



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 21, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Advent



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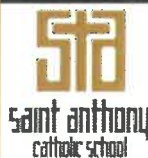


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MASSES:

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, we get a glimpse into the heart of Joseph, the righteous and honorable man chosen to help raise the Son of God. We see his holiness, his desire to respect others, and his obedience to God.

St. Joseph, as a descendent of King David understood that God is with us. Looking at his example, we can also have faith that we will prevail despite any earthly struggle. From family uncertainty to having to flee from his homeland, he trusted God with a steadfastness, and we hope to emulate his example. Faithful and virtuous, his commitment to others came before his own needs.

St. Joseph, patron saint of families, help us to be like you. Help us to be humble, to be at peace within our heart. Teach us that love is above all, sacrificing in order to place other's needs before our own. Show us how to be meek, poor in spirit, a peacemaker - as your beloved Child taught - as this is true richness. Help us to be quiet, to reflect, to listen - not cry out - to be reflective rather than reactive. Create in us a spirit of contentment and soften our heart so that I can make room for our Lord Jesus to have a home.

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2025 December Special Schedule

Tuesday, December 23

3:00 pm Children Choir Rehearsal

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 24-26

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 Obligation

Wednesday, December 31st, 2025 - Vigil - 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 1st, 2026 - 10:30 am



Ring in Your Faith 10K/5K

Join us at St. Francis of Assisi Church at 8 am on New Year's Day for a fun morning of fresh air and fellowship, and enjoy a yummy New Year's Day-themed meal (with a Southern twist) prepared by the Knights of Columbus Council 9543!

Only \$30 for the 10K run, 5K run, or 5K walk. The first 150 registrants are guaranteed an attractive dry-fit shirt. Awards to be given out after all runners and walkers have completed the 10K course (on the beautiful multi-purpose trail) and the 5K course (in the Tidewater neighborhood).

Your support helps our Knights assist Sunnybrook Children's Home, Habitat for Humanity/Metro Capital Area, Canopy Children's home, and priest education.

Register with this QR code, or visit msracetiming.com A fundraiser for KC 9543 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 4000 W. Tidewater Lane Madison, MS stfrancismadison.org
Email race director Joe Lee with questions at jlee@dogwoodpress.com.



Events & Religious Education

Children's Ministry: Sunday School

Christmas Break for Sunday School **Pre-K4 – 6th grade:**
All classes resume on **January 11, 9-10:15 am.**

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

Christmas Break for Life Teen: No Life Night, Edge, or Confirmation sessions until **January 11**. 7th-12th graders, including ALL 10th-12th grade Confirmation candidates will meet, 6-7:45 pm.

Save the Date for helping with our annual **Mexican Fiesta**, Saltillo Mission fundraising dinner on **January 21!**



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



WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

WMD is celebrated with a Mass, followed by a reception to honor all married couples who will be celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th+ years or any significant anniversary. The Mass is celebrated by Bishop Joseph R. Kopacz on **February 7th at 1 pm in St. Peter's Cathedral in Jackson**. Contact Sallie Ann at the parish office 601-856-5556 to register. Deadline January 12, 2026.



Congratulations on the Baptism of

Atlas Elijah Karki

he is the son of Teresa & Sachin

Jackson José Montes Romero

he is the son of Cinthia & José

**In one Spirit all of us are baptized into
one body of Christ. 2 Corinthians 12:13**

2026 Stewardship Campaign

Currently, we have only received 65 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
Collection Basket	\$22,107.63
Children's Offering	\$ 59.50
Online	\$ 5,366.39
Total	\$27,533.52

December: Capital Campaign.

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

December 25: Christmas Offering.

January 1, 2026: Solemnity of Mary Offering.

Please make checks payable to St. Francis of Assisi.



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

At Christmas we celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation: God becoming man in Jesus Christ. The Son of God is born of the Virgin Mary, entering our world to save us from sin and death. More than a single day, Christmas is a season of joy that reminds us God is with us—Emmanuel—inviting us to receive His love and share it with others. OCIA **will not** meet this week. We will resume classes on Wednesday, January 14. 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.

