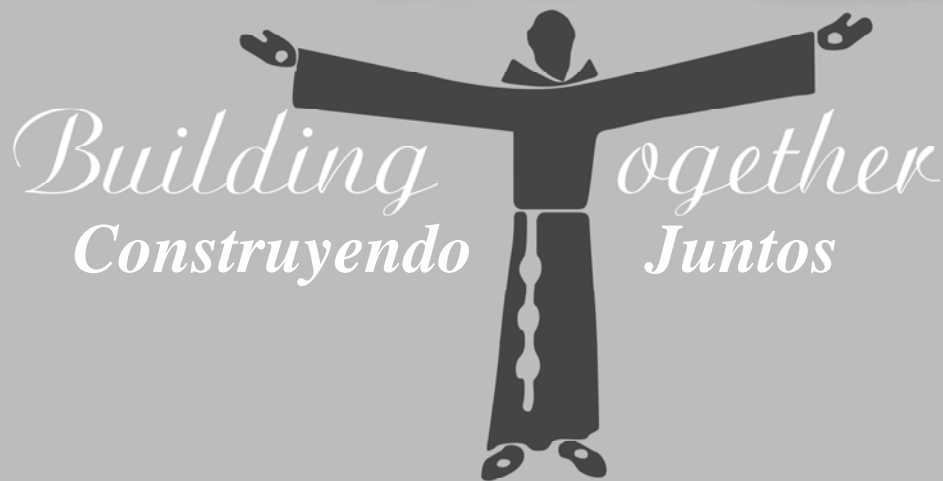


La parroquia de San Francisco de Asís ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH



1st Sunday of Lent
Primer Domingo de Cuaresma
February 18, 2018



Prayer for a New Pastor

Gracious God, you have nourished and protected your Church by providing it with pastors, who are stewards of your word and sacraments. We thank you for the years of Father John's pastoral care. Now we ask you to bless us with a new pastor. Assist our bishop and his advisors to choose a pastor for us, who will always be a loving father, a gentle shepherd, and a wise teacher of your people, so that we may continue to follow your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen!

Mass Times

Tuesday / Martes: 7:30 a.m. St. Nicholas
Wednesday / Miércoles: 5:30 p.m. St. Joseph
Thursday / Jueves:
7:30 a.m. Mary, Help of Christians
Friday / Viernes: 7:30 a.m. St. Nicholas
Saturday / Sábado: 4:30 p.m. St. Nicholas
Sunday / Domingo:
7:00 a.m. Mary, Help of Christians
9:00 a.m. St. Joseph
11:00 a.m. (Spanish/Español) St. Joseph

Office Hours

St. Joseph (Central Ofc) Monday 8:00—4:00 Tuesday 8:00-4:00 Wednesday 8:00—5:00 Thursday 8:00—4:00 Friday 8:00—4:00	Mary, Help of Christians Monday —Closed Tuesday 9:00-12:00 Wednesday 9:00-5:00 Thursday 9:00-12:00 Friday—Closed	St. Nicholas Monday —Closed Tuesday 9:00-12:00 Wed. 9:00-12:00 Thursday—9:00-12:00 Friday—Closed
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Reconciliation is celebrated 30 minutes before Mass Wednesday thru Saturday.

St. Joseph (Central Office) P.O. Box 684 Dale, IN 47523-0684 Phone 937-2200 email: stjosedale@evdio.org	Mary, Help of Christians 6827 E. CR 1930 N Dale, IN 47523 Phone 937-4326 email: maryhelp@evdio.org	St. Nicholas P.O. Box 351 Santa Claus IN 47579-0351 Phone 937-2385 email: stnick@evdio.org
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WEBSITE www.catholicnorthspencer.org

Please feel free to contact our offices with any questions or concerns.

