



SEASON OF CREATION

See page 14



Listen to the Voice of Creation



See page 9

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.



See page 5



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

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



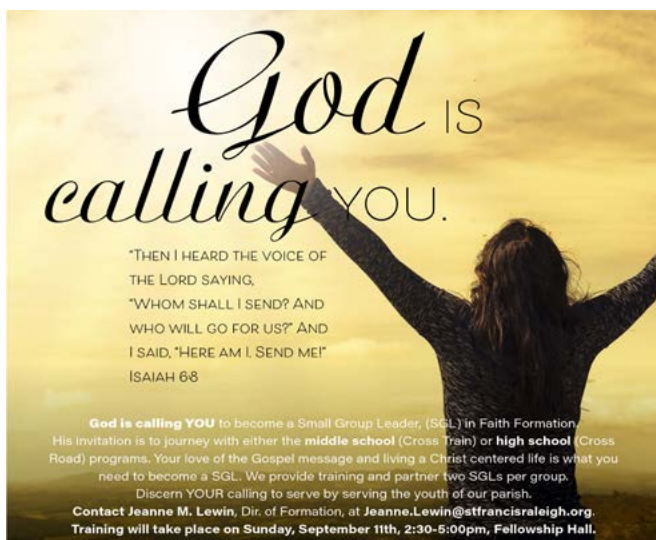
How Do Catholics Understand the Word “Ministry?” PART IV:

I have been asked by several parishioners about the academic paper I presented last June at an international ecumenical meeting for which I serve as a delegate between the Catholic Church and the Disciples of Christ Church. Our topic for this phase of dialogue focuses on the role of the Holy Spirit in ministry. My task in this paper was to lay out the parameters of a Catholic understanding of the word “ministry” as well as a Catholic understanding of the ways the Holy Spirit is involved in ministry and those who serve as ministers in the Church. Part IV in this series will note the complementarity between the ministry of the ordained and non-ordained. You may view the earlier parts of this series by going to the August 2, 9, and 21 bulletins.

Interrelation between the Ministry of the Ordained and the Baptized: In the August 21 bulletin, I wrote that while the ministry of the bishop, priest, and deacon are not exclusive ways of carrying out Christ’s ministry, they do serve as the ordinary way to provide at least a minimal guarantee that the essential pastoral functions they undertake in the Church will be stably and permanently provided. I then described how all ministries, whether ordained and lay, are to function: as reflections of Christ.

Now we proceed to the next insight about ministry: the complementarity between the ministry of the ordained and non-ordained. One of the most important theologians of the 20th century, Yves Congar, wrote that “Jesus instituted a structured community, a community [that is] holy, priestly, prophetic, missionary, [and] apostolic, with [guides known as] ministers, some freely raised up by the Spirit, [and] others ordained by the imposition of hands.” He is saying that while some ministers are placed in roles of leadership by virtue of ordination, others, the overwhelming majority of ministers in the Church, are placed there in virtue of spiritual gifts given to them in baptism and that each are complementary to the other and essential. The bishops at Vatican II expressed the same truth this way in the *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*: the two priesthoods, baptismal and ministerial, are “interrelated: each of them in its own special way a participation in the one priesthood of Christ” (n. 10). All ministers in and of the Church, ordained or not, begin their life as the baptized. It is in baptism that the baptized become configured with Christ in the exercise of their priestly, prophetic, and royal offices. This insight has led to the flourishing of lay ministry in the church, either permanently or for a defined period of time. Next week we’ll look at these various types of lay ministry.

Fr. Michael



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

+Matthew Carr
Son of Linda and John Carr
and Brother of Jennifer Trabulsi

Weekly Envelope Schedule

September 4 Weekly
September 4 Mortgage Sunday
September 11 Weekly
September 11 The Catholic University
of America
September 18 Weekly
September 25 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 SEPTEMBER 3 TO SEPTEMBER 11



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, September 5, 9AM
+Alan Vingan
Requested by The Fleischmann Family

Tuesday September 8, 9am
+Audrey Haimbach
Requested by The Fleischmann Family

Wednesday September 7, 9am
+Marie Stevens
Requested by Terri Hartinger

Thursday September 8, 9am
+Anne Marie Skumurski
Requested by Ellen Murray

Friday, September 9, 9am
John and Cindy Bratton
Requested by Sarah Bratton & Andrew Bouchard
50th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday September 10, 2022
Saturday, 5:30
+Virginia Orband
Requested by Lisa Miller

