

OCTOBER 31, 2021

THIRTY -FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Text to Give: (833) 938-2034

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

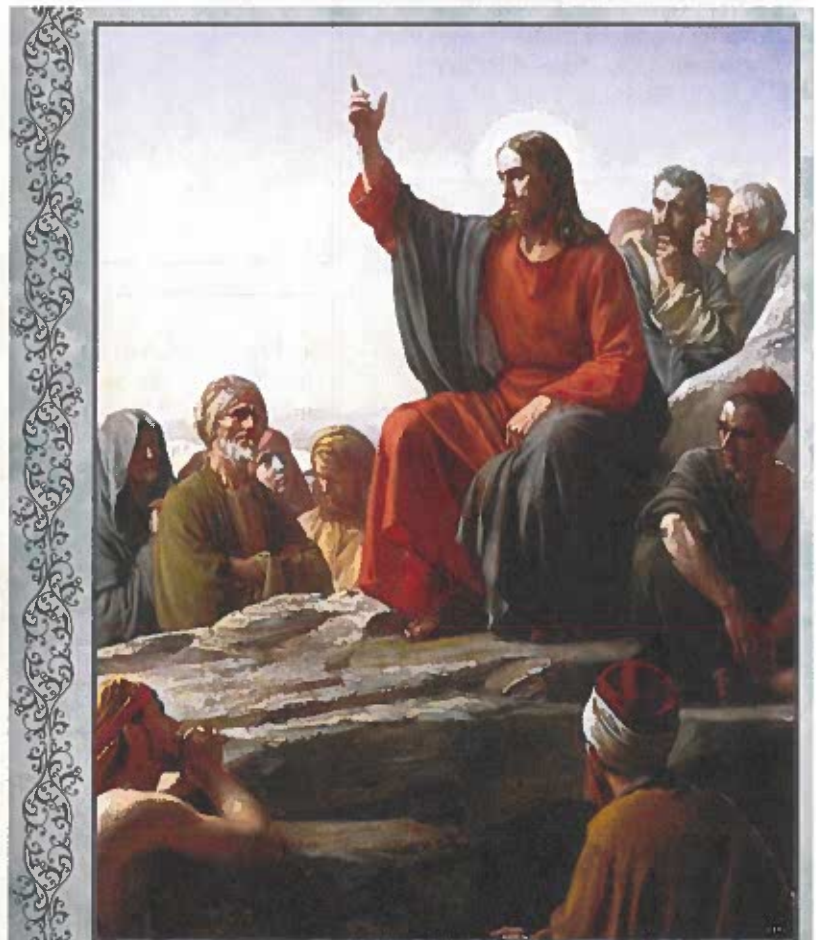
PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Rob Adams

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scaif



31st SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

When Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him,
"You are not far from the kingdom of God." - Mk 12:34ab

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CICD



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

10-24-2021.....\$2,145
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$555

YTD Offertory.....\$43,319
 Budget.....\$45,900
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$2,581

10-24-2021 Building Fund.....\$235

BUILDING FUND UPDATE: We currently owe **\$64,640** on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



Deuteronomy 6:2-6
 Hebrews 7:23-28
 Mark 12:28b-34

The two commandments, love of God and love of neighbor, go hand in hand. Through the priesthood of Jesus, we are brought into communion with the God who is love.

Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 1070

Happy Sunday Morning,

A couple of things to note for this coming week? This year the Feast of All Saints Day, 11/1 is not a holy day of obligation. I've decided to offer Mass at St. George in Jenkins at noon, if you'd like to go to Mass that day.

11/2 is All Souls Day, where we commemorate all the faithful departed and pray for them. I'm going to have Mass at noon and then again at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to come to any of those!

