

Saint Francis of Assisi Church

The First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

Advent

PREPARING THE WAY



Saint Francis of Assisi Church

**5265 Placida Road
Grove City, FL 34224
941-697-4899**

Fax 941-697-0602

www.sfoachurch.com

email: office@sfoachurch.com

Father Cory Mayer, Pastor
Father Tony Chermeil, Parochial Vicar
Father Edwin Mathias (Part-Time)
Deacon Robert Godlewsky

PARISH STAFF

Robert Clark, Business Manager
Nadine Goodrich, Director for Music and Cantors
James Brantner, Director for Religious Education
Gerry Chesney, Director, Parish Women's Guild
Matt Egan, Director, Parish Outreach
Janette Ash, Administrative Assistant
Jeanette Lindish, Receptionist (Part-Time)
Unfilled, Maintenance & Facilities
Chris Lewis, Bookkeeper
Martha Mingel, Director Homebound/Healthcare
Penny Fleming, Ministry Scheduler/Communications
Beth Hammond, Head Sacristan

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)

After Easter to January 1 ... 4:00 pm
January 8 to April 9 ... 3:00 pm & 4:30 pm

SUNDAY

After Easter to January 2 - 8:00 am & 10:00 am
January 9 through Easter Sunday
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday - Friday.....8:15 am
Holy Days.....8:15 am & 6:30 pm

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Winter— September 7 through June 3
Mon - Thurs 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am-12:30 pm

Summer - June 6 through September 2
Monday through Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday after Mass 9:00 am - 9:15 am
Saturday 3:00 pm-3:30 pm

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Call Parish Office at least six months
in advance.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact Parish Office

Mass Intentions and Scripture Readings for the Week

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

8:15 am †**GOLDWYN MATHIAS,**
FR. EDWIN'S BROTHER

Monday of the First Week of Advent

Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-11

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:15 am †**JOHN WHELAN SR**
by Margaret Whelan

Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

Reading: Romans 10:9-18

Gospel: Matthew 4:18-22

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:15 am †**PAMELA CIAMPI**
by Connie Marinos

†**MARY DELORENZO** by Rita Reichert

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent

Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

Gospel: Matthew 15:29-37

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:15 am †**DOROTHY SIMPSON**
by Daniel and Mary Nuzzi

†**ERNST TUCKER** by Mary

Thursday of the First Week of Advent

Reading 1: Isaiah 26:1-6

Gospel: Matthew 7:21,24-27

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:15 am †**R. DEAN CORNWELL**
by Dean and Bev Cornwell

Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Reading: Isaiah 29:17-24

Gospel: Matthew 9:27-31

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)

4:00 pm **FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 am **LAUREN IVEY** by Margaret
Whelan

10:00 am **JESUS MOLINA**

by Gloria D'Ambrosio

Second Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Baruch 5:1-9

Reading 2: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6



Our Hopes and Dreams Lead to Your Coming, O Lord!

Last week marked the Feast of Christ the King the final Sunday of the liturgical year. Today we begin the Advent season, and the beginning of the new church year. We know that Advent is a time of waiting and watching, not just for the baby Jesus who came to earth 2000 years ago, but for the time when Jesus comes again, and we meet him face to face at the end of time. Are we ready? Are we prepared? We invite you to participate fully in our advent liturgies as we pray for Jesus to come into our hearts. The simple environment and subtle changes in the liturgy suggest a newness that drives us to conversion. We know that we belong to God and to each other as the family of God. Together we prepare to be ready; together we are to be alert and watchful, for we never know when the Son of Man will come at the end of time. If we invite the Lord to come, then we must end our procrastination and truly ready ourselves to meet Christ here and now. God calls us during this advent season. He calls us to holiness, and he calls us to joyful anticipation of life with him. He has entrusted the gifts of the kingdom to us, to use wisely, and to use to care for each other. What have we done with the gifts we have been given? We are strengthened as a parish community through our shared prayer, song, and faith each week as we worship together. The urgency of this holy season challenges us to tend to all those in need as loving brothers and sisters. May our advent season serve as a wake-up call to attend to the task to which we have been called. May our faith be renewed in yet another advent season of waiting and hoping for the Lord.

