



[Click here to view the Synod Summary Report for The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi](#)



Our Mission Statement

Inspired by our patron, Francis of Assisi, we seek to proclaim the reign of God by growing in Holiness through our experience of Christ in word, sacrament, and one another, offering Hope to those who hunger for human dignity, and extending Hospitality to all.



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

11401 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 919-847-8205 www.stfrancisraleigh.org



Fr. Michael's column will return next week.

Faith and Family Night at DPAP



Mark Your Calendar

October 22

**Franciscan Spirit and Life:
Repairing and Reforming the Church Convocation**

Saturday, Oct 22, 8:30am to 1:30pm

More information to come. Contact kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org

THROUGH BAPTISM MAY
SHE WALK ALWAYS AS A
CHILD OF THE LIGHT:

Madison Claire Bowden

Daughter of Marshall and
Christine Bowden

Miles George Marino

Son of Thomas and Rebecca Marino

Diego Angelo Paniccia

Son of Daniel and Dulce Paniccia

Jackson Walter Taylor

Son of Zack and Allison Taylor

MAY THEY REST IN
PEACE AND PERPETUAL
LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM:

+Elizabeth Harms

Mother of Pam Redmond

Weekly Envelope Schedule

August 28 Weekly

You can mail your contribution to us at:

St Francis Of Assisi
11401 Leesville Road
Raleigh, NC 27613

You can give online through:



<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faith-direct/>



Text-to-Give: 919-629-1199

Additional Online Giving Methods:

www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure/

For a complete list of SFA contacts
Group Opportunities,
Volunteer Opportunities
and Ministries, click here.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR AUGUST 27 TO SEPTEMBER 4



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Aug 27, 2022
Saturday, 5:30
+Stephen Mack Sr.
Requested by David Mack

Sunday Aug 28, 2022
Sunday, 7:15
The Souls of Purgatory
Requested by Theresa Rakshys

Sunday, 9:00
+Vincent Robert Pribish
Requested by The Pribish Family

Sunday, 11:45
+Alex Biswas
Requested by Susan Rozario

Sunday, 5:30
For the Parishioners of St. Francis

Monday, Aug 29, 9AM
+Dylan Blue
Requested by Charles and Alice Ward

Tuesday Aug 30, 9AM
+Bernard D'Costa
Requested by The D'Costa Family

Wednesday Aug 31, 9AM
+Michael McGrail Jr.
Requested by Marian Monti

Thursday September 1, 9AM
+Ron Helwig
Requested by Richard and Alma Hammer

Friday September 2, 9AM
+Edwin Manalastas
Requested by Wennie and Julius Fajardo

Saturday September 3, 2022
Saturday, 5:30
+Frank Walter Adameck
Requested by Kathleen Fyda-Turner

Sunday September 4, 2022
Sunday, 7:15
+Richard Mazzacone
Requested by Carmela and George Brocco

Sunday, 9:00
Karyn & Jose Ortiz-Anglero
Requested by Karyn Anglero
25 Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, 11:45
+Cecil Alvora Myers, Jr.
Requested by Carmela and George Brocco

Sunday, 5:30
For the Parishioners of St. Francis

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

+Virgilio Palomino de La Cruz
Requested by Sheryll Dimanlig
Remembrance

Recent Death
+Elizabeth Harms
Mother of Pam Redmond
Remembrance

Mass Intentions

One of the spiritual works of mercy is to pray for the living and the dead. Requesting a Mass is a most wonderful way to exercise this spiritual work of mercy. Our register for Mass intentions is open. You may make your request(s) by going to our website (<https://www.stfranciscisraleigh.org/mass-intention-prayers/>) or by calling the parish office at 919-847-8205 during normal business hours M-F.



Daily Mass at 9:00am is held in the chapel on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The Wednesday Daily Mass is held in the church.



Weekly Reconciliation Services

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for individuals is celebrated most Saturdays of the year between 4:00-4:45pm in the main church. There are normally two priests present. We recommend that you arrive well before 4:45pm so we may accommodate you.

Laudato Si' - In action

"I ask you in the name of God, to defend Mother Earth"
Pope Francis

**How do we respond to the call
for Ecological Education?**

Learn: Check out options for more eco-friendly living.
bit.ly/hmclean

Share: Products and websites with
your friends and family.

stfranciscisraleigh.org/care_for_creation
To connect with us: stfccreation@gmail.com

Upcoming At a Glance

This week's events are shown in red.

August 28

Community Center

Reopening Party 10-11:30am.

beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

August 31

Last day to register for Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation

jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org

August 31

Summer Youth Fest -

Praise, Worship, and S'Mores

with Jim Wahl

<https://onrealm.org/StFrancisRaleigh/PublicRegistrations/Event?link-String=M2MON2MOMDAfYzZhMy00YjU-4LWJjODktYWVjYTAxMDAyZTNi%20>

September 6: Divorce Care

The Next Series of Divorce Care will be Sep 6, 2022 – Dec 13, 2022, for more information please contact Bill Morgan at dejanuts@yahoo.com.

