

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Aviston, IL

Pastor - Fr. Dan Friedman
 Deacon - Charles Litteken
 Deacon - Stephen AuBuchon
 Administrative Assistant - Carolyn Kampwerth
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May 24, 2020

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon. May 25		NO MASS
Tue. May 26		NO MASS
Wed. May 27		NO MASS
Thu. May 28		NO MASS
Fri. May 29		NO MASS
Sat. May 30		NO MASS
Sun. May 31	9:30am	St. Francis Parish Family Live-streaming

Church & Parish Facilities Are All CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC because of the COVID-19 virus! Therefore **WEEKLY scheduled CONFESSIONS & ROSARY have been suspended until further notice !**



PASTORS NOTE: Today, in all the Catholic dioceses in Illinois, we are celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. This feast, along with Lent and the Easter season, has powerful connection this year. We have had to deal with a great deal of hardship, pain, and disappointment. Hopefully we have embraced a new level of compassion others and determination to be the means for every human being to experience God's love through our personal compassion and care for them. That was the pattern of Jesus' life and ministry. His behavior in the midst of people's rejection, hatred, disbelief, and his own suffering, death are models for us this pandemic and life. His love is discovered through our love and actions. The "great commission" of Jesus on the Mount of the Ascension: We are now sent to "teach" others the compassion and mercy of God, that have blessed our lives; we are to be the means for our communities to experience the love and hope of God that we have come to know; we are to reveal the our faith that God is with us and will bring good from all we endure. He has promised to be with us at all times! We are called to proclaim our faith in his presence and loving care. He is the key for us and our society, if we can but trust and patiently wait in his love.

LIVE-STREAMING MASS will continue every Sunday at 9:30am at St. Francis Parish, Aviston 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. **Live-streaming begins 15 minutes prior to Mass.** I encourage you 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.

OFFERINGS May 16th & 17th:

Sunday Envelopes: (33)	\$ 1,640.00
Easter Envelopes: (1)	\$ 30.00
Holy Land/Good Friday: (1)	\$ 10.00
Catholic Home Mission: (1)	\$ 10.00
Seminarian Education: (7)	\$ 225.00
Catholic Communication: (1)	\$ 25.00
Improvement: (5)	\$ 180.00
Online Giving:	
General:	\$ 2,244.25
Improvement:	\$ 30.00

SICK & HOSPITALIZED:

Lorraine Boeser	Dan Feldmann	Maggie Fix
Kim Hegger	Steve Kleiboeker	Dennis Kuper
Jim Markus	Alan Netemeyer	Vera Netemeyer
Keith Nordike	Maren Poettker	Fr. Joe Rascher
Patricia Rollings	Dcn. Mike Rowland	Fr. Ken Schaefer
Dayceon Spihlmann	Mary Strieker	Nick Strubhart
RaeAnne Toennies	Khara Vanderhyden	Scott Voyles



CONGRATULATIONS to Deacon Stephen AuBuchon who will celebrate his 7th Anniversary of Ordination on Monday, May 25th!

SYMPATHY: Remember **Judith L. Heimann** (wife of Edward Heimann, daughter of Pauline Wilke, mother of Brian Heimann and sister of Connie [Vince] Barciszewski) and **Lillian Luebbers** (mother of Jeff [Vivian] Luebbers) who died. Keep **Judy, Lillian and their families** in your prayers.



If you have scheduled a **MASS INTENTION** for any of the days that we do not have Mass, I will reschedule with you once the COVID-19 pandemic is over. **Thank You!**

SECOND COLLECTION this weekend for the **Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) Collection**. Your support helps the CCC connect people to Christ, here and around the world, through the internet, television, radio and print media. Half of the funds we collect remain in our Belleville Diocese to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the Gospel message and support the collection today!

Due to the current health situations, we will not be offering Vacation Bible School this summer. Also, First Communion scheduled for June 6th has been postponed.

