

Dear Family & Friends of St. Francis ECC,

Here is some of the news and information which is being talked about all around the church for this week:

- We will be having Carols, Cookies and Karaoke this Friday December 2nd from 7-9PM. All are welcome to come and to bring some cookies or snacks and to eat some cookies too. Our very own in-house DJ, "Magic Mike" Velez will be spinning the tunes for us that evening. Come prepared to have Fun, Frolicking, Friendship and Fellowship and see how the church is decorated.
- We have placed the order for our St. Francis Polo shirts and T-Shirts. We expect to have them the week of December 7th. If you have not paid for your shirt yet, we will accept the money at anytime between now and then. You can give your money to Larry Roush or to any council member. Thank you.
- We had the 2017 council election on Sunday November 20th and the members will be Leo Champagne, Larry Roush, Terry Winslow, Mike Heimsath, Jon Laubscher and Jim Villafana. A big thank you to all who participated to make this a true election. Please remember we say, the council cannot do it all and they need the help of the St. Francis Community to be able to serve well.
- If you are looking for the perfect Christmas gift for someone special, we have the gift. We are continuing to have our Brick Program in effect. If you would like to purchase a brick, we have them on sale for \$100. They make great Christmas presents. Forms are available in the lobby at church or on our website. We have announced that we have a new vendor for the Brick Program, it is what they do and it will be much better for us. Effective January 1st, the cost of a brick goes up to \$120. You can reserve a brick now, before January 1st and be "Grandfathered in" for at the original price of \$100 for 3 lines and 20 characters per line. Graphics cost a little more but we have many to choose from. We are offering a 0% "in-house" financing of your brick for St. Francis members. You can pay monthly, quarterly or whenever is most convenient for you. The only restriction is that the brick must be paid before we need them, but that will be always down the road. Remember, we are building for our future. This way, everyone will be able to afford a brick and be a part of the program. If you prefer to purchase a brick on our website and pay through PayPal, it must be paid in full at that time Please see Bill Schwartz or any council member for more information. This will be an on-going program; our first goal is to sell 100 bricks. The funds raised with this program will be "restricted funds" and will only be used down the road for the purchase and or renovation of our own permanent church space. Please see any council member if you should have questions. Completed forms with or without payment, can be given to Larry Roush or Bill Schwartz.
- The Tampa Bay Aids Walk is coming up on December 10th. We have 3 members who are representing "Team St. Francis", Cheryl & Mike Valez and Frank Matzell. So far the team has raised \$70 towards their Team Goal of \$250. The link to the walk is <https://www.aidswalktampabay.org/2015/personal-fundraising-page?tab=0&frsid=1065> You can also find the link on the church calendar on our website. The team is looking for additional people to walk with them and carry our banner. It is only a 3mile walk. You do NOT have to be registered to do so. If you can't walk, can you help out Team St. Francis, by donating or by passing out fliers for our church on the day of the race? It would be greatly appreciated. Please see Cheryl Velez for more information.
- We will be having our parish Christmas Party on Saturday December 17th at the home of Fr. Victor and Aryn. Please be sure to mark your calendar for this event. We have more information and their address posted on the bulletin board in the social hall to follow. Save the date.
- If you would like to make a donation towards our Christmas flowers you may do so at this time. We are now accepting donations and you can now make a donation in honor or in memory of someone special. The suggested donation is \$10 per name. We have forms available in the lobby. Please complete the form and submit it along with your donation to Larry Roush or any council member or drop it in the collection plate. The

names will be placed into the Christmas program. Please see Larry Roush or John O'Grady if you should have any questions. Thank you.

We will not have First Friday Masses or Healing Masses in November and December. They will resume again in January.

That is all for this week's Council letter. Please let us know if you should have any questions, concerns or comments. You are always free to e-mail us or contact any member of the church council. Thank you, and as always, we look forward to seeing you in church!!!

In God's Peace, Your Church Council,

Jon, Jim, Barbara, Leo & Larry