

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of December 12

All School

A Message From Our Health Clinic

Many of us will be traveling and gathering with loved ones over the holidays. Please continue to monitor yourself and your children for symptoms of COVID or other illnesses, and keep your children home if they are sick. You may also find helpful information in the [current CDC travel guidelines, here](#).

Save the Date: Connections Event on January 13

Mark your calendar for our next St. Francis Connections event on Thursday, January 13, at 11:45 a.m. We will provide a community update and dedicate some time to answering frequently asked questions. A detailed invitation will arrive in your email inbox soon; in the meantime, please submit your specific questions to Info@StFrancisHouston.org.

St. Francis Fund Giving Week

Congratulations! We did it! Thank you to our entire school community for helping us reach our goal of 100 donors this week!

If you would still like to make a charitable contribution before year's end, please note that all donations will be processed the week of January 3 upon our return from Christmas break.

- To donate by credit card, please [click here](#). We will use the date the donation was made.
- For donations by check, we will use the postdate on the envelope.
- If you have any questions, please [contact Sandy August](#).

From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!

Taylor and Blake Shaver
2021–22 St. Francis Fund Chairs

Gala Gab!

Thank you to everyone who has already purchased tickets and tables to attend Gala on Saturday, February 5, 2022. It's going to be a night to remember, and we can't wait to see you there! If you haven't yet, [click here](#) to reserve your seat at the party.

We also want to take a moment to acknowledge our crew of Studio 52 committees. They've been working very hard behind the scenes to ensure this is the party of the year! We couldn't do it without them and appreciate their support! [Click here](#) to see a full list of our stellar committee chairs and members.

Nominate SFPO Officers by January 7

It's time to start thinking about the 2022–23 St. Francis Parents Organization Executive Board. The SFPO supports the mission of St. Francis by providing meaningful volunteer opportunities for our parent community to uphold the four pillars of care and compassion, school spirit, teacher appreciation, and community-building.

- If you are interested in serving on the SFPO Executive Board—or know someone who is interested—please [fill out this form](#).
- Using the names that are submitted, the Nominating Committee will assemble the slate of officers on January 10, 2022. Please submit your recommendations before Friday, January 7, 2022.
- [Click here](#) to view the list of board positions for which nominations are currently being accepted.
- With questions, [contact Megan Tipton](#), SFPO president.

Tomorrow: Volunteers Needed for the All-School Christmas Concert

We are excited to see the return of our All-School Christmas Concert!

- This concert will feature Lower School students in grades 1–4; Middle School students in grades 5–8 who are enrolled in music elective classes (Trimester 2); and the Upper School Choir.
- The special evening will take place **tomorrow—Monday, December 13—at 6:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church** (11140 Greenbay St.).
- We have arranged a livestream of the event, which can be viewed using [this link](#).
- If you would like to volunteer, please [click here](#).

Missing Items? Check the Lost and Found Closet!

With the cold weather upon us, many sweaters, jackets, and hoodies have found their way to the Lost and Found closet.

- If your student is missing anything, please check the Lost and Found closet, which is located under the Middle School stairway next to the Crum Library entrance.
- Most items are not labeled, so please add “name labels” to your Christmas list!
- Please [email Ali Williams](#) with any questions.

Spirit Store: Items Now in Stock!

IN-STOCK items have been added to the 2021–22 online [Spirit Store](#).
(**Password:** wolves)

- In-stock items are pre-decorated, available for purchase online, and have a fast delivery time. These items could make good stocking stuffers if purchased before Monday, December 13.
- While the global manufacturing supply chain continues to face challenges, we are slowly seeing the return of inventory. We appreciate your continued patience.

PRO TIPS!

- The store link works best with a Google Chrome browser, and will stay open and active until May.
- Families have two options for receiving purchases. (Delivery for both options will take around 10–14 business days.)
 - **Delivery to school to your student’s homeroom teacher or advisor.** December 16 is the last school delivery date before the holidays; school deliveries will resume on January 6.
 - **Shipped to your address.**
- There are **no returns or exchanges**, so be sure to check out the size charts to order the correct size. Please email [Christie Crummel](#) to coordinate access to samples.

