



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 14, 2025 – Third Sunday of Advent



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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

The prophets of the Old Testament were not very popular. Most were killed or exiled because they challenged people to follow the commands of God. John the Baptist suffered the same way. So what kept the prophets going? First, they had faith in God. They believed that God spoke through them, that God would protect them and support them. Second, they had patience. They kept going when people rejected their preaching. The third gift of the prophets was hope: That by keeping God's commands, God's people would be renewed, along with all of creation. Our first reading is an example of such hope, with its descriptions of deserts becoming gardens and the sick and disabled being healed and strengthened. So what do we learn from those prophets? First, we need to keep our faith in God. If you go to church once a week, the bare minimum, it would be like exercising only once a week and thinking that will keep you in shape. Second, we need patience and not just with our kids. We need to be patient with ourselves and with God. Some people stop going to church because they don't see any spiritual growth in themselves. So be patient; don't expect to become a saint right away. Finally, the reading from Isaiah gives us hope that God will open our eyes of faith, clear our ears to hear His word, (Is 35:5) and "meet him with joy and gladness" (Is 35:10).

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2025 December Special Mass Schedule**Christmas Masses****Wednesday, December 24th - Vigil**

4:00 pm (Children) & 8:00 pm

Thursday, December 25th

Christmas Day Mass 10:30 am

Mary, Mother of God - Holy Day of ObligationWednesday, December 31st, 2025 - Vigil - 6:00 pmThursday, January 1st, 2026 - 10:30 am**UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. FRANCIS****Saturday, December 13**

3:00 pm Children's Choir rehearsal.

Sunday, December 14

9:00 am Coffee & Creed in St. Clare Hall.

9:00 am Bible Buddies in the Family Life Center Lounge.

3:00 pm Baptism session in St. Clare Hall.

6:15 pm Youth Christmas Outing visit "The Southern Lights".

Tuesday, December 16

6:30 pm TMIY evening session in OCIA Room.

Wednesday, December 17

10:00 am Martha and Mary Group in St. Clare Hall.

5:30 pm Children Choir Rehearsal.

6:00 pm WOW! 7th to 12th grade.

6:15 pm Adult Choir rehearsal in the Daily Chapel.

6:30 pm OCIA in St. Clare Hall.

Friday, December 19

6:00 am TMIY morning session in St. Clare Hall.

Children's Christmas Choir

We invite children ages 7-14 to sing at our Children's Choir Christmas Eve Mass on December 24th at 4 pm. We will start singing Christmas carols 30 minutes before the Mass begins.

Rehearsal Schedule:

17-Dec Wednesday at 5:30 pm

23-Dec Tuesday at 3 pm

**Events & Religious Education****Children's Ministry: Sunday School**

Pre-K4 – 6th grade Sunday School: Join us *this* Sunday, December 14, at 9:00-10:15am!

Christmas Break: No Sunday School on December 21, 28, or January 4.

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

Christ in Christmas Adopted Family wrapped gifts are **due *this* Sunday, December 14**. Please leave gifts in the FLC lounge between 8 am and noon or bring to the FLC at 6:15 pm before leaving for Southern Lights. Please attach a removable tag with the child's name and your name so that we can make sure that child gets your gift!

Youth Christmas Outing: *The Southern Lights!* This Sunday, December 14 for 7th-12th graders and their families- **Meet at 6:15 pm** in FLC parking lot to carpool to Trustmark Park in Pearl. Admission is \$15 per person, which includes skating, lighted maze, and a soft drink.

Bring extra \$ for food and your parent-signed Indemnity Forms (A if not turned in already or B yearly update, plus event form E). Parents can pick up from Southern Lights before 8:45 pm or from FLC at 9:15 pm. Parents, please contact Maggie if you can carpool youth to and from the venue.

WOW! It's a **Blue Party** in honor of our Blessed Mother Mary *this Wednesday, December 17, 6-7:30 pm* in the FLC. Bring a wrapped \$10-15 wrapped gift for gift exchange game "Blue Themed"

Christmas Break: No *Life Teen* until January 11, 2026!

Save the date for the annual **Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference** for 9th-12th graders, **March 20-22, 2026!** Registration info will be sent soon!

#iGiveCatholic Thank You!

We are very grateful to our donors who donated to furnish Sister Claire Hogan Hall. We raised \$31,675.

May the Child Jesus bring joy to you and your family.

Warangal Diocese India Thank you!

Many thanks to all our generous donors. So far, we have raised \$40,564.11 to support the mission of the Warangal Diocese in India. If you would still like to contribute, you may do so this week—thank you for your continued generosity.

2026 Stewardship Campaign

Currently, we have only received 47 stewardship cards, please return yours and place it in the basket in the gathering area, mail to the parish office or complete online.

*Building the Kingdom of God
Give, and it will be given to you...a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over" (Luke 6:38)*

**FINANCIAL GIVING**

Weekly Goal:	\$30,000.00
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Collection Basket	\$14,562.00
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Children's Offering	\$ 47.39
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Online	\$ 8,391.00
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Total	\$23,000.39
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December: Capital Campaign.

December: Christmas Flower Offering. Please write the names of your loved clearly. **Deadline December 15.**

December 13 & 14: Retirement Fund for Religious.

December 20 & 21: St. Anthony School Tuition Assistance.

Please make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi.