Administrator: Fr. Raymond Brenner—rbrenner@evdio.org
Deacon: Jim Woebkenberg—jwoebkenberg@evdio.org
Deacon: Tim Cox—812-454-1369
Pastoral Assistant: Juan Ramirez—jramirez@evdio.org
Central Office Mgr. at SJ: Devin Carpenter—stjoedale@evdio.org
Office Mgr. at MHC: Deacon Jim—maryhelp@evdio.org

Faith Formation: Michelle Fischer—mfischer@evdio.org
Office Assistant: Nora Weber—nweber@evdio.org
DRE: Michelle Fischer—mfischer@evdio.org
CRE at MHC: Marilyn Satkamp—msatkamp@evdio.org
Music Director: Cisco Lloveras—clloveras@evdio.org
Admin. Assistant: Leigh A. Wahl—stnicholas@evdio.org

Welcome to our Parish!

We want to extend our hearts to you and your family. If you would like to join our parish, or if someone is ill, in the hospital, homebound or if you have any other concerns, please drop the information into the collection basket at church, phone one of the offices or stop by one of the offices so that we can minister to you as a Christian Parish Family. May the peace of Jesus be with you!

Peace Be to You!

Ever since the unveiling of Father John's transfer to St. Boniface in Evansville, the pace of life has quickened manifold for me and perhaps you, too. One rarely realizes the full extent of the work a co-worker does until their absence. It was the week after he left I realized that the staff cannot possibly do all the things he has done. I realized that our parish will be tested this Lenten season and beyond. The whole parish will be needed in caring for the sick and dying, the upcoming capital campaign, the needed buildings and grounds repairs, spiritual formation this Lenten Season, and preparation for Easter and beyond. The gospel this Sunday is very short with the Spirit driving Jesus into the desert for forty days. We, too, have been driven by the Spirit into the desert without a pastor. In the desert angels ministered to Jesus. Here each of us must be angels of mercy tending to all the needs of our parish community. Your parish staff cannot do all the work Father John has done for you. More than ever, we need your help!

Perhaps you have heard that Father Ray Brenner has been appointed our administrator. He is the pastor at St. Joseph in Jasper. He will not be our pastor. He will oversee the general operations of the parish. Presently he is nursing a broken shoulder. How much will we see him is questionable. He will be in touch with Devin our business manager and he may attend parish council or finance meetings as they come up. He will only oversee our pastoral needs. However, you will see a great deal of Father Ralph Schipp, Father John Schipp, and Father Pius Klein these next two months. They will cover the weekday and weekend masses. I am so grateful Father John had all this done before he left.

If there are pastoral needs of an urgent nature please call the parish office. Juan Ramirez and I will cover all the needs that arise. After hours you may call my phone (812-631-8778) or Juan's phone (773-817-4193). If a priest is needed, we will find one to help you.

The capital campaign will begin shortly in March. We do not have enough ambassadors yet. Sometime in March you will receive a letter asking for you to prayerfully consider making a pledge. In each of those pledge letters will

be a suggested pledge amount. The letters are specific for each family and each suggested pledge will be different. The suggested pledge is based upon your annual tithing. No one will know what your suggested pledge will be. What you do pledge will be between you and God. The ambassadors are needed to answer any questions you might have and collect your sealed pledge. They are not to solicit money. That is between you and God. Each family and the ambassadors hold the key to the success of the campaign. Please contact the parish office if you can do this. Training specific for the ambassadors will be February 22 at St. Isidore's Parish in Celestine and on February 27 at Christ the King's Parish in Ferdinand.

The large window replacement at St. Nicholas Church is proceeding. A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas on March 3rd after the 4:30 Mass in the lower level. Members of the parish council and buildings and grounds commission will be there. We are also trying to have someone from "Renewal by Anderson," the company chosen to replace the window, to answer any questions you might have. Please attend this important meeting if you have any concerns or questions.

Lent is a time for spiritual growth, almsgiving, and prayer. Dr. Kimberly Baker is going to lead our Lenten Parish Mission. She has chosen the theme, "Transforming Love." What an appropriate topic for Lent. I think you will like her. She was one of three professors that guided me to complete my masters at St. Meinrad. Almsgiving is also a part of our Lenten practices and each Sunday a second collection will be taken for almsgiving. Later in another bulletin, I will explain further each place we sent our almsgiving to. The other Lenten practice is prayer. I put a prayer in the bulletin praying for a new pastor. Can you pray that prayer everyday this Lenten season and beyond if necessary? Pray for a new pastor who will be a loving father, a gentle shepherd, and a wise teacher.

