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WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the reading from Sirach*, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

*Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14

SOMOS LA SAGRADA FAMILIA DE DIOS

Las lecturas de Israel están llenas de relatos de parejas estériles a quienes Dios les concedió el milagro de tener hijos. Sin duda el relato más conocido es el de la primera lectura de Sirach: Lucas se inspiró en este relato para contar el milagroso nacimiento de Juan Bautista, hijo de Zacarías e Isabel, y el nacimiento aun más milagroso de Jesús, hijo de María y José. En ambos casos, vemos ejemplos o modelos a seguir de personas que confiaron en Dios. Más que ser ejemplos de personas que confiaron, son modelos de entrega incondicional de sí. Abandonaron sus propios preconceptos y prejuicios sobre el funcionamiento del mundo y entregaron sus vidas a creer en un Dios que puede hacer que haya vida en lugares en donde era inconcebible que la hubiera; un Dios que puede convertir la muerte en una vida nueva e inimaginable; un Dios que puede, hoy, tomar a un niño de padres humildes en un pueblo insignificante y convertirlo en una luz para el mundo entero. Esto es a lo que se nos llama a hacer cada día como Sagrada Familia de Dios: confiar no sólo en nosotros mismos y en la manera en que pensamos que deberían ser las cosas, sino a abrimos y entregarnos en fe a un Dios de promesa infinita.*

*Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14



Welcome to Saint Francis of Assisi /
Bienvenida a St. Francisco de Asís

OFFICE HOURS
 Monday through Saturday
 9 am to 5 pm



Vision Statement

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic Church shall be known as a vibrant parish and center of spirituality for North Lake Tahoe where parishioners and visitors are actively committed to sharing their love, talent, and treasures in ministering to the spiritual growth, and needs of others.

Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are a Catholic faith community welcoming all to experience the presence of God by celebrating the Eucharist and embracing the teaching of the Holy Scriptures and Traditions. We minister to all people of North Lake Tahoe where diversity, life challenges, spiritual growth and respect for our precious resources are celebrated and embraced by providing compassionate services through Christ.

Pastor: Reverend William Nadeau
 williamomi@msn.com

Faith Formation: Deacon Don Korson
 donald_korson@yahoo.com OR 775-852-3650

Visiting Priest: Fr. Robert "Bob" Daigle
 redbmd@gmail.com

Music Liturgy Director & Media: Lynne Cibulsky
 lynnec@SFTahoe.org

Assoc. Music Director: Tim Callicrate
 tim2tahoe@msn.com

Religious Education: Jodi Clouthier
 jodic@SFTahoe.org

Pastoral/Administrative Assistant: Liz Correa
 lizc@SFTahoe.org

Parish Administrator: Ed Orsua
 edo@SFTahoe.org

Youth Ministry Leader: Becky Massingill-Lathrop
 paul.lathrop@sbcglobal.net

Receptionists: Kesia Parkhill & Dora Diaz
 RecepD@sftahoe.org

Sacraments / Sacramentos

Baptism / Bautizo:

Pre-baptismal English Classes are held the first Wednesday of each month; call Cathy Cecil, 831-6810 or 622-3378. Spanish Classes are held the first Monday of each month; call Natividad Morales, 832-8035.

Clases Pre bautismales en ingles cada primer miércoles del mes, hable con Cathy Cecil 831-6810. En español, cada primer lunes del mes hable Natividad Morales, 832-8085.

Ministry to the Homebound / Eucaristía en Casa:

Please call the parish office, 831-0490.
Hable a la oficina.

Marriage Preparation / Preparación de Matrimonio:

For English, call Beth & Dieter Krewedl,
 530-587-1172.

Declaración De Visión

San Francisco de Asís Iglesia Católica es conocida como una parroquia vibrante y el centro de la espiritualidad para Lake Tahoe donde parroquianos y visitantes están comprometidos activamente a compartir su amor, su talento y atender al desarrollo espiritual y las necesidades de otros.