September 7

Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

Required for all Level C volunteers

[Wednesday, 9/7 at 9:30am](#)

[Tuesday, 9/20 at 7:00pm](#)

[Wednesday, 9/21 at 7:00pm \(In Spanish\)](#)

September 7

Creation Care

7pm – Virtual Discussion of Film *Kiss the Ground* - stfcreation@gmail.com

September 9

Women's Ministry

Bible Study Begins

Contact ccarlson210@gmail.com

[Order your book here.](#)

September 11

Coffee and Donuts

Following 9:00am Mass, in Clare Hall

beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 11

Creation Care

4:15p-5:15pm Reflective Tour of the Church Grounds

stfcreation@gmail.com

September 14

Monthly Grief Support Group

Good Grief

First meeting, 10:00am in Laverna

beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 15

Cancer Support Group

Meets virtually at 1:00pm

SuzanneSziemer.slp@gmail.com

September 15

Braver Angels Workshop

of "Families and Politics" 7pm – Addressing polarization and civil dialogue in our families – Sign-up: <http://bit.ly/depolarizeSFA2022a>

September 18

Small Group Leader Training

6:30-8:15pm, contact Jeanne Lewin at

jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 20 and 21

Letters from Prison

Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study

\$25.00 covers cost of both books.

Questions? Contact Janie Hebert,

janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org.

<https://litpress.org/Products/6455/Letters-from-Prison-Part-One>

<https://litpress.org/Products/6454/Letters-from-Prison-Part-Two>

<https://litpress.org/Products/6454/Letters-from-Prison-Part-Two>

September 25

"Come and See" open house sponsored by the Padre Pio Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order on Sunday, September 22, 2022 from 2:30-4:30pm Questions Questions ellenferrone@gmail.com, ofscentralinc@gmail.com or visit <https://ofscentralinc.org>.

September 24

Be Still - Adoration and Breakfast

9:00-11:30. Contact beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 27

Bereavement Series Begins

Grief's Journey

Tuesday's at 5:00pm in Laverna

beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

October 2

FrancisFest

Our annual parish wide celebration of our patron saint. Contact ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org if you are interested or want to learn more about this opportunity visit www.stfrancisraleigh.org/francisfest

October 8

Herencia Hispana Mass

11:00am Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral Celebrated by Bishop Zarama.

Questions: 984-900-3182

October 15

Wedding Anniversary Mass

10:00am Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. Celebrated by Bishop Zarama.

Questions: 984-900-3184

<https://raldioc.configio.com/wam2022>

October 22

Franciscan Spirit and Life: Repairing and Reforming the Church Convocation

Saturday, Oct 22, 8:30am to 1:30 pm

More information to come.

Contact Kathy.Sales@stfrancisraleigh.org

Register for Cross Step



Cross Step (formerly known as Play N' Pray) is the newest addition to St. Francis' Crosses Faith Formation programs. Our mission is to the development of faith of children, ages one-and-walking through four. The children come to us in Clare Hall during the 9:00 am Sunday Mass. Using Pflaum Gospel Weeklie's SEEDS curriculum, the children learn about the weekly Gospel and participate in fun, interactive activities that focus on Catholic doctrine and traditions. Let us help your children to take their first STEPS on their walk with God!

Interested families can register their children for the 2022-2023 year in REALM. Please contact Andrea.Javier@stfrancis-raleigh.org for more information.

Interested in sharing your faith with young children in a fun-filled and loving environment?

The Cross Step program is currently seeking part-time employees to lead our Parish's preschool-aged faith formation classes for the upcoming 2022-2023 year. Our classes occur during the 9:00 am Sunday Mass and consist of playing, praying, sharing a short Gospel-based lesson that is provided in advance, and participating in a related arts-and-craft activity. No teaching experience is necessary, just the desire to have fun and share God's Word. Sharing a couple hours of your time on Sundays can forever transform a child's faith-journey!

Please contact Andrea.Javier@stfrancis-raleigh.org

St Francis of Assisi Environment and Arts Ministry

Have you ever been interested in volunteering behind the scenes - decorating the church for the liturgical seasons and/or providing essential water for the greenery?

If so, we have a spot for you!!

With this flexible and creative ministry, you can serve the community with every lily, mum and poinsettia to your hearts content!

