



# St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

Traditional Latin Mass Parish of Southern Maryland

Rev. Kevin M. Cusick

Pastor

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V.XII.MMXXI

Dominica II Adventus

5 December A.D. 2021  
Second Sunday in Advent

## From the Pastor

With the season of Advent we have an opportunity for a new beginning spiritually. God gave the human race a new opportunity for salvation through the Incarnation of Our Lord. If we participate intentionally in this season of new graces, preparing also for meeting the Lord face to face one day, we will celebrate a truly joyful Christmas. Our Christmas schedule of Masses is on the reverse of this bulletin. Our children are invited to bring the Bambino, Baby Jesus, from the family crèche at home for blessing at Mass next Sunday.

*“Pray always.”*

## Mass Schedule for Dec. 8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Holy Day of Obligation

Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 pm in English and at 7:00 pm in Latin. There will be no Mass celebrated in the morning.

## December 12: Retirement Fund for Religious

The second collection on December 12th will be for the national Retirement Fund for Religious. Thank you for your generous assistance to men and women who have spent their lives in service to the Lord and His Church.

## Dec. 17 & 18: Advent Days of Recollection

Join us at SFDS for days of recollection beginning with 5:30 Mass on Friday, December 17th and continuing with conferences, adoration, opportunity for confession, and time for silent meditation through 4 pm on Saturday December 18th.

## Dec. 18th: Tree Lighting, Caroling, & Dinner

Please join us on Saturday, December 18, as we prepare for the celebration of Our Lord's birth with music of the season by Jessica Stecklein in church at 4 pm, followed by the tree lighting on the rectory lawn at 5 pm, and then caroling through Benedict to serenade our neighbors with the good news of the Incarnation. The hot chocolate and dinner at the hall will be ready by 6:30 pm.

## Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Military KIA

Dedication of the sanctuary lamp each week to honor or recognize the living or deceased. Offering \$25 and proceeds help defray the cost of candles.

## The Sunday Holy Gospel

*Matt 11:2-10*

In that time, when John had heard in prison the works of Christ: sending two of his disciples he said to him: Art thou he that art to come, or look we for another? And so on.

Homily by Pope St. Gregory the Great.

The sight of so many signs and so many mighty works should have been a source of wonder, and not a stumbling-block. And yet the unfaithful Jer. xxxi. 5. found these very works a rock of offence, when they afterwards saw Him Who had worked so many miracles dying on the Cross. Hence Paul saith: "We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling-block and unto the Gentiles foolishness." 1 Cor. i. 23. It is indeed folly in the eyes of men to say that the Author of life died for men and thus men put as a stumbling-block to hinder them from coming to Jesus, the very thing that doth oblige them the most unto Him. For the more humbling God hath undergone for man's sake, the more worthy is He that man should worship Him.

## Give the Perfect Christmas Gift of Prayer

Enroll family members or loved ones in the Christmas Novena of Masses using the envelopes placed in the pew pockets which you can drop in the collection basket. Cards are available in church for sending to let them know of your gift.

## Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

*Let us pray.*

**S**tir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the ways of thine Only-begotten Son, that by His coming our minds being purified, we may the more worthily give up ourselves to thy service:

**W**ho with thee liveth and reigneth, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

## Advent: Are we to prepare a special coming of Christ?

Yes, indeed. His appearance, or rather, His invisible coming to our soul. This Christ does by infusing in us His grace, an increase of charity and especially by a renewed, fervent Eucharistic communion. And is not this coming and this dwelling in the soul of the faithful a momentous event? Many of us take for granted the sacraments of Baptism, Penance, and the Holy Eucharist. Few of us have not refreshed our memory of the tremendous conversion—first or second—to a godly life from a life of sin or simply of indifference. Yet, this mystery of grace, this drama of souls, occurs often. Priests are weekly, if not daily, the mute witnesses of God's call to conversion, sanctification, and salvation.

## Traditional Men's Confraternity

The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, a bi-monthly men's confraternity formed along Traditional Catholic lines, will meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month following the 9 am Mass. Please contact Jamieson Scarlata if interested. His email is always on the back of the bulletin.

**“Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church” is now on Facebook. “Like” us today!**

## Stewardship

### Last Sunday:

Offertory: \$1356.00  
 Parish use/restricted:  
 \$964.72  
 Maintenance labor/supplies:  
 \$140.00  
 Fuel \$120.00  
 Christmas Flowers \$85.00

*-Thank you for your generosity*

**Pray for our ill, hospitalized, those undergoing medical care and homebound:** Irving Chappellear, Dorothy Hume, Ray Stublarec, Neal Sullivan, Miles and Elizabeth Torreyson, Eleanor Vaughn, Daniel Rodriguez, Paul Custer, and Jerome and Jean Malsack.

