

Join St. Francis at the CROP

# HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 30TH

**3 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!**

1. REGISTER & WALK
2. WALK & FUNDRAISE
3. MAKE A DONATION

SIGN UP OR GIVE BELOW

BENEFITING ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE: CPO – URBAN MINISTRIES – NC FOOD BANK

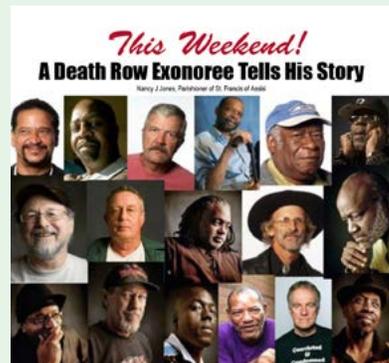
## CROP Hunger Walk--Last Chance to Sign Up

We are so excited that almost 50 people—individuals and families—have signed up to walk at this year's CROP Hunger Walk taking place on October 30th. Others have donated to the walk and we just had a mini-CROP walk at The Franciscan School where students were empowered to make a difference in the world and their communities. We invite you to come be a part of this parish-wide event and help represent St. Francis. If you have yet to sign up, this is one of your last chances. So do so by clicking [here!](#) Your presence matters! Can't wait to see you there! <https://youtu.be/H8S-JRKS0avc>



### 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.





**GOING, GOING, GONE:  
THE GREAT DEPARTURE FROM CATHOLICISM:**

On the weekend of October 8-9, I spoke about my vision for our community as part of our annual Offertory Appeal. The comments that have garnered the most feedback and affirmation were those that addressed our need to increase our efforts to reach our youth and young adults. I thought it would be good to take a couple of columns to highlight what we know about what some are calling the “great departure” from Catholicism and what types of strategies are being envisioned to retain more of our youth and young adults. This week I would like to provide some initial data on what the current situation looks like. I expect this topic will involve several columns as the issue is quite complex but I want to start with the reality on the ground that is causing me and others grave concern about this growing phenomenon.

A national snapshot based on statistics from the Kenedy Directory, an annual publication that takes data provided by all U.S. Catholic dioceses and collates them into a book, paints a disturbing picture. Here’s what the snapshot shows comparing the state of the Catholic Church in the U.S. over the past 50 years.

Category	1970	2019	% of Change
U.S. Catholic Registered Parishioners	48 million	65 million	35.4% increase
Infant Baptisms	1.09 million	582,331	46.6% decrease
Adult Baptisms	84,534	35,138	58.4% decrease
Full Communion	76,176 (1995 data)	54,655	28.3% decrease
Confirmations	491,360 (1990 data)	556,418	13.2% increase
Marriages	426,309	137,885	67.7% decrease
Goes to Mass Weekly	54.9%	21.1%	33.8% decrease
Goes to Mass at least Monthly	71.3%	45.3%	26% decrease
Strong Catholic Affiliation	45.8%	32.2%	13.6% decrease

With the exception of the increase in Confirmations, all statistics are trending negative and have been consistently moving in this direction, with few periodic exceptions, for the past 50 years despite the growth in the number of people in the general population who are registered Catholic parishioners. This overall membership growth is due significantly to Catholic immigrants but the overall percentage of registered U.S. Catholic parishioners when compared to the overall growth of the general U.S. population is declining. If not for immigrant Catholics, the overall picture would be much starker.

The statistic that is most concerning to me is the decline in sacramental marriages. Marriage in the general population is also declining but a nearly 68% drop in sacramental marriages is quite disproportionate to the decline in all marriages in the general population. Sacramental marriage is a key factor to the other sacraments traditionally celebrated by the children born of these couples and to life in a parish. This downward trend has a domino effect regarding parish life, at least in terms of sacramental participation, one bellwether for the health of the Church. The factors contributing to this particular decline are many, but the statistic nevertheless is startling.

In the next column, I will address a couple of the leading reasons contributing to this general downward slide from the myriad dynamics in play.

