



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

CATHOLIC CHURCH

4000 W. Tidewater Lane • Madison, MS 39110 • 601-856-5556 • Fax: 601-856-2849 • stfrancismadison.org

March 2, 2025 – Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Albeenreddy Vatti, Pastor
Albeen.Vatti@stfrancismadison.org

Msgr. Elvin Sands, Priest in Residence
Elvin.Sands@stfrancismadison.org

Sallie Ann Inman, Office Manager
SallieAnn.Inman@stfrancismadison.org

Martha McLean, Receptionist/Bulletin Editor
Martha.McLean@stfrancismadison.org

Mary Catherine George, Director
Religious Education
MC.George@stfrancismadison.org

Melissa Smalley, Life Teen / Confirmation
Melissa.Smalley@stfrancismadison.org

Maggie Spence, Youth Activities Coordinator
Maggie.Spence@stfrancismadison.org

Julie Clayton, Director of O.C.I.A.
Julie.Clayton@stfrancismadison.org

Leo Moreira, Music Ministries
Leo.Moreira@stfrancismadison.org

Bill Dean, Social Concerns
Bill.Dean@stfrancismadison.org



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MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 5:00 PM

*10:30 am Sunday and daily Masses are
live-streamed on our YouTube channel
and our Facebook page.*

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday-Friday: 7:00 AM

Holy Day: 7:00 AM, 6:30 PM

O.C.I.A. (formerly R.C.I.A.)

Wednesday: 6:30 - 8:00 PM

New inquirers welcome year round.

ROSARY:

Thursday: 6:40 AM

ADORATION:

Thursday: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet prayed at 6:30 PM

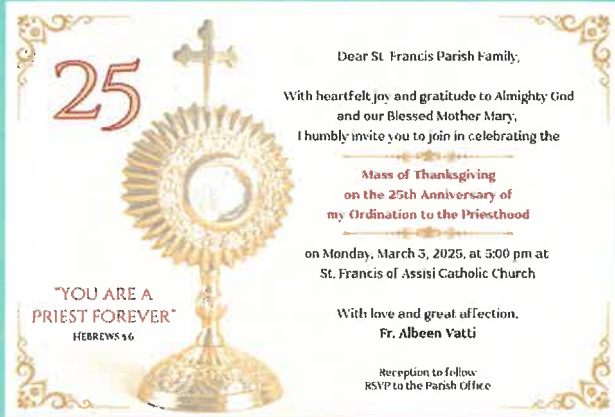
RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 PM & by request

From the Desk of Fr. Albeen

In today's Gospel, Jesus is telling his disciples some pretty obvious things. Blind people don't lead blind people. You don't go to a bramble bush expecting to find figs. If you are having problems and making a bunch of mistakes, are you really the person to be pointing out the flaws in others? Jesus is trying to wake us up, to cause us to look around and see how stuck in the muck we are. We can only be saved if we realize that we are in need of saving. When we open our eyes and hearts to the reality of our sin, of our shortcomings, of our areas of blindness, we can turn to Jesus in humility and love. He is the one to lead the blind. He is the one to point out our failings. He is the one who will give us the love, forgiveness, and food we seek.

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ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday, March 5 7:00 am & 6:00 pm Masses

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Be part of our Lord's life during this Lenten season. Fridays of Lent: We pray the Rosary at 6 pm following by the Stations of the Cross and the Lenten Meals.

St. Francis has a **special gift for each family** for Lent. Please pick up your copy of the devotional "Lean Into Lent: A New Approach to Old Traditions" after mass in the gathering area.

FASTING is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. **ABSTINENCE** is obligatory on Ash Wednesday, Fridays of Lent and Good Friday; unless health is an issue.

ST. FRANCIS PANTRY

"For it is in giving that we receive" St. Francis of Assisi"



FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION March 1/2:

This weekend food donations may be left in the "green room". Please, **NO expired foods** and no previously opened packages. As always, monetary contributions are welcome, cash, check or the GIVE link on our website. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach program.



Job Opening: Substitute Teacher for Maternity Leave

St. Anthony Catholic School is seeking a Substitute Teacher to cover a 2-month maternity leave for 5th and 6th Grade Math instruction. This is a part-time position for the morning hours during the months of April and May. Qualified applicants should contact Principal Anne Cowger at 601-607-7054.

