



## Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2016

### Parish Events

#### Sunday, December 11

9:30 am RCIA

11:00 am Secular Franciscans

1:00 pm Spanish Mass – Our Lady of Guadalupe

#### Monday, December 12

6:00 pm PSR Reconciliation

7:00 pm Rosary

#### Tuesday, December 13

6:00 pm Parish Center Hands-On Training

6:30 pm Finance Council Meeting

6:30 pm Frerick's Prayer Group

7:00 pm Pivotal Players Group

#### Wednesday, December 14

8:35 am School Mass\*

6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting

7:00 pm Boy Scouts

7:30 pm St. Francis Men's Prayer Group

#### Thursday, December 15

6:30 pm St. Francis School Christmas Program

6:30 pm Schuerman Girl Scout

6:30 pm Scripture Discussion

#### Friday, December 16

3:00 pm Arnold 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Girl Scouts

#### Saturday, December 17

Holy Name Fruit Baskets

### Upcoming Events

12/18 RCIA

12/18 Gengenbacher Prayer Group

12/19 Medley 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Girl Scouts

12/19 PSR

12/20 Young Mom Together

12/21 Mass – 8:00 am

12/21 Schuetz Cub Scout Den Meeting

12/21 Boy Scouts

12/22 Schuerman Girl Scout

12/22 Scripture Discussion

12/24 Parish Office Closed

## Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.



Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



## Fr. Don's Doodling's

For some years now our parish staff, the Diocese of Springfield, and indeed the entire Catholic Church in the US, have been urging adults to attend the **Protecting God's Children** training. After taking that training 12 years ago, I've been reading a monthly newsletter from [Virtusonline.org](http://Virtusonline.org), that provides ongoing training. Having read 159 of these newsletters, I've learned a lot. One recent issue stunned me about what our children can get into online. The following are quotes from that issue:

"In 2015, a parent survey found that 75 percent of 4-year-olds had smartphones. According to the Pew Research Center, 24 percent of teens go online 'almost constantly,' attributing this to the widespread availability of smartphones. Additionally, 22 percent of teens log onto their preferred social media site/app more than 10 times each day, and more than half of tweens and teens log onto a social media site more than once a day.

"Many social media websites and apps require children to be 13 in order to create accounts. This isn't to protect developing brains, rather, it's the age set by Congress per the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), which prevents companies from marketing and collecting certain types of information from youth under 13. However, most children are technologically savvy enough to create their own accounts using fake information—or their parents help them. A consumer reports survey found that 7.5 million Facebook users were younger than 13, and 5 million were under the age of 10. Among the children who were 10, 95 percent of their parents knew the children were using the site, while 78 percent of their parents helped create the account—despite the fact that doing so is in direct violation of the terms of service.

There's a huge question of whether a child is psychologically able to handle what they are encountering online. "A new phenomenon has been identified by the American Academy of Pediatrics as 'Facebook depression'.

**"Below are a series of questions to consider, and eventually ask the youth when charged with the responsibility of helping children navigate safely online:**

**"Privacy settings and risks:** Can the child truly control his/her information, such as keeping passwords private, reviewing content from photos/posts and limiting the disbursement of personal information? The data is showing that children often can't. Children must understand that once something is posted on the Internet, it will be available forever. They need to be conscious that it helps to think not just twice, but THREE

times before transmitting or posting information that could affect their own reputation or that of others.

**“Reporting functions:** Sometimes children come across foul language, inappropriate visual material or cyberbullying in their online activities. They need to know how to report users or profiles within each social networking account they operate. An important question to ask is, will they be able to address and/or report bad material? What if it's from a friend?

**“Be a friend, not a foe:** The 'Internet of Things' is wildly popular for laughing at others at their expense, and posting the information for the world to see without realizing the devastating impact on real lives. The Online Disinhibition Effect can cause people to act differently online than in person, putting others at risk if they don't treat people respectfully—including a risk of suicide. Does the child know the difference between a friendly joke and actual bullying—and that when there's an image of someone online, that person has real feelings?

**“Pornography and trafficking concerns:** Have you talked to the child about his/her private parts and the importance of respecting others? The Internet (and social media, depending on the app and ads) is inundated with pornography, and the largest consumer of online pornography are children between the ages of 12-17. More than a third of teenage boys (13-14 years old) say they've viewed pornography more times than they can count. By 18, nine out of 10 boys and six out of 10 girls have seen pornography on the Internet. Online pornography also contributes to the sexual trafficking of minors, as victims become part of the multitude of videos and images that are circulated. Children who have seen pornography, even unintentionally, are more likely to be sexually abused by a peer or adult.

“Did you know children are very likely seeing these types of images outside of your sight and hearing? Do they already know how to clear their cache (research says yes, they do)? Could they already have an addiction by age 12? If you automatically answered ‘no’ to any of these questions, then we're already in trouble. It's when we think ‘it couldn't' happen here’ that we're already behind the curve.

