

ST. FRANCISOFASSISI

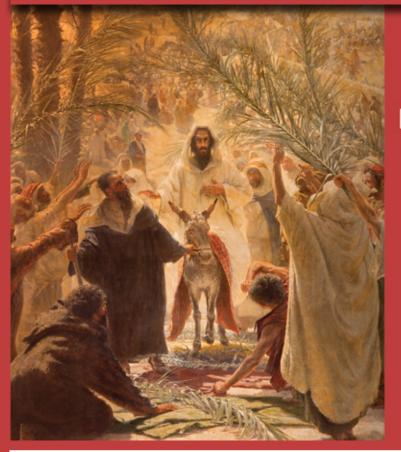
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THEVERNACULAR

Our bulletin of parish life & faith formation

MARCH 24TH, 2024

PALM SUNDAY



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

010

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

WELCOME!

At St. Francis of Assisi Parish, we strive to be united in the Eucharist and formed as instruments of peace through the practice of stewardship in imitation of God's Triune love. Through the proclamation of the Gospel we invite you to become disciples of Jesus Christ and included within our parish family through worship, fellowship, education, and stewardship.

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

Monday:8:00 a.m. ONLY
Tues. & Wed. 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.
Holy Thursday: 7:00 p.m. ONLY
Good Friday Service: 7:00 p.m.
Saturday Easter Vigil: 8:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Morning Prayer: Mon. & Tues at 7:40 a.m. Evening Prayer: Tues & Wed at 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Tues. & Wed.: 4:45-5:25 p.m.

NO CONFESSIONS on Holy Thursday thru Easter Sunday

FATHER'S FOCUS

A Series:

INTRODUCTION TO CHARACTERISTICS OF AN IDEAL PARISH

It never hurts to return to the basics. This is an introductory article to a fifteen-part series called "The Vision of an Ideal Parish" based on an article Dr. Peter Williamson published in 2016. I first published this series as a preparation for our Faith Forward Visioning Process. I return to it now, as we near the end of the construction projects outlined by that same visioning process. Our buildings serve our mission—now let's return to the basics of our identity as a parish and reignite ourselves in our mission to save souls!

During World Youth Day 2016, Polish Bishops said to Pope Francis, "Holy Father, our pastoral work is based largely on the traditional model of the parish community, centered on the sacramental life. Is there a specific way you can encourage us to build up the Church community in our world fruitfully, joyfully and with a missionary spirit?" Pope Francis' response was clear and direct and helps us think deeply of our own parish.

"I would like to stress one thing: the parish remains valid! The parish must remain. It is a structure that we must not discard; it is the home of God's People. The problem is how the parish is organized! There are parishes... who scare people off. Parishes with closed doors.... But there also parishes with open doors, parishes where when someone comes to ask a question, they are told: "Come in, make yourself at home, what can we do for you?" And someone listens to them patiently, because caring for the people of God requires patience; it takes effort!"

"Managing a parish takes effort nowadays, with so many problems. The Lord has asked us to get a little tired, to work and not to rest.... A parish is exhausting if it is well organized. The renewal of the parish has to be a constant concern. How is this parish doing? What is it doing? What is its religious education program like? How well is catechesis being presented? Is the church open? How do we greet people? How attentive are we to them? Is someone always in the confessional? A welcoming parish..... These are the questions we bishops should be asking our priests. "Do you go out? Do you visit the imprisoned, the sick, the elderly? What about the children? Do you have a place for them to play?"

"So the parish is important! The parish.... has to remain as a place of creativity, a reference point, a mother, all these things. It is where that inventiveness has to find expression. When a parish does all this, it becomes – with regard to missionary disciples – what I call a "parish that goes forth". To be creative, to try to go out and meet people, to put yourself in people's shoes. This is what it means to be a missionary disciple, a parish that goes forth. To go out and look for people, as God did, when he sent his Son to find us."

These words were deeply inspiring to me as we launched into our Faith Forward Parish Visioning Process. We, as a Parish community, used these words to evaluate ourselves to see how we were living Pope Francis' vision and how we could improve. Based on Williamson's article, an ideal parish has fifteen key characteristics: Trinitarian, Christian, Communal, Missionary, Kerygmatic, Pneumatological, Charismatic, Sacramental, Familial, Catechetical, Youth-filled, Ministerial, Vocational, Generous, and Universal. Let us, again, reflect on these characteristics that Pope Francis holds up as a model for the entire Church.

- Fr. Jarrod Lies, Pastor

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

TIME & TALENT



ADORER NEEDED

Help us keep our perpetual adoration flourishing! Below is the current adoration hour we are needing a parishioner to attend.