*Fr. Michael*

**THROUGH BAPTISM MAY  
THEY WALK ALWAYS AS  
CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT:**

- Luis Andrew Britt**  
Son of Jake and Erica Britt
- Sadie Bentley Cummings**  
Daughter of Seann and Kate Cummings
- Lennon Josephine Finser**  
Daughter of Ewen and Marissa Finser
- McKenna Ann Henry**  
Daughter of Ed and Margaret Henry
- Isabella Stephanie Rodriguez**  
Daughter of Yadier and Jennifer Rodriguez
- Jackson Carlyle Wigington**  
Son of Ken and Kay Wigington
- Elinor Lynn Zwerneman**  
Daughter of Peter and Alyson Zwerneman

Through Faith Direct you can support our parish using an electronic funds transfer from either a bank account or credit/debit card. To access, start here:



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/](http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure/)

# PRAYER REQUESTS FOR OCTOBER 22 TO OCTOBER 30



## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday October 22, 2022  
Saturday, 5:30  
+Lily Samuel  
Requested by Varghese Tharakan

Sunday October 23, 2022  
Sunday, 7:15  
+Judith Linden  
Requested by The Fleischmann Family

Sunday, 9:00  
+Joseph Gronski  
Requested by Helga and Mike Pryor

Sunday, 11:45  
+Kathryn Duffy McHugh  
Requested by Regina Duffy

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

Monday October 24, 9am  
+Catherine Williams  
Requested by The Snyder Family

Tuesday October 25, 9am  
+June Gaugler  
Requested by The Wursta Family

Wednesday October 26, 9am  
+Mary Sed  
Requested by Mary Beth and Phil LoScalzo

Thursday October 27, 9am  
+Bach Mai Thi Le  
Requested by Gary and Hanh Boyar, Hung and Trinh Pham

Friday October 28, 9am  
Max Bjerke  
Requested by The Bjerke Family  
Birthday

Saturday October 29, 2022  
Saturday, 5:30  
+Martha Johnson  
Requested by David Mack

Sunday October 30, 2022  
Sunday, 7:15  
+Betty Costello  
Requested by Vanessa and Randy Fleischmann

Sunday, 9:00  
+Terto and +Evelina Lustria Doming and +Fernanda Nonato  
Requested by The Lustria and Nonato Families

Sunday, 11:45  
+Jeanne Luther  
Requested by The Austin Family

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

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

+Ana Caldeira Gomes  
Requested by Maria and Steve Nicholas  
Remembrance

+Howard Sales  
Requested by Kathy and Doug Sales  
Remembrance

+Ken Kowalski  
Requested by Kathy and Doug Sales  
Remembrance

+Leland Morse  
Requested by Davve Crout  
Remembrance

Recent Deaths  
+Beatriz Martha Sangineto de Wehe  
Mother of Analia Lehmann  
Remembrance

+Tom Hayden  
Husband of Sheila Hayden  
Remembrance

(ill) Dan Shanahan  
Requested by Msgr. Michael Clay  
Health and Wellness



**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

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 for 2023 is open. You may make your request(s) by going to our website (<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.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.

**October 23**

## Coffee and Donuts with the Friars

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

**October 23**

## Death Row Exonoree Tells His Story

The 100th exonoree from Arizona's death row to bring his story to St. Francis of Assisi via a live Zoom event on Sunday, October 23rd, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

<https://bit.ly/WitnesstoInnocenceSFA>.

Questions: [prayerfulheart3@gmail.com](mailto:prayerfulheart3@gmail.com).

**October 26**

## The 50+ Adult Group

Potluck Lunch on Wednesday, at 11:30 in Clare Fellowship Hall. Contact Pat Gerney at [pgerney@gmail.com](mailto:pgerney@gmail.com) or call 919-803-8276

**October 30**

## Crop Hunger Walk

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

**November 1**

## All Saints Day

Tuesday, Masses at 9:00am (with school children), 11:45am, and 7:00pm.

**November 2**

## All Souls Day

Wednesday, Masses at 9:00am and 7:00pm

**November 2**

## Parent Child Classes

In the Cupertino Room of the Assisi Community Center.

<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/parent-child-classes-2/>

**November 5**

## Memorial Garden Mass

Saturday, at 10:00am

**November 6**

## Harvest Moon Festival

1:00-3:00pm Preschool Fundraiser

[shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org)

**November 10**

## Young Adult Trivia Night

7:00pm in the Community Center

[gus.franceschi@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:gus.franceschi@stfrancisraleigh.org)

**November 17**

## Create Advent Art with

## Women's Ministry

6:00-8:00pm

[Click here to register](#)



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!

## Weekly Envelope Schedule

October 23 Weekly

October 23 Propagation of the Faith

October 30 Weekly

November 1 All Saints Day

November 2 All Souls Day

[For a complete list of SFA contacts Group Opportunities, Volunteer Opportunities and Ministries, click here.](#)



Scammers are at it again sending malicious emails to parishioners. You will NEVER get a solicitation email from staff, our pastor, or bishop asking for "a favor", or for emergency help in the form of money. Please do not open or click on them - simply trash them.



