CLERGY
Fr. Erin Kochivar, x101, ekochivar@stfranciscs.org
Deacon Jim Bachta, jbachta@diocs.org
Deacon Rick Bauer, rbauer@diocs.org
Deacon Andy Berry, aberry@diocs.org

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday: 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday: 8:30 & *10:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Monday—Friday: 8:30 a.m.
Nursery is available for Sunday morning Masses
*Livestream Mass available from our website.

ADORATION
Thursdays from 5-6pm during Holy Hour (w/ Vespers)
Fridays 9am—3:15pm (Rosary at 9, Chaplet at 2:55pm)

CONFESSION
See website for occasional exceptions
Monday—Friday 7:30—8:15am before daily Mass,
Thursdays 5—6pm during Holy Hour, Saturdays
4:00—4:30pm and by appointment.

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH GROUPS
Includes Sacramental Preparation and Religious Education. For elementary & adult ages contact
Jennifer Lehman, jenniferk@stfranciscs.org, x110.
For middle, high school & young adult ages, Terrie Hernandez at Theresa@sfranciscs.org, x111.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS
Held the third Saturday of the month at 3pm
(except December). Contact the office to sign up.

MARRIAGE
- Couples considering marriage begin preparation 12 months prior to the anticipated date. Contact Deacon Andy, aberry@diocs.org.

FUNERAL & ANNOINTING
- Contact Fr. Erin

MUSIC
- Mark B., x104, mbauman@stfranciscs.org

BUS. MANAGER
- KellyC@stfranciscs.org, x102.

ASST. BUS. MGR./COMM./WEBMASTER
Cristi Mourn, x106, Cristi@stfranciscs.org.

ADMN ASST
- Judy, x100, parish@stfranciscs.org

FACILITIES
- Jamie, x103, jbettis@stfranciscs.org

Communion to the Homebound
Any member of our St. Francis community who is ill or homebound and who needs communion brought to them, Deacon Andy (719) 235-7724.

Prayer Request Line
A service for parishioners experiencing hardship such as a serious illness or accident, or a family or friend in peril.
For prayers contact Karen Hutcheson at Khutch8152@comcast.net or 598-0758.

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you

January 8, 2023 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

St. Francis of Assisi

Catholic Church

LOCATION: 2650 Parish View, Colorado Springs, CO 80919
OFFICE PHONE: 719-599-5031
OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm (closed Fri-Sun)
EMAIL ADDRESS: parish@stfranciscs.org
WEBSITE: www.stfranciscs.org
Marriage Convalidation Course beginning Monday, January 16th at 6:00pm for 4 weeks

This class is for those whose marriage is not in the Catholic Church. That is, for those who are civilly married but have never received the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church. The first class will be to go over the process and begin any/all necessary paperwork.

Fr. Erin Kochivar and Deacon Andy Berry will be offering this course over 4 consecutive Monday nights in rooms B-C. There is no cost and signups are not necessary. Please contact us with any questions: aberry@diocs.org or ekochivar@stfranciscs.org.

Thank you Christmas Giving Tree Angels – Gift givers, behind-the-scene volunteers, supply donors and monetary contributors. By opening your hearts, you have brought hope to parents; squeals of delight to children; and because they have been remembered, smiles to seniors in our community. Giving Tree recipients received wished-for jeans, shirts, tops, coats and shoes, as well as Legos, books, dolls and art supplies. 333 gifts were given to local children and teens, while 25 seniors were given bookmarks, monetary donations for needed gifts, and cards with loving thoughts and prayers. Thank you again for sharing the spirit of Christmas.

Feminine Genius
High School Girl’s Retreat

**When:** Friday, January 20, 5 PM-Sunday, January 22, 11 AM

**Where:** St Francis of Assisi Church
2650 Parish View
Colorado Springs, CO

**Cost:** $60 (all meals are included)

**Personal items to bring:** Sleeping bag, toiletries, Bible, rosary, snack to share

**Also bring:** Small baby items to donate to pregnancy center (pacifiers, diapers, etc.) and/or travel toiletries for homeless

**RSVP:** by January 17 to Terrie Hernandez at 719-599-5031 ext. 111 or to theresah@stfranciscs.org
**New location of Holy Water Fonts:** You’ll notice the Holy Water Fonts, where Father processes in, have been moved from the sister’s entrance, to inside the church doorway for easier access.

**Why do Catholics bless themselves with holy water when entering a church?** When visiting a Catholic church for Sunday Mass, it is hard not to notice that parishioners pause for a second as they file in through the various entrances. They stop, dip their fingers in a bowl of water and then make the sign of the cross over their body. Why do they do that?