Sunday September 11, 2022
Sunday, 7:15
+George Apuzzi
Requested by Carmela and George Brocco

Sunday, 9:00
+Alan Lougee
Requested by Mary Lougee

Sunday, 11:45
+Ed Marshall
Requested by Juanita Marshall

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Recent Death
+Matthew Carr
Son of Linda and John Carr and
Brother of Jennifer Trabulsi
Remembrance

+Samuel Marchu
Husband of Christine Marchu and
Father of Karin Shoemaker
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

At a Glance

This week's events are shown in red.

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* - stfccreation@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
stfccreation@gmail.com

September 11 Small Group Leader Training

2:30-5:00 in Clare Fellowship Hall
jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 10/11 Catholic Parish Outreach

Bags will be passed out after Masses the weekend of Sept 10/11. To sign up to assist

September 14 Monthly Grief Support Group Good Grief

First meeting, 10:00am in Laverna
beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 14 50+ Adult Group Game Day

12:00 noon in Clare Fellowship Hall for an exciting game of BINGO.

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 16 TFS Spaghetti Dinner

6:30pm Knights of Columbus
[Register here.](#)

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>

September 24/25 Catholic Parish Outreach

The CPO Truck will be on site the weekends of Sept. 24/25 to collect your filled grocery bags. Drop off times to the truck

are: Saturday 4:45-6:00pm and Sunday 7:00am-1:15pm and 4:45-6:00pm.

September 24 Be Still - Adoration and Breakfast

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

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, ofscentralnc@gmail.com or visit <https://ofscentralnc.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 1:30pm
More information to come.
Registration opens on September 16 via Realm. Questions, contact Kathy.Sales@stfrancisraleigh.org



