

THE RECTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends of St. Francis Church,

"The Lord is now nigh; come, let us adore." (Invitatory of Matins, Roman Breviary.) I pray that you and your families are well, preparing to celebrate the feast of Our Lord's birth. On Tuesday, the Church will begin singing her great, "O Antiphons," in the seven days before Christmas Eve. As a devotion for each family, I wish to suggest praying these antiphons on their assigned days before dinner, and including Our Lady's "*Magnificat*" after them, followed by a repetition of the antiphon. The last invocation, "O Emmanuel," immediately and fittingly precedes Christmas, because "Emmanuel" means "God with us," as the Christ Child will be on Christmas. But, as you may know, a clever and beautiful "secret message" has been included in these antiphons, using the initial letters of the Latin name invoked for each day, starting from the last, "Emmanuel," working toward the first, "Sapientia." From these letters, we spell the Latin words of Our Infant Lord to us: "*Ero cras!*", meaning "Tomorrow, I shall be!" O come, o come, Emmanuel!

In the Love of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,

Fr. McCambridge, F.S.S.P

The Great, or "O" Antiphons

December 17: O Sapientia, quæ ex ore Altissimi prodisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem, fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiæ.

December 18: O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel, qui Moysi in igne flammæ rubi apparuisti, et ei in Sina legem dedisti: veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.

December 19: O Radix Jesse, qui stas in signum populorum, super quem continebunt reges os suum, quem Gentes deprecabuntur: veni ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.

December 20: O Clavis David, et sceptrum domus Israel; qui aperis, et nemo claudit; claudis, et nemo aperit: veni, et educ vincitum de domo carceris, sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

December 21: O Oriens, splendor lucis æternæ, et sol justitiæ: veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris, et umbra mortis

December 22: O Rex Gentium, et desideratus earum, lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum: veni, et salva hominem, quem de limo formasti.

December 23: O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster, exspectatio gentium, et Salvator earum: veni ad salvandum nos Domine Deus noster.

Magnificat

Magnificat anima mea Dominum, et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salvatore meo, quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae. Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes, quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est, et sanctum Nomen eius, et misericordia eius in progenies et progenies timentibus eum. Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordi sui; deposuit potentes de sede et exaltavit humiles; esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes. Suscepit Israel puerum suum, recordatus misericordiae, sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in saecula.

O Wisdom that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and orderest all things mightily and sweetly, come to teach us the way of prudence!

O Adonai, and Ruler of the house of Israel, Who didst appear unto Moses in the burning bush, and gavest him the law in Sinai, come to redeem us with an outstretched arm!

O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at Whom the kings shall shut their mouths, Whom the Gentiles shall seek, come to deliver us, do not tarry.

O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel, that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth, come to liberate the prisoner from the prison, and them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

O Dayspring, Brightness of the everlasting light, Sun of justice, come to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death!

O King of the Gentiles, yea, and desire thereof! O Corner-stone, that makest of two one, come to save man, whom Thou hast made out of the dust of the earth!

O Emmanuel, our King and our Law-giver, Longing of the Gentiles, yea, and salvation thereof, come to save us, O Lord our God!

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the humility of His handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath done great things to me, and holy is His Name. And His Mercy is from generation unto generations upon them that fear Him. He hath shewed might in His arm, He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away. He hath received Israel, His servant, being mindful of His mercy. As He spoke to our Fathers, Abraham and His seed forever. (Repeat Antiphon)

FRATERNITAS SACERDOTALIS SANCTI PETRI

"Qui seminant in lacrimis, in exsultatione metent" (Ps 125, 5)



St. Francis of Assisi Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15-21, 2013

Rev. Fr. Jared McCambridge, FSSP Rector

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete Sunday*)

8:30 am Delphine Alder+
10 am *Pro Populo*

MONDAY, December 16, St. Eusebius, Bishop & Martyr

7 am Celebrant's Intention

TUESDAY, December 17, Greater Feria of Advent (Mass of Third Sunday of Advent)

7 am Mother Leo Frances+

WEDNESDAY, December 18, Ember Wednesday of Advent

7 am Delphine Alder+

THURSDAY, December 19, Greater Feria of Advent (Mass of Third Sunday of Advent)

7 am Alicia Arango

FRIDAY, December 20, Ember Friday of Advent

7 am Delphine Alder+

SATURDAY, December 21, St. Thomas, Apostle

8 am Celebrant's Intention

SUNDAY, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Claire Bergfeld
10 am *Pro Populo*

Regular Mass Schedule (for exceptions, see above)

Monday through Friday	7 am
Saturday	8 am
Sunday	<i>Low Mass</i> 8:30 am
	<i>Highb Mass</i> 10:00 am

Confessions are heard one half hour before each mass in the Regular Mass Schedule, and on Fridays for the first half-hour of evening devotions. Confessions will be heard at other times by a reasonable request.

