

September 18, 2022

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Middle & High School Small Group Leader Training! Ready, Set, & Go for the new Faith Formation Programs.



See page 6

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



A PICNIC AND A PIANO

A PARISH PICNIC: Since the 90's, we have gathered for an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship as part of celebrations in honor of our patron, St. Francis, whose feast day is October 4. After a three-year hiatus, we will re-start FrancisFest on

Sunday, October 2, 12:45-4:30pm, on our campus. Food trucks, games, activities, live music, and special performances (e.g., a magician, a Dragon Dance performed by parishioners of Our Lady of LaVang) will mark the afternoon. There will be wine/beer tasting room for those 21+. There are activities for everyone, from children to seniors. If you are new to the parish or looking for an opportunity to reconnect post-pandemic, this is a great way to meet people and simply come and have a fun time! The only expenses are for 1) the food you purchase (cash is preferred for quicker service), 2) the adult beverages you taste (if you're 21+), and 3) the games and activities for our children and youth. The latter two require a wristband. You may pre-order wristbands through Realm if you are a registered parishioner to avoid standing in a long line on picnic day. If you have trouble pre-ordering the wristbands on Realm, please click the hyperlink on page 8 of this weekend's bulletin or the link on our website.

A picnic of this magnitude requires a lot of helping hands. If you are a middle school or high school student or an adult who would like to volunteer a few hours to help make the picnic a success, please click the hyperlink on page 8 of the bulletin or the link on our website. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you on October 2!

A NEW PIANO: We have reached our \$70,000 goal to purchase a new piano. We received many donations from you. One very special gift covered the remainder we needed to raise. Your generosity is always amazing! We will be purchasing the new piano in the very near future. There will be more information to follow, but I wanted you to know the successful outcome of our project to purchase a new piano for the church.

Fr. Michael

Please Note:

Our priests will be out next week (Sept. 19-Sept. 23) on retreat.

Fr. Davis, a Carmelite priest from India who is visiting family in the area, will preside at daily Mass Monday-Wednesday (9/19-21). These Masses will all be in the Chapel.

We will have Liturgy of the Word at 9am in the Chapel on Thursday and Friday, including Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday after Liturgy of the Word.

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 Zack and Allison Taylor

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

+Don Smith

Husband of Carol Smith

+Thomas Jacobs

Husband of Charlotte Jacobs

+John Paar

Weekly Envelope Schedule

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 17 TO SEPTEMBER 25



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday September 17, 2022
Saturday, 5:30
+Jane Hernandez and +Jim Sweden
Requested by The Wellen Family

Sunday September 18, 2022
Sunday, 7:15
+Bach Mai Thi Le and (ill) Gary Boyar
Requested by Gary and Hanh Boyar, Hung and Trinh Pham

Sunday, 9:00
+Steven Winzeler
Requested by Sharon Winzeler

Sunday, 11:45
+Lawrence and +Clare Vivenzio
Requested by Connie and Michael Vivenzio

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

Monday September 19, 9am
Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday September 20, 9am
Liturgy of the Word

Wednesday September 21, 9am
Liturgy of the Word

Thursday September 22, 9am
Liturgy of the Word

Friday September 23, 9am
+Angelina Printy
Requested by Al Pasquale

Saturday September 24, 2022
Saturday, 5:30
+Dora Saleh Makhoul
Requested by Mary Makhoul

Sunday September 25, 2022
Sunday, 7:15
+Lorraine Iati
Requested by Mary Makhoul

Sunday, 9:00
+Carmela Petrone
Requested by Marie Leone

Sunday, 11:45
+Patricia Subasic
Requested by The Subasic Family

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(ill) David Souza
Requested by Scott Souza and Stacey Shine
Health & Wellness

Recent Deaths
+Don Smith
Husband of Carol Smith
Remembrance

+Thomas Jacobs
Husband of Charlotte Jacobs
Remembrance

+John Paar
Remembrance



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.

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.stfrancisleigh.org/mass-intention-prayers/>) or by calling the parish office at 919-847-8205 during normal business hours M-F.

