



St. Francis Borgia

Roman Catholic Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of **ADVENT**

Parish Information

Administrator: Rev. Damien Wee
Email: father.damien@stfrancisborgia.org

Deacon: Jeff Zurek
Email: jzurek5@gmail.com

Office Manager: Kelly Petersen
Email: office@stfrancisborgia.org

Director of Religious Ed: Sinead Chaffee
Email: sinead.pre@outlook.com

Sacramental Ministries: Yeny Martinez
Email: yeny.martinez@stfrancisborgia.org

Maintenance Manager: Scott Breitzkreutz

Youth Ministry: Deacon Jeff & Darla Zurek
Email: jzurek5@gmail.com

Sunday School: Shawna Adams

Address: 2005 Davis Drive, Blair, NE 68008

Phone: 402.426.3823

Web: www.stfrancisborgia.org

Email: office@stfrancisborgia.org

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m.-Noon

Sacramental Emergencies Only: Please call the Parish Office and press "2"

Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday at 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Monday-Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

Friday at 7:00 a.m.

First Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Parish Mission Statement

As the Parish families of St. Francis Borgia of Blair, Nebraska, we are a faith community united in Christ by a common bond to the Roman Catholic Church. Our words and actions are a reflection of Christ's presence among us. We manifest God's work through our active participation in spiritual, educational, liturgical and service acts directed at bringing Christ to all.

John 15: Jesus says "love one another as I have loved you."

Dear Friends in Christ,

Happy Gaudete (GOW-day-tay) Sunday! Rejoice! For our salvation is nearer to us than before!

1. New Pictorial Directory

Thank you to everyone who signed up for the new pictorial directory. More than 200 families got their picture taken! I appreciate you and your family making time in your busy schedules. By having your picture taken, you help our parish to be able to connect better, as we strive to grow in unity as one Body in Christ.



A ton of gratitude to Cece Tonn (pun intended) ;) for coordinating this not-so-wee parish project, and for the incredible number of hours that she and her family generously gave to be present after all the Masses for many weeks to sign parishioners up and to welcome families as hosts. Thank you also to all others who also volunteered as hosts or who helped with this project. We hope to have everything wrapped up in the next few weeks.

LifeTouch has said that we will receive the pictorial directories by March 1st. Everyone who got their picture taken will get a free copy. If you did not get your picture taken, but would like to submit a picture, please bring the picture and \$10 to the Parish Office by this Tuesday, December 17. For those who did not get a picture taken and who will not be submitting one, but want a pictorial directory, you can request one at a yet undetermined fee.

2. Our Lady of Guadalupe

This past Thursday, December 12, we celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. What was this feast about? St. Juan Diego was a widower who lived in a small village near Mexico City. On December 9, 1531, he was walking by Tepeyac Hil on his way to Mass when he heard beautiful music. A bright cloud appeared with an Indian maiden dressed like an Aztec princess. The lady spoke to him in his local language and instructed him to go to the bishop and ask that a chapel be built in the place where the lady stood.

Juan Diego went to the bishop as instructed. However, the bishop did not believe him and asked for a sign. Juan Diego went back to Our Lady and told her what the bishop said. Our Lady gave him roses that were out of season. Juan Diego placed the flowers in his tilma (which was like an overcoat). When he returned to the bishop, Juan Diego opened the front of his tilma. As the roses fell to the ground, the beautiful image of Our Lady was revealed.

One of the most amazing things about it is that the tilma that Juan Diego was wearing, when the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him, was made of a cactus plant. That type of tilma did not last very long, only about 15 to 20 years. However, it is still miraculously in good condition and is still on display today in Guadalupe! Also, the stars on Our Lady's mantle were similar to the alignment of the stars that appeared in the sky the night that Our Lady first appeared to St. Juan Diego.

Please see the bulletin insert for more interesting facts about the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe!

3. SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Come and be reconciled with God through the beautiful and powerful Sacrament of Reconciliation this coming **Wednesday, December 18. There will be two sessions: 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** We will have 5-6 priests present at each session. (For those of you who are not able to go to Confession on Wednesday, St. James will be having theirs on Tuesday, December 17 at 7 p.m.)

Let us continue to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, as we pray for the grace for our hearts to be ready when He comes at Christmas!

To Jesus through Mary,

Father Damien

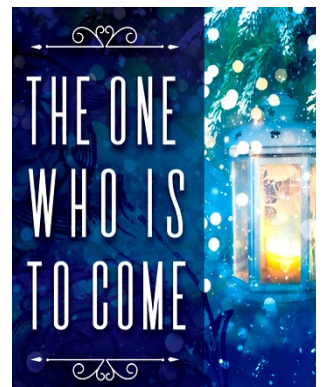


Pray for one another

If there are any additions to, or removals from the prayer chain, please call Jane

**Gramke Stevens
402.278.2652**

Sharon Allen
Amy Murray
Viola Michrina
Gavin McCoy
Mike Kult
Angela Howard
Clair Kneifl
Mary Nelson
Sherry McBride
G. & F. Marek family
Troy McCandless
Mary Ann Wenzl
Helan Johnson
Eric Sorensen
Mike Hoefler
Kiley Kastrup
Grace Sorsoli
Helen Herman
Vince Kavanaugh
Jason Smith
Judy Quest
Kevin Mann
Nathan Kocmik
Sherry Pruss
Mary C Beckman
Jerry Wilke
Barbara Rican
Luke Kollars
Phil Thomas
Gordon C Gladdon
Andrea Dickerson
Shitra Mickerjee
Jack Comstock
Kasey Comstock



PRE & Parish Reconciliation Services

On December 18th, there will be two Reconciliation Services offered—the first at **5:30 pm** and the second at **7:00 pm**. These Reconciliation Services are for our PRE program families and the rest of the parish. You are welcome to attend either service. For clarification, there is not PRE the night of the 18th, only Reconciliation that you would attend as a family.

Christmas Masses

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass Christmas Day
8:00 a.m. Mass Christmas Day
10:00 a.m. Mass Christmas Day



PRE/ Sunday School Christmas Break

After this weekend, PRE classes and Sunday School will be on Christmas Break. Sunday School will resume on January 12th and PRE will resume on January 15th. Have a happy and

Parish Directory

Thanks to over 200 families who had their pictures taken for the directory. Anyone wanting to submit a photo or have their previous photo used, the **deadline is Tuesday, December 17**. Submit the \$10 fee to the Parish Office or contact Cece Tonn at 402.680.6036.

We hope to have the new directories around March 1st. Let Cece know if you have any special requests regarding the data in the parish directory. Thank you!

NOTICE: Letters of Good Standing for Godparents and Confirmation Sponsors

If you have been asked to be a godparent for a baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation, and need a Letter of Good Standing, please inform the Parish Office as soon as possible. It takes time for it to be processed. Thank you.

Financial Peace University

Whether you are nearing retirement or just newly married, getting your finances in order will make a difference for you. **Financial Peace University teaches you how to manage the gifts God has given you.** The sessions involve a video and small group discussion.

Sessions begin January 19, 2020 and end in March
Sundays 5:30—7:30 p.m.

St. Francis Borgia Social Hall

Cost: \$100

Call or text Cece Tonn at 402.680.6036 to reserve a seat.

Open to anyone, of any faith.

Babysitting may be available on request.

Decorating the church

As is the tradition of our parish, we will be decorating the church interior on Sunday, December 22, immediately after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. All are welcome!

Dear Parishioners,

Wishing you a blessed conclusion to the Advent season and a Merry Christmas!

May the radiance and warmth of Christ's light fill your home and family.

God bless,

Father Damien, Deacon Jeff, & St. Francis Borgia Parish Staff



CCW Christmas Party

The CCW Christmas Party is later than usual due to no dates available until the 19th of December. Potluck and gift exchange of about \$10.00 if you wish. Please mark your calendar.