Register Now for Spring Enrichment Classes

Registration is still open for spring Explore and Extend enrichment classes. Course offerings are posted on the [Explore and Extend page](#) on the school website. (The registration link is on the right-hand side of the page.)

- Classes begin the week of January 10, 2022.
- Two additional classes have been added to the schedule for spring. **Stemsational** will be a fun coding and engineering class for kindergarten

to grade 2 on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. We are also adding an **art class** for Primary I and II on Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. Please see the [Explore and Extend page](#) for more details.

It's Not Too Late! Registration Still Available for Some Christmas Break Camps

We still have room in some of our Christmas Break camps! Registration is available through St. Francis's [Explore and Extend page](#).

COOKIE SPECTACULAR!

Grades: 4 and up

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Piney Point Campus

Cost: \$175

Description: Join Amy Chandler to learn the art of decorating sugar cookies and Chef Maria Cruzalegui to learn to create delectable Christmas treats. Participants will enjoy both the science of cooking and the elegance of creating edible works of art—and will come home with treats to share.

WINTER BASEBALL DEFENSIVE CAMP

Grades: Grades 6 and up

Dates: Monday, December 20–Tuesday, December 21

Time: 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Location: Couper Campus

Cost: \$60

Led By: Coach Mike August and Coach Koby Clemens

Equipment Needed: Glove, hat, baseball pants, turf shoes, and metal spikes or molded cleats

Description: Players will participate in a series of drills for infielders, outfielders, and catchers. Basic and advance fielding and throwing drills will cover skills such as glove work, footwork, throwing to bases, and game-like situations. SFE baseball program philosophies will also be covered.

CHRISTMAS BREAK BASKETBALL HOOP FUN

Grades: 2–5

Dates: Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Crum Athletics Center on Couper Campus

Cost: \$120

Led By: Coach Harold Baber

Description: Join us for three mornings of FUN with basketball. Participating students will engage in fun games, drills, and friendly competition in our Crum Athletics Center!

CHRISTMAS GIRLS' LACROSSE CAMP

Grades: 5–8

Dates: Monday, December 20–Tuesday, December 21

Time: 9:00–10:00 a.m.

Location: Couper Campus

Cost: \$100

Led By: Coach Jamie Platt

Description: Bring your stick, goggles, and mouth guard, and join Coach Platt for two mornings of fun with lacrosse!

Support the Home Team!

The Athletics Booster Club invites you to come out and support our Wolves at this week's home games. We will be selling concessions at all games—most items are \$1. Exact change is much appreciated. [Click here](#) and scroll down to see the game schedule for the week.

COVID Dashboard

St. Francis is updating the following COVID Dashboard weekly to track the number of active cases and total year-to-date cases for students and faculty/staff. This dashboard can also be found on the Parent Portal.

COVID Dashboard	
STUDENTS	FACULTY/STAFF
ACTIVE Cases	ACTIVE Cases
Total Active COVID+ Students	Total Active COVID+ Faculty/Staff
0	2
YTD Cases	YTD Cases
Total YTD COVID+ Students	Total YTD COVID+ Faculty/Staff
47	16

*Updated 12/09/21 at 11:30 a.m.

Primary School

From the Drama Teacher

A student dances over to center stage. Everyone in the class starts to clap rhythmically to the beat as a second student places her hands on the first student's shoulders. A third student leads them both—and Mary, Joseph, and the donkey begin their journey to Bethlehem. Our Primary II students are memorizing scripts, learning new songs and, for the first time this year, experiencing technical and dress rehearsals. The Primary II Nativity plays are the perfect way to complete the fall semester.

The Nativity plays take the drama curriculum to the next level, challenging students to put all the skills they have learned into practice. They also continue to connect Primary Drama to the mission of St. Francis Episcopal Church.

This fall, each Primary II class performed Chapel skits during Primary School Chapel services. *The Creation Story* and *Noah and the Flood* taught how much God loves us and all creation. Daniel braved the lions, teaching us to trust God no matter what. Jonah learned a lesson about obedience in the belly of the whale. The Nativity finishes the Chapel play season with the fulfillment of God's Old Testament promise. Just as the people of the Bible trusted God to fulfill the promise of salvation, we at St. Francis put our trust in God through challenging times, and God continues to be faithful. After all that we have overcome in the past couple of years, performing live for family, friends, and loved ones is such a joy.

