

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Aviston, IL

December 13, 2020

Pastor - Fr. Dan Friedman
 Deacon - Charles Litteken
 Deacon - Stephen AuBuchon
 Administrative Assistant - Amber Griesbaum
 Director of Religious Education - Milissa Faust

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon. Dec. 14		NO MASS
Tue. Dec. 15	7:30am	Fr. Roger R. Karban
Wed. Dec. 16	7:30am	Rich Feldmann
Thurs. Dec. 17	7:30am	Msgr. Kenneth J. Schaefer
Fri. Dec. 18	7:30am	Margaret Ratermann
Sat. Dec. 19		NO MASS
Sun. Dec. 20	7:30am	Samantha Kuper Ray & Adele Jansen
	9:30am	Andy & Bertha Thole Stanley & Marian Bossler Donna Hegger L/D Joseph & Catherine Lueke (also Live-streamed)

OFFERINGS DECEMBER 6th:

Sunday Envelopes: (66)	\$ 4,595.00
Loose:	\$ 35.00
Improvement: (26)	\$ 715.00
Human Development: (6)	\$ 150.00
Retired Religious: (5)	\$ 85.00
Christmas Collection for Needy:(1)	\$ 20.00
Christmas Offering:(1)	\$ 20.00
Online Giving:	
General:	\$ 2,724.25
Improvement:	\$ 305.00

SICK & HOSPITALIZED:

Terry Becherer	Lorraine Boeser	Charlene Erlinger
Dan Feldmann	Maggie Fix	Fr.Gary Gummersheimer
Kim Hegger	Dennis Kuper	Jim Markus
Mark Moss	Darleen Nelson	Alan Netemeyer
David Nobles	Bernice Poettker	Maren Poettker
Fr. Joe Rascher	Patricia Rollings	Dayceon Spihlmann
Mary Strieker	Dan Thole	RaeAnne Toennies
Betty Usselmann	Khara Vanderhyden	Scott Voyles
Pauline Wilke		

FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM There are baskets at the church entrance and on the Rectory back porch for your donated goods. Your support is needed!

CHRISTMAS & SUNDAY MASSES: Advance reservation is required by *each individual household* (indicate # attending) to ensure you will be able to attend! Seating will be assigned. Masks, social distancing, etc. are required! **Occupancy is limited to 100.** Cancel or change your reservation if your plans change! Make reservations on www.stfrancisav.org or www.facebook.com page by clicking on the registration link to reach our www.signupgenius.com link. **Be sure to indicate the number of people in your household that will attending.** For assistance or if you do not have access call (618) 228-7219.

PASTORS NOTE: In the Christmas mystery, the God of love becomes one of us so we might become one with God. But the Incarnation is not only an event but a *practice*: that we “embody” the love of God for the sake of others. The coming of Christ calls us to the work of making a straight road for him, transforming the barren deserts around us into harvests of justice and peace, of reflecting the light of his forgiveness and mercy in our midst. We are all called to this kind of “prophetic” work begun by John at the Jordan River: to use whatever skills and resources we possess to bring hope into prisons of despair, joy into deserts of sadness, love into broken hearts and spirits of stone. May this Christmas be the beginning of our own *practice* of Incarnation: to leave our own self-centered world to venture out, with renewed humility and peace, to road that is traveled by those in need and, through our patience, understanding and generosity, reveal the light of God’s compassion and mercy illuminating that road.

WEEKLY ROSARY:

Sun. Morning at 7:10am (before mass)

FYI...ST. FRANCIS CONTRIBUTIONS: *All Contributions for 2020 payable to St. Francis Church must be received by Sunday, December 27th in order to be included in your 2020 statement for tax purposes. Everything received after that date will be reported in 2021.*

SECOND COLLECTION today will support the **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS.** Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests ministered for years for little or no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today’s collection helps to provide medications, nursing care and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

LOTS OF LOOT RAFFLE

LOTS OF LOOT UPDATE: It’s not too late to still get a chance to win \$20,000!!! The drawing is not until New Years Day so you still have time to buy or sell your tickets. Please mail or drop off your tickets to the rectory. If you need extra tickets contact Steve Maue 618-314-3189, Mike Dall 618-973-5804, or Phil Pingsterhaus 618-407-7392.

Thank You for Your Support to St. Francis Church.

The Drawing will be held FaceBook Live on New Years Day!!!



POINSETTIA MEMORIALS: Early deadline is Tuesday, December 15th!! Please bring directly to the rectory!

