

# BOLLETTINO DI SAN FRANCESCO



RECTORY: 22870 S. Nunneley, Clinton Twp., MI 48035

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WEBSITE: [sanfrancescochurch.org](http://sanfrancescochurch.org)

RECTORY HOURS: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday

**Fr. Dino Vanin, PIME Pastor**

**SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** 8 a.m., 10 a.m. (Italian) and 12 p.m.

**HOLYDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** 8 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**DAILY MASS:** 8 a.m. **SATURDAY MASS:** 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** Friday Nights 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. or by appt.

**BAPTISMS:** Sunday at 1 p.m. or by appointment.

**MARRIAGES:** Check with Father six months before the wedding date for the office work and necessary instructions.



## January, 2024

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Wishing everyone a Blessed year!**

### **Unsettled by Doctrinal Development? Part one**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of San Francesco Church,

So many of us live with the uneasy feeling that Pope Francis has changed so many things in the Catholic Church that they are from confused to desperately seeking reassurance and solid, reliable answers, to rebelling secretly in their hearts.

Recently, several Cardinals with a traditional mindset posited key doctrinal questions, called *Dubia*, doubts. If I recall correctly, over a few months, the first answers given by the Pope were followed by request for further clarifications, back and forth, working in Christian charity towards full clarification. Initially, these Cardinals might have been expecting simple "Yes" or "No" replies, but Francis' answers were long, detailed, and full of nuances which underscore the complexity of the subjects discussed. In his exposition, Pope Francis quotes treatises by luminaries such as St. Thomas Aquinas, St. John Paul II, and Benedict XVI to prove his point.

Perhaps the crucial *dubium* posited in July of this year concerns whether divine Revelation should be reinterpreted according to modern-day cultural changes and contemporary anthropological outlook.

We ought to keep in mind that the Supreme Pontiff is, arguably, the best-informed person on earth. He is kept abreast of what goes on around the world and knows very well how many people suffer because the once solid ground of their faith is shifting, but also about the more numerous persons who feel marginalized, ignored, or victimized by rigid interpretations of laws and pastoral practices.

Perhaps to pave the way of his vision of a revolutionary New Theology which could provide answers removed from academic dissertations but totally incarnate into the gray and complex reality in which we live, he has referred frequently to the sound guidelines proposed by St. Vincent of Lérins, who lived in the early 400s. Since Holy Scripture can be and is interpreted in many ways, including heretical ones, St. Vincent recommends that we should hold fast to all those things which have been believed always, everywhere and by all the faithful.

However, this general principle is followed by other recommendations that enable the Church to discern legitimate doctrinal development from erroneous ones. St. Vincent

teaches that progress in the interpretation of the faith is legitimate if ancient things, lived out by the faithful, over time, grow within themselves and are taught in a new manner conducive to a deeper understanding of a truth and a fuller enrichment of the Church's life.

The analogy adopted by St. Vincent is the usual one of a human body, growing from infancy, to childhood, to adolescence, to maturity. The size and appearance of the individual change as one grows yet remains the same identical human being.

To "reinterpret" parts of the deposit of the Faith must be understood as giving them a better interpretation. This is the only acceptable way as the Church matures with the constant assistance of the Holy Spirit, the Pope replied to the first sending of the *Dubia* in July.

He added that the Church must be humble in this process of doctrinal development. She must recognize the impossibility of ever exhausting the mysterious wealth of divine Revelation and accept her need to grow in her understanding. The Church experiences growth also in perceiving better what she has been affirming in teaching the faithful. While cultural changes and significant historical events cannot modify Revelation, they lead her to clarify in better ways and make more explicit certain aspects of Revelation.