Besides remembering Christ’s passion and professing their faith in the Holy Trinity, Catholics bless themselves with holy water primarily as a reminder of our Baptism. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) explains why water plays such an important role in the life of the Church.

> “The symbolism of water signifies the Holy Spirit’s action in Baptism, since after the invocation of the Holy Spirit it becomes the efficacious sacramental sign of new birth: just as the gestation of our first birth took place in water, so the water of Baptism truly signifies that our birth into the divine life is given to us in the Holy Spirit. As ‘by one Spirit we were all baptized,’ so we are also ‘made to drink of one Spirit.’ Thus the Spirit is also personally the living water welling up from Christ crucified as its source and welling up in us to eternal life” (CCC 694).

The Catechism further instructs about the need for a place within the church walls for a remembrance of this birth in the life of grace.

> “The gathering of the People of God begins with Baptism; a church must have a place for the celebration of Baptism (baptistry) and for fostering remembrance of the baptismal promises (holy water font)” (CCC 1185).

In addition to being a reminder of the rebirth experienced at Baptism, holy water fonts also provide a practical function that helps transition from the secular world into the House of God. They are a reminder that before we can enter the “Wedding Feast of the Lamb,” we must wash ourselves and put on the “wedding garment” to be admitted to the table.

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**St Francis Senior Citizen**

**VALENTINE DINNER and BINGO**

Saturday, January 28 following the 5 PM Mass, St Francis Hall

St Francis senior parishioners are invited to attend a free evening out hosted by the Knights of Columbus and the St Francis youth. The Knights will cook a delicious meal which the youth will serve. The meal will be followed by games of Bingo and Valentine prizes.

RSVP to Terrie Hernandez by Jan. 21st to theresah@stfranciscs.org or
**Epiphany House Blessing**

You can celebrate Epiphany at home with a blessing using the initials of the magi’s traditional names (Casper, Melchior, Balthasar), four crosses, and the new year’s numerals.

*Materials: a piece of chalk and a small container of holy water. Gather with family and friends at the front door.*

**Leader:** In the (+) name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. We sign this doorway with four crosses and the numerals of the new year. [20 + C + M + B + 23]; **Let us pray:** May Christ bless this house! **ALL:** Amen!

*Each room of the house is sprinkled with holy water.*

**Living room:** Where two or three are gathered in your name, Lord, you are present. Bless this room, O Lord. **ALL:** Amen!

**Kitchen:** Give us this day our daily bread. Bless this room, O Lord. **ALL:** Amen!

**Dining room:** Prepare us for the heavenly banquet. Bless this room, O Lord. **ALL:** Amen!

**Bedrooms:** Stay with us Lord, when night has come. Bless this room, O Lord. **ALL:** Amen!

**Bathroom:** Cleanse us from all sin. Bless this room, O Lord. **ALL:** Amen!

*All return to the front door to pray together.*

**Leader:** Let us pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father . . .

The leader sprinkles all present with holy water.

Bless this household through all days to come, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, forever and ever. **ALL:** Amen!

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**Does the Church Teach Evolution?**

*From The New Catholic Answer Bible* (Gen 1:1-31; 2:7; Acts 17:26; Rom 5:12-19); **CCC** (33; 355-406; 415-417)

Are the opening chapters of Genesis a literal, scientific description of the world’s creation? Or is their language more figurative, whose essential meaning points to fundamental truths about God and the world? Christians have debated the matter since ancient times.

Perhaps the sharpest controversy over these passages has to do with human origins, usually focusing on the scientific theory of evolution. Some believe that Genesis, rightly understood, denies any possibility that human beings have descended in some sense from other species. Others, however, claim that such evolution is a proven scientific fact.

Catholic tradition provides a different perspective. Following the insights of St. Augustine and others, it allows that Genesis employs figurative language, so it cannot be cited as a scientific text that rules out human evolution altogether. At the same time, however, the “proven facts of science” accepted by one generation may be rejected by later generations because of new evidence. So the Church warns scientists against presumption in their conclusions. She specifically rejects any scientific theories (such as that of Charles Darwin) which insist that evolution was the result of random forces rather than the intelligent design of a personal Creator. Such pretentious claims move beyond the limited realm of inquiry that is possible to science.

