

St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Teutopolis, Illinois

Parish Office

203 E. Main St., P.O. Box 730, Teutopolis, IL 62467-0730

Office Hours: Mon. -Fri. – 9:00 am -4:30 pm

Phone (217) 857-6404

Fax (217) 857-1031

Parish E-mail..... stfrancischurch@mchsi.com

Parish website: stfrancischurch.com

Submit written bulletin notices by noon Monday.

Diocesan website: www.dio.org

Ember Beddingfield, Victim Assistance Coordinator.....
(217) 321-1155

Sacramental Celebrations

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday before First Friday: 3:30-4:30 pm

Anytime by appointment

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Arrangements must be made a minimum of 6 months
in advance with the Pastor.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptism Prep. class is required before baptism. Please call
office to pre-register.

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr. John Eaton, OFM, Pastor

Fr. Ken Rosswog, OFM, Associate Pastor

Fr. Thinh Tran, OFM, Associate Pastor

Br. Marc Sheckells, OFM

Maria Wargolet, Director of Music Ministry

Theresa Draper, Coordinator of Music Ministry

Anita Broom, Bookkeeper

Bernice Matteson, Part-time Secretary

Jane Miller, Part-time Secretary

Ron Ruholl, Maintenance

Religious Education:

Sr. A. Pierre Wilken, OSF, Director of Faith Formation: 857-6404

Sr. Ann Siemer, SSND, Gr. Sch./Jr. Hi. DRE: 857-6477/3015

Lisa Siemer, Youth Director & Sr. High CRE: 857-1500

Carlene Rauch, Part-time Rel. Ed. Secretary: 857-6477

Parish Council:

Jim Apke

Carrie Copple

Mick Deters

Bernie Hartke

Duane Kremer

Kay McMahon

Deb Niebrugge

Mike Tipton

Denise Will

December 1, 2013



Mass Schedule

Weekend Liturgy:

Saturday 5:30 pm

Sunday 7:00, 8:45, & 10:30 am

Weekday Liturgy:

See inside schedule

Holy Day Liturgy :

Eve 7:00 pm; Day 6:00 am, 8:05 am,
12:10 pm & 5:30 pm

From the Pastor

Advent. Today is the first Sunday of Advent—a time of waiting in joyful expectation. The season reminds us to look back in history to the Nativity of Christ even as we look forward in history to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. You will notice some changes in the church environment as well as in the music selected for Mass.

The parish staff has compiled some reflections for each day of Advent. We will make these available in a variety of formats (bulletin, web page, Facebook page) and offer them to you to help with your Advent meditations.

The temptation is to allow our lives to speed up as we get closer to Christmas. Please put on the brakes from time to time. Slow down and allow God to be part of your preparations.

Beginning on December 17 and each night through December 23, we invite our parishioners to join us for a short evening prayer service to celebrate the O Antiphons. The O Antiphons, which form the basis of the hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” celebrate Christ under symbolic titles (e.g., Key, Dawn, Emmanuel). The prayer service will begin at 5:30 p.m. (except on Saturday, December 21, when it will begin after the 5:30 p.m. Mass) and last no more than 15 minutes. Come pray with us!

Reconciliation. During Advent, we will continue to have our weekly opportunity for the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday at 3:30. Reconciliation will also be offered on December 5 at 3:30. For those who are unable to come during the day, the priests will be available on Tuesday, December 10, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. As always, you can make an appointment with any of the priests if you wish to go to confession at another time.

Immaculate Conception. Because December 8 falls on a Sunday, the feast of the Immaculate Conception has been transferred to Monday, December 9. While the feast is not a holy day of obligation this year, I want to remind you that the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of our country and of our diocese. It would certainly be an appropriate day to come to Mass. Masses will be at 6:30, 8:05 (students), and 12:10.

Visitors. The members of my friars’ support group will be here on December 1 – 4. Since we will be meeting pretty much all day long on the 2nd and 3rd, I will not be available on those days.

Provincial Council. As soon as I finish meeting with my support group, I have to head to Quincy for a Provincial .

Council meeting. That meeting will run until Friday evening. God willing, I will be back home by noon on Saturday

Cemetery. The picture you see at the main church entrance is an artist's rendering of the proposed cemetery project which includes the installation of a columbarium (for cremated remains) and a reflecting pool. The area used would provide a beautiful backdrop for this project.

In the meeting of November 21, the members of the PPC thanked **Ron Ruholl** for the background work he did on this project. However, it was decided to not implement the plan at this time in order to allow the PPC to get additional feedback from parish members.

Bless Those Babies. We’ve all seen pictures of the mothers coming to Jesus with babies in their arms and children by their side. When we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord on January 12, we will offer a special blessing for the babies born in 2013. The blessing will take place at the 10:30 Mass. If you have had a little one born in the past year, please plan to attend.

