



THE GOOD NEWS

St. Francis Church, Peoria/Dunlap, IL

November, December, 2011

Sheryl Diemer, Editor

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Vicar's Corner

Greetings everyone! Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. November has been an exciting month for us at St. Francis! Deacon Ron did an excellent job teaching the first communion classes for the kids, and we saw the fruits of their labor as they received first communion from Bishop Morales during his visit on November 6th. It was an honor being a part of this special day for the kids!

As you all know, we have been using the liturgy from the *Book of Common Worship* in our Thursday evening mass, and we will begin using it in our Sunday service on the first Sunday of Advent. I greatly encourage everyone to purchase a copy of the book, but in the meantime, we will have printed copies of the liturgy available for everyone to use.

Also, I want to remind everyone that I am eagerly awaiting submissions for the "Who We Are" section of the church brochure. The purpose of your submissions is to gain input from everyone and come up with a description of ourselves to present to the community that we can all own and be proud of!

My focus in the church for the past few months has been to encourage the cultivation of closer relationships and a stronger sense of unity within the congregation, and I think we are making a lot of progress growing together as a Church family. Being a close knit community is absolutely vital if we are going to fulfill the mission of the Church in the community. As Julie Neilson so powerfully put it in last month's newsletter, "he (God) wants us to bring others to him, but we can't do that until we unite as a family." I believe with all my heart that God has done and will do great things through St. Francis Church! May we all labor TOGETHER in the light of God's mercy and grace.

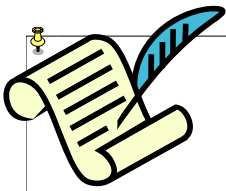


Father Werkman's Office Hours:

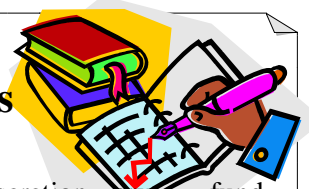
Tuesday 9 am—4:30 pm
Thursday: 9 am to 4:30 pm

Contact Fr. Werkman at 217-778-1114
Email: brmatthew1@gmail.com

Father Werkman lives and serves part time at St. Benedicts Abbey. The Abbey observes silence from 8:00 pm until 8:30 am. Please do not call Fr. Werkman during these hours unless it's an emergency. Thank you.



Bishop's Committee Meeting Highlights October 2011



- August Treasurer's report reviewed; there was discussion that funds donated to Vicar's Discretionary fund be moved to Fr Matt's personal discretionary fund rather than regular Vicar's Discretionary Fund. Mary Kay communicated the 2012 Diocesan Assessment for St Francis.
- Deacon Ron that 7 children to be received for communion.
- Building Committee –we could use part of North Minister Church on Knoxville we could use chapel (holds 100 and have use of an office). Committee also looking into Wedding Chapel in Dunlap.
- Oct 8th Krispy Kreme sale results were successful, all 200 dozen doughnuts sold.
- Mary Kay is selling Bergner's Community Booklets for \$5 , which goes straight to the church, purchasers get \$10 off coupon to be used dates of November 11th and 12th
- Mary Kay will also be ordering Fannie May candy bars and have those available for Diocesan Synod ,we will be selling dark chocolate and caramel bars.
- Baskets for auction at the Diocean Synod
- Book of Common Worship being used at Thursday night service and it will be being used on the first Sunday in Advent.
- Father Matt repeated his request to review Mission statement and synopsis of how and what we're going to and how we intend to implement. .
- Deanery meeting – St Francis Oct 4th at 7:00PM
- Synod Oct 21st and Oct 22nd in Galesburg, Katrina Honnold & Gary Diemer are elected delegates. Paul B and Lorie are alternates.
- Stewardship Campaign needs to conclude before early November to allow time to build 2012 Budget; Dave Quigg is heading the Stewardship drive.

November 2011

- October Treasurer's report reviewed; there were comments by treasurer that we still owe \$1900 to diocese. There was discussion on using generic envelopes in 2012 to reduce cost and provide flexibility.
- Deacon Ron – Commented he was pleased with skit and the 7 children who were received into communion. He is currently working on an inquirers class.
- Outreach – We have 4 children to provide for Nashotah House, Looking to provide gift of \$25-30 value for 4 children. One girl age 7 and 3 boys age 9, 11, & 12. Mary Kay if facilitating this project, if you can donate, willing to wrap presents or purchase them please contact Mary Kay.
- Mary Kay reported Bergner's Community Booklet sales were at least 54 resulting in revenue of \$270.
- We made \$160 in script sales on 11/13 and will be taking orders 11/27 and 12/11.
- Book of Common Worship being used at Thursday night service and it will be being used on the first Sunday in Advent.
- Ruth has purchased multiple copies of Book of Common Worship to be utilized by the parish.
- Father Matt repeated his request to review Mission statement and synopsis of how and what we're going to and how we intend to implement. Second request for this from Bishop Committee's members.
- Stewardship drive for time talent and treasure will start 11/18, Dave Quigg will present request to the congregation
- Thanksgiving Service will be Wednesday Nov 23rd
- Greening of the Church will be 12/18 after the service
- Christmas Eve service will start at 9:00PM preceded at 8:30 by an abbreviated Lessons and Carols.
- To provide better ownership of different area of church life the Bishop's committee members will assuming oversight of a specific area of church life.

