

# St. Francis of Assisi Church, Aviston, IL

Pastor - Fr. Dan Friedman  
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March 29, 2020

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## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon. Mar. 30		<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue. Mar. 31	7:30am	<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed. April 01	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
Thu. April 02	7:30am	<b>NO MASS</b>
Fri. April 03	7:30am <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>NO MASS</b> <i>NO Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat. April 04	7:30pm	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sun. April 05	7:30am 9:30am	<b>NO MASS</b> <b>NO MASS</b>

## OFFERINGS MARCH 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 430.00
Loose:	\$ 0.00
Online Giving:	
General:	\$1,714.25
Improvement:	\$ 25.00

## SICK & HOSPITALIZED:

Lorraine Boeser	Maggie Fix	Kim Hegger
Steve Kleiboeker	Dennis Kuper	Jim Markus
Jerry Middeke	Fr. Richard Moore	Alan Netemeyer
Maren Poettker	Barbara Rakers	Rosie Rakers
Fr. Joe Rascher	Patricia Rollings	Dcn. Mike Rowland
Fr. Ken Schaefer	Dayceon Spihlmann	Mary Strieker
RaeAnne Toennies	Khara Vanderhyden	Scott Voyles

**CHURCH CLOSED:** Regretfully it has become necessary to close the church and parish facilities to the public. Bishop Braxton issued the directive until further notice. It is in response to the escalating effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19. (See our website for the complete document and all additional restrictions.)

**WEEKLY scheduled CONFESSIONS & ROSARY have been suspended until further notice !**

**\*\* PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES!!**

**PASTORS NOTE:** Today we find ourselves living a new Lent. Lent is a time, as Christians, that we refocus our priorities, our attention. We are called to do penance as a way of slowing down and focusing upon our Life in Christ. COVID-19 has radically changed our daily routines and busy social lives. It has presented us with a unique opportunity to slow down and spend time with God and family. We can calmly eat and pray together at meal time. There are no meetings or after school programs. We can talk, tell stories, play games and simply relax together as families. We have the opportunity to be a family in a whole new way at a slower pace. We have an opportunity to connect with God and each other in new ways. Isn't that the whole point of Lent?

Let us not miss this chance to discover new ways of being the family of God within the Domestic Church family. Pray together. Read the Bible together and discuss the stories - kids love Bible stories. Moms and dads, husbands and wives talk about your faith in God with one another. What do you believe? Why? How have you experienced God? Why do you believe in God? Lent is a time of change, conversion, renewal! Don't miss this chance to discover a new relationship with God and Jesus Christ.

This week's Gospel is the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-45), a powerful story of faith. How strong is your faith in God in the midst of our current epidemic? I believe he is in our midst leading us, calling us to follow him through this crisis as he has in so many crises in the past. This is not the first epidemic nor will it be the last. By the grace of God, we will be stronger and closer when it is over.

**Church & Parish Facilities Are All CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC** because of the virus! This has become very a sad necessity!

**LIVE-STREAMING - 9:30am SUNDAY MASS:** St. Francis Parish, Aviston will be live-streaming Sunday Mass at 9:30am every Sunday until we can again gather as one family in church. You can access the Live-stream via our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/embracing.ourfaith>. This link is also available on our web site [www.stfrancisav.org](http://www.stfrancisav.org). I encourage everyone to join together at 9:30am on Sunday via FaceBook. While we can not come together as one community in prayer in our church building, we can do so via technology. We will all be praying the Eucharist together simultaneously from our homes. In that sense we are united in the Eucharist bring the power of our united prayer to bear on our lives and the world. As I have said before, it is by the united prayer of the people at Mass that the Church is empowered to be a living sacrament. Your united prayers become instruments of healing, forgiveness and new birth. We priests and the people of God rely on them daily! Log in at 9:30am Sunday.

Other live-streamed worship & prayer opportunities are:  
<https://www.conceptionabbey.org/live> - live streamed daily Mass at 11:45am and Lauds and Vespers (Morning and Evening Prayer) Also offered on YouTube and Facebook Page  
<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass> - Bishop Robert Barron, word on Fire daily celebration of Mass at 7:15pm  
[www.giveusthisday.org](http://www.giveusthisday.org) Give Us This Day has made available at no charge a digital file of their our periodical, which includes daily Mass texts and select "Digital" in the upper right corner of the screen for the free connection.

