

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Aviston, IL

February 14, 2026

Pastor - Fr. Von C. Deeke (cell 618-214-6852)

Deacon Brad Haar

Office Manager - Amber Griesbaum

Dir. of Religious Education - Sister Jeannette Fennewald

Custodian & Sexton: John Toennies

Admin. Assistant - Carol Rapp

Telephone: 618-228-7219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 93

E-mail: parish@stfrancisav.org

Web page: www.stfrancisav.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat. Feb. 14	4:00pm	Judy Markus Cindy & Gerry Zurliene Family Shirley & Arnie Moss Abby Robke
Sun. Feb. 15	7:30am	Daenerys Rose Koonce L/D Joseph Cicirello Family
	9:30am	Dan & Marge Thole L/D Vince & Bernice Poettker Family Norbert & Stella Hollenkamp Family
Mon. Feb. 16	7:30am	NO MASS
Tues. Feb. 17	7:30am	George & Rosina Hollenkamp
Wed. Feb. 18 ASH WEDNESDAY	7:30am	All Aviston/Kirchner Lumber Family
	7:00pm	St. Francis Parish Family
Thur. Feb. 19	7:30am	Genevieve Lueke
Fri. Feb. 20	7:30am	Hank Feldmann Frank & Pauline Goestenkers Stella Hollenkamp
	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat. Feb. 21	4:00pm	Dora Beer
Sun. Feb. 22	7:30am	Paul & Dolores Horstmann Roy & Edna Mollet
	9:30am	Robert & Florence Thole Sandy Peek Stobl & Dylan Peek 8 th Grade Students

CONFESSIONS:

(Also by appointment)

Sat. 2:00pm - 3:40pm

Sun. 8:45am - 9:10am

WEEKLY ROSARY:

Sat. Afternoon at 3:30pm

Sun. Morning at 7:10am



PARISH CENTER UPDATE: The parish trustees and I have submitted a resolution to the diocese, for their approval, for our parish to work with Integrated School and Parish Development, a consulting firm, to conduct a financial feasibility study for our Parish Center.
-Fr. Von



SYMPATHY: Remember (mother of Ruthie [Jim] Markus; Marilyn [Joe Lampe] Holthaus); (sister of Deborah [Daniel] Athmer), who passed away. Please keep *Gertrude, Jeanne and their families* in your prayers.



CONGRATULATIONS to *Vince Robert Brennan & John Cooper Brennan* (sons of Addison & Amber Jo [Timmermann] Brennan) who were baptized last weekend. We welcome *Vince & John* to our faith family.

OFFERINGS FEBRUARY 7th & 8th:

General Fund

Sunday Envelopes: \$ 5,011.00
Loose: \$ 609.00
Online Giving: \$ 2,619.25
General Fund Total: \$ 6,477.25



Your General Fund contribution enables
FAITH IN ACTION



Pick up your rice bowl this weekend. What you give up for Lent changes lives!

Special Collections:

Improvement Fund \$ 1,654.00
Black & Native Americans \$ 55.00
Catholic Relief Services \$ 100.00



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOSPITALIZED:

Nix & Tate Blaser	Nancy Brooks	Lisa Eilers
David Foy	Tracy Frey	Darryl Gebhart
Moe Goestenkers	Randy Haselhorst	Ryan Haukap
Jessica Hudspeth	Betty Huelsmann	Scott Huelsmann
Marie Jansen	Phyllis Kendall	Dale Lampe
Mark Moss	Darleen Nelson	Don Rakers
Don Ripperda	Patricia Rollings	Phoenix Sanders
Seona Sanders	Kathy Schaar	Rev. Carl Schrage
Don Schulte	Tanya Shultz	Mary Strieker
Pat Sudholt	Marge Thole	Corey Toennies
RaeAnne Toennies	Khara Vanderhyden	Carolyn Wilson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sun. Feb. 15 - 9:30am - St. Francis Sunday School Class
Mon. Feb. 16 - **PRESIDENTS' DAY! CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**
Tues. Feb 17 - 11:00am Ladies of the Parish Lucheon
- 7:00pm- Extrordinary Minister Training- Holy Communion
Wed. Feb. 18 - **Ash Wednesday**
Sun. Feb. 22 - 9:30am - St. Francis Sunday School Class
9:30am - **Rite of Election**

CEMETERY: Looking for a Grass Service Company for the St. Francis Cemetery to provide weekly mowing and trimming. Please submit your bids & proof of insurance to the Parish by **March 15th**. Any questions please contact the Custodian, John Toennies.



