

# SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ponca City, Oklahoma

November 18, 2018

Dear parishioners,

On Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and on Thursday we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Let's remember to always be thankful for the great gift of the Blessed Virgin Mary, as the highest honor of our race and our highest intercessor, and redouble our efforts to put ourselves under her patronage and protection. Let's hear what St. Augustine says about Our Lady:

From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop: Stretching out his hand over his disciples, the Lord Christ declared: *Here are my mother and my brothers; anyone who does the will of my Father who sent me is my brother and sister and my mother.* I would urge you to ponder these words. Did the Virgin Mary, who believed by faith and conceived by faith, who was the chosen one from whom our Savior was born among men, who was created by Christ before Christ was created in her—did she not do the will of the Father? Indeed the blessed Mary certainly did the Father's will, and so it was for her a greater thing to have been Christ's disciple than to have been his mother, and she was more blessed in her discipleship than in her motherhood. Hers was the happiness of first bearing in her womb him whom she would obey as her master.

Now listen and see if the words of Scripture do not agree with what I have said. The Lord was passing by and crowds were following him. His miracles gave proof of divine power, and a woman cried out: *Happy is the womb that bore you, blessed is that womb!* But the Lord, not wishing people to seek happiness in a purely physical relationship, replied: *More blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.* Mary heard God's word and kept it, and so she is blessed. She kept God's truth in her mind, a nobler thing than carrying his body in her womb. The truth and the body were both Christ: he was kept in Mary's mind insofar as he is truth, he was carried in her womb insofar as he is man; but what is kept in the mind is of a higher order than what is carried in the womb.

The Virgin Mary is both holy and blessed, and yet the Church is greater than she. Mary is a part of the Church, a member of the Church, a holy, an eminent—the most eminent—member, but still only a member of the entire body. The body undoubtedly is greater than she, one of its members. This body has the Lord for its head, and head and body together make up the whole Christ. In other words, our head is divine—our head is God.

Now, beloved, give me your whole attention, for you also are members of Christ; you also are the body of Christ. Consider how you yourselves can be among those of whom the Lord said: *Here are my mother and my brothers.* Do you wonder how you can be the mother of Christ? He himself said: *Whoever hears and fulfills the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and my sister and my mother.* As for our being the brothers and sisters of Christ, we can understand this because although there is only one inheritance and Christ is the only Son, his mercy would not allow him to remain alone. It was his wish that we too should be heirs of the Father, and co-heirs with himself.

Now having said that all of you are brothers of Christ, shall I not dare to call you his mother? Much less would I dare to deny his own words. Tell me how Mary became the mother of Christ, if it was not by giving birth to the members of Christ? You, to whom I am speaking, are the members of Christ. Of whom were you born? "Of Mother Church," I hear the reply of your hearts. You became sons of this mother at your baptism, you came to birth then as members of Christ. Now you in your turn must draw to the font of baptism as many as you possibly can. You

became sons when you were born there yourselves, and now by bringing others to birth in the same way, you have it in your power to become the mothers of Christ.

Have a great week, and Happy Thanksgiving Day!

In Christ,

*Fr. Carson*



## Mass Schedule

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018

12:10pm †Sandy Myatt/Tom & Kristi

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018

12:10pm †Keith Jones/Pat Lowe

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2018

**12:10pm** In Thanksgiving Mark & Brenda Pope/Mom & Dad

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018 – Thanksgiving Day

**9:00am** †Gary Gregg/Marilyn Gregg  
(Church)

**9:30am** †Ernest Vap/Diane Pankratz  
(St. Francis - Newkirk)

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018

7:00am **NO MASS**

12:10pm †Harry Berendzen/Paul & Nancy Whitney

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018

9:00am People of the Parish

5:00pm †Deceased Family of Stefan & Kateryna Hercyk/Jim & Mary Smith

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

8:00am †David Geubelle/Allen & Shirley Weber

9:30am **MASS** (St. Francis Church, Newkirk)

11:00am †Irvin Sheik/Mary Ann Farnick

1:00pm **MASS** (Spanish Mass)