Peace be with you.



This Week

Saturday, February 17

- Saturday Morning Prayer Group @ MHC 9am

Sunday, February 18

- Confirmation Session #1 Conf. Rm @ SJ 10am
- Encounter SN LL 6:00pm
- Lenten Parish Mission @ SN 6pm

Monday, February 19

- Lenten Parish Mission @ SN 6pm

Tuesday, February 20

- Chanted Morning Prayer @ SN @ 7:15am
- ESL Classes @ SJ 5:30pm
- Lenten Parish Mission @ SN 6pm

Wednesday, February 21

- SFA Music Rehearsal 6:15pm

Thursday, February 22

- ESL Class at SJ @ 5:30pm
- SFOA Community Table at Dale Presbyterian Church @ 3:30pm
- CRHP Team Meeting @MHC 6pm
- Campaign Ambassador Training at St Isidore PC in Celestine @ 6:00PM ET

Friday, February 23

- Chanted Morning Prayer @ SN @ 7:15am
- Stations of the Cross, Lenten Dinner @ SJ 4:30pm
- Hispanic Choir rehearsal at SJ @ 6pm

Saturday, February 24

- Have a nice weekend!

Sunday, February 25

- Confirmation Session # 2 Conf. Rm @ SJ 10:00am
- Encounter @ SN - LL 6:30pm

Let us Pray for our parish families who have lost loved ones. That in their time of sadness, may our support and prayers bring them some comfort.

*Family of Morina Schaefer
Especially her daughter, LaVerne Gogel.*

*Family of Gloria Goffinet,
Especially her granddaughter, Sonya Disinger.*

Names in the "Pray for" box will be listed in four bulletins. If you would like your name added again, please call the office.



Pat Sallman, Margaret Bradley, Janet Dilger,

Edna Meunier, Trisha Martin, Carmen

Lloveras, John Elliott, Becky Ferrell


**white-collar
workers needed.**

VOCATIONS PRAYER CALENDAR

**Pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood.
Pray for the priests and seminarians of the day listed**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered from the flood (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:12-15).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mt 25:31-46

[Fr. Eric Gehlhausen](#), [Bishop Gettelfinger](#)

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

[Fr Anthony Govind](#), [Fr Jason Gries](#)

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

[Mr Kevin Hart](#), [Mr Luke Hassler](#)

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

[Mr Paul Hayden](#), [Fr Eugene Heerdink](#)

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

[Fr Kenneth Herr](#), [Fr Ryan Hilderbrand](#)

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
Mt 5:43-48

[Fr Gary Kaiser](#), [Fr Joseph Kane](#)

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10,
15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

[Fr Thomas Kessler](#), [Fr Leo Kiesel](#)

[St. John Vianney](#), Patron Saint of Priest, bless these men with the strength and wisdom to follow God's will.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election;
Rite of Calling the Candidates to
Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending

Monday: Presidents' Day; Julian Calendar Lent

Wednesday: St. Peter Damian

Thursday: Chair of St. Peter the Apostle;
Washington's Birthday

Friday: St. Polycarp; Abstinence

Minister Schedule

St. Nicholas — Saturday, February 24—4:30 p.m.

GR Bob & Laverne Grundhoefer
 SE Owen & Avery Vinson, Richard Kempa
 LE Mary Sue Johnson, Melissa Ward
 CL Ashlee Vinson
 US Bill Bunner, Eugene Peters
 GB Vinson Family
 EM Jackie Bunner, Lee Ringeman, John & Stella Bennett, Lori Tischendorf, **Volunteers**
 Sacristan Stella Bennett

Mary, Help of Christians — Sunday, February 25— 7:00 a.m.

GR Kenny & Louanna Wessel
 SE Carter & Pierce Lashley, Dawson & Dylan Begle
 LE Grant Lashley, Christine Schlachter
 CL Marilyn Satkamp
 US Joyce & Lee Philipps, Chuck & Rose Pund
 GB John Becher Family
 EM Joanne Lehr, Christine Schlachter, Dan & Kim Waninger, **2 Volunteers**
 Rosary Leader Marilyn Satkamp

St. Joseph — Sunday, February 25— 9:00 a.m.