Parish News

Cookie Walk: Dec. 11th. Please bring 4 or 5 dozen of your favorite cookies. The cookies will be set out, and you walk around and choose an assortment for \$5.00 per pound.



Shop with Scrip this Holiday Season



Be prepared for the holiday season purchases by using scrip cards or to buy scrip cards to use as gifts. Go to www.glscrip.com to see merchants, card values and amount that will go to St. Francis. Amount to church varies between 2 % to 25% depending on the merchant,

<u>Scrip orders will be taken on:</u>	<u>Delivered On:</u>
November 27 th	December 4 th
December 11 th	December 18 th

Invite your friends and family to participate!

At the November 2011 Bishop's Committee meeting it was agreed that each member, other than the Bishop's Warden would be responsible for overseeing an area of the parish's life and health. They are not necessarily to "do" these tasks, but to are to bring people of the parish together into these commissions and provide communication to the vicar and communication committee, provide monthly updates to the Bishops' committee and are the "go to" individual for that aspect of parish life. If you are already doing a ministry, now you have a committee member who will represent you at the meetings. These responsibilities will be reassigned with each new Bishop's Committee. The 2011 commissions and member responsible are:

Outreach - Steve Hohulin and Deacon Ron Nielson

Nashotah House Christmas - Peoria Mission Dinner - hats and mitten tree - Blood drive - Food Pantry - Heifer Project

Evangelism—Susan Stranski -

greeters - new comers followup - Alpha - other activities to bring people outside of the parish to Christ.

Stewardship and Finance - Dave Quigg

Pledge drive - Budget - Fund Raisers - Time and Talent

Building and Grounds - Paul German

Bathroom and Kitchen supplies - cleaning - building Issues

Social and Fellowship - Lorie Harris

social calendar for the year - coffee hour - special events

Christian Education and Discipleship - Mary Kay Gamage

Sunday School both adult and children - bible studies - Lenten program

Communication - Gary Diemer

Bulletin - Newsletter - website - Shepherd Tree (created yearly for the Bishop's committee) - Parish directory-

Liturgy and Worship—Father Matt

- Liturgy, Music - Altar Guild - Acolytes— Eucharistic Ministers - Chalice Bearers

Ministry (Internal) - Paul Brodkorb

Intercessors - Prayers Chain, Ministry - Nursery - Readers - Parish Birthday and Anniversary List (Card Ministry?)

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

Living and Sharing the Good News to Bring Souls to Christ.

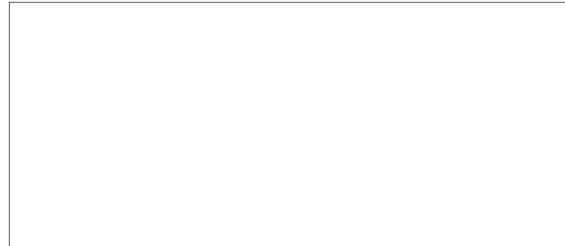


**SAINT
FRANCIS
CHURCH**

**Lake of the Woods Plaza
12200 N. Brentfield Drive, Dunlap ,
Illinois 61525
The Rev. Matthew Werkman, Vicar**

Celebrating 50 years as a church of the Diocese of Quincy

Office hours: Monday: 9am—4:30 pm
Thursday: 9am—4:30 pm
Phone: 309-243-2404
Email: stfrancis.lotw@frontier.com
Website: <http://www.saintfrancischurch.net/>



The Good News

Weekly Schedule

- **Sunday—**
 - 8:45 am Morning Prayer**
 - 9:00 Adult Sunday School**
 - 9:45: Children's Sunday School**
 - Holy Eucharist—10:00 am**
(Nursery Available)
- Thursday —**Morning Prayer - 8:30 am
Bible Study —9:00—10:30 am
—Mass —6 pm
Bible Study—6:45 pm—8:00
- Friday —**Evening Prayer—5:45 pm

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER/JANUARY EVENTS

November 23rd—Thanksgiving Eucharist—6:30 pm

November 27th—Chilli Cook-off Scrip orders taken

December 11th—Annual Cookie Walk Scrip orders taken

December 18th—Greening of the Church—Bring an appetizer to share

December 24th—Christmas Eve Services

8:30 p.m.—Lessons and Carols

9:00 pm—The Mass of the Holy Nativity (Christ Mass)- Solemn High with Incense

December 25th—Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

December 29th—Blood Drive

January 1st—Holy Name—Holy Eucharist 10:00 am

January 22nd—Annual Meeting and Siberian Picnic following the Eucharist