**SYMPATHY:** Remember *Alvin Joseph "Cookie" Seelbach* (father of Michelle [Phil] Pinstershaus), *Virginia A. Ratermann* (mother of Michael [Cindy] Ratermann, Marvin [Nancy] Ratermann). Keep *Alvin, Virginia*, and their families in your prayers.



All are welcome to attend the St. Francis Parish Mission "*Journey of Blessings*" Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30pm each night. Come and be moved by your faith as Father Pete Schavitz leads us on this journey. Child care and transportation are available and refreshments will be served following each session. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to see your faith in action!



**EASTER LILY MEMORIALS:** Donate to the Easter Flower Fund in memory of your loved one(s) to help decorate the altars during Easter. The cost is \$10. Your "*Easter Flower Envelope*" is in your envelope package! Write the name(s) of those to be remembered on the back of the envelope. Drop your envelope into the collection basket, mail, or bring to the parish office. **Early deadline is Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>!**



#### ST. FRANCIS MISSION STATEMENT

"We, the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Family, are a welcoming faith community that believes in and proclaims the powerful and loving presence of Jesus Christ."

**PICNIC KITCHEN COORDINATOR/S NEEDED:** St. Francis Parish is looking for an individual or group of individuals to assist and learn the role of the kitchen coordinator. Interested individual needs to be available during the week leading up to the picnic, picnic day and the morning after the picnic. Contact Donna Mondt at 304-4955 or Kevin Litteken at 779-9938 with questions.



**FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM:** There are baskets at all church entrances for your donated goods. Your support is needed!

#### AVISTON LEGION NEWS:

**Need help with your future?** Aviston American Legion Auxiliary is proud to offer a **Scholarship Program for 2020**. **\$1,000** for Veterans, Auxiliary, SAL or family members of Post 1239. **\$1,000** for an individual living within the 62216 zip code area. Look for details and an application at: [www.avistonlegion.com](http://www.avistonlegion.com) or pick-up the details and application at the Aviston Legion during open hours. **You may apply for both scholarships if applicable. Applications open: now. Deadline: April 1, 2020.**



**GOLDEN EGG TICKETS** are available by calling the Parish Office 526-7746 or from any St. Dominic Parishioner. Tickets are \$50 each. Grand Prize is \$20,000. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> prize is \$1,000 each and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> is \$500 each. Drawing will be held on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.



#### ATTENTION: FAMILIES NEEDING FOOD ASSISTANCE

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry will be open Mondays from 10:30am to 1:00pm for families needing food assistance. We are located in the basement of the Germantown Village Hall, 306 Prairie Street. Please contact Shirley Eversgerd 523-4260 or John Feldman 363-6588 if you need help.

#### POSITION AVAILABLE:

The Diocese of Belleville is seeking a *Director of Facilities & Risk Management*. Applicants should hold a Bachelor's Degree and 5-8 years of directly related experience. **To Apply:** Send resume, cover letter & references to Human Resources, Diocese of Belleville, 222 S. Third St., Belleville, IL 62220 or email [humanresources@diobelle.org](mailto:humanresources@diobelle.org). **Application Deadline: March 31, 2020.**

The **SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** Night-time Drop in Center opened in December and has operated at full capacity almost every night, helping the homeless survive freezing temperatures and dangers of the city streets. We humbly ask for your prayers for the Center and if you are able, help us provide sack lunch items for their clients. Drop off individually packaged items of food and bottled water at the SVDP office in East St. Louis. For information, contact Joe Hubbard (394-0126) or Pat Hogrebe (799-8505).



**RESPECT LIFE CORNER** - "*Lazarus, come out!*" In John's gospel, Jesus is adamant that Lazarus, though dead, is capable through a divine miracle, to simply get up and walk out of the tomb. Pope Francis writes to us that we too can get up and walk away from sin; from the part of us that is dead due to sin. He invites us this week to look at our lives and search out the "dead parts of our soul" so that we too may rise like Lazarus and live in God's love. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray** - As we think about these readings that tie so well to the Resurrection of Jesus, we ask the Lord for grace to rise from our sins, "to come out of our tombs" and to follow Christ. How can we share this message of hope and new birth with refugees, those facing a crisis pregnancy, the forgotten, the sick and the lonely? Remember that it is up to all of us to dignify and enhance life in all its stages and situations. Reach out to neighbors who are also sheltering in place and see if they need anything. Does a mom who can't work due to the shutdown need diapers for her baby? Go and share the good news today!

**Bulletins and the magazine rack materials are available on the back porch table of the rectory. The first door is always open.**

