

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

• OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

# 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

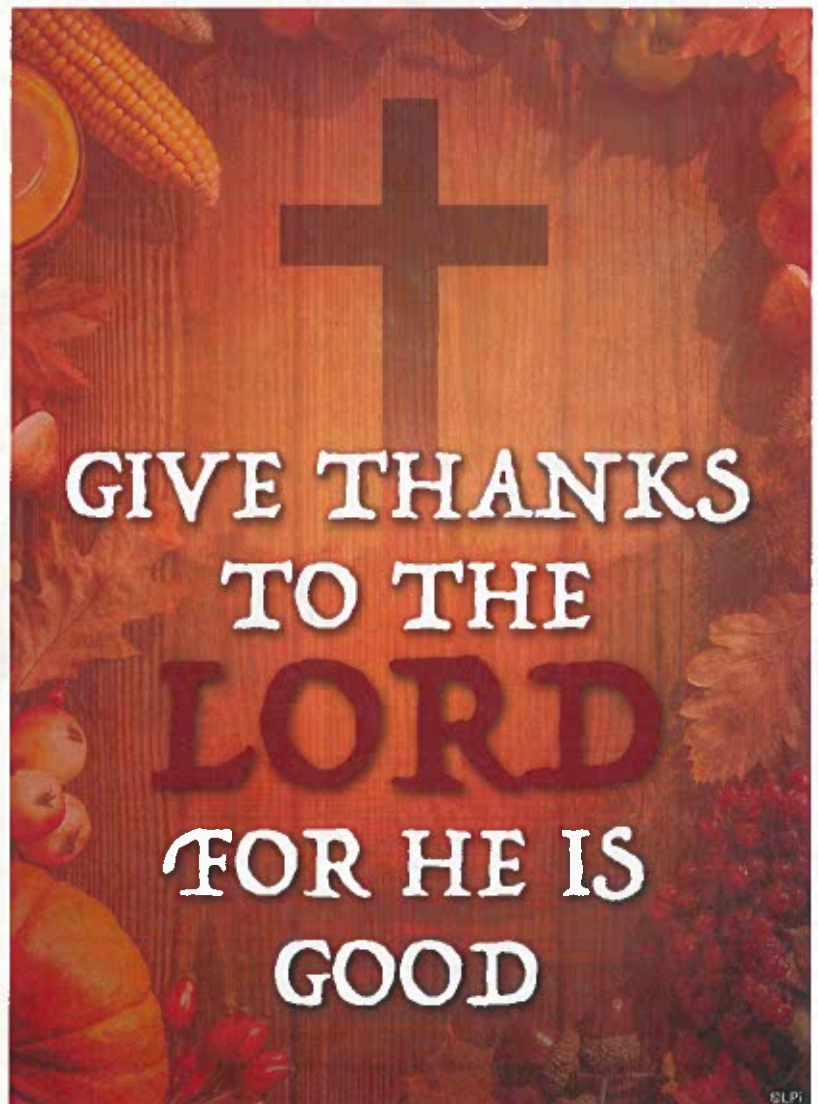
*Custodian:* Lisa Scalf

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

Website: [www.stfrancispikeville.org](http://www.stfrancispikeville.org)

Email: [stfrancischurch@cdlex.org](mailto:stfrancischurch@cdlex.org)

App: St Francis Pikeville





## From the Pastor's Desk....

### Sunday Offertory

11-14-2021.....\$3,388  
 Weekly Budget.....\$2,700  
**Surplus/Deficit**.....\$688

YTD Offertory.....\$51,974  
 Budget.....\$54,000  
**Surplus/Deficit**.....\$2,026

11-14-2021 Building Fund.....\$250

**BUILDING FUND UPDATE:** We currently owe **\$58,857** on the new church building. Thank you for your continued support of the Church Building Fund.



**Daniel 7:13-14**  
**Revelation 1:5-8**  
**John 18:33b-37**

To Jesus Christ be glory and power for ever and ever! His are majesty and splendor, and his kingdom is everlasting, a kingdom of cosmic dimensions.

Readings may be found in the Saint Augustine Hymnal Number 1079

### Happy Feast of Christ the King!

I have an important update from the Bishop. Beginning the first Sunday of Advent (11/27 and 11/28), the general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday's and Holy Days will end. Obviously, those who are severely immune-compromised are excused. However, the important take-away is that Sunday Mass becomes obligatory again this weekend for the first time since March 2020!