## FEED THE NEED



Helping Parish families in  
times of transition and  
challenge

*A warm, homecooked meal can  
help everything.*

*If you or someone you know is:*

- Recovering from surgery,
- Ill or undergoing chemotherapy,
- Having a baby,
- Grieving a loss,
- Dealing with a lost job, or
- Going through a difficult time,

**Please Call FTN**

**Names are confidential**  
**Beth Gaudette at 919-764-4815.**  
**Coordinator of Care and Wellness**

**YOUNG ADULT  
TRIVIA &  
FAIR TRADE  
NIGHT**

**Nov 10 at 7pm**  
**Location: Community Center**  
**Hosted by Trivia Master**  
**Thomas Bulick**  
**Prizes for the winning  
team!**

**For Questions contact**  
**[gus.franceschi@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:gus.franceschi@stfrancisraleigh.org)**

### **Parent Child Classes**

Registration is now open for our second session of 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/parentchild-classes-2/>. This session of classes starts November 2 and runs until December 14 (with no classes on November 23)

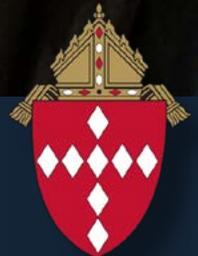


### **The SFA Library**

Come to the Stewardship Center and check out a book from our library cart. Our parish librarians have pulled books on care for creation and on St. Francis to focus on this quarter.

# THINKING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD?

Discernment is a process of drawing closer to Jesus, learning about the priesthood, and praying intensely about the Lord's will for your life.



**The monthly priesthood discernment group** meeting is a great opportunity to meet other guys who are in discernment and learn about the process. The meetings are led by Father Jim Magee on the 2nd Saturday of each

month from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Catholic Center at 7200 Stonehenge Dr. Raleigh, NC 27613. To learn more visit [ncpriest.org](http://ncpriest.org) or contact Father Jim at:

 **(252) 417 0096**

 **[vocations@raldioc.org](mailto:vocations@raldioc.org)**



you know what to do :-)

Learn more about vocations to the priesthood at [ncpriest.org](http://ncpriest.org)

# CREATE ADVENT ART

WITH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

November 17, 6 pm to 8pm

Padua Room  
in the Community Center

REGISTER on Realm  
by November 2

Bring a treat or  
snack to share



## Coffee & Donuts



Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00

Join us for Coffee and Donuts Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 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!



Fr. Steve



Fr. Bill



Fr. Jim



Fr. Dan



Fr. Ray



Fr. Julian

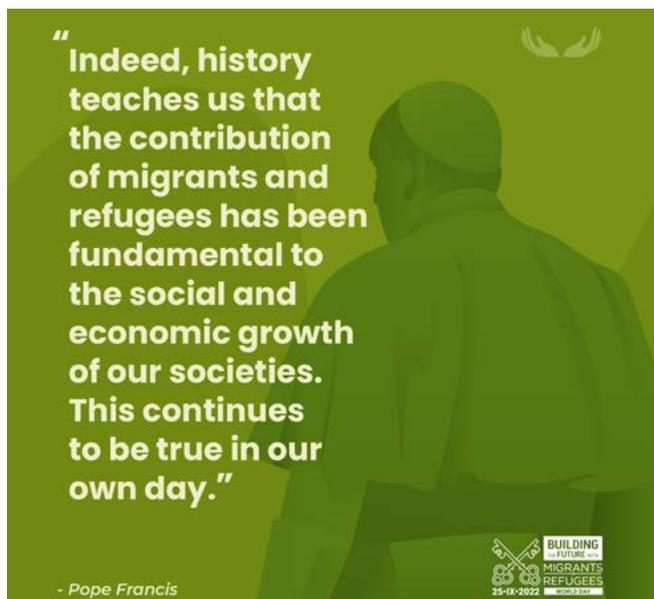
This will be the time to visit and celebrate the Friars!



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

The columbarium attendant offers quiet, behind the scenes assistance for parishioners being laid to rest in our columbarium. The attendant prepares the columbarium niche to receive cremated remains after a funeral liturgy. 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 serve as their schedule allows. To learn more or volunteer, please contact Trish Adamkowski 919-847-8205 x 236 or [trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org).

# A New JustFaith Program: Faith and Immigration Justice



*Love the stranger then, for you were once strangers in Egypt.* (Deut 10:19)

Would you like to join a JustFaith virtual study group focused on immigration?