The two examples given by the Pope are slavery and the role of women in the Church. For millennia, slavery was accepted as a long-established human condition within all societal orders (cf. the whole Old Testament and Ephesians 6:5; Titus 2:9; 1 Peter 2:18); and remnants of the Old Testament's low consideration of women persisted in the life of the Early Church (cf. 1 Corinthians 11:3-10 and 1 Timothy 2:11-14). They were also ordered to keep silent in the assemblies of believers (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:34). However, over the centuries, the Church was led by the Holy Spirit to distinguish between the unchangeable substance of scriptural texts and the historical context in which they were set in writing and, thus, slavery has been explicitly condemned and equality between the two sexes acknowledged.

These two examples show how we must distinguish what is essential for salvation and what is secondary. The former cannot be changed, the latter can. It is equally important to keep in mind that a single formulation of a tenet, taken in isolation, cannot be completely understood, and fully appreciated; but, if inserted into the richly endowed context of the whole Revelation, its value is clearly displayed in the

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## **Unsettled by Doctrinal Development?**

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harmony of the entire body of truths revealed by God. This harmonious setting holds central truths at its core and is surrounded by truths which are connected to each other and hierarchically less important, but which allow for nuances leading to growth and bring out other facets from the infinite treasure of the Gospel.

Since I appreciate very much the pain and the confusion of so many, in the following months, I intend to cover significant, even shocking changes which took place in our Church over the first 20 centuries of her existence and, hopefully, show how the assistance of the Holy Spirit has never failed her.

**Fr. Dino Vanin at San Francesco Church**



### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

#### **January 1-Monday (New Years Day)**

Holy Souls in Purgatory by Brenda Rivard  
John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
Angeline Vettrano by family

#### **January 2-Tuesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 3-Wednesday**

Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by family  
John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti

#### **January 4-Thursday**

Anthony Vettrano by family

#### **January 5-Friday**

Spiritual well-being of Bianca Mutti by mom

#### **January 6-Saturday**

Special Intentions for Mary Mother of God Prayer Group  
**6pm** Fr. Lawrence Fares by Patrick & Dorothy Degens  
**6pm** Gerald Simoneau by Christensen family  
**6pm** Dolores Kehrig by Christensen family  
**6pm** Special Intention Ashley Charrette by Sandy

#### **January 7-Sunday**

8am Bob Ruggioli by wife Sharon  
8am Pietro & Josephine Badalamenti by family  
8am Theresa & Charles MacDonald by family  
8am John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti  
10am Antonino Badalamenti by family  
12pm Diva Bonaldi by family  
12pm Paolo & Elena Deleonardis by family  
12pm Special Intention Tom Yanasak by Sandy

#### **January 8-Monday**

Alex Calderone by wife Geraldine  
Salvatore Manzella by wife Rosa  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
Holy Souls in Purgatory by DiMichele family

#### **January 9-Tuesday**

Aldo Terenzi by wife Tina  
Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
Special Intention Larry Butkus by Sandy

#### **January 10-Wednesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 11-Thursday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 12-Friday**

Italina Bonucchi by family

#### **January 13-Saturday**

Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life  
All Faithful Departed by Bob & Anna Kustasz  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
**6pm** Special Intention for Matthew Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention for Michael Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention-Natalie Kenyon & children by Dad

#### **January 14-Sunday**

8am Moses & Victoria Caruana by Rich & Marlene Marino  
10am Franca Esposito by husband & family  
10am Rocco Ruggiello by family  
12pm Leeann Bartsch by Prayer Group

#### **January 15-Monday**

Leo Moriconi by family

#### **January 16-Tuesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 17-Wednesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 18-Thursday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 19-Friday**

William Wallace by Brenda Rivard  
Fortunato Valerio by family  
Gary Antonelli by Sandy

#### **January 20-Saturday**

Eileen Michael by DiMichele family  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
8am Salvatore Ventimiglia by family  
**6pm** Special Intention for Matthew Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention for Michael Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention-Natalie Kenyon & children by Dad  
**6pm** Jim Allen by Sandy

#### **January 21-Sunday**

8am Dick & Florence Johnson by Sharon Ruggioli  
8am Connie Traskal by family  
10am Tony Trentacosta by Rosa Manzella  
10am Pietro Manzella by Rosa Manzella  
10am Emma Martinelli Langan-6th Anniversary by family  
12pm Giuseppe Liano (Birthday) by family