This week we will only have daily Mass on Wednesday. There will be no Mass on Tuesday or Thursday. On Tuesday 11/23 at 11:00 am, I will be giving a talk at UPike on Mary and Christianity. Please feel free to join!

Just a reminder, we are looking at putting together a little choir for Advent and Christmas. It will be open to anyone, kids and adults. They will meet to practice on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm at the church starting on December 1. They would be singing at Mass on December 11 (Saturday Mass) and Christmas Eve. Other days can be added as the group decides. Please contact Anne Westgate (606-422-3422) if you would like to join!

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 continous 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, November 20	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+John Altman
Sunday, November 21	10:30 am Mass	For the People
Monday, November 22	No Mass	
Tuesday, November 23	No Mass	
Wednesday, November 24	Noon Mass	+Lani Misenas
Thursday, November 25	No Mass	
Friday, November 26	No Mass	
Saturday, November 27	5:00 pm Vigil Mass	+John Altman
Sunday, November 28	10:30 am Mass	For the People

## Parish Calendar & Announcements



**CHOIR:** We are looking at putting together a little choir for Advent and Christmas. It will be open to anyone, kids and adults. They will meet to practice on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm at the church starting on December 1. They would be singing at Mass on December 11 (Saturday Mass) and Christmas Eve. Other days can be added as the group decides. Please contact Anne Westgate (606-422-3422) if you would like to join!



**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

We often come to life expecting all of the pieces of the puzzle to nicely fit together. We want and expect harmony, order, and fairness, the achievement of rewards for good behavior, good health, and happiness. We can more easily accept death when it comes naturally after a good long life, but have a real difficulty comprehending the meaning of it all when it is cut short. Willing to put in a good measure of effort, we desire positive results. When things go wrong and life gets hurtful, unjust, and downright ugly, we become unsettled and can quickly fall into despair. This is especially true if we are people of faith who believe in a God who sees things on our terms and works in favor of our life agenda. What happens to our faith when we find ourselves sitting in a mess?

Does it help to know that God understands and that hardship, failure, disappointment, injustice, confusion, and all of life's ugliness do not make faith irrelevant or irrational? God is wonderfully and surprising creative! He turns the tables on not only our understanding of life, but of what it means to be a king. God sends us a king who is not exempt from life's ills but embraces them. The king that God gives to us knows what it means to be poor, suffer insults, be ridiculed, face rejection, endure suffering, be betrayed, and face a most unjust and horrific death. This is our king.

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER - People Who Suffer from Depression** - We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Jesus is not a king of prestige or grandeur but a king who brings light to darkness, hope to despair, sinners to mercy, and new life out of death. Christ dances before us pleading with us to hold on, cling to love, avoid being negative, stop feeling cheated, and be strong in faith! There may be hardship and disappointment now but there are more surprises to come.

Once we understand this truth, we will also understand that we are on a most incredible and awesome universal journey to Christ and becoming one in Christ. We all carry within us the image of God, the image of our suffering king. The One who lives in us also lives in all of our brothers and sisters. Failing to see this universal Divine Presence in all is one of the greatest mistakes we can make, for we also fail to see God, our king, as well. There are many things that can bring hardship to life. If we keep our head about us and do not lose hope, we can persevere and strive for the greatest degree of justice possible. Even though there are ample things that can challenge our faith, we also know that our deepest joy comes from union with God and our brothers and sisters. One day, the fullness of that joy will be ours to have when we are all eternally one with Christ our King forever. ©LPi

### A GRATITUDE EXAMEN

Gratitude is one of the greatest spiritual practices. It opens our minds, calms our hearts, and rids bitterness of its power. The "examen" is a spiritual practice to reflect on how we have responded to God's work in our lives. This Thanksgiving, consider your own reasons for thankfulness!

What **G**ifts have You given me?  
 How have I **R**eceived love from others?  
 How is grace at work in **A**spects of my life story?  
 Do I **T**rust You to continue to bless me?  
 Where have I **M**issed Your movements?  
 Have I used my **T**alents at the service of other?  
 Do I see a purpose for my life **U**nderway?  
 How can I have the **D**iscipline to thank You daily?  
 Help me give **E**verything back to You! ©LPi



Sister Kathy Avery

Barbara Kiser

Tim Deskins, cancer

Sandy Lowe, cancer

Jerry and Ann Bilicek

Gloria Wagner (Mother of Linda Justice and Susan Chafin)

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



## Your Majesty

**T**his is an interesting form of address. It is not really a title like *Queen* or *Lord*. Nor does it identify a function ascribed to royalty, as does *ruler*. It refers to a status of excellence. It belongs to the position of royalty itself rather than the person in that position. Just what is majesty and why do we attribute it to some people? Originally people believed that royal individuals were descendants of the gods. This probably explains the notion of royal majesty. The readings for today's feast show that Jesus turned the ideas of kingship and royal majesty upside down.