The Rosary is prayed a half-hour before each Sunday Mass.

Sorrowful Mother Novena (Dolorosary):

Friday 6:30 pm

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:

First Fridays: 8 am - 6:50 pm, Dolorosary at 6:30 pm, Benediction at 6:50 pm.

Other Fridays: 6 pm Holy Hour, Dolorosary at 6:30 pm, Benediction at 6:50 pm.

First Saturdays: Simple exposition for fifteen minutes following mass.

Legio Mariae (Legion of Mary)

Monday 7 pm

Altar Guild

As announced

Coffee and rolls: After the High Mass on Sunday

Catechism for Adults

First and third Tuesdays 7 - 8 pm

Catechism for Children

Wednesday (academic year) 7 - 8 pm

Confraternity of Christian Mothers (September-May)

After Mass on the second Saturday of the month

St. John Bosco Youth Group

Second and Fourth Tuesday of the month 7 pm

Altar Boys' Meeting

Second Saturday of the month 9 am

Choir

Wednesday 6 - 7:45 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to Newcomers and Visitors to St. Francis Church! Please join us after the 10:00 mass for our Coffee Social.

Catechism for Adults continues this Tuesday evening at 7 pm, on the topic of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Please join us!

Children's Catechism Classes will not be held this week, as the seminarians prepare for exams. The classes will be suspended until the seminarians return from Christmas vacation, resuming on Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

Ember Saturday Cleaning: Please come lend a hand with the cleaning of the church on Saturday, December 21, following mass and thanksgiving. Many hands make light work — please help make our church beautiful, ready for the celebration of Christ's Nativity. May God bless your generosity!

2014 FSSP Liturgical Calendars and Ordos: There are samples in the vestibule of the 2014 liturgical calendars and ordos from the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter. Those wishing to order one or both should please use the order envelopes provided there.

Christmas Flower Donations: The poinsettias decorating the sanctuary at Christmas will be placed for the sake of your intentions, for a donation of \$10 each. Envelopes for this purpose may be found in the vestibule. God bless you!

Coordinator Sought for Eucharistic Adoration: Fr. McCambridge requests a volunteer to serve as coordinator for First Friday Adoration. Anyone willing to serve in this role, please speak with him. Thank you!

Pro-Life Coordinator Sought: Fr. McCambridge requests a volunteer to serve as coordinator for pro-life activities for St. Francis Church. Please speak with Father if you are interested in this work. Thank you; may God bless you!

The Legion of Mary is a lay organization assisting its members to live out the total consecration to Jesus through Mary, as proposed by St. Louis de Montfort. Its primary aim is the sanctification of its members. Membership may be active or auxiliary; active membership involves a weekly, one-hour meeting and two hours of active work. Each type of membership has a daily Rosary and prayers to recite, and each type may take on additional spiritual obligations. Those interested in further information about this holy organization, please use the sign-up sheet posted in the vestibule.

Please Pray for the Sick: Shirley Bauer, Sr. Angela, O.C.D., Philip Gerard Johnson, Br. Bernard Marie, O.S.B., Ernie Sabatka, Ray Syslo.

FINANCES

Collection for Sunday, December 8:	\$3008.00
Collection counters December 15:	Philip McNeely and Doug Pfeifer
Collection counters December 22:	Troy Butcher and John Pepino

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI DRESS CODE

To dress becomingly for God and neighbor, and in keeping with the reverence due to the Blessed Sacrament, kindly refrain from wearing shorts, tee-shirts, tank-tops, revealing blouses, sleeveless or backless dresses, or form-fitting clothing of any sort. Please do let dresses and skirts fall below the knee. With due regard to time and circumstance, all are encouraged to wear decorous attire befitting sacred and divine worship.