During this festive time when there is so much focus on material things, it is good to bring the focus of our Primary School students to the Nativity. Through the Nativity, people of all faiths and beliefs can be reminded of family, kindness, charity, and unconditional love. Take some time this holiday season to connect with family, give a gift of kindness to someone in need, and reflect on the blessings you are grateful for this year.

Warmest wishes,

Brittney Bush
Primary School Drama Teacher

Primary II Nativity Plays Are Thursday

This Thursday, December 16, Primary II classes will be performing their Nativity plays in the Primary School Multipurpose Room, according to the following schedule:

- **Hughes:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Staller:** 10:00 a.m.
- **Wiener:** 11:00 a.m.
- **Owens:** 12:00 p.m.

Each play will be followed by the class party.

This Friday: Christmas Dress for PS Students

In celebration of the holiday season, Primary School students are invited to wear Christmas-themed clothing this Friday, December 17. If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress that day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress instead.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 13

- *Primary School Open Library:* 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library
 - *Primary I Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
-

Tuesday, December 14

- *Chapel:* Students only
 - *2-Day and 5-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
-

Wednesday, December 15

- *Chapel:* Students only
 - *3-Day Pre-Primary Christmas Parties:* 1:30 p.m.
-

Thursday, December 16

- *Primary II Nativities and Parties*
 - **Hughes:** 9:00 a.m.; party at 9:30 a.m.
 - **Staller:** 10:00 a.m.; party at 10:30 a.m.
 - **Wiener:** 11:00 a.m.; party at 11:30 a.m.
 - **Owens:** 12:00 p.m.; party at 12:30 p.m.
-

Friday, December 17

- *Christmas Dress:* Students may wear Christmas-themed clothing or Spirit Wear

Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3

- *Christmas Break:* School closed

Tuesday, January 4

- *School Resumes*
- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 5

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 7

- *Primary School Epiphany:* Students only

Monday, January 10

- *Explore and Extend Classes Begin*
- *Primary School Open Library:* 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library

Tuesday, January 11

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 12

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.
-

Monday, January 17

- *Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No school*
-

Tuesday, January 18

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Primary School Pajamarama Ingathering Begins*
-

Wednesday, January 19

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
 - *Primary School Pajamarama Ingathering*
-

Thursday, January 20

- *Primary School Pajamarama Ingathering*
 - *2-Day Pre-Primary Pajamarama in Class: Students only*
-

Friday, January 21

- *Primary School Pajamarama Ingathering Ends*
 - *Primary School Pajamarama: Students only*
-

Monday, January 24

- *Primary School Open Library: 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library*
-

Tuesday, January 25

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
-

Wednesday, January 26

- *Chapel: 9:30 a.m.*
-

Thursday, January 27

- *Fathers and Friends for 2-Day and 5-Day Pre-Primary: 8:15 a.m.*
-

Friday, January 28

- *Fathers and Friends for 3-Day Pre-Primary: 8:15 a.m.*
-

Monday, January 31

- *Primary School Open Library: 3:00–4:00 p.m. in the Primary School Library*

Lower School

From the Division Head

Thank you for a great first half of the school year! Our Lower School students are stronger and wiser because of the months we have been in school. I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Please see the information below about our upcoming music performances.

Kindly,

Clifton Walker, MEd
Head of Lower School

From the Music Teacher

Christmas is coming, and our Lower School students are looking forward to celebrating the holiday season in concert! **Tomorrow—Monday, December 13—at 6:30 p.m.**, the much-anticipated All-School Christmas Concert returns to **Chapelwood United Methodist Church**. Combining our Lower School voices with those of Middle and Upper School enhances a feeling of community and strengthens the spirit of the season.

While preparing for the concert, students develop multiple aspects of their musicianship, including in-tune singing, vocal technique, musical literacy, critical-thinking skills, and listening skills. Accurate singing leads to confident, enjoyable music-making experiences.