If you would like to be included on the email distribution highlighting environment volunteer opportunities, please follow the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0449AFAB2EABFD0-stfrancis>

If you have questions with this ministry please reach out to Theresa Baumgartner at theresabaumgartnerenc.rr.com

Praise, Worship, & S'mores

with Jim Whal

ALL MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
COME SING & PRAISE THE LORD
FOLLOWED BY S'MORES
A NIGHT OF PRAYER, FUN &
FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31 6:30-8:45 PM
MEET IN THE CHURCH

YOUTH & ADULT PRESENCE ARE TO REGISTER ON THE
REALM REGISTRATION
CONTACT JEANNE LEWIN FOR MORE INFORMATION
JEANNE.LEWIN@STFRANCISRALEIGH.ORG



Women's Ministry Bible Study

**Friday Mornings at 9:30am in Padua
Starting September 9th**

We are studying David the King from
Bishop Barron.

Contact
Celesta ccarlson210@gmail.com

Order your book [Here](#)

Bereavement Ministry

Bereavement Series: Grief's Journey

Tuesday's at 5:00pm in the LaVerna

September 27	October 25
October 4	November 1
October 11	November 8
October 18	November 15

Register for Grief's Journey Series

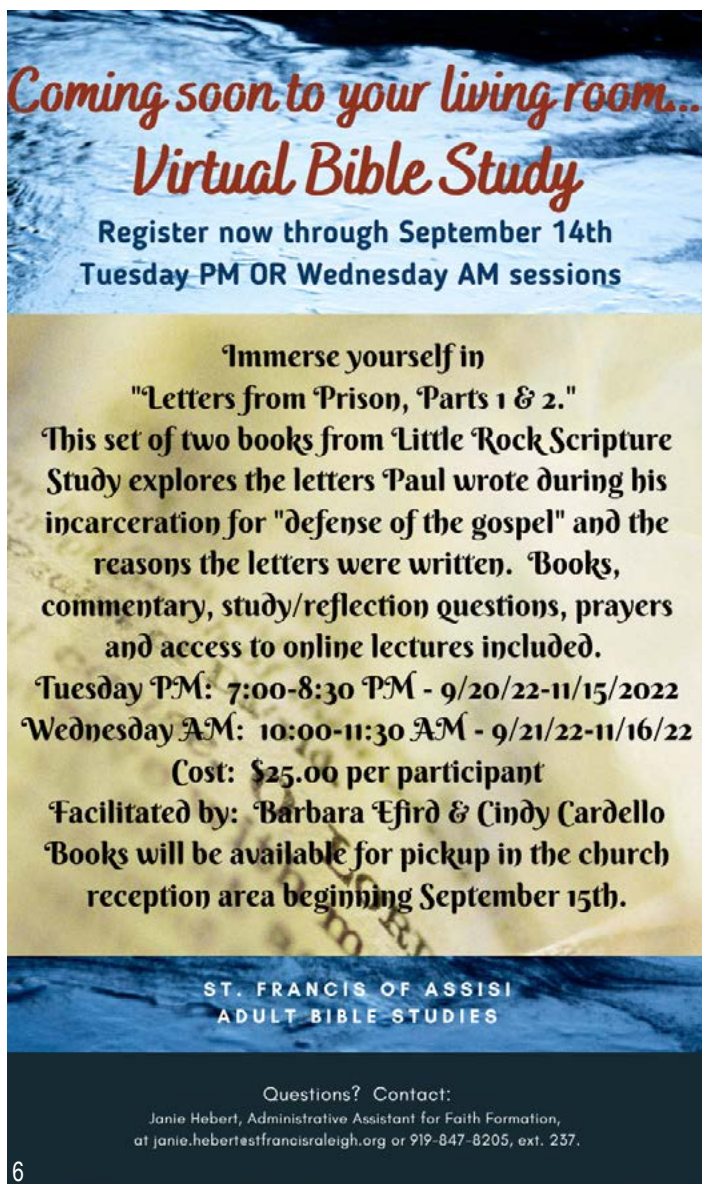
Monthly Grief Support Group: Good Grief

Second Wednesday of the Month at 10:00am in LaVerna

First Meeting 9/14 at 10:00am What is Grief?

Register for Good Grief Monthly Support Group

Contact beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org



Coming soon to your living room... Virtual Bible Study

**Register now through September 14th
Tuesday PM OR Wednesday AM sessions**

**Immerse yourself in
"Letters from Prison, Parts 1 & 2."**

This set of two books from Little Rock Scripture Study explores the letters Paul wrote during his incarceration for "defense of the gospel" and the reasons the letters were written. Books, commentary, study/reflection questions, prayers and access to online lectures included.

