

St. Francis of Assisi Church, Aviston, IL

March 08, 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

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MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat. Mar. 07	4:00pm	Don Boeser Jim & Marilyn Rakers Joseph & Mary Jane Gebhart
Sun. Mar. 08	7:30am	Francis Wilke Donny Ripperda
	9:30am	Rich Feldmann
Mon. Mar. 09	7:30am	NO MASS
Tues. Mar. 10	7:30am	Aloys 'Al' & Elizabeth 'Betty' Brueggemann
Wed. Mar. 11	7:00pm	John "Jack" Goestenkers
Thur. Mar. 12	7:30am	George & Rosina Hollenkamp
	7:00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat. Mar. 14	4:00pm	Judy Markus Otha Daiber
	9:30am	James Stroot John & Joan Tredennick

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



PASTOR'S NOTE:

Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist, the Mass, at the Last Supper, the night before he died. We will remember this in a special way on Holy Thursday night, April 2nd, in the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Last Supper was a banquet, a Jewish ceremonial meal called the Passover. The Passover is eaten each year in commemoration of the freeing of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. This year, the Jewish people will celebrate the Passover beginning Wednesday evening at sundown, April 1st, when they will eat the Passover Meal. In 2026, this is also the evening of the first full moon of spring.

Our parish has received permission from Fr. Godfrey Mullen, Diocesan Administrator, to begin our financial feasibility study for the Parish Center. The Institute for School and Parish Development will be our consultant. We hope to start this five-month study soon.

Cardinal Wilton Gregory, former bishop of Belleville and retired archbishop of Washington, DC, will celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Belleville on Tuesday, 31 March, at 11:30 AM. The Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick, and the Sacred Chrism will be blessed at this Mass. All are welcome! Our parish oils, blessed at this Mass, will be received here at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday night.

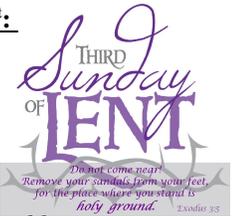
Let us pray for each other.

-Fr. Von Deeke

OFFERINGS FEBRUARY 28th & MARCH 1st:

General Fund

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 2,934.00
Loose:	\$ 534.00
Online Giving:	\$ 4,058.10
General Fund Total:	\$ 7,526.10



Your General Fund contribution enables
FAITH IN ACTION



Fr. Von showing 6th grade PSR the items he uses during Mass.

Special Collections:

Improvement Fund	\$ 2,154.50
Black & Native Americans	\$ 95.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 51.50
CRS Rice Bowl	\$ 20.00

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOSPITALIZED:

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sun. Mar. 08	- 9:30am - St. Francis Sunday School Class
Tues. Mar. 10	- 10:00am - Lenten Bible Study at Primary Room #1
	- 6:30pm - Lenten Bible Study at Primary Room #1
Sun. Mar. 15	- 9:30am - St. Francis Sunday School Class

SYMPATHY: Remember **John "Jack" Goestenkers** (brother of Jane Netemeyer & Florence Lohman); **Donald A. "Duck" Toennies** (brother of Glennon [Kathy] Toennies); who passed away. Please keep **John, Donald and their families** in your prayers.



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.



2026 CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL (CSMA):

CATHOLIC SERVICE
& MINISTRY APPEAL
DIOCESE of BELLEVILLE

This weekend our Parish along with all other parishes in the diocese, will conduct our Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. The CSMA provides a convenient way for all of us, no matter what our time limitations, to take an active role in the mission of our diocesan Church. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail or forgot to bring it, please use one of the reply envelopes that are available. Please be as generous as you are able.

EASTER LILY MEMORIALS:

Donate to the Easter Flower Fund in memory of your loved one(s) to help decorate the altars during Easter. **The cost is \$10. Your "Easter Flower Envelope" is in your envelope package!** Write the name(s) of those to be remembered on the back of the envelope. Drop your envelope into the collection basket, mail, or bring to the parish office. **Deadline: Sun., March 22nd!**



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!

LENTEN RICE BOWL RETURNS: Rice Bowls will be collected on Palm Sunday weekend. All weekend Masses: March 28th & 29th.