Students increase their understanding of musical sounds through aural, visual, and physical responses. We play many different listening games that involve these types of responses. For example, older students develop and strengthen their understanding of melody by playing "Which Shape?" This is a game that asks students to listen to a melody (a series of higher and lower pitches), while picturing that melody's highs and lows as a corresponding line that creates a contour or shape. As they listen to the teacher play a melody on the piano, students answer the question "which shape?" by choosing from a set of lines on the board. As students develop their own listening and vocal skills, making music with others becomes even more rewarding.

Please join us in celebrating both the miracle of Christmas and the hard work our Lower School children have put into preparing for tomorrow's performance!

Musically yours,

Melissa Jurick
Lower School Music Teacher
Director, Joyful Sounds Choir

Holiday Dress Dates for Lower School Students

In celebration of the holiday season, Lower School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Uniform with robes/slippers (Polar Express Day)

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 13–Friday, December 17

- *Holiday Dress Week:* Please see details above

Monday, December 13

- *Chapel for Grades 3–4*
 - 8:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
 - Celebrating December birthdays
 - *Grades 1–4 Christmas Concert Rehearsal*
 - 8:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church
 - *Grades 1–12 Christmas Concert*
 - 6:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church
-

Thursday, December 16

- *NO Chapel*
-

Friday, December 17

- *Lessons and Carols:* 8:30 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center; student-only event
 - *Polar Express Day:* Bring robe and slippers to wear over uniform
 - *Christmas Parties*
 - *Christmas Sing-along:* 2:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center; student-only event
-

Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3

- *Christmas Break:* Student holiday
-

Tuesday, January 4

- *Classes Resume*

Middle School

From the Division Head

I hope this holiday season brings you and your family joy, fulfillment, and rest. We are

privileged to work with your kids, and their presence in our lives is a source of happiness and inspiration for all of us.

The Advent season, observance of Christmas, and start of a new year is a special time. The spirit of Christmas is strong in the Middle School, and students have been singing Christmas hymns in Chapel, planning and constructing door decorations, and enjoying special holiday desserts each afternoon in the Dining Hall. In addition, more than 50 of our Middle School students have been hard at work, preparing for a special Christmas concert this week. **I hope to see many of you at the performance tomorrow—Monday, December 13—at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapelwood United Methodist Church sanctuary.**

In the weeks ahead, we will be finalizing our plans for 2022–23 while we make some **immediate changes designed to improve your child’s experience, as well as your own**. If you were not able to join us for one of the parent meetings this past week, you can watch a recording of the fifth-grade meeting using the link just below this letter. (Please note that the information Mr. Lovejoy presented—including information about next school year and about the updated Middle School schedule—is pertinent to all Middle School grades.)

Please also remember to **mark your calendar for the St. Francis Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2022**, when Mr. Lovejoy will share important information about next year.

Our next *Wolf Watch* will be released on January 2, 2022. In case I do not have the chance to wish you well before then, and on behalf of the Middle School faculty and staff, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Best regards,

Chris Bertha, MA
Head of Middle School

Watch the Recording of the Middle School Parent Meeting

Thank you for attending the grade-level parent meetings this week. For those who were unable to attend a meeting or would like to hear the presentation again, please [**click here**](#) for a recording of the event.

MS Schedule Changes Start January 4

As mentioned in the meetings this week, the Middle School schedule will be changing, effective January 4, 2022. In the updated schedule, students will attend all classes each day, and the majority of these classes will rotate to shift the time of day a student is in math, English, etc.

Please see below for some important notes related to the updated schedule:

- Classes will meet every day for 50 minutes.
- Chapel services will remain on Mondays and Thursdays every week.
- Fifth grade will have PE three times per week and electives two times per week, at the end of the day.
- Dismissal for grades 6–8 athletics will move to 3:05 p.m. (Athletics will communicate any updates to practice pickup times.)
- Honors meetings will shift to 7:20–7:50 a.m., and attendance will be optional.
- Students will be filling out a version of their updated schedules in advisory this week.

Tomorrow's All-School Christmas Concert: Information for Middle Schoolers

All students in grades 5–8 who are currently enrolled in music will be performing in the **All-School Christmas Concert tomorrow—Monday, December 13—at Chapelwood United Methodist Church (11140 Greenbay St.)**.