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

November 22, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Together with my *Parish Finance Council*, I present the Parish Financial Report for Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Thank you for all your faithful and generous support as our Parish continues to build the Kingdom of God in our community. As the Pastor, it is a blessing for me to serve you and I continue to pray for you, the Parishioners, for your sacrifices and stewardship.

Sincerely in the Lord,
Father Cory Mayer, Pastor

Parish Financial Report
Fiscal Year Ending: June 30, 2021

During the year, Saint Francis of Assisi Church received Total Cash Revenues of \$1,146,651. Offertory and Special Donations (Assessable Income) totaled \$628,972 which is 55% of Total Cash Revenues. Other Revenues (Non-Assessable), consisting of bequests, Catholic Faith Appeal donations, DOV Non-Parochial (designated non-parish collections), Religious Education Ministry, and Liturgy Ministry income totaled \$517,679, which is 45% of Total Cash Revenues. *An accounting change to record CFA donations handled by the Parish was included to income (and expense) this fiscal year (\$77,603).*

It should be noted that, Pre-Pandemic (FY2018/2019) average weekly donations, net of CFA and unbudgeted Bequests, was \$14,211. For the last fiscal year (FY2020/2021), average weekly donations net of CFA and unbudgeted Bequests was \$13,109. Based on this fiscal year's budget, the Parish would need average weekly donations of \$14,076 to cover projected Operating Expenditures.

Operating Expenditures totaled \$1,108,875 compared to \$1,042,402 in the previous fiscal year.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Expenditures:

Salaries and benefits	\$498,070	45%
DOV Assessment	\$171,000	15.4%
Administrative Services	\$162,556	14.6%
Property (Maintenance, Utilities, Repairs, etc.)	\$127,313	11.4%
Program (Catechetical, Liturgy, Pastoral, etc.)	\$50,568	4.6%
Diocesan Collections	\$21,765	2%
CFA Fundraising Expense	\$77,603	7%
Totals	\$1,108,875	100%

As of June 30, 2021, **Total Assets and Total Liabilities & Equity** equaled \$3,318,569. Our **Catholic Faith Appeal** (CFA) Assessment of \$ 163,000 is calculated on a calendar year basis (January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021). Donations collected have exceeded the Parish Assessment. Thank you for helping us meet our CFA GOAL. During the year, please use blue envelopes in the pews for Donations to our CFA. Please help us meet this goal in the future as we have the past five years.

The **Parish Evangelization Ministry** provides Ministry for Homebound & Nursing Homes, Respect Life, Widows & Widowers, Bereavement, and the Divorced.

The **Parish Catechetical Ministry** has five components; Religious Education for Children; Religious Education of High School Youth to receive Confirmation; Preparation of Parents of Children to be Baptized; Religious Education for Adults; Preparation of Inquirers for Catholic Sacraments (RCIA). This Ministry provides certified teachers, and expenditures for classrooms and program teaching material such as Videos, Bibles and Catechisms.

The **Parish Liturgical Ministry** (including Church Music) requires Communion bread and Wine for 365 days a year; congregational song books and choir sheet music; maintenance of the audio system; the organ and piano.

Our **Parish Outreach Ministry** for the needy received Contributions totaling \$31,334 for the current fiscal year. Funds are received from donations of our Parishioners, Poor Box, Knights of Columbus/Auxiliary, Foundations and Comps. This Parish Ministry incurred Expenses totaling \$19,471 in 2020-2021 fiscal year, providing aid in the form of food, rent, medical, auto repairs, gas, and other support.

The **Parish Administrative expenditures** includes Parish Office and general expenditures. These include contracted services, computer services and repairs, telephones, copiers, insurance, depreciation, taxes, office supplies and advertising.

The **Parish Auxiliary Ministries** including the Women's Guild, Memorial Garden, and Rosary Makers, contributed net retained earnings of \$9,591 during the year.