At a Glance

This week's events are shown in red.

September 17/18 **Catholic Parish Outreach**

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.

September 17-18 **Catechetical Weekend**

All catechists, religion teachers, and small group leaders are invited to be commissioned and received a blessing (all Masses)

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 20 **New Transportation Ministry** **Information Session**

Tuesday, 6:30 pm
Founder's Room in Anthony Hall
RSVP: <https://bit.ly/SFA-IPMWrides>

September 22 **Young Adult Dinner and Social**

6:00pm in Founders Rm. Contact
beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 24 **Blood Drive**

8:00am-2:00pm in Clare Fellowship Hall
Sign up on line at www.redcrossblood.org. Contact SFA Coordinator: Bryan Kozak at: bryan.c.kozak@gmail.com.

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 **Why Faith**

Topic: Turning Red Through the Lens of Faith. 10:15-11:15am. Presenter Tim Hetzel. tim.hetzel@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 25 **Oak City Cares**

<https://bit.ly/breakfastatOCCseptember25-2022> Contact Ann Lassiter at aiclassiter@sbcglobal.net

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 ellenferrone@gmail.com, ofscentralinc@gmail.com or visit <https://ofscentralinc.org>.

September 27 **Bereavement Series Begins** **Grief's Journey**

Tuesday's at 5:00pm in Laverna
beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 29 **Mythbusters**

Talk Saves Lives, 6:30pm in Founders Rm

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

October 23 **Coffee and Donuts with the Friars**

Following 9:00am Mass. From 10:00-11:00am in Clare Fellowship Hall

October 30 **Crop Hunger Walk**

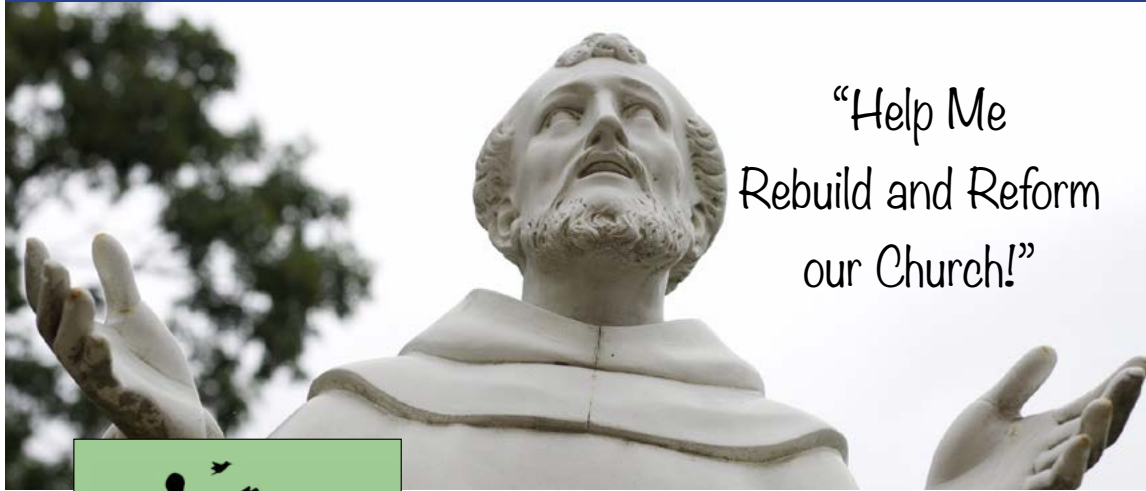
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/st-francis-of-assisi-catholic-church>



The Assisi Café is now open in the Community Center, Monday-Friday 8:30am-10:30am!

Come grab a hot cup of coffee and a delicious muffin after Mass. This is a great opportunity to socialize with fellow parishioners. We hope to see you there!

Register Today on Realm. Only 200 spots!



"Help Me
Rebuild and Reform
our Church!"



October 22nd

a Franciscan Convocation from **8:30am to 1:30pm.**

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Joshua Benson,

"Repairing the Church with Letter and Spirit."