The son of man in Daniel was a heavenly being upon whom "dominion, glory, and kingship" (7:14) were bestowed by God. The kingship of this figure is universal and everlasting. In the Gospels, Jesus frequently identifies with this title. When he does so, he is making a claim about his identity. The passage

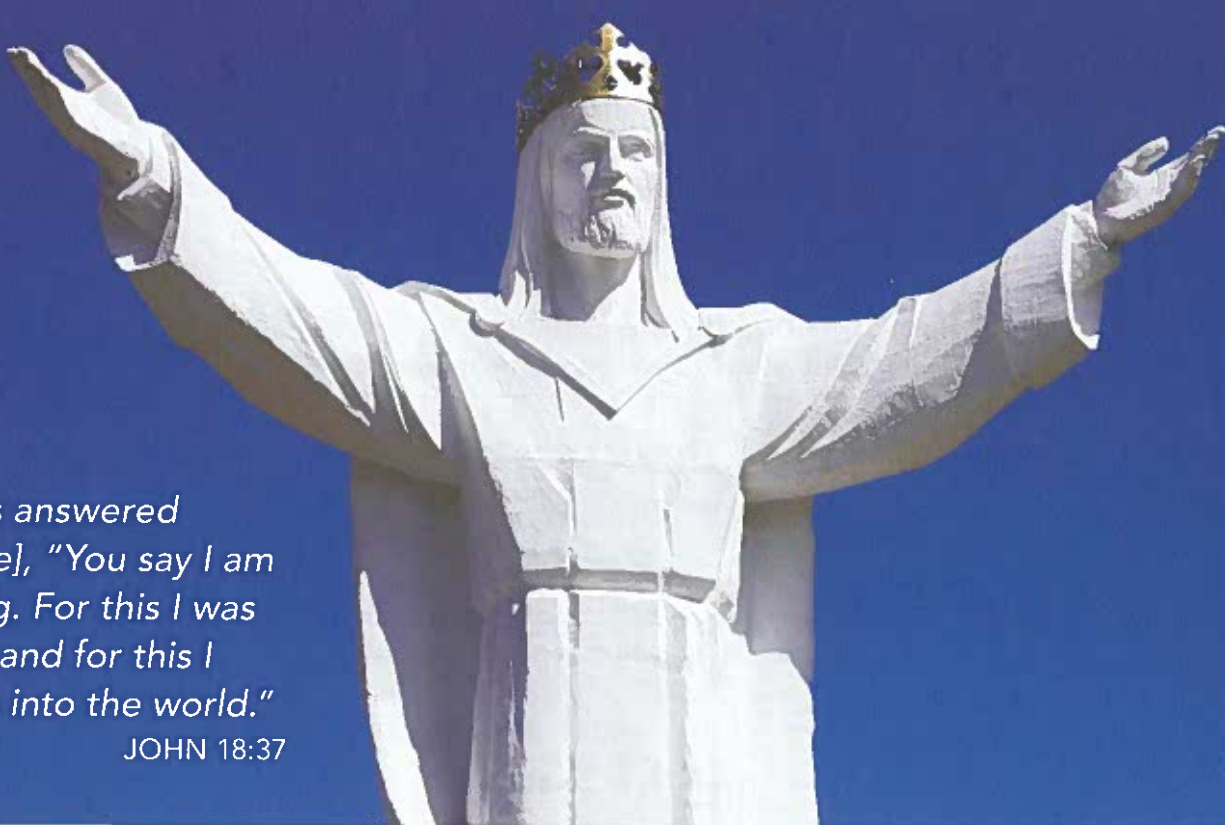
from Revelation depicts Jesus like this son of man, a heavenly being who comes "amid the clouds" (1:7) as "the ruler of the kings of the earth" (1:5).

