

# 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.  
**HOLIDAY 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.  
**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.



## DECEMBER 2024

### Unsettled by Doctrinal Development? Part 12

Dear Parishioners and Friends of San Francesco Church,

To get an idea of how the “Eucharistic Liturgies” were in the second half of the second century and the first half of the third century, we can rely on the descriptions given by Hippolytus of Rome (circa 170 - circa 235) and Tertullian (160-240). From their writings on this subject, we learn that Christians gathered for these early forms of “Mass” on Sundays, but also on other days of the week, always in rather small groups because Christianity was considered a form of atheism for not including bloody sacrifices to any deity. This period (150-250 AD) was also peppered by severe persecutions. The influence of the Hebrew form of ritual thanksgiving remained manifest, but there was a gradual transition from sacred fellowship meal to a sacred ritual meal with the re-presentation of the sacrifice of Christ on the cross.

It is not farfetched to assume that the charge leveled against Christians of being “atheists” might have led them to reflect more deeply on their gatherings as full participations in the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Already St. Ignatius of Antioch, at the beginning of the 2nd century, had written about himself going to Rome in chains to become *the wheat of the Eucharist* ground by the teeth of wild beasts in the arena. By offering to the Father the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist, the Christians saw themselves as one with Christ. Christ was the priest; they all shared in his priesthood. Christ was the sacrificial victim under the forms of bread and wine; they too formed one bread offered to the Father.

The oneness of the Bread broken for the many and the oneness of the Cup from which they all drank, provided them with a physical sign of their unity in Christ and brought to the fore of their minds the real prospect of the proximity of suffering and martyrdom...

An unspecified leader (priest? bishop? somebody else?) presided over the Eucharistic gathering. At first, his role was not as “essential” as we consider it nowadays because they were all mindful of being a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). The presider prayed with the community rather than for the community, and the whole ritual which repeated and recalled all that Jesus did during the Last Supper, consecrated the bread and the wine.

The sacrificial meal had these parts: offering of bread

and wine; thanksgiving prayer addressed to the Father; breaking of the consecrated Bread; reception of the Bread and Cup by all present; and pieces of the Bread sent to those absent. Worth noticing is that, as Tertullian writes, participants could take some of the Bread home to eat before their home meals. And, fifty years later, St. Cyprian of Carthage mentions in his letters that Christians celebrated the eucharist daily with their regular supper.

The 313 edict of Milan, issued by emperor Constantine, marked one of the most significant turning points in the history of the Church. Christians were finally free to assemble for their sacred liturgies. In just a few decades, Christianity went from being a clandestine religion to becoming the official State religion. Churches and basilicas were built, allowing large groups of faithful to gather for worship.

Constantine and subsequent emperors worked hard also to keep the Church unified. Heresies such as Arianism, which denied the divinity of Jesus Christ, were stemmed by summoning bishops from the entire empire in ecumenical Councils: Nicaea (325), Constantinople (381), Ephesus (431) and Chalcedon (451).

After the Council of Nicaea, which affirmed the divinity of Christ, the liturgies passed from being improvised by the presider to being standardized while keeping the “regional flavors” (Rome, Gaul, Constantinople, Jerusalem, Antioch, etc.). The most evident change was to be found in the eucharistic prayer. Rather than seeing themselves united with Jesus in a common prayer to the Father, the faithful addressed their prayer directly to Christ Jesus as the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

Across the Roman empire from East to West, the structure of the liturgy called for a weekly preparation consisting of readings from the Holy Scripture and a homily. After the homily, the catechumens were dismissed so that the baptized could bring up the gifts of bread and wine. The prayer of thanksgiving over the gifts contained a reference to the Last Supper, and it was followed by the distribution of the Bread and Wine to the congregation.

Theological developments, local preferences and cultural differences were responsible for variations and additions to the basic structure of the liturgy. However, while some of those variations were short lived, others remained part of the local liturgies which, in some areas, stretched from about an hour-long gathering to some lasting two or three hours!

The deepening of the Christian faith and the centrality of the Eucharistic liturgy in the life of the faithful became  
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pleasantly visible in the decoration and embellishment of the churches! The walls were well-painted or decorated with elaborate mosaics; ceilings were covered with fine golden leaves; marble altars took the place of humble wooden tables; and jewels decorated sacred vessels and crosses.

For as long as Christianity was a clandestine religion, the presider of the liturgy wore clothes that were like those of the rest of the people. However, the emperor Constantine bestowed special civic authorities on bishops which included distinct vestments to be worn and singular insignia to be quite visible. Eventually, many of them found their way into the liturgical assemblies, and some are still worn in present day liturgies.