Parish Outreach Ministry - Christmas Praying Hands



Every year around this time we ask parishioners to adopt an Outreach family-in-need by picking up a Praying Hands envelope and returning it with a \$25.00 gift card which will be used for a family in need or one of our homebound. Baskets will be located at the main entrance doors of the Church to pick up your "Praying Hands" before and after the Masses on November 27 and 28.

Please return your gift card in an envelope marked "OUTREACH PRAYING HANDS" and drop them in the offertory basket or at the Parish Office on or before December 10.

Parish Outreach Ministry - Advent Food Drive (Second Week of Advent)



The holidays can be a difficult time for many, especially for those living on a tight budget – many of our neighbors find themselves in a food crisis. Our persons-in-need getting food has increased two-fold. Our Food Pantry is at an all-time low. We need your help. Our SFOA Outreach Ministry is asking that you pick up a few extra much-needed items

each week during the Advent season. The second week of Advent we are asking for donations of: canned vegetables, tuna or canned salmon, canned soups or stews, dry pasta, and pasta sauce. Please drop your food donations at the Parish Office during normal business hours or at the Church before and after Mass on December 4 and 5. We thank you.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Parish Center - 10:00 am

Last Tuesday of the Month

What is grief? Grief is not an illness or a disease. It is a normal reaction to the death of someone you love. You grieve deeply because you love deeply. Grief is the process by which healing takes place but it can be hard work! Our Catholic faith can be a tremendous source of strength in helping us.

We meet the last Tuesday of the month in the Parish Center... won't you join us?

For more information, please contact Barbara Gullotta at the Parish Office or go to their webpage on the Parish Website ... Parish Life<Outreach Ministry



A Festival of LESSONS & CAROLS

The story of Christmas in Scripture and song



December 17th at
5:30pm

Saint Francis of Assisi Church
5265 Placida Road
Grove City, Florida

The Festival of "Lessons and Carols" is a service of Christian worship preparing for the Birth of the Savior. The Revelation of the Fall of humanity, the Promise of the Messiah, and the Birth of Jesus is told in short Bible Readings from the Book of Genesis, the Prophetic Books and the Sacred Gospels.

The Sacred Scripture is interspersed with the singing of Christmas Carols, Hymns and Choir Music.

All are Welcome!

Cookie Reception in the Parish Hall Immediately Following

Christmas Blessings



PARISH
WOMEN'S
GUILD

CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

EACH BOX
CONTAINS 12
CARDS/ENVELOPES

\$15.00 PER BOX

ON SALE AFTER
MASSES

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Religious Education Department

presents

FAMILY PIZZA NIGHT

before Religious Education Classes (K-8)

ALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS (K-8)
AND FAMILY ARE INVITED!

NOVEMBER 30 @ 5:30 PM



FR. MARCEL'S BIBLE STUDY

Come Join Us



Come join us at Fr. Marcel's Bible Study each Wednesday at 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. We meet in the Parish Center. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 941-697-4899.

Saint Francis of Assisi Church
PARISH WOMEN'S GUILD

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKET

FIVE WINNERS - \$200 GIFT CARDS

DEC **15** 2021

DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT PWG
CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

**THREE TICKETS
FOR \$15**

PROCEEDS SUPPORT
OUR LOCAL CHARITIES

TICKETS ARE MAILED - RETURN YOUR STUB AND PAYMENT TO THE PARISH OFFICE NLT 12/14/2021

Made with PosterMyWall.com

\$15.00 FOR THREE

RAFFLE TICKET

DECEMBER 15, 2021

NAME.....

PHONE.....

EMAIL.....

*Exposition, Adoration & Benediction
of the Most Blessed Sacrament*

**CANCELLED NOVEMBER 30
DUE TO PRIEST AVAILABILITY.
WE ARE SORRY FOR THE
INCONVENIENCE. CHURCH
WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE
PRAYER.**

**THE ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PARISH BOOK CLUB**



FR. DOMINIC GRASSI AND JOE PAPROCKI'S

"LIVING THE MASS"

Thursday, December 2 at 6:00 pm

(First Thursday of Each Month)

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Hall
5265 Placida Road | Grove City, FL

Please read chapters **5,6,7** of the book.



