

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Fr. Roger Abadano

Deacon Robert Kruse

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

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: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm: Psalm 25

Response: "To you, Oh Lord, I lift my soul."

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36



Prayer List

WE PRAY TO THE LORD...Becky Baudaillier, Chris Bogdewic, Flora Brabo, Maria Brabo, Donna Brewster, Jean Camm, Honey Furfaro, Jennifer Furfaro, Irene & Dr. George Gray, Carolyn Greaves, Jordan Greaves, Bob Green & Family, Phil Greenwood, Janet Hollingsworth, Christine Horwege, Tom Hunnicutt, Beverly Infante, Jim Kirkwood, Janine Lamanna, Wayne Mundy, Gene Onestinghel, Parker Onestinghel, Pat Onestinghel, Lori Ann Pompie, Marti Sanita, Rick Shoman, Cochise Suarez, Claudia Szarnicki, Meghan Thomas, Angus Topfer, Susy Weiss, Kevin Williams, and George Winfield. **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS.**

Advent Message

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.

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

--Excerpted from the website of [Congregation for the Clergy](http://www.congregationfortheclergy.com)

St. Francis News and Notes...

- Fr. Dan Kelly joins us as celebrant on Saturday, Nov. 27.
- If you do not want a box of 2022 collection envelopes, please notify the office. Thanks
- Communion for parishioners who are hospitalized, in nursing homes, or homebound has begun. Please contact our Pastoral Care coordinator, Carol Charles with requests. Her no. is: 434.333.5758
- Please return your food items for Christmas boxes by Dec. 4. There is a list of requested items on the narthex table and on the easel board.
- We are still accepting donations for Christmas food boxes and Jesse tree gifts. Please drop off checks/cash to the office. Thank you for your generosity.

Jesse Tree Overview

The Jesse Tree dates back to Europe during the Middle Ages. Ancient cathedrals have Jesse Tree designs in their stained glass windows. The "tree" is usually a branch or sapling and is decorated with various symbols that remind us of the purpose and promises of God from Creation to the Birth of Jesus Christ.

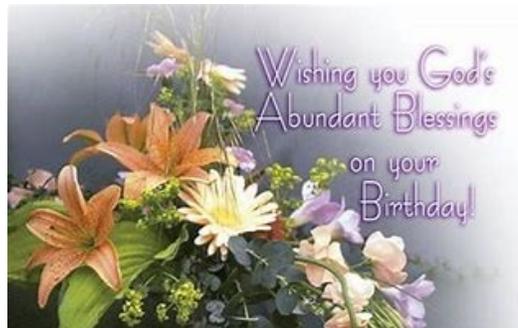
Jesse was the father of King David and God promised David that his Kingdom would last forever. Two centuries after the death of King David, God spoke through the prophet Isaiah and said:

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots: and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of the fear of the Lord. (Isaiah 11:1-2)

Each Jesse Tree ornament usually consists of a handmade symbol or drawing that represents one of the major stories of the Old Testament along with a brief verse of Scripture from that story.

November Birthdays

Tom Simonetti	2
Rebecca Grey	2
Madison Luther	2
Jackie Faria	3
Julianne Albert	7
Regina Rice	8
Marilyn Gilbert	11
Tim McGarry	14
Matthew McGarry	16
Niall Furlong	19
Deborah Walker	19
Emily Hubbard	20
Sharon Simonetti	20
Samia Mills	21
Garold Cockerham	21
Gail Curtin	24
Elizabeth Douthat	28
John McFadden	29



Mass Times: Sat., 5:00 pm **Reconciliation:** Sat., 4:30pm –4:50pm & by appt.

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