

Pastor's Desk

WE ARE THE TERMINALAS: Probably, most of us have at one time or other walked into a bank or an airline office to be told by the staff: 'sorry, you will have to wait, the computer system is down.' We can see that the computer terminals are there, some switched on. The screens are lit up; they may even perform some limited functions. However, we know they are quite helpless, because they are connected to the MAINFRAME'. We live in Jesus, by keeping God's word continually in our mind and making it the guide of our actions; by maintaining a prayer life and we abide in Christ by being united with one another as a community of love. There can be no such thing as a lonely Christian in a loving community. Our love for one another must be real. In a real community the good of one will be the good of all and the pain of one will be the pain of all. "Little children, let us love in deed and in truth and not merely talk about it" (Jn 3:18). Love that is only talk has no value. We are to be grapes not simply to hang around the vine but fruits from which people can eat and drink. We are called to be the fruit and drink especially of the lonely, the ill, the poor and the needy in our communities. We are meant to be sources of nourishment that revive the spirits, feed the hopes and enliven the bodies of others. Therefore, like the computer terminals, we must be plugged in to Jesus, the mainframe, if we want to be of any use. **Fr. Albeen.**

Cajun fest needs your help!

How you can get involved?
Buy or sell raffle tickets.
Bing sweets to Booth on Saturday
from 10 am - 1:00 pm or
Sunday morning.
Why should you help your parish?
This is St. Francis' major
fundraiser to help for the
renovations of St. Clare Hall.



Save the date
Sunday May 6, 2018
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
join us for our
Annual Cajun Fest.

Ladies Aux meeting, Mon-April 30, 6:30pm in
St Thomas Hall. Election of officers & signup to
volunteer in Sweets Booth @ Cajun Fest.

Fr. Albeen Vacation to India

Dear Parish Family of St. Francis,

On April 30 I will be leaving for India to attend two exciting family events - the 60th wedding anniversary of my parents Bala and Ann Vatti and the marriage of my nephew, Vatti Ajith Kumar, the youngest son of my oldest brother. These will be observed together at a May 5th mass celebrated by the bishop of my diocese in India, Bishop Bali, who has twice visited here at St. Francis. I haven't seen any of my family since September 2015 and am looking forward to being with all of them for this joyful occasion.

My parents made many sacrifices while raising me and my five siblings. They have spent sixty years walking together in joy and suffering and striving to do God's will. They have lived their conviction that a successful life consists not of the abundance of things a person possesses but of walking humbly before God and their fellowman and giving the best of themselves - loving and forgiving. Their wonderful example of love and patience inspired two of us to respond to God's call to become priests.

I plan to be back at St. Francis in mid-June. During my absence, Fr. Jason Johnston will be in charge of the parish. I will pray for you daily and am asking that you pray for my family and me and think about us and our celebration with a happy heart. I am very thankful for you and for this opportunity to spend time with my family in India. May God's blessing be upon you.

Religious Education "Behold, children are a gift from the Lord."

Congratulations to all children celebrating First Holy Communion this Sunday at 3:00 p.m.! We welcome these children to the Table of the Lord:

Ella Abide	Natalia Cruz	Victoria Melniczek
Maria Allen	Norah Cunningham	Madilyn Morris
Jonah Babl	Kee Curro	Radley Nations
Bryan Barron	Shiloh DeBeukelaer	Emily Odde
Olivia Barron	Macy Duncan	Alexis Phillips
Katy Beth Beatty	Landry Erwin	Javier Quintero
Laurel Bergin	Ty Gatewood	Bethany Rideau
Cooper Bosseler	Carter Griffin	Melanie Inclán
Chelsie Bradshaw	Holden Holloway	Matthew Schenk
Benjamin Briseño	Jackson Kelly	Wesley Schmidt
Erick Casillas	John Carson Kelly	Declan Shipley
Max Chandran	McKinley Kelly	Josely Sosa
Chase Clanton	Samuel Klar	Thomas Vanderloo
Lana Clanton	Landon Lipovetsky	Graham Veillette
Lauren Clanton	Lily Kate Lloyd	Luca Villani
Danni Cook	Brian Maldonado	Nolan Welch
Emily Cruz	Facundo Maraño	Malick Yedjou

Also we congratulate Chaiya Turner & Erik Turner on their recent **First Holy Communion.**

Our 2017-18 Sunday School year wraps up this Sunday, **April 29.** We are very grateful to all catechists who taught our children this year!

