

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:

Dan Beckman

Carrie Cople

Mick Deters

Sandy Gillespie

Bernie Hartke

Duane Kremer

Tony Pals

Mike Tipton

Denise Will

4th Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2015

“For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does
not come toward the light, so that his works might not be
exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that
his works may be clearly seen as done in God.” - Jn 3:20-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Liturgy:

See inside schedule

Weekend Liturgy:

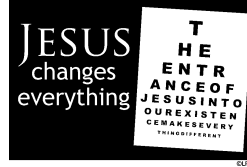
Saturday 5:30 pm; Sunday 7:00, 8:45, & 10:30 am

Holy Days Liturgy:

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

Reflection

4th Sunday of Lent



"But whoever lives the truth comes to the light." Think about the sun for a moment. The light from this gigantic celestial orb provides so many things for us. Most obviously, it provides brightness by which we see, by which we work, play, and navigate the world around us. It also provides the warmth necessary for our comfort and our survival. The sun sustains plant life, which in turn sustains our lives as well. It helps us mark the passing of time, the change of seasons, and the rhythm of every day. The sun is a tremendous gift from God, and our lives--just like our planet--quite literally revolve around it.

When Jesus uses the image of light in today's Gospel, it may help us to understand him if we think of the sun. Just as this magnificent star nourishes our physical existence, so too Jesus, "the light [who] came into the world," nourishes our spiritual existence. He gives us the "brightness" to see the right choices in front of us through his teaching and his example. He warms our hearts through his mercy and forgiveness, changing our coldhearted sinfulness into burning charity. He sustains our spiritual lives by offering us the gift of salvation: eternal life in heaven that never sees death. And he helps us mark the passing of time as we grow ever closer to him, entering more and more deeply into the knowledge and love of our Lord.

But of course, just as we are free to hide in a dark room with the shades drawn, so too we are free to "shade" ourselves from the light of Christ: "for everyone who does wicked things hates the light." To choose wickedness is to cut ourselves off not just from light, but from life. May we choose instead to stay always in the light of the Son.

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Bible Study. Only 2 more sessions of Extraordinary Women of the Bible series. Sessions are on Thursday mornings from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in St. Clare Hall through Thursday, March 26th. Come meet the women who impacted the life of the Messiah.

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians study is being held on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Teen Center this week. For more information, please contact S. Pierre at 857-6404.



Feast of St. Joseph
March 19th
Patron of the Church

Our protector and provider.

PJ Anderson!

Don't miss on the fun and the faith! Parents, the *Blest with the Best* retreat Saturday, March 21 is a great opportunity to encourage your kids for jumping in to faith related activities – it will be fun & meaningful PLUS we'll have great entertainment & food. All students ages junior high through college age are encouraged to register for this retreat! Registration forms are online at the parish website. We'd appreciate advance registration!

The concert on Sunday, March 22 is for all ages and begins at 5 pm in church! He combines music and stories – he's a good time, for sure! Tickets are required, but they are free! Pick yours up at the parish office this week!

Hoy Week Ministry Sign-ups. If you are involved in a liturgical ministry (Extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, Lector, and Usher) and would like to volunteer your services at any of the Holy Week liturgies listed below, please sign up at the church's main entrance.

Holy Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 3rd at 1:00 pm

Easter Vigil, April 4th at 8:00 pm

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Your service makes our liturgies special and complete!

Please remember that if your are on the April schedule for either 7:00 am, 8:45 am, or 10:30 am Masses, then you are "on" for Easter Sunday at those times.

RCIA meets Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. This week's session is Marriage. Anyone interested may join us or call S. Pierre at 857-6404 for more information.

Today, the newly Elect hear the Gospel story of the Blind Man from John 9:1-41. After hearing it, we ask: What makes it hard to see Christ the Lord's activity in my life? In my world? For those of us already baptized, we ask, How will I shed light and Christian openness at some place, in some activity, to someone in need of Christ's light and saving presence?