Registration Fee: \$10 | [Click Here to Register](#)

Session 1

1. Helping Children to Find Their Place in the Sun:

Promoting Strong Social and Emotional Development in Children with *Laureen Wacenske*

2. Go Tell It on a Mountain: The Liturgical Year According to Matthew's Gospel with *Jim Wahl*

3. "Praise be You, My Lord:" A Franciscan Spirituality for Living in Relationship with God's Creation with *Trevor Thompson*

4. The House of God: A Church Tour with *Chuck Small*

5. How to Pray with your Kids and Family with *Jeanne Lewin*

6. Can a 12th Century Mystic Still be Relevant Today? with *Gladys Whitehouse*

Session 2

1. The Laity: Ordinary Circumstances, Extraordinary Mission with *Jennifer Fiduccia*

2. Go In Peace, Glorifying the Lord by Your Life:

How the Eucharist Leads to Service and Advocacy with *Becky Cawley*

3. Eucharistic Theology through a Franciscan Lens: with *Fr. Jim Sabak*

4. The House of God: A Church Tour with *Chuck Small*

5. The Mindful Catholic: Finding God One Moment at a Time with *Kathleen Owen*

6. Prayer in the Franciscan Tradition with *Tim Fasano*



Fr. Steve



Fr. Bill



Fr. Jim



Fr. Dan



Fr. Ray



Fr. Julian

The convocation will conclude with lunch with the Friars (for registered participants only)



Secular Franciscan Order

St. Francis of Assisi, not only wanted to live the gospel way of life, he wanted to be transformed into Jesus Christ. Are you interested in learning more about the Secular Franciscan Order, the Third Order founded by St. Francis 800 years ago? Please join us for an informative "Come and See" open house sponsored by the Padre Pio Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order on Sunday, September 25, 2022 from 2:30-4:30pm at the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi. The "Come and See" will be held in the church, in the Founders Room. If you are able to join us, please send an email to ellenferrone@gmail.com with your name, email address, mailing address and telephone number. For additional information please see our website <https://ofscen-tralnc.org>.

CATECHETICAL



SEPTEMBER 17-18 AT ALL MASSES



WEEKEND

All catechists, religion teachers, and small group leaders are invited to be commissioned and receive a blessing on September 17-18 at all Masses.



Thank you to all who fill this vital role in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel!

Thank you catechists!



Catholic Parish Outreach
A Program of Catholic Charities

Catholic Parish Outreach

The CPO Truck will be on site the week-ends 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/>

Items Needed for the Drive (No glass please) Cans of vegetables, tuna, chicken, soup, spaghetti sauce, fruit; boxes of cereal, macaroni and cheese, pasta, hamburger/ chicken/tuna helper, crackers, instant dry milk; bags of rice and beans. Peanut butter, fruit juice, salad dressing, laundry detergent, bathroom tissue, soap, diapers size 4-6, baby wipes, milk-based infant formula, Stage 1, 2, 3 or graduates baby food.

Myth Busters

Talk Saves Lives:
American Foundation of Suicide Prevention

Talk Saves Lives!

As we continue our talks on mental health, The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will present "Talk Saves Lives" on

Thursday, September 29th at 6:30 pm in Founders Room.

These events are for adult participants 18 and older.

Mental Health Matters: Thursday, September 29th at 6:30 pm



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



WHAT DOES *God* WANT FROM ME? START THE *journey* TO EXPLORE YOUR *spiritual gifts.*

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.

- Groups meet once a week from Sept 25th to Oct. 29th for 90 minutes.
- Registration for The Spiritual Gifts Journey small groups CLOSES Sept 19th.

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 CLOSES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH



**Sunday
October 2
12:45 - 4:30**

Everyone is invited!



Live Music and Entertainment
Fun for all ages!

Game Truck
Mobile video theater with over 7 TVs

Carnival World
Crafts and games all day

Inflatable Zone
Bounce, Bounce, Bounce!

Food Truck Rodeo
Varieties of venues visiting

Franciscan Tasting Room
Local and regional beers and wine

If you join us at FrancisFest, a good option is to bring cash! The cash line to purchase wristbands is always shorter, and some of our food trucks only take cash as payment!