Retirement for Religious. The annual collection to support retired religious sisters, brothers, and priests will be taken up on the weekend of December 7 and 8. Many religious communities now have more retired members than working members. Our own Sacred Heart Province has been told that our retirement fund is 65% **underfunded**. Our sisters’ congregations, too, have concern about how to provide proper care for their retired members. Please help provide for the needs of those who sacrificed so much for the good of the Church in past years.

Servers Needed: Our list of adult servers for weekday funerals has been reduced in recent years. We need additional adult servers that we can call upon to serve for funerals when our regular serving crew is in school. If you are willing to volunteer, please call the parish office. Let us know if you need some updated training. Thanks!

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 2, 6:30:	Tom Miller
Monday, December 2, 12:10:	Adolph Zerrusen
Tuesday, December 3, 6:30	Mary Fuesting
Tuesday, December 3, 8:05	Annie Meyer
Wednesday, December 4, 6:30	Tom Miller
Wednesday, December 4, 8:05	Fred Waldhoff
Thursday, December 5, 6:30	Adolph Zerrusen
Thursday, December 5, 12:10	Annie Meyer
Friday, December 6, 6:30	Tom Miller
Friday, December 6, 8:05	Adolph Zerrusen
Saturday, December 7, 8:00	Annie Meyer
Saturday, December 7, 5:30	Scott Westendorf
Sunday, December 8, 7:00	Bernie Bierman
Sunday, December 8, 8:45	Deceased of CDA
Sunday, December 8, 10:30	Pro Populo

Liturgy Schedule First Week of Advent December 2-8

Monday,	Mass at 6:30 am & 12:10 pm
Tuesday,	St. Francis Xavier Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Wednesday,	St. John Damascene Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Thursday,	Mass at 6:30 am & 12:10 pm
Friday,	St. Nicholas Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Saturday,	St. Ambrose Mass at 5:30 pm
Sunday,	2nd Sunday of Advent Mass at 7:00, 8:45, 10:30 am

Confession Schedule

Saturday, - 3:30-4:30 pm

Liturgy of the Hours with Friars

Monday-Friday -- 11:45 am & 4:45 pm

Thank You. The Missalettes have been changed Thanks to Mona Vahling and Luella Runde for covering them and to Grade 5K for changing them. Please do not take the covered Missalettes from Church.



Pray for the Sick

Please remember in your prayers: Cathy Green, Renae Roepke, Eddie Siemer, Cheryl Ann Huber, Chris Utz, Anna Habing, Jim Koester, Jack Hardiek, Paula Spencer, Lucille Worman, Mack Kitten, Agnes Kremer, Pauline Gobczynski, Tom Vonderheide, Devin Mette, Doris Niemeyer

Stewardship of Treasure

	<u>Sunday</u> 11/24/2013	<u>Total Fiscal</u> <u>Year</u>
284 Adult envelopes	\$9,526.50	\$170,563.50
Other	\$444.23	\$12,399.32
TOTAL	\$9,970.73	\$182,962.82

Campaign for Justice and hope \$2,176.26



Parish Calendar

Monday, December 2

- Grades 3M & 3S Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 3

- Gr. 3 Christmas Store
- Secular Franciscans meet, 6 pm, St. Clare Hall
- Baptism prep, 7 pm, St. Isidore

Wednesday, December 4

- Gr. 3 Christmas Store
- Children's choir, 3:30 pm
- Teen choir, 6:00 pm
- Jr. Hi. & H.S. religion classes, 7:20 pm

Thursday, December 5

- Gr. 3 Christmas Store
- Confessions, 3:30 pm
- Adult choir, 7 pm

Friday, December 6

- Teen Center open

Saturday, December 7

- Confessions, 3:30 pm

Sunday, December 8

- Pre-K classes
- RCIA after 8:45 Mass, MMR

Reflection for the 1st Sunday of Advent, Dec. 1.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh. Romans 13:14

My father used to say that famous people “put on their pants one leg at a time just like everyone else.” It was his way to pointing out that we’re all the same when it comes down to the routine chores that get us out of bed and into the world each day.

But when we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ,” we are stepping into something entirely different. We are stepping out of the mundane and entering a realm infused with the presence of God and energized by the Holy Spirit. Like wearing a suit of armor, putting on Christ allows us to walk in confidence and courage into a world that is very often in attack mode. With Christ surrounding us, we are armed with grace and ready to take on the world.

Jesus, envelop me like a garment.

LIVING FAITH
Steve Givens



Attention Homebound

Holy Communion will be brought to you on First Friday, Dec. 6. No Communion to you on Sunday, Dec. 8.

Share your Christmas Spirit!