Tuesday PM: 7:00-8:30 PM - 9/20/22-11/15/2022
Wednesday AM: 10:00-11:30 AM - 9/21/22-11/16/22

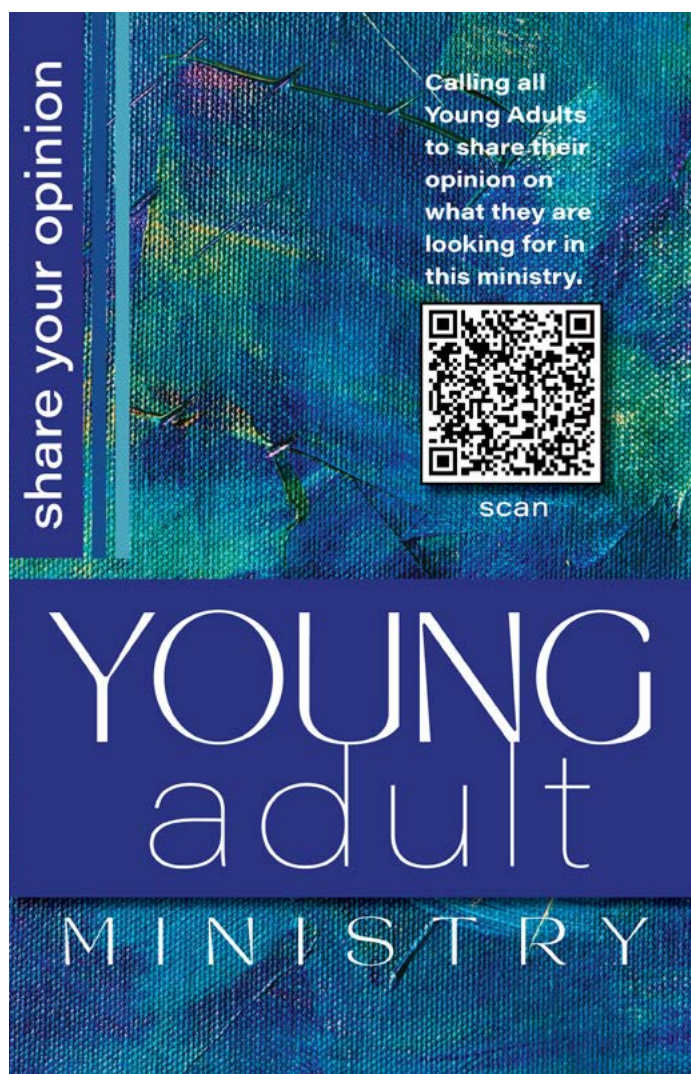
Cost: \$25.00 per participant

Facilitated by: Barbara Efird & Cindy Cardello

Books will be available for pickup in the church reception area beginning September 15th.


**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
ADULT BIBLE STUDIES**

Questions? Contact:
Janie Hebert, Administrative Assistant for Faith Formation,
at janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205, ext. 237.



share your opinion

Calling all Young Adults to share their opinion on what they are looking for in this ministry.



scan

YOUNG adult MINISTRY

TAKE A *journey* TO DISCOVER HOW GOD HAS GIFTED YOU.

4 DISCERN IN DEPTH WITH
FELLOW PARISHIONERS

3 DISCOVER AND DISCERN
YOUR GIFTS

2 SMALL GROUPS MEET IN
PERSON OR ZOOM

1 SIGN UP FOR SMALL GROUP AUGUST 15
TO SEPTEMBER 21

Explore the charisms that you have been given to share with the world. Our small groups will work together to unlock and find the gifts you have been given. As you journey down this path you will then work with your facilitator one on one to explore these gifts. In the final phase you will learn how to bring your gifts to life.

**There are several small groups options to pick from. Both in person and Zoom available.
We are also offering a men's group and young adult group. All start week of September 25th.**

**Registration for The Spiritual Gifts Journey small groups open August 15th.
Register HERE through Realm - \$25 Registration Fee for materials and online access.**

SMALL GROUP OPTIONS

Sundays: 7pm with Rosemary Somich - Zoom

Monday Mornings: 10am with Ellen Ferrone - in-person Founders Room

Monday Evenings: 7pm *Men's Group* with Jacob House - Hybrid (in-person or zoom)

Tuesday Mornings: 10am with Gladys Whitehouse - Zoom

Tuesday Evenings: 7pm with Michael Somich - Zoom

Wednesdays: 12pm (Lunch hour) *Young Adult Group* with Beth Gaudette - Zoom

Thursdays: 9:30am with Mae Villanueva - in-person



Scan to Register

SMALL GROUP REGISTRATION OPENS MONDAY, AUGUST 15TH

Help change a child's ETERNITY by being a

Children's Catechumenate Family Sponsor

intentional & faithful friend

share your faith and pray with them

accompany to Mass & family events

be a witness at Liturgical Rites

be a Catholic Christian role model

What is the
Children's Catechumenate
and what am I called to do?

A child's journey of
conversion into the mystery of Christ
through the Sacraments of Initiation

Along the journey, this child should be
accompanied by the entire Christian
community who act as witnesses of faith!