Franciscan Spirit and Life

Rebuilding and Reforming the Church
2022 Convocation

Join us on

October 22nd

for a Franciscan Convocation

from **8:30am to 1:30pm.**

Keynote Speaker,

Dr. Joshua Benson,

*"Repairing the Church
with Letter and Spirit."*



Fr. Steve



Fr. Dan



Fr. Jim



Fr. Julian



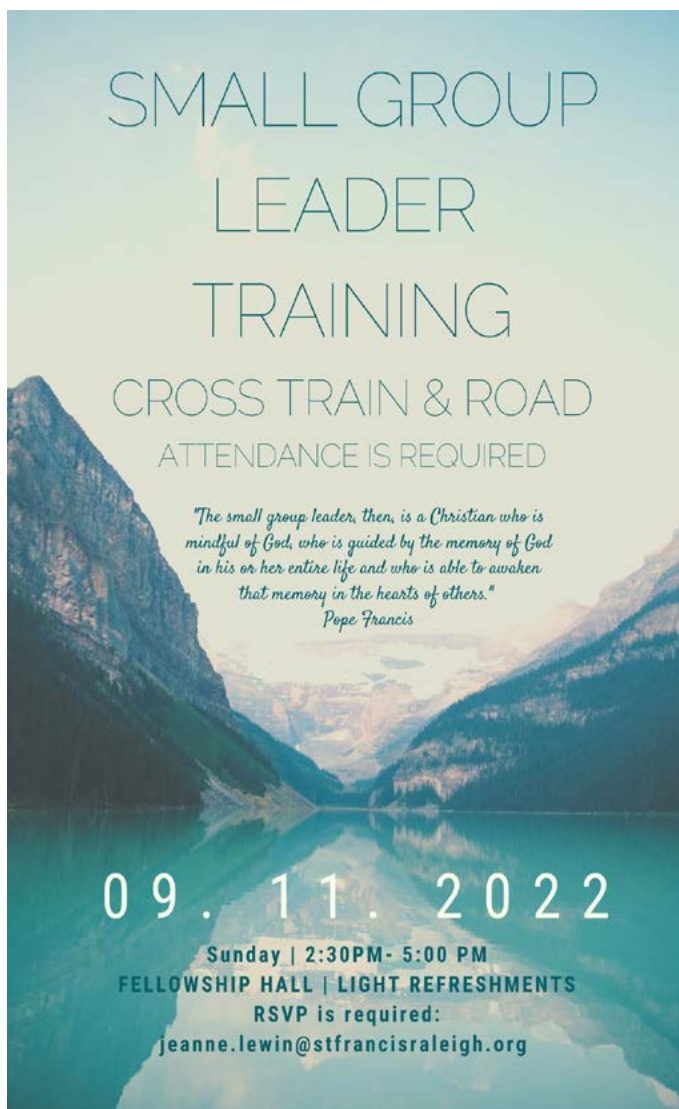
Fr. Bill



Fr. Ray

- Two breakout sessions with various topics
- **The convocation will conclude with lunch with the Friars (for registered participants only)**
- Registration fee: \$10

Registration
Opens
Sept. 16th
via Realm



Time Flies When You Love the Community You Serve

Chris Damico, Director of Engagement and Development

As I complete my first month on staff I want to thank all of you for your warm welcome and your prayers. It was a busy month for my cohort, Maggie and I in Engagement and Development.

We hosted a Welcome Event for new parishioners, started reaching out to all the ministries, attended council meetings, and so much more!

My "favorite" part of my day has and will continue to be opening the door. Saying "hi", introducing myself, and learning how I can help in your journey to becoming a Disciple of Christ.

If you are interested in joining us in this journey, please feel free to connect with of us. We would love to hear from you.

Chris Damico chris.damico@stfrancisraleigh.org

Maggie Vladyka maggie.vladyka@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Click image above to watch Episode 20



My partner, Maggie, and I are earnestly committed to working for you... the wonderful parishioners of St Francis. We are praying with you, we are grateful for you and we're here to help.

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



1 SIGN UP FOR SMALL GROUP AUGUST 15
TO SEPTEMBER 21

3 DISCOVER AND DISCERN
YOUR GIFTS

2 SMALL GROUPS MEET IN
PERSON OR ZOOM

4 DISCERN IN DEPTH WITH
FELLOW PARISHIONERS

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

Parent Child Classes

Registration is now open for Fall classes! Are you looking for a fun filled activity to do with your young child? Want to learn sign language to better communicate with your infant or toddler? Want to connect with your toddler or preschooler with music? Check out Community Life's Parent Child Classes. All Parent/Child Classes are located in the Cupertino Room of the Assisi Community Center. For more information, visit our website at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/parent-child-classes-2/>.

Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge - Boys and Girls aged 9-14

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a soccer challenge for boys and girls, aged 9-14, on Sunday, September 11th at 1:00pm. This athletic event for youth of our parish and our community encourages the values of sportsmanship and healthy competition. Children demonstrate an important skill in soccer – shooting accuracy on the penalty kick. There will be five scoring zones -- upper and lower corners and the center of the goal. Winners will be announced for each age group.

The challenge will be held on the St. Francis of Assisi sports field. Please complete the on-line registration form: bit.ly/koc2022

Please direct questions to Mike Wrzesien, wrzesien1963@gmail.com.



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/>

50+ Adult Group Game Day September 14

The St. Francis 50+ Adult Group invites all those 50 years of age or older to join us Wednesday, September 14, at 12:00 noon in Clare Fellowship Hall for an exciting game of BINGO. Participants need not be members of the 50+ Adult Group or St. Francis Parish to attend, play and enjoy Game Day events, so bring your friends. No gaming skills are required to play BINGO and cash prizes will be awarded to the game winners. Please bring \$3 for Bingo Game Day. Drinks will be served and members are asked to bring a small snack to share.



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




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](#)




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





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 23rd	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

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



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

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Dawn Smith, Principal

New School Year, New Beginnings



Wednesday, August 17th marked the first day of our 2022-2023 school year. New kindergartners and new students walked the halls for the first time. Students entered new classrooms and took a new seat. But students weren't the only new people on campus. Not only are we ushering in a new principal this year, but we are also welcoming 9 new faculty and staff to The Franciscan School. We are thrilled to welcome our new staff and excited to see all the ways they will share their skills and experiences with our students.

Dawn Smith, TFS Principal, shares "We are truly blessed with the success we've had in hiring our new faculty and staff. We have several teachers whose own children attend TFS, one whose spouse is a faculty member, and another who rejoins the faculty after a few years working elsewhere. Everyone returned well rested and excited about starting a new school year."

