

# 4<sup>th</sup>

# Sunday OF ADVENT



Bulletin for December 22, 2024

**Celebrants:** Saturday –5:30pm: Fr. Shayne Duvall

Sunday– 8:30am & 11:30am: Fr. Shayne Duvall



**St. Frances of Rome Catholic Parish**

### *Mass Schedule*

Monday, Wednesday & Friday-8:30 a.m.

Saturday-5:30 p.m.

Sunday-8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Rosary after each weekday Mass

**Fr. Shayne Duvall: Pastor**

**Fr. Steven Henriksen: Associate Pastor,  
St. Frances of Rome & Administrator,  
St. Boniface**

2119 Payne St.

Louisville, Ky 40206

[stfranrome@sflou.org](mailto:stfranrome@sflou.org) 502-896-8401



All of us are being “asked” this time of year for a gift or giving for one purpose or another. Why not consider your community here at St. Frances of Rome?

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) can be a great way to reduce required minimum distributions (RMDs) and to maximize the tax benefits of giving. Don’t take my word for it (I am only a priest): please consult with financial professional or tax advisor.

QCDs allow individuals age 70 ½ and older to make tax-free donations directly from an IRA to a qualified charity, potentially satisfying all or part of their RMDs. Generally, you can make a QCD from any tax-deferred IRA account, such as a traditional IRA, inherited IRA, SIMPLE IRA, and SEP IRA.

A QCD does not offer a tax deduction but the QCD amount isn’t included in your taxable income either. In some cases, the tax benefits of a QCD could outweigh the charitable deduction you would have received from donating cash or other assets to an eligible charity.

If giving to St. Frances of Rome is already part of your financial plan, a QCD can be a great way to optimize the tax benefits of giving. Aligning retirement goals with changes in tax rules AND your values is winning strategy!

Renovations and repairs, along with continuing operational expenses, are just a fact of life (for parishes and, frankly, everyone). Consider a QCD directed to St. Frances of Rome this season!

Peace,

Father Steven

## New Mass Times Coming Soon!

Beginning the weekend of February 1st and 2nd, 2025:

- Saturday at 4:30pm
- Sunday at 8:30am
- Sunday at 10:30am

Please spread the word, and don’t be late!



## Fr. Shayne to offer Anointing of the Sick Today

This sacrament will be offered to any Catholic who is in need of healing of mind, body, or spirit. This will be offered on the following dates at the following locations:

- **At St. Frances of Rome:** December 21/22 after all the Masses

## Parish Office Closed for the Christmas Holiday.

The parish office will be closed from December 23rd through January 1st, and our parish staff will be off during that time for the Christmas holiday.

**If you have a sacramental emergency, our hotline is (502) 899-9687.** Otherwise, leave a message at the parish office, and your call will be returned when we return.

We wish you and your family a very merry Christmas!

If you miss the sign up sheets for *Room In The Inn Louisville* that are in the back of the church, please call the parish office, or email Sharon at [sbidwell@sflou.org](mailto:sbidwell@sflou.org)

We would love to have you join us for this very much needed ministry during January and February.

### ROOM IN THE INN LOUISVILLE

## Ways to Volunteer

**Shift 1 Welcome Crew (2 people) from 5 to 10pm:** Welcome guests, help them set up bedding, set up for a family style dinner, facilitate free time

**Cooking Crew (2 people):** Prepare a home-cooked meal for 15 people and deliver to the winter shelter by 6:30pm

**Shift 2 Overnight Crew (2 people) from 9:45pm to 5 am:** Supervise lights out, sleep in shifts, supervise wake up for guests

**Shift 3 Breakfast Crew (2 people) from 5 to 8 am:** Set up self serve breakfast items (milk, juice, cereal, oatmeal packets), make coffee/prepare hot water for tea and cocoa, assist guests to leave by 6:30am with all belongings, do a final clean up and ensure space is in order for the next evening's guests

**Sign up to let us know which type of volunteer you want to be! You can also sign up for more than one!**

## Our Celebrants for Mass

- 8:30a Sunday, Dec 22 –Fr. Shayne
- 11:30a Sunday, Dec 22 –Fr. Shayne
- 8:30a Monday, Dec 23 –Fr. Steven
- **10:00p Tuesday, Dec 24 Christmas Eve** –Fr. Shayne
- **8:30a Wednesday, Dec 25 Christmas Day** –Fr. Jerry Eifler
- 8:30a Friday, Dec 27–Fr. Shayne
- 5:30a Saturday, Dec 28 –Fr. Steven
- 8:30a Sunday, Dec 29 –Fr. Shayne
- 11:30a Sunday, Dec 29–Fr. Shayne
- 8:30a Monday, Dec 30 –Fr. Steven
- 8:30a Wednesday, Jan 1–Fr. Steven
- 8:30a Friday, Jan 3–Fr. Jerry Eifler
- 5:30a Saturday, Jan 4 –Fr. Steven
- 8:30a Sunday, Jan 5 –Fr. Shayne
- 11:30a Sunday, Jan 5–Fr. Shayne
- 8:30a Monday, Jan 6 –Fr. Jerry Eifler

