

Welcome to our

November 24, 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

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

Business Manager
Jim Gioia

Communion Svc: Mon - Fri: 9:00 am

Office Assistant
Lisa Howard
Finance Manager
Rita Baker

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat: 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Mon. – Fri. 9:45 am – 12 noon

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

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 24, 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 24th – Nov 30th

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
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Tuesday

9:50 am	Weight on Lord	Room 11
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Wednesday

10:00 am	Prayer Group	Room 11
7:00 pm	Spanish Prayer Grp.	Church

Thursday

2:00 pm	Thanksgiving Dinner	Marian Hall
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Friday

No Scheduled Activities

Saturday

No Scheduled Activities

Offertory Nov. 16 & 17

First Collection	\$ 5,598.00
Online Giving:	\$ 2,920.00
Second Collection	\$ 822.00 - Human Develop.

Readings: The Week of Nov 24th – Nov 30th

Sunday- Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 SM 5:1-3 COL 1:12-20 LK 23:35-43

Monday – St. Catherine of Alexandria

DN 1:1-6, 8-20 LK 21:1-4

Tuesday

DN 2:31-45 LK 21:5-11

Wednesday

DN 5:1-6, 13-14,16-17,23-28 LK 21:12-19

Thursday- Thanksgiving Day

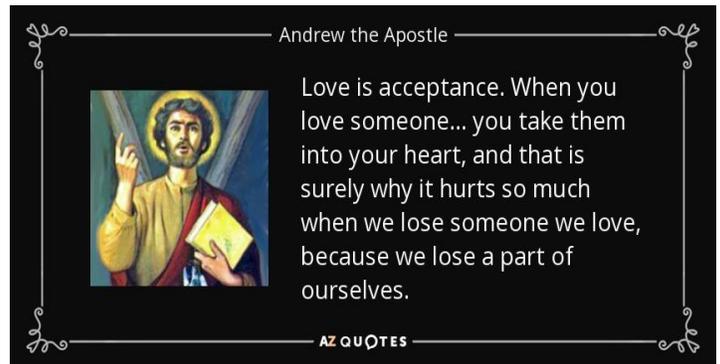
DN 6:12-28 LK 21:20--28

Friday

DN 7:2-14 LK 21:29-33

Saturday-Feast of St. Andrew

ROM 10:9-18 MT 4:18-22



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
Megan Harrell	Donald Elyard
Bev Schutt	Irene Tisdale
Julie Waltz	Adam Chedister
Todd Smith	Ray Young
Pat Pierce	Victoria Hamel
George Ponzio	Bob Wilson
John Engelmann	Mike Brown

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	Ron & Ann Marie Gaucher By Stephanie Miller
Sun	8:30 AM	Gemma Lynn Smith By Vera Gage
Sun	11:00 AM	Don McConnell By Joanna McConnell
Sun	1:00 PM	Agnes and Cornelius Crews By Stephanie Miller

HAPPY EUCHARIST!!



Every Sunday at Mass we give thanks for the family we have in Jesus Christ and for the love and forgiveness Christ manifests. At this celebration there is a meal, but there is no turkey, pie or mashed potatoes. Rather, when we gather around Christ's table for Eucharist, we are invited to receive the real presence of Jesus Christ, to take and eat his body and blood in remembrance of his love and sacrifice.

Through the bread and wine, which becomes His body and blood, we are spiritually fed. We gather together each week because that is what families do. It is with this family, called together by Christ, that we are able to fully celebrate and remember Christ's sacrifice for us in the Eucharist, the most important meal of all.

And so, this week, when our entire nation pauses to "give thanks", how blessed are we, as Catholics, to be able to worship, adore and glorify all that our God has given to us, through His son. And to physically receive that love through Holy Communion, or, the Eucharist, which literally means THANKSGIVING, in Greek. Happy Eucharistia!!!

Please note:

Saturday morning Mass/Communion Service will be suspended until further notice. Please consult Flocknote or this bulletin for any changes.