Events & Religious Education

Children's Ministry: Sunday School

Save the date for **Kingdom of the Son Prayer Safari VBS: June 23-26, 9am-noon!** It's going to be a *wild* week, and we will need *many Safari guides* to lead 4-year-olds through 5th graders! Please contact Mary Catherine if you can teach, assist, prepare safari snacks, or decorate for VBS at mc.george@stfrancismadison.org.

7th-12th Grade Life Teen and Youth Ministry:

Life Teen, Edge, Purpose Confirmation Sessions meet *this* Sunday, **March 2, 6:00-7:45 pm**. Please join us!

No WOW! this Wednesday so that you may join us at 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass.

9th graders up, make the most of your Lenten journey by joining the "Teen Table" for the **Wilderness Within** parish Lenten series, this **Thursday 6:00-7:45 pm** in the gym. Supper is included. Please sign up at Mass this weekend, at Life Teen, or RSVP via Flocknote sent so that we have a head count for food and books.

Wilderness Within Parish Lent Study

When: Thursdays at 6 p.m. during Lent, March 6 – April 15

Have you ever wondered why Jesus went into the wilderness? Some believe it was to reveal his divinity or to restore humanity's relationship with God. In *Wilderness Within*, Sr. Josephine Garrett, a mental health counselor and popular speaker, reflects on the belief that Jesus went into the wilderness to rescue us—to rescue us! The Lord does not want us to view the wilderness as something that causes worry, anxiety, or fear. "What if, instead," Sr. Josephine writes, "we looked at how God has been a faithful provider in the wilderness and trusted that He will do the same for us in the wilderness journey ahead? What if we joyfully take His hand and journey into the wilderness, because when Christ enters there, 'this opposite place of the garden becomes the place of reconciliation and healing'" (Pope Benedict XVI, Jesus of Nazareth)?

St. Francis parish wide Lent Study begins on Thursday, March 6 in the Family Life Center. Registration and dinner begin at 6 p.m. and the program at 6:30 p.m. Dinner and childcare are provided. There is no cost, but please sign up after mass, through Flocknote or call the parish office to reserve your space and book.

SUNDAY OFFERING



FINANCIAL GIVING



| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Goal: | \$30,000.00 |
| Collection Basket | \$17,763.00 |
| Children's Offering | \$ 64.25 |
| Online | \$ 3,015.00 |
| Total | \$20,842.25 |

CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL

We are thankful to everyone at St. Francis who has generously contributed to this year's Catholic Service Appeal. This appeal provides a special opportunity to share your blessings with others and support vital ministries like our Permanent Diaconate Ministry. Our permanent deacons serve within our parishes, offering invaluable support to our pastors and parish communities. If you haven't made a pledge yet, please consider contributing. To date, St. Francis has raised **\$79,720**. We invite you to consider making a gift to the Appeal and help our parish reach its goal **\$83,260**.

Please give today!

csa.jacksondiocese.org



OCIA

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days of lent, a time when we remember that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting and resisting temptation. On this special day of reflection, Catholics wear a marking of the cross in ash on their foreheads. The ashes symbolize our mortality – “Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Just as Jesus faced temptations in the desert, we too face many temptations in our everyday lives. As we celebrate the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, we are encouraged to think about how we can better ourselves during this important time of the year. This week the OCIA group will attend mass together as we celebrate Ash Wednesday. Please continue to pray for our candidates and catechumen as they continue on their faith journey: Tatiana, Bryan, Channing, Stephen, Don, Webb, Kimberly, Duncan, Dominic, Kandi, Brittany, Drew, Sebastian, and Katie. More information about the OCIA program can be obtained by calling the church office at 601-856-5556 or by visiting the church website at www.stfrancismadison.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. FRANCIS

Sunday, March 2

9:00 am Sunday School for PreK4-6th graders.
9:00 am Coffee and Creed in St. Clare Hall.
9:00 am Bible Buddies Study in the FLC lounge.
6:00 pm 7th-12th grader Life Teen, Edge & Confirmation Sessions.

Monday, March 3

5:00 pm Fr. Albeen Anniversary of Ordination Mass.
6:00 pm Reception after Mass in the Family Life Center.

Wednesday, March 5

10:00 am M&M study Group in St. Clare Hall.