Have You Attended? The month of March we are offering Protecting God's Children sessions every Tuesday. All parish volunteers, regardless of ministry, parents, grandparents or those interested in helping the vulnerable of our parish are invited to attend training. Please call 857-6404 to register, guaranteeing enough materials.

Liturgy Schedule 4th Week of Lent March 15-22

Monday,	Mass at 6:30 am & 12:10 pm
Tuesday,	St. Patrick Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Wednesday,	St. Cyril of Jerusalem Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Thursday,	St. Joseph Mass at 6:30 am & 12:10 pm
Friday,	Mass at 6:30 & 8:05 am
Saturday,	Mass at 5:30 pm
Sunday,	5th Sunday of Lent 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

Stations of the Cross. Every Friday evening at 7:00 during Lent.



Pray for the Sick

Please remember in your prayers: Eddie Siemer, Cheryl Ann Huber, Anna Habing, Jack Hardiek, Paula Spencer, Lucille Worman, Agnes Kremer, Pauline Goczynski, Devin Mette, David Pruemer, Harold Hardiek, Margaret Pruemer, Will Niccum, Joe Ruholl, Tom Rhodes, Rosie Myers, Vince Huelsing, Anne Nelson, Art Thies, Emily (Heuerman) McCabe, Lorraine Deters

Stewardship of Treasure

	<u>Sunday</u> 3/8/2015	<u>Total Fiscal</u> <u>Year</u>
292 Adult envelopes	8,425.50	305,778.50
Other	<u>628.60</u>	<u>24,137.67</u>
TOTAL	9,054.10	329,916.17



Parish Calendar

Monday, March 16

- Gr. 2 1st Communion Parent Mtg., 7 pm, Museum Dining Room
- Bible Study, 7:00-8:30 pm, Teen Center
- CCW Mtg., 7:00 pm, St. Clare Hall
- Social Concerns Mtg., 7:00 pm, Museum Mtg. Room

Tuesday, March 17

- Protecting God's Children, 6:30-9:00 pm, St. Clare Hall
- RCIA, 7:00 pm, Museum Mtg. Room

Wednesday, March 18

- Jr. Hi. Practice for Stations, 6:30-7:15 pm
- Children's Choir, 3:30-4:30 pm
- Teen Choir, 6:00-7:00 pm
- Rosary, 8:00 pm, Chapel

Thursday, March 19

- Bible Study, 10:00-11:00 am, St. Clare Hall
- Cemetery Board, 1:30 pm, Museum Mtg. Room
- Monastery Museum Mtg., 7:00 pm, Museum Mtg. Room
- Adult Choir, 7:00 pm
- Parish Council Mtg., 7:00 pm, St. Clare Hall
- Gr. 2 1st Communion Parent Mtg., 7:00 pm, Museum Dining Room

Friday, March 20

- Rosary, 9:30 am, Church
- Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm
- Teen Center open, 7:30-10:00 pm

Saturday, March 21

- Confessions, 3:30-4:30 pm
- PJ Anderson Retreat, 10:00 am—5:00 pm, Gr. School Gym

Sunday, March 22

- Financial Peace University Class, 4:30 pm, Museum Dining Room
- PJ Anderson Concert, 5:00 pm, Church

All adults who have not been confirmed and are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation can contact S. Pierre for details. Bishop Paprocki will confirm all adults of the diocese who have not been confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015 in Springfield.



Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to the homebound for Sunday, March 22 are: Theresa Funneman 821-4867 and Mary Jane Koester 857-3697.

CCW News for all ladies of the parish:

The March CCW meeting will be held this Monday, March 16th, in St. Clare Hall at 7:00 pm.

To all the ladies collecting CCW dues, please have them collected and turned in before this meeting.

Among discussions will be the candidate for Our Lady of Good Counsel Award (which honors a woman of our parish who actively lives her Catholic Faith, displays her spirituality, and shares her time/talent with a cheerful attitude by doing acts of service and leadership towards her community and parish.

