



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

15 Glennwood Drive
Rocky Mount, VA 24151
Pastoral Emergency: (202) 489-3607
Office Telephone: (540) 483-9591
Website: www.francis-of-assisi.org
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

December 16-17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

Pastor

Fr. Mark White—moreheheard@gmail.com

Assistant to the Pastor

Kayla Acosta—churchsecretary556@gmail.com

Bookkeeper

Pat Prillaman—bookkeeper24151@comcast.net

Music & Liturgy Coordinator

Ginny Coffman—gcharpist@gmail.com

Religious Education

Linda Siler, Coordinator—crefoa@gmail.com
RE Classes: Sundays 9:00 am Sept.-May
RE Office Hours: Sat. 12:00-4:00 pm, Sun. 8:00-11:00 am

RCIA

English: David & Susan King—kongking20832@yahoo.com
Español: Laura Hernandez—540-278-9274

Baptism Preparation

English: Linda Siler—crefoa@gmail.com
Español—Elizabeth Ramirez (540-420-1077)
Emma Arellano (714-328-5635)

Pastoral Council: Lynore Arrington, Gilberto Ayala, Gloria Clift, Albert Galvan (co-chair), Martha Graf, David King, Manuel Ortiz, Dan Shanahan (co-chair), Jack Shanahan (youth).

Finance Council: Donna Allgauer, Mary Lou Denis, Brenda Maus, John McKenna, Cindy Turpin

Marriage Preparation

English: Fr. Mark White—moreheheard@gmail.com
Español: Cristino Cortes & Carolina Velasco (276-734-5430)

New Evangelization

Maureen Shanahan, Coordinator—mshanahanot@gmail.com

Website/Facebook Group/Parish IT

Pat Siler—silerpugs@yahoo.com

Parish Registration—Contact the Parish Office

Parish Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/112238392199573/>

Knights of Columbus Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/kofcrockymountva/>

Youth Group Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/168563686553669/>

Please contact the parish office of anyone you know is ill and would like communion or anointing of the sick.

If there is a death in your family or in the parish family, please contact the parish office or pastoral emergency Contact number as soon as possible. We want to be of service.

Liturgies and Events

Dec 16	Sat	4:30 pm	Mass-Third Sunday of Advent
		5:30 pm	Posada
Dec 17	Sun	8:00 am	Mass-Third Sunday of Advent
		9:00 am	Religious Education
		5:00 pm	Posada
Dec 18-21	Mon - Thu	9:00 am	Morning Prayer/Rosary
		6:30 pm	Posada (<i>schedule is for all four nights</i>)
Dec 19	Tue	9:00 am	Morning Prayer/Rosary
		7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Dec 20	Wed	9:00 am	Morning Prayer/Rosary
Dec 22	Fri	7:00 pm	Posada
Dec 23	Sat	4:30 pm	Mass-Fourth Sunday of Advent
		5:30 pm	Posada
Dec 24	Sun	8:00 am	Mass-Fourth Sunday of Advent
			NO Religious Education
		5:00 pm	Mass at St. Joseph's (English)
		6:00 pm	Posada
		11:00 pm	Mass at St. Francis- (English)
Dec 25	Mon	9:00 am	Mass- Christmas at St. Francis- (Bilingual)
		11:15 am	Mass-Christmas at St. Joseph's (Bilingual)
Dec 26, Dec 27	Tue, Wed	NO	Morning Prayer/Rosary
Dec 30	Sat	4:30 pm	Mass-Feast of the Holy Family
Dec 31	Sun	8:00 am	Mass-Feast of the Holy Family
		NO	Religious Education

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard in English or Spanish on Thursday and Friday at 11:30am or on Saturday at 3:45pm. An appointment is necessary for any other time.