Come aboard the *SS St. Francis* and sail to the Island of **VBS on June 18-22!** Crew members are needed in order to offer VBS for Pre-k -4th graders for the full week: 3 more teachers, 4 more assistants, 2 music program coordinators, 2 babysitters, decorators, and kitchen workers are needed. We must have all these volunteers by **May 20** in order to have a full week of VBS. Contact Mary Catherine now at mc.george@stfrancismadison.org to volunteer.

Congratulations to our newly confirmed!

Emma Beebe	Max Harmon	Ryan Phillips
Wyatt Buck	Isabel Hébert	Logan Reynolds
Claire Conn	Laura Catherine Inman	Barri Teeter
Dalton Cooper	Mariette Istipan	Brennan Teeter
Mallory Dickey	Isabella Lacourrége	Adam Tommasini
Clare Harkins	Covey Lockhart	Sydni Vandevender
Jacob Harkins	John Paul Moorman	Sam Walenta

Special Thanks to Melissa Smalley, Caren Smalley, Jennifer Colson, Julie Clayton, and Leslie Crawford for all that they did to make our Confirmation reception so wonderful!



A special **Children's Mass** will be held for all **2nd - 6th graders** on **May 6 at 10:30 a.m.** We will honor our First Communicants at this Mass. Children will be dismissed from the church at 10:25 a.m. to be led to St. Clare Hall for Mass, then led back into the church after Communion.

Yahweh's Youth (YY) & Faithful Followers (FF) 7th-12th Graders

WOW! it's Sports Night this week from 6:30-8:00 in the FLC. All 7-12th grade youth are invited. Guests are welcome!

SENIORS - Save the Date for **May 20** for the **Class of 2018 Senior Appreciation Mass** at 5 p.m. with Reception to follow.

8th - 12 graders...we still have a few spots for **Alive in You** - June 4-11 in Tampa, FL. Please contact Amy Lipovetsky @ amy.lipovetsky@stfrancismadison.org or by phone at 601.856.5556.

Offertory Contributions



Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$ 30,000.00
Children's	\$ 52.86
<u>Weekly</u>	<u>\$ 17,245.27</u>
Total	\$ 17,298.13

Our second collection for weekend May 13 is for
Ascension of the Lord.



St. Paul says: "Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." When we think about Jesus being the vine and we the branches, we are fruitful because God's love and goodness is acting in and through us. We are called to bring others to Christ, to graft them onto Him.

If you know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith please contact Wollie Wolcott at wollie.wolcott@stfrancismadison.org or call the parish office.

Meetings are held every Wednesday evening 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the RCIA Room and we welcome new inquirers year round.



Employment Opportunities Director of Music Ministry (Part-time 20-25 hours per week)

Responsibilities: plan, and oversee the music ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church; coordinate, lead, and direct music for all weekend liturgies and special feast days; collaborate with the pastor, parish staff, and volunteers.

Qualifications: be active in the Catholic Church and in good standing with the church's teachings; have music ministry experience and a bachelor's degree in Music; be able to work well in shared, collaborative ministry.

Teach Our Faith Grant & Aid Assessment Online Platform Is Now Available.

Have you considered sending your child to St. Anthony Catholic School but decided not to do so because you could not afford it? For those St. Francis families who qualify, the Teach Our Faith initiative is here to help. St. Francis has selected FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment to conduct the financial need analysis. The application process is completed online and can be found here: <https://online.factsmgmt.com/signin/4.GVBH>. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2018-2019 school year. The deadline to submit an application is June 1, 2018.

Please support Teach Our Faith. Every month, there is a second collection for Teach Our Faith. Your generosity makes it possible for the parish to provide a Catholic education to families who otherwise might not be able to afford it. Your support will be greatly appreciated.