Our guest speaker for the March meeting will be Linda Pruemer on “Pastry Making!” Please come join us for fellowship and friendship.

Ladies. The Effingham Area Deanery meeting will be held March 17, 6:00 pm, at Christ the King Church, Greenup. Speaker will be Lisa Rexroat. All are invited.

We are still looking for names of our parishioners who are currently serving in the military. Please send this information to the parish office. Thanks!

Sympathy. We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Gene Nosbisch and Bernice Gaddis. May they be experiencing the peace and happiness of heaven.

Br. Marc Sheckells’s Solemn Profession into the Franciscan Order will be on April 25th, at St. Peter’s Church in Chicago. The church is considering chartering a bus for parishioners to attend this momentous event in his life, if there is enough interest. Cost would be \$30 per person. If you would like to ride the bus, please let us know by March 19th, so we have adequate time to reserve it.

A Lenten Special: Food for the soul; make a DeColores Spring Weekend.

Men’s weekend March 19th-22nd; Lay Leader is John Sudkamp 217-844-2322.

Women’s weekend March 26th-29th; Lay Leader is Kate Weber 217-821-3003.

For more information contact Mary Sur at 217-342-2003.

Year of Consecrated Life. From the very beginning of the Church, men and women have set about following Christ with greater freedom and imitating him more closely through the practice of the evangelical counsels, each in their own way leading a life dedicated to God.

—Decree on the Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life, *Perfectae Caritatis*, no. 1

Religious Education News

GRADE SCHOOL. First Communion parent meetings take place this week in the museum dining room, Monday, 3/16, and Thursday, 3/19, beginning at 7:00, at which time materials may be picked up.

Grades 3 and 4 have Stations of the Cross on Monday in Church—parishioners are invited.

Grades 5M and 5S celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday, March 19.

PRE-KDGN. Sunday morning religious education classes take place in the museum dining room during the 10:30 Mass. After this Sunday, there are only 2 more Sundays left for practicing the religious songs for the closing Mass, which takes place on Palm Sunday, March 29, following the 10:30 Mass in Church with reception following in St. Clare Hall.

JUNIOR HIGH. -- Classes take place on March 18 at the Junior High Building. Grade 8 topic is Lesson 6 “To Use or Not to Use.” Grade 7 topic is “Jesus and the Gospels”. Grade 7 students who are planning to participate in the Silhouette Stations of the Cross should arrive for practice at 6:30 on March 18 and March 25. Anyone who has not yet turned in their report sheet should do so at this time. We encourage all Junior high students to participate in the PJ Anderson retreat day on Saturday, March 21, from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm. (Good Lenten practice!) Please bring your registration forms this Wednesday to class.

Attention all parents. The diocesan sponsored Protecting God’s Children Session takes place for all parents on Tuesday evening in St. Clare Hall from 6:30 to 8:30. for those who have not yet taken it for the first time. Call 857-6404 to register. Information was sent home this week. Any questions or to arrange babysitting, call 857-6477.

HS Religious Ed

Thanks to Hank & Deb Niebrugge and Shane and Sara Stone for sharing words of wisdom on marriage to our seniors. We enjoyed you a lot!

Senior Retreat! Please pray for our seniors who are on retreat this weekend!

Youth Notes:

Junior High Teen Center is open on March 20 from 7:30 pm – 10 pm. Please note the delayed start time because of Stations – please go to Stations with your family, and then come on over to Teen Center! Chaperons for March 20 are: Ted and Sharon Deters (please pick up the key from the parish office), Jeff & Kayla Hemmen, Brad & Angie Koester.

Newly Baptized.

We congratulate and welcome to our faith family:

Evan Patrick Pape,
son of Patrick and Stephanie (Schumacher) Pape

Grant James Sturgill,
son of David and Sarah (Tipton) Sturgill

Brooks Patrick Meyer,
son of Derek and Brittany (Castle) Meyer.

New Family Registered.