Readings, December 23-24, 2017 Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading..... 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
 Second Reading Romans 16:25-27
 Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Ministries, December 23-24 2017

	4:30 pm	8:00 am
Lectors:	N. Goehring L. Siler	N. Shanahan E. Ayles
Ushers:	R. Long C. Gaubatz	J. Dansby B. Fandel
Greeters:	B. Meyer	V. Cruz N. Vasquez
Linens:	L. Arrington	

St. Francis of Assisi Altar Servers

Altar server Coordinator: Jack Shanahan

Captains: Andrew Long, Mickey Shanahan, Christian Escobar, Zach Harpin.

Servers: Eduardo Escobar, Jose & Omar Lozano, Tommy Nguyen, Tony Nguyen, Jonathan Castaneda, Paul Garcia, Eduardo Cruz, Arturo Garcia, Allen Castaneda, Venesa Tamona, Alex & Josh Harpin.

Mass Intentions

Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 12:00 pm
 For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.

Friday, December 22, 2017 at 12:00 pm
 For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.

Saturday, December 23, 2017 at 4:30 pm
 For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.

Sunday, December 24, 2017 at 8:00 am
 For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Faithful Departed

Ozell Ayers	Timothy Wade
Paul Eames	Bobby Young
Raymond Kloos	Frank Young
Helen Scarfe	

In Need of Prayer

Catie Altice	Bernie Galvin
Jeanne Banks	Bud & Nancy Goehring
Tom Boyle	Josephine Graf
Tom Ciappa	Dolly LeMond
Jack & Peg Calamo	Joanne Patterson
Albert Galvan	Janet Vadase & Family

Home Bound

Jeanne Banks	Dolly LeMond (hospital)
Terry Coates (Home)	Ann Syminink (Home)
Leigh Doninger (Red Oak Manor)	Dorothy Weiss (Home)

US Military

Lt. Col. Timothy Carey	Joseph Lyons
Noah Davis	James Manning
Brennan Dopp	Capt. Raine Maus
Brandon Furrow	Jason Presley
John J. Griffio III	Francheska J. Remmert



Third Sunday of Advent

Third Sunday of Advent: This passage from John is a more descriptive account of John's identity as he precursor of Jesus the Messiah. Although the focus of the question, "Who are you?" is on John, he makes it clear that he is not the one the Jewish people

have been waiting for. John regards himself as a messenger, a herald of great news; his mission is to prepare the people for the coming of the Light that would transform their lives.

Advent Vespers & Talks: Mark your calendars for **Advent Sunday Vespers**. We will study John 3 in detail. This Sunday, December 17 is the final day, at 4:30 pm at St. Joseph's in Martinsville.

Nativity Scene: We are looking for some strong men and women to help put up our Nativity in the Commons on Sunday. We have to move statues from Rectory to Church, unpack and set up the scene. If you can spare an hour after Mass it would be greatly appreciated. See John Allgauer for more info.

Virginia State Flag: The VA State Flag, flagpole & stand are missing from the Social Hall. If you know where it is please return it. Thank you.

Adult Faith Formation Class: NOTE DATE CHANGE
The initial class for adult faith formation will meet on Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30 PM in the parish lobby. This initial class will involve a brief orientation session followed by a video presentation on St. Francis of Assisi from the multi-part series Catholic Pivotal Players hosted by Bishop Barron. The subsequent class will meet based on the discretion of the participants. Recommended readings and an associated workbook will not be used at the initial meeting but may be purchased if interested at pivotalplayers.wordonfire.org. For any questions or concerns, please contact Tony Patriarco at 540-365-2899 or at apatriarco@centurylink.net.

There will be NO Religious Education classes Sunday, December 24 or Sunday, December 31 due to the holidays.

Christmas Masses:

Sunday, December 24: Mass at 5:00 pm at St. Joseph's
Sunday, December 24: Mass at 11:00 pm at St. Francis
Monday, December 25: Mass at 9:00 am at St. Francis
Monday, December 25: Mass at 11:15am at St. Joseph's

Pope Francis Appoints New Bishop for Richmond Diocese

RICHMOND, Va. - With great joy, the Diocese of Richmond announces the Holy Father, Pope Francis, appointed the Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, as the thirteenth bishop of Richmond. The Mass of Installation will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Jan. 12, 2018, at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond.

