

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



Second Sunday Advent

63 Sheridan Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420

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www.saintfrancis-fitchburg.com

Rev. Emerito Ortiz, Pastor

Email: Pastor-@saintfrancis-Fitchburg.com

Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM

Sunday: 9:00AM & 11:00 AM (Spanish)

Weekdays: Monday & Wednesday 6:00 PM (chapel) English Mass

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00AM (chapel) English Mass

Friday: 6:00 PM (church) English Mass

Tuesday: 6:00PM (church) Spanish Mass

Holy Days: 4:00PM (Vigil), 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00PM or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the rectory in advance for instruction

Sacraments of Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least one year before the wedding.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 8th

4:00PM †Barry Krysiak.....by Tom & Pat Krysiak
†Albert Dupuis (37th Ann)...by Rita Dupuis & fam.
†Linda Sandberg ..by Aerial Sandberg & fam.

Sunday, December 9th Second Sunday of Advent

9:00AM †For all people
11:00AM †Gustavo Pedraza (4th Ann)...by Gloria Pedraza
†In thanksgiving to the Lord...by Fernando &
Yazmin Duarte (24th wedding Ann.)

Monday, December 10th

6:00PM †
Tuesday, December 11th St. Damasus I

8:00AM †
6:00PM †Ángel Gonzálezby Anibal & Ivy González
Wednesday, December 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:00PM †Pro Life
Thursday, December 13th St. Lucy

8:00AM †Douglas Casker (10th Ann).....by fam.
Friday, December 14th St. John of the Cross

4:00PM †Barry Krysiak.....by Tom & Pat Krysiak

Saturday, December 15th

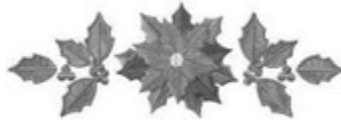
4:00PM †Yvonne Rochette (22nd Ann).....by family
†Tyler Dupuis.....by Rita Dupuis & fam.
†Jared J. Kamel (6th Ann.) by ...the family

Sunday, December 16th Third Sunday of Advent

9:00AM †For all people
11:00AM †In thanksgiving to the Lord



“Share Your Table with Love”
The needs for our St. Vincent de Paul Food
Pantry for the month of December : tuna,
canned meat (spam), beef stew, canned
chicken, canned fruit, Mac & Cheese,
Jelly, boxed potatoes, salad dressing.
Ramen soup. Thank YOU for your
donations. “When I was hungry you gave food ...”



Second Collection:

Retirement Fund for the Religious
Dec. 8/9

The Blessed Sacrament lamp is lit in memory of Angel Gonzalez.

Our Blessed Mother lamp is lit for the healing of Adolph Rocca.

A candle to St. Francis of Assisi is lit for Peace in the world.



Parish Support

Dec. 1/2

Offertory: \$2,196.0
Fuel:\$35.0 Maintenance:\$320.0
Christmas flowers:\$58.0 Others: \$45.0
Total: \$2,654.00

“Remember when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received, only what you have given” St. Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi Christmas Mass Schedule & Christmas Pageant

Our Religious Education students will have a Christmas Pageant during Mass. We are trying to make it as part of our Religious Education program and part of our teaching. I will be sending home with your child a form to let us know which Mass your child could participate on the Christmas pageant.



Monday, Dec 24.....

Vigil of Christmas(English) 4:00PM

Vigil of Christmas(Spanish) 6:30PM

If you have other child that wish to attend the Christmas Pageant they are more than welcome. Any question please, feel free to call or leave a message (978)342-3521. Yesenia (CCD Coordinator)

FUEL FUND

We encourage ALL parishioners and friends of St. Francis Parish to consider a donation to our FUEL FUND to help us defray the bills for FUEL during the winter season.



