

AUGUST 7, 2022

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



137 Bryan Street
Pikeville, Kentucky 41501
Phone: 606-437-6117

Website: www.stfrancispikeville.org
Email: stfrancischurch@cdlex.org
App: St Francis Pikeville

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

BAPTISM - 2 WEEKS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE PREP - 6 MONTHS NOTICE

Please call the office for an appointment.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Rob Adams

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf



19th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them." - Lk 12:37



From the Pastor's Desk....

Sunday Offertory

07-24-2022.....\$2,619
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$81

07-31-2022.....\$1,767
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700
 Surplus/Deficit.....\$933

YTD Offertory.....\$14,941
 Budget.....\$13,500
Surplus/Deficit.....\$1,441



Wisdom 18:6-9
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19
Luke 12:32-48

The author of Wisdom speaks of "that night" of exodus from bondage in Egypt (1) when the Lord delivered his chosen people from death. Let us be prepared for the Lord who will come again, perhaps in the midst of night. As we walk in darkness, our journey to our heavenly homeland is illuminated by faith.

Readings may be found
 in the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 1035

Hi everyone!

I sincerely hope that everyone is alright after the recent flooding that we've had here. If you need help, please do not hesitate to reach out and call the office. As you might have guessed, I needed to cancel my plans to be away during the coming week.

I would also remind everyone that next Monday, August 15th is the Assumption of Mary, and that it is not a holy day of obligation this year since it falls on a Monday. For those who would like to go to Mass, I will offer a Mass in the evening on the 15th.

Finally, today we honor Howard Francis for his many years of service to the parish playing the organ at Mass. Today will be Howard's last Sunday playing for us, and I would personally like to thank Howard for his service and his example of quiet servant leadership. We will have some extra goodies in the narthex after Sunday Mass, but I would also encourage you to thank Howard and read his letter to the parish that we have included with the bulletin.

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, August 6	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Randy Moore
Sunday, August 7	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, August 8	No Mass	
Tuesday, August 9	Noon Mass	+Nanette Schmidt
Wednesday, August 10	Noon Mass	+Charles Schmidt
Thursday, August 11	Noon Mass	Intentions of Melba Schmidt
Friday, August 12	Mass at Jenkins	
Saturday, August 13	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Ned and Lucile Bush
Sunday, August 14	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

COMMUNITY DINNER: Lisa delivered 12 bags of Boxes of Love food to First Christian Church for the July 2022 dinner. Thank you to everyone who continue to support this community project.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

St. Thomas Aquinas reminds us that, "Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe, to know what he ought to desire, and to know what he ought to do." Everyone is called to work toward their salvation, which is ultimately union with God. Those who take this call seriously must embark upon a journey inward to the deepest recesses of their soul. In the adventure and wonder of that journey, we work out the details of our union with our Beloved. We cling to what we need to believe, remain firm in what we truly desire, and are guided by what we know we have to do. Once we know that our goal is to be one with our Creator, life becomes an exciting expedition to pursue that end. We make necessary preparations, follow the map, and remain on course.

Whenever we really want something, we put our entire selves into achieving it. Being fully invested in our labor, we willingly work extra hours, devote an abundance of energy and effort, and remain vigilant for beneficial opportunities that may come our way. We certainly do not passively sit by doing nothing! Such an attitude leads to laziness and the accomplishment of little. Worse yet, some look to others to do the work for them, hoping to reap the benefits of another's efforts. Conscientiousness and diligence are the only means to success.

For the one who eagerly awaits the day when they can be fully with God, life becomes a joyous adventure indeed! Alert, ready, focused, convicted, and willing to be a servant they constantly watch and prepare themselves for meeting the Lord. Loving the journey and being in love with their Creator, their lives become joyful witnesses of love and service. They are secure in their hope, confident in their faith, and perfect in their love. Never looking for recognition or gratitude, they stand as gentle inspirations of what the Holy Spirit can do in the hearts of those who believe.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST - Small Businesses

- We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

Because we do not know what tomorrow will bring, we stand ready to be used as God wills and run eagerly toward Him when He comes. How much do we desire to experience the joy of salvation? ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Caught in the Rising Action

Think of some of your favorite iconic movies. I'm not talking about the feel-good comedies or the offbeat coming-of-age flicks. I'm talking about the movies that you found had a profound impact on you or made you go "Hmmm."