Our 2022-2023 new faculty and staff are:

Alan Johnson, 8th grade Science



Matt Davis, 8th grade Social Studies

Erin Higgins, 4th grade ELA

Giselle Garrett, 1st grade ITA

Kathleen Loeschorn, Technology Coordinator

Ed Manville, 5th/6th grade Religion

Vicki Ramstetter, 3rd grade Teacher

Jennifer Davis, Assistant Principal

Grace Longley, 1st grade Teacher

In an effort to get to know our new faculty and staff a little better, we asked them a few questions about their backgrounds and what they are looking forward to this year.

Continue on next page

What excites you most about the TFS community?

Alan Johnson: "I am most excited about how friendly everyone is and how much the community feels like a family. As a parent as well as a teacher, I am also quite excited about the programs and opportunities my daughter will have in 5th grade and middle school."

Matt Davis: "The religious aspect of the school and the strong academic reputation of TFS."

Erin Higgins: "I am excited to be part of the warm, welcoming environment that fosters a close relationship with Christ and encourages personal development. I am THRILLED to be teaching fourth grade literacy. Fourth graders are so powerfully independent and curious. They can think deeply and grow so much throughout the year. It is a privilege to work with them during this critical time in their lives."

Giselle Garrett: "What most excites me about the TFS community is the welcoming spirit and kindness that abounds. I will also be joining my kids here!"

Kathleen Loeschorn: "The community that is evident through the shared prayer each morning. The true focus is first student and family."

Ed Manville: "Sharing my Faith with Students, Faculty, and Staff."

Vicki Ramstetter: "I love seeing the connection to our faith as a Catholic community come through daily in not only religion class, but morning prayer, Mass and other subjects. I'm excited to be part of this wonderful school."

Jennifer Davis: "I am mostly excited about meeting all of the students and sharing an hour with them at Mass on Wednesdays. The unity and fellowship during that time is incredible, and the liturgy is so beautifully geared towards the children."

What is something unique about you that you would like to share that may be of interest to our TFS families?

Alan Johnson: "I am a massive Star Wars fan! I am also a first generation American in my family. My parents moved to the U.S. from Northern Ireland in the 1970s."

Matt Davis: "I worked here at TFS from 2002-2007 as a Social Studies teacher. Also, I served in the military in the United States Navy for 24 years in the medical field."

Erin Higgins: "My family and I try to spend as much time as possible enjoying nature, especially hiking with our dog, Ollie. We are enjoying exploring all that the beautiful Raleigh area has to offer. I have lived in Maryland (birth to college), Massachusetts (college to 2017), New Jersey (2017 to present), and now North Carolina! I adore playing kickball and sports with students!"

Giselle Garrett: "I am fluent in Spanish!"

Kathleen Loeschorn: "I am a huge Disney fan and try to visit Disney World as much as possible. It is the place we have made many family memories and go to when we want to celebrate. I have been to Disney in Paris and visited the DVC resort in Hawaii multiple times."

Ed Manville: "I once (accidentally) met Mother Teresa."

Vicki Ramstetter: "I love to travel and have been to Disney 5 times in 6 years."

Jennifer Davis: "I served 6 years in the Navy. I am proud of my service and I love my country. Being a patriotic person, it is appropriate that my daughter was actually born on the Fourth of July."

Grace Longley was out of the country and unable to answer these questions in time, but we are pleased to have a 2015 TFS graduate back with us as a teacher! Grace graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, and she was a substitute teacher with TFS from 2019-2022.

We pray for God's grace and mercy as our new teachers and our entire school begin a new school year. Go T'Wolves!