Prayer Intentions: Submit prayer requests at the youth table after masses for the youth to include in their Thursday evening prayers.

Ticket Lottery for Jan. 12 Bishop Installation Mass

Parishioners, students and educators hoping to participate in the joy and excitement of the Jan. 12 Mass of Installation for the Catholic Diocese of Richmond's new Bishop Barry C. Knestout now have a chance to secure admission to the special Mass by entering a lottery. Seating for the 2 p.m. event at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart will be extremely limited so the faithful are encouraged to enter the drawing for admission tickets by completing the online form at: <http://richmonddiocese.org/installation-mass-details/>

The last day to enter the drawing is Friday, December 29, 2017. The drawing will be held in early January with two tickets awarded to each selected registrant. Those selected will have 48 hours to respond before the tickets are released to alternates. Tickets are not transferrable and may not be sold. Questions? Contact newbish-op@richmonddiocese.org or (804) 622-5294.

Morning prayer held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings will recess from Dec 24 through Jan 1. Morning Prayer will resume on Tuesday, January 2.

Please consider sponsoring one of our youth for either the March for Life (\$50) in January or the Diocesan Youth Conference (\$170) in February. Any gift is welcome, but the gift of one full registration fee would ensure that one youth who cannot afford the fee can attend and benefit from these important faith-building events. See Bernadette Harmon at either mass this coming weekend. Registration fees are due at the diocese by Dec 17th. However, she will be able to add later donations towards the registration fees.

The sacramental display case is open for business. There are sheets of paper on the display case where you can write down what you would like to purchase and when you will be at mass to pick up the items. If there is something you need that is not available, please note it on the request sheet. Drop the request sheet into the envelope attached to the back of the display case. We will be ordering crucifixes and scapulars but they may not be available until after Christmas.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth group will have their last Advent meeting to complete the prayers of the Rosary for the intentions of the parish on Thursday, Dec 21. The next youth meeting will be January 11th.

Registrations and fees for the March for Life are due no later than Sunday, Dec 17th. Mrs. Harmon will be at both weekend masses to collect registrations and fees and to assist any youth who need help with registration or finances.

Registrations and fees for the youth conference are due Sunday, Dec 17th to get the discounted rate of \$145 (+\$25 for the bus fee). After Dec 17, the registration increases to \$195 (plus the bus fee). Mrs. Harmon will be at both weekend masses to collect registrations and fees and to assist any youth who need help with registration or finances.

Sacrificial Giving

Weekly Budget Goal	\$3,500
Dec. 9-10, 2017	\$2,455
Weekly shortfall	\$1,045



Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. ~ Deuteronomy 15:10

Local and Regional News

TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Advent and Christmas? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joyful hope in our Savior, who came to share life with us. CHRISTMAS TV MASS WUPV (CW) channel 65 at 6:30 p.m. on December 24. SUNDAY TV MASS WUPV (CW) channel 65 at 7:30 a.m. WTVZ (MyTVZ) channel 33 at 7:00 a.m. Or online at: www.HeartoftheNation.org

For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday or Christmas Mass obligation.

Job Opportunities:

Roanoke Catholic School invites qualified and licensed school counselors to apply for an immediate opening in our regional PK-12 Catholic school within the Catholic Diocese of Richmond. Qualified candidates will possess a Virginia Department of Education license in Guidance K-12 and may have additional endorsements on their active license.

A job description is available.

All resumes and letters of interest should be directed to ppatterson@roanokecatholic.com or mailed to: Director of Guidance and School Counseling Search Committee Patrick W. Patterson, Principal and Head of School Roanoke Catholic School 621 North Jefferson Street Roanoke, VA 24016

Roanoke Catholic School is accepting applications for a part time **Head Coach for Girls Middle School Soccer** for this upcoming spring 2018 season. Please contact Matt Peck at 540-293-3791 or mpeck@roanokecatholic.com for more information or to apply for this position.