**Purchase wristbands at
www.stfrancisraleigh.org/FrancisFest**



Hundreds of Volunteer Spots are available for our Annual Parish Celebration on Sunday, October 2nd!

Volunteer for an hour or the whole day!

We need adults, high school students and middle school students to help.

TFS Middle School Students: Volunteer for Service Hours or for a Dress Out Pass!

To sign up go to <http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/francisfest>.



The Joy of Turning 40

Diogenes Ruiz, Communications Coordinator

It's hard to believe that we are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi. My wife, Karin and I have been parishioners for 35 of those years. How we wound up at St. Francis is similar to how many of you found yourselves at this very special church, by some divine intervention. In my case, through guidance from my wife, we found ourselves at the threshold of St. Francis.

Walking through its doors, still a small church with folding chairs, we sat among fellow parishioners to worship. The welcoming spirit of the place was magnetic. The men in the funny brown robes with rope as belts, greeted us and led us in worship.

As we continued to worship at St. Francis and learned more about our patron saint, it was clear that his welcoming spirit was alive in this place. This spirit was visible in the laity and the many ministries at St. Francis, none more so than the ministries of Justice and Peace.

Yes, St. Francis embraced poverty, the leper, nature, and his love of God was so deep that he received the stigmata. However, there was one aspect of his life which was and still is a precious gift for this community of faith, his JOY.

This crazy little man was so full of joy that others, even those with great wealth, wanted what he had. They wanted to experience his joy. A joy resulting from a love so intense that many around him were compelled to join him.

Today, as we drive onto our campus and walk the many buildings, where is our joy? As father David McBriar would often ask: "What of you, what of me?" We worship in a church that seats almost 1300 people. The parish has grown significantly in forty years. Franciscan Friars have come and gone. Change is constant. We now have Diocesan priests serving our parish. The future will undoubtedly bring more changes over the next forty years but our roots as a Franciscan parish remain. It's in our communal DNA.

In living out our faith in community at St. Francis, are we preoccupied with the fact that we have lots of speed bumps, that we cut down trees (which needed to come down anyway as per the recommendation of the arborist), that we have a messy parking lot due to the Columbarium expansion, or other items of spiritual minutia? It's easy to get distracted in the midst of change, making it easy to miss the joy. Yet, there *is* joy in the smallest of moments and in the largest gatherings at St. Francis, though we have to take the time to engage with each other, recognize the moment, and experience those

moments. This Franciscan joy is accompanied by beauty as we engage with each other at the preschool, TFS, and in ministry. This joy abounds, especially in our liturgies, which can at times moves one to tears, as:

- a second grader reads the first reading at a Wednesday Mass
- fellow parishioners raise their voices with yours to praise the Lord
- the presider lifts up the body and blood of Christ in solemn gratitude
- we process in reverence to receive the gift of the Eucharist, which none of us deserve
- someone extends their hand in prayer of the Our Father
- the many needy faces, all of us, in this faith community look into each other's eyes
- we offer one another a sign of peace

What a gift this parish is to so many.

As we prepare for Francis Fest, a Convocation, and enjoy a visit from past friars, may you experience the joy of St. Francis and appreciate the beauty before you, as you live out your faith, and as we embark on the next forty years of worshipping together as the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi.

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

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

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25TH



“Turning Red
through the Lens of Faith.
Faith through the Lens of
Turning Red.”



10:15AM -11:15AM OR 6:45PM-7:45PM | FOUNDERS RM

This presentation is the kick-off to our ongoing adult faith formation series
“Why Faith: what we believe and why we believe it.” Next session: October 16th.



Sunday, October 23rd @ 10:00

Join us for Coffee and Donuts Sunday, October 23rd following 9:00am Mass from 10:00am-11:00am in Fellowship Hall hosted by LGBTQ+. The Friars who are visiting us for the Convocation will also be joining us that morning.

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



The Burning Bush

Celebrate the Season of Creation

"Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society."