To sign up, email Jenny Morgan at mollyshome2@protonmail.com.

Thank you!



Fridays ... 11 p.m. - Midnight

HOLY WEEK ADORATION SCHEDULE

The Adoraton Chapel will close on Wednesday 3/27after 5:30pm Mass and reopened on Easter Monday, 4/01, after 8:00 am Mass.

Have a blessed Holy Week and Happy Easter!

SHARE YOUR TALENTS!

Our parish operations and facilities are assisted by the help of our many talented members sharing their gifts with us. Whether you are an electrician, carpenter, graphic designer, or have a love for lawn care, organization & MANY MORE our parish needs you!

To share your gift with the parish contact Stu at

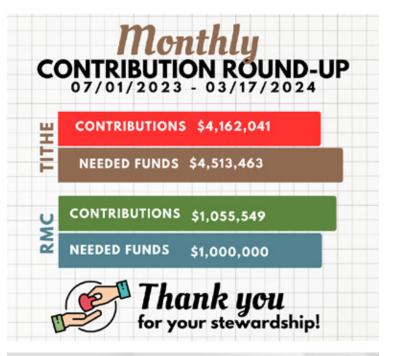
Smeether@stfranciswichita.com or 316-722-4404.

VOLUNTEER AT OUR SCHOOL!

It takes a village to operate a school of over 590 students and we could use your help! Our school has many stewardship opportunities, such as EDP monitors (after-school program), lunchroom helpers, classroom stewards, resource room workers, and more!

To learn more please contact our school office at etoups@stfranciswichita.com or call 316-722-5171.

TREASURE







WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR PARISH



Join us for our final Stations of the Cross on Good Friday! In the Church at 12:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Together let us reflect on the Proclamation of the Passion from the Gospel of John and express our veneration to the cross! In the Church at 7:00 p.m.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA & CELEBRATION

The Divine Mercy Novena:

Each evening, March 29 - April 6 at 6:15 in the Church.

The Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration: April 7

- Rosary at 2:15 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2:30 p.m.
- Holy Mass at 3:00 p.m. Dessert Social at 4:00 p.m.

All are welcome! Sponsored by the SFA ACTS Community.

HOLY WEEK CONFESSION SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS WILL BE HELD: Tues. & Wed.: 4:45-5:25 p.m.

NO CONFESSIONS:

3/28 (Holy Thursday) thru Easter Monday (4/01).

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, 3/25: 8:00 a.m. Mass ONLY

Tuesday, 3/26 & Wednesday, 3/27: 8:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Holy Thursday, 3/28: 7:00 p.m. ONLY Good Friday Service, 3/29: 7:00 p.m. Saturday Easter Vigil, 3/30: 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, 3/31: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,

11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

K.O.C. SEND THEIR THANKS!

The Knights of Columbus council 4118 extend our heartfelt gratitude to our parish family, school, and sponsors in making our 2024 Annual Lenten Fish Fry a success! May the Lord continue to shower you with abundant graces for your generosity, collaboration, support, and efforts! The money raised will go towards our Vocations program, FIAT, CYM, SFA School, & St Vincent De Paul organizations. God Bless!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL UPDATE

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life.

In this first quarter, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to bring the mercy of Jesus into the hearts of the poor, by assisting 65 individuals, providing \$8,400 for rent and \$700 for utilities. Thank you very much!



Join one of our ministries and give action to your stewardship.

Contact Stu Meether in our parish office at 316-722-4404 or smeether@stfranciswichita.com for information regarding parish ministries.

MINISTRY & GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Join us in outreach to our homebound parishioners! Sign-up to write letters or send cards to a few parishioners and help them feel connected to our community!

Contact Monica Peter to volunteer! 316-619-9579 or pete72383@aol.com



Legion of Mary

If you would like to serve Jesus through Mary, join LEGION OF MARY for prayer and fellowship! Mondays after the 8 a.m. Mass in St. Agnes. All are welcome!



JOIN OUR CYM! EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8 PM Open to all high school-aged teens, Catholic

Youth Ministry is an opportunity for life-long friendships, faith formation and LOTS of fun!

Contact Dir. Emily Savage: Esavage@stfranciswichita.com [Text "SFACYM" to 84576 to receive our text alerts]

MINISTRY & GROUP EVENTS

Mentions for monthly events, new details, events open to the public and/or new ministries.

MARY'S MOMS Monday, March 18 from 9-11 a.m. Clare Hall Nursery

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER MEETING Monday, March 25 after 5:30 p.m. Mass

Pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy after the 5:30 Mass and Vespers in church.