A rudimental liturgical calendar was even introduced to replace solemn occurrences in the Roman pagan world.

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

**MASS INTENTIONS:** 

**December 1-Sunday** ❄️

8am Antonio & Angelina Slongo by family  
8am Thomas Daniel by family  
8am Bob Ruggioli by wife Sharon  
8am Daniel Michael Bommarito by Tom Calcaterra family  
8am The Conversion of Sinners by DiMichele family  
10am Lucy Guglielmetti by Judi Blindu  
10am Nancy Josephine DiBella by Vincent & Anna Costa  
10am Ottavio Zicarelli by wife & family  
10am Maria Sarti by Pia Busignani  
12pm Societa SS. Crocifisso di Montelepre-Club Mass  
12pm Antonino Cucchiara by di Montelepre Club

**December 2-Monday**

Spiritual & Physical Healing of Barbara Abraham

**December 3-Tuesday**

Antonio & Assunta Crocenzi by Nora Maiani  
Brendan Michael Heaton by Brenda Groleau

**December 4-Wednesday**

Franca Del-Serrone by family & friends  
For All The Faithful Departed by Rosalia Kehrig

**December 5-Thursday**

Jeff Bennett by Brenda Groleau

**December 6-Friday** ❄️

For All the Faithful Departed by DiMichele family  
Special Intentions of Sandy Kelly by DiMichele family  
Spiritual well-being of Bianca Mutti by mom Mary  
Spiritual & Physical Healing of Barbara Abraham

**December 7-Saturday**

Special Intentions for Mary Mother of God Prayer Group  
**6pm** Giuseppe & Lucia Pinelli by Sam & Alice Pinelli  
**6pm** Barbara Pinelli by Reno Pinelli & family

**December 8-Sunday**

8am Alex Calderone by wife Geraldine  
8am Thomas Daniel by DiMichele family  
8am Marcel & Rita Normandeau by Ron/Michelle Marino  
8am John & Pearl Marino by Ron & Michelle Marino  
8am Josephine & Pietro Badalamenti by family  
10am Salvatore Manzella by wife Rosa  
10am Donna Fallone by family  
10am Antonino Badalamenti by wife & family  
10am Antonio Moraccini by wife & family  
10am Vito & Domenica Manzella by Rosa Manzella  
10am Vincenzo & Concetta Armetta by Rosa Manzella  
12pm Timothy Latimer by Nancy Butros

**December 9-Monday**

Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
For All The Faithful Departed by the DiMichele family  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
The Protection of the Unborn by the DiMichele family  
John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti  
Special Intention Violetta Christensen (Birthday) by Parents  
**7pm** Holy Mass for Immaculate Conception

**December 10-Tuesday** ❄️

Spiritual & Physical healing of Barbara Abraham  
Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
Special Intentions-Bob & Anna Kustasz by DiMichele fam

**December 11-Wednesday**

Paolo & Columba Maiani by Nora Maiani

**December 12-Thursday** ❄️

John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti

**December 13-Friday**

For All The Faithful Departed by Bob & Anna Kustasz  
Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family

**December 14-Saturday**

Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life  
The Salvation of the dying by DiMichele family

**December 15-Sunday** ❄️

8am Giuseppe & Paolina Spano by daughter Anna Costa  
8am Gaetano & Vincent Spano by sister Anna Costa  
10am Antonino & Filippa Passalacqua by son Joe  
10am Franca Esposito by husband & family  
10am Emma Martinelli-Langan by family  
10am Giuseppe Riggi by family  
10am Rocco Ruggirello by family  
10am Bruno DeLuca by family  
10am Armando & Annita Bastianelli by family  
10am Osvaldo Berra by Eufemia Berra  
10am M/M John Berra by Eufemia Berra  
10am Carlo Chiodini by Eufemia Berra  
10am Joseph Coscione by wife Palmira  
12pm Antonia & Lorenzo Cracolici by granddaughter Maria  
12pm Andrea` D'Angelo by daughter Maria DiLorenzo  
12pm Giuseppe Liano by family

**December 16-Monday**

Ernest Lenzini, Sr. by family

**December 17-Tuesday**

Aldo Terenzi by wife Tina  
Jill Gasaway by Brenda Groleau

**December 18-Wednesday** ❄️

Domenic Maiani by wife Nora

**December 19-Thursday** ❄️

Prayers for The Stella Kazikow families

**December 20-Friday**

Salvatore Ventimiglia by family  
Armando Gennari by wife Savina  
Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
For All The Faithful Departed by DiMichele family