GREETERS SCHEDULE for 7:30AM MASS

- Dec 13 - Rick and Marilyn Zobrist
- Dec 20 - Monica Schuetz & Michelle Kuhl
- Dec 27 - Tony and Roseann Wellen

GREETERS SCHEDULE for 9:30AM MASS

- Dec 13 - Connie Robben & Donna Peek
- Dec 20 - Duane and Lisa Niemeyer
- Dec 27 - Dennis and Joanna Rakers

SANITIZERS SCHEDULE for 7:30AM MASS

- Dec 13 - Tony and Roseann Wellen
- Dec 20 - Tony and Roseann Wellen
- Dec 27 - Tony and Roseann Wellen

SANITIZERS SCHEDULE for 9:30AM MASS

- Dec 13 - Joe and Ann Munie
- Dec 20 - Mary AuBuchon & Carol Feldmann
- Dec 27 - Gary and Sue Litteken

GIVING TREE: *Thank you* for your generosity and taking the time to reach out and help those in need. Every ornament represented an individual in need. This year you made a difference in the lives of 72 individuals. *Thank you* for making a difference in so many people's lives. "Every time a hand reaches out to help another.....that is Christmas".



BIBLE STUDY: As previously announced, it is prudent in this COVID-19 environment to postpone face-to-face Bible study until at least after New Year. In light of that, we have posted five on-line Catholic Bible resources for your use. Please take a look and choose which is best for your particular situation. Find them at www.stfrancisav.org, click on the "Ministries" tab, click on "Bible Study" in the Index on the right side of the page. What a great Advent project for your family!



LEGION NEWS- AVISTON:
Tues. Dec. 15 - 7:00pm - Auxiliary Meeting
Thurs. Dec. 17 - 7:00pm - Executive Board Meeting
Thurs. Dec. 17 - 8:00pm - K of C Meeting
Fri. Dec. 18 - 4:30pm - 7:00pm - Fish Fry Carryout Only

CARRY-OUT ONLY BREAKFAST on Sunday, December 13th from 8:00am – 11:30am at the Albers Legion.

Hope is Born! A "Live" Nativity

Join us in celebrating the reason for Christmas!

Sunday, Dec. 20
 4:30 - 7:30 pm
 Outdoors at St. Bernard Parish, Albers

Social distancing + masks required
 Live streaming will be available via Facebook

ST. ANDREW DINNER with Bishop Michael McGovern and Fr.



Nick Junker, Diocesan Vocation Director is on **Monday, December 21st at King's House Retreat Center in Belleville at 9:00am - 3:00pm.** An opportunity for young men to meet Bishop McGovern and priests in the diocese to enjoy a meal, pray, discuss priestly vocations and whatever else is on your mind. To RSVP or for information, contact Fr. Nick Junker at (618) 722-5035 or e-mail njunker@diobelle.org. Or go to diobelle.org/vocations.

THE MICHAEL J. HAUKAP K OF C COUNCIL #11110 will be



recognizing the best outside Nativity Set displays within the Aviston Fire District this year. Two winners will be awarded \$25 each if they are judged to be the best reflection of the Christmas season. Judging will take place on December 19th & 20th. Must be residents of parish area. For more info call Ken Haselhorst at 971-8364.

WAY OF LIGHTS: Open now through Thursday, December 31.



Due to COVID19 Restrictions - please wear a mask & follow social distancing. Journey through Bethlehem and experience the beauty of over one million white lights, Camel Rides, Petting Zoo and Carriage Rides for reservation call 314-621-3334. [Closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas.] (Outdoor light display will remain open.)

RESPECT LIFE CORNER: *"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, Make straight the way of the Lord."*



In John's Gospel, we learn of the joy John the Baptist found in Christ. Even in his mother's womb, the unborn Baptist leapt for joy at the nearness of the Messiah. John's joy is manifested in his testimony to the Lord's coming. Large groups of people gathered in the desert to hear John's good news and his call to repentance and baptism in Christ's name. John's purpose and ministry was preparation for Christ as He began his public ministry. His enthusiasm and love for Christ brought joy to others and they wanted to feel that joy of Christ and never let it go. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray-** Free of worldly trappings and pleasure, John rejoices in the only true happiness that exists, joy in Christ's love for each one us. Let's learn from John the virtue of joy and the humility he possessed by sharing our faith and really listening to one another. In a group setting, try "speaking fourth, not first." Allowing others to speak first offers a place of honor and a chance to really listen before speaking. Our humility and joy can win souls for Christ. Without his love, the world is a dark and gloomy place. Let's stay close to Christ in love and humility towards all those He places in our midst.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL NEEDS YOUR HELP with cold weather



just around the corner, there is a desperate need for **gently-used coats and blue jeans** – men's, women's and children's (all sizes) and **blankets**. The SVDP's Night-Time Drop-In Center has been at full capacity every night. Help with any of these items: cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, pop tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in cups, bottled water and luncheon meat/cheese for sandwiches. Items can be dropped off at 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, IL (across from Blessed Sacrament Church) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9:00am - 2:30pm. SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen 3718 State Street, East St. Louis, Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 1:30pm; Saturday from 9:00am to 12Noon or call the office at 618-394-0126.