



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

136 Saxer Avenue, Springfield, Pa 19064

610-543-0848 (fax) 610-604-0283 www.sfaparish.org contactsfaparish@sfaparish.org
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

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH



Sunday, December 31, 2023

7:30AM Frances Chandlee

9:30AM Theresa C. Hentnick

11:30AM James Valley & Daniel Herron, Sr.

Monday, January 1, 2024

8:00AM Janet Bollinger Doherty

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

8:00AM Robert Iatesta

(In honor of his 1st Anniversary)

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

8:00AM Theresa St. Leger

ADORATION (Following 8AM Mass through 7PM Holy Hour)

Thursday, January 4, 2024

8:00AM Robert Iatesta

Friday, January 5, 2024

8:00AM Rita D'Avella

Saturday, January 6, 2024

8:00AM Robert Iatesta

3:00PM Confessions

4:00PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday, January 7, 2024

7:30AM Maureen B. McCallum

9:30AM Rosalie Kelly

11:30AM Eugene Horan



Baby Callan Ries

Baby DeSantis

Arthur Le Tourneau

Dominic Rosini

Colin Murray

Brian Marandola

Dolores Govannicci

Bill Colgan

Anne McGlone

Maria DiGiacinto

David Clemmer

Catherine Lindsey

Danny Hynes

Robert W. Bollinger

Leslie Dougherty

Paula Bazela

Jack Braconnier, Sr.

Maryann McCauley

Bob Buchanan

Alicia Bona

Anita Kellie Pace

Natalie Berry

Carolina Longmore

Maryann Murphy

Cathy Baj

Francine Piccone

Ray Kenney, Sr.

Gloria DiFabio

Dean Segal

Michael Farley

Evan Farrington

Bill Seavey

Lou DeSantis

Anna M Carullo

Monique Carpenter

Carmen Salerno

Amy Faulls

Mary Benedetti

Shealyn Mencil

Kathy Fritz

Jeannie Brattini

Joanne DeSantis

Margaret Binetsky

Denise DeAngelis

Marie Martin

Greg Schmidt

Albert Panebianco

Mary Jean

Gerald Berry

Ann Farren

Dan Bruno

Malcolm Wills

Robert Ranieri

Joanne Marks

William Faulls

Ethel LeVasseur

Michael Costa

Daniel McTague

Veronica Suppa

Caroline Donovan

Fran Donnelly

Emily Meakim

Nikki Lutteroty

Ron Fraatz

Joe Calabrese

Beverly Scariano

Vince Kelly

Hank McElwee

Kellie Grandizio

Eileen Bowdren

Brian Griffin

Cathy Randazzo

Patricia Lafferty

Jack Schultz

Michelle Rodger

Fran Douglas

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.

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 the weekend of **December 30 & 31**. 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 cfkenney@verizon.net if you wish to drop off items at our home or for further information about the ministry Thanks.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CASSEROLE COLLECTION

Casseroles are needed for St. John's Hospice/Shelter. The casseroles are what the men eat for lunch and dinner and are greatly appreciated! The recipes and containers are available in the church vestibule on the Blessed Mother's side. Casseroles may be dropped my house (there is a cooler by the front door). Please email me in advance to make arrangements to drop casseroles off at my house. My email is: cfkenney@verizon.net Pickup can be arranged. This is a great community service opportunity for families and groups. **Casseroles are due SAME weekend as St. John's Hospice Collections. Cooler will be at SFA for drop off.**

†REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED†

Especially, Matthew Bowen

May they rest in God's peace and may their families be comforted.

MEMORIAL FOR JANUARY 2024

Bread & Wine

MaryAnn Broderick



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE



This candle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. For the Week of **December 31st**, the candle will burn in loving memory of **John Neary, Sr.'s 30th Anniversary** as requested by his daughter, Donna.

**The Rectory will be closed on the following days:
Monday, January 1st, and Tuesday, January 2nd.**

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 7th at 2PM. Your help will be GREATLY APPRECIATED! *All are welcome! All are needed!*



BREAKING OPEN THE WORD
The Epiphany of the Lord ~January 7th, 2024
Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah predicted the glory of the birth of Christ. Read today's first reading and take note of the fulfilled prophecy. Rejoice in the glory of God!

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul teaches us that God's grace is for all, regardless of birthright or heritage. In the current time of equity and inclusion, how are you able to share Christ's message with non-Catholic friends? What challenges do you face?

