



# 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

## December 2-3, 2017 First Sunday of Advent

Liturgies for the Coming Week:

Thursday, December 7—No Noon Mass

Friday, December 8—12:00 pm—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

Friday, December 8—7:00 pm—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

Saturday December, 9—4:30 pm—Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 10—8:00 am—Second Sunday of Advent

Pastor..... Fr. Mark White .....moreheheard@gmail.com  
 Assistant to Pastor ..... Kayla Acosta..... churchsecretary556@gmail.com  
 Bookkeeper ..... Pat Prillaman..... bookkeeper24151@comcast.net  
 Parish Office Hours..... Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation ..... Sat. 3:45 pm, Thurs. & Fri. 11:30 am, or by Appointment  
 Parish Registration ..... Contact the Parish Office or Register on the Parish Website  
 Music & Liturgy Coordinator ..... Ginny Coffman ..... gcharpist@gmail.com  
 Coordinator of Religious Education..... Linda Siler ..... crefoa@gmail.com  
 Religious Education ..... 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  
 RCIA-Español ..... Laura Hernandez..... 540-278-9274  
 Baptism Preparation-English..... Linda Siler ..... crefoa@gmail.com  
 Baptism Preparation-Español ..... Elizabeth Ramirez (540-420-1077) & Emma Arellano (714-328-5635)  
 Marriage Preparation-English ..... Fr. Mark White ..... moreheheard@gmail.com  
 Marriage Preparation-Español..... Cristino Cortes & Carolina Velasco ..... (276-734-5430)  
 New Evangelization Coordinator ..... Maureen Shanahan..... mshanahanot@gmail.com  
 Website/Facebook Group/Parish IT ..... Pat Siler..... silerpugs@yahoo.com  
 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/

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

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

*Please contact the parish office if anyone you know is ill and would like to receive communion.  
 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 7	Thu	NO 7:00 pm	No Noon Mass Mass-Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Lady at St. Joseph's (English)
Dec 8	Fri	12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Mass- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Lady at St. Francis (both Masses in English)
Dec 9	Sat	4:30pm	Mass- Second Sunday of Advent
Dec 10	Sun	8:00 am	Mass-Second Sunday of Advent
Dec 11	Mon	7:00 pm	Mass-Our Lady of Guadalupe (Spanish)
Dec 12	Tue	7:00 pm	Mass-Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Joseph's (Spanish)
Dec 16	Sat	4:30 pm 5:30 pm	Mass-Third Sunday of Advent Posada
Dec 17	Sun	8:00 am 5:00 pm	Mass-Third Sunday of Advent Posada
Dec 18- 21	Mon- Thu	6:30 pm	Posada ( <i>schedule is for all four nights</i> )
Dec 22	Fri	7:00 pm	Posada
Dec 23	Sat	4:30 pm 5:30 pm	Mass Posada
Dec 24	Sun	8:00 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 11:00 pm	Mass-Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass at St. Joseph's (English) Posada Mass at St. Francis- (English)
Dec 25	Mon	9:00 am 11:15 am	Mass- Christmas at St. Francis- (Bilingual) Mass-Christmas at St. Joseph's- (Bilingual)

### 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 9-10, 2017 Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading..... Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11  
Second Reading..... 2 Peter 3: 8-14  
Gospel ..... Mark 1: 1-8

### Ministries, December 9-10, 2017

	4:30 pm	8:00 am
Lectors:	C. Kern C. Cruz-Ramirez	D. King E. Ayles
Ushers:	B. Schmachtenberg R. Long	J. Dansby B. Fandel
Greeters:	E. Ramirez	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

Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 4:30 pm  
*For Francis and Martha*

Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 8:00 am  
*For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.*

Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 4:30 pm  
*For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.*

Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 8:00 am  
*For the people of St. Francis of Assisi.*

## Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

### Faithful Departed

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

### In Need of Prayer

Catie Altice	Josephine Graf
Penelope Clark	Dolly LeMond
Albert Galvan	Jeanne Banks
Bernie Galvan	Joanne Patterson
Bud & Nancy Goehring	Janet Vadase & Family

### Home Bound

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

### US Military

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



### First Sunday of Advent

**First Sunday of Advent:** Mark's Gospel account sets the tone for our Advent spirituality: "Be watchful! Be alert!" A brief parable about the master and his servants underlines the urgency of

Jesus' message. Just as the servants are to take care of the master's possessions until his return, so too are the Lord's disciples to take care of the gifts entrusted to them by God. Neither the servant nor the disciple knows when the master will return.