After, a social gathering will be held in St. Agnes (located in the Bonaventure Hall).

Please bring a snack to share.

PRAYER GROUP FOR SHEKINAH Wednesday, March 27 at 6 p.m. Stewardship Hall

CAREGIVER SUPPORT Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m. Stewardship Hall

WANT YOUR EVENT/MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTED IN THE BULLETIN?

Contact our Communications Director,
Jessie Nielsen with your request.
Jnielsen@stfranciswichita.com

BE HIS LIGHT

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."



At Baptism we received a candle, lit from the Paschal Candle, with the words, "Receive the Light of Christ". The rite continues: "This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He is to walk always as a child of the light. May he keep the flame of faith alive in his heart. When the Lord comes, may he go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom." As another part of the rite, the ears and mouth are blessed with the words, "The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May He soon touch your ears to receive his word and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father."

In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus speaks of us as salt and light of the earth. We are called to let our "light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." Are we doing this everywhere we go?

When we leave Mass, it can be a temptation to think our duty for the week is done. Pay attention to the words at the end of Mass: "Go in Peace". These words, "Ite, Missa est" in Latin, point to a commissioning, and literally mean, "Go! You are sent!". We are being SENT. We are called to go OUT sharing Christ's peace. Having come to the table and been fortified with Christ as one

Body, we are sent to be in mission with Him. In Matthew 28: 19 Jesus says, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." This is what we are called to do. But we cannot make disciples if we do not speak and act as Catholic Christians in the world. Does people at your workplace know you are a Catholic Christian? Do people you are on the road with know this by how you drive? What about people at the store or on the phone with telemarketers? When we are with friends, does your behavior change? Are you still a light causing others to "glorify God"?

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father." It can be very easy to be a light in Church and then extinguish it as we walk out the door. Let me give some staggering statistics. According to PEW research, 50% of young people who were raised Catholic are no longer Catholic and 79% of former Catholics leave the Church before 23. Approximately 30% of adults in the US claim no religion while in young adults that percent is even higher! We must ask ourselves, are we, as salt, losing flavor?

We are called to be holy, set apart. Do we see this as a freedom we have? We are called to be free for something great! We are called to plant seeds everywhere!

Practically speaking, how do we speak or act with friends or in public? Colossians 3:17 says, "Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Does our behavior reflect this? "If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. (James 1:26)" How does our speech glorify God? Remember, we have the power of life and death in our tongue! And how do we talk about others?

MORALITY MATTERS CONTINUED

This call to be salt and light extends everywhere we go. It can be very easy to skip Mass when out of town, but what are we choosing as our priority then? Maybe we avoid praying before meals while out in public. Who may be waiting for an opportunity to hear the Gospel, and we have prevented the opportunity for relationship in this way?



At Mass, we become temples of Jesus, literally! We are arks with Jesus inside of us! How do we choose to clothe this temple? Does it show the sacredness of the treasure we hold within? How would we dress if Jesus was in our presence? Would that change? And would we welcome Him to our couch to watch our movies and play our video games or would we turn them off because they wouldn't be appropriate with Him there?

"So by their fruits you will know them. (Mt. 7:20)"

What fruit are we producing? In a world that struggles in darkness, Jesus trusts us so much that He wants to labor WITH us to bring light to the world. WE can bring generosity and kindness to the world. We have an opportunity to bring hope to a world of negativity. We get to be the examples of meekness and patience. We can teach, by example, what it means to LISTEN and show compassion to others. Joy can exude from us if we embrace it ourselves! Self-control is something humanity is capable of because He lives in us! We don't always have to preach the Gospel using words. Many times we share the person of Christ through how we act and how we speak. We can be the example to lead others to Him because they recognize something they desire. But we may also be the reason someone doesn't learn about Him. If we choose not to mission with Him, how will the light spread to the ends of the earth? How will evangelization happen if we hide our lights? And if not you then who?

> "Hide it under a bushel, no! I'm gonna let it shine!"

> > Christina Brouillette
> > Theologians Guild

+ FAITH FORMATION ONLINE!

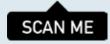
Now you can enjoy our Vernacular articles at the click of a button, anywhere you are!

Need to catch up on past Father's Focus letters? Want to revisit all of our previous Morality Matters articles? NOW YOU CAN!

Simply scan this QR code >>>

Or select Faith Formation from our website's Communications tab!







WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Weekday Liturgical Stewards

Monday, March 25, 8:00 a.m.

Lector Students

Altar Servers D. Berry / T. Lang / C. Garcia / B. Mariner

Monday, March 25, 5:30 p.m.

