

## Gather

GATHER elements are a way for us to join together as the community of St. Francis to celebrate and learn about our Catholic faith. They include LIVE from Assisi virtual events, Sunday Gospel reflections and the SFA Encounter.

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. –Romans 12:12*

[Past Months](#) –Link to activities and replays from previous months

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### LIVE from Assisi: Home Edition

Takes place on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 6:30-7:30p.m.\* Next edition is January 13.

Includes praise and worship music, an introduction and teaching of the month's theme, a household activity to do together, and Live Q&A with the clergy. Registered families can pick up a Take Away Bag with supplies for the household activity after masses the weekend before the Home Edition.

\*Registered households have access via the private Facebook group or the Zoom link sent in the weekly email. A recording of the LIVE event will be available in the Facebook group and posted here.

Did you miss the December edition? View [the replay!](#)

Due to technical difficulties, we weren't able to play the [Lord's Day Meal video](#) during our November Home Edition but it is now available for you to view! Enjoy!

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## LIVE from Assisi: Adult Edition

Takes place on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:30-7:30p.m.\* Next edition is January 20.

Includes praise and worship music, a national speaker video, and breakout discussion between the adults.

\*Registered households can participate in LIVE from Assisi: Adult Edition via the Zoom link sent in the weekly email.

Unable to attend LIVE? View the [replay here](#) or you can view the stand-alone national speaker [video](#) and use the [discussion questions](#) for your private reflection or to discuss with your own small group.

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## LIVE from Assisi: Worship Edition

Takes place on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 5:00p.m.\* Next edition is January 17.

Did you miss the December Edition Taize Prayer Service? Watch [the replay!](#)

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## Good News

Spending time in prayer with the readings before Mass will significantly reinforce your comprehension of and provide an opportunity to reflect on the Word of the Lord as it is proclaimed. Whether you begin with a literal read, listening to a podcast, or watching a video reflection, you open your heart to a deeper dive with our Lord. Go to <https://bible.usccb.org/> to find the Scriptures for not only Sunday, but for every day. Also, check out one of the weekly Sunday Gospel reflections below.

### January 3

- [Children's Liturgy of the Word](#)
- [Teen Reflection from LifeTeen](#)
- [Adult Reflection](#)

January 10

- [Children's Liturgy of the Word](#)
- [Teen Reflection from LifeTeen](#)
- [Adult Reflection](#)

Want to revisit a reflection from past weeks? Children and adult reflections [are here](#).  
Teen reflections [are here](#).

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## SFA Encounter

Stay connected with other Together in Faith households by completing an activity and sharing on the private Facebook group. Don't have Facebook? Email to Heather at [hrohe@saintfrancischurch.org](mailto:hrohe@saintfrancischurch.org) and she can add it for you.

**December**—Beautiful Advent and Christmas traditions are plentiful within the Catholic community. Many households light candles on an Advent Wreath. Setting up a Nativity is another popular custom. Perhaps Baby Jesus does not appear until Christmas morning, and the wise men not until Epiphany. Some households decorate a Jesse Tree. Celebrating a special seasonal saint is another option. St. Nicholas may come and drop off a small gift before Christmas, or perhaps St. Lucy cakes are baked and shared. These are just a few of the inspiring practices Catholic households participate in this time of year. How does your household celebrate Advent and/or Christmas? Share one of your traditions in the private Facebook group. Write a description and/or post a photo. We look forward to learning about the diverse Advent and Christmas customs celebrated by Together in Faith households at St. Francis!