Welcome to our

November 17, 2019

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Family

Sharing the love of Jesus in the north Georgia mountains, and beyond……

Archdiocese of Atlanta

Deacon Larry Casey
Deacon Paul Dietz
Deacon J.P. McGuire – Administrator

Business Manager
Jim Gioia

Office Assistant
Lisa Howard
Finance Manager
Rita Baker

Dir. Of Religious Education
Joe Kwiatkowski
Adult Faith Formation
Colleen Orchanian
Music Director
Marianne Engelmann

Mass Times: Sat: 4:30 pm - Vigil
Sun: 8:30 am, 11:00 am
1:00 pm (Spanish)

Communion Svc: Mon - Fri: 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Sat: 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm
Eucharistic Adoration:
Mon. – Fri. 9:45 am – 12 noon

Church Office **Phone: (706) 745-6400**
3717 Hwy 515
Blairsville, GA. 30512

Office Hours: Mon – Thurs: 10:00 am – 4:30 pm
E-mail: office@stfrancisblairsville.com
Website: www.stfrancisblairsville.com

November 17, 2019

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

WEEKLY CALENDAR Nov 17th– Nov 23rd

Sunday		
9:45 am	Catechism	Lower Marian Hall
9:45 am	Bible Chat	Room 11
5:00 pm	Youth Group	Marian Hall
8:00 pm	Sp. Catechesis	Lower Marian Hall
Monday		
10:00 am	Ephesians Bible Study	Marian Hall
Tuesday		
10:00 am	Mom's Group	Room 11
2:00 pm	Women's Guild	Marian Hall
Wednesday		
10:00 am	Prayer Group	Room 11
6:00 pm	R.C.I.A.	Room 11
6:00 pm	Young Adults	Room 7
7:00 pm	Spanish Prayer Grp.	Church
Thursday		
10:00 am	SVdP Meeting	Conference Room
2:00 pm	Koffee Klatch	Marian Hall

Friday
No Scheduled Activities

Saturday
No Scheduled Activities

Offertory Nov. 9 & 10

First Collection	$ 7,767.00
Online Giving:	$ 1,945.00
Second Collection	$ 1,410.00 - Seminarians

Readings: The Week of Nov 17th – Nov 23rd

Sunday
MAL 3:19-20A 2 THES 3:7-12 LK 21:5-19

Monday – Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul
1MC 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 LK18:35-43

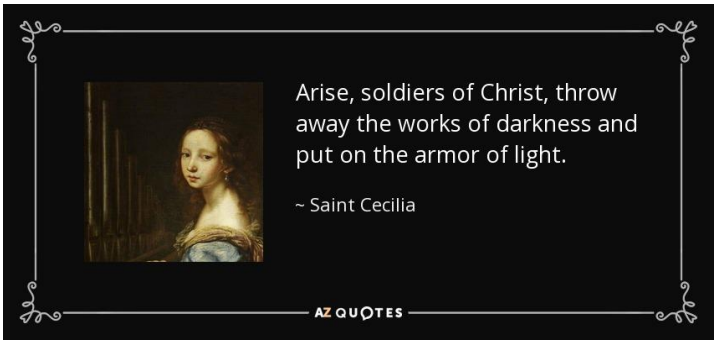
Tuesday
2MC 6:18-31 LK 19:1-10

Wednesday
2MC 7:1,28-31 LK 19:11-28

Thursday- Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
1MC 2:15-29 LK 19:41-44

Friday – St.Ceciliia
1 MC 4:36-37, 52-59 LK 19:45-48

Saturday-St.Clement I
1 MC 6:1-13 LK 20:27-40



Prayer Requests

Ralph Conti	Mary Pierson
David Drake	Fr. Gary Burkhart
Chris Seager	Barbara Lewis
Bruce & Stephanie Miller	Elizabeth Smith
Ken Voss	Jeanine Visage
Ray Kelly	Jean Hiler, ofs
Pat Smith	Roseanne Denchy
Robert Hafer	Julie Waltz
Jack Gallagher	Ginny Sauer
Buddy Mawyer	William McConnell
Joan Tufford	Donald Elyard
Bev Schutt	Irene Tisdale
Julie Waltz	Adam Chedister
Todd Smith	Ray Young
Pat Pierce	Victoria Hamel
George Ponzio	Bob Wilson
John Engelmann	Megan Harrell

Names will be removed after 30 days unless requested to remain

Prayer for Healing

Almighty and merciful Father, by the power of your command, drive away from them all forms of sickness and disease. Restore strength to their bodies and joy to their spirit, so that in their renewed health, they may bless and serve you, now and forevermore.