GR Jeanne Daunhauer, Tanya Eger, Carol Griepenstroh, **1 Volunteer**
 SE Brooklyn Gonzales, Grace Mix, Max Etienne, **1 Volunteer**
 LE Brian Gehlhausen, Pam Moesner
 CL Sherry Etienne
 US Joe Gonzales, John Payne, Mark Schaefer, Ron Schaefer, **2 Volunteers**
 EM Mary Lou Gonzales, Jack Troth, Diana & Steve Clark, Beverly Turnock, Brittany Druen, **2 Volunteers**
 Sacristan Kim Balbach

Stewardship of Treasure February 4th

Sunday Envelopes	\$10,238.00
Loose Cash/Checks	\$ 402.00
Children's Basket	\$ 39.00
Total	\$ 10,679.00

Number of Envelopes Used: 177 (out of 380)

Budget amount needed \$10,000.00

YTD Actuals: \$302,403.70

YTD Budget: \$320,000.00 (32 Sundays)

YTD Net: (\$17,596.30)

Building & Grounds	\$125.00
St. Vincent De Paul	\$50.00
NSCAC	\$190.00
Diocesan Charities	\$25.00
St. Pierre	\$70.00
Easter Flowers	\$30.00

Total Deposit \$11,169.00

2017- Mass Attendance - 2018

194 Feb 4	Sat—Feb 3—4:30pm	189
171 Feb 5	Sun—Feb 4—7:00am	131
232 Feb 5	Sun—Feb 4—9am	178
130 Feb 5	Sun—Feb 4—11:00am	85

CATHOLIC PARISHES CAMPAIGN

Total pledged to date: \$134,091.40

Parish Goal: \$132,428

Cards mailed out: 674

Cards returned: 467 (69%)

[Please return your pledge card.](#)

There are many Masses without Mass intentions. If you would like a Mass offered for a deceased loved one or special need, please call the SJ office.

Mass Intentions

Sat,	Feb 17, 4:30pm (SN)	Donna Scherle
Sun,	Feb 18, 7:00am (MHC)	Kathryn Meyer
Sun,	Feb 18, 9:00am (SJ)	Bernice Litkenhus
Sun,	Feb 18, 11:00am (SJ)	St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Tues,	Feb 20, 7:30am (SN)	St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Wed,	Feb 21, 5:30pm (SJ)	St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Thur,	Feb 22, 7:30am (MHC)	Edward Oser
Fri,	Feb 23, 7:30am (SN)	Dick Clark, Rick Thorp
Sat,	Feb 24, 4:30pm (SN)	Willard Dauby
Sun,	Feb 25, 7:00am (MHC)	Earl "Joe" Meyer
Sun,	Feb 25, 9:00am (SJ)	Cletus Rexing
Sun,	Feb 25, 11:00am (SJ)	St. Francis of Assisi Parish

STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN Ambassador Training

There are four opportunities to attend the ambassador training.

- Thurs. Feb. 22 at St. Isidore Parish Hall, Celestine, 6:00PM ET
- Tues. Feb. 27 at Christ the King Parish Center, Ferdinand, 6:00PM ET
- Tues. March 6 at Diocese Catholic Center, Evansville, 6:00PM CT
- Wed. March 7 at St Francis Xavier Parish Center, Vincennes, 7:00PM ET

Community News

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Mission: *Transforming Love*
Sunday, February 18-Tuesday, February 20
6:00 pm at St. Nicholas Church

Stations of the Cross & Lenten Dinners

Every Friday during Lent, we will offer the Stations of the Cross at the site where the Lenten Dinners are served. We invite you to participate in Lenten exercise then patronize the Lenten Dinners within our community.

The sites are listed as follows beginning @

4:30pm:

- ✦ February 23rd @ SJ
- ✦ March 2nd @ MHC
- ✦ March 9th @ SN
- ✦ March 16th @ SJ
- ✦ March 23rd @ MHC

Anniversary Couples – We are very sorry we missed you on the bulletin insert last week. Congratulations!