**December 21-Saturday**

Marie Bristow by Brenda Groleau  
**6pm** Salvatore & Rosa Spadafora by family

**December 22-Sunday**

10am Giovanni Blindu by wife Judi  
10am Giraldo & Anna Marzolo by family  
10am Antonio Moraccini by wife Anna Maria  
10am Vincenzo Esposito by wife Elena & family  
10am Alessio & Luisa Fallone by family  
10am Vilma Farquhar by family  
12pm Clyde Butros by wife Nancy

### December 22-Sunday (continued)

12pm Otto & Marion Simon by Carmela Simon  
12pm Rosa & Gioacchino Alu by Carmela Simon

### December 23-Monday ❄️

Marcello Del-Serrone by family & friends  
Francesco & Pierina Secchi by family

### December 24-Tuesday (Christmas Eve)

6pm Special Intention for Mike MacDonald  
6pm Theresa & Charles MacDonald by son Mike  
6pm John & Pearl Marino by Ron & Michelle Marino  
6pm Marcel & Rita Normandeau by Ron & Michelle Marino  
6pm Francesco & Evelina Ferrera by Maria Sabatini  
6pm Thomas & Benedetta Sabatini by Joe & Maria  
6pm Antonio & Annunziata Moscone by Maria Sabatini  
6pm Virgilio & MariaCandida Ferrera by Maria Sabatini  
6pm Francesco & Elvira DiCicco by family  
6pm Dan, Mary & Tom Daniel by family

### 12AM-MIDNIGHT MASS FOR ALL

### December 25-Wednesday (Christmas Day)

8am Giuseppe Mazella by wife Gaetana & family  
8am John & Piera Franklin by daughter Mary Mutti  
8am Vincent & Pierina Frabotta by family  
8am Mary Kolis by family  
8am Duncan & Marie Sousa by daughter & family  
8am Veronica & Mike Pisa, Sr. by daughter Michele  
8am Mike Pisa, Jr. by sister Michele Pisa Jones  
8am Louisa Barera by William Hickey  
8am Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
8am Special Intentions of DiMichele family by family  
8am For All The Faithful Departed by DiMichele family  
10am Mario Signorelli by wife & family  
10am Albino Martinelli-38th anniversary by family  
10am Giuseppe & Maria Gonino by Ida Zicarelli & fam  
10am Ottavio Zicarelli by wife & family  
10am Melissa Zicarelli by Grandmother Ida Zicarelli  
10am Antonio & Emelia Zicarelli by Ida Zicarelli  
10am Mario Berra by Eufemia Berra  
10am Francesco & Elvira DiCicco by family  
10am Giuseppe Esposito by wife & family  
12pm Anthony Valerio by wife Victoria  
12pm Zito family by family

### December 26-Thursday

Francesco & Elvira DiCicco by family  
Christopher Zito by family

### December 27-Friday

Special Intentions of the DiMichele family by family  
Cheryll Greene by family

### December 28-Saturday ❄️

Protection of the Unborn by DiMichele family  
The Conversion of Sinners by DiMichele family  
6pm Salvatore & Rosa Spadafora by family

### December 29-Sunday

8am Evandro & Sally DiMichele by DiMichele family  
8am Special Intentions of DiMichele family by family  
8am Gaetano & Antonietta Biundo by family



### Lectors for December:

Dec. 01-J. Nowc, G. Buttacavoli, A. Perugi  
Dec. 08-P. Graebert, L. Pietrantonio, N. Butros  
Dec. 15-J. Nowc, M. Sugameli, L. Sawyer  
Dec. 22-P. Graebert, T. Silverio, A. Perugi  
Dec. 24-J. Foglyano (Vigil Mass)  
Dec. 24-J. Nowc (Midnight Mass)



Dec. 25-P. Graebert, G. Buttacavoli, N. Butros

Dec. 29-J. Nowc, L. Pietrantonio, L. Sawyer

Saturday 6pm Dec. 7-D. Brosky, Dec. 14-J. Foglyano,

Dec. 21-D. Brosky, Dec. 24-J. Foglyano, Dec. 28-D. Brosky

### CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES

Christmas is a time for sharing and giving. We thank God for giving us His Son, Jesus in human flesh. In this bulletin you will find an envelope. We ask you to help us in our pastoral and missionary work. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. God Bless you all.