A word from Deacon John Paul

Brothers and sisters.....as we continue in this time of transition in our parish, I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify some items, and in full transparency, share some information on recent developments.

As everyone can hopefully see, we have completed our roof project, and the new roof looks great! We look forward to decades of faithful service from it, we pray. The gutter and downspout portion of the project will be completed within the next two weeks, and we will keep you updated.

As Bishop Ned shared during his visit, our Parish Council has been disbanded, and will remain so until we have a new pastor. Our Finance Council will be more formally renamed the Finance Advisory Council, and will now be chaired by Joe O'Brien. Joe brings an abundance of experience, along with a wealth of knowledge on the history of the parish.

Finally, I wanted everyone to know that I am available to address any items that you might like to discuss. As Bishop Ned also shared, let us make every effort to end the gossip and rumor mill that can be so divisive. And so, I will be available in the mornings, from 10 am-12 noon in the Deacons Office. I can also be reached by email at deaconjp@stfrancisblairsville.com. I ask you to please stop by or contact me to allow me to directly address any concerns, or hear any comments you may have, rather than me hearing about them second or third hand. Thank you! And now, a word about gossip:

St. Philip Neri, a 16th-century Italian priest, once heard the confession of a woman who engaged endlessly in gossip. For her penance, he told her: "*Go to the market, buy a chicken, and pluck it on your way back here, scattering the feathers as you walk. When you give me the plucked chicken, I'll tell you the rest of your penance.*"

The baffled woman did as she was told. When she handed the plucked chicken to the priest, he said, "*Now go back and gather all of the feathers.*"

"But, father, that's impossible," she said. "They have scattered everywhere, and I have no idea where they've all gone!"

"Just like the words of your gossip," he replied.

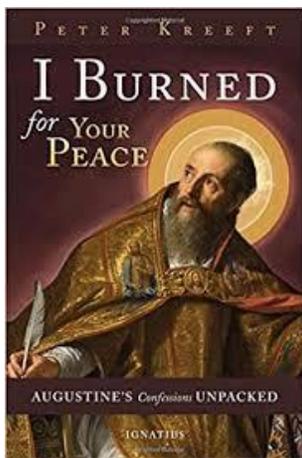
THANKSGIVING at ST. FRANCIS!



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. We will once again celebrate Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Francis for anyone who would like to come. Dinner is at 2 PM.

Our turkeys are being prepared by faithful stewardsand we ask that all others bring either a side dish of some kind, and/or a desert. A great time is guaranteed to be had by all!!!

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 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.

Coming for Advent



Advent Liturgy of the Hours

Learn to pray the Liturgy of the Hours – the prayer of the Church – for the season of Advent.

Monday, December 2nd at 8:00 AM

Parish Prayer Night – Adoration

Have you wondered what Adoration is all about? Or maybe you already spend time in Adoration and want to take your prayer time to a deeper level. Come learn about and experience Eucharistic Adoration –

Tuesday, December 3rd from 6:15-7:30 PM

Ignatian Prayer for Advent

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection. Meet each week in Advent to learn, practice Ignatian prayer, and look for practical ways to observe the holiness of the season in our everyday lives. There is no cost for this program.

***Mondays in December at 10 am - or -
Mondays in December at 7 pm***

A Message from St. Vincent de Paul.....



Dear Parishioners: The Holiday Season is once again upon us. Thanksgiving being one of the easiest holidays since its current focus is getting together with friends,

having a wonderful meal and watching a football game or two. The next day the CHAOS begins; the mad rush to the stores to buy the special present for Aunt Sue, Sister Sally and helping Santa to select the right gifts for the children. Let's not forget this is a very special time for Christians with the start of the Christmas Season and also a very difficult time for the poor. The folks who are going thru hard times also want to make their Christmas memorable for their children and themselves. In past years the Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi have really helped, in many ways, to make that happen. So many of you have donated extra money to SVdP to ease the burden utility bills, short falls in rent payments, car insurance etc. and also have taken, in many cases, more than one name from the Parish Christmas tree. Your generosity has really made a difference for so many families in Towns and Union County. The members of SVdP wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving, and thank you for your support and your continued commitment to the SVdP Ministry.