For more information on being a
Family Sponsor, email
Marisa.Ferrara@stfrancisraleigh.org



The Cancer Support Group

Here there is hope. Here there is deep understanding. Here there is camaraderie. We are a group touched by cancer and we gather monthly to listen and offer support to each other. No matter where you are on your journey; newly diagnosed, long-hauler, or in survivorship come gather with us. Here is where we laugh, cry and pray with each other as we journey with cancer. We meet virtually the Third Thursday of the Month at 1:00pm. The next meeting is September 15. Contact Sziemer.slp@gmail.com for questions.



Catholic Parish Outreach
A Program of Catholic Charities

Catholic Parish Outreach

Bags will be passed out after Masses the weekend of Sept 10/11. The CPO Truck will be on site the weekends of Sept. 17/18 and 24/25 to collect your filled grocery bags. Drop off times to the truck those 2 weekends are: Saturday 4:45-6:00pm and Sunday 7:00am-1:15pm and 4:45-6:00pm. To sign up to assist with passing out bags or working at the truck visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0449afab2eabfd0-catholic>

For more information please visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/catholic-parish-outreach/>

Community Center Reopening Party

August 28th 10:00-11:30

**Coffee and Donuts in the Café
Open Gym Basketball
Games in the labyrinth**

Contact

beth.gaudete@stfrancisraleigh.org



BE STILL

Psalm 46:11

Women's Ministry Morning Retreat
September 24 9:00am-11:30am

Join us for moments of stillness, reflection, and prayer. Take some time out from the hustle of daily life to enjoy fellowship and peace.

Cost \$5

Register on Realm.

Questions contact

beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us Every Tuesday at
6:30pm in Padua Room

Directions: Driving down the main Church driveway take the first right into the gym parking lot. The Padua Room is in the community center in the same building as the gym

We will reflect on the upcoming Sunday Gospels.

For questions or concerns please contact
beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

God IS
calling YOU.

"THEN I HEARD THE VOICE OF
THE LORD SAYING,
"WHOM SHALL I SEND? AND
WHO WILL GO FOR US?" AND
I SAID, "HERE AM I. SEND ME!"
ISAIAH 6:8

God is calling YOU to become a Small Group Leader (SGL) in Faith Formation. His invitation is to journey with either the **middle school** (Cross Train) or **high school** (Cross Road) programs. Your love of the Gospel message and living a Christ centered life is what you need to become a SGL. We provide training and partner two SGLs per group. Discern YOUR calling to serve by serving the youth of our parish.
Contact **Jeanne M. Lewin**, Dir. of Formation, at Jeanne.Lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org.
Training will take place on Sunday, September 11th, 2:30-5:00pm, Fellowship Hall.



Sunday, September 11 @ 10:00

Join us for Coffee and Donuts Sunday, September 11th following 9:00am Mass from 10:00am-11:00am in Fellowship Hall hosted by the Justice and Peace.

It will be a time to visit with fellow parishioners and to celebrate as we continue to walk this journey of faith together as a community dedicated to our Franciscan heritage. **All are welcome!**



Coffee and Donuts Sunday Schedule

Sunday, October 30th	Sunday, March 26, 2023
Sunday, November 13th	Sunday, April 2, 2023
Sunday, January 29, 2023	Sunday, May 7, 2023
Sunday, February 12, 2023	



Youth Basketball Season Registration is NOW OPEN

Join us for the 32nd season of the St. Francis Youth Basketball League. Participants shall have a spirit of loyalty to Catholic ideals, to parish, to coach, and to the team. The program enables the gifted to excel, the less gifted to participate and improve. This program is open to girls and boys grades 1st thru 8th, in 6 different divisions. Practices will be held once per weeknight and begin late October. Division 1 (grades 1 & 2) will practice before their games on Saturday and not during the week. Games will be on Saturday and Sunday. The season will run through Early February. For more information and to register visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/st-francis-youth-basketball-league-2/>

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OPEN PLAY

**TUESDAY NIGHTS
8:00PM-10:30PM
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER
\$5 PER PLAYER**

**THE MINISTRY LEADER WILL BE
JESSICA DOUGHERTY.**

DOUGHERTY_JESS@YAHOO.COM



EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Dawn Smith, Principal

Follow Your Dreams and Your Passions



When the doors first opened at The Franciscan School, a newness radiated the campus. A newness surrounded by the warmth of special people embarking on a journey together. Lindsey Chehreh Edwards '06 joined TFS the year it opened as a third grader. "The school was brand new but everyone was so welcoming," says Edwards. Joining together created a special bond for those first students, and Edwards shares that TFS is where she made lifelong friends.