Zachary (Zach) and Rachel (Deters) Myers and children, Kaylee and Alyssa.

Help Needed: We are still accepting donations for the columbarium we are putting in our cemetery. Our goal is to have this project completed by All Souls' Day, November 2nd. Any amount, large or small would be appreciated. Envelopes can be found at church entrances. Thank you.

55+ Group. Let's get together! We'll have Mass, Lunch, and Cards/Games on March 23. We'll start with Mass at noon and then move on to the St. Clare Hall for the rest of our shenanigans until 3. We will provide a meat and you can bring your favorite dish to share with the group! If you told us last time that you'd like to help with food, please call the parish office and we will have a special assignment for you! Also, be thinking about whether you'd like to go on an outing together in April or May – Moonshine? Somewhere else? Fun times await!

LABELS...LABELS...LABELS...At this time the religious ed office is looking for UPC labels from any Pepperidge Farm Products such as "goldfish" and other products. These items score bonus points. The labels allow the religion program to purchase items for the Bake Sales held throughout the year, such as basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, and items for the religious ed office such as electric pencil sharpeners etc. God bless you for checking your shelves and purchasing these items. All other Campbell Soup labels also count!

Catholic Charities Second Hand Resale

Shoppe will re-open on Tuesday, March 17th, featuring spring and summer clothing items as well as Easter décor.

Rosary Vigil at Planned Parenthood Tuesdays 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The need for repentance has never been greater since Roe v. Wade in 1973—55 million babies. One in four women has at least one abortion by the age of 45—both Christian and non-Christian alike—43% identify themselves as Protestant, 27% Catholic. There is power in numbers, so please come and pray with us. Questions, call Peg Muhlbachler at 217-844-2172.

40 Days for Life. Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not He who weighs the hearts perceive it? Does not He who keeps watch over your soul not know it, and will He not requite man according to his work? —Proverbs 24:11-12

We know there are persecuted Christians in Syria, there is genocide in Darfur, and there are babies aborted and women and families devastated right in our own communities. "But I can't save them all," you say. God isn't asking you to. He has equipped each of us with time, talent and treasure to do what we can. He is asking us to be on His side in speaking out and protecting those who can't protect themselves. You have responded to His call during this 40 Days for Life campaign. Let your efforts be for His pleasure and His purposes. Pray without ceasing!

Prayer: God Almighty, we pray for continued guidance and strength as we intercede on behalf of the women and their babies who are stumbling to the slaughter. Open the eyes of the mother's and father's hearts to see their child as you do—a precious gift to be treasured. Let them feel Your loving arms around them and may they be assured that you have a plan and a future for them and their child. Give them reason not to enter the abortion clinic. Give them wisdom and discernment to find life options through a local pregnancy care center and may they boldly choose life. Thank you, Lord, for hearing our prayer. Amen.

The March 16th Prayer Vigil for Life will be held at Sacred Heart, Lillyville. Rosary at 6 pm and Mass begins at 6:30 pm.

Coming Soon! The annual Effingham County Right to Life Rummage Sale will be held Thursday, March 19th, and Friday, March 20th, in the Effingham KC Building. Please bring your useable items on Wednesday, March 18th, from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. PLEASE NOTE: NO TV'S, COMPUTERS OR PRINTERS will be accepted. Sale hours are 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on Thursday and 7:00 am to 3:00 pm on Friday. Volunteers needed on Wednesday and to pack leftovers on Friday at 3:00 pm. Men would be greatly appreciated to move heavy cartons. \$3:00 bag sale all day Friday. For more info, please call 857-3060.

Navigating Your Care Options. Join Jackie Witges, Certified Geriatric Care Manager, as she presents “Navigating Your Care Options,” an Aging Well Community Speakers Series program. Jackie will discuss person-centered care options for in-home settings, dementia and skilled nursing communities, and hospice care. She will provide tools to help determine what type of care is needed and what setting is most appropriate. Jackie will also describe and explain the various ways to finance long-term care.