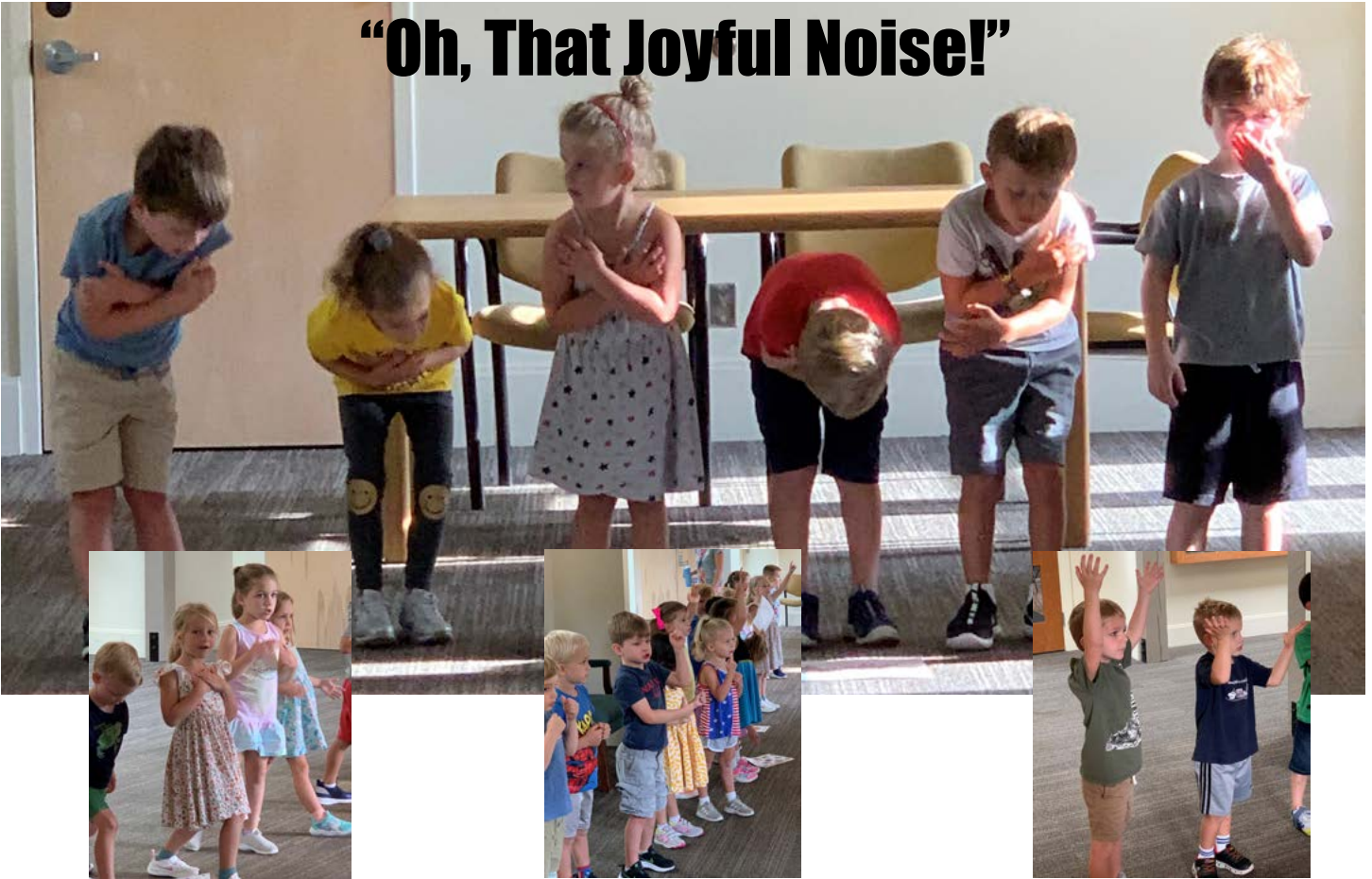
The Franciscan School wishes to partner with you to help you achieve the goals you have for your children and their educational experience in a Catholic faith environment. We welcome you to join us for our first Virtual Information Session on Tuesday, September 20th. You may register on the website. More information regarding our school and the admissions timeline can be found on our website at www.franciscanschool.org/ or contact Principal Dawn Smith at dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org



EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director

“Oh, That Joyful Noise!”



“I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.” Psalm 9:2

We have already completed our first two weeks of preschool and what fun we’ve had! Our children are settling into new routines, new friendships, and new experiences. As we begin September, I look forward to seeing our theme for this school year, “Keep Going, Keep Growing” exemplified throughout our hallways. I am confident that each day this year, I will have the privilege to witness countless examples of this, especially as they “keep going” and “keep growing” in their faith journey.

