

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of January 7, 2018

Sunday, January 7

9:00 am – Margaret & Richard Marinucci (Mark & Marie Segal)

11:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, January 8

No Mass

Tuesday, January 9

6:00 pm – Fr. Fritz & His Family (Maryann McNulty)

Wednesday, January 10

6:00 pm - For the Success of the Capital Campaign

Thursday, January 11

6:00 pm - For the Success of the Capital Campaign

Friday, January 12

6:00 pm – Keenan/Dodd Families (Diane Keenan)

Schedule of Sunday Liturgical Ministries

Thank you for your willingness to serve to make our Mass Successful

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

January 7 – 9 am – Mary Jo and Sam Hulett

11 am – OPEN, Megan Murphy

January 14 – 9 am – Lorri Kuczynski, Craig Kowalinski

11 am – Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Theri Brady

Servers

January 7 – 9 am – Steve Hillyer, 11 am – Nolan Rothrock

January 14 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – Gaetan O'Brien

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

January 7 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko, 11 am – Julie Byrne

January 14 – 9 am – Bob Geoghegan, 11 am – Dan O'Brien

Lectors

January 7 – 9 am – Sr. Sharen Baldy, Cecilia McAdams

11 am – Jon Murphy, Emily Wu

January 14 – 9 am – Sue Cruickshank, Louisa Celebrezze

11 am – Tim Feran, Gary Snyder

Eucharistic Ministers

January 7 – 9 am – K. Kriedermann, C. Paisley, F. Conway

11 am – Renee Morkassel, Joanna Nunn, Louisa Celebrezze

January 14 – 9 am – Frank Conway, Joyce & Frank Schneider

11 am – Mark Coleman, Sandy Glasner, Lori Toczor

Gluten "Free"/Low Gluten Hosts...are available for those who wish to receive them. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host at Communion, please notify one of the greeters before Mass. This will allow us to observe and maintain safety protocols for those who are sensitive or allergic to gluten.

Happy New Year!

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Please check the St. Francis website for the full calendar of events

Sunday, January 7

▶ 10:00 am – Campaign Reception

▶ 12:30 pm – First Communion Preparation

▶ 7:00 pm – Confirmation Preparation

Monday, January 8

▶ 6:00 pm – Flytown Men

Tuesday, January 9

▶ 4:00 pm – Executive Finance Meeting

▶ 6:30 pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, January 10

▶ 7:00 pm - RCIA

Thursday, January 11

▶ 10:00 am – Westminster Thurber Bible Study

Parish News and Information

Prayer Cards, Prayer Chain – Have you noticed the big prayer board in the church hall? Do you know we have a group of people who are ready to pray for any need? Please complete a prayer card, attach it to the board and the prayer chain will begin praying. When your prayers are answered, let us know and we will join you in praising God. If you can't complete a card, you can call or email your request. Within just a few minutes prayers will begin. Don't carry your burdens along...let us help you. Contact Joyce Schneider at 614-557-6428 or joycemckownschneider@gmail.com or the church office 614-299-5781 or office@sfacolumbus.org



First Holy Communion information: Our parish celebration of First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, April 22, 2018, at the 11:00 Mass. Preparation sessions for children will be held in the parish hall Ocean Room (Atrium) from 12:30-2:00 pm each Sunday from January 7– March 18 (**except Feb. 25**). We strongly encourage children to participate each week in this



time of shared reflection and prayerful work.

Please call the parish office at 614.299.5781 if your child will celebrate First Communion with our parish family. Contact Therese Terndrup at terndru@kent.edu or stop by the Atrium on Sunday morning between Masses if you have any questions. Registration forms and schedule will be available at the first session on Jan. 7, 2018.

Confirmation Preparation will begin today and run through the end of April. Class will be from 7:00 – 8:00 in the Parish Hall. Please contact Joyce Schneider with any questions. joycemckownschneider@gmail.com or 614-557-6428.



The St. Francis Book Discussion Group will meet on January 21 in the church hall following the 11 o'clock Mass. We will be discussing *Barking to the Choir* by Gregory Boyle. All are welcome!

Pasta Dinner – Can you believe it's time to sign up for the Annual Mardi Gras Pasta Dinner? This year's dinner will be on Saturday, February 10. Lots of volunteers will be needed to make this event successful. Please contact Frank Schneider or Marti Damm with any questions or to volunteer.