“Navigating Your Care Options” will be held on March 23rd at 6 pm, at Helen Matthes Library, Luttrell Room. To register for this free program, call Helen Matthes Library at 342-2464 or by visiting effinghamlibrary.org. For more information about the program, email eaam.amy@gmail.com. This program is sponsored by Effingham Area Alzheimer’s Awareness, an organization founded to provide education and support to all families, caregivers, and victims of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia in Effingham County and the surrounding area.

Franciscan Information Session to be held in Effingham. The Associates of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis are hosting an Information Session on Monday, March 30, at 4 pm in the home of Carol Gapsis, 1003 North Parkview Street, Effingham. “We invite baptized Christian men and women who seek to deepen their faith by sharing in a Franciscan way of life and a healing spirit with the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis to attend this session.” explained RuthEllen Davis, Associates Coordinator. The Hospital Sisters of St. Francis are the sponsors of St. Anthony’s Memorial Hospital, Effingham.

“Associates live the Gospel of Jesus in their own life circumstances consistent with the Sisters’ healing spirit. They live in their own homes and follow the particular ministry to which they have been called. The relationship between the Associates and the Sisters carries no legal or financial responsibility,” Davis added.

Associates emphasize a strong sense of community by gathering monthly in their location to share their faith on spiritual and Franciscan topics. They also participate in some of the Sisters’ celebrations in Springfield, Illinois. From this spirit of community they bring the healing presence of Christ to others wherever they are and in whatever they do.

Founded in 1987, Associates of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis is a ministry of the Sisters with gatherings in Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Springfield and Streator, Illinois; and Eau Claire, Green Bay and Sheboygan, Wisconsin. For more information, please contact RuthEllen Davis at 217-522-3387, ext. 664. redavis@hsosf-usa.org or visit www.hospitalsisters.org.

Teutopolis Park District News:

Baseball & Softball: Sign up by March 15th
Instructional Volleyball: Sign up by April 1st
Softball Clinics: April 18-19; Sign up by April 1st
Boot Camp: March 16-May 8; Sign up continues, late fee applies.

Here and There

K C Friday night fish buffet now through April 10 at the Teutopolis K of C Hall meeting room.

St. Isidore Spring Breakfast at Bishop Creek is being held **today**, Sunday, March 15th, from 7:00 am—noon. The menu will include a whole hog sausage, ham, fried or scrambled eggs, pancakes, homemade breads and rolls. There will also be a raffle, Country Store with baked goods and crafts, and mystery boxes. Look forward to seeing you there!

Benefit Soup Supper for KC Hall Grounds today, March 15th. Serving 3:30 to 7:00 pm. Chili, chicken noodle and sauerkraut soups, sandwiches, drinks, desserts, celery & carrot sticks, cheese & peanut butter. Carry Out available. Also, chances are available on a small raffle. All are welcome.

Sacred Heart Church, Lillyville, will host its annual breakfast on Sunday, March 22, from 7:00 am—noon. Whole hog sausage, ham, pancakes, eggs, rolls, coffee, milk, and juice will be served. There will also be a Country Store with baked goods, quilt raffle, 50/50 raffle, and CYO raffle. Handicapped parking is available and the parish hall is wheelchair accessible.

“Circle of Friends” Vendor Open House will be held Sunday, April 12, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Sacred Heart parish center. Many local home-based businesses will be displaying their products of jewelry, cosmetics, candles, food, Tupperware, wood crafts, oils, cleaning products, hair bows, clothes and much more. Many items will be cash and carry! Proceeds benefit the World Youth Day participants. If you would like to reserve a table or need more information, call Judy Luchtefeld at 821-4060.

Holy Humor...Points to Ponder

If you look like your passport photo, you probably need the trip.

He who laughs last didn’t get the joke.

A TV can insult your intelligence, but nothing rubs it in like a computer.

Equal amounts of dark and white chocolate make a balanced diet.