

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Fr. Roger Abadano
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 29, 2023

Our Mission Statement: St. Francis of Assisi is a Roman Catholic church striving to be an instrument of peace and love through the sacramental life of Jesus Christ and service to others.

Reading 1: Zephaniah 2:3

Lector 1: Jim Clarke (Saturday)
Lector 1: Peggy McFadden (Sunday)

Psalm: Psalm 146

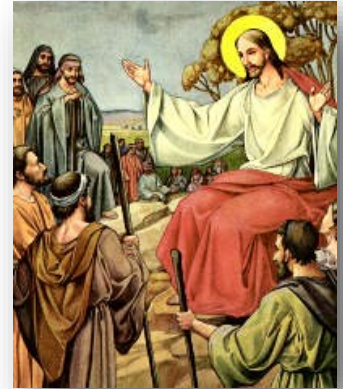
Response: "Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of Heaven is theirs."

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Lector 2: Midge England (Saturday)
Lector 2: Sandy Brown (Sunday)

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Tucker (Saturday)
Maureen Chesney (Sunday)



Mass Intentions

Saturday – January 28

For: Repose of the soul of +Ruth Ann Hernanden req: Mary Bryant

WE PRAY TO THE LORD...Becky Baudaillier, Chris Bogdewic, Maria Brabo, Donna Brewster, Dr. George Gray, Brandon Greaves, Carolyn Greaves, Gary Greaves, Gary Greaves, Sr., Jordan Greaves, Bob Green & Family, Phil Greenwood, Janet Hollingsworth, Christine Horwege, Sue & Tom Hunnicutt, Alex Infante, Beverly Infante, Leonardo Infante, Wayne Mundy, Gene Onestinghel, Pat Onestinghel, Donald & Rae Pfaff, Lori Ann Pompie, Marti Sanita, Peggy Sexton, Rick Shoman, Laurence Spiaggi, Jim Stella, Cochise Suarez, Claudia Szarnicki, Mildred Szarnicki, Meghan Thomas, Angus Topfer, Jane West, Reggie Wilkerson, Kevin Williams, George Winfield, Harry Winfield and Debbie Wyman. **LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS.**

Gospel: The **Gospel** reading is taken from the *Gospel of St. Matthew 5:1-12a*. At the end of the Gospel of the Beatitudes, the poor appear as the privileged ones in the discourse, the definitive, true protagonists in the story.

The first recipients of the Beatitudes are, in fact, the 'poor in spirit', an expression that indicates those who have their hearts and consciences directed intimately to Our Lord. They are the expression of the just who are tried by moments of suffering and difficulties. However, they are called 'blessed' and 'happy' because God's merciful and compassionate gaze rests on them. These are the poor that the Bible text really refers to. Thus, the poor, meek and humble become a scandal before the world because they witness that one can found our lives on God, with the same certainty of His constant presence and so they confirm the existence and works of God. Each one of us is invited to verify where our certainty rests and if our daily life and actions

proclaim God's efficacious presence in the world.—From the [Dicastery for the Clergy](#)

St. Francis News and Notes...

- On Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29 there will be olive wood artisan crafts from the Holy Land on display and for sale in the parish hall. All proceeds will go to support local Bethlehem Christians in the Holy Land.
- St. Francis has received \$1500 from the Diocese of Richmond Fuel and Hunger fund. These funds are available through the support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal by the people of the diocese.
- Saturday, Feb. 4 is our next family dinner after our 5 pm Mass. Please come and join us for good food and fellowship! There will be no Mass on Sunday, Feb. 5

The Spaghetti Dinner is back! Friday, February 17, 2023
11 am—7 pm Adults: \$10 and children under 12-\$3

Menu: spaghetti with meat sauce or tomato sauce
salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverage

Take out is available! Please sign-up to help by donating desserts for the dinner, or helping the day of the dinner with salad and dessert preparations in the morning, serving, clearing, kitchen help and local corporate delivery during the day and last but not least, clean-up at the end of the day.

Volunteer forms are on the narthex table. Proceeds from this event provide assistance to the needy of Amherst County.



January Birthdays

Isaac Cochran	5
Callahan Cochran	5
Stella Nagy	6
Jim Clarke	7
John Pelissier	19
Pam Gouldthorpe	19
Michelle Douthat	22
Margaret Golightly	30
Fiora Grey	31



February Birthdays

Karen Baxter	3
Sharon Johnsen	9
Emily Seawell	10
Ginger Graffeo	16
Andrew Carter	21
Paula Davis	23
John Morton	25
Gene Onestinghel	26
Tracey Clarke	27

Mass Times: Wed., 1 pm and Sat., 5 pm & Sun. 8 am (except the 1st Sunday of the month)

Reconciliation: Sat., 4:30 pm –4:50 pm & by appt.

Office Hours: Tues. 11:00-3 pm; Wed. 11:00-3:00 pm; Sat. 2:30-4:30 **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