The Christmas Giving Trees are up! The Giving Trees offer our parishioners the opportunity to donate locally to people who live in nursing homes and group homes. So often, the elderly and those with disabilities are “forgotten.” Some of the residents have no family to share Christmas with, and some have families, but would appreciate being remembered by others also during the holidays. This year, our parish will be serving Lakeland Health & Rehab, Evergreen Nursing & Rehab Center, Effingham Rehab & Health Care, ARC-CSS, Wetherall Place, and Effingham Terrace.

Here’s how it works: We have gathered needs/wants from the area homes that we will put onto tags to be placed on the Giving Trees. Trees will go out the weekend of November 23 & 24. We ask parishioners to take a tag from the tree, purchase the item, wrap it with the tag taped to the front of the gift.

Gifts need to be back at church by December 8. Our team of St. Francis Elves will sort & deliver the gifts on December 9 beginning at 9:15 am (all are invited to be elfish). The homes are all so appreciative and so grateful for our St. Francis Parishioners. We appreciate that you share your resources and your love for those around you!

Scrip Cards. Heading out of town to shop or thinking about giving Gift Cards as gifts? The St. Francis Scrip Program has you covered! **Scrip Cards will be sold every weekend after all Masses from now until the weekend before Christmas!** They are also available on Saturday mornings at the parish office, and from Monday afternoon until Friday morning at Niebrugge Country Financial on Main Street. Scrip cards are regular retail store gift cards. Each gift card purchased helps our youth program, and the benefit is: it is money you were going to spend anyway! When you purchase a card, you can assign the benefit to the group or to a specific camper! Cards can be used when you are shopping in the store, or online, OR can be given as a gift card itself! Consider helping our youth program when you are thinking about your shopping (or dining out) needs! A full list of retailers are available on the parish website under “scrip program.”

The 24th National Night of Prayer for Life will be December 8-9th in St. Anthony’s Memorial Hospital Chapel beginning at 9:00pm. At midnight, Fr. Ralph Zetzl will celebrate Mass. All denominations are welcome to join in prayer any hour that is convenient. With over 50 million abortions performed in America since 1973 we are begging God’s forgiveness. Please come anytime between 9:00pm—1:00am.

Religious Education News

GRADE SCHOOL—The Sacrament of Reconciliation for rooms 3M and 3S will take place Monday morning, 12/2 in Church. The Mass supervisors for the other grades 3 and 4 will be contacted regarding location of their classes.

Thanks to all Grade 1 and 2 parents, children, catechists, helpers for the donation of 123 Christmas-decorated shoe boxes, and to parishioners for the cost of mailing these, which are on their way to the poor children of the world.

The Grade Three Christmas store takes place this week for these grades: Tuesday—Grades 2, 3K, 5... Wednesday Grades 1, 3S, 6... Thursday-Grades 3M, 4. Children are asked to bring cloth bags to the sale in case the items are heavy.

Grade 1 children are preparing a short Christmas program to be presented to parents, grandparents, friends, all who can attend on Tuesday, December 17, at 8:05 in the East wing Grade 1 area.

PRE-K Sunday morning classes take place on Sundays, December 8 and December 15, with practice for the Epiphany program. An important letter regarding participation in the Epiphany Program will be sent home on Sunday.

JUNIOR HIGH- Classes take place on December 4, 11, and 18. Students will be reviewing the Sacrament of Reconciliation and questions on morality.

St. Nicholas

The one thing we truly know about St. Nicholas is that he was the bishop of Myra, a city that existed during the fourth century in present-day Turkey. So many stories have grown up around him that by the middle ages he had become one of the most popular saints. In England alone there were more than four hundred churches in his honor! Nicholas is the patron of seafarers because he was said to have safely seen a ship he was sailing in to shore when he took the tiller in the midst of a great storm. He is the patron of prisoners because legend has it that he appeared to the Emperor Constantine on behalf of three unjustly condemned men. And he is the patron of children because of the story in which he threw small bags of coins through the window of a poor man's house so that he had dowries for his daughters. The giving of small gifts on his feast stems from the Dutch and German custom brought to this country by early settlers of New Amsterdam (New York) who had transformed the sainted bishop into a kind of Nordic magician whom we know today as Santa Claus.

Congratulations to the Newly Confirmed:

Jared (Lawrence) Apke
 Jacob (David) Bergfeld
 Noah (John) Blievernicht
 Anni (Marie) Borries
 Kadi (Claire) Borries
 Emily (Estelle) Buehnerkemper
 Justis (Eustace) Coventry
 Justine (Marie) Funneman
 Anna (Elizabeth) Hartke
 Andrew (John) Hemmen
 Wyatt (Anthony) Hewing
 Caitlyn (Isabelle) Hoene
 Elizabeth (Ann) Huston
 Scott (Michael) Isley
 Lyndsey (Ann) Jansen
 Cassidy (Marie) Kingery
 Hannah (Rose) Kingery
 Kinsey (Cecilia) Koester
 Matthew (Jerome) Koester
 Hannah (Rose) Kreke
 John (Henry) Kreke
 Ryan (James) Kremer
 Andrew (Anthony) Mersman
 Jacob (Dominic) Mette