PRO-LIFE TV RAFFLE



The Life & Human Dignity Ministry is raffling off a 32" flat screen TV to help assist with costs associated with projects that the

ministry undertakes. The next big event will be their trip to Washington D.C. in support of the March for Life, which will take place on January 24, 2020. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Don't miss the opportunity to help support life, and take a chance at winning a TV in time to watch all of your favorite Christmas shows.



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 10 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! Except this Thursday....when we will be having our parish Thanksgiving dinner.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

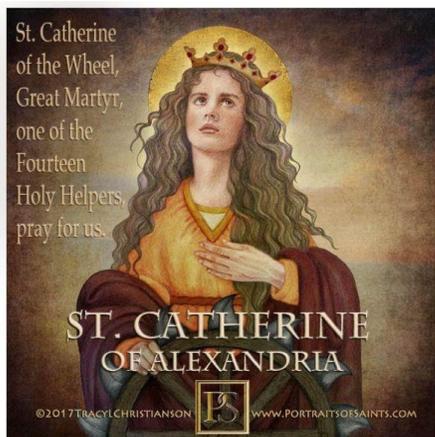


Each year Wreaths Across America in Columbia Falls, ME sponsors a National Remembrance Ceremony. This year the date is December 14. Wreaths Across America will coordinate wreath-laying ceremonies at National Cemeteries throughout the United States.

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

Saint Catherine of Alexandria's Story



According to the *Legend of St. Catherine*, this young woman converted to Christianity after receiving a vision. At the age of 18, she debated 50 pagan philosophers. Amazed at her

wisdom and debating skills, they became Christians—as did about 200 soldiers and members of the emperor's family. All of them were martyred.

Sentenced to be executed on a spiked wheel, Catherine touched the wheel and it shattered. She was beheaded. Centuries later, angels are said to have carried the body of Saint Catherine to a monastery at the foot of Mt. Sinai.

Devotion to her spread as a result of the Crusades. She was invoked as the patroness of students, teachers, librarians and lawyers. Catherine is one of the 14 Holy Helpers, venerated especially in Germany and Hungary.

Welcome Fr. Martin

We are excited to welcome back Fr. Martin, who visited with us at the end of June, earlier in the year. Fr. Martin will be with us until next weekend, and we are excited that he will be celebrating Mass all of this week, including Thanksgiving Day Mass, at 9 am.



Fr. Martin will be offering weekend and daily Masses, offering the sacrament of Reconciliation and participating fully in the parish life of St. Francis of Assisi during his visit. Thank you Fr. Martin!

Eucharistic Adoration



"Could you not spend one hour with me" - Jesus

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

Kingdom of the Son: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Solemnity of Christ the King

Readings: [2 Samuel 5:1–3](#) [Psalm 122:1–5](#)
[Colossians 1:12–20](#) [Luke 23:35–43](#)

Week by week the Liturgy has been preparing us for the revelation to be made on this, the last Sunday of the Church year.

Jesus, we have been shown, is truly the Chosen One, the Messiah of God, the King of the Jews. Ironically, in today's Gospel we hear these names on the lips of those who don't believe in Him—Israel's rulers, the soldiers, and a criminal dying alongside Him.

They can only see the scandal of a bloodied figure nailed to a cross. They scorn Him in words and gestures foretold in Israel's Scriptures (see [Psalm 22:7–9](#); [69:21–22](#); [Wisdom 2:18–20](#)). If He is truly King, God will rescue Him, they taunt. But He did not come to save Himself, but to save them—and us.