“As a caring adult, it's imperative that you perform your own research about the pros, and cons of the specific social media applications, and what the benefits and potential dangers are. Are YOU ready to create your own account on the same social media site(s) to better hold the child accountable?

“Have an ongoing, open discussion with children, and make sure you know what they're doing online.

“Hopefully you're modeling the appropriate behavior to the children in your role as a caring adult. It

isn't just the job of the parent, it's the job of every caring adult and role model in each child's life—that means all of us.”

## **Parish Center Reservations**

Please use the email address of [www.reservations@stfrancissolanus.com](mailto:www.reservations@stfrancissolanus.com) for questions regarding the use of the Parish Center. Your other option is to call the parish office at 222-2898 and ask to speak to Misty or Barb.

## **Giving Tree Gifts**

The gifts from the Giving Tree should be returned by noon on Sunday Dec. 18. **Please** tape the tag to the outside of the wrapped present.

## **Nursing Home Gift Collection**

Along with the Giving Tree we are collecting body care items in these brands: Eucerin, Cetaphil, and Curel for the elderly in the nursing homes and the homebound. No need to wrap them, just place the items in the basket up front by the giving tree. Please have these items in by Noon on Dec. 18.

## **Needing gift cards?**

The Gene Grawe Fund office located in St. Peters Church lobby has gift cards for all of your Christmas gift giving & your shopping too! The office is open Monday-Friday 7:30-5:00 with Thursdays until 7PM. Saturday mornings 9-1. We will have extended hours the week of Christmas. We will be open until 7 PM on Wednesday December 21st, Thursday December 22nd & Fridays December 23rd. Please support your fellow Catholic School families to help them with their tuition with every card you purchase through the Gene Grawe Fund. Thank you for all of your support! Any questions please call JoAnn Witte 257-3231.

## **Decorating the Church**

We will be decorating the church Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. At this time we will be putting up the rest of the trees, everyone is welcome to help.

## **Poinsettia Memorials**

We invite you to make a donation in the memory of your deceased loved ones toward our beautiful Christmas decorations in church. Please place your donation, along with the names to be memorialized, in an envelope and drop it in the Sunday collection or mail it to the Parish office. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

## Christmas Card Shower for Nursing Home Residents

It is time for our Church families to send cards to our parishioners who are in nursing homes. There will be a drop box in the back of Church. The cards will be delivered in time for Christmas. On each card, sign your name and state you are from St. Francis Church. Put the nursing home resident's name and nursing home on the outer envelope. **PLEASE DO NOT SEAL THE ENVELOPE. THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 11.** If you know anyone from our parish who is not on the list, please call Susan Mast (222-5345) or Jane Gregory (885-3042).

### Good Samaritan Home

Mildred Chandler  
Mary Costigan  
Cynthia Fischer  
Marjorie Hufendick  
Helen Jehling  
Alice Johnson  
Paul Kenning  
Arlene Koch  
Marian Lammers  
Barbara Lane  
Phyllis Lymenstull  
Alan McLaughlin  
Patricia Thompson

### Sunset Home

Lucille Cookson  
Dee Fortman  
Pat Grave  
Eva Mae Higgins  
Dorothy Schutte  
Florine Sparrow  
Wilma Schullian

### Sycamore Healthcare Center

Dorothy Janssen  
Tena Rubison  
Mary Jo Venvertloh

### Bickford Cottages

Carol Clow

### Illinois Veterans Home

Charles Briddle  
Norma Vahlkamp  
John Busse

### Timberpoint Health Care

Donna Bockenfeld  
Eleanor Willer

### St. Vincent's Home

Henrietta Benz	Marian Jochem
Maxine Gengenbacher	Joan Liesen
Harold Hughes	Leo Stegeman
Carl Bernhardt	Mary Wester
Barbara Ostermueller	Jerry Ostermueller

## Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of Jim Winston, Betty Wienhoff and Vivian Duffy died recently. Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord.

## Baptism

Eduardo Zaid Ibarra,  
Son of Eduardo & Doris Ibarra

## Hands On Training

Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. there will be a "hands on" training for ushers, greeters, funeral luncheon volunteers, Cub, Boy and Girl Scout leaders, picnic committee, and adult representatives of ANY group that needs to know how to operate the equipment in the parish center. This includes the audio equipment for the cry room, putting up and taking down partitions in Solanus Hall, use of janitorial items, and the proper operation of the gathering room (north entrance) doors. We will have a staff member at each station to demonstrate how to use the equipment. You will then be able to do it yourself with guidance as needed from the staff. None of this is difficult; it is just a matter of teaching people the proper way of operating the equipment. Please mark your calendar and try to attend this meeting.

