

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

*Catholic Church*

LLC Series #221

65 East 500 North • Orem, UT 84057 Phone: 801-221-0750 ~ Fax: 801-221-0759

Website: [www.oremstfassisilpi.com](http://www.oremstfassisilpi.com)

## PASTORAL STAFF TEAM

<i>Pastor,</i>	<b>Rev. David Bittmenn</b>	<b>Ext. 14</b>
<i>Associate Pastor,</i>	<b>Rev. Jose Rausseo</b>	<b>Ext. 19</b>
<i>Administrative Assistant,</i>	<b>Thania Meza</b>	<b>Ext. 10</b>
<i>Business Manager,</i>	<b>Janice Hauzen</b>	<b>Ext. 12</b>
<i>Parish Coordinator,</i>	<b>Julie Boerio-Goates</b>	<b>Ext. 11</b>
<i>Religious Education,</i>	<b>Luis Velasco</b>	<b>Ext. 16</b>

## PARISH OFFICE

Mon—Fri 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm.



## DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN:

Monday at 2:00 p.m. Announcements can be emailed to:

Email: [oremstfrancis@lycos.com](mailto:oremstfrancis@lycos.com)

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, December 18th, 2011; 4th Sunday of Advent** 2Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

Masses, 8:30 a.m. (English)  
10:30 a.m. (English)  
12:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
3:00 p.m. (Spanish)

**Monday, December 19th, 2011; Judges 13:2-7, 24-25, Luke 1:5-25**

Masses, 9:00 a.m. (English)  
6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Confessions, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 20th, 2011; Isaiah 7:10-14, Luke 1:26-38**

Masses, 9:00 a.m. (English)  
6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Confessions, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 21st; Song of Songs 2:8-14, Luke 1:39-45**

Masses, 9:00 a.m. (English)  
6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Confessions, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, December 22nd, 2011; 1Samuel 1:24-28, Luke 1:46-56**

Masses, 9:00 a.m. (English)  
6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Confessions, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Friday, December 23rd, 2011; Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24, Luke 1:57-66**

Masses, 9:00 a.m. (English)  
6:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
Confessions, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, December 24th, 2011; Christmas Eve** 2Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16, Luke 1:67-79

No Confessions  
Vigil Mass, 5:30 p.m. (English)  
7:30 p.m. (Spanish)

**Sunday, December 25th, 2011; Christmas Day** Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18

Masses, 12:00 a.m. Midnight (Bilingual)  
10:30 a.m. (English)  
12:30 p.m. (Spanish)  
3:00 p.m. (Spanish)



## 4th Sunday of Advent



*Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done according to your word."*

*-Luke 1:38*

**The Diocesan Stewardship program:** Please remember to complete your commitment cards and place them in the basket near the hallway entrance to the church. If you didn't receive a commitment card, there are extras in the bookrack in the hall. With your help we'll build the parish both physically and spiritually.

**Our parish penance service** is a series of extended hours for individual confession. Confessions will be heard from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. beginning this Monday and concluding this Friday. It's an ideal opportunity to prepare the way of the Lord.

**Christmas Masses this year** are next Saturday and Sunday. Our schedule will be similar to schedules in years passed.

- Saturday, December 24:  
English Mass at 5:30 p.m.  
Spanish Mass at 7:30 p.m.
- Bilingual Mass at midnight between December 24 and 25
- Sunday, December 25:  
English Mass at 10:30 a.m.  
Spanish Mass at 12:30 p.m.  
Spanish Mass at 3:00 p.m.

**An invitation from the Women of St. Francis:** Ladies of the Parish, please mark Monday, December 19th, at 6:30 p.m. on your calendars. We will join together for an inspirational and fun holiday gathering. Our guest speaker will be Anne Boyer from St. Peter's in American Fork. If you can, bring a Yule potluck and a friend. Also, instead of exchanging gifts with each other, please bring a toy or clothing for a child in need. We will be passing these on to different charities. We'll see you there!