#### **January 22-Monday**

For the Protection of the Unborn by the DiMichele family  
Holy Souls in Purgatory by the DiMichele family

#### **January 23-Tuesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 24-Wednesday**

Special Intentions

#### **January 25-Thursday**

Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
For the Conversion of Sins by the DiMichele family  
The Salvation of the Dying by the DiMichele family

#### **January 26-Friday**

Special Intention Shelly Latella by Sandy

#### **January 27-Saturday**

**6pm** Special Intention for Matthew Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention for Michael Peardon by Dad  
**6pm** Special Intention-Natalie Kenyon & children by Dad  
**6pm** George Hurley by family  
**6pm** Angelo G. Mazzuchelli by family

#### **January 28-Sunday**

8am Theresa & Charles MacDonald by family  
8am Alexandra Schwab by family  
10am Special Intentions

### January 28-Sunday (continued)

12pm John M. Sternicki (birthday) by family  
12pm Vincent & Pierina Frabotta by family  
12pm Mary Kolis by family  
12pm Duncan & Marie Sousa by family

### January 29-Monday

Cyril Van Marcke by Van Marcke family

### January 30-Monday

Special Intentions

### January 31-Tuesday

Special Intentions



Called to *Serve*

### Lectors for January:

**Jan 07**-P. Graebert, L. Pietrantonio, L. Sawyer

**Jan 14**-J. Nowc, T. Silverio, A. Perugi

**Jan 21**-P. Graebert, G. Buttacavoli, N. Butros

**Jan 28**-J. Nowc, V. Amaro, L. Sawyer

**Saturday, 6pm Jan. 6**-D. Brosky, **Jan. 13**-J. Foglyano,

**Jan. 20**-D. Brosky, **Jan. 27**-J. Foglyano



*Thank You!*

**CHRISTMAS** brought a good number of the faithful to San Francisco for our joyful liturgies. May the Lord inspire all to continue to enjoy and participate in our liturgical assemblies. **Special thanks to all those who contributed so generously and in many ways. We want to show our gratitude to all those who volunteer with a humble spirit to beautify our church cleaning the pews, decorating tastefully and by donating for our traditional flowers. May the Lord reward you fittingly and bless you and your loved ones beyond our sincere gratitude.**

### MUCH APPRECIATION FROM OUR CCD PROGRAM



We would like to take a moment to thank everyone who donated to our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. Due to your generous response we were able to assist families in need, and assist families on a smaller scale for the Christmas holiday! We would like you to know all donations were sincerely appreciated by the recipients, and we would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you who donated. May God Bless You and Your Family!  
**Ann Burrell, CCD Coordinator**



### Reminder To All Parents:

As your child's primary catechist, I would like to remind you to bring your children to Mass and support us by helping them with their CCD homework. Please bring your children to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Prepare for Mass by getting ready as much as possible the night before. Allow plenty of time to get to the church and get settled. If we want our children to have faith they must witness clear signs of faith from the adults in their life. Support your child's learning process by guiding and helping them to understand and learn their faith.  
**Ann Burrell, CCD Coordinator**

## Important News: 2024



### JANUARY 1st-Monday

New Years Day

This is **NOT** a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mass @ 8:00am

### FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7th-Sunday

### UPCOMING:



is on February 14th

**SAVE THE DATE: March 17th - SAN FRANCISCO DINNER DANCE @ Penna's of Sterling on Van Dyke in Sterling Heights**

**Honorees:** Robert J. Cannon, Supervisor,  
Charter Township of Clinton Township  
Thomas & Shirley Latimer

Doors open @ 3pm-Dinner served at 4pm

For tickets contact Ann Burrell (586) 242-1981 or  
Sharon Ruggioli (313) 882-5132.

### FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH

**March 16th** we will have a traditional celebration after the 6pm mass. More info in next bulletin paper.



### PLEASE REMEMBER OFFERING ENVELOPES

They are in the church for anyone to take and help with financial support of our church. Your donations are greatly appreciated.



### DONATIONS FOR BULLETIN PAPERS

We appreciate any donations for the mailing of the bulletin papers as it is very costly to have these printed and sent by mail.

**REMINDER:** PLEASE, **do not** combine different requests in **one check**. Donations to the church should be on **one check** by themselves. Requests for Holy Mass intentions should be on a **separate check**. Financial support for the **Giving Tree or the Food Drive** should be on a **separate check** as well as with all other drives or causes. **They should each be on separate checks**. Thank you so much for your help & understanding.

### MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAYER GROUP



MEETS EVERY MONDAY @ 1:00pm  
HERE AT THE CHURCH.

Refreshments and social fellowship afterwards in the church hall.  
All are welcome!

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



### **Scossi dallo Sviluppo Dottrinale? Parte I<sup>a</sup>**

Carissimi parrocchiani e amici di San Francesco Church,

Non si può negare che Papa Francesco stia agitando le acque della dottrina cattolica in modo tale che tanti si chiedono se stia cambiando tutto a riguardo della fede.

Recentemente, il Papa ha risposto in modo assai dettagliato ad alcune domande postegli da cinque cardinali circa punti salienti della nostra fede. La domanda principale era questa: “si deve reinterpretare la dottrina cattolica in base a cambiamenti culturali e a contemporanee vedute antropologiche?”

A questa domanda il Papa rispose che l’unico modo corretto di reinterpretare aspetti della dottrina cattolica è quello di dare una migliore interpretazione al soggetto in discussione. E aggiunse che, in umiltà, la Chiesa deve riconoscere la sua impossibilità a esaurire la ricchezza della divina Rivelazione ed essere disposta a crescere nella sua comprensione di quanto rivelato da Dio. Mentre cambiamenti culturali ed eventi storici di grande portata non possono modificare quanto rivelato da Dio, essi possono spingerla a riformulare e riproporre in modo più chiaro certi aspetti della Rivelazione. La Chiesa deve accettare che essa deve crescere nella sua percezione di punti dottrinali che ha già esposti da tanto tempo.

I due esempi di questa crescita in comprensione e riproposta chiarificata citati dal Papa sono la schiavitù e il ruolo delle donne nella Chiesa. Ci sono tanti passi anche nel Nuovo Testamento che indicano come all’inizio della Chiesa la schiavitù fosse accettata come una realtà inevitabile, presente in tutti i popoli e la concezione molto

bassa delle donne nel Vecchio Testamento sia rimasta in parte presente quando i libri del Nuovo Testamento furono scritti.

Guidata dallo Spirito Santo, nel corso dei secoli, la Chiesa si è resa conto che la dignità di ogni persona creata a immagine di Dio la costringesse a condannare esplicitamente ogni forma di schiavitù. Similarmente, docile allo Spirito Santo, la Chiesa è giunta ad attribuire uguale dignità ai due sessi.

Consapevole che tanti di voi soffrono per tutti questi cambiamenti, mi propongo nei futuri numeri del nostro Bollettino di trattare di tanti altri cambiamenti che la Chiesa ha fatto nel corso dei venti secoli della sua esistenza e dimostrare, però, come sia essa rimasta sempre docile alla luce dello Spirito Santo.

***P. Dino Vanin, PIME***

### **Thank You Members of Our Parish Financial Council**

who tirelessly give their time to help with our church. Your devotion and efforts to benefit the parish are truly appreciated. **May God Bless You All.**

### **Tax Receipts For 2023**

Sign the sheet in the vestibule **ONLY** if you haven’t received one in past years. Make sure you print your complete name and address on the sheet.

Visit us on our website: **[sanfrancescochurch.org](http://sanfrancescochurch.org)** where you can read Fr. Dino’s weekly homilies, articles and info.