- Middle School students are expected to be in the sanctuary by 5:30 p.m. for a final run-through. You can use Parking Lot A/Entrance 1 to drop students off at the narthex of the church. All parents and guests are welcome to visit the Fellowship Hall for refreshments during this rehearsal.
- Doors will open to family members at 6:15 p.m. and the concert will begin at 6:30 p.m.
- If you have any further questions, please review the information sheet with details about this concert (attire, arrival time, etc.) on the music class website on Veracross, or reach out to [Eric Murillo](#).

Holiday Dress Dates for Middle School Students

In celebration of the holiday season, Middle School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing this week:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Regular uniform with robes/slippers

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 13

- *"D" Day*
 - *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Green and red attire
 - *Christmas Concert:* 6:30 p.m. at Chapelwood United Methodist Church
-

Tuesday, December 14

- *"E" Day*
 - *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
 - *Bible Studies (Grade 8 Girls/Grade 7 Boys and Girls):* 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
-

Wednesday, December 15

- *"A" Day*
 - *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Santa's workshop (elves, Santa, reindeer, etc.)
 - *Bible Study (Grade 8 Boys):* 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
-

Thursday, December 16

- *"C" Day*
 - *Holiday-Themed Clothing:* Favorite Christmas movie character
 - *Bible Studies (Grade 6 Boys and Girls):* 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway
-

Friday, December 17

- *"B" Day (Modified)*
- *Holiday-Themed Clothing (Updated):* Regular uniform with robes and slippers
- *Lessons and Carols (Students Only):* 9:50 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center
- *Bible Studies (Grade 5 Boys and Girls):* 7:15–7:45 a.m. in the Christian Education rooms at the end of the Middle School hallway

Monday, December 20–Monday, January 3

- *Winter Break:* Student holiday

Tuesday, January 4

- *Classes Resume*

Thursday, January 6

- *Epiphany Eucharist*

Wednesday, January 12

- *Winter Conferences:* No classes

Friday, January 14

- *Trimester 2 Progress Reports*

Monday, January 17

- *Martin Luther King Jr. Day:* No classes

Upper School**From the Division Head**

This week, I would take some time to talk about what is happening around campus these days. Many thanks are due to Mr. Riley, athletic director, and Mr. Doran, director of fine arts, for their help in describing the goings-on of their departments.

ATHLETICS

In the winter season, we have four sports: swimming, soccer, wrestling, and basketball.

- For **swimming**, students practice off-campus at the Dad's Club Aquatic Center. We have nine students swimming this year, have already been in several meets, and a school record has already been broken!
- St. Francis was excited to add **soccer** this year for both the boys and the girls. Our students have been practicing hard after school and will have their first games in the new year.
- We have one student who will be **wrestling** for the school this year.
- **Basketball** has been thriving this year. Our girls' basketball team had its first win last week against St. John's, and our boys' program has added a varsity team. While both boys' teams are young, they are progressing and working hard. There are still a number of upcoming games for our basketball program. You can watch all home games played in Crum Gym at [this link](#), and all game schedules are available on the [Athletics web page](#).

FINE ARTS

- **Choir:** Most immediately, Dr. Jones has been working every morning with our choir students preparing for the **Christmas concert**. This event will take place **tomorrow—Monday, December 13—at 6:30 p.m.** at Chapelwood United Methodist Church (11140 Greenbay Street). The concert will be performed in the main sanctuary. The sanctuary doors will open for seating at 6:15 p.m. **Upon drop-off, families are encouraged to join us in the Fellowship Hall for some pre-concert hospitality, courtesy of FoFA.** The Fellowship Hall will have holiday refreshments for the whole family, holiday craft projects, and photo opportunities with Santa and his elves (the Upper School basketball team). Families unable to travel in for the concert are encouraged to join us via [livestream](#) or to view the recording of the concert that will be available a few days afterward.
- **Dance:** The Upper School Dance Program is excited to get back in the rehearsal room as students prepare for their upcoming concert at the end of January.
- **One-Act Plays:** Fresh off the success of *The Sound of Music*, student directors are gearing up to helm their own directorial debuts and have started to research plays to present at our One-Act Play Festival at the end of April. Auditions for these plays will be held at the start of the new year. Auditions and tech positions are open to all students.
- **Visual Arts:** Students in our vibrant visual arts program are busy studying art history and painting, drawing, and sculpting their way toward their first art show. They are also gussying up the art car for the 2022 Art Car Parade and Experience. Parents interested in working on the car with students can [email Caroline Doyle](#) for information on volunteer opportunities.