Mass Intentions

Sat.	4:30 PM	+ James Derflinger By Cary Derflinger
Sun	8:30 AM	Dcn. Larry & Rita Casey - Anniversary By Colleen Orchanian
Sun	11:00 AM	+ Harold & Simone Nicholson By Pat & Ed Williams
Sun	1:00 PM	Leaders of America By The Grizio's

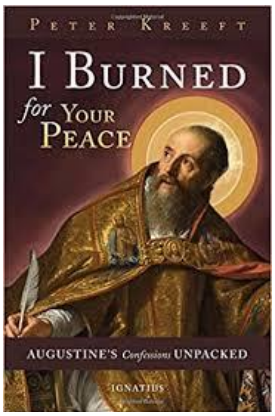
The Flame of the Sanctuary Light burns this week in loving memory of Lester Brace, at the request of Charles & Maureen Schramm.

Eucharistic Adoration

At this time of transition in our parish, as people wonder "What can I do?" perhaps the best answer is to spend an hour in prayer before The Blessed Sacrament, praying for Fr. Jaime, for all priests, and especially for the next priest who will become our shepherd, to lead the sheep of St. Francis of Assisi.

Eucharistic Adoration
Daily, from 9:30 am- 12 Noon.

BOOK CLUB



The November meeting of the Book Club has been moved to December. The book to be discussed at that time is "I Burned for Your Peace" by Peter Kreeft.

Anyone interested is asked to contact Colleen Orchanian, at the office, or at adultformation@stfrancisblairsville.com. Colleen is in need of suggestions about what books to read in the year ahead as well.. Please contact her with any suggestions.

Atlanta Vocations
Called by Christ

Please note, the Office of Vocations of the Archdiocese of Atlanta has the following upcoming Fall/Winter events scheduled:

Discernment Retreat: A retreat for men 18-40 who are thinking about the priesthood. December 30-31 @ Monastery of the Holy Spirit, Conyers.

Men's Discernment Masses: Join us for a !0 am Mass followed by a light brunch and discussion. December 7th @ St Charles Boromeo House, 813 Dalrymple Rd, Atlanta

Come & See: Join us as we visit St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. Jan 31-Feb. 2 @ Boynton Beach, FL (college age or older)

For more information and registration, visit CalledByChrist.com/events or contact:

Fr. Branson Hipp
Associate Director of Vocations
bhipp@archatl.com
404-920-7466

Koffee Klatch

Don't miss this opportunity to get together to shoot the breeze, laugh, joke, play games and tell stories with your fellow parishioners. Stop by Marian Hall on Thursdays….. at 2 pm……to be part of the fun!

Please note: *Saturday morning Communion Services and Masses have been suspended until further notice.*

Welcome Back Fr. Martin!

Fr. Martin, (pictured here) who visited St. Francis in June, will be back visiting us from Nov. 19 – Nov 30. Fr. Martin will be offering weekend and daily Masses, offering the sacrament of Reconciliation and participating in the parish life of St. Francis of Assisi.

In addition, Fr. Martin and Stephen Smith, founder of TO THE NATIONS will be giving a two-night Parish Mission on Nov. 21-22. The theme is "Mission," with the first night entitled "Laborers in the Vineyard" and the second night "Practice What You Preach."

FUNERAL MASSES

NOV. 21: Please join the Zorne family as a Funeral Mass is celebrated on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 9 am for two long-deceased family members and the burial of three. Fr. Martin from Uganda will celebrate the Mass. Burial and reception to follow.

NOV. 22: Parishioner Joan Tufford, 74, wife of our music ministry guitarist, Len Tufford, and mother of Fr. Corey Tufford of the diocese of San Diego, California, passed away Nov. 12, 2019 at her home in Murphy, NC. Joan had been battling cancer for the past few years.

The Funeral Mass will be Friday, November 22nd at 11 am at St. Francis of Assisi. Her son, Fr. Corey will be the Mass celebrant. Burial and reception will follow.

The November Women's Guild meeting will be Tuesday, November 19th

……..at 2:00 PM, in Marian Hall.

We will watch the movie, *The Case for Christ*. This is the true story of Lee Strobel, who worked to disprove the growing Christian faith of his wife. As an investigative journalist he chased down the biggest story of all time…with unexpected, life-altering results. Aaaaand…..there will be popcorn!!

Wednesday, November 20
6:00 - 8:00 PM
Marian Hall

Union County has the second highest rate of suicide in the state of Georgia.

Suicide and Depression are often lived in silence because of a lack of understanding and misconceptions. Be part of the conversation.

