

**Newsletter from St. Francis de Sales parish Tucson
Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

ON SEPTEMBER 11, WE REMEMBER; WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Dear parishioners,

Below is a statement from Bishop Edward Weisenberger as part of continued efforts to ensure the safety of all parishioners in our parishes across the Diocese of Tucson regarding the spread of COVID-19 virus and its variant.

As a parishioner in the Diocese of Tucson, if you are on the Bishop's mailing list, you probably have already received this message in your mail box as well.

**Bishop Weisenberger sends a message to volunteers about vaccines
September 3, 2021**

Bishop Edward Weisenberger sends out a statement to all volunteers throughout the Diocese of Tucson:

"I strongly encourage all parish volunteers to be vaccinated and to wear masks while serving at Mass. If for personal conscience reasons you choose not to be vaccinated then I urge you to withdraw from volunteering until our communities pass through this latest surge.

Care for Christ found in our neighbor, especially the vulnerable among us, is the critical motivation to take these important steps. May God bless you and keep you safe."

– Bishop Edward J. Weisenberger

In addition to the above statement, please recall that Bishop Edward in a recent letter is also encouraging parents with young children who are not yet eligible for vaccination to consider staying at home on Sundays for now so as to avoid crowded spaces at Mass and other church activities and gatherings.

Update on air condition

Last weekend we had a serious situation in the church when the air condition shut off during all the Masses. It was considerably hot in the church as the day progressed. Initial thought was that the air condition suffered some sort of break down; however, technicians determined that it was a WiFi failure and not the air condition. Apparently, the internet system regulates the air-condition across the buildings on the entire campus; when internet is down, then the systems don't communicate any longer. All is well now; thanks be to God!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This past Tuesday (Labor Day) we had Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and many of you stopped by at different times through the course of the day to spend time with Jesus; many of you also attended the Benediction later in the day at 6pm. I appreciate all of you for making this a reality; next week, let's do it again, and every Tuesday after that, for ever, in Jesus name! Love you all; my heart is full.

Post-Communion Prayer

Beginning the weekend of September 11 /12, and at every Mass after that, including Sunday and weekday Masses, we will pray the "Anima Cristi" prayer after Communion; also, we will say the "Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel" after the closing prayer at Mass, but before the final blessing and dismissal. Both prayers are on the back of your Hymn books. You can remove the back sleeve of the hymnal and leave it loose for next time.

Volunteers still needed!

Please consider signing up for the following ministries:

Ministers of Hospitality: Also referred to as Ushers or Greeters (7:30am; 11:30am)

Ministry of Lector: (Saturday 5pm; Sunday 5pm; Sunday 11:30am and Weekdays 8am).

Extra-ordinary ministers of the Eucharist: All Masses

Disciples of the Altar (also known as Altar Guild): Preparing the Sanctuary and other related elements of the liturgy for Mass.

Training / Orientation is available for all ministries. Call Fr. Richard if you would like to be involved in any of these (or other) ministries. Parish needs your help.

Please Note: Parish ministries are open to any baptized, practicing catholic 18 and above. Our teens and young adults in the parish are especially (and highly) encouraged to join a parish ministry (or two). Getting involved in parish life through various ministries is our practical response to Christ's invitation through the Church, to serve God's people. Please consider it.

Important Parish Notice!!!

The process of forming a Pastoral Council at St. Francis de Sales Parish begins soon.

This process requires the following steps:

1. **Discernment session I:** September 30th 2021 at 6pm in the O'Leary Room.
 - "What a Council is, and Isn't"
 - "Roles and Functions of Council"
 - "Leadership structure of Council"
2. **Discernment Session II** (If necessary) October 21 2021 at 6pm in the O'Leary Room
3. **Post-Discernment Session** (December 8, 2021)
4. **Briefing session for eligible candidates** (no date yet)
5. **Commissioning** (no date yet)
6. **First Meeting** (January 6, 2022)

NOTE:

Parishioners can choose to attend either discernment Session I or II; it will be the same presentation on both sessions.

After the first two discernment sessions, those parishioners who indicate interest in forming the Council or are appointed or nominated, will have a Post-discernment session on December 8th 2021 at 6pm in the O'Leary Room.

When all is said and done regarding this process, the first Parish Pastoral Council meeting of St. Francis de Sales parish Tucson will be held on Thursday January 6, 2022, Feast of the Epiphany at 6pm in the O'Leary Room.

Dear Parishioners, please pray for the success of this process, marking yet another milestone moment for our parish.

May the Lord bless this process through the intercession of our patron, St. Francis de Sales.

Next weekend September 18/19 is Catechetical Sunday; our parish catechists and teachers in the Religious Education program will be blessed at all Masses.