Declaración de Misión

Guiados por el Espíritu Santo, somos una comunidad de fe Católica y les damos la bienvenida a todos para experimentar la presencia de Dios mediante la celebración de la Eucaristía y que abarca la enseñanza de las Sagradas Escrituras y las tradiciones. Servimos a toda la gente del norte de Lake Tahoe, donde la diversidad y desafíos, de la vida, el crecimiento espiritual y el respeto de nuestros recursos que son apreciados y son celebrados a través de los servicios de Cristo compasivo.

Mass Schedule / Horario de Misa

Saturday: 5:00 pm
 Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 5:00 pm (Spanish)
 Weekdays: 9:00 am (Tuesdays- Fridays)

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturdays—4:00 pm (or by appointment)
Reconciliación: Sábados a las 4:00 pm o por cita.

Parish Ministries and Programs /

Ministerios y Programas de Parroquia

Finance Council / *Concilio de Finanza*
 Dianne Severance, sevgroup@nvcbell.net

Knights of Columbus / *Caballeros de Colon*
 Rich Thall, 831-2539 rvthall@att.net

Liturgy Committee / *Comité de Liturgia*
 Katie Christensen, Katie.tahoe@gmail.com

Pastoral Council / *Concilio Pastoral*
 Mike Lombardi, Michael.lombardi@cbnorcal.com

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults / *RCIA*
 Don Cauley, don@vacationstation.com
 Paul Lathrop, paul.lathrop@sbcglobal.net
Natividad Morales, 832-8035

Quinceañeras / 15 yr old Celebrations
 Rosa Guerrero, 775-832-2590

BULLETIN REQUESTS:
 Please submit notices & articles for the church bulletin to:
 Lynne Cibulsky at LynneC@SFTahoe.org.
PLEASE OBSERVE OUR TUESDAY 5 PM DEADLINE FOR ALL BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS. ALL REQUESTS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL.

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JANUARY / ENERO



SUN/dom	MON/lun	TUE/mar	WED/mier	THUR/juev	FRI/vier	SAT/sab
1 9 am Mass/Misa 11 am Mass/Misa (w/1st Communion) 5 pm Misa/Mass	2 6:30 pm RCIA en Español	3 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm	4 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria NO Religious Education Classes	5 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Choir 4:30-6 pm	6 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria 6 pm Practica de Coro	7 4:00 pm Reconciliation 5 pm Mass / Misa
8 9 am Mass/Misa 11 am Mass/Misa (w/1st Communion) 5 pm Misa/Mass	9 Knights of Columbus 5:00 pm Officers 5:30 pm Council Parish Hall 6 pm Platicas Pre-Bautismales	10 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm	11 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Religious Education Classes 3:30 Grades 1-5 6:00 Grades 6-8	12 Daily Mass 9 am Misa Diaria Choir 4:30-6 pm 10-2 pm CPR Training—Staff	13 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria 6 pm Practica de Coro	14 4:00 pm Reconciliation 5 pm Mass / Misa
15 9 am Mass/Misa 11 am Mass/Misa 5 pm Misa/Mass en Español	16 MLK Holiday Office Closed Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly Mtg. 5:30pm Parish Hall 6:30 pm RCIA en Español	17 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm	18 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Religious Education Classes 3:30 Grades 1-5 6:00 Grades 6-8	19 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Choir 4-5:30 pm	20 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Berube/Blake Wedding 6 pm Practica de Coro	21 4:00 pm Reconciliation 5 pm Mass / Misa
22 9 am Student Mass/Misa 11 am Mass/Misa 5 pm Misa/Mass Confirmation Class 9 am—3 pm	23 6:30 pm RCIA en Español	24 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria First Reconciliation 6-8 pm Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm	25 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Religious Education Classes 3:30 Grades 1-5 6:00 Grades 6-8	26 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Choir 4:30-6 pm 5:30 pm Pastoral Council Meeting	27 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria 6 pm Practica de Coro	28 2 pm Wedding 4:00 pm Reconciliation 5 pm Mass / Misa
29 9 am Mass/Misa 11 am Mass/Misa 5 pm Misa/Mass en Español Confirmation Activity / Autumn Brosi 12:30-2 pm	30 6:30 pm RCIA en Español	31 Daily Mass 9:00 am Misa Diaria Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm	 <p>Coffee & Pastries are served after the 9 am Sunday morning Mass. We look forward to joining you, our parishioners and visitors, in fellowship after Mass.</p>			