**Masses and confessions for December 26-29** will be canceled. The office will be closed these days as well.

**The Light of Advent intensifies:** Among the different kinds of lights this time of year is a light of ease and joy emanating from the connections we have. After all the running and all

the concerns about attending to everything, there will be a chance or two for us to relax with family and friends. People will come in and out, sports or a video game will be on the television, various groups will talk in various corners of the house, kids play with their toys, and everyone will have plenty of food. There will be no worry, real laughter, and there will be a keen sense of the moment. It will be possible to catch up with others and take delight in them.

In today's Gospel Mary's moment of concern was intensified. The angel Gabriel appeared and Mary was troubled. She didn't understand and she couldn't see how she could be of help. If her moment of concern was intensified, so too was her moment of peace: "be it done to me according to their word." The connections Mary had with God reasserted themselves. They had been re-emphasized and they gave Mary a peace, one that picks up from the gentle peace families have this time of year and extends it. Salvation was about to come into the world and things would – joyfully – never be the same. There would still be confusions and preoccupations, but the world was about to change fundamentally. Peace and joy were to win the ultimate victory and Mary savored the connections and the light that this ultimate victory will make real.

**A big thanks** to all who helped with our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations. All who participated grew closer to the Lord.

**One of the bigger ideas:** There are different levels of importance among the various ideas and teachings in the Church. Several days ago the Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York recalled that human dignity is of primary importance within the Church.

"When we mention Catholic doctrines, we usually mention the Trinity, the Incarnation, the redemption, the Eucharist," the archbishop said. "I wonder why we never include the doctrine of the dignity of the human person? It's pivotal; it's way up there; it's normative." Despite what he called the "caricature of the church ... that it had to be dragged kicking and screaming into the noble enterprise of defending human rights," Archbishop Dolan said the Catholic doctrine of the dignity of the human person "startled the brutality of the Roman world with its emphasis on the protection of life, respect for the person, care for the vulnerable, (and) defense of women, babies, children, families, elders and even slaves." "It gave rise to the greatest system of health care, education and charity the world has ever known," he added.

Human dignity stems from the simple fact that humans are made in the image and likeness of God. Human dignity isn't earned - although we can do things contrary to it - it is part of us from our beginnings. Human dignity means we strive "to treat ourselves and others only with respect, love, honor and care," continued Archbishop Dolan. This "doctrine also means people must not be identified 'with our urges, our flaws, our status, our possessions, our utility,' but each seen as 'a child of God, his creation, modeled in his own image, destined for eternity,' he said."

"My identity, my personhood ... does not depend on whether or not I have a green card, a stock portfolio, a job, a home or even a college diploma," Archbishop Dolan said. "Nor does

my identity depend upon whom I am sexually attracted to, or to race, religion, gender, social status, bank account, passport or health insurance, but on my essence as a child of God.”

Like a number of other great truths, human dignity isn't always easy to apply. This is particularly true when people are engaged in activities denying or downplaying their dignity. Nonetheless, the dignity is there. Hopefully one day it will shine forth.

*-The above quotations are from*

*www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns /1104775.htm*

**The light v. a particular form of darkness:** Skepticism can be a healthy thing, but a definite rejection of something as enduring as the miraculous birth of Christ is a spiritual danger. It can also be a self-fulfilling prophecy. C.S. Lewis noted years ago:

“In all my life I have met only one person who claims to have seen a ghost. And the interesting thing about the story is that that person disbelieved in the immortal soul before she saw the ghost and still disbelieves after seeing it. She says that what she saw must have been an illusion or a trick of the nerves. And obviously she may be right. Seeing is not believing.