Theology on Tap

Young Adults 21 and older are invited to Blaylock Photography on 117 N. Wheatley, Ridgeland, MS 39157
Tuesday, January 6th at 7 pm for the
Theology on Tap with Dr. Edgar Meyer.
If you have questions, contact Amelia Rizer 601-949-6931.

Carmelite Gift Shop and Bookstore

2155 Terry Road, Jackson, MS 39204
601-373-1460

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

Christ in Christmas



With **gratitude** to our parishioners who purchase gifts and made donations to our Christ in Christmas service project. Gifts were delivered last Wednesday for the 22 families that St. Francis adopted from MadCAAP. May this Christmas be filled with joy and blessings!!!

In your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust

Rita Rose Barrau

mother of our parishioner Gayle Gandolini.

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 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24
Monday	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79
Thursday	The Nativity of the Lord Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Friday	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22
Saturday	Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist 1 Jn 1:14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

MASS INTENTIONS



Sat., Dec. 20	VIGIL MASS
5:00 PM	Mass † Beverly Chaignaud
Sun., Dec. 21	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00 AM	Mass † Jim Griffin
9:10 AM	Mass - St. Catherine † Elizabeth Morrison
10:30 AM	Mass
5:00 PM	Mass † Markus Swing
Mon., Dec. 22	WEEKDAY OF ADVENT
7:00 AM	Mass † Peggy Zarate
Tue., Dec. 23	ST. JOHN OF KANTY
7:00 AM	Mass † Joseph Gandolini
8:30 AM	Mass - St. Catherine † Ava Elizabeth Hill
Wed., Dec. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE
7:00 AM	NO Mass
4:00 PM	Mass
8:00 PM	Mass
Thurs., Dec. 25	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)
7:00 AM	NO Mass
10:30 AM	Mass
NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Fri., Dec. 26	ST. STEPHEN
7:00 AM	Mass † Barbara Hutchisson
8:30 AM	Mass - St. Catherine † Alice Herrington
† 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, Lauren Kalka,
Michelle Harrison, Joe Ellis, Barbara Willis, Mary Conner,
Bernard Dreiling, Lucy Hilton, Molly Hoke, 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,
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.



A very special thanks to all who made donations for the Christmas Flowers and Trees for all to enjoy during our Christmas Season 2025.

IN MEMORY OF...

Jeannie & Harold Early Adcock by their daughter Hannah Adcock
Mina & Frank Carollo by Mr. & Mrs. Terry Addy
Lolita Valera by Mr. & Mrs. Reynaldo Alimot
Deceased members of Bernice & Fritz Anklaam Family by Nancy Anklaam
Cristina Benn, Mr. & Mrs. Miguel Fierro, Maybelle Brolick and George Agnew
by Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Benn
Ruth & Lawrence Bergin and Doris & Brewer Williamson by Mr. & Mrs. Joanne & Chuck Bergin
Patsy & Marion Brown and Laura & Will Booth by Mr. & Mrs. James Brown
R. Keith Butler, Lammel Family and Butler Family by Ms. Hiltrud Butler
Ibrahim Choufani by Dr. & Mrs. Dani Choufani
Barbara J. Clowers, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Konieczny and Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Clowers by Mr. Roy Clowers
Sarah & Nick Ellis, Phillip Ellis, Bobbie & Buck Coats, Peggy & Michael Rhodes and Phyllis Ellis
by Mr. & Mrs. Buck Coats
Marianne Blair by Mr. & Mrs. Matt Colbert
William Henry Jackson, Dorothy Hall Jackson and James Arthur Cooper Sr.
by Mr. & Mrs. James Cooper
Dorothy & William Jackson, Joanne, Rodney & Kevin Jackson, Lula & James Cooper Sr. and Shirley,
Michael Sr. & Michael Jr. Mallett by Ms. Rhonda Cooper
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Crandall and Mr. & Mrs. Everett Bates by Mr. & Mrs. Mike Crandall
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Sitarz, Mr. & Mrs. George Cricenti Sr. and Anna Banana
by Mr. & Mrs. George Cricenti
Mike Dangelo by Mrs. Gerri Dangelo
Ann Louise Marquez and JW Davidson by Mr. & Mrs. Roderick Davidson
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Vermealen and Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Dean by Mr. & Mrs. William Dean
Bill Dickson by Ms. Sue Dickson
Margee & Charles Farris and Carolyn Crossley by Mr. & Mrs. Woody Farris
Philomena & Salvatore Greco and Ruth & Victor McDearman by Mr. & Mrs. Sam Greco
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by Laura & Alan Grissett
Steve Harrison and Willie LeBlanc by Ms. Michele Harrison
Benella Albinder by Ms. Debra Hayes
Alice & Lowell Marsalis and Rita & Vernon Hecht by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Hecht
Alice Herrington by Timothy Herrington
The King Family by Tutti & Allen Herrington
Mr. Cecil Bozeman and Mrs. Mary Laing by Mr. & Mrs. Derek Hlavac
Charlotte & Ken Kokaisel, Adele & Otis Wiggins, Jesse Hornback and Katherine & JJ Erickson
by Mr. & Mrs. John Hornback
Marty Houck Jr and Carol Ann McAllister by Ms. Ann Marie Houck
Sara Elizabeth Ignal, Pat Crotty Palmer and Helen Lee Crotty by Mr. & Mrs. Ken Ignal
Bobbie J. Willey, John L. Willey, Diab M. Jwainat and Mary Alice Colton by Mr. & Mrs. KJ Jwainat
Emmett H. Krause Jr. by Ms. Sheri Krause
Bessie Joy Langston, Mary Louise Johnson, Vivian & Kenneth Johnson and Katie & Carlos Langston
by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Langston