Lector Daniel Schoenberger

Tuesday, March 26, 8:00 a.m.

Lector Students

Altar Servers H. Le / A. Sacks / C. Schawe / M. Simon

Tuesday, March 26, 5:30 p.m.

Lector Maria Douglas

Wednesday, March 27, 8:00 a.m.

Lector Juli McClure

Altar Servers L. Misasi / E. McGill / T. Nola / S. Nuessen

Wednesday, March 28, 5:30 p.m.

Lector Erica Toups

Thursday, March 28, 8:00 a.m.

NO MASS

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.

Lector: Julia Schauf

Master Server: Ira Dalbom

Servers: J. Lezniak / D. Berry / C. Graham / S. Pirtle

EMHC: Nancy Kelley

Friday, March 29, 8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.

Lector 1: Maddy Hammer **Lector 2:** Thomas Baalman

Master Server: Ira Dalbom

Servers: L. Burns / J. Lezniak / C. Graham / C. Lies

EMHC: George Kelley

Saturday, March 30, 8:00 a.m. NO MASS

ELIJAH CUP

March 30-31: Danielle Stallbaumer Family

Please check in with the priest before Mass. To sign up, call Nan at 721–3727





Saturday, March 30

8:30 p.m. Matthew Schippers / Traditional Choir

Sunday, March 31

7:00 a.m. Teresa Spencer / Sam Goebel

8:30 a.m. Julie Riedlinger / Sacred and YA Ensemble

10:00 a.m. Matthew Schippers / Traditional Choir

11:30 a.m. Matt Ho / Men's Choir

1:00 p.m. Julie Riedlinger / Talia Powers

Weekend Liturgical Stewards

Saturday, March 30 | 8:30 p.m.

Lector 1: Chase Kenton
Lector 2: Milissa Graham
Lector 3: Randy Phelps
Lector 4: Renee Means

Master Server: Bryer Nuessen

Servers: I. Dalbom / J. Lezniak / C. Graham/ S. Pirtle / S. Kluge

EMHCs: Emily Savage

Sunday, March 31 | 7:00 a.m.

Lector: Jennifer Bauer Commentator: Jill Ward

Master Server: John Rongish

Servers: C. Brand / S. Weber / E. Saville / W. Simon

EMHCs: P. Meyer / S. Seiler / G. Graf

Sunday, March 31 | 8:30 a.m.

Lector: Tamara Toombs **Commentator:** Helen Cole

Master Server: Nathan Tajchman

Servers: E. Megee / T. Young / D. Schuster / SUB NEEDED

EMHCs: D. Hamel / L. Hamel / R. Dix

Sunday, March 31 | 10:00 a.m.

Lector: Erica Toups **Commentator:** Tony Rosales

Master Server: Dustin Stephenson

Servers: C. Lang / J. Toups / B. Lubbers / T. Farley

EMHCs: K. Farley / S. Farley / M. Hammer

Sunday, March 31 | 11:30 a.m.

Lector: Gared Preisser **Commentator:** Annette Paronto

Master Server: DJ Hauge

Servers: C. Meier / W. McGreevy / B. Mitchell / B. Blasi

EMHCs: L. Dostert / M. Dostert / J. Morgan

Sunday, March 31 | 1:00 p.m.

Lector: Tom Olivier **Commentator:** Jessica Buchanan

Master Server: Austin Tran

Servers: B. Nguyen / L. Misasi / L. Lubbers / K. Hays EMHCs: S. Logsdon / M. Nguyen / SUB NEEDED

OFFERTORY SCHEDULE



8:30 p.m. Cathy Nuessen

Sunday, March 31

8:30 a.m. Sally Stump

10:00 a.m. Jake & Michelle LaMunyon

11:30 a.m. Standridge Family 1:00 p.m. Paul & Elena Misasi



THIS WEEK AT OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 | PALM SUNDAY

MORNING BIBLE STUDY Stewardship Hall, 9:45 p.m. DIVINE MERCY HOLY HR/GOD SQUAD Church, 3:00 p.m. ROSARY GROUP Church, 5:00 p.m. WALKING WITH PURPOSE Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m. YOUNG ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE Music Rm., 7:00 p.m. SACRED ENS CHOIR PRACTICE Music Rm., 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 25

MARIAN MANTLE ROSARY GROUP Church, 8:30 a.m. LEGION OF MARY St. Agnes, 9:00 a.m. MARY'S MOMS Clare Hall Nursery, 9:00 a.m. MEDJ. PRAYER MEETING Church/ St. Agnes, 6:15 p.m. FLAME OF LOVE ROSARY GROUP Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m. 5:30 P.M. MASS CANCELED GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