## Readings for the week of December 22, 2024

### Sunday:

Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/  
Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

### Monday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10  
and 14/Lk 1:57-66

### Tuesday:

*Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/  
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

### Wednesday:

*Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or  
1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12,  
13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/  
Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/  
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Jn 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

### Thursday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6  
and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

### Friday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12/  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### Saturday:

1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/  
Mt 2:13-18

### Next Sunday:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10  
(see 5a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

The Blessed Virgin teaches us the secret to being blessed, happy, and full of joy. When Elizabeth, her cousin, greets her, she calls Mary “blessed” for two reasons, her motherhood of Jesus, and Our Lady’s belief that **“there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord”** (Luke 1:45). Mary is “blessed” entirely because of her relationship to the Incarnation of God in Jesus, and for no other. This of course makes perfect sense, because as the Lord, as God-in-the-flesh, her son is the source of all blessedness, life, and joy. Mary is blessed because of her contact with Jesus, and by her faith in him.

So, it is with us, too. We become blessed by our “motherly” contact with Christ in our souls through baptism. He lives in us and grows to maturity within us. We bear him to the world. This requires unshakeable faith that his promises to us will be fulfilled, despite all the problems and difficulties that plague us. We become blessed, happy, and joyful in the measure that we are in contact with Jesus and trust in him.

Advent challenges: 1.) This week go to someone who has borne the love of Jesus to you and tell her or him how they have been a blessing to you. 2.) Name someone in your life now to whom God has sent you to bring Jesus’ presence. Pray: “Lord, thank you for the blessing of sending me to bring your presence to this person. Help me bear you faithfully to him/her.”

— *Father John Muir*



## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah  
too small to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Mi 5:1)

### Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

### Second Reading:

"Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,  
behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

### Gospel:

"And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:43)

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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Blessed are you who believed," Elizabeth tells Mary. Do we believe? When we hear the voice of God whispering in our heart, do we listen — or do we ignore, out of fear and uncertainty? This last week of Advent, follow Mary's example, and believe.

## Observances for the week of December 22, 2024

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent  
**Monday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest  
**Tuesday:** Christmas Eve  
**Wednesday:** The Nativity of the Lord  
**Thursday:** St. Stephen, First Martyr  
**Friday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist  
**Saturday:** The Holy Innocents, martyrs  
**Next Sunday:** The Holy Family



## Saint of the week

St. Margaret Clitherow (1556-1586), the pearl of York hid priests and allowed Mass to be celebrated in her home, a criminal offence at the time. She was pressed to death. Margaret was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as one of 40 martyrs of England and Wales.

## Prayer for Advent Joy

Dear Jesus,

The news of your coming was met with boundless joy — fill us anew with the wonder of your presence. You are Emmanuel, God with us.

Amen.

# (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

## The Hidden Truth

If you have ever been visibly pregnant, chances are that someone, somewhere, whom you do *not* know, has reached out to touch your stomach.

I've had this happen to me, and sure, it's a little strange. Generally, I prefer people to ask before they touch me. But it's also very sweet, this great mystical excitement inspired by a pregnant belly. We know that belly is special. We know enclosed within it is hope and potential — the very future of our world. Hidden, but real. How can we help but venerate it?

It's why the pregnant Madonna is my favorite devotional image. I even prefer it over the depictions of the Madonna and Child because I find in the sight of Mary's swollen belly more to meditate upon than I find in the unveiled face of the Christ Child. Salvation and redemption, enclosed in flesh, moving, and growing and breathing, but I cannot see it. It's real and it's true and it's *there*.

And it is hidden.

There is much about God that we know with certainty. But there is so much that remains beyond our sight, beyond our comprehension. Questions of evil and sorrow. Pain and tragedy. Life and death. Why don't we have all the answers? We grow very impatient about this. We're like teenagers who want to be trusted with all the family secrets. We hate feeling left out of the loop.

But truth, like life, does not come to us showing its face. Perhaps this is because we could not bear its terrible beauty. Perhaps it's because we would not recognize it if it was laid bare for us to see.