- Ralph & Kathleen Bettag 59 Years
- David & Rosie Peters 52 Years
- Brent & Abby Wessel 5 Years
- Tom & Mary Zuzzio 50 Years



AMERICAN RED CROSS – HELP SAVE LIVES! *Please come out and help give a gift of life and donate blood. You can pre-register now by registering online redcrossblood.org. The next blood drive is at SN LL, March 18th. 8am-12pm.*

BEGIN TO HOPE AGAIN - A SPECIAL WORD TO THOSE WHO HAVE HAD AN ABORTION... “Do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope...If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.” ~Saint John Paul II, The Gospel of Life
HEALING RETREATS • MARCH 9 - MARCH 11, 2018 • CONFIDENTIAL HELP AFTER ABORTION: (317) 452-0054 CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION. ALL INQUIRIES ARE CONFIDENTIAL. SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF HUMAN LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS. www.HopeAfterAbortion.com projectrachel@archindy.org

UPCOMING WOMEN AND MEN CRHP RETREATS

We will begin the women’s retreat on Saturday, March 10th and end on Sunday, March 11th. The men’s weekend will be the next week, March 17th and 18th. Both weekends will be at Mary, Help of Christians Parish Center. May you take the time to pray about these retreats and consider making a weekend.

Lenten Men’s Retreat - Be a man like Saint Joseph, Guardian Angel of the Redeemer. Hosted by St. Meinrad Seminary & School of Theology; sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council: #15058

Talks to **Inspire**, Mass & Time to **Pray**, Service Opportunity to **Give Back!**


- ✦ February 24th
- ✦ 8:30am—4pm
- ✦ No Cost!
- ✦ Lunch Provided

To register contact: Deacon Dan Gilbert, (812) 357-6986, dgilbert@saintmeinrad.edu

PATRIOTIC ROSARY at Holy Family Church on Sunday, March 4th at 7pm. Join us as we pray a beautiful Rosary for our country with prayers from our founding fathers, and patriotic songs sung between decades of the Rosary. God Bless, Diane, daverkamp@evdio.org

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL Healing Mass - “Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” A Healing Mass will be celebrated on April 29th at Holy Family Catholic Church, Jasper, IN. Praise & Worship 3:30 P.M., Mass 4:00 E.S.T., 2:30-3:00. C.S.T. Celebrant. Fr. John Judie. For info call John Bennett 812-544-2239, or visit the Charismatic Renewal Website www.evansvillecharismaticrenewal.org.

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•  Have you registered for

• our parish electronic mes

• saging system called

• **FLOCKNOTE?** This is the

• best way to get updates about what is hap-

• pening in the parish. For more information to

• sign up contact Devin in the central office at

• 937-2200 or email stjoedale@evdio.org.

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First Sunday of Lent

Today we begin the season of Lent. Like Advent, it is a season of preparation. During Advent, we prepared for a joyous celebration of the birth of Jesus. During Lent we prepare for our celebration of renewal in Holy Week when we recall Jesus' agonizing, lonely death and unexpected (to his disciples) resurrection. The reading from Genesis today reminds us of what it is like to lose almost everything and then to have it restored to us. Peter takes the flood that destroyed the earth and its creatures and transforms it into the baptism by water that saves each one of us. Mark tells us that even Jesus was given forty days to prepare, not in a flood but in a desert, for what was to be asked of him. So we begin this Sunday by being reminded of the importance of preparation and that it takes many forms. Whatever form our preparation takes, we must begin.

DRIVEN BY THE FLOOD INTO THE DESERT

The readings today begin with God's promise to Noah after the destruction of everything by rushing, flooding waters. That water is transformed into the life-giving water of our baptism. We expect, as we start this season of Lent, to be reminded of being stripped by the flood of everything; of being in the desert, with nothing, and tempted. What we may not expect is to be reminded of the abundance and extravagance of God's love and kindness, God's compassion and guidance. After the flood, the earth and its creatures are restored. After the desert, Jesus is ministered to and restored to life with a new understanding of what is essential. Jesus preaches that this is the time and the kingdom of God is at hand.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

We begin Lent with stark contrasts between life and death, good and evil, water and desert. God's response is equally strong. God's covenant is with everyone and everything. Nothing is outside the reach of God's love. God's covenant is limitless. We set out on our own journey of preparation today but we are not alone. However we choose to use this time to prepare ourselves for the death and resurrection that is to come, we are accompanied by the same Spirit that compelled Noah to build the Ark to preserve life on earth. We are accompanied by the same Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert to face temptation. It is that Spirit that makes our journey through Lent possible. Who could face such floods of temptation alone? No one, not even Jesus, as we will hear during Holy Week, faces death alone.