In the Gospel scene, Jesus is interrogated about his identity. He insists that his kingship springs from love and service, not power and force. It's clear that his royal majesty flows from who he is, not from any political position he might hold. To call him king, as we do with today's responsorial psalm, was a very dangerous political statement for his early followers, for it claimed that Jesus is Lord, not Caesar.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Do you think Jesus was naive about power politics? Why or why not?*
- ★ *What influence does Jesus exercise over your life as your king?*



*Jesus answered  
[Pilate], "You say I am  
a king. For this I was  
born and for this I  
came into the world."*

JOHN 18:37

# Dear Padre,

**Why does the Church continue to use the image of a king to describe Jesus? He didn't act like a king or expect his followers to treat him like one.**

**H**ereditary kings ruled most nations in the ancient Near East. In Egypt, the king was actually recognized as a god. In Israel, God was considered the one true king, and God's covenant was the treaty that united God and the people.

But the time came when the Israelites thought they needed to strengthen themselves militarily and politically. Then the elders came to Samuel and asked him to appoint a king to govern them like other nations (1 Samuel 8:5). The three great kings of Israel (Saul, David, and Solomon) were considered instruments of God but were also subject to existing legal codes.

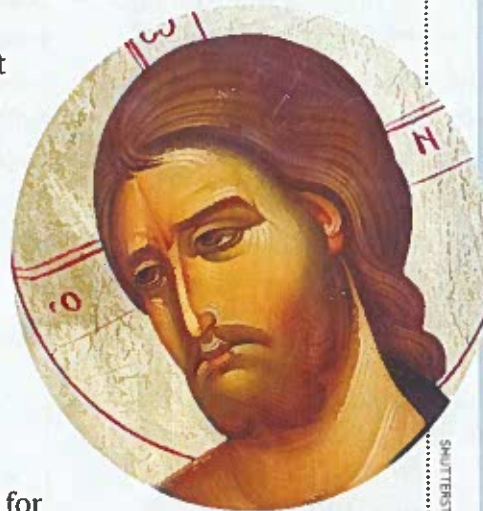
Throughout the New Testament runs the theme that Jesus, a descendant of the royal Davidic line, is a ruler or king. The Magi first proclaimed Jesus king, saying they were looking for the "newborn king of the Jews" (Matthew 2:2).

At the heart of Jesus' message was the good news that all people could enter the kingdom of God if they rejected sin. Jesus used the parable of the mustard seed (Mark 4:30-32) to show that his kingdom will grow until everyone can be embraced within its branches. This kingdom, first manifested in simplicity and love in the Galilean countryside, is to reach its fulfillment in a great love among all people. Jesus as king is an image that should lead us to recognize our commitment to love and service to others in his kingdom.

From *Dear Padre: Questions Catholics Ask*, © 2003 Liguori Publications  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

**Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



SHUTTERSTOCK



## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Jesus asks us to allow him to become our king....But we must not forget that Jesus' kingdom is not of this world. He will give new meaning to our life—at times even put us to difficult tests through our mistakes and our sins—merely on the condition that we not follow the logics of the world and of its "kings."*

ANGELUS, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

## Calendar

### Monday

NOVEMBER 22

St. Cecilia,

Virgin and Martyr

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20

Lk 21:1-4

### Tuesday

NOVEMBER 23

Weekday

Dn 2:31-45

Lk 21:5-11

### Wednesday

NOVEMBER 24

St. Andrew Dŭng-Lac,  
Priest, and Companions,  
Martyrs

Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17,  
23-28

Lk 21:12-19

### Thursday

NOVEMBER 25

Weekday

Dn 6:12-28

Lk 21:20-28

### Friday

NOVEMBER 26

Weekday

Dn 7:2-14

Lk 21:29-33

### Saturday

NOVEMBER 27

Weekday

Dn 7:15-27

Lk 21:34-36

### Sunday

NOVEMBER 28

First Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16

1 Thes 3:12-4:2

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

**Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.** Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



As we approach the Christmas season, we will be collecting food items for our Christmas give-away. These boxes of food will be distributed through both St Francis (Dec 18) and the First Christian Church's Community Dinner program. All food boxes will go to local needy families.

This year we will be collecting the food a little differently, so please read closely!

We will have empty paper bags in the lobby of the church. Each of these bags will have a list of items that we need. If you would like to help, please take a bag and fill it with the items on the list. (Don't worry if you need to bring everything in a different bag!) Then, bring the bag to St Francis during the week of Dec 12-Dec 17.

On Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, from 6pm onwards, we will prep everything for the next day's distribution. The church will provide pizza, so come have some fellowship and lend a hand! We will also need volunteers to help with the distribution on Dec 18<sup>th</sup>. St Francis volunteers should plan on being here by 1pm, and those we will be assisting will arrive at 2pm.

Thank you for your generosity!



**They are to do good, to be rich in good deeds, liberal and generous.**

1 Timothy 6:18