Those early days at TFS made an impact on Edwards and her future. After graduating from TFS, she went on to attend Cardinal Gibbons High School and then Barton College in Wilson, NC where she graduated with a double major in Human Resources and Business Management. After working in HR for various companies, Edwards has returned to the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh where she is an HR Generalist. "I knew I wanted to make

a positive impact on the lives of people who work for the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh," says Edwards.

Edwards believes wholeheartedly in the importance of HR and the difference it makes in the people who work for an organization. She plans to obtain her PHR, a specialized certification for HR professionals. This certification will help increase her technical and operational knowledge of HR management, as well as assist in implementing programs with tactical and logistical orientation. She dreams of continuing her career in HR, impacting work in the HR field and at the Catholic Diocese of Raleigh.

Reflecting back on her time at TFS, she particularly remembers her first teacher at the school who made an impact on her- third grade teacher Mrs. Belna. She also fondly thinks back on her days in the before-school program, as well as Mrs. Marie Leone who managed it. "Mrs. Leone always had a smile on her face and made us feel like a part of her family." And among many other favorite memories of the school, attending field day while watching teachers get dropped into the dunking booth always makes her laugh and smile.

Thankful for her journey and her time at TFS, Edwards leaves the following wisdom for current students: "Follow your dreams and your passion. And always keep the faith."

The Franciscan School's curriculum is the foundation on which we have built over twenty-two years of educational excellence, and one on which our alumni have based their future success. To find out more about The Franciscan School, more information can be found on our website. You can also contact Principal Dawn Smith at dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director

Welcome Back, Preschool Students!



"Children are a heritage from the Lord..." Psalm 127:3

Do you remember that scene in the classic film, "The Sound of Music", when Julie Andrews sings that iconic verse: "The hills are alive with the sound of music..."? Well this past week, I felt like singing: "The hallways are alive with the sound of children!" It was such a wonderful week as we welcomed back our 2, 3, 4, and 5-year olds!

All of the staffs' excellent efforts and painstakingly careful preparations paid off as we witnessed and appreciated the many smiles, giggles, and magic which appeared as our students began a new school year. While there was a tiny bit of trepidation on the part of some of our older students who had never been to preschool, it was quickly replaced by enthusiasm! It was extra special this year

to have our 2-year olds join us. While it is often the case that the majority of our two-year olds have never been to school, for many in this group, it was really the first time being with others, particularly peers. Because these little ones were born during the COVID-19 pandemic, many have not had the same social exposures as they might have had prior to this challenging time.

To say that the teachers and I appreciated the return of the students is an understatement for sure! We are energized and renewed by their excitement and love of learning. It is amazingly rewarding when you overhear a child say to his/her parent, "This day was awesome!", when you see a student run in to greet his/her

teacher with a bear hug, or when a parent comments, "We are beyond grateful to be part of this school."

Whether it's the first day or the last, we remain keenly aware of what a gift our students are! Please join me in a prayer of gratitude for all that they bring to us today and will bring tomorrow! We are truly blessed and grateful! Please also continue to pray for good health, happy learning, and a wonderful school year ahead for everyone!

To learn more about becoming part of our incredible preschool family and the opportunities we provide, please visit our website at www.preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at: shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Thank you to all of the volunteers, refs, players, parents, and fans of St. Francis Youth Volleyball 2022

As we wrap up our 10th Season of Youth Volleyball at St. Francis, my staff and I are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for with all the volunteer support given to this league. Whether it's volunteering to keep score, being a line judge, refereeing or helping coach our youth as they learn and grow their volleyball skills; each and every one of these volunteer roles plays a special part in helping this league run successfully.

One of the most important volunteer roles in this league is very often left unnoticed or recognized because many are unaware of all the logistics handled by the Volunteer Ministry Leader. All of our Parish leagues are run with the help of a Volunteer Ministry Leader and in this case Erika Atkinson is the dedicated volunteer for Youth Volleyball.

Erika works directly with our Community Life team to coordinate the players in our league and the logistics of trying to make sure kids are placed on a team with a practice night they can attend. If Erika isn't here making sure things are running smoothly, she's also volunteers as a coach/adult presence for 3 teams in the league.

The apple does not fall far from the tree, two of Erika's children, Skylar and Avery also volunteer their time and talent to coach teams in the league. This is one of the very special things about this league, we have many returning players (Dev Bucholz, Lilly Soltz, Riley Kranepool, Elyse Smelcer, Avery Atkinson, Skylar Atkinson, Jessica Hawkins, and Tarah Guntow) that volunteer their time and talents to coach teams. I will tell you Erika doesn't do this for the recognition, but for her love of the game, and seeing the children of our community and their love of the game.

It's volunteers like Erika Atkinson that help us not only build these children's passion for sports, but also teach them teamwork and sportsmanship at the same time.