News from the Padre / Noticias de Nuestro Sacerdote

As this year draws to a close, another new beginning is on the horizon. Whether you are looking to shed some bad habits—or a few pounds—there's no better time to turn over a new leaf than when you change the old calendar of 2011 for the new one of 2012.

Hopefully, you will give serious consideration to the needs of fine-tuning your spiritual lifestyle during this New Year. The most successful New Year's resolutions begin with small steps that can help prevent new efforts from being ancient history by the time February rolls around! Fr. Daniel Berrigan once wrote a wonderful little book entitled, "Ten Commandments for the Long Haul." It was intended as spiritual substance, for those walking the lonely, long road of faith who often find themselves discouraged and running out of energy. Berrigan doesn't offer a quick fix, but points out some suggestions that might be helpful as we begin this New Year.

- 1) Acknowledge you are not God, and like all of God's creatures, that you are both dependent and interdependent. Don't live the illusion of self-sufficiency.
- 2) Pray daily. Pray in gratitude for life itself.
- 3) Welcome, and live the reality of the moment; not yesterday or tomorrow, but recognize the gift of the present moment.
- 4) Don't be so hard on yourself. Everyone falls short. No one is perfect.
- 5) Only be critical when you are also loving and kind.
- 6) Always forgive yourself and others.
- 7) Appreciate what is good and beautiful in God, others, yourself, and nature. Exercise daily, and eat and drink that which is healthy.
- 8) Take nothing for granted: not your spouse, children, or your family, friends or faith, and not your work, education, or leisure time. Nothing!
- 9) Accept the aging process joyfully and see this process as an art to be mastered.
- 10) Serve only the true God, the one in whose image of forgiveness and love that you are made!



Spiritual fitness takes inner discipline. Take the time to stretch your soul for a few minutes each day. You will be in better spiritual shape, and the rewards are out of this world. Happy and Blessed New Year....

Ya que este año llega a su fin, otro nuevo comienzo está en el horizonte. Si usted está buscando despojarse un poco de los malos hábitos o bajar algunos cuantos kilos, no hay mejor momento para comenzar una nueva vida, cuando usted cambie el viejo calendario del 2011 por el nuevo del 2012.

Con suerte, usted le dará una seria consideración a las necesidades de su estilo de vida espiritual durante este nuevo año. Las resoluciones del Año Nuevo con más éxito es empezar con pequeños pasos que puedan ayudar nos a prevenir nuestros esfuerzos de ser mejores en la historia del momento. ¡En febrero es buen tiempo de volver a revisar sus planes! Fr. Daniel Berrigan, una vez escribió un maravilloso libro titulado, "Los Diez Mandamientos para el largo plazo." Fue pensado como sustancia espiritual, para aquellos que caminan el camino solitario, a lo largo de la fe que a menudo se encuentran desanimados y se quedan sin energía. Berrigan nos ofrece una solución rápida, señalándonos algunas sugerencias que podrían ser útiles en este inicio de año nuevo.

- 1) Reconocer que no eres Dios, y como toda criatura de Dios, ver que eres dependientes e interdependientes. No vivas con la ilusión de la autosuficiencia.
- 2) Orar diariamente. Ora en agradecimiento por la vida misma.
- 3) Bienvenido, a vivir la realidad del momento, no el ayer ni el mañana, hay que saber reconocer el don del momento presente.
- 4) No seas tan duro contigo mismo. Todo el mundo se queda corto. Nadie es perfecto.
- 5) Sólo puedes ser crítico cuando usted es cariñoso y amable.
- 6) Perdonarse siempre a sí mismo y a los demás.
- 7) Apreciar lo bueno y lo bello de Dios, en los demás, y en ti mismo, y la naturaleza. Haga ejercicio a diario, y coma y beba lo que es saludable.
- 8) No valorar a: su cónyuge, hijos, familia, amigos de la fe, su trabajo, su educación. Es tiempo perdido.
- 9) Aceptar el proceso del envejecimiento con alegría y ver este proceso como un arte que hay que dominar.
- 10) Sólo sirven al Dios verdadero, el que tiene la imagen del perdón y vive dentro del amor.