## St. Francis Community Assistance



Deborah Schulte stocks the food pantry shelves with the donations from parishioners and St Francis school students. St Francis Community Assistance is grateful to all who participated in the Fall Harvest during the month of November.



## Third Sunday of Advent

Come to save us. That is our prayer. It is God's promise. How do we know? Our own eyes will show us. Our own ears will tell us. The feeble are made strong. The frightened do not fear. The blind see. The sick are healed. The poor are cared for. Jesus' ministry of healing and mercy is evident everywhere. At this mid-point of Advent, this time of waiting for the Second Coming of Christ is not a passive waiting in easy chairs. It is active. It is robust. It is filled with behavior as if Jesus is right here, right now. Because he is! In what ways can his ministry of healing and mercy be my own?

- Who needs a ride to doctor or grocery?
- Who needs a visit to ease loneliness or fear?
- And let me recite Psalm 146:6-10 all week – it sings of mercy works.

## MSP Schedule Mix up

Unfortunately there has been a mix up with the MSP New Year's Eve and New Year's Day ministry schedule. The schedule should be:

- New Year's Eve 4:30pm Mass
- New Year's Day 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

**However we need to fill the ministries for the 6:30 AM and 11:00 AM.**

If you are able to be at those masses and would like to volunteer:

1. Log into your MSP account on the web terminal
2. Click the tab heading "FULL SCHEDULES"
3. Scroll down to the correct dates and then just click "VOLUNTEER NOW"

**That's it!**

Your name will appear in the box and it will be added under your "MY SCHEDULE" tab.

If you have any questions, you can call the Parish Office 217-222-2898.

Again, I am very sorry for the mix up; we appreciate all your time and dedication you give to the ministries.

-MSP Team

## Christmas Card Address List

Father Vernon Olmer, O.F.M.  
Cross in the Woods  
7078 M-68  
Indian River, MI 49749



Father Kurt Hartrich O. F. M.  
St. Peters Friary  
110 West Madison Street  
Room 423  
Chicago, Illinois 60602-4196

Fr. James Wheeler, O.F.M.  
Holy Cross Friary  
724 N. 20<sup>th</sup> St  
Quincy, IL 62301

## Parish Financial Summary

	YTD 10/31/2016	YTD 10/31/2015
<b>Operating Receipts</b>	\$ 670,017	\$613,354
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	\$754,008	\$733,587
<b>Operating deficit</b>	(\$83,991)	(\$120,233)
<b>Parish Hall Debt</b>	\$850,886	\$1,166,007

## Status 2016-17

### Annual Catholic Services Appeal as of 11-9-16

ACSA Goal for St. Francis Solanus	\$115,476.00
Paid to Date	\$21,050.00
<b>Amount Remaining to be paid</b>	<b>\$94,426.00</b>

## Holy Name Fruit Baskets

The Holy Name with the help of Boy Scout Troop 22 and RCIA will again be selling Fruit Baskets to help FILL THE ST. FRANCIS FOOD PANTRY. Order forms are available at the back of the church and at the North entrance doors. Return the order forms in the collection basket or drop them off at the rectory. The last day to order is December 12 with pick-up on Saturday, December 17. Or you can order by calling John Benz 440-0875, Nathan Koetters 242-9382, Steve McMillen 222-6739, or Dennis Steinkamp 224-5665. What a great way to help the needy!

## PMO-QND Choral Concert

The Quincy Notre Dame and Parochial Music Organization choirs will present a Christmas Concert, "Christmas With Friends VIII" on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 pm in St. Peter Church. Join us for an evening of contemporary and traditional Christmas songs from around the world, including Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus". The choirs are directed by Monica Scholz, and accompanied by Robert March. There will be an opportunity for concert-goers to make a free-will donation to our programs at the door.

## Ministry Scheduling - Unavailable Dates

The next ministering schedule will be generated on or about December 14th and cover January, February and March 2017. Please update your profiles via the web terminal or call the rectory at 222-2898 with any dates that you know at this time you will not be available to serve. **Also please remember** that Ash Wednesday and part of LENT fall during this scheduling period.

Thank you.

Ministry Scheduling Pro Team

## Parish Support: Dec. 3-4

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Church /School	\$42,821.82	\$26,750	+\$16,071.82
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>\$491,262.10</b>	<b>\$588,500</b>	<b>-\$97,237.90</b>

## Miscellaneous Collections

\$3,263.65

## Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the following individual/families who recently registered as a parishioner. Please make them feel welcome and part of our great parish.

Brian Toumbs and daughter Mia

## Thank You

We have received letters from the Franciscan Missionary Union thanking you for the latest contributions of \$3,381.87 for our Sister Parish in Alaska. They really appreciate your generosity and your prayers.

