically sing at the 9:30am Sunday Mass. We also sing on some Holy Days and for special Masses. We are currently working toward a combined Christmas Concert with the St. Pius X Choir on December 22nd. There's much to look forward to! So, if you're looking for a ministry that accepts you for who you are, and shares your desire to glorify God, then look no further than the choir. Contact our music director, Eric Longo at <u>ericjlongo@gmail.com</u> for inquires.

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.



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 2nd 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: <u>marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org</u>.

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>.



On this Thursday, December 12th, we are holding our "Christmas Luncheon" at the Oaks Ballroom in Glenolden. Tickets are required. Bobby Jones, D.J. REMINDER: Casino trip is Wednesday, December 11th. The Bus leaves at 10AM.

<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.

Membership 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.



PRO-LIFE DIAPERS

Every baby is a miracle from God who deserves to be loved, protected and supported. This is the mission of **Every Life** diapers through the sale of their diapers. Popular brands, Pampers, Huggies and others, have voiced and given their support to the abortion agenda. **Every Life** brand does not support this agenda and supports pro-life resources. You can order diapers and wipes for your baby or "buy for a cause" to be donated to a pregnancy resource center. Go to EveryLife.com. A bundle is a perfect baby shower gift!

"<u>PRO-LIFE" LINES"</u>

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, <u>www.depcchester.org</u> Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, <u>www.mothershome.org</u>. Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

<u>HOPE IN CHRIST:</u> 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 <u>www.archphila.org/hope</u>

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

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

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2024



The 2024 Catholic Charities Appeal is winding down. There is still time to show your support to this great call to action to serve those in need in the Greater Philadelphia Area. Please Visit: <u>https://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org/</u>

We thank all who have made a donation to Catholic Charities.



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.

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 -

cgb58@verizon.net



With Fr. Matt Tralies & Fr. Jim DeGrassa May 4~13, 2025 ~ 10 Days!

Kilkenny...Killarney...Leenane...Knock...Dublin Pricing: \$4895/p & Air Transportation: \$1100/p For Complete itinerary, details, and registration, Visit: www.cloverdaletravel.org or call 215-469-1505 (Trip flyer is available at the Church entrances).

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.

GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



Michael Armellini Christopher Baxter Davidson Cox Timothy Drabyak Kevin Geiger Aidan Jones Connor Lyons Shawn McConaghy James McDonald Nicholas McDonald Michael McGarvey Francis McGrail Stephen Peranteau Katherine Reider Chase Stewart

Cale Amador John Michael Bartivic Colin Butler Thomas Cresta Mike Froeter Jon Hylton Matthew Jones Dan Marchini **Bill McDermott** Daniel McLee Ronan Plummer Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. Jesse Stewart Skip Turner

Jonathan Butterfield Anthony DelVecchio Owen Galligan Jacob Johnson Matthew Kauffman Timothy McCanns Emma McDonald Nicholas Peranteau Peter Ouinn Joseph Spence Sean Sweeney

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.

> ST. FRANCIS PARISH MEN'S GROUP -Mens 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.



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 (Rob@LiveVertical.org) or Luke LeTourneau (Luke@LiveVertical.org) or call 610-986-6660. For more info, visit: www.livevertical.org



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.*



To inquire about scheduling your Wedding Ceremony here at St. Francis, please contact our Parish Wedding Assistant, Joan Kane at ParishWeddingsSFA@gmail.com

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

In this second week of Advent, we observe 3 days to especially pray for Mary's intercession. We have the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** on Monday, the **Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto** on Tuesday, and the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** on Thursday. In preparation for our Mother Mary's Gift to us on Christmas, let's thank her by praying a rosary on each of these days.

<u>BE ENCOURAGED: CATHOLIC SUPPORT FOR MENTAL</u> <u>HEALTH WEBSITE</u>

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

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND AUTISM

HELP-LINE: Do you need help accessing services and support for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social Services-Developmental Programs, The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient helpline to assist families connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and other agencies. **To reach the Help-Line call: 484-472-5041 or email:** <u>IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org</u>.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank

BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com 937-440-8657 Please consider using our advertisers' services and tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.

ROSARY RALLY TO KEEP "CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"



America Needs Fatima Please join us as we pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary and Sing Christmas Carols.

Saturday, December 14, 11AM to 12N. Where: Sidewalk outside McDonald's, 1891 South State Road in the Bond Shopping Center State and Lansdowne Avenue Drexel Hill PA 19026. Upper Darby Township granted permission for this event. Rain or shine, prepare for the weather! Questions? Catherine 610-299-5107 Please text first.

ANNUAL CEMETERY BLANKET/DOOR WREATH

SALE... ending on Sunday, 12/8. The price is still \$35 per Blanket and/or Door Wreath. To order call/text Andy Grajek at 610-761-9020 and leave your name, phone number and the amount you are ordering. *They will be available for pick up at the Holy Cross School Parking Lot located on North Bishop Ave on Saturday, 12/14, from 8:30am until 11:00am.*

CHRISTMAS MARKET AT ST. RAPHAEL CENTER

Wednesday, December 11 from 4pm-7:30pm We welcome old and new friends to walk through our decorated home, enjoy soups and sweets from our chef, browse handmade gifts from visiting artist vendors, connect with neighbors and friends, and encounter God's love through an Advent prayer service from 6:00-6:30pm in the chapel. Website: <u>www.st.raphaelacenter.org</u>, Phone: 610-642-5715 or Email: <u>info@straphaelacenter.org</u>.

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

PRAYER FOR IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

In the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I Trust Look to the Star, Call upon Mary! In danger, in difficulty or in doubt, think of Mary, call upon Mary, Keep her name on your lips, never let it pass out of your heart. Following in her footsteps, you will not go astray: praying to her, you will not fall into despair: thinking of her you will not err. While she keeps hold of your hand, you will not fall ... you will not grow weary ... you will have no fear ... Enjoying her protection, you will reach the goal. (Saint Bernard)



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