



# St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

Traditional Latin Mass Parish of Southern Maryland

Rev. Kevin M. Cusick

Pastor

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XII.XII.MMXXI

Dominica III Adventus

Our Lady of Guadalupe — Within the Octave of the Immaculate Conception

12 December A.D. 2021

Third 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 forward the Bambino, Baby Jesus, from the family crèche at home for blessing after Mass today.

*“Pray always.”*

## Second Collection THIS SUNDAY: Retirement Fund for Religious

The second collection this Sunday is 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, Rorate Mass

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.

In conjunction with this retreat, a Sung Rorate Mass will be celebrated Saturday morning for the Feast of the Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 6:30 AM. All are welcome.

## 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.

## 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 the church for sending out to let them know of your gift.

## 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 — John 1: 19-28

At that time, the Jews sent to John from Jerusalem priests and Levites to ask him, Who are you? And he acknowledged and did not deny; and he acknowledged, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Are you Elias? And he said, I am not. Are you the Prophet? And he answered, No. They therefore said to him, Who are you? that we may give an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say of yourself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the desert, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as said Isaias the prophet. And they who had been sent were from among the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said to him, Why, then, do you baptize, if you are not the Christ, nor Elias, nor the Prophet? John said to them in answer, I baptize with water; but in the midst of you there has stood One Whom you do not know. He it is Who is to come after me, Who has been set above me, the strap of Whose sandal I am not worthy to loose. These things took place at Bethany, beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## Prayer for the Third Week of Advent

*L*et us pray.

Lend Your ear to our prayers, O Lord, we beseech You; and brighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Your coming. Who livest and reignest with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

*R.* Amen



## 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*

## 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

## UPCOMING:

- ProLife prayers every second Saturday of the month from 10-11 am at Waldorf Planned Parenthood, 3975 St. Charles Parkway, Gateway Plaza, 20602
- **Christmas Schedule: December 25 - Midnight Mass, 9 am, and 11 am**

## Mass Schedule and Intentions this Week

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12 Dec</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Baby McNeal	<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	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>13 Dec</b>	**	Francis Higgs	S Lucy
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>14 Dec</b>	**	+ Patricia Vaughn	Within the Octave Imm. Conc. BVM
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>15 Dec</b>	6:00 pm	<i>Adoration</i>	
		7:00 pm	Kristi Srodowski	Octave Day of the Imm, Conception
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>16 Dec</b>	9:00 am	Dana Hedner	S Eusebius of Vercelli
<b>Friday</b>	<b>17 Dec</b>	9:00 am	Christmas Novena	Ember Friday of Advent
		5:30 pm	Intentions of Retreatants	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>18 Dec</b>	6:30 am	Christmas Novena	Expectation of the BVM– Rorate Mass
		9:00 am	+ Mons. Eugene Marino	Ember Saturday of Advent
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19 Dec</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	Christmas Novena	<b>Dominica IV Adventus</b>
		<b>9:00 am*</b>	<i>Pro pópulo</i>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
		<b>11:00 am</b>	+ Joyce Family	

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

If you would like to have a Mass offered, you may email [mcitl.blogspot.com@gmail.com](mailto:mcitl.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.

**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).