Thank you to all of the volunteers, refs, players, parents, and fans of St. Francis Youth Volleyball 2022. We have missed you all very much during the pandemic and were happy to see all the excited children and parents return this season.

**Employment Opportunity
The Franciscan School**

**Coordinator of Bridges
After School Program**

The Bridges Program at The Franciscan School provides the opportunity to extend learning and fun at the end of each school day. Bridges After School program offers homework assistance, inside and outside play, and arts and crafts. The coordinator of Bridges is responsible for the overall running of the program, which includes policy recommendations, supervision of staff, purchasing supplies, facilitating outside vendors and interacting with parents, as it relates to their child's time in the program. This is a full time, benefit eligible position. Preferred candidates will have previous experience working with elementary aged children, as well as supervisory experience. Successful completion of the diocesan background check is required. If you are interested in joining our wonderful staff, please email a resume and cover letter to tfsresume@stfrancisraleigh.org.

**Employment Opportunity
St. Francis Preschool**

**Spanish Enrichment Instructor
Part time (8-10 hours per week)**

St. Francis Preschool is seeking an enthusiastic individual who is bilingual in Spanish to join our staff as a Part Time Spanish Enrichment instructor. This person will be responsible for developing and delivering fun-filled lessons that will engage and enhance the preschool experience of our three, four and five year olds. Successful completion of the Diocesan background check and experience working with 3-5 year olds is required. Knowledge and experience in lesson planning for 3-5 year olds is preferred. To apply, please email Heidi.Hobler@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Do you know TFS alumni doing great things? Click [here](#) to nominate them to be featured in a story for the school website and social media!

Braver Angels

Parish Workshop on Families and Politics

**Thursday, September 15,
7:00-9:15pm**

Are you looking for more effective ways to address political differences with those you love? If so, please consider joining fellow parishioners and friends on Thursday, Sep 15, 2022, 7-9:15pm, Founders Room in Anthony Hall for “Families and Politics”, a workshop designed to help participants learn strategies and practice skills for addressing polarization within families. Register at bit.ly/depolarizeSFA2022a.

Skilled, experienced moderators from Braver Angels will lead this, our second parish workshop on depolarization. Braver Angels, a national organization with a strong presence in the Triangle area and across North Carolina, exists to promote respect, civility, empathy, and goodwill in our interactions with those with whom we disagree politically.



Listen to the Voice of Creation SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Burning Bush

Flood waters swallow, intense droughts continue, and wildfires consume, and yet we find ourselves unable or unwilling to aggressively address the issues that affect our common home. Every year, churches across the world come together for the "Season of Creation," from September 1st through October 4th, to raise our awareness, prayer, and action to address these issues and more related to a changing climate and our neglect of God's creation.

Pope Francis wrote in his [2015 teaching document called Laudato Si'](#) that our earth is like our sister, "This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse . . . the earth herself . . . is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; . . . We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air, and we receive life and refreshment from her waters."

This year's Season of Creation theme is "Listen to the Voice of Creation." There is a long-standing view within the Judeo-Christian tradition that God speaks to us through creation, that crea-

tures speak to us of the Creator's goodness, truth, and beauty. With this theme, we are invited to ask ourselves: To what are we listening? Where does God speak to us in creation? Can we stop and listen deeply to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth? What is distracting us?

In this Season of Creation, our Care of Creation Ministry (stfccreation@gmail.com) is offering a number of opportunities to learn more about our earth, to experience it spiritually, to listen deeply, and to demonstrate our care for creation. We look forward to you joining us.

Celebrate the Season of Creation

Gather for a family movie night to view the film *Kiss the Ground* available via Netflix or check bit.ly/vwkgrd. We then invite you to a virtual discussion on Wednesday, September 7 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The link is:

umsystem.zoom.us/j/5452370000?pwd=UUx6OG9wOWJiMEhjaTkrYWYwRlW5oQT09

Start reading the book *Regeneration: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation* and mark your calendar for an in-person book discussion on September

27th in Founder's Room. You can find this book at your local library or purchase at your favorite book story/outlet. There is a lot of information in this book, so please start early! Read and mark the areas that interest you most to be ready for discussion on the book. Check here for more information; bit.ly/phregbk.

Join us for Reflective Tour of the St. Francis Church Grounds – "Through the Windows of St. Francis": meet Sunday, September 11 from 4:15-5:15 pm in front of St. Mary of the Angels Chapel. Then join parishioner Michelle Kaiser for a short three-stop walking tour of our campus. Each will use a different spiritual tradition to guide us to a prayerful connection with creation. Or use the QR code below to do a self-guided tour during this Season of Creation.

More Season of Creation opportunities later in September. Details forthcoming!