ACADEMICS

The week before a major break, our students will typically have a few assessments, so

it's important that they stay focused during this last week. Moreover, the midterm comes quickly after our return to school, on January 7. During advisory this week, students will have one-on-one conferences with their advisors to look at grades and make a plan for the remainder of the trimester.

Finally, we wish you and your families a safe and restful holiday season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Warmly,

Marc Addington, MA
Head of Upper School

Holiday Dress Dates for Upper School Students

In celebration of the holiday season, Upper School students are invited to wear holiday-themed clothing on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 13:** Green and red
- **Tuesday, December 14:** Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
- **Wednesday, December 15:** Santa's workshop
- **Thursday, December 16:** Favorite Christmas movie character
- **Friday, December 17:** Christmas pajamas with robes/slippers

If a student prefers not to wear holiday dress on a designated day, he or she may wear regular uniform dress that day instead.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, December 13

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular School Uniform or Holiday-Themed Attire:* Green and red
-

Tuesday, December 14

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular School Uniform or Holiday-Themed Attire:* Christmas attire/ugly holiday sweater
-

Wednesday, December 15

- "A" Day
 - *Regular School Uniform or Holiday-Themed Attire*: Santa's workshop
 - *Upper School Chapel*: 10:00–10:35 a.m.
-

Thursday, December 16

- "B" Day
 - *Regular School Uniform or Holiday-Themed Attire*: Favorite Christmas movie character
-

Friday, December 17

- "A" Day: **Special schedule** to accommodate Lessons and Carols
 - *Regular School Uniform or Holiday-Themed Attire*: Christmas pajamas with robes and slippers
 - *Upper School Lessons and Carols*: 11:25 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
-

Monday, December 20–Sunday, January 2

- *Winter Break*: School closed
-

Monday, January 3

- *Winter Break*: Student holiday
-

Tuesday, January 4

- *Classes Resume*

Church

Submit Poinsettia Dedications by December 20

Be a part of the St. Francis tradition of making a Christmas poinsettia dedication that will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship bulletins.

- Make your dedication “In Memory” of a loved one or “In Thanksgiving” for your many blessings.
- Dedication forms are located on the tables in the Narthex, or you may submit the form and payment online [here](#).
- The suggested donation is \$30.
- **Dedications should be received in the church office no later than Monday, December 20.**

In-Person Worship

The Holy Eucharist is offered at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. We also offer an evening Eucharist on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing all those who are ready to return. For those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship, we will continue to livestream our worship service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Access the livestream via our church [website](#), [YouTube channel](#), or [Facebook page](#). Instructions for livestreaming are included at the bottom of this section.

Moms, Join Us for Bible Study (Resumes in January 2022)

The **SFES Moms' Bible Study** meets on **Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m.** and is led by **Allison Devlin**, director of family ministry. Please contact Allison via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725 for more meeting details.

Join Mrs. Devlin for In-Person Let It Shine!

Join Mrs. Devlin each Sunday for in-person Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. All children from Pre-K to middle school are invited to participate.

Middle School Bible Study: Meets Every Sunday

We invite your Middle School-aged children to meet for Bible study each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. service.

- **Who:** Middle School students
- **What:** Bible study and fellowship
- **When:** Meets every Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service
- **Where:** CE212 (GLOW room, upstairs above church office)

- **Why:** Current study on *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis

For more information, please contact Allison Devlin [via email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

High School Bible Study: Next Meeting Is January 12

The high school Bible study resumes on January 12 with a new study (theme TBD). Every other week, the group meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Houston Racquet Club for dinner and Bible study. All high schoolers are invited to attend. For additional information, please contact Allison Devlin [via email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Calling All Musicians—We Are Back!