“For this reason, the question whether miracles occur can never be answered simply by experience. Every event which might claim to be a miracle is, in the last resort, something presented to our senses, something seen, heard, touched, smelled, or tasted. And our senses are not infallible. If anything extraordinary seems to have happened, we can always say that we have been the victims of an illusion. If we hold a philosophy which excludes the supernatural, this is what we always shall say.... It is therefore useless to appeal to experience before we have settled, as well as we can, the philosophical question. If immediate experience cannot prove or disprove the miraculous, still less can history do so. Many people think one can decide whether a miracle occurred in the past by examining the evidence ‘according to the ordinary rules of historical inquiry.’ But the ordinary rules cannot be worked until we have decided whether miracles are possible, and if so, how probable they are. For if they are impossible, then no amount of historical evidence will convince us. If they are possible, but immensely improbable, then only mathematical demonstrative evidence will convince us: and since history never provides that degree of evidence for any event, history can never convince us that a miracle occurred.”

*-From C.S. Lewis, Miracles, pp. 7-8.*

**Just a friendly reminder:** Please remember to bring in sub-4-santa gifts back by **today** before or after Masses. Thanks to all who helped those less fortunate this Christmas.

## COLLECTION, December 10-11

Loose Cash	\$2954.65
Loose Checks	\$ 775.00
Envelopes	\$1050.00
Coin	<u>\$4500.00</u>
Total	\$9279.65
New Budget	<u>\$5665.00</u>
Above Budget	+\$3614.65

2nd Collection Campaign for Human Development	\$1963.00
Food Sales	\$1111.50
Boutique Sales will be in next week's bulletin	

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, December 18th

8:30 AM +Kathy Todd by Phommabouth Family  
 10:30 AM +Michael & Leona Woods by Robert Woods  
 12:30 PM Ints. Jose Meza  
 3:00 PM Ints. Guadalupe Padilla & Family

### MONDAY, December 19th

9:00 AM All Faithful Departed  
 6:30 PM +Maria Machuca

### TUESDAY, December 20th

9:00 AM Those Needing Spiritual Guidance  
 6:30 PM Our Benefactors

### WEDNESDAY, December 21st

9:00 AM All In Need  
 6:30 PM +Fidencio Grajeda

### THURSDAY, December 22nd

7:00 AM +Cleo Corrales  
 6:30 PM +Epifanio Arias Cruz

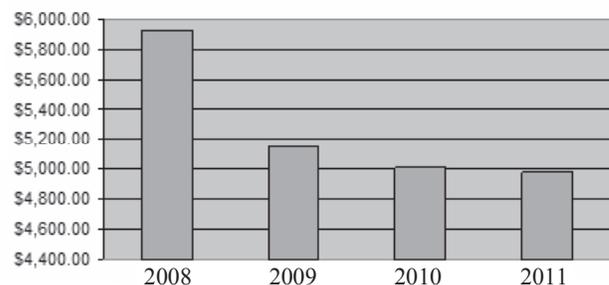
### FRIDAY, December 23rd

9:00 AM +Lydia Moore  
 6:30 PM +Elias Javier

### SATURDAY, December 24th

5:30 PM Parishioners  
 7:00 PM +Evaristo Lopez Gabino

**AVERAGE SUNDAY COLLECTION, FIRST 49 WEEKS OF THE YEAR**



## PRAYER LIST:

All our Military Troops, C.P.O. John Richardson, Msgr. B. Blecha, Carl Marchesi, Jodee & Pat Zaccardi, Particia & Patrick Kennedy, Msgr. Jason Hindmarsh, Barbara & Burt Slavens, Randy Jahner, LaRae Bunting, Carmen Carrillo, Freddy Corrales, Ercilia Velasco, Melany G. Bowen, Madaline Alispach, Fred Chavez, Ana Schooler, Juan & Mary Ruiz, Mary Ann Liddiard, Max Keele, Jade Lucero, Don Baker, Kiki Brown-White, Pedro Ortiz-Valle, Jackie Briggs, Sidlow Family, Citlali Gomez, Hardy Family, Carlson Family, Dallas Kummer.