

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of November 8, 2009

Sunday, November 8

9:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

11:00 am – Katie Bichsel (Robin Grant)

Monday, November 9

NO MASS

Tuesday, November 10

6:00 pm – Ernie Leo (Gloria Leo)

Wednesday, November 11

6:00 pm – Joanie Tocarzik (Lorri Kuczynski)

Thursday, November 12

6:00 pm – Thomas J. Eckenrode (John & Joan Randolph)

Friday, November 13

6:00 pm – Nadim Ayna (Irene Zahm)

Saturday, November 14

NO MASS

Sunday, November 15

9:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

11:00 am – Tom & Joan Gorman & Kathleen Rurak

(Gorman Family)

Schedule of Liturgical Ministries

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Nov 8 – 9 am – Skip Camerucci, Kathleen Dancy

11 am – Ariana Gremling, Susie Sarwark

Nov 15 – 9 am – Sara Pastore, Matt Pastore

11 am – Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Marilyn Smith

Servers

Nov 8 – 9 am – Lynn Willford

11 am – Jack Cotting, Rachel Glasner

Nov 15 – 9 am – Christ Paisley

11 am – Ariana Gremling, Jordan Griffith

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

Nov 8 – 9 am – Sam Hulett; 11 am – Julie Byrne

Nov 15 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko; 11 am – Pat Cassidy

Lectors

Nov 8 – 9 am – Maggie McCoy, Gretchen Rivera

11 am – Barb Finan, J Fullenkamp

Nov 15 – 9 am – Dick Wolf, Mary Ann Theado

11 am – Ben Gibbons, Judy Petrou

Eucharistic Ministers

Nov 8 – 9 am – Frank Conway, Frank Schneider, Phyllis DeVictor; 11 am – Joanna Nunn, Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Judy Petrou

Nov 15 – 9 am – Mary Ann Kerscher, Dan Kerscher, Carolyn Jurkowitz; 11 am – Gretchen Rivera, Barb Schmitzer, Lori Tocarzik

Reminder – sign up sheet for Thanksgiving Day Mass is in the sacristy.

New Rooms in Hall ... almost ready! as of this writing, we have not determined guidelines for reserving and using the new meeting rooms in the parish hall. We still need to paint and carpet the rooms, and as soon as they are ready for us, and as soon as policies have been developed about continual usage by any group, we will let you know! Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

TODAY, Sunday, November 8

➤ Hospitality Sunday, following each Mass, hall

➤ St Francis Seniors, 2 pm, hall

Monday, November 9

➤ Women's Group, 7 pm, hall

Tuesday, November 10

➤ Flytown Women, 12 noon, hall

➤ Parish Council, 7 pm, hall

Wednesday, November 11

➤ RCIA, 7 pm, hall

Thursday, November 12

➤ Bible Study at Westminster Thurber, 1:30 pm

➤ Bible Study 7 pm, hall

➤ Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm, church

Next Sunday, November 15

➤ RCIA Rite of Election, 11 am Mass

➤ RCIA Reception, following 11 am Mass, hall

➤ Baptism Workshop, 12:30 pm, hall

The season of Advent is right around the corner. Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. To help us think about this season of preparation in a new way, we will bring you excerpts from the **ADVENT CONSPIRACY** website (www.adventconspiracy.org) for the next few weeks ...

“Christmas can [still] change the world. The story of Christ's birth is a story of promise, hope, and a revolutionary love. So, what happened? What was once upon a time to celebrate the birth of a savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it's all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of missed purposes. Is this what we really want out of Christmas? What if Christmas became a world-changing event again? Welcome to Advent Conspiracy.” **The concept behind Advent Conspiracy is simple –**

Worship Fully / Spend Less / Give More / Love All

This week, our focus is “**Spend Less** – Before you think we're getting all Scrooge on you, let us explain what we mean. We like gifts. Our kids really like gifts. But consider this: America spends an average of \$450 billion a year every Christmas. How often have you spent money on Christmas presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of that same obligation? We're asking people to consider buying ONE LESS GIFT this Christmas. Just one. Sounds insignificant, yet many you have taken this small sacrifice have experienced something nothing less than a miracle: They have been more available to celebrate during the Advent season.” Looking for ways to give gifts that don't cost a lot of money? Have a few ideas you'd like to share? Head to rethinkingchristmas.com today.

Congratulations ... to wedding couple **Joe Burgi and Elizabeth McGovern**, who were married here on November 7; to **Garrett Cravener** and **Dana Martin**, parishioners who were confirmed at St. Joseph Cathedral yesterday; and to **Rhys Erick Arnason**, son of Beau and Joanna Arnason, and cousin **Beckett Andrew Blajszczak Blayney**, son of David and Kim Blayney, newest members of our parish family through the sacrament of Baptism.