Thursday, March 6

6:00 am Lent Study *Wilderness Within* in the FLC.

Friday, March 7

6:00 am TMIY (That Man Is You) in St. Clare Hall.
6:00 pm Praying the Rosary in the Church.
6:30 pm Reflecting the Station of the Cross in the Church.
7:00 pm Lenten Meal fellowship in the FLC.



Altar Flowers this weekend are in memory of
Cristina Benn

by her parents, Sukie & Charlie Benn

The love you shared with the one you miss so much, live on
in the light of Christ's great love. 1 Corinthians 13:8



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-14; 15-16;
1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

Monday

Sir 17:20-24; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday

Sir 35:1-12; Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14, 23;
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday

Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17;
2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday

Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19;
Mt 9:14-15

MASS INTENTIONS



Sat., Mar. 1 VIGIL MASS
5:00 PM Mass † Claudette George

Sun., Mar. 2 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 AM Mass † Alice & Lawrence Royer
9:10 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Mary Allegrezza
10:30 AM Mass
5:00 PM Mass ♥ John Lacourrege Jr.

Mon., Mar. 3 ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
7:00 AM Mass † Connie Rhoten

Tue., Mar. 4 ST. CASIMIR
7:00 AM Mass † Joseph Gandolini
8:30 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Nancy Welsch

Wed., Mar. 5 ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00 AM Mass ♥ Rick Mills
6:00 PM Mass

Thurs., Mar. 6 WEEKDAY OF LENT
7:00 AM Mass ♥ Amanda Williams
8:30 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Robert Hill Sr.
5:00 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri., Mar. 7 ST. PERPETUA
7:00 AM Mass † Mary & Ken Brown
8:30 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Blanche Welsch

† Praying for Deceased ♥ Praying for Special Intention



Camera Operators needed for our Live
Stream Ministry!
Call the parish office 601-856-5556
for training.



PRAY FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Revell Patterson, Mark Vincent, John Logan,
Christopher Hanneke, Brian Flaherty,
Garrett Kennedy, Caroline Grace Smith,
Greg Weatherford, James Kaiser,
Dagan Nations, and Lee Greco.

Thank you for protecting our country.
May the Lord keep you safe.

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING



Parishioners: Rick Mills, Amanda Williams, Bill Smith, Dora Thomas, Ann George, Michael Schenk, Marcy Hill, Russ Blount, Tina Coats, Kathleen & Dwight Hood, Elvie Clement, Chris Smith, Terry Grabiak, Louis Pellegrine, Ethan George, Betty Ravenstein, Leslie Philipp, Sieger Sims, Tom Miller, Brandy Tucker, Candace & Shaughn Loper, Gregg Jones, Shannon Moody, Davis Oltremari, Marilyn Hansen, and Michelle Harrison.

Family: Rob Parsons, Joseph Edge, Jerry Thomas, Austin Stewart, Isabella Saab, Ryan Ravenstein, Sandra Graef Cook, Mike Porcello, Robert Smith, Kay Wittenberg, Donna Stanley, Keely Ramshur, Larry Pellegrine, Desiree Savoie, Angela Gaither, John Welsch, Martha Hall, Bethany Powers, Marinella Davis, Amy McManus, Dan Nguyen, Rebecca McManus, Porter Antici, Mary Ann Williams, Selema Rookis, Marie Chipley, Troy Plaisance, Rita Barrau, Robin Ballough, Fred Delahoussay, Hap Post, Allen Tolbert, Berenice Díaz, Nancy Watts, Wells Heier, Caroline Duckworth, Dr. Sherrill Evans, Raymond Sahut, Dianne Thomas, Abby George, And Brian Grimmett.

Friends: Lorene David, Lynn Goodman, Allison Dyrayer, Genesis Moore, Carrie Maniscalco, Lindsay McCollum, Consha Sims, Tommy Chifoln, Laura Higgins, Ruby Joblin, Travis Griffin, William Eagleton, Shirley Jones, Patsy Meyer, Kay Beggerly, Gene Fox, Phil Cook, Brenda Dehm, Shannon Gilmer, Zayden Washington, Adele Brown, Carl Fields, Elizabeth Albertson, Jimmy Haltam, Mary Bradley, Gail Madden, and Ethan Parker.

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St. Francis of Assisi's Sunday Bulletin

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