



# St. Francis of Assisi Parish

30 Union St.  
P.O Box 46  
Windsor, Vt. 05089

**Second Sunday of Advent  
December 10, 2023**

Reverend Father Cyrain Cabueñas  
ccabuenas2001@yahoo.com

Very Rev. Msgr. John McDermott, J.C.L.  
Diocesan Administrator

## **Mass Schedule**

**Weekend:** Saturday 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

**Weekday:** Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m.

**Adoration:** Tuesday 9:30-10:30

**Holy Days:** As announced in the Bulletin

**Baptisms & Reconciliation:** By arrangement

**Marriage:** Couples please contact the parish six months in advance

## **Parish Contact**

Office: 802- 674-2157

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Email: [stfranciswindsor@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:stfranciswindsor@vermontcatholic.org)

Web site: [stfranciswindsor.org](http://stfranciswindsor.org)

Fax: 802-674-9416

New Parishioners are welcome and are urged to register with the Parish Office

**Altar Server Coordinator:** Ronald Hamel Jr.

**Parish Finance Coordinator:** Gerry Grimo

**Parish Secretary:** Shannon Harrington

**Finance Council:** Frederick Lord (Co Chair) (802)356-6496; Tom DiNetta (Co Chair)  
(302)332-1251; Ginny Fox (802)436-2831; Paul Belaski (802)674-2713

**Parish Council:** Joyce Corbin (Chair) (802)484-3329; Barbara Barbour (802)299-7117; Janet Farley  
(802)674-6065; Steve Giroux (802)674-6369; Michael Belanger (443)487-2005

**A message from Father Cyrain....** The main protagonist this Second Sunday of Advent calls people to repentance. But the Baptist's call goes beyond a simple confession of wrongdoings. It involves a profound change of the whole person and demands turning our backs on old self-centered habits. John gives some down to earth advice on how to smooth a passageway for Christ coming into our lives by pointing out obstacles and barriers at the door of our hearts that need to be removed.

Among the valleys to be filled in are the many gaping sins of omission, our neglect of neighbors, and those wasted opportunities for helping others. The mountains of our pride can only be levelled out by the daily practice of the virtue of humility. Preparing a way for the Lord means walking a new path and welcoming God involves removing all blockages which prevent him from coming closer.

The voice of John reminds us that we have the important task of announcing Christ to others. Our everyday life is a message telling everyone through acts of kindness, honesty, and fidelity that Christ is right here with us. The Baptist also invites us to turn this Advent into a real spiritual homecoming by making the necessary preparations for the arrival of the Savior into our lives.

**Eucharistic Revival:** It is possible for each one of us to meet the Son of God, experiencing all of his love and infinite mercy. We are able to encounter Him truly present in the Sacraments, especially in the Eucharist. We are able to recognize Him in the faces of our brothers and sisters, especially in the poor, the sick, the imprisoned, the displaced: they are the living flesh of the suffering Christ and the visible image of the invisible God. (Pope Francis Angelus – January 11, 2015)

## **Prayer Requests- Please remember in your prayers:**

David Deschamp, Joyce Corbin, Helen George, Len Zabilansky, Louise Elias, Laurie Curtis, Kevin Curtis, Cindy DiNetta, the Longacre family, Griffin Thompson, The Thompson family, Jill Lord, Lisa Moeller, Amy Moeller, Cade Bagley, Logan Young, Elaine Markegiani, Christine Rose, Martha Sass, Helen Michalowitz, Claire Harlow, Christiane Zue, Scott McCandless, Amy Chesser.

## **Please pray for the repose of the souls of:**

Jan Lepisko, Patricia Lucarelli, George Veilleux, Theresa Morin, Dale West, Elinor Garcia, Ella Perry, Bill Dillon, Peter Toepfer, Ludwig Markert, Robert Leneau, Linda Parker, Loretta Gould, Lucio Cabueñas, Will Moeller, Cynthia Howe, Earl White Sr. Norman Piper, Mary Ann Notaro, Donna O'Neill, Jane Lynch, Anthony Rocchio, Bill Moeller, Ray Nedderman, Father Charles Davignon, Gina Kicinski, Anna Mary Noble, William Moore, Anne Hutchins, John Barth, Raymond Scott, Paul Wynn, Mark Curtis, Margaret Blake, Theresa Marie Fenton.

## **Mass Intentions:**

If you would like to have a Mass offered for your intentions, for loved ones living or deceased, or for a special occasion, please contact the parish office by email, telephone, or drop a note in the collection basket. Please include the name of the person for whom the Mass will be offered and who is requesting the Mass. Let us know if you want a specific day. We will do our best to accommodate your request. Please include your contact information. The customary offering is \$10. Thank you

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,** a Holy Day of Obligation was celebrated on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. as a Vigil Mass

**Parish Home Visits:** Father may be requested to visit a parishioner at home, or current place of residency on the First Friday of each month, (**January 5th**) Please call the Parish Secretary to set up a time.

**NEW Missalettes:** Our new missalettes are located at the entry welcome table. We want to be sure that everyone takes a copy when you arrive and return it after Mass. This will keep the binders in better condition throughout the year. Thank you for your assistance with this request.



**2024 Calendars:** The Parish has purchased calendars for you as a gift. Please take one home to remind you of the Feast Days, Holy Days of Obligation, and the Seasons of the Liturgical year. Blessings for peace, happiness and good health are prayerfully sent to each and every one of you.