La salud espiritual requiere de disciplina interna. Tómese el tiempo para dedicarle a su alma unos pocos minutos cada día. Usted estará en mejores condiciones espirituales y su recompensar la tendrá fuera de este mundo. Feliz Año Nuevo y mis bendiciones...



Thank you to the following who are scheduled for January 7 and 8.
Gracias a los siguientes que son Planificados para el 7 y 8 Enero.



Saturday 5 PM Mass—January 7, 2012

Lector/EMB B. Mimiaga, A. Mimiaga, A. Phillips
EMW TAB: G. Archer AMBO: M. Archer
Altar Servers Ian Smith and Nolan Galusha

Sunday 9 AM Mass—January 8, 2012

Lector/EMB J. Smith, D. Smith*, A. Smith
 ***EMB for #2 Lector:** M. Reimer
EMW TAB: DD. Clark AMBO: M. Fenelon
Altar Servers Bennett Welco and Jakob Hugar

Sunday 11 AM Mass—January 8, 2012

Lector/EMB J. Dentz, A. Dentz, J. Grassilli
EMW TAB: P. Grover AMBO: M. Vaughan
Altar Servers Esten Flores and Parker Fontecchio

NOTE to ALTAR SERVERS: Please contact Melissa White at melissa@mmwhite.net if you are unavailable to serve as scheduled or wish to volunteer to become a server.

Pray for the young men and women in our military.

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 Nellis AFB

Lt. Commander Ed Ebert
 USNR now in Sudan
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Commander Meggan McGraw,
 U.S. Navy Camp Pendleton

SPC Michael Landis
 101st Airborne Division
 Fort Campbell, Kentucky

PFC Jamie Bonnenfant
 1st Platoon, RN 111
 Bravo Company 2/54 INF
 Ft. Benning, GA



If you would like to have a loved one who is in the military included in this list, please contact the office.



Good Stewardship: Sharing Our Treasure

*As you know, Christmas fell on a Sunday this year. Our Weekly Offertory Collection Report for the week ending 12/25/11 is a combination of our regular weekend and the Christmas holiday. Our very benevolent St. Francis community—both parishioners and visitors—were extremely generous in their sacrificial gifting this year. We are delighted to report a total tithing of **\$27,788.***

NOTE to EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:
 If you are unavailable to serve during **FEBRUARY**, please contact Pat Crow by **FRIDAY, JANUARY 20th.**
 Thank you!



A Mass intention is a beautiful way to remember a beloved friend or family member, whether in death, for healing, in celebration of a special day, or simply for prayers and guidance. If you would like to request a special intention, please come by or call the office to schedule it for any of our weekday/weekend Masses. A suggested \$10 donation is appreciated.

Una intención de misa es una hermosa manera de recordar a un ser querido amigo o miembro de la familia, ya sea en la pérdida, y la curación, y la celebración de un día especial, o simplemente para la oración y orientación. Si desea solicitar una intención especial, por favor venga o llame a la oficina para programar en cualquiera de nuestros días de la semana. Se sugiere una donación de \$ 10 es apreciada.