Pastoral Reflections ~ for week of November 8, 2009

"She, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." During November, for many years, American Catholics have been asked to give to those who have less than enough. Before the Second Vatican Council, parishes would collect clothing and blankets for the annual Thanksgiving Clothing Drive. St. Vincent DePaul Societies would collect canned goods for emergency pantries. Now we collect food to provide Thanksgiving dinner baskets and we collect funds to support grass roots organizations working for justice for the disadvantaged and powerless. Many have observed that those most generous during these opportunities for charity are the "widows & orphans", those men, women, and children who barely have enough of what is needed. They have lost a job, a spouse, a home, a dream, their health, their reputation, their freedom. Like the two widows at center-stage of our liturgy today, they, who have the least, give the most. May we draw from our own poverty the compassion to give generously of our time, talent, and treasure. It is not too late to sign up for any of our parish teams. ~ Fr. Ron

Parish News and Information

HELP NEEDED FOR SNOW REMOVAL. As always, the parish will contract for snow removal of our parking lot. This year, we need some folks, preferably who live near the church, to clear the sidewalks of the property and the entranceway to the church. We have a snowblower. We would pay for this service. Anyone who is interested, or knows of someone who might be interested, should call our office. (614.299-5781; or e-mail office@sfacolumbus.org).

Thanks to the 23 parishioners who helped with our BREAD House Meetings by hosting, facilitating and attending one of our 3 House Meetings this year. Everyone is encouraged to attend the **BREAD Annual Assembly, Monday, November 16 at Rhema Christian Center, 2100 Agler Road, Columbus 43224.** Our parish has pledged to bring 30 parishioners to the meeting but the more the merrier. Registration starts at 6:30 pm and people are asked to sit with their congregation. Annual Assembly starts promptly at 7:00 pm. Rides will be offered for those who want to carpool. For those who wish to carpool please plan to meet at the parish hall at 6:00 pm., cars will leave by 6:15 pm. Those who attend the Annual Assembly will vote to select the issue that BREAD will focus on for the upcoming year. Please feel free to contact **Pat Cassidy** with any questions **614.596.5545** or cassidy.jpatrick@yahoo.com.

2 Chances for Help wanted. 1. Our parish website administrator needs **assistance with small website updates**, such as calendar notices. If your computer skills include knowledge of HTML, and you would like to help, please contact us. 2. **Are you familiar with Apple / Mac products?** We need help updating / tweaking a Mac notebook in the parish office. 614.299.5781 or email office@sfacolumbus.org

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP – selection is Christopher Moore's Lamb (The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal). The discussion gathering will take place on **November 22 after 11:00 am Mass, in the church hall (note location change).** Questions? Please contact Dee Bruney at 740-881-6324.

More Parish News and Information

RCIA -- The Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming. On **Sunday, November 15, at the 11:00 am Mass**, we will celebrate with those seeking membership in the Catholic Church a combined Rite of Acceptance (for the unbaptized) and Welcoming (for those already one with us in baptism). All are invited to the Church hall following mass to extend your support and encouragement to our new catechumens and candidates who now enter the second period of the initiation process, the Catechumenate. **Please join us for coffee and donuts!**

Mary Birmingham, author of the Year-Round Catechumenate, writes that, "At the Rite of Acceptance, inquirers make the first public ritual gesture asserting their desire to become Christian. They publicly accept the gospel of Christ and are signed with the cross of Christ. Their sponsors and the Christian community, in turn, accept them as members of God's household and promise to support them in their quest and on their journey. The community praises God for inviting the catechumens [*unbaptized*] to enter more fully into his life.

"The Rite of Acceptance is an invitation for all of us to renew our commitment to embrace the gospel and to live the paschal mystery in our everyday lives. The optional Rite of Welcome for baptized Christians recognizes the baptismal status of the inquirer. Similar to the Rite of Acceptance, it celebrates passage into the period of the catechumenate.

"One important way that the community and the specific initiation ministers offer divine hospitality to those who come seeking is to demonstrate by word and action that we are all on the same journey of conversion. It is a life-long process. Those who minister have not 'arrived.' The journey is the point. This is not something the minister does to the inquirers, but rather it is a process of conversion that we all share; it is a journey of apprenticeship. When Jesus asks the question 'What do you seek?' our response is to take the seeker by the hand and say, 'Together let us go and see.'"

COLLECTION COUNTING NEWS ... for our new Sunday collection counting schedule (which will most likely start in the new year), we still need 1 more person for the 1st Sunday, 2 people for the 3rd Sunday, 3 people for the 4th Sunday, and 3 people for the 5th Sunday. Please call **614.299.5781** or email office@sfacolumbus.org /

Once again this year, our parish will be collecting, assembling, and distributing **Thanksgiving Food Baskets** for the needy in our neighborhood. **To date, we have had 54 requests for baskets!** Items needed for one (1) basket are: \$20 Gift Certificate from a local grocery store for a turkey, ham, or chicken; Box of whipped instant potatoes; Can of corn, green beans, and yams; Box of stuffing; Jell-O Cheesecake mix; Loaf of bread, buns, or rolls; Roasting pan; Reusable (cloth) Grocery Bag; and Anything else you would like to add. We are aware that due to current economic conditions, it may be difficult for one household to provide all the items. Please feel free to join with one or two other households and combine your resources to make up a basket. Or, simply provide whatever items you can. We are grateful for all contributions. **Please bring items to the rectory for assembly no later than Sunday morning, November 22.** Questions? Call the rectory at 614.299.5781.