7:00pm People of the Parish

### Weekly Income Report

November 11, 2018

Weekly Collection

\$22,536.96

**Stewardship Cards** - Please return your cards if you haven't already done so! Thank you.

**Please Pray For those who need prayers:** Mary Brown, Jeanette Vassar, Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Fran Baur, Don Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Bennie Westerman, Keith & Sue Behara, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Teresa Epperson, Ted Thomas, Elaine Gray Calahan, Todd Hatchett, Gae Meyers, Gary Kirchmeyer, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Mike Cofer, Dawsyn Kirkes, Ramona Coutre, Lois Frisch, Denver Gearhart, Terry Stewart, Lynda Howard, Joel Rivera, Marian Jeter, Jaycee Colclasure, Shelly Behar, Gabriel Dietz, Jay Underwood, Jill Kestler, Carol Evans, Allen Arthurs, Mary Knori, Mary Austin, Hannah Boyer, Jesus Cvarrillo, Logan Blakey, Asher Dailey, Betty Dimond, Tyson Rutter, Martha Robinson, Diego Blanco, Mary Boor, Mark Ramsey, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Fred Spellman, Mary Hyatt, Keith Goss, Carol Stewart, Raye Lynne Brown, Joyce Koehler, Vivian Rose Graeff, Sue Odom, Barbara Spore, John Gardner, Jim Smith, Owen Greer, Scarlett Wimer, Alicia Aguilar, Audrey Ginn, Bill Hyatt, Regina Cadeñanes, Judy Cocci, Mike Gray, Flip Fleming, Lorraine McKain, Dennis Guinn

## ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

**TUESDAY -DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> -6:00PM**

There will be several visiting priests here to hear our confessions, so please come out and have your sins forgiven and make proximate preparations to receive Jesus Christ into your heart on Christmas morning!

## THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### GUILD NEWS:

The monthly meeting of the St. Francis Guild will meet on Wednesday, November 21 in the McGurk room at 9:30 am. The program will be Fr. Carson speaking on the Apostolic Pardon at the hour of death. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend this important update of the final rites. Brunch will be served and the meeting will follow.



### FAITH FORMATION

**NO ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION ON NOVEMBER 21ST. HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED THANKSGIVING**



**THERE WILL BE NO JH/SH FAITH FORMATION THIS WEDNESDAY. HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING BREAK!**

### **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**

**November 30-December 2, 2018**

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where emotional healing, reconciliation with God, and self-forgiveness may occur. Whatever your fears or hesitations may be, take the steps toward receiving this gift you deserve. You are not alone. There is no cost for this retreat. Pre-registration is required. Please call (405) 623-3844 or email [rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com](mailto:rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com).

## The Week Ahead November 19-25, 2018

Monday		
Tuesday	7:00pm	NO RCIA
Wednesday	7:00am	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY, The Perk
	9:30am	ST. FRANCIS GUILD, McGurk Room
	12:00pm	OFFICE CLOSED
	6:30pm	NO K-12 FAITH FORMATION
Thursday	9:00am	MASS, Church
	10:00am	NO WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Friday	7:30am	NO ADORATION
	10:30am	NO CONFESSION
	12:10pm	MASS, Chapel
Saturday	2:00pm	RECIO BAPTISM, Church
	3:30pm	CONFESSION, Church
		TREE OF LOVE GOES UP THIS WEEKEND
Sunday	6:00pm	CONFESSION, Church

**Rest in Peace:** Please pray for the souls of Kay Horinek, mother of Bill Horinek, and for Evelyn Engelking, mother of Teresa Cobb. May God grant them eternal peace.

Join us on Sunday, November 25th at 6pm at St Francis parish for a talk on Eucharistic Adoration followed by time for prayer.



### Group Advent Series:

Beginning December 2 at 7pm, we will meet every Sunday of Advent in the **St Francis Rectory** as we dive into the beauty of the Advent Season and Prayer. No sign-up necessary. Please join us.

### Advent Mission

#### *"Prayer During Advent"*

Our Parish Advent Mission will be presented by Mr. Jim Beckman, Executive Director of Evangelization and Catechesis for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. The Mission will be held Monday & Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM in the Church. Day Care will be provided. There will also be a 4pm session Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, No Day Care for this session.

Please see the Bulletin insert for information on the SCRIP Program!

Thank you for supporting our Catholic School!



The **Knights of Columbus** will be selling **Christmas cards** after the Masses. Come see us at the main church entrance to make your selections. Lots of new Christmas cards are available.

**ONLY SIX WEEKS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!!!**