Pope Francis – Laudato Si'

Faith life: Learn the church's climate platform in Laudato Si'.

laudatosi.org/laudato-si/laudato-si-goals

Daily Life: Learn the reason for that program.

youtube.com/watch?v=vc6ewwJvunI

(14 minutes)

Lots more information here! stfrancisraleigh.org/care_for_creation

To connect with us: stfcreation@gmail.com



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/>

Strength and Yoga

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:00am-9:00am

DVD Guided Classes

Classes run from mid-September through May in the Cupertino Room at the Community Center. For more Information please visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/fitness-classes-and-programs-2/> or contact Ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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



Families Looking for Adventure, Fun and Leadership Development in the outdoors? Join Scouts BSA!

St. Francis has multiple options for children interested in Scouting:

Pack 352 – Boys ages K-5th

Troop 352 - Boys ages 11+ (or 10 and in 5th grade)

Troop 219 - Girls ages 11+ (or 10 and in 5th grade)

Venture Crew 722 - Boys or Girls ages 14+ focused on high adventure activities like rock climbing, whitewater rafting, hiking, etc.

You do not have to be a member of the church to join!

Please contact the following individuals if interested:

Cub Scouts Pack 352 – Luis Suau – ljsuau@gmail.com

Boys Troop 352 - Rob Sadler - rsadlernc@gmail.com

Girls Troop 219 - Christina Cash - gator-cash96@gmail.com

Venture Crew 722 - Jim Erlinger - jimerlinger@gmail.com



Join Monsignor Clay for
coffee and conversation from
9:30-10:30am, after Daily Mass.

October 6th
October 20th
November 3rd
December 1st
December 15th

50+ Adult Group Board Meeting

Any members who would want to come to the monthly 50+ Adult Group Board Meeting are welcomed. We would like for you to come, and you are welcome to provide any suggestions. The next monthly Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 21 at 10:00 in the Conference Room which is in Anthony Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerney at mailto: pgerney@gmail.com or call 919-803-8276.

50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch

The 50+ Adult Group will have its "Potluck Lunch" on Wednesday, September 28 at 11:30 in Claire Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy a meal and lively conversation with your friends from the 50+ Adult Group, many of whom you haven't seen for some time, and perhaps make new friends.

If last names starts with, then bring

A thru C = Main Dish

D thru J = Dessert/bread or rolls

K thru Z = Salad/Side Dish

Coffee, soda and water will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerney at pgerney@gmail.com or call 919-803-8276.



Discover the possibilities of a marriage lived as God intends it!

Join us for a weekend:

September 23-25, Herndon, VA

November 4-6, Atlantic Beach, NC

Jan 27-29, 2023, N. Myrtle Beach, SC

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

704-315-2144

The mission of WWME is to proclaim the value of marriage and holy orders in the Church and in the world.

live your best life in love

wwwme.org

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Dawn Smith, Principal

Positively Impacting the World: Alumni Spotlight Linh Bach '12'



When Linh Bach '12 graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2020, he knew he wanted to do something that would make a difference in his community. While he currently works as a lab supervisor at Mako Medical, he is also pursuing his dream: "My hope and dream is to become a dentist so I can positively impact my community and do my part to make the world

a better place." He is in the process of applying to dental school now. Bach also volunteers as a Sunday school teacher for his church.

Bach attended TFS for his seventh and eighth grade years before going on to graduate from Cardinal Gibbons High School in 2016. During his time at TFS, Bach made lifelong friends that he can

still count on. "For me," says Bach, "TFS meant making the most of the second chances and opportunities afforded to you."

TFS's dedication to faith, academics, and service had an impact on Bach's life. It instilled a desire in him to serve others and positively impact the world, one person at a time. Particularly, each teacher during his two years at the school helped create such a positive experience for Bach. Bach shares, "I had many spectacular teachers including Mrs. Moser, Mr. Cadran, Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Giannini, Ms. Kowite, Mrs. Harrington and many others."

