

DECEMBER 21, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Very Rev. Rob Adams, STL

Deacon: Dcn. Joe Jacobs

Administrative Assistant: Becky Griffith

Custodian: Lisa Scalf

MASS SCHEDULE

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

Mass: Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

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

Daily Mass: Tuesday - Friday - Noon

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.

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Sunday Offertory

12-07-2025.....\$4,443
 Weekly Budget.....\$3,000
Surplus/Deficit.....\$1,443

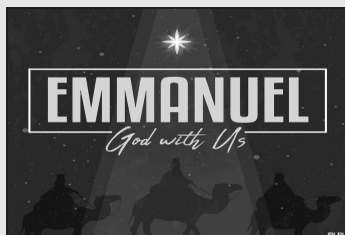
YTD
 Offertory.....\$74,687
 Budget.....\$66,000
Surplus/Deficit.....\$8,687

Food Pantry\$25

12-14-2025.....\$
 Weekly Budget.....\$3,000
Surplus/Deficit.....\$

YTD Offertory.....\$
 Budget.....\$
Surplus/Deficit.....\$

Food Pantry\$



ISAIAH 7:10-14
 ROMANS 1:1-7
 MATTHEW 1:18-24

Jesus is Emmanuel, "God with us",
 risen from the dead. He is the king of
 glory.

Readings may be found in
 the Saint Augustine
 Hymnal Number 916

From the Pastor's Desk....

Hi everyone!

Tis weekend, we had our annual Christmas giveaway, and I am so grateful to everyone who helps make it happen! We were able to help a lot of local families have a Christmas, and that is thanks to you!

Just a heads up that we have our schedule for the Christmas Masses posted. We will have Mass on the 24th at 5:00 pm and 10:00 pm and then at 10:30 am on the 25th. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and I hope you experience the love of Jesus in this season.

Fr. Rob

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Saturday, December 20	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Deceased Members of the Cokley Family
Sunday, December 21	10:30 am Mass 1:00 pm	For the People +Sharon Shertt
Monday, December 22	No Mass	
Tuesday, December 23	Noon Mass	+Nanette Schmidt
Wednesday, December 24	5:00 pm Vigil Mass 10:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Gianna Marie Dickson For the People
Thursday, December 25	10:30 am Mass	+Sidney Tackett
Friday, December 26	No Mass	
Saturday, December 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+Celine Din
Sunday, December 28	10:30 am Mass	For the People

Parish Calendar & Announcements

LAY MINISTRY - 12/21/2025

Lector - Joseph Mata

Lector Fill in Only - Paylin Meade

Gift Bearer Server - Joseph & Pia Mata

Coffee & Donuts - Fadi AlAkhrass & Lina Abdallah

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion - Sidney Cline

LAY MINISTRY - 12/28/2025

Lector - Sidney Cline

Lector Fill in Only - Paylin Meade

Gift Bearer Server - Bob & Annice Lee Welch

Coffee & Donuts - Zach & Jonnica Bryson

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion - Frank Dawahare

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you. — Father John Muir ©LPi

THEOLOGY ON TAP - The first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at Bank 253.

ROSARY - The first Saturday of each month at noon.

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

Prayer for Advent – Miracles

Dear God,

You are in the miracle business. I still believe that You can move mountains and separate seas. Break into every unknown and astound us with Your goodness and grace. Amen.
©LPi

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES - ENGAGE PARISHIONERS IN DAILY MASS AND PRAYER

Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/

Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4 -5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23 ©LPi



Pray For...

Skylar Coleman and her unborn baby,
Kallum

Lakeisha Therese Tucker, 3rd stage colon
cancer

Ray Buchanan

Cecilia Newman, Kenny Schmidt's sister

Dana Cantrell, Anna Gomez's friend and
co-worker

Jimmie Goss

Chona Curry

Sharon Collins, cancer

Wilson Vanzant, Lisa Scalf's stepdad

Sister Kathy Avery

Ransom McCoy, Lindsay May's dad

Tim Deskins

Melba Schmidt, Kenny Schmidt's mother

Wanda Baker

Jeffrey Scalf, Lisa's son

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Ron Saros

Helen Altman

Fran Sykes

+Peggy Anderson

+Kenny Blackburn

+Mary Anne McNamee

+Sidney Tackett