Christmas Mass schedule

Monday, Dec. 24th

....Vigil Christmas...4:00PM...English
...Vigil Christmas...6:00PM... Spanish

Tuesday, Christmas Day, Dec. 25

. 9:00AM ...English
11:00AM....Spanish



AdventThe Lord is coming

Christ came to us to be "the way" that leads us to God. He came from on high, the Son of God, co-eternal with the Father and the Holy Spirit, and took on our human flesh. Saint John the Evangelist says it so simply in his Gospel: "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we

saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth". This mystery of God becoming human is expressed theologically in the term: *Incarnation*. We say it every Sunday at the Creed: "...by the Holy Spirit, (he-Jesus) was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man."

We are preparing to celebrate his birth among us. We tend to celebrate many births, but Jesus' birth is indeed worth celebrating. It was an event that had no equal. It was not only marvelous because it was God coming among us, sharing in our human flesh, but he came down to us in order to lead us to God. Bringing us to God is the main theme of today's Scripture readings. The liturgy uses the return of the Jewish exiles from Babylon to their home in Jerusalem as a symbol of our coming to God. Prophet Baruch explains it so beautifully in today's first reading: "God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory." In the Gospel, John the Baptist quotes Prophet Isaiah when he describes his mission to prepare for the coming of our Savior. He said he was "a voice crying out in the desert: "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist was calling people to holiness so that God himself could lead them.

It is to holiness that our liturgy is calling us today. As we celebrate Christ's birth, is our celebration going to bring us a little closer to God, or it is just a ritual of decorating and un-decorating, trading gifts, having parties and just wearing ourselves out. Coming closer to God, knowing his presence and his love for us is what it is all about. John the Baptist is speaking to us today: "make straight his paths." Get "obstacles" out of his way so he can fill our lives with his presence. This is an ongoing effort for we are always called to grow in our relationship with God.

By Fr. Joe Robinson



Sing & Praise



*The Lord has done
great things for us;
we are filled with joy!*



Hymns: Second Sunday of Advent

Processional #309 "Come, O long expected Messiah"

Offertory: #304 "Jesus, come to us"

Communion #506 "To be your bread"

Recessional #423 "The King of glory"

In Loving Remembrance

In your charity, please pray for the soul of Angel Gonzalez, Vanessa Rivera, and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace. AMEN

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

*Each year we support our Religious Education children (CCD) for Christmas. We are asking your generosity again! Please, take an ornament and buy a Christmas gift. Return the ornament and gift unwrapped or gift bag by **Sunday, December 16.***

*We will be giving the gifts to our Religious Education students on **Sunday, December 23 Christmas Party.** THANK YOU!!*



Christmas Memorial FLOWERS

Donations and names of loved ones are now being accepted for our annual Christmas Memorial Flowers. Please, submit names and donations for Christmas flowers using the envelopes received in your monthly package or using the printed envelopes located in the back of the church. Thank YOU!



You are cordially invited to join us for our celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Sunday, Dec. 9 at 12:00 in the church hall Mexican food, water, soda, cake and entertainment for the whole family. You are very welcome!!

Happening at St. Francis of Assisi

Sunday, Dec. 9th ..9:00PM...Mass....
 10:00AM... CCD classes
12:00noonMexican brunch ...hall
 Monday, Dec. 10th . 6:00PM Masschapel
 Tuesday, Dec. 11th ...8:00AM.... Mass....chapel
 6:00PM....Mass (Spanish) Prayer Group...church
 Wednesday, Dec. 12th 6:00PM. Mass ...chapel
 Thursday, Dec. 13th8:00AM.... Mass....church
 Friday, Dec. 14th ...Food Pantry1:00PM
 Saturday, Dec. 15th 12:30Adoration Holy Eucharist
 4:00PM ...Masschurch



El Adviento ... El Señor ya viene pronto

Cristo vino a nosotros para ser "el camino" que nos lleva a Dios." Él vino de "arriba," el Hijo de Dios, eterno con el Padre y el Espíritu Santo, y tomó nuestra carne



humana. San Juan Evangelista lo dice muy simplemente en su Evangelio: "en el principio era la Palabra, y la Palabra estaba con Dios y la Palabra era Dios". "Y la Palabra se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros, y vimos su gloria, la gloria como del único Hijo del