MORNING BIBLE STUDY St. Agnes, 8:30 a.m.
ROSARY GROUP St. Joseph's, 1:00 p.m.
IMMAC. HEART OF MARY ROSARY GP. Church, 7:00 p.m.
GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP St. Joseph, 6:30 a.m.
SHEKINAH PRAYER GP. Stewardship Hall, 6:00 p.m.
OCIA Clare Hall, 6:30 p.m.
PSR Cana Hall, 6:30 p.m.
BIBLE STUDY Bonaventure, 6:30 p.m.
TRAD. MUSIC PRATICE Clare Music Rm., 7:00 p.m
MEN'S MUSIC PRATICE Clare Music Rm., 8:00 p.m
GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m
CYM Meet in Holy Hallway, 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 | HOLY THURSDAY

SCHOOL & PARISH OFFICE CLOSES AT NOON MORNING ROSARY GROUP St. Agnes, 10:00 a.m. SHEKINAH PRAYER GP. Stewardship Hall, 6:00 p.m. 7:00 P.M. MASS ONLY CAREGIVER SUPPORT Stewardship Hall, 7:00 p.m. GOD SQUAD Church, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 | GOOD FRIDAY

SCHOOL & PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

NO MASS

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA Church, 6:15 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE Church, 7:00 p.m.

GOD SQUAD Bonaventure Hall, 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30 | HOLY SATURDAY

NO 8:00 A.M. MASS
DIVINE MERCY NOVENA Church, 6:15 p.m.
EASTER VIGIL MASS Church, 8:30 p.m.
OCIA RECEPTION Clare Hall, 9:30 p.m.

Mass Intentions March 25 - 31		
Monday, 25	8:00 a.m.	† Michele Glynn
	5:30 p.m.	No Mass
Tuesday,26	8:00 a.m.	† Louis Saville
	5:30 p.m.	† Esther Warner
Wednesday, 27	8:00 a.m.	Elizabeth & Robby Prager Spec. Int.
	5:30 p.m.	Theresa Herman Special intention
Thursday, 28	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
	7:00 p.m.	Kathleen Timmermeyer Spec. Int.
Friday, 29	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
	5:30 p.m.	No Mass
Saturday, 30	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
	5:00 p.m.	No Mass
	8:30 p.m.	Paula Fawcett Special Intention
Sunday, 31	7:00 a.m.	For the People
	8:30 a.m.	† Karla Kessler Davison
	10:00 a.m.	† Don Brugman
	11:30 a.m.	† Robert Higgins
	1:00 p.m.	† Joseph Lac Ho

DIRECTORY

PARISH STAFF

Fr. C. Jarrod Lies	frlies@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Andrew Meng	frmeng@stfranciswichita.com
Fr. Bhaskar Mendam	frmendam@stfranciswichita.com
Stu Meether, Stewardship/Parish Li	ifesmeether@stfranciswichita.com
Heather Kilian, Financial Controller	hkilian@stfranciswichita.com
Emily Savage, Youth Director	esavage@stfranciswichita.com
Jessie Nielsen, Communications	jnielsen@stfranciswichita.com
Mary Carter, School Principal	316.722.5171

PARISH OFFICE

Office316.7	722.4404
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*This number is for emergencies too. Listen to the directory options.

Websitewww.stfranciswichita.comE-mailsfac@stfranciswichita.comAddress861 N. Socora, Wichita, KS 67212

SCHOOL

Phone	316.722.5171
E-mail	school@stfranciswichita.com
Address	853 N. Socora, Wichita, KS 67212

RESOURCES

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA LIBRARY

Hours: Saturday 4:30–8:30 p.m. | Sunday 7 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Call 706–7185 from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN! Interested in advertising in our bulletin? Call Tim at 785-418-2875.

BULLETIN NOTICES Must be submitted to church office no later than 9:00 a.m. Monday.

PRAYER REQUESTS: sfaprayerchain@gmail.com

Prayer

God, I am so happy you sent Jesus to be my king.

Mission for the Week

Invite your Grandma over to visit. Ask her to read John 12:12-16 to you.

Sharing the Gospel

Your mom tells you, "Grandma should be here any minute." You watch out your window for her little red car to come down your street. After she parks her car, you run out to meet her. You are so happy she came to visit! The people in today's Gospel were waiting for a king to come. This king would ride into Jerusalem, not in a little red car, but on a donkey. When the people saw Jesus riding on the donkey, they knew he was the king that they were waiting for. They ran out to meet him and waved palm branches in the air. They were so happy he came.

Now color the picture!