As Bach reflects back on his time at TFS, and looks forward to the future for his life, he wants to impart to students the importance of taking your time and savoring each moment. "Don't try to grow up too fast," says Bach. "Make the most of your youth because before you know it, you'll be reminiscing on your middle school and high school years like me."

Become a part of The Franciscan School. 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@stfrancisleigh.org.

Call for Donations for The Franciscan Experience at TFS

Do you have your own business, work for a service company, own a rental home, or have season tickets for a sporting event or theater? If you answered yes to any of these questions, we'd appreciate your help!

The Home and School Association (HSA) of The Franciscan School is looking for additional items to be donated from you, your small business, or your company to offer in this year's Franciscan Experience. The Franciscan Experience is the school's annual online silent auction fundraiser that is set to go live on Friday, September 30. The proceeds from the fundraiser are used to fund the many HSA sponsored events, such as Catholic Schools Week and field day, and for various teacher grants and capital improvements such as security enhancements around campus and playground updates. Please reach out to Carolyn Sanspree or Sue Jakubowski at TFSfundraiser@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to donate an item.



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

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

Welcome Back
Faith Formation Programs !
Elementary-Cross Walk, Middle School-Cross Train &
High School- Cross Road
Kick-Off Begins on Catechetical Sunday, September 18th

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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 contact Sziemer.slp@gmail.com with questions.



American Red Cross Fall 2022

The American Red Cross is in need of blood donations. Some surgeries are having to be cancelled due to the lack of blood available as blood reserves across the country are sitting at a day to day and a half of supply right now. This is the lowest the American Red Cross has seen in 10 years.

So help us, help the American Red Cross and sign up for one of the 100 appointments still available for the American Red Cross blood drive, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Saturday, September 24 from 8:00am-2:00pm in Clare Fellowship Hall.

To SCHEDULE an APPOINTMENT: Please sign up on line at www.redcrossblood.org. Search by Zip code 27613 for events on 9/24/22 More information, contact SFA Coordinator: Bryan Kozak at: bryan.c.kozak@gmail.com.

[Click here to register](#)

Young Adult Dinner

You're Invited!
To our first Young Adult Dinner.

What: Casual dinner and Social
When: Thursday, Sept 22 at 6p
Where: Founders Hall

Dinner provided by
Sassool Mediterranean Restaurant
Walk-ins welcome!

Please RSVP, Walk Ins Also Welcomed!
Questions: contact
beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director

The Halls are Alive with the Sound of Children!

"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. 15



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.

Celebrate the Season of Creation

Read 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, 7:00-8:30pm. 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](#).

Men's Prayer Breakfast - The Men's Prayer Breakfast is set to resume meeting on every 1st and 3rd Mondays from 7 to 8 am beginning on 9/19. We plan to meet in the Padua Room and we will resume serving Breakfast Burritos and Coffee for \$2.50. We will be discussing the final book from the Bridges Series by Thomas Merton. If you never read Thomas Merton don't be intimidated. Each chapter we discuss is only 4 pages and it is easy reading but insightful. It is Book # 8 in the series "Bridges for contemplative living with Thomas Merton". The book is titled "Seeing That Paradise Begins Now" and is available from Amazon for \$5.95. If interested please respond to Richard Szulewski (919) 349-7422 / richszul@gmail.com or Deacon Steve at (732) 213-0104 / stephenwandrews@outlook.com.

Contemplative Spirituality – Friday: On Friday 10/7 from 1 to 2:30 pm, via Zoom we will continue discussing Robin Wall Kimmerer's Book 'Braiding Sweetgrass', a National Best Seller. In it she examines native peoples mystical and real connection with creation. As a botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. In Braiding Sweetgrass, Kimmerer brings these two lenses of knowledge together to take us on "a journey that is every bit as mythical as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise".

If you are interested contact Tracy Hurley at (828) 773-3152 / danandtracy@hotmail.com or Deacon Steve at (732) 213-0104 / stephenwandrews@outlook.com. We will be meeting every 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.

Want to Go on Pilgrimage to Civil Rights Sites?