Padre, llena de gracia y verdad". Este misterio de que Dios se hizo humano se expresa teológicamente en el término: la Encarnación. Lo decimos todos los domingos en el Credo: "...y por el Espíritu Santo, (él-Jesús) se encarnó de la Virgen María y se hizo hombre". Nos estamos preparando para celebrar su nacimiento entre nosotros. Tendemos a celebrar muchos nacimientos, pero vale la pena celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús. Fue un evento como ningún otro sobre la tierra. No solo fue maravilloso porque era Dios llegando hasta nosotros, compartiendo nuestra carne humana, sino que él vino a nosotros para conducirnos a Dios. Conducirnos a Dios es el tema principal de las lecturas de las Escrituras de hoy. La liturgia utiliza el regreso de los judíos exiliados de Babilonia a su hogar en Jerusalén como un símbolo de nuestra llegada a Dios. El profeta Baruc lo explica tan bellamente en la primera lectura de hoy: "Dios está guiando a Israel con alegría por la luz de su gloria". En el Evangelio, Juan el Bautista cita al profeta Isaías cuando describe su misión para prepararse para la venida de nuestro Salvador. Dijo que era "una voz que clama en el desierto: "prepara el camino del Señor, endereza sus caminos." Juan el Bautista estuvo llamando a la gente a la santidad para que Dios mismo pudiera guiarlos. Es la santidad a la que nuestra Misa nos llama hoy. Al celebrar el nacimiento de Jesucristo, nuestra celebración nos acercará un poco más a Dios, o será la Navidad para algunos simplemente un ritual de decoraciones y quitar las decoraciones, intercambiando regalos, celebrando fiestas y cansándonos de las celebraciones? El Adviento lo que trata es acercarnos más a Dios, conocer su presencia y su amor por nosotros. Juan el Bautista nos dice hoy: "enderezan sus caminos". De este modo, quita todos "los obstáculos" para poder llenar nuestras vidas con su presencia. Este es el esfuerzo continuo por el que siempre estamos llamados a crecer en nuestra relación con Dios.



St. Francis of Assisi Christmas

Party Potluck Supper Mark your Calendar! Our Religious Education students are having a Christmas party on **Sunday, December 23rd** starting

with Mass at **9AM until 2PM**. Our party with our CCD students and families. We are sending a Potluck Supper form with your child. Please let us know what you could bring and how many from your family are attending. The form is due on **Sunday Dec 16**.

Christmas Prayer Luncheon –
 Come join us in our Christmas Festivities
 WQPH is sponsoring a "Christmas Prayer Luncheon" on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 10:00am, at Slattery's Restaurant, 106 Lunenburg Street, Fitchburg, Ma. Cost of tickets: \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at door. At 9:00am a Mass will be said at St Bernard's Parish @St Camillus Church, 333 Mechanic St., Fitchburg, Ma for those who are able to attend. From there head to Slattery's. Festivities and music provided by Musicians for Life (Soft Christmas Music) At 12:00 to 1:00 pm, a talk will be presented by Yves Jacques, editor of "Michael" newspaper. Tickets/information, contact Joan (978-343-9278); Chris(508-856-9416); Roland (978-343-4927). On line tickets, WQPHradio.org. Many thanks. Joan

Religious Education...Parents, please, be advised:

Storm Watch Classes Closing-
 This is the time when the weather is changing, if there is a snow (ice) storm and we don't have classes, please check the Fox new 25 and expect a call from teachers or the coordinator.



MISA de SANACION
Martes, 18 de diciembre
6:00PM en la Iglesia



Todos los **TERCEROS MARTES** de **CADA MES**, tendremos la **SANTA MISA** de **SANACION**....

GRACIAS!

A todas las familias que abrieron las puertas de su hogar para celebrar la

Novena a Nuestra Señora de **GUADALUPE**

GRACIAS! A TODAS las personas que cooperaron en la organización de la Fiesta y la Novena a la Virgen de Guadalupe



Las POSADAS

La tradición de las Posadas serán celebradas en la Capilla del Centro

comenzando el **domingo 16 de diciembre a las 7:00PM.**

Necesitamos voluntarios para vestirse de la

Virgen María, San José, y los pastorcitos.