I already saw some last week, when I dropped in at morning prayer with the children who are in our before-care program (Stepping Stones). During the last 30 minutes before the school day begins, the students who attend Stepping Stones typically gather in the lobby area outside of Fellowship Hall. There they might learn about a saint, listen to a story

about making good versus unkind choices, or mention who they’d like to hold close in their hearts in prayer. One of the most common activities that they do is to sing. Their songs are, of course, very kid-friendly and afford them the opportunity to praise God with music, singing, and dancing. I was lucky to be with them when they were learning the movements to a few new songs. While watching them and listening to them enthusiastically pray to God with their voices in this way, I couldn’t help but believe that God was smiling at all of their joyful noise! I had a similar experience when the preschool staff attended the first Mass with The Franciscan School a couple of weeks ago when school started for them. At the end of Mass, Jim Wahl played “Waves of Mercy” on the piano. This is a “fan favorite” with our preschoolers and many of the TFS students. Not only was it inspiring to see all of the students,

teachers, and some of the other adults doing the motions to the song, but when the piano was silent and just voices could be heard, it was amazing! How could God not be smiling at the beauty of the students’ voices leading this song of praise?!

Children can inspire adults in many ways. Perhaps, we all could take a lesson from our children and offer our prayer without inhibitions or concerns and with unwavering enthusiasm! I know that I left Stepping Stones that morning and gave an extra prayer of thanks that I could be surrounded by the beautiful way our children can help us grow in our faith!

To learn more about the wonderful opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at www.preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at: shelley.freeman@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.



SEASON OF CREATION

Celebrate the Season of Creation

1. Gather for a family movie night to view the film **Kiss the Ground** available via Netflix or check bit.ly/vwkgd. We then invite you to a virtual discussion on Wednesday, September 7 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. To RSVP for this event, [go to this link](#).

2. Start reading the book **Regeneration: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation** and mark your calendar for an in-person **book discussion** on September 27 in Founder's Room. You can find this book at your local library or purchase at your favorite book store/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. To RSVP for this event, [go to this link](#).

3. 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. To RSVP for this event, [go to this link](#).



Listen to the Voice of Creation

This week begins the month-long Season of Creation, a time that churches around the world, focus on our call to care for 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.”

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.

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?



Help US Serve

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 special 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!

Employment Opportunities

The Franciscan School

Part-time Music Teacher (16 Hours – T, W, Th)

The Franciscan School is seeking an energetic individual to share a love of music teaching our students in grades 3, 4 and 5. If you are interested in joining a dynamic educational environment working with dedicated professionals to provide an academically challenging and faith-filled experience for our students, please send a cover letter and resume to: tfsresume@stfrancisraleigh.org.

St. Francis Preschool

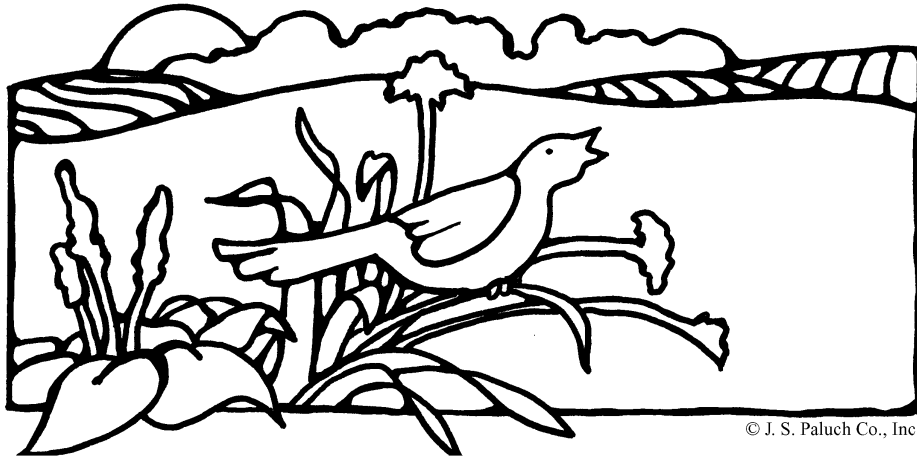
Spanish Enrichment Instructor Part time (8-10 hours per week)

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.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 4, 2022

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,
that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.

— *Psalm 90:14*



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