But it's there, right in front of us. We can reach out and touch it. We may not see it. We may not understand it. But we can know it.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

#### Answer:

Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.

## St. Frances of Rome Catholic Church

<https://saintfrancesofrome.org/>

To reach a staff member at St. Frances of Rome, you may call the parish office directly at (502) 896-8401 and leave a voicemail. For a sacramental emergency, please call our hotline at (502) 899-9687. You may also reach us via email by using our first initial and last name:  
Rev. Fr. Shayne Duvall = [sduvall@htparish.org](mailto:sduvall@htparish.org).



## Phone List

- Parish Office 502-896-8401
- Our Emergency Line 502-899-9687 (For those in need of Anointing of the Sick, or Last Rites)
- Rev. Fr. Shayne Duvall, Pastor 502-897-5207 X1100
- Rev. Fr. Steven Henriksen, Assoc. Pastor 502-896-8401
- Bruce Hines, Business Manager 502-897-5207 X1103
- Steve King, Director of Facilities and Operations 502-896-8401 SFR/ or 502-897-5207 X1120 HT
- Sharon Bidwell, Director of Faith Formation & Pastoral Outreach 502-896-8401
- Elizabeth Jackson, Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy 502-897-5207 X1107
- Allison Deaton, Director of Finance and Human Resources 502-897-5207 X1116
- Jill Greer, Finance Admin. Assistant 502-897-5207 X1109
- Betty-Jean Cobb, Dir. Stewardship & Engagement 502-897-5207 X1100

## St. Frances of Rome Parish Council

Rev. Fr. Shayne Duvall, Pastor

Mary Masick –Chair

Dutch Boehnlein –Finance Chair

- Jane Wehner
- Laura Harpring
- Therese Bawa
- Greg Brotzge
- Mary Keyer
- Sr. Agnes Coveney
- Anne Hogan

The St. Frances Parish Council meets on a monthly basis. Since September, the Council has discussed ways to improve communication with parishioners and others interested in joining our community. The Council is also working on a “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)” to chart future directions.

If you have thoughts or comments to share, please email them to either Mary Masick, Council Chair, [Maryschneider@bellsouth.net](mailto:Maryschneider@bellsouth.net) or Father Shayne [sduvall@htparish.org](mailto:sduvall@htparish.org)

Collection 12/15/2024 \$7,075

Loose Collections \$534

Online giving \$ 820

Amount Needed Weekly: \$7,481

**YTD vs Budget: \$12,748 AHEAD**

### Text Donations

You can now donate to our parish using text messaging! You can use the following phone number to make a donation. Just text **"Give"** to 502-743-4434. It's super easy, and much appreciated.

### Mass Intentions for the Week and 2024 Prayer List

#### Saturday, December 21

5:30PM People of the Parish

#### Sunday, December 22

8:30AM Jim Milliman †

11:30AM People of the Parish

#### Monday, December 23

8:30AM Bob Despain †

#### Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

10:00PM Mary Benoit †

#### Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:30AM Dr. Kenneth Henderson †

#### Friday, December 27

8:30AM Walt Gahm †

#### Saturday, December 28

5:30PM Charles Mehling †

#### Sunday, December 29

8:30AM Arnold Brown †

11:30AM People of the Parish

**Kirk Bergman**  
**Lynn Boone**  
**Ann Burton**  
**Jerry Clayton**  
**The repose of the soul of**  
**Cathy Conely**  
**Patricia Elliott**  
**Mary Elmore**  
**Katie Evers**  
**Alberta Fenimore**  
**Judy Theobald Fitzhugh**  
**Allie & Masey Goatley**  
**Michelle Hagan**  
**Betsy Hilinski**  
**Joseph Hohmann**  
**Rita Hohmann**  
**Carolyn Holman**  
**The Family of Austin Jag-**  
**gers**  
**Ann Browning Mayer**  
**Joyce McKiernan**  
**Anne McMahon**  
**Ann Mary Mehling**  
**Joyce Mitchell**  
**Don Mirka**  
**Toni Mullins**  
**Freda Nicholson**  
**Kim Osborne**  
**Nancy Ostertag**  
**Annie Pendleton**  
**Susan Rappa**  
**Raleigh Ridge**  
**Lisa Runyon**  
**Ed Schoenbaechler**  
**Jeff Schulz**  
**Norman Scott**

**Garland Sharpe**  
**Kameron Sutton**  
**Linda Waddell**  
**Diane West**  
**Gerard White (son)**  
**Leora Williams**  
**Jack Woodward**  
**Arthur Woolery**  
**Mary Wright**