Matthew 2:1-12

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is, in some families and traditions, the end of the Christmas holiday season. Time to take down and put away decorations and return to "non-holiday" life. This year, be encouraged to extend the joy of the Christmas season by selecting a Christmas decoration to remain on display in your home all year. Big or small does not matter. The desire to keep Christ's love visible in your home all year is what matters! Share it!

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, **please call 484-609-6279** and someone from the St. Vincent de Paul will call you back.

RIDE FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

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.

ATTENTION SENIORS & VOLUNTEERS

If you would be willing to pick up a senior on your way to Mass, please call Pat Brown & give her your name, phone number & your preference for what Mass you attend. Pat's phone number is **610-328-9831**.

If you are a senior, who lives within the boundaries of St. Francis Parish who would like a ride to Mass, please call Pat Brown & give her your name, telephone number, address & your preference for what Mass you would like to attend.

No volunteer would be asked to change the Mass time that they prefer to attend. But your "uber" would make a world of difference in the life of the senior you would be picking up. Please give this some thought and, hopefully, you'll decide to help out a senior! God Bless!!



The following catechists of our Parish Religious Education Program will be honored at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on Saturday, January 13th, for their years of service.

- Matthew Radico: St. Pius X Award–10 Years**
- Patricia Debany: Our Lady of Guadalupe Award–15 Years**
- Annemarie Talvacchio: St. Charles Borromeo Award– 25 years**

May God bless all the catechists and classroom aides of our Parish Religious Education Program



“100th Anniversary memorabilia will be on sale in Leonard Hall after each Mass on Sunday, January 7th”

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.



Kids Against Hunger Million Meal Pack-a-thon event

MLK Day, **January 15th**, at The Drexelbrook, Drexel Hill, PA. Please consider joining for a shift or sponsoring this event to help pack meals to send to our neighbors in need. Please reach out to Amy Bratta, 267-971-3482, if you would like to join a group from St. Francis of Assisi. For more details about the event, here is the link to the Facebook event <https://fb.me/e/5jrPPUnjv>.

Here is a recent article from The Marple Magazine <https://www.marplemag.com/our-community/pack-one-million-meals-with-kids-against-hunger>

CARING FOR FRIENDS

Please consider making meals in your home and bringing them to the CFF freezer located in Leonard Hall kitchen (back of Gym). **Fridays 3pm - 7:30pm, Saturdays 7:45am - 5pm, and Sundays 7:30am - 12:30pm.** You can also pick up tins and supplies in the rectory (during regular business hours) and the vestibule of the church. Please contact Cheryl Monkman at 610-574-5541 or Jill Hoffner at 610-733-1593 for any questions.

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: 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: marymotherofcaptives@augustinian.org.

THE THREE PARISH BOOK CLUB



Due to the Christmas holiday, the Book Parish Book Club will meet next at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, January 31, 2024**, at the Holy Cross Church Parish Center. Members will share reading recommendations and will discuss both the December and January selections. You need not have read the selected book(s) to attend the meeting. If you would like more information, or if you would like to join us, please contact Joy Van Berg at joyvanberg@gmail.com. or at 610 328-2095.

December: This Is My Body by Bishop Robert Barron

January: My Anointing Echoes by Father Douglas McKay

February: In The School of the Holy Spirit by Jacques Phillippe

GOD BLESS ALL WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY



- Davidson Cox ~ Skip Turner ~ Kevin Geiger ~ Jon Hylton
- Connor Lyons ~ Michael McGarvey ~ Steven Ramoni
- Mike Froeter ~ Daniel McLee ~ Bill McDermott
- Dan Marchini ~ James McDonald ~ Timothy McCans
- Patrick J. Ryan, Jr. ~ Anthony Del Vecchio
- Sean Sweeney ~ Michael Jones ~ Peter Quinn
- Katherine Rieder ~ Rick Kern, Jr. ~ Cale Amador
- Timothy Drabyak ~ Daniel McGonigal
- Brian J. McDermott ~ Jonathan Butterfield
- Aidan Jones ~ Shawn McConaghy ~ Colin Butler
- John-Michael Bartivic ~ Joseph Spence
- Nicholas & Stephen Peranteau ~ Jesse and Chase Stewart
- Matthew Kauffman ~ Christopher Baxter
- Thomas Cresta ~ Michael Armellini ~ Francis McGrail
- Christopher Johnson ~ Ronan Plummer
- Nicholas and Emma McDonald ~ Owen Galligan

**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.**

The St Francis Players are pleased to announce our 2024 and 63rd Annual SFP Production will be



There will be six (6) performances held on **4/19, 4/20, 4/21 and 4/26, 4/27, and 4/28.**

Our general membership meeting and Signups for this year's show will be held **Sunday, January 7th 7:00PM (Leonard Hall)**. Auditions for lead roles will begin shortly thereafter at 7:30PM. Anyone interested in chorus or production staff roles need only sign up. Children in grades 1-8 are not required to audition unless they intend to try out for a leading role.