Fr. Rob

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is a Eucharistic family of Catholic Christians. Nourished by the sacraments and guided by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim Jesus Christ and the Good News of salvation. Following the spirit of the Gospel, St. Francis parish provides continuous religious education and spiritual growth for all parishioners, varied opportunities for social enrichment, and support for the needs of families in Pike County, our nation and the world.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, October 30	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	Intentions of Melba Schmidt
Sunday, October 31	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, November 1	Mass at St. George	
Tuesday, November 2	Noon Mass 5:30pm Mass	+Drew & Lexi Dreggors For the Faithful Departed
Wednesday, November 3	Noon Mass	CES Donor
Thursday, November 4	Noon Mass	+Drew & Lexi Dreggors
Friday, November 5	Noon Mass @ St. George Church	
Saturday, November 6	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	CES Donor
Sunday, November 7	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Centuries of God's devoted people have found this prayer on their lips: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" The fundamental prayer has been laid as the cornerstone of many spiritual lives. Where did you learn how to pray or did you? Maybe there is a wisdom figure in your life who inspired and guided you by the genuine, holy simplicity of their lives. His or her example may have led you to God and taught you how to pray. Or perhaps you discovered this art on your own after stumbling over yourself enough times and finally realizing it was time to reach out to Someone greater than yourself. There is a timeless truth that we not only tend to forget, but may have never learned. There is only one God, the Lord alone! As a result, we often worship other gods rather than the One true God. Everything in our life gets distorted and we find ourselves lost and off center.

If we haven't learned it yet, there is a life lesson at the top of all of the possible lessons to be learned. There is One True and Eternal God who alone has a solitary claim on us and must be loved with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Until we learn this primary lesson, we run the risk of getting distracted and sidetracked. We will also never really figure out what is at the heart of the relationships we share with the other human beings on this planet with whom we share life. That one primary lesson will teach us the second most valuable lesson: that we must love our neighbor as ourselves. You cannot have one without the other. The presence of God in the core soul of each one of us requires that all of our relationships work together. This truth is at the heart of the Gospel.

If every human being, each in their own way, could stumble upon and genuinely embrace this truth, look how different life would be! Our priorities will immediately shift from "I and me" to "us and we" and we will develop a more inclusive vision for our brothers and sisters. Concerned not only about my own wellbeing and happiness but also that of our brothers and sisters, humanity stands a chance at succeeding in the struggle with injustice, abuse, inequity, violence, war, entitlement, and privilege. It seems that getting to this point has been at the heart of the Gospel and the kingdom of God from the moment Jesus first started to preach. It's a wonder why, then, why so many centuries later, we have still failed to achieve his vision. Maybe we just haven't learned our primary lessons yet. ©LPi

ALL SOULS

Question:

November is called the month of All Souls. More recently, it has been called the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. Can you tell us more about this feast and the remembrances of this month?

Answer:

November 2nd, the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, dovetails with November 1st, the feast of All Saints. The saints, our models of Christian living, are one with God in heaven. All the faithful departed are those who have died with hope and trust in a loving God who calls us to greater growth and development, even beyond death. This growth and development occurs in a state of being that we have traditionally called purgatory.

While the Western Church has emphasized the cleansing and purifying nature of purgatory, the Eastern Orthodox Church has emphasized the growth and development aspect of it. Today, belief in purgatory allows one who has died in Christ to continue growing and developing before meeting God face to face. God continually invites communion with these loved ones, but some feel the need to continue growing and developing before entering into full communion with God.

These November feasts vividly remind us of the rich reality known as the communion of saints. This belief stresses the strong affirmation that the church is always one in Christ. Death does not sever any of the bonds that unite us in Christ. That is why it is a fitting practice to pray for the dead and to ask them to pray for us. Just as we do that for each other when we are alive, so, too, do we continue that bond and concern for each other even beyond death. ©LPi

WUW THANKSGIVING EVENT: Would you be interested in sharing your cooking talents by sharing a dish with the University of Pikeville's "What's Up Wednesday" event on November 17? This is going to be the Holiday Dinner (Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner) for all students before they go home on Thanksgiving break. Any side dish, meat, salad or dessert would be appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Ann Sisco at 606-262-0448 or maryannsisco@upike.edu. Thanks so much!!!