SECOND COLLECTION: *Next weekend*, our parish will take up the 140th **Black & Indian Mission Collection**. Your support helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Immediately following 9:30am

Mass on the Sundays of Lent, till 3:00pm, the Blessed Sacrament is publicly exposed on the Altar. It is an opportunity for all to spend time before Jesus in prayer. There must be **at least two adults present in the church at all times**. Come and pray for vocations, healing, peace or intentions of your own. **Sign-up sheets, with times, are at all entrances of church**. Consider committing to a time slot.



LENTEN REGULATIONS: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are **obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics**. In addition, *Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence*. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, **the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59**. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. *The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards*. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection



STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will be held all Fridays during Lent beginning Fri., Feb. 20th at 7:00pm in church. This is a wonderful way to introduce our young people to a time-honored Catholic tradition. Please bring them. It is also an appropriate devotion for non-Catholic Christians. All are welcome. The service lasts about 25 minutes. Enter through the parking lot (south) door.



PSR NEWS: Wednesday, Feb. 18th is Ash Wednesday. The PSR students will be going to mass on Wednesday & Thursday that week and will have class on Tuesday and Friday. **There is NO SCHOOL on MONDAY.** If you have children who walk or other adults who bring them, please make them aware of the change. **Thank You!**
Feb. 22th 9:30am: 8th grade Rite of Election: Parishioners will be asked to pull a 2026 8th grade Confirmandi name(s) from a basket and pray for them. You can send cards of encouragement to the Confirmandi or you can drop them off at the rectory and the DRE will deliver to the Confirmandi. **Thank You!**

LADIES OF ST. FRANCIS PARISH-MARDI GRAS LUNCHEON on “**Fat Tuesday**”, Feb. 17th at Trenton House. **Registration begins at 11:00am.**

ENDING HUNGER WITH CRS RICE BOWL: This Lent, the PSR program and our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowl. This year, 75% supports Catholic Relief Services’ work around the world, including the families in Ghana, Guatemala and Timor-Leste who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. The other 25% will go to our local hunger alleviation, which is for the families who are experiencing Food Insecurity at Aviston Grade School. Pick up a rice bowl or an envelope labeled “CRS Rice Bowl” and drop in the collection at anytime. Visit www.crsricebowl.org to learn more!



DID YOU KNOW???

ASH WEDNESDAY, This week we celebrate the first day of Lent, a time of prayer, fasting and alms giving. The ashes we are blessed with are a reminder that we need to repent; to turn away from sin and turn back to God. Ash Wednesday is the perfect time to decide what new things you can do to repent. Do you want a renewed commitment to prayer or alms giving? Or is there something you need to give up to draw closer to God? This Ash Wednesday, set aside a few minutes to set your intentions for the season of Lent!

Training of NEW & EXISTING Extraordinary Ministers of Holy



Communion: There will be training for new & existing ExMs in the church on **Feb. 17th** and **Feb. 23rd** both at 7:00pm. One must be a practicing Catholic in “good standing” to qualify for this ministry. Members of other parishes are welcome to attend.

BIBLE STUDY, DURING LENT, DAY & NIGHT WILL BEGIN



SOON: The Lenten series No Greater Love will begin on Tuesday, February 24 at 10:00am and also at 6:30pm in Primary Classroom #1 in the parish center near the Heritage Room. The door will open at 9:45am & 6:15pm. We will be using a Bible so please bring yours with you. (There will be some Bibles in case you forget yours.) There will also be sessions on March 3, 10, 17, and 24.

SERVANTS OF ST. FRANCIS: held our first meeting this past week and what a productive session we had! There were numerous avenues of service that were presented. Once we iron out implementation of a few, we will be producing a flyer on social media and in the bulletin listing various ways you can become active in Catholic outreach in our community, if you choose! Remember a simple outreach can really make an impact in someone’s life. Watch for this in the next several weeks. For anyone interested in giving a bit more time to those in need, contact Colleen Harper at caharp63@gmail.com 791-5302 or Kim Dickshot at candkd@sbcglobal.net 977-7161. You will be added to our contact list.

MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER: This March, St. Francis parishioner, Cole Buschmann, will be traveling to Belize on a FOCUS mission trip with a group of college students from Missouri S&T. They will be serving the local community through construction and restoration projects while also accompanying families spiritually. They’ll have the opportunity to serve, grow in humility, and encounter Christ in those they meet. Each student is responsible for raising approximately \$3,000 to cover travel and mission expenses. The fundraising deadline is Feb. 27th. If you would like to support this mission through prayer or a financial gift. Donations can be made here: <https://tinyurl.com/3pstdbnx>

LEGION NEWS - AVISTON:

- Mon. Feb. 16 - 7:00pm Legion Meeting
- Tues. Feb. 17 - 7:00pm Auxiliary Meeting
- Wed. Feb. 18 - 4:30pm - 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Fish Fry
- Fri. Feb 13-16 -Auxiliary Rummage Sale Drop-off (see times below)
- Fri. Feb. 20 - 4:30pm - 7:00pm - FISH FRY

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE: at **Aviston American Legion**. Hours are: Thurs. & Fri. Feb. 19-20, 9:00am-7:00pm (Full Price), Sat., Feb. 21: 9am-12Noon (Brown Bag). Dates to bring donations to legion are: Feb. 13th 4-7pm, Feb. 14th 9am-Noon, Feb. 15th Noon-4pm, & Feb. 16th Noon-6pm.

REMINDER IF YOU PRE-ORDERED SOUP FOR MARDI GRAS FROM AVISTON KC: Pick-up is Tues., **Feb. 17th**, 4:30pm-7:00pm. Curbside pick-up at 161 South Clinton (west entrance of parish center).

NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE? St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 602 Church St., Germantown will be open on Mondays from 10:30am-1:00pm. Please call Shirley Eversgerd 979-2689 or John Feldmann 363-6588 if you need help.

Friday to schedule Mass Intentions. (228-7219) or email parish@stfrancisav.org



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI RATERMANN SCHOLARSHIPS



St. Francis Parish is happy to announce that scholarships are available for high school seniors enrolling as full-time students in an accredited institution of higher education (College, Vocational or Technical). The funds have been made available via the Dorothy and Wilhelmine Ratermann Trusts for higher education scholarships and are awarded in their memory. Scholarship amounts are variable. Scholarships are based on need, satisfactory academic performance, community and Church involvement, letters of recommendation, a short essay and an interview. Find more information and application forms on the parish website at stfrancisav.org Click on "PARISH LIFE" then "YOUTH". **Deadline is March 1, 2026.**



MATER DEI MOTHERS AND FRIENDS DINNER AUCTION:

A Knight at the Derby - Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and fundraising at the Mater Dei Auction on **March 21st**, at Mater Dei High School! Doors open at 5:00pm. The theme for the evening is A Knight at the Derby, so come dressed for a night of derby fun! Tickets for the dinner auction and raffles can be purchased by scanning the QR code. Don't miss out on this special event and opportunity to support Mater Dei. Auction Tickets and Raffle Tickets, use the qr code or please visit: MDDERBY.givesmart.com

QUEST - a 2 day faith experience for Freshmen and Sophomores. Learn about your relationships with yourself, others and God in fun ways - November 22-23 at St. Dominic Parish in Breese. Sign up at bellevilletec.org. Any questions, contact bellevillequest@gmail.com.



Need help with your future? Aviston American Legion Auxiliary 1239 is proud to offer a **Scholarship Program for 2026-2027**. **\$1,000** - for Veterans, Auxiliary, SAL or family members of Post 1239*. **\$1,000** - for an individual living within the Aviston CUSD 21*. Look for details and an application at: avistonlegion.com or pick-up an application during open hours at the Aviston Legion. **You may apply for both scholarships if applicable. Deadline: April 1, 2026.**



FOOD FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM There are baskets at each church entrance for your donated goods. The donated goods will be brought to the St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry in Germantown. Your support is needed!

NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE? St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 602 Church St., Germantown will be open on Mondays from 10:30am-1:00pm. Please call Shirley Eversgerd 979-2689 or John Feldmann 363-6588 if you need help.



20
Th
re
26 MASS INTENTIONS may now be scheduled. There are many dates available in January! Call the story anytime from 8:00am-2:30pm Monday -



CONGRATULATIONS to *Scheyer Curtis Rule* (son of Mitchel & Madison [Oltmann] Rule) was baptized last weekend. We welcome *Scheyer* to our faith family.

Start your New Year off great by Subscribing to The Messenger!

Subscribe online for the Paper or E-edition by going to:

www.bellevillemessenger.org or Call **618-233-8670**.

SEWING QUILT TOPS & QUILTING in the Heritage Room for the 2026 picnic will continue Feb. 1st quilting will be from 12Noon - 4:00pm(no lunch). Quilting will be Monday, Feb. 2nd thru Thursday, Feb. 5th from 9:00am-4:00pm & Feb. 4th 6:30pm - 8:30pm. A delicious lunch provided on every day except on Sunday. Reminder: we try to have our quilts measure a minimum of 90 x 108 inches.