Gospel Reflection ~ January 7, 2018

Matthew's Gospel account was written for a primarily Christian-Jewish audience, people who needed to understand how Jesus brought their hopes to fulfillment, and also that his story was in continuity with their traditions. Throughout his Gospel, Matthew frequently shows that fulfillment and continuity occurred in a surprising, unexpected way. Sometimes he uses direct citations from the Old Testament, and other times through allusion and imagery. The magi in today's Gospel, following the light of the star, can easily be seen as a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy that assures Jerusalem that nations and kings will walk in shining radiance. They are Gentiles seeking the newborn Jewish king, signs both of fulfillment of the prophecy and foreshadowing of mission to the Gentiles. Matthew shows explicitly that Jesus fulfills Jewish expectations by citing the prophet Micah (5:1, 3), combines with 2 Samuel 5:2. For Herod, the prophecy is a means of thwarting God's plan, while the Gentile magi continue their search for the child so they may do him homage. The contrast between their joy and homage and Herod's scheming displays further that God's plans will be fulfilled.

The magi also show fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy heard in the First Reading, as well as Psalm 72:10-11, with their gifts of gold and frankincense. The gift of myrrh, not included in the prophecies, has long been interpreted as pointing to Christ's future suffering, since it was an aromatic substance using in embalming (see John 19:39).

Through this account, Matthew provides a sense of continuity with the past as well as anticipation for the future. Whether in the ancient story of the Jews, or in the ongoing life of the followers of Jesus, God's plan will be fulfilled.

Source: Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word.

Capital Campaign

Letters were mailed a several weeks ago, announcing the official campaign with its theme – **Honoring the Past, Serving the Present, Preserving God's Gifts for the Future.** If you did not receive a letter, please contact the parish office.

The first reception is today! At the reception we will share all the details of the campaign and exactly how you can get involved. The Diocese believes that a capital campaign for St. Francis of Assisi Church, involving individuals and leaders shepherded by Father Fritzner Valcin, could raise \$292,000, over a three-year period to address the needs of the parish. This is a very exciting time in the life of our parish, and you will not want to miss being a part of this great adventure. The next reception is next Sunday, January 14 after the 11:00 Mass.

Because of these receptions, there will be no regularly scheduled hospitality in January.

Next Sunday's Readings

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
John 1:35-42



BREAD

BREAD Issue Research Kicks Off

The BREAD 2018 research issue kick off took place on Dec. 11 at Christ United Methodist in Columbus. Social justice champions from many faith traditions in Franklin County came together to hear about progress on multiple issues in our community (Welcome Columbus' Municipal ID, Restorative Justice, and Youth and Family Concerns), and to learn about the BREAD research process.

For the 2018 issue, **Youth and Family Concerns**, the initial work will be focused on research related to four subjects: 1) foster care/custody; 2) housing/homelessness; 3) drug abuse; and 4) mental health. The goal of the issue committee (made up of individuals from all congregations including St. Francis) and the steering committee will be to see what emerges from the research and the many meetings Dec.-March that can best support tangible action(s) to constructively address one of these areas of need. What emerges as a sustainable action will be presented at the **BREAD Nehemiah Action on May 7, 2018.** Stay tuned for more!

Around the Diocese

Bereavement Support Group - The Executive Planning Committee of the North High Deanery is announcing the establishment of a Bereavement Support Ministry. The meetings are open to all but we especially welcome the parishioners of the nine Catholic Churches that comprise the North High Deanery, namely: Holy Name, Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Peace, Sacred Heart, St. Francis of Assisi, St. John the Baptist, St. Michael and St. Thomas More Newman Center at The Ohio State University and Parroquia Santa Cruz.

The North High Deanery committee wants to thank the Catholic Foundation for awarding us a Focus Grant for Catholic Education and Faith Formation that will be used to help us establish this new ministry.

Please read your upcoming bulletins for additional information about the Bereavement Support Ministry meetings. They are set to begin in late January 2018.

If you have questions, please contact Mike Julian, parishioner of Immaculate Conception at [614.282.7136](tel:614.282.7136) or mjulian@columbus.rr.com or Veronica Garrity, parishioner of Our Lady of Peace at vgarrity@columbus.rr.com. For general information about this ministry, you may contact Mike Schmidt at michaeltjameschmidt@yahoo.com.

Join **Catholic Conversations**, Sunday, Jan. 14 on the topic of The Gospel according to Football Presented by Fr. Thomas Blau, OP

Join us for a fun, insightful discussion that will look at the parallels between the game of football and the spiritual life. It should help anyone who has the burden of watching a football game to have a bit more hope as they see the subtle ideas that are found both in football and in our spiritual life. As a Browns fan, Fr. Thomas has benefited from these insights in that at least spiritually he can find joy and hope as he watches the Brown's endless struggle on the field.

As always, CC is free to attend and meets at Sports on Tap in the 2nd floor upper room. We do ask for your reservation to make sure we have enough seating. To registration please visit EventBrite and search for Catholic Conversations or email us at jnaporano1@gmail.com