Today's Readings: Gn 9:8–15; Ps 25:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 1 Pt 3:18–22; Mk 1:12–15 Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Primer Domingo de Cuaresma

LLEVADOS POR EL DILUVIO AL DESIERTO

Las lecturas de hoy comienzan con la promesa de Dios a Noé después de la destrucción de todo por las caudalosas aguas del diluvio. Esa agua es transformada en el agua vivificante de nuestro bautismo. Esperamos, al comienzo de este Tiempo de Cuaresma, se nos recuerde que el diluvio nos ha despojado de todo, de estar en el desierto con nada y ser tentados. Lo que no podemos esperar que se nos recuerde de la abundancia y extravagancia del amor, bondad, compasión y guía de Dios. Después del diluvio, la tierra y todas sus criaturas fueron restauradas. Cuando Jesús termina su tiempo en el desierto, él es servido y restaurado a la vida con un nuevo entendimiento de lo que es esencial. Jesús predica que este es el tiempo y el Reino de Dios está aquí.

NO ESTAMOS SOLOS

Empezamos la Cuaresma con fuertes contrastes entre la vida y la muerte, el bien y el mal, el agua y el desierto. La respuesta de Dios es igualmente fuerte. La alianza de Dios es con cada uno y con todo. Nada está fuera del alcance del amor de Dios. La alianza de Dios no tiene límites. Hoy empezamos nuestro camino de preparación, pero no estamos solos. Sin embargo, elegimos usar este tiempo para prepararnos para la muerte y resurrección que están por venir, estamos acompañados por el mismo Espíritu que lo forzó a Noé a construir el Arca para preservar la vida en la Tierra. Estamos acompañados por el mismo Espíritu que llevó a Jesús al desierto para enfrentar la tentación. Es ese Espíritu que hace posible nuestro camino por la Cuaresma. ¿Quién podría enfrentar solo ese diluvio de tentación? Nadie, ni siquiera Jesús, así como escucharemos durante la Semana Santa, enfrenta solo la muerte.

Lecturas de hoy: Gn 9:8–15; Sal 25 (24):4–5, 6–7, 8–9; 1 Pe 3:18–22; Mc 1:12–15

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Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Youth

Upcoming



Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendar:

Sunday June 24th through Thursday June 29th!

Splash Canyon Adventure!



Confirmation



Feb 18th Session #1 SJ conference room
Feb 25th Session #2 SJ conference room
March 4th Rite of Commitment Mass
9am St. Joseph



FAITH FORMATION

Class schedule for February 21st & 28th

Congratulations to Eve Gehlhausen and Brianna Rahman who are the 2018 recipients from St. Francis of Assisi to receive the St. Maria Goretti Youth Distinction Award!



God has given us our gifts and talents. God has given us a community to share them with. Let us walk with each other, working together as we build up the kingdom of God. Here, at St. Francis of Assisi, and let us not put it off until tomorrow, rather, let us do it today!



Encounter

There are many ways to serve Christ in the Church!

Consider being a part of our Faith Formation Team!

For more information please contact Michelle at mfischer@evdio.org or 812.937.2200

February Schedule: 21, 25
Encounter is on Sundays from 6:30-8pm
In the lower level of Saint Nicholas High School Youth ALWAYS welcome!

**First Reconciliation (New Date)
March 22nd 6:15pm St. Joseph Church**



St Francis of Assisi Parish
123700

Main Contact: Devin Carpenter
Phone Number: 812-937-2200

Special Instructions
475 Copies needed by Thursday

God Bless!