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012—9 am
 Charleen Knieriem
 By the St. Francis Staff

Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012—9 am
Adam Benkat
 By Sandy and Paul Franklin

Thursday, Jan. 5, 2012—9 am
 Charlene Jackson
 By Jodi Clouthier

Friday, Jan. 6, 2012—9 am
 Tina Gregory
 By Lynne Cibulsky

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012—5 pm
 For Our Community and Visitors
 By Fr. Bill

Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012
 9 am
 Alfred Dixon
 By Rosy Webber and Viene Hall

11 am
 Felicísimo and Purificación Natividad
 By Bill and Amuer Phillips

5 pm
 Congregación de San Francisco
 Para Padre Bill

Following, are excerpts of an article written by non-Catholic Sam Miller, a prominent Cleveland Jewish businessman, and contributed by a St. Francis of Assisi parishioner. (This article is from the Medjugorje Newsletter, October 2011. Author's facts & figures have not been confirmed by the Bulletin Editor.)

“Why would newspapers carry on a vendetta on one of the most important institutions that we have today in the United States, namely the Catholic Church?”

Do you know—the Catholic Church educates 2.6 million students every day at the cost to the Church of 10 billion dollars, and a savings on the other hand to the American taxpayer of 18 billion dollars. The graduates go on to graduate studies at the rate of 92%.

The Church has 230 colleges and universities in the U.S. with an enrollment of 700,000 students. (Editor note: this includes students of all faiths and denominations.)

The Catholic Church has a non-profit hospital system of 637 hospitals, which account for hospital treatment of 1 out of every 5 people—not just Catholics—in the United States today.

But the press is vindictive and trying to totally denigrate in every way the Catholic Church in this country. They have blamed the disease of pedophilia on the Catholic Church, which is as irresponsible as blaming adultery on the institution of marriage.

Let me give you some figures that Catholics should know and remember. For example, 12% of the 300 Protestant clergy surveyed admitted to sexual intercourse with a parishioner; 38% acknowledged other inappropriate sexual contact in a study by the United Methodist Church, 41.8% of clergy women reported unwanted sexual behavior; 17% of laywomen have been sexually harassed.

Meanwhile, 1.7% of the Catholic clergy has been found guilty of pedophilia. Ten-percent of the Protestant ministers have been found guilty of pedophilia. This is not a Catholic problem.

A study of American priests showed that most are happy in the priesthood and find it even better than they had expected, and that most, if given the choice, would choose to be priests again in face of all this obnoxious PR the church has been receiving.

The Catholic Church is bleeding from self-inflicted wounds. The agony that Catholics have felt and suffered is not necessarily the fault of the Church. You have been hurt by a small number of wayward priests that have probably been totally weeded out by now.

Walk with your shoulders high and your head higher. Be a proud member of the most important non-governmental agency in the United States...

Then remember what Jeremiah said: ‘Stand by the roads, and look and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is and walk in it, and find rest for your souls’. Be proud to speak up for your faith with pride and reverence and learn what your Church does for all other religions.

Be proud that you’re a Catholic.”



HELP WANTED!

Pat Lucas from the St. Francis of Assisi Hospitality Ministry is seeking help for our weekly Sunday morning Coffee/Pastry social gatherings. Long-time volunteers Tom and Dianne Schmenk will be taking a much-deserved and -needed break starting in January. If you would like to help, please contact Pat at 530/400-3992 or at pat@patlucas.com for more details.

We need individuals or a couple coming from the California side to pick up bakery goods from the Kings Beach Safeway, and someone from Incline to set up coffee/refreshments prior to the 9 AM Mass.

Thank you in advance for considering this rewarding and important ministry.

❖ The next meeting of Our Lady Queen of Peace Council is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2012. Officers meet at 5 PM followed by a Members Business meeting at 5:30 PM in the Parish Hall.

❖ The next meeting of the Fourth Degree of Our Lady Queen of Tahoe Assembly is scheduled for Monday, January 16, 2011 at 5:30 PM in the Parish Hall.

❖ To men of the Parish who are practicing Catholics: If you are interested in learning more about the Knights, call our Council Membership Director, Mike Archer at 831-3951. After Mass, you can also speak to any Knight you see wearing a blue and white name tag.



I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to all the parish volunteers who worked so hard to make our Christmas church environment so magical and elegant. They include Fay McConnell, Sandy Franklin, Pat Grover, Marcie Johnson, Cathy Cecil, Ann Dentz, Liz Paganelli, Sharon & Bruce Hatch, Artie Shipsted, Annette Mimiaga, Katie & Roger Christensen, Father Bill, Ben Peralta, Carlos Diaz, the office staff, and our very hardest worker, John McManus. If I have left anyone out, please forgive me.

