

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor Fr. Roger Abadano
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 23, 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: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Lector 1: Sandy Brown (Sat.)
Lector 1: Bill Meznarich (Sun.)

Psalm: 86

Response: "Lord, you are good and forgiving."

Reading 2: Romans 8:26-27

Lector 2: Ann Tucker (Sat.)
Lector 2: Peggy McFadden (Sun.)

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Eucharistic Minister: Ann Tucker/Karen Baxter (Sat.)
Maureen Chesney/Larry Lamanna (Sun.)

Mass intention: Saturday, July 22 For: +William "Nick" Bauer req: Tina Murphy

Wednesday, July 26 For: +Guilberto, +Larry and +Efren Dael req: Norma Heinemann

Saturday, July 29 For: +Thomas Murphy req: Tina Murphy

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

Gospel

Today's parable is Christ's answer to the question so frequently asked: "Why does God permit evil to triumph so often in this world, why are the wicked allowed to prosper?" The triumph of the wicked is short-lived, the reward of the Christian who suffers from their wickedness is everlasting. The very wickedness and injustices of evil-doers are one of the ways that God uses to perfect his elect. It is only on a battlefield that a true soldier can be proved.



We must learn a double lesson of patience from this parable. First, to be patient with those who make our spiritual progress more difficult for us—they are actually helping us to be better Christians if we bear with patience the injuries they inflict on us. Second, we must try to imitate the patience God shows in his dealings with sinners. While we must not approve of their evil deeds, or their sins, we must still look on them as our brothers and do all in our power to put them back on the right road to heaven. We can do this by good example, and by fervent prayer for their conversion. This is not easy for human nature, but we can be certain that God will give us the necessary grace and strength to subdue our natural weakness and aversion, if we try to act with charity and true brotherly interest toward our erring fellowmen. —Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

St. Francis News and Notes...

- * Deacon Peter leads us in the rosary one half hour (4:30 pm) before Saturday Mass and one half hour (7:30 am) before Sunday Mass. Please join us.
- * Another family dinner is scheduled for August 5 after our 5 pm Mass.
- * If you no longer need to be on the prayer list or your family member no longer needs our prayers, please contact the office.
- * If you no longer require collection envelopes for 2024, please contact the office.

Collections Report FY 2022-23

	June	Fiscal Year to Date
Weekly totals	\$ 5363.00	\$ 66617.39
Parish Partnership	\$650.00	
Annual Budget		\$ 66,250.00
YTD Budget		\$ 66,250.00
YTD Surplus/(Shortfall)		\$367.39

July Birthdays

Jim Charles	1
Cindy Palladino	7
Edie Rider	10
Peggy Sexton	16
Sandy Brown	23
Maureen Chesney	28
Frank Palladino	28



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