Given divine revelation as a whole, the Church teaches that a few fundamental truths about human origins cannot be contradicted by scientific speculation:

- The entire universe, including the human race, is not the result of chance, but of God’s purposeful, loving design.
- Human beings are not simply more advanced animals; they bear the image of God in a unique way.
- Even if God may have created the bodies of the first humans through evolution, their souls, like all human souls, were immediately created by him at their conception.
- All human beings share a single, historical ancestor, so they all have the same nature and origin, and belong to one human family.
- The primordial fall from original holiness of our first human parents was a real event within time. It left them and their descendants with original sin.
New Adult Bible Classes Begin in January!

**Mondays 7pm: 1st Corinthians class begins January 9th.**

Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, addresses many of the same topics that appear in the news headlines today: scandals, promiscuity, debates and controversies, and issues related to prosperity versus poverty.

The Church and the Christian Community explores Paul’s advice for living an authentic Christian life in a pagan culture as well as his teachings about the nature of grace, the Church as the body of Christ, and the most powerful gift of all—the Eucharist.

**Wednesdays at 7pm: James begins Jan. 4th**

Looking for an anchor to hold you steady through the storms of life? Want the secret to finding joy in the midst of trials? Interested in learning to recognize the source of discord and the way to peace? In James: Pearls for Wise Living, Jeff Cavins shows how the teachings of James speak to those of us who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and our faith.

Contact Larry (719) 593-7031, l.m.gray@comcast.net.

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**Our Journey through the Seasons of the Year**

**Sunday, Jan. 29th 1:30—3:30pm, here in (B-C)**
Leader: Sr. Marilyn Uhing OSF, Storyteller: Judy Smith

No charge, donations welcome.

RSVP required by January 23, to Helen at 808-223-7214 or msfwomanstory@gmail.com.

God gave creation seasons of change. Each season brings its own growth and change. In our 2023 Woman’s Story quarterly Gatherings, women will explore the characteristics of each season and discover the relationship between the seasons of the earth and the seasons of their lives. They will discover the presence of God within and around them in each of the seasons.

Winter is considered a season of deepening, a time to slow down. Come to this gathering and learn the benefits of this season for your body, mind and soul and learn the grace of winter for your wholeness using reflections, prayers, storytelling, meditations and small group sharing.

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heavens.” Ecclesiastes 3

**Woman’s Story**—A program where women share their experiences, hopes & spiritual journeys. Sponsored by Women Partnering & Sisters of St Francis, OSF.

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**Change of Location! Dinner-for-Eight**

starts another year with a party

**Sunday, January 8 from 3-5pm.**

**We will gather in St. Francis Hall** instead of someone’s home as previously advertised.

**Bring an appetizer to share.**

This dinner group of couples provides an opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of other parishioners in relaxed, small group settings. We’re not a gourmet group, and we all contribute to each meal.

We welcome new members. If you’re interested but not sure, try us as a substitute!

Any last minute questions? call Lou Ann Sosalla, 719 599-3523 or Roseanne, 719-466-7400.

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**Born for This**

This is an interactive women’s program that focuses on fellowship. We are a ministry that meets women where they are on their spiritual journey and by incorporating fellowship, prayer, & solid Catholic teaching, we help to form women into the best they can be. We start out with visiting and eating, then have a presentation on a topic of our Catholic Faith, either video or audio, followed by discussion in a small group. **Tuesdays, 5:30-8:00pm, Sept - May.**

**The Bible and The Virgin Mary**

Jan 3: A Biblical Intro to Mary  Feb 14: The Promised Mother
Jan 10: Handmaid of the Lord  Feb 21: The Mother Crowned in Glory
Jan 17: Wedding at Cana  Feb 28: Full of Grace
Jan 24: The New Eve  Mar 7: All Holy
Jan 31: The Ark of the New Covenant  Mar 14: The Assumption
Feb 7: Born of a Virgin  Mar 21: Always a Mother

We would love for you to join us.

Please register at https://tinyurl.com/SFWomens-Program OR contact Margaret Kinney at magsanaya@gmail.com or 719-439-5146.
**ALL SHARE IN THE PROMISE**

Picture a nativity scene in your mind’s eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. “Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.” The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God’s mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm 72 — All the nations will worship you, Lord.

**Second Reading** — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

**DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- **Monday:** Is 42:1-4-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-10; Mt 3:13-17
- **Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28
- **Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39
- **Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45
- **Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12
- **Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17
- **Sunday:** Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

**NEW! Online Sign-up for Friday’s Eucharistic Adoration coverage** through a “SignUpGenius app”.

There is now a link located on the main page of the parish website, https://stfranciscs.org/, titled "Adoration Signup"; click on it.