- Recognizing and dealing with depression
- Myths about depression and faith.
- Strategies for suicide prevention.
- Overcoming the stigma of loss by suicide

Our presenter is Irene Rowlands, Therapist at Holy Family Counseling Center in Suwanee, GA.

On the feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary, on November 21st, we celebrate the fact that Our Lady's parents brought her to the Temple at the age of three and handed her over to live there for a long period as a consecrated virgin where she might exclusively contemplate God.

There is a special beauty to this feast since it highlights the fact that Our Lady was chosen even before time began. She is called the root of Jesse (Isaiah, 11:1) from which Our Lord Jesus Christ would be born. She is introduced to the synagogue, the institution in charge of keeping this promise. Thus, the synagogue receives Our Lady as a first step. In this act, the hopes of ages would soon be fulfilled. Our Lady, a supremely holy soul, is received in the Temple and entered into the service of God.

Despite the corruption of the nation of Israel and the transformation of the Temple into a den of the Pharisees, an incomparable light appeared: the sanctity of Our Lady. Unknowingly, Our Lady began to prepare herself to become the Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In an atmosphere of grace in the Temple, she was set apart from everyone in order to serve God. She increased her love of God until she formed the ardent desire for the imminent coming of the Messiah and asked God if she might have the honor to be the servant of His Mother.

She did not know that she was the one chosen for this honor. That is why she was perplexed when the Archangel Gabriel greeted her to ask her permission for the Incarnation.

Our Lady's magnificent preparation to be the Mother of Jesus Christ began with her Presentation in the Temple, a feast the Church celebrates on November 21. It is fitting that we ask Our Lady to prepare us with the best of Catholic doctrine to serve God by serving her. We should present ourselves before Our Lady, asking her to assist us in taking up the task of our sanctification, as the Holy Spirit did with her in the Temple of Jerusalem.

Prayer of Consecration to Jesus, through Mary

I, (name), a repentant sinner, renew and ratify today in your hands, O, Immaculate Mother, the vows of my Baptism. I renounce Satan and resolve to follow Jesus Christ even more closely than before.

Mary, I give you my heart. Please set it on fire with love for Jesus. Make it always attentive to his burning thirst for love and for souls. Keep my heart in your most pure Heart that I may love Jesus and the members of his Body with your own perfect love.

Mary, I entrust myself totally to you: my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior, and even the value of all my good actions. Please make of me, of all that I am and have, whatever most pleases you. Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for bringing the greatest possible glory to God. If I fall, please lead me back to Jesus. Wash me in the blood and water that flow from his Pierced side, and help me never to lose my trust in this fountain of love and mercy.

With you, O Immaculate Mother – you who always do the will of God – I unite myself to the perfect consecration of Jesus as he offers himself in the Spirit to the Father for the life of the world. Amen.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
SPECIAL REQUEST

From time to time SVDP has clients that need repairs to their homes or car, and have trouble finding dependable licensed contractors. Our church bulletin advertisers are on source we can look to for references, but it does not cover all areas of needed skills. We are looking to compile a list of local contractors with their phone numbers, along with their specialty. Any parishioners who have used good dependable locally licensed contractors in the area of electric, plumbing, HVAC, carpentry or auto mechanics are asked to call Mona Spencer at 770 823-4525.

THANKSGIVING at ST. FRANCIS!

Thursday, November 28th. It's the day that we as a grateful nation take time to offer up Thanks to God, for all of his generous love, and mercy, which knows no bounds. And it's also a feast day! We will once again celebrate Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Francis for anyone who would like to come. Our turkey will be prepared by those faithful stewards willing to prepare them.....and we ask that all others bring either a side dish of some kind, and/or a desert. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex, and in the Main Office. A great time is guaranteed to be had by all!!!

CHURCH ROOF

As was mentioned last week, the Church roof, which began leaking after 26 years, will be replaced this upcoming week.

It is not anticipated that this project will impact the weekend Mass schedule. However daily Mass will be held in Marian Hall, and it is expected that this will be a 3-4 day project.

KTM Roofing Company is the contractor that has been selected. Please pray for the safety and security of the workers, and all involved with the project, and that all goes well. And that you will get to see the new roof at Mass next weekend.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Each year Wreaths Across America in Columbia Falls, ME sponsors a National Remembrance Ceremony. This year the date is December 14. Wreaths Across America will coordinate wreath-laying ceremonies at National Cemeteries throughout the United States.