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is Christ's healing and strengthening presence for those facing serious illness, advanced age, major surgery, or the weakening that comes with suffering. Jesus continues His ministry of compassion through this sacrament, bringing peace, courage, and the grace to unite one's suffering with His own. In Anointing of the Sick, a priest prays and anoints the person with blessed oil, calling down the Holy Spirit for healing of soul, forgiveness of sins, and—if God wills—physical restoration. The sacrament is not only for those at the point of death; it is for anyone in serious need of Christ's healing mercy. The sacrament reminds us that no one suffers alone: Christ is present with His comfort, mercy, and hope. Deacon Denizel leads us this week in our discussion of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. OCIA meets at 6:30 pm on Wednesday nights in St. Clare Hall. Inquirers are welcome to join us at any time. More information about the OCIA program can be obtained by calling the church office or by visiting the church website at www.stfrancismadison.org.



BAPTISM SESSION

A Baptism session is scheduled Sunday, December 14th at 3:30 pm in St. Clare Hall for all parents who want to baptize their child.

Theology on Tap

Young Adults 21 and older are invited to CS'S Restaurant in Jackson on Thursday, December 18th at 7:00 PM for the Theology on Tap Christmas Party.

If you have questions, contact Amelia Rizor 601-949-6931, amelia.rizor@jacksondiocese.org.

Carmelite Gift Shop and Bookstore

2155 Terry Road, Jackson, MS 39204
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Support the Carmelites this season by visiting their beautiful gift shop. They have raisin bread and rum cake for sale too.

Holiday Hours: Open House Weekends & Bake Sale
November 14 to December 23

Monday to Saturday 10 am to 4 pm
· Sunday 11 am to 3 pm

In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust



Lolita Valera

sister of our parishioner Jingle Alimot.
Please keep the family in your prayers.

Let perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10;
Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Monday

Num 24: 2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab; 6 and 7bc,
8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and
23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday

Gen 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17;
Mt 1:1-17

Thursday

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;
Mt 1:18-25

Friday

Jdg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

MASS INTENTIONS



Sat., Dec. 13

5:00 PM **VIGIL MASS**

Mass † Steven Kuntz

Sun., Dec. 14 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

8:00 AM Mass † Mary Frances Winstead

9:10 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Geraldine Salbego

10:30 AM Mass

5:00 PM Mass † Mike Dangelo

Mon., Dec. 15 **WEEKDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 AM Mass † Joseph Miller

Tue., Dec. 16 **WEEKDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 AM Mass † Allyn Brown

8:30 AM Mass - St. Catherine † Richard Rossie

Wed., Dec. 17 **WEEKDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 AM Mass † Joseph Gandolini

8:15 AM Mass - St. Anthony † Ronnie Bednarz

Thurs., Dec. 18 **WEEKDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 AM Mass † Bub & Valerie Williams

8:30 AM Mass St. Catherine † Harry Yoste

5:00 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri., Dec. 19 **WEEKDAY OF ADVENT**

7:00 AM Mass † Mary & Ken Brown

8:30 AM Mass - St. Catherine † David Clement

† Praying for Deceased ♥ Praying for Special Intention



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,
Lee Greco, Liam Nethery, Tristan Nethery, Kelly
Yonko, and Willy Gabriel Cardona.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR HEALING

Parishioners: Rick Mills, Amanda Williams,
Dora Thomas, Ann George, Michael Schenk, Tina Coats,
Kathleen Hood, Elvie Clement, Chris Smith, Terry Grabiak,
Louis Pellegrine, Ethan George, Betty Ravenstein, Leslie Philipp,
Sieger Sims, Tom Miller, Brandy Tucker, Kregg Jones, Pat Rogers,
Shannon Moody, Davis Oltremari, Marilyn Hansen, Chuck Bergin,
Michelle Harrison, Joe Ellis, Barbara Willis, Mary Conner,
Bernard Dreiling, Lucy Hilton, Molly Hoke, Lauren Kalka, and
Elizabeth Winter.



Family: Joseph Edge, Jerry Thomas, Austin Stewart,
Isabella Saab, Robert Smith, Kay Wittenberg, Donna Stanley,
Keely Ramshur, Desiree Savoie, Angela Gaither, Martha Hall,
Marinella Davis, Amy McManus, Dan Nguyen, Rebecca McManus,
Porter Antici, Selema Rookis, Marie Chipley, Troy Plaisance, Rita
Barrau, Robin Ballough, Fred Delahoussay, Hap Post, Nancy Watts,
Wells Heier, Caroline Duckworth, Dr. Sherrill Evans, Raymond Sahut,
Abby George, Ann Porcello, Celia Bustillos, Margaret Barber,
Shirley Burns, Ellen Joiner, Jim Stewart, Chrissy Parks, Willie Crotty,
Dane Taylor, and Paul Bolus.

Friends: Lorene David, Lynn Goodman, Genesis Moore,
Carrie Maniscalco, Lindsay McCollum, Consha Sims, Tommy Chifoln,
Laura Higgins, Ruby Joblin, Travis Griffin, 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, Ethan Parker,
Linda Parish, Fr. Michael O'Brien, and Robert Blount.

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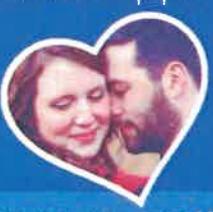
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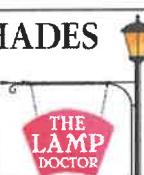
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