St. Francis Church and Baptist Grove Church are working together to plan a Civil Rights Pilgrimage March 1-5, 2023. We invite you to join us and spend an enlivening five-day, four-night "Social Justice Race Relations Tour" with fellow parishioners and members of St. Francis of Assisi and Baptist Grove Church. We will travel by luxury coach to visit historic sites and museums in Alabama and Georgia - The National Memorial for Peace and Justice, The Legacy Museum, Freedom Rides Museum, The Edmund Pettus Bridge, The Rosa Parks Museum and much, much more!

Sign up here to attend an Information Session Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 3:00 pm, via Zoom to receive more detailed information including cost, itinerary, accommodations and COVID-19 precautions. Get all of your questions answered!

Please reach out to Deacon Keith Shannon from Baptist Grove at kshanpr@aol.com or St. Francis parishioner Paul Williams at paul.williams3rd@gmail.com for questions/comments before the information night. This is being coordinated with assistance from the St. Francis Office of Justice and Peace.

A Zoom link will be sent to you closer to the event. Thank you so much for your interest in this very important topic.



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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!

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 we see that prudent decisiveness means that we recognize that all our choices in daily living are really choices for eternal life. Admission into heaven is something money cannot buy. The only currency that has any value to secure our entrance is that of love.

The work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Francis of Assist is a sign of God's love to those who are suffering.

Volunteers at SVdP work tirelessly to provide hope, compassion, referrals and short-term financial help for families. Most of the cases are the working poor—families who are paying their bills until they get an unexpected situation—an illness, a car needing service, a funeral.

Our neighbors in any of those situations could require assistance with rent or utilities.

One neighbor is a single mom with two sons who was a contract mail carrier until she got hurt and was out of work and fell behind on rent. SVdP was able to help, and the woman faces a brighter future because she also found a fulltime job with benefits and the opportunity for advancement.

SVdP is a volunteer lay Catholic organization that aspires to live the Gospel life. They are looking for people to help either by contacting those in need or behind the scenes.

A variety of jobs are available from the visitor who makes the initial contact with the neighbor by phone to those who follow up on the request.

If you are someone who doesn't feel comfortable working directly with people in need but really want to help, SVdP 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.

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.

Afterschool Program Staff – Part Time

The Franciscan School is seeking energetic candidates with a positive attitude and love of children to work in our Bridges Afterschool Program. Hours and days of the week are flexible, Monday thru Friday 3pm – 6pm. Bridges staff are responsible for the supervision and well-being of students in our program. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age and successfully complete the Diocesan background check. To apply, please send resume and cover letter to tfsresume@stfrancisraleigh.org or contract Trish.Adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org to obtain an application.

Social Studies Teacher – Full Time

The Franciscan School is seeking a qualified and passionate history/social studies teacher to join our middle school faculty. Preferred candidates will have previous experience teaching middle school social studies in an innovative way utilizing a variety of classroom technology. If you are interested in joining a dynamic educational environment working with dedicated professionals to provide an academically challenging experience for our students, please send a cover letter, that includes your educational philosophy, and resume to: tfsresume@stfrancisraleigh.org.

ST. FRANCIS PARISH

Part-time Community Center Staff (Evenings and Weekends)

Our community center offers programs and events that strengthen the communal aspects of our parish in light of our mission to be “one family living in community”. These part time evening and weekend positions support operations by ensuring a safe, clean, controlled environment for participants. A high school diploma or equivalent is required and the applicant must possess, or be able to obtain, Red Cross or American Heart Association CPR Certification with First Aid training, and Diocese of Raleigh Safe Child training. For a complete job description, questions, or to submit a resume, please email Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@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@stfrancisraleigh.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@stfrancisraleigh.org

Oak City Cares



Homelessness and hunger continue to be experienced by a growing number of people in the Raleigh area. Oak City Cares is a multi-services center working against this issue by connecting members of our community to the resources they most need (such as housing, food, etc.) St. Francis has the honor of providing a simple breakfast to the guests of Oak City Cares on the 2nd Saturday of every other month, and the 4th Sunday of each month. As the issue of homelessness continues to affect more individuals, we've grown from feeding 100 to 150 at each meal. Our presence is needed now more than ever!