**2024 Offertory Envelopes:** The envelopes are located on the rear table for your yearly weekly offerings. Many thanks to those who use them faithfully, as well as to the many who utilize the on-line giving method.

**Christmas Wreathes:** The Christmas wreath coordination and undertaking by **Crickett French & Marie Carmichael** raised **\$405.00**, to be used towards winter fuel costs. Thanks be to God.

**Christmas Giving Tree:** The tree is Fully decorated with loving gifts from our Parish. On behalf of our giving tree coordinators; **Marie Carmichael, Kathy White and Jyl Lord** and their ministry of love and generosity, we extend a heartfelt thank you. In addition, sincere gratitude is extended to all the parishioners who lovingly shopped and wrapped for this event. There will be many smiling faces and full hearts this year because of you!

**The First Sunday of Advent:**, starts us off with a new liturgical cycle. For that reason, it is an opportunity for us all to begin anew. Beginning anew means that we let go of our past sin and hurt and ask Jesus to enter in. It means we turn to Him for a fresh start and have hope in all that He wants to accomplish in our lives. It is time for a fresh start! Advent follows a certain theme of preparation and anticipation. At first, we reflect upon the fact that the Savior of the World will one day return in all His glory. We look to that truth and anticipate it with great hope. From there, we look at the fact that He did come long ago as a child. He was born of the Virgin and dwelt among us. Christmas is the fulfillment of the hope given in Advent and is the realization of God’s promise. God humbled Himself, becoming a little child entrusted to the care of Blessed Mary of Nazareth. She became not only the Mother of God, she became our Mother in Grace. May we all meet our Lord and His mother more deeply this Advent and Christmas season.

**Advent Meal Prayer:**

God our loving Father, bless us as we share this meal together. Prepare our hearts so we may welcome Jesus Christ, your Son, into our midst. We look forward in joy to the day we will celebrate the feast of Christmas. As we enjoy our own meal, we also think about the many people in the world who do not have enough to eat. Provide for their needs too, and help us to be generous in sharing what we have with others in need. Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen

**December 17<sup>th</sup>: The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a St. Francis Christmas Party.** It will be a potluck affair with beverages supplied by K of C. The entire parish family is invited. Festivities will begin directly after Mass at about 11:30 a.m. Along with Santa’s visit, Gerry Grimo is providing seasonal sing-along music to add to the affair. A Food Signup Sheet is posted in the Fellowship Hall. Please indicate your intension to provide a food donation to the event by entering your name in the appropriate category. **We hope to see you there** for a special social event with our church family.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>: Church Decoration:** We will be decorating the church in preparation for Christmas **after the 12/17 Mass**. This coincides with the K of C Christmas Party, thus we should have many helping hands.

**Heating system:** A big shout out, hug and immense thank you to Dick Fenton for his most recent time, effort and brilliance in maintaining and boosting the heating system for our church. I suspect you notice the improved warmth. He is, along with many others in our parish, selfless, hardworking and gracious.

**Mass Attendance:**

Nov 4-5	113	Nov 11-12	85	Nov 18-19	86
Nov 25 -26	91	Dec 2-3	96		

**Offerings :** (Offerings report for FY 2023)

Weekly Offertory for December 2-3 **\$1,893.00** which includes Christmas Flower donations \$280.00 & Christmas Wreath Sale (for winter fuel) \$405.00

In addition: On line giving **\$419.00**; Mass Stipends **\$30.00**; Coffee Hour **\$41.00**

**Totals to Date (7/1/23-12/3/23):**

<u>Sat &amp; Sunday Offertory</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Stipends</u>	<u>On line giving</u>
<b>\$43,240.50</b>	<b>\$1,454.98*</b>	<b>\$1,195.00</b>	<b>\$7,769.00</b>

\*(Includes 2022 coffee hour donations)

**Thank you for your prayerful generosity** Please consider on-line giving. Contact Parish office for detail. Our parish shortfall needed to meet our projected Budget for June 30, 2024, as of **Dec 3, 2023** is **\$648.69 per week.**

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12/09/23</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
For the Repose of the Soul of the Merle Norman by his family.		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12/10/23</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
For the Parishioners and Benefactors of St. Francis of Assisi.		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>12/12/23</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
For the repose of the soul of John Scanlon by Janet Farley.		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/14/23</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12/16/23</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
For the Parishioners and Benefactors of St. Francis of Assisi		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12/17/23</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>
For the repose of the soul of Richard Slusky by Kathy Deschamp		

**First Friday Adoration:** Join us for Eucharist Exposition and Benediction in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on the following dates: **New Time 2:00 pm Friday’s: January 5<sup>th</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup>,**

**Office of the Bishop**

**Prayer for the Appointment of a New Bishop**

“ALMIGHTY GOD, Eternal shepherd and guide, in your love for us, grant to the Diocese of Burlington a shepherd who will lead us to be Christ’s heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. Help him to fill our minds and hearts with the truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacraments, and the desire to build up your holy Church.” Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>:** There will be **No Mass**, Thurs 9:00 a.m., as Father attends a Deanery meeting.

**Second Collection:** There is a second collection this weekend (**Dec 9-10**) to support the Retirement for the Religious.