Please call the rectory at 301-274-3416 or contact Father Cusick at [cusickk@adw.org](mailto:cusickk@adw.org) to arrange for him to visit any homebound, ill or hospitalized parishioners or family members.

### Rite of Christian Initiation - Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for adults seeking to enter the Church are scheduled by our faith formation director Aaron Percich. Email him to start formation: [aaron.percich@comcast.net](mailto:aaron.percich@comcast.net). Pick up a copy of the weekly Wanderer Newspaper available in church and see the "B" section for a basic adult catechetical resource.

### Children's Faith Formation

Our Church teaches that parents are the first teachers in the ways of Faith for all of our young people. No one has more power or responsibility before God for witnessing to our children of the fact of the Lord's Resurrection and His presence in our lives through the Church. Those parents who wish to augment home school with parish faith formation are asked to contact the parish office.

Families must be attending Sunday Mass throughout the year before children can receive first sacraments.

### Holy Sweepers for the weeks of December 5 and 12

#### Stephen Krautle

Holy Sweepers are the families and individuals who graciously keep our church clean and tidy. They clean once a week, for a two week period, on a rotating basis. If you would like to be a Holy Sweeper, please email Caitlin Sanders at [braun.cait@gmail.com](mailto:braun.cait@gmail.com).

### Service on the Altar

Training for all current and prospective members of the Society of Saints Aloysius and Alphonsus (SSAA) altar boy society will be held on the first Saturday of each month after the 9:00 am Mass.

All interested boys and men are invited to please contact Jamieson Scarlata at [1619surfer@gmail.com](mailto:1619surfer@gmail.com)

### UPCOMING:

- ProLife prayers every second Saturday of the month, **and next on December 11th**, 10-11 am, at Waldorf Planned Parenthood, 3975 St. Charles Parkway, Gateway Plaza, 20602
- **December 12: Second Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious**
- **Christmas Schedule: December 25 Midnight Mass, 9 am and 11 am**

### Mass Schedule and Intentions this Week

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5 Dec</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Baby McNeal	<b>Dominica II Adventus</b>
		<b>9:00 am*</b>	<i>Pro pópulo</i>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	†Barbara M Perusse	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>6 Dec</b>	**	Ed Rafferty	S Nicholas
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>7 Dec</b>	**	Mary Belton	S Ambrose
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8 Dec</b>	<b>6:00 pm*</b>	Intentions Fr Woo	<b>Immaculate Conception of BVM</b>
		<b>7:00 pm</b>	Joanne Ptak	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9 Dec</b>	9:00 am	Richard Anthony Fiora	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10 Dec</b>	9:00 pm	Jackie & Rick Fiora	S Melchiades
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11 Dec</b>	9:00 am	†Patricia Vaughan	S Damasus I
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12 Dec</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Dana Hepner	<b>Dominica III Adventus</b>
		<b>9:00 am*</b>	<i>Pro pópulo</i>	<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	†Auzica	

\* Mass in English \*\*Father away - no public Mass

If you would like to have a Mass offered, you may email [meitl.blogspot.com@gmail.com](mailto:meitl.blogspot.com@gmail.com), stop by the parish office during regular business hours, drop a note in the collection basket or see Father after Mass. The customary offering for a Mass, per Archdiocesan guidelines, is \$10.00.

### Staff

**Bookkeeper:** Mr. Dennis Haspert

**Bulletin:** Mrs. Caitlin Sanders

**Choir:** Miss Jenni Scarlata

**Director of Liturgy/Secretary:** Mr. Stephen Krautle

**Hall and Grounds:** Mrs. Donna and Mr. Mark Long

**Parish Council President:** Mr. Sid Marcus

**Physical Plant/Maintenance:** Mr. Jamie Scarlata

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### Mass and Sacrament Schedule

**Traditional Latin Mass: Sundays** 8 am & 11 am

Weekdays: Mon 9 am, Wed 7 pm, Thurs-Sat 9 am

**Holy Days:** 8 am, 7 pm

**English: Sundays** 9 am, **Holy Days** 6 pm

**Confessions** offered prior to all weekend Masses

**Baptisms and Marriages:** By appointment 6 months in advance. **Bulletin Deadline:** Two Thursdays prior to the date of publication. Send to [braun.cait@gmail.com](mailto:braun.cait@gmail.com) or call the rectory 301-274-3416. **New Parishioners: Welcome!** Please complete a registration form, available in the back of the church and also at <https://www.stfrancisbenedict.org/registration-form/>. You may email it, return it to Father, or drop it in the collection basket.