You will be placed directly into the SignUpGenius application, where you can pick the time slots you wish to volunteer to host coverage, and follow the directions in the app. Feel free to call Larry Gray at 719-593-7031, if you have any questions or need help signing up!

*We thank you for volunteering to host coverage, as without your help, extended Adoration times would not be possible!*

**Stewardship of Treasure**

**FINANCIAL INFO**

**December 19—26, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Offertory</td>
<td>$13,309</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>$20,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Repair &amp; Replacement</td>
<td>$440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income (Grants, misc)</td>
<td>$520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Secure Online Giving, go to the ‘Online Giving’ tab from our website at: www.stfranciscs.org/online-giving

**Mass, Confessions and Thursdays Holy Hour will be offered regardless of weather but the parish office and all classes will follow D-20; if closed or evening activities are canceled, our parish follows; no changes for a 2 hour delay.**

**Food Pantry 2023 Dates**

- January 21/22
- February 18/19
- March 18/19
- April 15/16
- May 20/21
- June 17/18
- July 15/16
- August 19/20
- September 16/17
- October 21/22
- November Brown Bag
- December 9/10

**Suggested items for the Food Pantry:**

Flour, sugar, cornmeal, salt, canned stews, canned fruits, vegetables, boxed meals, powdered milk, soups, crackers, box jello & pudding, catsup, mustard, mayonnaise, canned meat; tuna, chicken, spam & ham. **No expired or opened goods please.**
Welcome to our Church!

We are happy to have you here with us. If you are new to the parish or have not yet registered, please visit our website or fill out a registration card and drop it in the offertory or to the office. Thank You!

Why Register? It is the official way to join a parish community and shows a commitment to practice your faith. It entitles you to receive sacraments, enroll in religious education and serve as a godparent.

Registration creates a two-fold obligation: On one hand, the Pastor and his Apostolate of Lay People take on the obligation to serve the spiritual needs of each parishioner. On the other hand, the parishioner takes on the obligation to support the mission and needs of the parish.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat, Jan 7, 5pm: † Michael Hoff  
Sun, Jan 8, 8:30am: Parishioners & Visitors  
10:30am: † Evo Coroniti  
5:30pm: Mary Grace Vaughan  
Mon, Jan 9, 8:30am: † Andy Newland and family  
Tues, Jan 10, 8:30am: Lisa Hardy  
Wed, Jan 11, 8:30am: † Victor De los Santos  
Thurs, Jan 12, 8:30am: † Sharon Sowers  
Fri, Jan 13, 8:30am: † Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI  
Sat, Jan 14, 5pm: † Luis and Visitacion Naharro  
Sun, Jan 15, 8:30am: † Elizabeth Mooney  
10:30am: Helen McCollum’s 102nd birthday  
5:30pm: Parishioners & Visitors

You may have a Mass offered for the living, deceased (†) or a special need. Contact the office to schedule. No charge but a typical offering is $10.

Weekly Activities

**Monday, January 9  (Office hours 9am-4pm)**
- 7:30am Confession (Church)
- 8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
- 9:00am Quilters (D-E)
- 6:00pm Marian Devotion Rosary Group (B-C)
- 7:00pm Rosary after above meal/discussion (Church)
- 7:00pm 1st Corinthians class (St. Clare)

**Tuesday, January 10  (Office hours 9am-4pm)**
- 7:30am Confession (Church)
- 8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
- 9:30am Great Adventure Bible class (B-C)
- 9:30am Tai Chi (Hall)
- 6:30pm Born For This (Church)
- 7:00pm Youth Group (B-C, D-E, St. Clare)

**Wednesday, January 11  (Office hours 9am-4pm)**
- 7:30am Confession (Church)
- 8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
- 4:30/7pm Faith Formation classes (A-F)
- 7:00pm James class (St. Clare)
- 7:00pm Choir Practice (Church)

**Thursday, January 12  (Office hours 9am-4pm)**
- 7:30am Confession (Church)
- 8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
- 5:00pm Holy Hour with Confessions (Church)
- 6:30pm Boy Scouts (D-E)

**Friday, January 13  (Office closed for weekend)**
- 7:30am Confession (Church)
- 8:30am Daily Mass (Church)
- 9:00am Adoration til 3:15 (Rosary 9am, Chaplet 3pm)

**Saturday, January 14**
- 7:00am TMIY (B-C)
- 4:00pm Confession (Church)
- 5:00pm Vigil Mass (Church)

**Sunday, January 15**
- 8:30/10:30am Mass (Church, Hall for donuts)
- 5:30pm Mass (Church)
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