## 2017 Calendar Raffles Knights of Columbus

K of C calendars make great Christmas gifts! 365 chances to win cash in 2017. Call Mike Schlipmann at 223-6658 or John Veith at 653-0258 for more details or to purchase your 2017 raffle calendar. Your purchase will help support the K of C charities which includes our Catholic Schools.



Some of the obstacles that keep us from "making a straight path" for the Lord are the same obstacles that keep us from embracing stewardship as a way of life. John the Baptist calls us to reform our lives and let go of the selfishness and greed that keep us from following God's will.



## Important Dates to Remember

Dec. 15 Christmas Program at 6:30pm in church

Dec. 21 - Jan 2 Christmas Vacation

Jan. 3 School Resumes

(Jesus is the Reason for the Season)

\*\*\*Early release every Wednesday at 2:30 with bus service\*\*\*

## Lunch/ Extended Care Bills

All bills must be paid in full before the Christmas break. If you have any questions, please call the office. Thanks for your cooperation.

## School - Christmas Program

Our Christmas Program will be held in St. Francis Solanus Church on December 15<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:30 PM.

We hope this location change will offer more seating since we have had such a large crowd the past few years. The doors will open at 6:00 to allow families to come in, find a seat and wait for the performance. We are asking that while you wait, please sit quietly and respect the Lord's house with reverence. We realize that 30 minutes is a long wait for some people if you plan to come that early, but it offers an opportunity for extra prayer and reflection during this Advent Season. We also ask that you do not take pictures during the performance, but wait until after the program to take any individual pictures of your children that you would prefer. We will ask one of the teachers to take group pictures that you will have access to later on. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and we hope to see you there!

## Parking Lot- New Safety Policy

As part of our New Safety Policy recommended by City Planners, we will now be blocking off College Street traffic that previously traveled from East to West from 8:00 AM to 8:20 AM each morning. We are asking parents to respect the new policy and do not drive around the barricade, simply to get to the parking lot or to drop off your children. Please refer to the parent letter previously sent home for more details. We have repainted the "Stop Line" in our parking lot to allow for 2 cars to pull up and stop on the other side of the Crosswalk. Please pull your car all the way up to the yellow line and stop, allowing your child/children to exit the car safely. While the line is stopped, all children should exit their parents' car, and students will cross in the designated Crosswalk area. Once the children have crossed, and all have exited the cars, the line will be allowed to move out of the parking lot. Please do not use the alley to exit or drop off children. The purpose of this new policy was not to save time, or move the line faster through- but rather to make it safer for your children to cross the lot to enter the school building. Thank you for your continued help and support in our efforts to keep your children safe!

*Joy*

*The Third Sunday of Advent*

December 17 & 18	Altar Server - Weekend	Communion Minister		Usher	Reader	Greeter
Saturday 4:30 pm	Zoe Blair Zona Oatey Lauren Smith Girouard	Charles Carlson Ehrhart Michael Irvine Knuffman Roger Knuffman Maxwell Diane Schultz Eric Schultz	Christina Phyllis John	Jim Waterkotte - Head Usher Brian Dreier Greg Ehrhardt Bradley Smith John Veith Frank Venvertloh	Martin Makarewicz Maureen Makarewicz	Russell Rohrer Theresa Rohrer
Sunday 6:30 AM		Reg Ankrom Rose Keller		Joe Bernhardt Joyce Frericks Kevin Frericks	Mike Happekotte	
Sunday 8:00 AM	Brennan Bridle Emily Gower	Joan Beard Broemmel Jane Dietrich Koettters Mary Monckton-Blickhan Paxton Julie Reis Pat Winking	Bruce Peggy William	Jim Wilper - Head Usher Dick Foster Gary Terwelp Joe Venvertloh Edwin Wellman Don Winking	Gerald Koettters Patricia Paxton	Jerry Meyer Karen Venvertloh
Sunday 9:30 AM	Brexton Beard Collin Burgtorf Krystal Burgtorf	Debra Beard Burgtorf Marvin Knuffman Mitchell Joanne Ortwerth Jamie Pieper Ronald Upper Walbring	Kelly Barbara Shirley	Tim Beard - Head Usher Joseph Fessler Mike Fessler Karl Venvertloh Mike Zanger Rich Zeidler	Linda Rull Jan Zeidler	Barbara Bockhaus Patricia Tomczak
Sunday 11:00 AM	Jack Staff Mike Staff	Mike Holbrook Holbrook Doris Karhoff Siebers Joe Smith Steinkamp Leah Waterkotte Wellman	Sue Russ Nick Bobbi	Bill Fleeer - Head Usher Richard Bourne Rob Gengenbacher Ron Gengenbacher Marty Karhoff Sam Vranjes	Val Paden Karen Steinkamp	Sylvia Collins Amy Steinkamp

Servers for Saturday, December 17 at 8:00 a.m. Mass and weekday 8:00 am Masses for Dec. 19-23 are Brooke Holman and Matthew Umland