Heather (Rose) Miller
 Mindy (Clare) Myers
 Chanel (Rose) Pals
 Blake (Maximillian) Pruemer
 Bryce (Francis) Pruemer
 Collin (Cristobal) Pruemer
 Jared (Walter) Pruemer
 Danielle (Catherine) Repking
 Dane (Joseph) Ruholl
 Brock (John) Shannon
 Devin (Joseph) Smith
 Kyle (Joseph) Smith
 Molly (Appollonia) Smith
 Benjamin (Luke) Sudkamp
 Katie (Elizabeth) Thoele
 Amanda (Marie) Waldhoff
 Matthew (Blaise) Weber
 Jordan (Christopher) Wellbaum
 Richard (Thomas) Went
 Kelsey (Catherine) Wermert
 Elizabeth (Marie) Wessel
 Ashley (Marie) Westjohn
 Margret (Anne) Zerrusen
 Trevor (Joseph) Zerrusen

The Teutopolis American Legion Annual Breakfast will take place **today**, Dec. 1st, at the KC Hall following the 7:00 am Mass. All veterans are welcome.

Taste of Teutopolis is COMING SOON! Mark your calendars for January 11, 2014. Food will be served from 5-8 pm and entertainment will also be provided. **Cooks are needed.** If you are interested in having a booth at the event or know someone who may be interested, please contact Anita Broom (857-3795) or Tisha Hardiek (857-3841).

CCW Christmas Party. The officers of St. Francis CCW wish to extend an invitation to all women of our parish to our Annual CCW Christmas Party on Monday, December 16th, 2013. The evening will begin at 6:30pm at TGS Auditorium. Turkey, dressing, noodles, drinks and table service will be provided for the dinner. Please bring a covered dish. A \$3.00 gift exchange is optional. Please join us for a delicious dinner, fun, and fellowship. Donations for Catholic Charities Food Pantry will be accepted and warmly appreciated!

Catholic Charities closed to the public Dec. 9,10,11,12 & 13 to better serve the clients for Catholic Charities & FISH Christmas Store. You must have a valid voucher from the FISH program to enter Second Hand Rose for the Christmas Store. No children will be allowed in the store on those days. Second Hand Rose will re-open to the public on Dec. 14 and will start accepting donations again on Dec. 16. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause anyone.

The Holy Name men would like to visit and take a Christmas gift to any men of the parish who are homebound. If anyone could supply us with any names...call the parish office.

RCIA meets at St. Isidore's Parish at Bishop Creek following their 8:00 Mass beginning in December. Please remember all candidates and catechumens in prayer.

Our bulletin deadline has been moved up due to the holidays. Please submit any articles you want in the bulletin by the middle of the week for the following Sunday's (not the upcoming Sunday's) bulletin.

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 First Sunday of Advent RCIA after 8:45 Mass Madrigal Performance	2 Gr. 3M & 3S Reconciliation	3 Gr. 3 Christmas Store Secular Franciscans meet 6:00 pm Baptism prep, 7:00	4 Christmas Store Children's choir 3:30 Teen choir 6:00 Jr. Hi., HS classes Fr. John gone	5 Christmas Store Confessions 3:30 Adult choir 7:00	6 Teen Center open	7 Confessions 3:30
8 Immaculate Conception Pre-K classes RCIA after 8:45 Mass Special collection	9	10 Parish Reconciliation	11 Children's choir 3:30 Teen choir 6:00 Jr. Hi., HS classes	12 Adult choir 7:00	13 Bulletin articles in	14 Confessions 3:30 CHWC cookie sale after Mass in St. Clare Hall
15 Pre-K classes CHWC cookie sale RCIA after 8:45 Mass Secular Franciscans meet 2:00	16 CCW Christmas party 6:30, GSA Holy Name mtg. DeColores Board mtg. 7:00	17.	18. Children's choir 3:30 Teen choir 6:00 Jr. Hi. Reconciliation Jr.Hi., HS classes	19. Adult choir 7:00 Parish Council mtg. 7:00	20. Rosary 9:30 Catechist Christmas party 8-10 am, MDR Teen Center open	21 Confessions 3:30
22 Pre-K classes	23	24 Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00, 6:00 & 10:30 pm Parish office closes at noon.	25 Christmas—Holy Day of Obligation Mass at 8:00 am Special collection	26 Parish office closed. Fr. John on vacation	27	28 Confessions 3:30
29 Pre-K classes	30 Fr. Thinh visits home country.	31 New Year's Eve Masses: 4:00 & 5:30 pm	January 1, 2014 Feast of Mary, Mother of God Masses: 8:45 & 10:30 am			