Food Donations Needed

One of our ministries needs your help! On the first Sunday of every month some of your fellow parishioners help to provide a breakfast meal to the women at the Helen Wright Center, a shelter for women experiencing homelessness. We provide a number of supplies as well as prepared meals that will be served that morning. We are in especial need of donations for our September 4th breakfast. If you would like to help, please sign up here, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4faca723a6f85-breakfast>, or contact the group's leader, Angela James, at 2angelajames@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your time and generosity!

New Transportation Ministry

with

Interfaith Prison Ministry for Women (IPMW)

As you may know women are the fastest-growing segment of the prison population in our country. In particular, sisters of color are unfairly, over-represented in this population due in large measure to negative racial bias toward poor communities of color.

Upon release and having paid their debt to society, these sisters in Christ are very motivated to become successful, productive citizens. But far too often they face significant barriers to obtaining and keeping employment, housing and social services. As a result, almost 30% of them return to prison within three years; even more return over time.

IPMW works to eliminate these barriers and end the cycles of poverty, addiction, and violence by resourcing formerly incarcerated women emotionally, spiritually, and physically. Transportation to and from work, to and from medical appointments and to and from social services is perhaps the most fundamental barrier these women face. Without transportation, little progress can be made.

We at St. Francis have a wonderful opportunity to help! Please RSVP and come to learn about this new ministry.

New Transportation Ministry - IPMW Information Session

Tuesday, September 20th, 6:30 pm
Founder's Room in Anthony Hall

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/SFA-IPMWrides>

Whether you can give one hour a month, one hour a week, one hour a day or anything in between, your help is needed to drive our sisters in Christ to their daily commitments and back home again. 'Home' is transitional housing here in Raleigh, not too far from St. Francis.

By taking a few minutes out of your day, you could help someone realize her own dignity and worth, heal from past traumas, succeed in the workforce, and mend her family and relationships. Won't you give it a try?



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

By Sharon Winzeler

In today's Gospel, Today, we hear Jesus say to us, "...when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Francis work as champions of others, whether it is listening to their stories, advising them on resources in the community that can help or bringing their needs to the SVdP meeting to request funds on their behalf.

Have you ever been so ill that you couldn't work? One SVdP visitor talked to a neighbor whose GI infection continued to debilitate her despite medical treatment. As a result, she could not work and got behind on her electric bill. Another client with long Covid got behind in rent and was helped by SVdP from St. Francis and Our Lady of Lourdes as well as the Friendship Fund at First Presbyterian Church. She has since returned to work.

SVdP at St. Francis of Assisi provides hope, compassion, referrals, and short-term financial help for families in the area. Most of the cases are the working

poor—families who can pay their bills until they get an unexpected situation—a funeral, a car needing service, a sickness. Any of those situations could make them need help with rent or utilities.

If you are someone who doesn't feel comfortable working directly with people in need but really want to help, we could use someone to keep our resource sheets up to date. This is an important part of our mission that can be done from your own computer and impact the lives of others.

If you would like to volunteer, contact Cathy Smith at smithtcr@gmail.com.

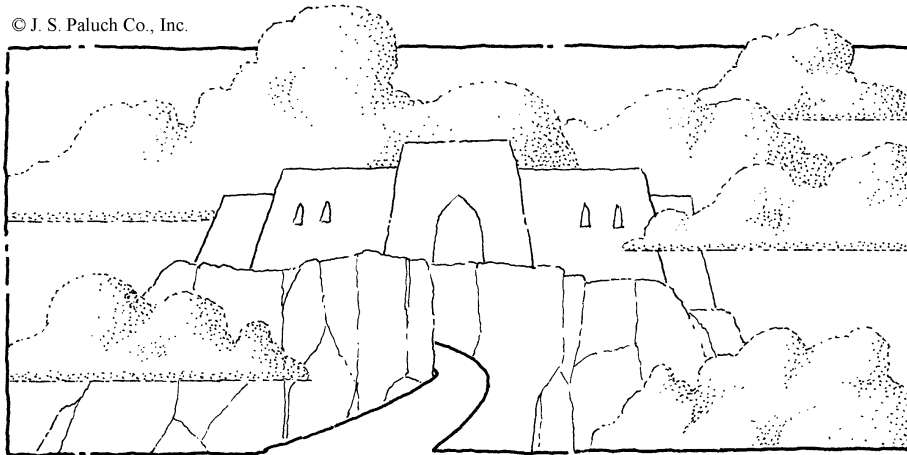
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 28, 2022

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and the city of the living God.

— *Hebrews 12:22a*

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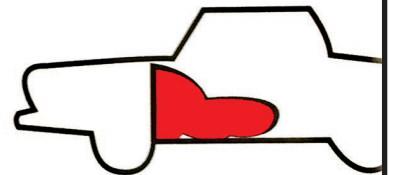
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