**Advent Vespers & Talks:** Mark your calendars for **Advent Sunday Vespers.** We will study John 3 in detail. There are three Sundays left: Dec. 3, 10 & 17, at 4:30 pm at St. Joseph's in Martinsville.

**Adult Faith Formation at St. Francis of Assisi:** In response to those of you who have inquired about adult faith formation classes here at St. Francis of Assisi, we are happy to inform you that this parish will soon initiate a program which will give participants an opportunity to grow in their faith and enrich their sense of community.

The program, known as the Growing In Faith Together (or GIFT) program, will offer a range of classes including traditional bible study. Its function shall be to promote understanding of Church teachings, as well as personal faith growth. The format of classes will involve DVD's on particular subjects with associated readings and group discussions. The initial class will be a multi-part series on a number of Saints and scholars emphasizing how they set an example for us. It is hosted by Bishop Robert Barron. We intend to meet two times a month for a total of 13 sessions on a weeknight to be determined by your feedback. The website for the initial class is:

[www.pivotalplayers.wordonfire.org](http://www.pivotalplayers.wordonfire.org).

If you are interested, please contact Tony Patriarco at 540-365-2899, or at [apatriarco@centurylink.net](mailto:apatriarco@centurylink.net). Any suggestions or help would be welcomed and appreciated!

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Lady:

Thursday, December 7: Mass in English at 7pm at St. Joseph's (No 12pm Mass at St Francis of Assisi)  
Friday, December 8: Mass in English at 12pm and 7pm at St. Francis of Assisi

### Our Lady of Guadalupe:

In celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe there will be a procession starting downstairs at 6:45 pm. The procession will be for 15 minutes and everyone will walk into church to begin Mass. There are sign-up sheets in the Commons if you would like to bring food you can write your name and the dish you will bring to share following Mass.

Monday, December 11: Mass in Spanish at 7pm at St Francis of Assisi

### 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

**St. Joseph's Sunday Missals:** There are a few copies of the 2018 editions available for \$3 if you're interested see Mary McGuire.

**Lectors:** The 2018 Lector workbooks in Spanish in English have arrived. They are with the ministry schedules.

**Bella Sorrentino Blog:** Bella is a parishioner who is on a mission to several countries over nine months. Bella's World Race Gap Year Mission has been made possible by contributions of many parishioners. To date, she has gone to Colombia and Ecuador. Bella has a blog chronicling her mission. <http://bellasorrentino.theworldrace.org>

### YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group is raising funds to help as many 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade youth as possible attend the March for Life in January and the Diocesan Youth Conference in February. Please prayerfully consider how generous you can be to help our youth participate in these powerful and impactful events within our Catholic Community! Stop by the youth table after masses to offer your contribution!

The Youth Group will be offering the prayers of the Rosary for the needs of the parish throughout Advent. Youth will be available after weekend masses to receive your prayer requests. You may make request for yourself or others. Please give only a first name and general intention. The requests will be referenced only during youth prayer. Watch the Rosary grow in the common area as the youth complete each prayer request.

Youth, grades 8 to 12, will be meeting each Thursday during Advent from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the social hall. There will be games and other fun activities each week in addition to the work of praying for the intentions of the parish. We need a parent volunteer to bring snacks for the youth.