Las personas que deseen traer pan y chocolate para compartir después de la Novena, son bienvenidos.

Las Posadas terminaran el **Domingo 23 a las 7:00PM.** Te invita Padre Emerito. Traiga su Nacimiento para ser bendecido en las Posadas.



Las MISAS de AGUINALDO

Las tradicionales Misas de Aguinaldo comenzaran el **LUNES, 17 de diciembre a las 6:00AM** en la Capilla y se extenderán hasta el **sábado, 22 de diciembre.**



FLORES de NAVIDAD para la Iglesia

LECTURAS BIBLICAS de la SEMANA

Lunes, 10 /Diciembre
 Profeta Isaías // Isaiah 35: 1 – 10
 San Lucas // Luke 5: 17 – 26
Monday, Dec. 10
 Salmo//Psalm 85

Martes, 11 // Diciembre
 Profeta Isaías // Isaiah 40: 1– 11
 San Mateo // Matthew 18: 12 - 14
Tuesday, Dec. 11
 Salmo//Psalm 96

Miércoles 12// Diciembre
 Apocalipsis // Revelation 11: 19 – 12: 10
 San Lucas // Luke 1: 26 - 38
Wednesday, Dec. 12
 Salmo//Psalm 13

Jueves 13 // Diciembre
 Profeta Isaías // Isaiah 41: 13 – 20
 San Mateo // Matthew 11: 11 μ 15
Thursday, Dec. 13
 Salmo//Psalm 145

Viernes, 14 // Diciembre
 Profeta Isaías // Isaiah 48: 17 – 19
 San Mateo// Matthew 11: 16 μ 19
Friday, Dic. 14
 Salmo//Psalm 1

Sábado, 15//Diciembre
 Eclesiastes // Sirach 48: 1 – 11
 San Mateo // Matthew 17: 9 - 13
Saturday, Dec. 15
 Salmo//Psalm 80

Domingo 16 // Diciembre ...Tercer Domingo Adviento
Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 16th

Profeta Zefonias // Zephaniah 3: 14 - 18
 Salmo //Psalm 12
 Filipenses // Philippians 4: 4 – 7
 San Lucas // Luke 3: 10 – 18

ATENCION: CLASES para BAUTISMO
Para Padres y Padrinos SABADO, Enero 5
 1:00PM (Centro)

La Tiendita estará abierta todos los **DOMINGOS** después de la Santa Misa. Pregunte por Isabel.

Árbol de Regalos de Navidad

Cada año apoyamos a nuestros niños del Catecismo (CCD) para Navidad. Algunos provienen de familias pobres y estamos tratando de apoyarlos y animarlos a que sigan siendo parte de nuestra comunidad.

¡Estamos pidiendo de nuevo tu generosidad! Devuelva el adorno y el regalo sin envolver o en una bolsa de regalo para el domingo 16 de diciembre. Estaremos entregando los regalos a los niños de Catecismo en la Fiesta de Navidad para los niños del Catecismo el **domingo 23 de diciembre.**



Aviso : PADRES de los Niños de Catecismo

Cancelación de las Clases de Catecismo en las Tormentas de Nieve o hielo. Este es el tiempo en que el clima está cambiando, si hay una tormenta de nieve (hielo) y no hay clases de catecismo, por favor, vea los anuncios en el **Canal de Televisión Fox 25** y espere una llamada de los maestros o la coordinadora de catecismo.





- Tacos Pastor
- Sopa del Mar
- Pescado Frito
- Tacos de Pescado
- Pollo Azado
- Arros Camaron
- Carne Azada

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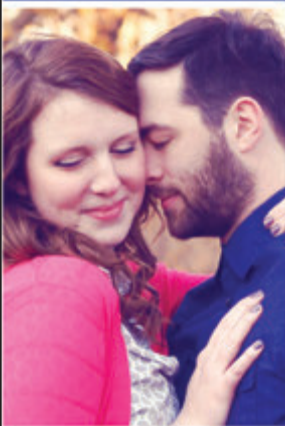
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