A special note of thanks to my assistant, Deanna Tucker, for the many hours she spent making the ornaments for the altar Christmas trees and the 1000 heart ornaments that were given to parishioners and guests as they left our Church after the Masses.

Your hard work and creativity is appreciated! Wishing you a blessed New Year.

*Nancy Henderson
Liturgy and Arts / Environment*



**WANTED:
A Few Good Women**

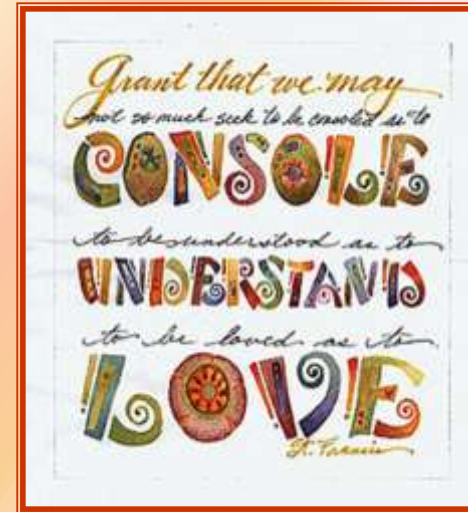
A Women's Spirituality Group is forming at St. Francis. It will involve spiritual reading, journaling, exploring different prayer styles, and faith sharing. If you are interested and can commit to a daily practice of reading/prayer/ journaling/meeting in group at least twice a month, please contact Judy Grassilli at jag891@charter.net or (775) 831-8240. Our first reading project will be "Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self" by Joyce Rupp. Meetings will begin in January 2012—date and time to be determined by consensus of the group.



**Spiritual Stewardship
Espiritual Administración**

Keep in your prayers... Mantengan en oración...

J.P Avilla Sara Barkouras Derek Bezanson Scarlette Bertolina Al Bonnenfant Barbara Brown Mary Callicrate Wil & Betty Clarke Jim Clements Shawn Collins Stephanie De La O - Delgadillo Baby Xavier Bill Eadington Alma Espinosa Donna Finn Lucia Flores Jim France Carol Frenney Edgar Gabriel Manuel Ganasa Emme Garstang	Harry Garstang Luke Gregory Joseph Hudetz† Maryanne Heyde Johnson Family Gen Kellerman Barbara Landis Polly Madden Lexie Mae Ramona Magallanes Ted Maggio Emily Malzone Darryl Martin Lauren McLaughlin John McManus Sandra Medina Vilma Merlos McKenna Mitchell Cecilia Morales Ruth O'Connell Donald O'Connelly Nancy O'Leary	Albert Piacentini Joan & Leon Pujalet Mo Ray† Bill Redel Gregg Reeder Chris Reyes Megan Roby Steven Schmitz Jacqueline Slagerman Rick Slavenes Jim Speck Petti Thall Rich Thall Nancy Tuper Gary Tuper Jacqueline Vance West Family Davia Weiner Kim Wirshing Michael Wisherop Fredereck Zosel
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If your prayers for the individuals named have been answered, please let us know if you want them to remain on or be removed from the list. Your help in keeping this prayer list current is greatly appreciated.

**Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Welcomes You!
¡San Francisco de Asís le da la Bienvenida!**

Registration / Change-Form/ Formulario de inscripción

Seasonal / Part-Time
 Full-Time



Family Name: _____
Nombre de Familia

Physical Address _____
Dirección Física

Mailing Address _____
Dirección Postal

Phone _____ E-mail _____
Numero Telefónico Correo Electrónico

Husband _____ Wife _____ Would you like envelopes? _____
Esposo Esposa ¿Quiere Sobres?

Children's Names and Ages _____
Nombre de Hijos y sus Edades

Chastity delivers what sex promises.