**New Website:** The new website is up and running. The

*Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man.*

*-Pope Francis*

## Sacrificial Giving

Weekly Budget Goal .....	\$3,500
Nov. 25-26, 2017 .....	\$2,077.00
2nd Collection for Haiti .....	\$678
Weekly shortfall .....	\$1,423
<b>Total for November .....</b>	<b>\$11,655</b>
<b>Total Shortfall for November .....</b>	<b>\$2,345</b>



*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

**“Festival of Lessons and Carols”:** Roanoke Catholic School invites you to celebrate the start of Advent with a “Festival of Lessons and Carols” on Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Andrew’s Catholic Church, with performances at 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Featuring the RCS Celtic Singers, Band and Drama Club, the service celebrates the start of Advent by telling the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus through nine Scripture readings interspersed with Christmas hymns and anthems. The 6:00 pm service will include prelude music starting at 5:30 pm by RCS lower school grades. Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information, please contact Michael Hemphill, 540-982-3532 or [mhemphill@roanokecatholic.com](mailto:mhemphill@roanokecatholic.com).

The Office of Asian Ministry invites you to join the Filipino Community for a nine-day novena to the Blessed Mother. Simbang Gabi, which means Mass at Dawn, is a journey of spiritual preparation to welcome and receive the Child Jesus. The kick off mass will be Saturday, December 9, 2017, 5:30pm at Church of Redeemer, 8275 Meadowbridge Rd., Mechanicsville. The first day of the novena will be Friday, December 15 at various locations. Visit our website at [www.richmonddiocese.org](http://www.richmonddiocese.org) for a full schedule. Please come out and support our Filipino Brothers and Sisters. For more information please contact Devin Jones, Office of Asian Ministry, [asianministry@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:asianministry@richmonddiocese.org) or (804) 622-5262.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 or [mpeck@roanokecatholic.com](mailto:mpeck@roanokecatholic.com) for more information or to apply for this position.

### 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. Furthermore, beginning in January 2018, the Diocese of Richmond’s new cemetery management service (Catholic Funeral & Catholic Services (CFCS)) will be offering a variety of Pre-Planning Cemetery packages and financing up to 2-3 years at 0% interest.

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. Todavía quedan tres domingos: el 3, 10 y 17 de diciembre, a las 4:30 de la tarde en St. José en Martinsville.

**Proclamadores:** Los manuales para 2018 han llegado. Están con el horario de los ministerios.

### Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción de nuestra Señora:

Jueves el 7 de diciembre: Misa en inglés a las 7 de la tarde en San José (No habrá misa a las 12 de la tarde en San Francisco de Asís)

Viernes el 8 de diciembre: Misa en inglés a las 12 y a las 7 de la tarde en San Francisco de Asís

### Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe:

Si quieren traer comida hay hojas en la sala común donde pueden apuntar su nombre y que plato van a traer para compartir después de Misa. Va haber una procesión empezando abajo a las 6:45 de la tarde. Caminaran por 15 minutos y entraran arriba para iniciar la Misa.

Lunes el 11 de diciembre: Misa en español a las 7 de la tarde en San Francisco de Asís

**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.

**Grupo de los jóvenes:** El grupo de los jóvenes está juntando dinero para ayudar con el costo de la Marcha por la Vida y la conferencia diocesano para jóvenes. Esos eventos son poderosos e impactantes para nuestros jóvenes. Por favor considere con oración que tanto nos puede ayudar y puede hacer su donación en la mesa de los jóvenes después de misa.

El grupo de los jóvenes estará ofreciendo las oraciones del Rosario para las necesidades de la parroquia durante el tiempo de adviento. Jóvenes estarán disponibles después de las misas de los fines de semana para recibir sus pedidos para oraciones. Favor de hacer sus pedidos simples, por ejemplo dando su primer nombre o el nombre de un grupo o familia. Puede dar una petición de necesidad si guste. Cada petición será escrita en una “perla del rosario” hecha de papel y colgaremos las oraciones en la sala común hasta que completemos un rosario.

Jóvenes de los grados 8-12 tendrán una reunión cada jueves durante adviento desde las 6:30 hasta las 8:00 de la tarde en la sala común para juegos y otras actividades divertidas y también para el trabajo de orar para las intenciones de la parroquia. Necesitamos un voluntario para llevar bocadillos para los jóvenes.