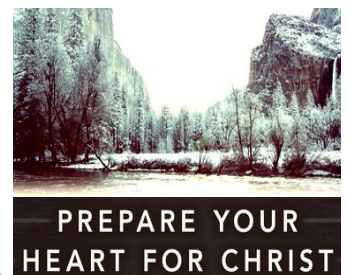
Linda Limbach
President, CCW

Local Scams involving church

Please be aware that there have been many recent scams in our Archdiocese of people impersonating priests and asking them to purchase large amounts of iTunes gift cards or to send money orders. The emails often look realistic, but are in fact scams. Please call the Parish Office immediately and let us know if you receive one of these emails supposedly from Father Damien or any other priest.

There is a flame that should be burning in our hearts during this Advent season.

How are you finding ways to light your fire? How are you preparing the way for Christ to come into your life and the lives of those around you in a more profound way?



You are called to be a flame to others during this season, reminding them of why we celebrate this time at all. Each person is a candle to be lit, and you have the gifts, given to you by God, to light them. At Christmas, you want God to look at you and see all the light generated by those He lit through you. Now is the time! —Tracy Earl Welliver

Pastoral Care

MASS FOR SHUT INS

First Friday at Crowell Nursing Home - 10:00 a.m.

Second Friday at Good Shepherd - 10:00 a.m.

Sunday:

Archdiocesan Mass: Channel 6 at 10:30 a.m.

PARISH ROSARY

Saturday 4:35 p.m. & Sunday 7:35 a.m. & 9:35 a.m.

First Saturdays at 8:30 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Sundays: 9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

Confessions may also be heard by appointment.

Marriage

Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance.

Baptisms

Contact the Parish Office at least one month in advance to schedule. All parents are expected to attend a short Baptism preparation meeting.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office.

Holy Orders

Please contact the Archdiocesan Vocation Director, Rev. Andrew Roza, at 402-558-3100.

Hospital Calls

Please contact the Parish Office.

Funeral Rites

Please contact the Parish Office.

OUR STEWARDSHIP

For General Operations

Budgeted Weekly	\$ 5,385.00
Collected December 7/8	\$ 5,875.97
Budget YTD	\$ 129,240.00
Collected YTD	\$ 125,944.56
Archbishop's Annual Appeal collected to date (Parish Goal \$24,836.93)	\$ 17,878.00



MASS TIMES

Monday, December 16 <i>Ruth Beckman †</i>	8 a.m. Mass
Tuesday, December 17 <i>Thomas Reising †</i>	8 a.m. Mass
Wednesday, December 18 <i>Bishop Paul Sirba †</i> <u>Reconciliation Services</u>	8 a.m. Mass 5:30 & 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 19 <i>Terry Akin †</i>	8 a.m. Mass
Friday, December 20 <i>Don Watts †</i>	7 a.m. Mass
Saturday, December 21 <i>Parishioners of St. Francis Borgia</i>	5 p.m. Mass
Sunday, December 22 <i>Annie Krueger †</i> <i>Harold Schaefer †</i>	8 a.m. Mass 10 a.m. Mass



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

For the Weekend Of Dec. 21&22

5:00 P.M. SATURDAY	8:00 A.M. SUNDAY	10:00 A.M. SUNDAY
EMHC (Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion) * Denotes Distribution of Precious Blood		
Brethey E. Thoene Boesiger* L. Thoene* Throener*	S. Tonn C. Tonn* McAvin* Shaw*	Mullen Sorensen Sheehan* Ortmeier* Petersen* Mencke*
Lectors		
Aman	Holzer	Kozimor
Altar Servers		
M. Brethey H. Ferguson J. McGill Q. Brethey	G. Zurek J. Zurek K. Cortez	E. Chaffee K. Chaffee C. Flynn K. Smith
Rosary Leaders		
Zurek	Claeys	McKeon