12th Annual Bruin Classic Golf Tournament

May 11, 2018
Whisper Lake Country Club

Benefiting St. Joe Athletics

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Our Beautiful End

By Matthew Leonard

We Long for the Beautiful

We grow frustrated when sunsets fade, children grow up, and special moments pass. Will beauty be forever fleeting? Internationally known Catholic speaker, Matthew Leonard, expounds upon our experience of beauty and its powerful role in drawing us closer to our Creator and glorious home in Heaven.

Listen on formed.org



"Thank you, Matthew, for a glimpse into our final destination... It was a wonderful talk..."

—Tara O, Tampa, Florida



FORMED | THE CATHOLIC PATH TO HAPPINESS

WEEK'S READINGS

- Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26
- Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
- Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
- Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
- Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
- Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
- Sunday: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018



- Sat., Apr. 28- 5:30 p.m. ST. PETER CHANEL Mass (+) Eliza Lugo
- Sun., Apr. 29 - 8:00 a.m. FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Mass SI - Nita Thames & Family
- 10:30 a.m. Mass
- 9:00 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine
- 5:00 p.m. Mass (+) Lee Smith
- Mon., Apr. 30 - 7:00 a.m. ST. PIUS V Mass
- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine (+) Diane Dinkins
- Tue., May 1 - 7:00 a.m. ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER Mass
- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine (+) Dolores Best
- Wed., May 2 - 7:00 a.m. ST. ATHANASIUS Mass SI - Fr. Albeen Vatti
- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine (+) Diane Dinkins
- Thurs., May 3- 7:00 a.m. STS. PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES Mass (+) Loretta Sagar
- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine
- Fri., May 4 - 7:00 a.m. WEEKDAY OF EASTER Mass (+) Mary & Ken Brown
- 8:15 a.m. Mass - St. Anthony
- 8:30 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine
- Sat., May 5 - 5:30 p.m. WEEKDAY OF EASTER Mass (+) Joseph Gandolini
- Sun., May 6 - 8:00 a.m. SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Mass (+) Ron Parsons
- 10:30 a.m. Mass
- 9:00 a.m. Mass - St. Catherine
- 5:00 p.m. Mass

(+) **Rest of the Soul** **SI Special Intention**

CHURCH UPCOMING EVENTS

- ♦ Apr. 29 - 3:00 p.m. First Holy Communion Mass.
- ♦ May 2 - 6:30-8:00 p.m. WOW in the FLC.
- ♦ May 3 - 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sharing Christ Program.
- ♦ May 4 - 6:00-7:30 a.m. TMIY in the FLC.
- ♦ May 6 - 10:30 a.m. Special Mass for Children in St. Clare Hall.
- ♦ May 6 - 11:30-4:00 p.m. Cajun Fest.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Annie Davis, John Matthew Davis, Carrie Maniscalco, Bo King, Rob Parsons, Isabella Saab, John Suedel, Ray Hansen, Judy Abdo Claudette & Willie George, Billy Martinson, Joseph Edge, Jerry Thomas, Chris Smith, Patsy Gerrets, Mary Conner, Austin Stewart, Jessie Tynes, Ellie Liebl, Sheila Boackle, Amanda Williams, Edna Brown, Regina Stinson, Melanie Beyea, Patricia Ballentine, Aleykutty Sebastian, Mary Jane Hogan, Charles Rieckie, Brandi Ham, Luella Doolittle, Patrick Jordan, Louis Pellegrine, Estelle Hearn, Dora Thomas, John Walker, Steve Latza, Peggy Zarate, Rainey Thames, Earline Ashley, Rick Mills, and Wilma Kennedy.



PRAY FOR OUR SOLDIERS
Revell Patterson, Paul Boackle,
Benjamin Williams and Daniel Machado
Thank you for protecting our country.
May the Lord keep you safe.



ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN

The power of prayer is available to all those in need through the Assisi Prayer Chain. Call (601) 506-1234 or (601) 607-7062 between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.