All those who missed sitting with your peers in the Assisi Choir and playing instruments at the 11:00 a.m. service, we are coming back together! If you have ever sung in a choir, thought about singing in a choir, or played an instrument, now is the time to join us.

- Assisi Choir practice rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. in the church.
- Instrumentalists are invited to join in a small rehearsal at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays in the church.
- The Praise Choir and Band meets to rehearse Sundays at 8:45 a.m. in the church.
- If you have a love of singing or playing, please [contact Richard Keith](#).

Help Meet MAM's Updated Supply Needs

Memorial Assistance Ministries recently let us know that your generous donations have been helping to keep the organization's pantry well supplied. Thank you! They do still have some urgent needs, so if you are able to help, please consider donating the following items:

- Laundry detergent
- Size 6 diapers

For additional information, contact our church liaison, Andrea Eubanks, [via email](#) or at 713.859.1448.

Fair Haven Food Pantry Needs Canned Soup

The Fair Haven Food Pantry needs our help! The ministry, which has been providing food assistance to people in the Spring Branch/Memorial area since 1975, has requested donations of **canned meaty soup or canned bean soup** in December.

- The pantry also needs your help to sort and box produce from the Houston Food Bank and to distribute food boxes in the drive-through pickup line.
- To volunteer, please [click here](#).
- For additional information, email [Jessica Antel](#).

Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us using the “Prayer Requests” link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#). Please feel free to submit prayer requests for yourself or for someone you know. All prayer requests are confidential and will not be added to the spoken prayer list, but will be prayed for by our staff and Pastoral Care Council over two months.

Upcoming Bible Studies at St. Francis

St. Francis is hosting the following Bible studies, either in-person, via Zoom, or both. To join a Zoom event listed below, please click the provided link or copy and paste it into your web browser’s address bar. Then, enter the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Brief Study on Advent
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/651248716>
 - *To participate, email Louise Richman.*

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Acts and After You Believe
 - **Contact:** [Martin O'Malley](#)
 - **Location:** La Madeleine (Exception: On the second Tuesday of each month, the group meets in the Wheatcroft Parish Hall.)
- Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (**Next meeting is December 14**)
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Study:** Simply Good News
 - **Location:** Wheatcroft Parish Hall
 - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Acts of the Apostles
 - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84213782442>
 - Meeting ID: 842 1378 2442

- **Passcode:** 1c6HEL

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** The Book of Revelations
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room (St. Francis Episcopal School)
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81068388948>
 - **Meeting ID:** 810 6838 8948
 - **Passcode:** 767200

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS—BIBLE STUDIES AND MEETINGS

- Sundays at 10:00–10:45 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** GLOW Middle School
 - **Study:** C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*
 - **Location:** Classroom CE212
 - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
- Wednesdays at 6:30–8:00 p.m. (**Every other week; resumes January 12**)
 - **Meeting:** High School Dinner and Bible Study
 - **Study:** New Study Begins in January (Theme TBD)
 - **Location:** Houston Racquet Club
 - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND PRAYER

- Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **In-Person Meeting Place:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 05741
- Wednesday Night Eucharist, Program, and Dinner (**\$10 per person**)
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** Church and Wheatcroft Parish Hall
- Thursdays at 7:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **In-Person Meeting Place:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 057417
- Thursdays at 6:15–6:45 a.m.

- **Meeting:** Prayer Session (We read Scripture and go through a prayer cycle of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession.)
- **Contact:** [Heather Burkhart](#)
- **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79725936159>
 - **Meeting ID:** 797 2593 6159
 - **Passcode:** 678123
- Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Spiritual Enrichment
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room

How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

If you would like to join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, here's how to watch:

1. Open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—sfch.org.
2. Click on the "Watch Live Stream Worship Services" button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available. If you prefer to watch from Facebook or YouTube, click on the links to go to those streaming servers.

Prelude music will begin on the livestream 10 minutes before the service to allow time for your connection and your inspiration. If you miss the live video, a recording of the service will also be available on [St. Francis's YouTube channel](#).