Roanoke Catholic School is accepting applications for a part time **Varsity Head Wrestling Coach** for the current (2017-2018) school year. Please contact Matt Peck at [540-293-3791](tel:540-293-3791) or mpeck@roanokecatholic.com for more information or to apply for this position.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME): "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; . . ." Let your spirits be augmented by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. The next weekends are: Feb 2-4, 2018 in Clemmons, NC and Mar 2-4, 2018 in Herndon, VA. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/> or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org or 757-690-1369.

ATTENTION...St. Andrew's Diocesan Cemetery Lot/Crypt/Niche Owners!

Beginning January 2018 **ALL** associated Cemetery costs will be going up to be competitive with the other for-profit cemeteries in the Roanoke area.

Also, Opening & Closing (O/C) charges can now be paid before January 2018 giving you peace of mind that your family will not have any additional costs (other than the memorials) to pay at the time of your death, plus your O/C fee will not increase if paid before January. So please, call Mandy Tolano at (540) 595-7173 for more information & to make an appointment for your pre-planning needs. Your family will be grateful and you will have the satisfaction & peace of mind that your final wishes will be honored at our only Catholic cemetery in the Roanoke Valley.

Español

Visperas de Adviento y Charlas: Marque sus calendarios para las Visperas del Domingo de Adviento. Estudiaremos Juan 3 en detalle. La última plática es este domingo, el 17 a las 4:30 de la tarde en St. José en Martinsville.

Formación de fe para Adultos: ANOTE EL CAMBIO DE FECHA La primera clase para la formación de fe para adultos será miércoles el 10 de enero a las 6:30 de la tarde en la sala común. La primera clase incluirá una orientación breve y después una presentación de video sobre San Francisco de Asís presentado por obispo Barron. La siguiente reunión será determinada basado en la preferencia de los participantes. En la primera clase no van a usar los libros recomendados pero si están interesados en tenerlos, los puedes comprar en: pivotalplayers.wordonfire.org.

Si tiene preguntas o preocupaciones, puede comunicarse con Tony Patriarco en 540-365-2899 o por correo electrónico en: apatriarco@centurylink.net.

No habrán clases de la educación religiosa el 24 de diciembre ni el 31 para los días festivos.

Posadas: Diciembre es el mes de las posadas. El horario de las posadas es: 16 a las 5:30 p.m., 17 a las 5 p.m., 18-21 a las 6:30 p.m., 22 a las 7 p.m., 23 a las 5:30 p.m., y 24 a las 6 p.m. El arrollamiento del niño Jesús será después de la posada del 24. Esperamos verlos!

La persona que va a llevar a cabo la posada del 19 de diciembre esta buscando gente que la acompañe. Si puedes ayudar habla con Esther Araiza después de misa.

Papa Francisco Nombra el nuevo Obispo para la Diócesis de Richmond:

RICHMOND, VA— Con mucha alegría la Diócesis de Richmond anuncia que el Sagrado Padre Francisco nombro al mas reverendo, Barry C. Knestout, Obispo auxiliary de la Arquidiócesis de Washington, como el XIII Obispo de Richmond. La misa de instalacion sera celebrada el 12 de enero 2018 a las 2:00 de la tarde en la cathedral del Corazon Sagrado en Richmond, VA.

Grupo de los jóvenes: La última reunión para 2017 será jueves el 21 y vamos a terminar el rosario con las intenciones de la parroquia. La siguiente reunión será el 11 de enero 2018.

Tienen que traer sus registraciones y dinero para La Marcha por La Vida domingo, el 17 de diciembre. Bernadette estará en las dos misas el fin de semana para recibir registraciones y dinero y para asistir a cualquier joven que necesita ayuda con su registración o dinero para La Marcha.

Tienen que tener el dinero para la conferencia de jóvenes domingo el 17 de diciembre para pagar solo \$145 (+\$25 para el costo del autobús). Después del 17 de diciembre, el costo será \$195 (+\$25 para el costo del autobús).