CHURCH CLEANING: We will be "spring cleaning" the church, Friday, March 20th right after mass (approx. 8:00am). Volunteers are asked to bring microfiber dusters or dusting cloths to clean the altars. Pledge will be provided to clean the pew. Bring your favorite cleaning cloth. Contact Martha Ribbing at 618-228-7433 with questions.

SCAM ALERT!!! Father did not get "hacked". No our system did not get "hacked". Scammers are getting people's names and phone numbers from the bulletin. There is nothing we can do to fix this. They usually start the text or email out with "Hello (Name), return my text when you get it, I have a favor to ask. -Father Von C. Deeke" Next they

will ask for Gift Cards. They usually say they need it quickly and that "he" is at a meeting and is not able to call, or too busy to go get them "himself". The gift cards are usually for "cancer patient" and they say that they will repay you. **PLEASE DO NOT FALL FOR THIS.** Scammers usually target churches and parishioners because they hope that these people are more vulnerable and will reply to the "Pastor". Please know that **FATHER DAN WILL NEVER TEXT YOU! FATHER VON WILL NEVER ASK YOU FOR GIFT CARDS!!!** A few ways to know if it is truly Father Von, check the phone number or email FIRST! Fr. Von's phone number is (618) 214-6852. His email ends is pastor@stfrancisav.org. These are the two ways you can usually figure out pretty quickly if it is Fr. Von. **BUT, ONCE AGAIN, FATHER VON WILL NEVER ASK YOU FOR GIFT CARDS!!!** Scammers ask for gift cards because they cannot be tracked. Please do not fall for these scammers!



FAITH FOCUS

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LENTEN COLORS During Lent father wears different colors of vestments. Each color has great meaning. **Purple** is the primary color of Lent. Purple symbolizes our need for repentance. It also represents the purple robe that Pontius Pilate placed on Jesus before he was crucified. **Red:** Father wears red vestments on Palm Sunday to foreshadow Jesus' death on the Cross. **White:** On Easter, Father wears white vestments to represent Jesus' resurrection.



ATTENTION EVERYONE: Please search your junk/spam folder and find "OSV Hub". Mark this as NOT JUNK/SPAM.



These are group emails that are sent to everyone in the parish when something important is needed to be sent. Have you checked out your profile on OSV hub? I sent an email out this week requesting updated info. You can update your information any time. Phone, email or address changes are the most common. You can also find your Contribution Tax Report, if for some reason it doesn't get to you through the mail. If you still haven't registered with St. Francis, use the QR code or go to: www.osvhub.com/stfrancisav/directory/register

PSR NEWS: The 8th grade had their Confirmation retreat this weekend. Please continue to remember them in your prayers as they have their final preparation. If you have not taken a name to pray for, please take one from the baskets located by each door. A special thank you to Casey's for the donation of pizzas for the retreat day. It is nice to have the local businesses support our efforts.

LEGION NEWS - AVISTON:

Sun. Mar. 08 - 7:30am - 12:00Noon Cub Scout Breakfast
Tue. Mar. 10 - 7:30pm SAL Meeting
Thur. Mar. 12 - 7:00pm Exec Board Meeting
Fri. Mar. 13 - 4:30pm - 7:00pm - FISH FRY
Sun. Mar. 15 - Pork Sausage Dinner

Aviston American Legion Auxiliary 1239 is proud to offer a **Scholarship Program for 2026-2027.** 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.**



A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with the winter Aviston Auxiliary Rummage Sale. Whether it was working, setting up, tearing down, buying, bringing baked goods, or donating items, we could not have made it without your help. A BIG thank you to the Legion, SAL, Boy Scouts, CYM and the ladies and gentlemen (you know who you are) who are not members of the Legion organization but chose to lend a hand. Because of your generosity, the Rummage Sale was once again a huge success, and we owe it all to you! We are blessed to be part of this amazing community.



PORK SAUSAGE & ROAST BEEF DINNER: Carry-outs with dining space available. **Sunday, March 15th, 10:30am-6:00pm** at the **Aviston Legion.** Dinner includes pork sausage, roast beef, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans & dessert. Pork and quilt raffles!

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE:

Mon. March 09 - 6:30pm - St. Stephen Flora
Tues. March 10 - 7:00pm - St. Rose, St. Rose
Sun. March 15 - 1:00pm - St. Damian, Damiansville
- 3:00pm - St. Dominic, Breese