IN MEMORY OF...

Theresa Lie Lin Khui and Francikus Su Lip Sen by Mr. & Mrs. Christianto Lie
Mr. & Mrs. William Lockhart Sr., Mr. & Mrs. R.J. St. Pierre, Ray Beil & Boyd Charles and
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Walker by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lockhart
Bill Heller, Bill Kuriger, Tom Sagar, Chuck Snapka, Paul V. Canonici, Ola Mae Bernard and All the
Faithful Departed by Mary & Chris Manning
Mr. & Mrs. Frank McAllister Sr., Steve McAllister and Mr. & Mrs. F.R. McAllister Sr.
by Mr. Marc McAllister
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Woody McKnight and Lisa Hardester by Ms. Margaret McKnight
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Anna Sang Thi Nguyen, Joseph Tho Van Lang, John Phat Cong Nguyen and Anton Loc Cong Nguyen
by Mr. & Mrs. Thinh Nguyen
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by Ms. Cherry Linda Pahang
Mary Paquette, Ron Parsons and Rob Parsons by Mrs. Joan Parsons
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Betty Poiencot and Frances & Chester Robinson by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Robinson
Chuck Snapka by Ms. Margie Snapka
Juan Manuel Jop-Calixto by Dr. & Mrs. Jorge Vidal
Roger C. Vincent, Helen & Clifton Vincent and Anita & Edmund Anger by Ms. Lynn Vincent
Valerie & Hubert Williams and Barbara Hutchisson by Mr. & Mrs. Wes Williams
Celeste Trantham and Fr. Al Camp by The Staff of St. Francis

IN HONOR OF...

Rose Mary & Frank Collins and Omar González by Terry Collins
Omar González by Mr. & Mrs. Alfredo Reyna
Katherine Grace and Blade Jenkins by Ms. Courtney Terrell
Betty Ann Crotty Giliberto by Mr. & Mrs. Ken Ignal

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF...

Manning & Mosby Families by Mary & Chris Manning

IN THANKSGIVING...

Priests: Fr. Albeen Vatti, Msgr. Elvin Sunds, Msgr. Michael Flannery,
Fr. Frank Cosgrove and all our seminarians by Drs. Kim & Doug Harkins
Knights of Columbus #9543 and Priests: Fr. Albeen Vatti, Fr. Joseph Golamari, Msgr. Elvin Sunds,
Msgr. Michael Flannery, Fr. Frank Cosgrove, and Sister Paula Marie Blouin by Mary & Chris Manning

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF...

Mr. & Mrs. Clement Addo	Mr. & Mrs. Alaundro Conerly	Mr. & Mrs. Andy McCullough
Mr. & Mrs. Arnaldo Ambriz	Ms. Donna Delahoussaye	Mr. & Mrs. Luong Nguyen
Ms. Liz Barber	Ms. Mary Clare Hogan	Mr. & Mrs. John Papale
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