Won't you help us alleviate their hunger? There are two easy ways. You can donate food, dropping it off at the parish, or join us in serving the meal at Oak City Cares in downtown Raleigh. Just click on the links to sign up!

<https://bit.ly/breakfastatOCCseptember25-2022>

<https://bit.ly/breakfastatOCCOctober8-2022>

<https://bit.ly/breakfastatOCCOctober23-2022>

Questions? Contact Ann Lassiter at aclassiter@sbcglobal.net or 501-258-4607

Thank you for any help you can provide!



On October 30th we as a parish community will be participating in the annual Raleigh CROP Hunger Walk to raise awareness of issues of hunger and food insecurity in our local and international community. This is a great opportunity for the entire family to walk in solidarity and in advocacy for all people who face the difficulties of food insecurity.

There are three ways you can become involved:

- 1) Walk with us! Just register online and you are all set.
- 2) Walk and fundraise: When you register online, follow the instructions on how to invite others to donate to your campaign. (This is totally optional)
- 3) Donate by following the link below to our page and following the instructions there.

The full walk is about 3 miles, but there is a shorter 1 mile option available as well.

There will be fun activities available at the location beginning at 2pm with the walk starting at 3pm. We will gather and walk as a community (Expect more details as the day draws nearer). We look forward to seeing you there!

Join our "official" team by following this link and following the instructions.

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/st-francis-of-assisi-catholic-church>



**Corporal Works of Mercy
"Bury the Dead"
Outside Volunteer Opportunity**

Funerals provide an opportunity to support those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Perhaps one of our lesser-known ministries at St. Francis is serving as a columbarium attendant. The columbarium attendant offers quiet, behind the scenes assistance by preparing the columbarium niche to receive cremated remains after a funeral liturgy. This includes setting up, opening and cleaning the niche, respectfully standing watch during the time the niche is open, and replacing the niche cover after the service. Those who serve must be physically able to remove, lift, and replace the granite niche cover, which weighs approximately 60 pounds.

Services are typically Tuesday thru Saturday and take approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours of time. Columbarium attendants can serve as their schedule allows. For more information, please contact Trish Adamkowski 919-847-8205 x 236 or trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL WHO WERE RECENTLY CONFIRMED
AT THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



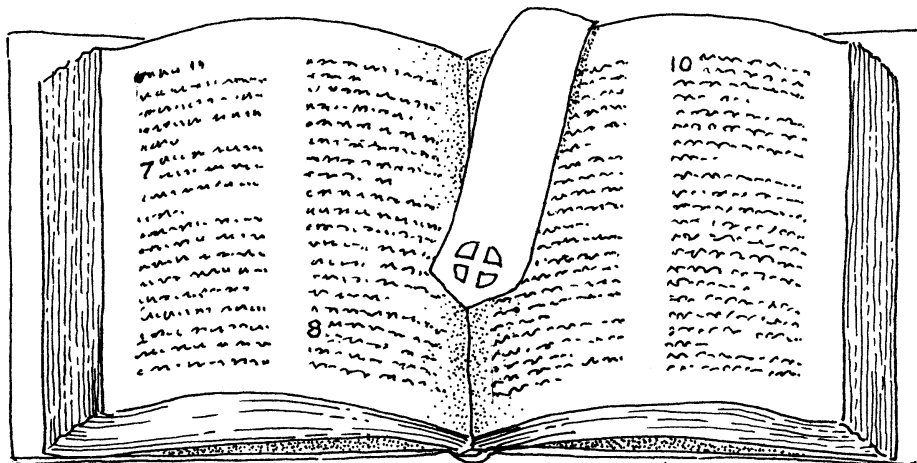
*Please pray for the newly confirmed
that they use the gifts bestowed upon them
by the Holy Spirit
to spread the Good News
wherever they may go.*

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 18, 2022

God . . . wills everyone to be saved
and to come to knowledge of the truth.

— 1 Timothy 2:4



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