2020 GRADUATES: St. Francis Parish wants to recognize our Eighth Grade, High School and College Graduates. High School Seniors please let us know what your future plans are after graduation and if you have a College Graduate send us their name and degree they received so we can add to the list. Call 228-7219 or e-mail parish@stfrancisav.org!



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.

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.”

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY: Healing after Abortion...Free confidential counseling from Project Rachel of the Diocese of Belleville. Confidential Help Line: 618-722-5068; WWW.DIOBELLE.ORG/RESPECTLIFE AND WWW.PROJECTRACHEL@DIOBELLE.ORG. WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.ORG.

The Ascension of the Lord – [Thursday, May 21, 2020 or] Sunday, May 24, 2020

Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. Matthew 28:16-20.

Doubt No Longer. On the last mountain encounter with his disciples before his ascending, Jesus uses the “I AM” language reserved to God. This Son of God will be with them always. After Christ is lifted up, the angel has to remind them: Stop standing around. Stop looking up. The implication: get to work! Make more disciples!

- * How do I know Christ is with me always? What does my experience tell me?
- * Because of the strength of his presence, what mercy works will I do?
- * What will I do to bring even one more person to Christ?

RESPECT LIFE CORNER - “As the Father sent me, I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. In John’s Gospel account, before Christ ascended into heaven, He told the disciples that they will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Through prayer, the Holy Spirit came upon them in the form of wind and fire that ultimately provided a boldness for the disciples to speak out and proclaim the good news of the Gospel! The Book of Acts reports at least seven times the apostles were filled with Spirit. We are sure there are more times than that; these are examples for us to follow. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray** - Today, it is very important that we listen to what the apostles and Christ tell us and believe in God’s promise that we too can be filled with the Holy Spirit! We must pray that the Holy Spirit will rest in our hearts and come and make a home in our lives. Through prayer, it will happen if we believe!

PLAN FOR RETURN TO CHURCH

The Illinois Bishops have published their directives and guidelines for reopening of Catholic Churches in the state of Illinois. These documents are available on the parish website. This will be a multi stage process.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MOST REVEREND EDWARD K. BRAXTON, APOSTOLIC ADMINISTRATOR:

ORDINATION on Saturday, July 11th at 10:30am in the Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville. Bishop Braxton will ordain *The Reverend Mr. Nicholas T. Fleming, The Reverend Mr. Carl Schrage and The Reverend Mr. Joel L. Seipp* to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. I invite you to join us in prayers to the Holy Spirit on this important moment in the life of our local church.

During this Mass, the Sacred Chrism will be blessed. Priests and Deacons who join us in prayer will be able to take the oils for their parishes with them. They may be picked up at a later date. The oils will NOT be distributed to parish representatives during the Mass.

Also during this Liturgy, we will honor the following Priests who are celebrating their **Ordination Anniversaries:** *Rev. Abraham O. Adejoh, Rev. Dale A. Maxfield and Rev. Joseph O. Oganda (10 years); Rev. Christopher O. Anyanwa, Rev. Augustine Ibezimako and Rev. David M. Wilke (25 years); Rev. Raul Salas, OMI (40 years); Rev. William Rowe (50 years); Rev. Michael Hussey, OMI (60 years); and Rev. Paul Wightman, OMI (65 years).*

Unfortunately, we are forced to cancel the **Mass of Thanksgiving for married couples who are celebrating their 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th Wedding Anniversary**, scheduled for Sunday, June 7th. This is being done out of concern for the well-being of those whom may have special health concerns. I regret this very much. I have celebrated this Mass honoring the Sacrament of Christian Marriage every year since my arrival in the Diocese. It has always been a great source of inspiration for me.

Please join me in praying for our *Ordinandi* and for our *Jubilarians*. Please pray as well for our *candidates* for the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion, since these important sacraments have also been delayed by the spread of the COVID-19 disease.

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020 – MEMORIAL DAY — CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED!!