The good thief shows us how we are to accept the salvation He offers us. He confesses his sins, acknowledges he deserves to die for them. And He calls on the name of Jesus, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

By his faith he is saved. Jesus "remembers" him—as God has always remembered His people, visiting them with His saving deeds, numbering them among His chosen heirs (see [Psalm 106:4–5](#)).

By the blood of His cross, Jesus reveals His Kingship—not by saving His life, but by offering it as a ransom for ours. He transfers us to "the Kingdom of His beloved Son," as today's Epistle tells us.

His Kingdom is the Church, the new Jerusalem and House of David that we sing of in today's Psalm.

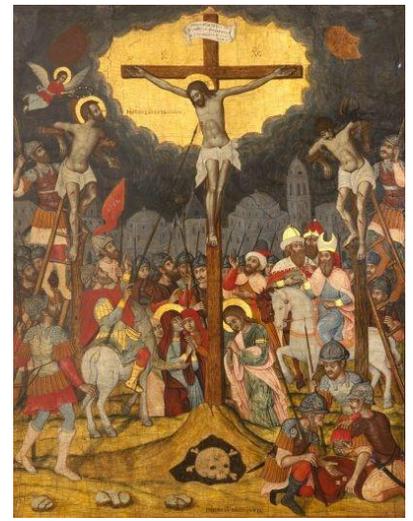
By their covenant with David in today's First Reading, Israel's tribes are made one "bone and flesh" with their king. By the new covenant made in His blood, Christ becomes one flesh with the people of His Kingdom—the head of His body, the Church (see [Ephesians 5:23–32](#)).

We celebrate and renew this covenant in every Eucharist, giving thanks for our redemption, hoping for the day when we too will be with Him in Paradise.

Lecturas:

2 Samuel 5: 1–3
Salmo 122: 1–5
Colosenses 1: 12–20
Lucas 23: 35–43

Semana a semana, la Liturgia nos ha estado preparando para la revelación que se hará sobre este, el último domingo del año de la Iglesia.



Se nos ha demostrado que Jesús es verdaderamente el Elegido, el Mesías de Dios, el Rey de los judíos. Irónicamente, en el Evangelio de hoy escuchamos estos nombres en los labios de aquellos que no creen en Él: los gobernantes de Israel, los soldados y un criminal que muere junto a Él.

Solo pueden ver el escándalo de una figura ensangrentada clavada en una cruz. Lo desprecian con las palabras y los gestos predichos en las Escrituras de Israel (ver Salmo 22: 7–9; 69: 21–22; Sabiduría 2: 18–20). Si Él es verdaderamente Rey, Dios lo rescatará, se burlan. Pero no vino para salvarse a sí mismo, sino para salvarlos a ellos, y a nosotros.

El buen ladrón nos muestra cómo debemos aceptar la salvación que nos ofrece. Él confiesa sus pecados, reconoce que merece morir por ellos. Y invoca el nombre de Jesús, buscando su misericordia y perdón.

Por su fe se salva. Jesús "lo recuerda", como Dios siempre ha recordado a su pueblo, visitándolos con sus obras salvíficas, enumerándolos entre sus herederos elegidos (ver Salmo 106: 4-5).

Por la sangre de su cruz, Jesús revela su reinado, no salvando su vida, sino ofreciéndola como rescate por la nuestra. Nos transfiere al "Reino de su amado Hijo", como nos dice la Epístola de hoy.

Su Reino es la Iglesia, la nueva Jerusalén y la Casa de David que cantamos en el Salmo de hoy. Por su pacto con David en la primera lectura de hoy, las tribus de Israel se hacen un "hueso y carne" con su rey. Por el nuevo pacto hecho en su sangre, Cristo se convierte en una sola carne con la gente de su reino: la cabeza de su cuerpo, la Iglesia (véase Efesios 5: 23–32).

Celebramos y renovamos este pacto en cada Eucaristía, dando gracias por nuestra redención, esperando el día en que nosotros también estemos con Él en el Paraíso.