For more information regarding Auditions and to Signup, please visit our website at www.stfrancisplayers.org



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 Premies to Teens. For more info, call 610-328-0741.

SAINT FRANCIS OVER 50 CLUB



The next meeting is January 11. We will be entertained by "Andy Toscano and Irene Nash." Tickets will be on sale for Pizza Day, February 22.

Casino Trips: **No Casino trips in December.** Next trips are: **1/15, 2/19, & 3/18.** 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.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Praesidium 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, please call Joy Van Berg at 610 328-2095 or Gus McClay at 610 544-7223.



Join us as we pray the Novena of the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary **every Wednesday at 1:30PM** in the Church.

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.

COME JOIN US...



The St Francis Family Rosary Group meets every Friday evening in the church at 7pm to say the rosary. For more information call Anita Galligan (610)585-0142.

ATTENTION: BOYS GRADES 8-12

Boys in grades 8-12 are cordially invited to attend a weekly class on Prayer and Spirituality. Classes are led by many priests and deacons from the Archdiocese. Classes are on **Wednesdays 7-8pm** at St Francis of Assisi parish library. Classes have been going on since September, but each class is independent and requires no preparation, so boys can join anytime during the year. Parents are welcome to stay for the Holy Hour which runs from 7-8 upstairs from the library in the church. There is no cost, no preparation, no homework or tests. This is just a chance for the boys to learn more about their Catholic Faith, connect with other boys, and grow in their relationship with God. If you think your son may be interested, email Bob and Carol Cardie at cbcardie@gmail.com to be put on a weekly reminder list. You can view topics for discussion on the following website (more topics will soon be added for the second semester):
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nSc1Izn440I-RMnIXcDKSOFRdrfst8VT/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=109186988252712656508&rtpof=true&sd=true>

The Corner

Brought to you by your Evangelization Team

In this blessed New Year, let's reflect on a quote from St Basil the Great, whose feast we celebrate on Tuesday. He is one of the four Great Fathers of the East and a Doctor of the Church, who pondered the mystery of Sacred Tradition--- the deposit of faith, the doctrines and the rites first entrusted to the Apostles.

"Both you and we have not only the same teachers of God's mysteries, but also the same spiritual fathers who from the beginning have laid the foundations of your Church...one following the other like rising stars." ---St Basil the Great

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

We salute the advertisers in our bulletin. This week we thank **WORLD CLASS COLLISION CENTER**
John DiGilio 610-521-4650 (night)610-544-6095
Please consider using our advertisers' services and tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.



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 www.sfascripsales@gmail.com or call **484-432-1472**.

"PRO-LIFE" LINES

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.dcpchester.org
Mother's Home: 610-583-HOME, www.mothershome.org.
Pro-Life Union of Delaware County: 610-789-LIFE.

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

2024 HOLY SPIRIT RETREAT All are invited to Malvern Retreat Center for the 2024 Holy Spirit Retreat on the weekend of **January 26-28, 2024**. Check-in begins on Friday at 5PM. Retreat concludes on Sunday morning with the celebration of Mass. Retreat director is Fr. Tom Heron. Theme: "This is the time of fulfilment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel." (Mark 1:15). Please register at www.malvernretreat.com/events/holy-spirit-2024/ The donation amount being asked this year is \$275. If you need help, we are happy to assist you in registering. Contact Carlo Borgia: 610-544-6369.

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 have two Calix units in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. 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 www.calixsociety.org. 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.

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: www.AddictionCenter.com/Treatment/Faith-Based-Drug-and-Alcohol-Rehab

ENTERING THE NEW YEAR

God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact, and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love. May we cast off the small, vindictive god our fears have made.

May the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead. Amen.

- Vinita Hampton Wright



Pancake Breakfast



St. Francis Pancake Breakfast!

Sponsored by: St. Francis Fryers



SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH
8:00 AM - 11:15 AM
(Leonard Hall)

No Tickets needed!

'Free Will' Donations accepted at the door.

Blueberry, Chocolate Chip and
Plain Buttermilk Pancakes,
Sausage, Fruit Cup,
Apple/Orange Juice, Coffee, Tea,
and Milk.