I'm willing to bet that the plot of this film features some tough moments and difficult scenarios. However happy the ending, at some point, the situation for the protagonist might look awfully hopeless. The script speaks some truth to you about what it is to be human in difficult circumstances. What it means to persevere.

We're attracted to the tension that exists when the hero is besieged. We're captivated by the decisions he makes in the darkest hour of the night when it seems like the dawn will never come. Why? Because we know that feeling so well. This is the essence of our human life on earth: waiting, hoping, doubting — and enduring.

We know the ending to our story, but we don't know when it's coming. We live our whole lives in the rising action of the narrative. Sure, it gets old. Tiresome, even dull. We may start to despair that the climactic scene is coming at all.

But faith is the realization of things hoped for, and evidence of things not seen. We feel it watching a great movie, because we recognize it intuitively: it is faith which earns the happy ending. No one is drawn to the story when the hero gives up or gets tired of waiting for the payoff. Everyday stewardship is the collection of choices we make while we're waiting, because we are called to action, not idleness, even in our perpetual state of expectation.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Pat Hedinger (mother of Kathy Atkins)

Wanda Barker

Linda Kanney, Jerry Kanney's wife

Travis McCoy

Sheila Stiedham, Lisa's cousin

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sister Kathy Avery

Tim Deskins, cancer

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Jerry and Ann Bilicek

Gloria Wagner (Mother of Linda Justice and Susan Chafin)

Ron Saros

Rita Scheuer

Kenny Blackburn

Dr. Harry and Helen Altman

Carol Rashella

Margarita Gomez

Fran Sykes

VOTIVE CANDLES:

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

Thirty Years Ago...

About 30 years ago, a shy young man walked up to a member of the church staff and volunteered to play organ at mass. He had no professional training as an organist (his profession was teaching mathematics), but there had always been an organ at home, and ever since he could read music, he had been playing it. Melody on the top keyboard with his right hand, chords on the lower with his left hand—not exactly the skills one would think of for a church organist, but that might be better than no instrumental music at all.

Two years earlier, life—as it typically does—brought him and his growing family to the region, and to this church. When he arrived, there were two guitarists sharing music duty at church. But soon life called them to other places, and the church had no one playing music. There was still singing. Two wonderful and well-respected women in the church would lead songs each mass, but something was still missing.

So he got music books, practiced on that same organ, and one Sunday, there he was, nervous, playing organ in a church where he still only knew just a few families. He didn't know how he would be received; would the church be accepting of his limited skills? It seemed they were, so he returned for the next mass, and the next, and soon playing organ at church became his routine.

When he started, he had many cantors, which was helpful because he couldn't sing and play at the same time. Each cantor would only have to sing once every month or so, but as the months and years progressed, he had fewer and fewer cantors. Life—as it typically does—had called them to other things, and then, at some point during Lent, he was on his own. By now he was familiar enough with the music he could sing while playing, but no one had heard him sing before. He knew he wasn't a bad singer, but would his singing be acceptable to the church? Again, it was, so a new routine began.

As the years moved on, he's been graced with many new and returning cantors. There were also many instrumentalists who would only be in the area a short time, but still contributed their time and talent to enrich the music at mass. But for the most part, it was just him, playing organ and leading singing from near the front of the church.

Now, life—again, at it typically does—has called him away for something new and exciting. But it means he will no longer be able to provide music at the church he has attended for almost all of his adult life. He might be able to continue his music ministry in this new phase of his life, but there probably aren't many places where a college math teacher can essentially be the entire music department for Sunday morning mass.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your prayers and support for the past 30 years. I have truly enjoyed providing music each week here at St. Francis. God has given each of us talents to help proclaim the word of Christ; this was mine. I will miss you all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Howard".