**REJOICE
IN GOD'S SAINTS,
TODAY AND ALL DAYS**



Tim Deskins, cancer

Tina Dawahare Fields, cousin of Frank Dawahare, cancer

Nancy Goss

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Jerry and Ann Bilicek

Gloria Wagner (Mother of Linda Justice and Susan Chafin)

Steve McCoy, stroke, Lisa Scalp's Cousin

Ron Saros

Cindy and Christy Hedinger

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Alpha Carroll, Signature Health Care

Dr. Harry and Helen Altman

Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

Suggested donation: Large votives
\$3.00 and small votives \$0.50



*[The scribe said to Jesus,]
"To love your neighbor
as yourself' is worth more
than all burnt offerings
and sacrifices."*

MARK 12:33

Take to Heart These Words

"Hear, O Israel!" (Deuteronomy 6:3) are the first words of the most important declaration of faith for Jewish people, a declaration that is the centerpiece of the morning and evening Jewish prayer services. It is a kind of "pledge of allegiance" that observant Jews say even today, reminding themselves of the uniqueness of their God and the covenantal relationship they have with this God. In it they confess that the Lord is their God, their only God. Out of reverence, they do not pronounce God's personal name. In its place they substitute the word *Lord*. Behind this act of faith is the covenantal promise of God: "I will be your God and you shall be my people" (Jeremiah 7:23).

This covenant carries mutual responsibilities. God will be their God and will be faithful to all that this blessing entails. As God's people, they will live according to the standards set by God, witnessing to the world the holiness in life lived for and with God. They are to love God with all their heart, soul, and strength.

Jesus did not change this declaration in any way. It is at the heart of the Christian way of life as well. What he did was throw light on the meaning of living for and with God, of loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength. He insists that to love God is to love others, and to love them as we love ourselves. "Hear, O Israel!" "Take to heart these words" (Deuteronomy 6:6).

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *How in your family or workplace might you show love by being kinder, more patient, and willing to forgive slights?*
- ★ *How open are you to changing your understanding when a new point of view is offered to you?*

Dear Padre,

Does the Church have a position on cosmetic surgery?

For clarity, we understand cosmetic surgery to be a medical intervention that's purely optional and not required to maintain or restore physical health. For example, we aren't considering here plastic surgeries in response to serious injuries from fire or trauma. It's impossible to give a single response about all cosmetic surgery, and the Church has no explicit teaching on the matter. Perhaps some general suggestions will help guide our thinking.

We must first ask what the goal of the surgery is. Face lifts, "nose jobs,"



DIMITRY ZUB / PEXELS

"tummy tucks," and such are elective surgeries usually pursued because persons are unhappy with their appearance. While there may be instances where people are so distraught over these matters that cosmetic surgery would help them attain some peace and comfort, often these surgeries are motivated by vanity. When these feelings are present, one might ask whether more profound

issues about self-acceptance should be addressed, rather than resorting to changing one's appearance. One should ask how this particular cosmetic surgery would enhance our dignity as one made in God's image.

In a broader context, we might consider how much is spent on "looking better" when many have neither food, shelter, nor proper clothing. A good meditation is to think first of Jesus' concern for the poor and then how he wishes to work through us to take care of his poor as the body of Christ.

From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices*, © 2011 Liguori Publications
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Vanity never heals. Rather, it is poisonous, it goes on bringing the disease in your heart, bringing you that hardness of heart that tells you: "No, do not go to the Lord, do not go. Stay by yourself." Vanity is precisely the place to close ourselves to the call of the Lord.

HOMILY, MARCH 10, 2020

Calendar

Monday

NOVEMBER 1
All Saints
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14
1 Jn 3:1-3
Mt 5:1-12a

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 2
Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)
Wis 3:1-9
Rom 5:5-11
Jn 6:37-40

Wednesday

NOVEMBER 3
Weekday
Rom 13:8-10
Lk 14:25-33

Thursday

NOVEMBER 4
St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop
Rom 14:7-12
Lk 15:1-10

Friday

NOVEMBER 5
Weekday
Rom 15:14-21
Lk 16:1-8

Saturday

NOVEMBER 6
Weekday
Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27
Lk 16:9-15

Sunday

NOVEMBER 7
Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Kgs 17:10-16
Heb 9:24-28
Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44