During this holiday season join our Knights of Columbus by sponsoring a veteran's wreath at the Canton, GA National Cemetery. Each wreath costs $15, but any contribution is welcomed. Make checks payable to: Knights of Columbus Assembly 2563 and mail to P.O. Box 1448, Blue Ridge GA 30513. (no later than Nov 24th). All contributions from St Francis of Assisi, St Anthony's in Blue Ridge and St Catherine Laboure in Copper Hill, TN will be combined to maximize the number of wreaths ordered and placed in the Canton National Cemetery.

If you have any questions, please call:
Don Wirtz, 706 632-9011

"Today" is the Day: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Malachi 3:19–20 Psalm 98:5–9 2 Thessalonians 3:7–12 Luke 21:5–19

It is the age between our Lord's first coming and His last. We live in the new world begun by His life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension, by the sending of His Spirit upon the Church. But we await the day when He will come again in glory.

"Lo, the day is coming," Malachi warns in today's First Reading. The prophets taught Israel to look for the Day of the Lord, when He would gather the nations for judgment (see Zephaniah 3:8; Isaiah 3:9; 2 Peter 3:7).

Jesus anticipates this day in today's Gospel. He cautions us not to be deceived by those claiming "the time has come." Such deception is the background also for today's Epistle (see 2 Thessalonians 2:1–3).

The signs Jesus gives His Apostles seem to already have come to pass in the New Testament. In Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation, we read of famines and earthquakes, the Temple's desolation. We read of persecutions—believers imprisoned and put to death, testifying to their faith with wisdom in the Spirit.

These "signs," then, show us the pattern for the Church's life—both in the New Testament and today.

We too live in a world of nations and kingdoms at war. And we should take the Apostles as our "models," as today's Epistle counsels. Like them we must persevere in the face of unbelieving relatives and friends, and forces and authorities hostile to God.

As we do in today's Psalm, we should sing His praises, joyfully proclaim His coming as Lord and King. The Day of the Lord is always a day that has already come and a day still yet to come. It is the "today" of our Liturgy.

The Apostles prayed *marana tha*—"O Lord come!" (see 1 Corinthians 16:22; Revelation 22:20). In the Eucharist He answers, coming again as the Lord of hosts and the Sun of Justice with its healing rays. It is a mighty sign—and a pledge of that Day to come.

Lecturas: Malaquías 3: 19–20 Salmo 98: 5–9 2 Tesalonicenses 3: 7–12 Lucas 21: 5–19

Es la era entre la primera venida de nuestro Señor y la última. Vivimos en el nuevo mundo iniciado por Su vida, muerte, Resurrección y Ascensión, por el envío de Su Espíritu sobre la Iglesia. Pero esperamos el día en que Él venga nuevamente en gloria.

"He aquí, se acerca el día", advierte Malachi en la primera lectura de hoy. Los profetas le enseñaron a Israel a buscar el Día del Señor, cuando Él reuniría a las naciones para el juicio (véase Sofonías 3: 8; Isaías 3: 9; 2 Pedro 3: 7).

Jesús anticipa este día en el Evangelio de hoy. Nos advierte que no seamos engañados por aquellos que dicen "ha llegado el momento". Tal engaño es el trasfondo también para la Epístola de hoy (ver 2 Tesalonicenses 2: 1–3).

Las señales que Jesús da a sus apóstoles parecen haber sucedido en el Nuevo Testamento. En Hechos, las Epístolas y Apocalipsis, leemos sobre hambrunas y terremotos, la desolación del Templo. Leemos sobre persecuciones: creyentes encarcelados y ejecutados, dando testimonio de su fe con sabiduría en el Espíritu.

Estas "señales", entonces, nos muestran el patrón para la vida de la Iglesia, tanto en el Nuevo Testamento como en la actualidad. Nosotros también vivimos en un mundo de naciones y reinos en guerra. Y debemos tomar a los Apóstoles como nuestros "modelos", como los consejos de la Epístola de hoy. Al igual que ellos, debemos perseverar frente a parientes y amigos incrédulos, y fuerzas y autoridades hostiles a Dios.

Como lo hacemos en el Salmo de hoy, debemos cantar Sus alabanzas, proclamar con alegría Su venida como Señor y Rey. El Día del Señor siempre es un día que ya ha llegado y un día aún por venir. Es el "hoy" de nuestra Liturgia.

Los apóstoles oraron marana tha— "¡Oh Señor, ven!" (Ver 1 Corintios 16:22; Apocalipsis 22:20). En la Eucaristía Él responde, viniendo nuevamente como el Señor de los ejércitos y el Sol de justicia con sus rayos curativos. Es una señal poderosa, y una promesa de ese día por venir.