**SAN FRANCESCO CATECHISM STUDENTS** are currently collecting for needy mothers who "Choose Life". We will be accepting gift cards and/or monetary donations. Gift cards can be purchased from any establishment where baby supplies are sold. Simply place your monetary donation or gift card in an envelope clearly marked "Mothers in Need" and give to Father Dino (please do not place it in the collection basket). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

I would like to sincerely thank all who so generously donated to our 2024 Food Drive. We have many kind and generous people who support our programs at San Francesco Parish. Many individuals who truly remember their Corporal Works of Mercy, may Jesus send you all many blessings. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with health and happiness.

**Ann Burrell, CCD Coordinator**

**CCD Christmas Play** will be on December 17th @ 5pm. The children will re-enact the birth of Jesus. Afterwards, there will be a party in the social hall. Everyone is welcome!

## San Francesco News:



### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, December 9th

This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Holy Masses @ 8am & 7pm



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**December 24th Tuesday (Christmas Eve)**

Holy Masses @ 8am & 6pm (Vigil Mass)

**Midnight Mass:** doors open at 11:30pm.

**December 25th Wednesday (Christmas Day)**

Holy Masses @ 8am, 10am (Italian) & 12 noon.

**December 31st Tuesday (New Year's Eve)**

Holy Mass @ 8am

**January 1st Wednesday (New Year's Day)**

This is a Holy day of Obligation.

Holy Masses @ 8am & 7pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fridays 6:30-7:30pm

If you are unable to come at scheduled time you must arrange in advance.

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from  
Fr. Dino, his Parish Staff, & the PIME Fathers**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



*May Jesus Christ bring love and  
peace to you at Christmas and  
bless you the year through.*

**Scossi dallo Sviluppo Dottrinale? Parte 12<sup>a</sup>**

Carissimi parrochiani e amici di San Francesco Church, Hyppolitus di Roma e Tertulliano ci offrono le migliori descrizioni di come fossero le liturgie eucaristiche dal 150 al 250 DC. L'influenza ebraica di considerare queste liturgie eucaristiche come un banchetto rituale di ringraziamento persistette. Inoltre, i cristiani di quel tempo iniziarono a concepire i loro incontri liturgici in chiave di rappresentazione del sacrificio di Cristo sulla croce. I pagani li accusavano di ateismo in quanto non offrivano sacrifici cruenti. Ma le frequenti persecuzioni li aiutarono a vedere la reale possibilità del martirio come la realizzazione sanguinosa di quel sacrificio che si rappresentavano nei loro incontri eucaristici nei quali univano la loro offerta a quella di Cristo al Padre.

Le parti essenziali dei loro incontri eucaristici rimanevano quelle dei tempi precedenti: presentazione del pane e del vino, preghiera eucaristica sui doni e la S. Comunione con ambo le sacre specie di tutti i presenti. Fatto curioso: Hyppolitus e Tertulliano accennano che i cristiani portavano a casa il Pane eucaristico per consumarne un po' prima della loro cena o durante cene in comune.

L'editto di Milano, emesso dall'imperatore Costantino nel 313, fu una data importantissima nella storia della Chiesa. Da religione clandestina e proibita, in pochi decenni, il cristianesimo divenne la religione ufficiale in

tutto l'impero. Chiese e basiliche permettevano a gruppi numerosi di credenti di cele l'Eucaristia assieme e in modi più formali e uniformi.

Dal terzo secolo, le liturgie eucaristiche divennero ancora più standardizzate e iniziavano con letture bibliche seguite dall'omelia. Dopo l'omelia, i catecumeni erano mandati via per permettere ai battezzati di portare i doni di pane e vino per essere consacrati e poi distribuiti.

Questa struttura generale era arricchita da diversificazioni liturgiche proprie delle varie aree dell'impero. I principali riti erano quello romano e gallico (in Francia) all'ovest e costantinopolitano, antiocheno, e di Gerusalemme all'est.

Le chiese erano abbellite con mosaici, decorazioni auree e marmi preziosi. Anche le suppellettili religiose sfoggiavano gemme e altre pietre preziose.

**P. Dino Vanin, PIME**

**SINCERE APPRECIATION & GRATITUDE** to all the **Ushers, Lectors, Servers**, and to **the people who help clean and decorate so nicely**, for your time & dedication to our Church and in serving our parishioners.

**TAX RECEIPTS**-If you would like a tax receipt for donations you have made throughout the year, you must sign up in the church vestibule **only if you have not signed up in the past.**