

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Fr. Roger Abadano

Deacon Robert Kruse

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

Our Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community strives to be an instrument of peace and love in Amherst County through fellowship in the Eucharist and service to the poor, the youth, the stranger and the un-churched, in cooperation with other Christian churches.

Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b,

Psalm: 80:2ac, 3b, 1-16, 18-19

Response: "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved"

Reading II: I Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37



Mass Intentions

Sat., Nov. 28 +Harish Ganatra req. by Ginger Graffeo

Wed., Dec. 2 +Deceased members of Norma's family req. Norma Heinemann

Prayer List

WE PRAY TO THE LORD...Becky Baudaillier, Maria Brabo, Honey Furfaro, Jennifer Furfaro, Carolyn Greaves, Jerry Harambasic, Christine Horwege, Tom Hunnicutt, Brian Miles, Gene Onestinghel, Parker Onestinghel, Pat Onestinghel, Lori Ann Pompie, Marti Sanita, Rick Shoman, Cochise Suarez, Claudia Szarnicki, Angus Topfer, Kevin Williams and Tillie & George Winfield. **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS.**

Stewardship: Nov. 21 & Nov. 22: \$940

Parish Partnership: \$25

New Liturgical Year

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.'¹ Pope Benedict XVI, *Celebration of First Vespers of Advent, Vatican Basilica, December 2006* Excerpted from the website of [Congregation for the Clergy](#)

St. Francis News and Notes

[Saint Francis of Assisi](#) is credited with creating the first live nativity scene in 1223 in order to cultivate the worship of Christ. He himself had recently been inspired by his visit to the [Holy Land](#), where he'd been shown Jesus's traditional birthplace. The scene's popularity inspired communities throughout Catholic countries to stage similar pantomimes.

Finance Message: During this Thanksgiving weekend, we give thanks for your continued financial contributions to the parish. In addition to keeping up with our regular monthly expenses, we have been able to contribute our part to some necessary updating to the rectory for Father Roger as well as his moving expenses. We are in the process of setting up his office/vestry in a larger, more private part of the church with some new furnishings and closet upgrades.

We are working with an electrical contractor to get the outside lighting functioning through the winter months. A permanent fix which will require trenching will be done in the spring.

Many of you have contributed to our Justice and Peace outreach. We prepared food boxes for nine families for Thanksgiving. We are currently working on Jesse Tree gifts for nine children. Coats, shoes, clothing, socks and underwear will be purchased for each child as well as a "wish" for each. Christmas food boxes will be prepared as well. Thank you to all who made a contribution towards this in lieu of our usual Jesse Tree tags. We are still accepting contributions for these families; a check made out to the church with "Jesse Tree" in the memo or cash placed in the marked basket in the narthex will help with this project.

Again, thank you to all for your continued support. Our church community is very blessed!

Holiday and Holy Day Masses

Dec. 8 (Tues.) 12 pm Mass-Immaculate Conception

Dec. 16 (Wed.) 1:05 Mass-Advent Reconciliation

Dec. 24 (Thurs.) 4 pm-Christmas Eve Mass

Dec. 25 (Fri.) **8 am**-Christmas Day Mass

Jan. 1 (Fri.) 12 pm-Motherhood of Mary Mass

These masses are **in addition** to our Wed., Sat., and Sunday masses.

Ministry Schedule

11/28 Saturday

Altar Server-Patti Highley

Camera-Karen Baxter

Lector-Marilyn Gilbert

Advent Wreath Lighting-Bill & Rose Barcosky

11/29 Sunday

Altar Server-Marlene Swift/Matthew Pietsch

Camera-Patti Highley

Lector-Maureen Chesney

November Birthdays

Elizabeth Douthat 28

John McFadden 29



Mass Times: Sat., 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 am; Wed. 1:05 pm **Reconciliation:** Sat., 4:30pm –4:50pm

Office Hours: Tues. 11:00-3 pm; Wed. 1:00-3:30 pm; Fri. 11:00-3 pm **Office phone:** 434-946-2053

Email: parish@stfrancisamherst.org **Website:** <http://www.stfrancisamherst.org> **Facebook:** stfrancis/amherst/va

Parish mailing address: POB 663, Amherst, VA 24521