Advent is a four-week spiritual preparation for celebrating Jesus' birth (and His Incarnation). Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas day. We have four weeks of Mass readings and prayers to help us focus on Jesus and what He has done for us. We mentioned Incarnation. It is one of the most amazing truths we know. Incarnation means God made man. God, our mighty Creator, became a human. He did not just arrive on earth fully grown one day.

No. He humbled Himself to be born as a baby, to be initially helpless and grow up just like we do. God, in His infinite wisdom, love, and humility, became a man for our sake. He did not have to do this, but He chose to. This is a great act of love. We celebrate His coming on Christmas. We prepare our hearts to celebrate His coming during the season of Advent.

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Bequests

A bequest is a concrete way to express gratitude to God for a lifetime of blessings. Simple bequests can easily be included in a donor's will or trust. The following legal wording is sufficient for leaving a gift through a bequest:

“I bequeath the sum of \$ ____ or ____ %
of the residual of my estate to:
Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
5265 Placida Rd.
Grove City, FL 34224

Thank you for considering your Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
Community as you make your wishes know through your will or trust.

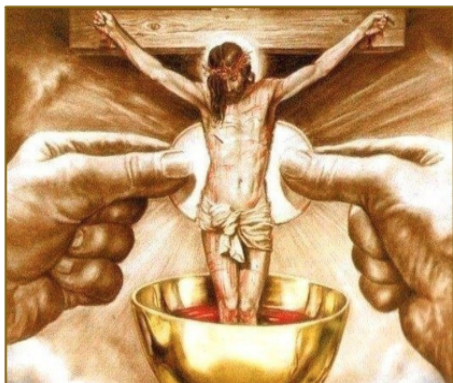
Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
Mon Nov 29	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church
	9:00am	11:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry
	9:15am	11:15am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	9:15am	11:30am	Rosary Making Ministry - Parish Center
	10:30am	11:00am	Priest Anoints at Englewood Hospice House
	11:45am	12:30pm	Lectio Divina - Gospel Prayer - Church
Tues Nov 30	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Parish Bereavement Ministry - Parish Conference Room
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Women's Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education K-8th (Family Pizza Night) - Parish Center
Wed Dec 1	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Chaplet - Church
	9:15am	11:15am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	1:30pm	3:00pm	Fr. Marcel's Bible Study - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
Thurs Dec 2	7:00am	8:15am	That Man is You! - Parish Center
	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Chaplet - Church
	9:00am	9:15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	5:00pm	6:30pm	Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) - Parish Conference Room
	6:00pm	7:00pm	Parish Book Club - Parish Center
Fri Dec 3	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Chaplet - Church
	9:15am	11:15am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	2:30pm	3:00pm	Priest Anoints at Englewood Hospice House
			Recalling and Renewing our BAPTISM - Our Spiritual Birthday
Sat Dec 4	3:00pm	3:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	4:00pm	5:00pm	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
Sun Dec 5	8:00am	9:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church

For the most updated Calendar please go to www.sfoachurch.com

The Eucharist is ALIVE!!

If a stranger who knew nothing about the Eucharist were to watch the way we receive, would he know this? When you and I approach the Eucharist, does it look like we believe we are about to take into our bodies the *living person*, Jesus Christ, true God and true man?



How many times, Lord, have I forgotten that the Eucharist is alive! As I wait in line to receive you each day, am I thinking about how much you want to unite yourself with me? Am I seeing your hands filled with graces you want to give me? Am I filled with awe and gratitude that you love me so much as to actually want to come to me in this incredibly intimate way?

Or am I distracted, busy with other thoughts, preoccupied with myself and my agendas for the day? How many times, Jesus, have I made you sad, mindlessly receiving you into my body, into my heart, with no love and no recognition of your love? How many times have I treated you as a *dead object*?

The Host that we receive is not a thing!! It's not a wafer!! It's not bread!! It's a *person* – and He's *alive!!!*

Excerpt from *7 Secrets of the Eucharist* (page 8) by Vinny Flynn.