Our secular culture doesn't get it.

It says, "Sex is just for fun or so you can feel loved. Maybe you'll find your long-term partner, maybe you won't, but while you're looking, explore sex with whoever. It's only natural!"

There's a problem with this common belief about sex: it doesn't work. It doesn't produce the happiness and fulfillment it promises. Instead, it leads to a lot of heartbreak and exploitation of each other.

IN HER CHASTITY WORKSHOPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEENS AND FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS, **AUTUMN BROSI** ALERTS YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE HAZARDS OF PROMISCUITY AND THE ADVANTAGES OF CHASTITY.



"I share about my past experiences and how I was left feeling empty and used when I followed the ways of the world, and how I found true peace and contentment following God. I talk about pressures that students face from peers and the media, and why and how to overcome those pressures. I adapt my presentation to the age of my audience."

Autumn has intensively studied **Theology of the Body** and brings these remarkable teachings of Blessed John Paul II to her talks.

Chastity Delivers What Sex Promises is an important workshop that offers a real alternative to participants.

It empowers them to make an informed choice.

Background. "I was born and raised a Catholic. In high school, I began following the ways of the world, behaving as mainstream society and the media advocate. Rebellious and promiscuous at 16, I found myself pregnant. I kept my child, even though many outside voices had urged abortion. I promised myself that I would raise my baby in a strong Christian environment. Through the sacraments and with the help of good Christian friends, I came back to my faith stronger than ever, realizing that God calls us to remain chaste in mind, body, and heart to attain love as He created it. I'm a working single mother and student. My primary focus is God."

Experience. As a Confirmation teacher for two years, Autumn frequently taught the message of

Chastity. She saw many of her students transformed in the light of her message.

She has given talks at several Reno Diocese parishes. Here are some comments on the quality of these presentations.

Fr. Paul J. McCollum, Pastor, Saint Gall:

"Autumn spoke to our 7th and 8th Grade, and Confirmation I and II students. I have heard only positive comments from the parents and catechists who attended. I also attended her talk, and found her to be well-poised, appropriate in her personal sharing, and very courageous to be sharing such an 'unpopular' topic.

"I would encourage other parishes to welcome Autumn as a guest speaker for youth on the topic of chastity."

Fr. Norman King, Pastor, Immaculate Conception:

"The teens were attentive and I would hope as a result, that they are all the more determined to exercise restraint until they are mature and ready to select a life's partner."

Tricia Garcia, Youth Minister, Saint Albert the Great:

"It is really hard to keep the attention of teenagers these days, not to mention teach a subject area that is a little uncomfortable for them. Autumn overcame both of those obstacles with my Confirmation teens. Her heartfelt honesty while sharing her testimony really touched our teens. They weren't just talked at. They could relate to Autumn's challenges in high school and beyond. She was rated by our teens to be one of the best Confirmation classes this year. We even had Confirmed teens return to hear her story!"

Religious Education / Educación Religiosa

REMINDER

There will be no RE classes on Wednesday, January 4 during the Christmas break. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 11, 2012.

RECORDATORIO

No habrá clases de educación religiosa, el Miércoles 4 de Enero del 2012. Las clases se reanudarán el Miércoles 11 de Enero, del 2012.



Youth Group News

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 3rd. Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

Becky Massingill-Lathrop



Youth Ministry

Please Join St. Francis Teens In This Important Workshop

Sunday, January 29, 2012
12:30—2:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

← FREE

RSVP REQUIRED
by January 25, 2012
Contact Jodi Clouthier
(775) 831 0490 or
jodic@sftahoe.org

(workshop is open to middle and high school students)



Many thanks to those parishioners who participated in our 2011 Star Tree project by donating new books for homeless students in the Washoe County School District. Our efforts were greatly appreciated!

Muchas gracias a todos os feligreses que participaron en nuestro proyecto para el Árbol de Estrellas del 2011, con la donación de libros nuevos para los estudiantes sin hogar en el Distrito Escolar del Condado de Washoe. Sus esfuerzos fueron muy apreciados!