(Until I have more permanent housing worked out, the best way to contact me is via email at howard.francis.64@gmail.com. You may still see me on an occasional weekend as I'm back working out home sales and getting stuff moved to my new location.)

Live By Faith

The story of Abraham is one of extraordinary blessing. However, his story is also one of extraordinary faith. At major points of his life, Abraham had no idea what was in store for him or his family. He was directed to leave his home and become a wandering herder. He was an immigrant in a foreign land, bereft of social support structures. He was promised descendants but waited many years for that promise to be realized. Once he had an heir, he was then told to sacrifice that son of promise without any assurances of a favorable future. Time and again, Abraham was asked to live by faith.

The phrase “seeing is believing” is misleading. It is really an expression of skepticism that means, “I won’t believe it unless I see it.” However, true belief means that we accept something even though we don’t see it, don’t understand it. That is a very difficult way for most of us to live. Yet live like this we must, whether

we are believers or unbelievers, because so much of life is beyond our control or understanding.

So how do we learn to live by faith? We have something that Abraham did not have. We have his story to encourage us. In that story we see that again and again he stepped forward in faith, and God brought things together. If God did this in Abraham’s life, surely God can and will do it in ours. We must only live by faith.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ *Do you always need certainty before you act? Has that always worked?*
- ★ *Be grateful for the times when you stepped forward in faith and God brought things together.*

*So it was that there came forth
from one man, himself as good
as dead, descendants as numerous
as the stars in the sky.*

HEBREWS 11:12

Dear Padre,

When I was young, we never had eucharistic devotions. Why are they so popular now?

Prior to the Second Vatican Council, many Catholics found solid food for their spiritual lives in eucharistic devotions, which include visiting the Blessed Sacrament (eucharistic adoration), attending Forty Hours devotion, and assisting at benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

However, as the modern liturgical movement began picking up steam, scholars and theologians began questioning the amount of energy and attention going toward eucharistic devotion. They urged us to focus our spirituality more clearly on the Mass—the action of the sacred liturgy and the Eucharist itself—and to understand that all eucharistic devotions outside of the sacred liturgy are meant to direct us back to the action of the Mass, the eucharistic sacrifice, and its high point of Communion.

The drop-off in eucharistic devotions after Vatican II can be positively understood as an attempt to take the insights of liturgical reform seriously and develop a more liturgical piety. At the same time, the resurgence of eucharistic adoration is a worthy retrieval of a beloved practice that both scholars and the faithful understand as complementing a full, conscious, and active participation in the sacred liturgy that is the “source and summit” of our lives.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



ONE PHOTO/ANDREW BRUAL, CATHOLIC STANDARD

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We do well to spend time in adoration before the Eucharist....Let us allow Jesus the Living Bread to heal us of our self-absorption, open our hearts to self-giving, liberate us from our rigidity and self-concern, free us from the paralyzing slavery of defending our image, and inspire us to follow him wherever he would lead us.

HOMILY, BUDAPEST, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



Calendar

Monday

AUGUST 8

St. Dominic, Priest

Ez 1:2–5, 24–28c

Mt 17:22–27

Tuesday

AUGUST 9

Weekday

Ez 2:8–3:4

Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

Wednesday

AUGUST 10

St. Lawrence,
Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6–10

Jn 12:24–26

Thursday

AUGUST 11

St. Clare, Virgin

Ez 12:1–12

Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday

AUGUST 12

Weekday

Ez 16:1–15, 60, 63

or 16:59–63

Mt 19:3–12

Saturday

AUGUST 13

Weekday

Ez 18:1–10, 13b, 30–32

Mt 19:13–15

Sunday

AUGUST 14

Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4–6, 8–10

Heb 12:1–4

Lk 12:49–53



Liguori Publications is celebrating 75 years of ministry throughout 2022.

Follow progress toward our October 23 anniversary date in *Liguorian* magazine and at Liguori.org.