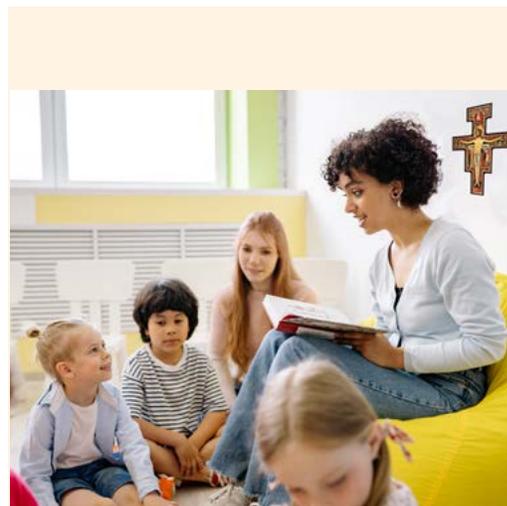
We at St. Francis are one of the first communities to offer this new “[Faith and Immigration Justice](#)” program. It’s an opportunity for our parish to build on the three spectacularly successful racial justice programs in which more than a hundred parishioners participated over the past three years. It also seems a fitting way to reflect on the challenge of “Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees”, the theme of [National Migration Week](#) (Sep 20-25, 2022) sponsored by the U.S. Catholic Bishops, and the [World Day of Migrants and Refugees](#) (Sep 25, 2022), sponsored by the Holy See.

Depending on interest, we expect to organize one or more groups that meet online Wednesday evenings at 7pm (beginning Oct 26), and one or more that meet online Thursday afternoons at 3pm (beginning Oct 27). The groups will meet for eight weeks, with a break scheduled for Thanksgiving week. Sign up at [bit.ly/ImmigrationSFA2022a](https://bit.ly/ImmigrationSFA2022a).

There’s no registration fee; the cost of books is about \$28/person.

The Faith and Immigration Justice program, like other JustFaith initiatives, aims to encourage healthy conversation; equip participants to advocate for just, effective, and compassionate policies; and prepare participants to extend hospitality toward their neighbors. Its immigration-specific goals include discerning “how our faith calls us to respond to the immigration debate,” and examining the nuances of immigration policy and the citizenship process in this country.

If you’d like to receive occasional emails about this and other parish news and activities related to immigration, consider joining the parish “Immigration Allies” Realm group (login to Realm, then search for “immigration”; or contact Trevor Thompson directly at [Trevor.Thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Trevor.Thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org)). You needn’t worry about meetings or commitments; the allies group is nothing more than an email list that allows you to keep your finger on the pulse.



## The Return of Children’s Liturgy of the Word!

Children’s Liturgy of the Word, or CLOW, is an opportunity for children, ages 5 to 7, kindergarten to the date of their First Eucharist, to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in an age appropriate way. We celebrate CLOW at the 9:00am Mass on weeks that we do not have Crosswalk Faith Formation. Children will be invited to process out after the opening prayer, and will return to their families before the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This program will kick off on October 9th at the 9:00am Mass.



**TFS**  
THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL  
— FAITH — ACQUAINT — SERVICE —

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!



# November: A Month of Remembrance

## **The Book of Remembrance**

A Book of Remembrance, with the names of loved ones of blessed memory, will be displayed throughout the month near the sanctuary. Names may be written directly into the book by parishioners, or will be recorded into the book from the names printed on All Souls Day envelopes. In addition, these envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout the month. The book will be available in the gathering space for parishioners to add names starting this weekend.

**All Saints Day** - Tuesday, November 1, Masses at 9 am (with school children), 11:45 am, and 7 pm.

**All Souls Day** - Wednesday November 2, Masses at 9 am and 7:00 pm

During these liturgies we will lift up all those who have gone before us as we pray that “with the mortality of this life overcome, they may gaze eternally on [God], their Creator and Redeemer” (Collect from November 2 in the Roman Missal).

We will specifically honor all parishioners who have died during the past year with a reading of names.

In addition, all parishioners are encouraged to bring photos (framed, maximum of 5X7) to the parish offices prior to Monday, October 31, to be displayed on the altar steps throughout this day and then displayed in the parish gathering space throughout the month of November. Please include your name and contact information on the back of the photos so you may pick them up when the month is completed.

**Memorial Garden Mass** – Saturday, November 5 at 10:00am

This beautiful memorial Mass is to celebrate the life and faith of all those inurned or memorialized in the St. Francis Memorial Garden as well as those buried in the St. Francis portion of the cemetery at Raleigh Memorial Park. All are welcome to attend.

Mass is held outside in the Memorial Garden so please dress accordingly.

# Where your treasure is there your heart will be also

Matthew 6:21.



**Nancy Potanovic**  
*St. Francis Parishioner*

My name is Nancy Potanovic and I've been invited to speak with you today about what drew me to St. Francis, what the parish means to me, and why I share my time, talent, and treasure with the parish community.

First, what drew me to St. Francis is the warm and welcoming environment. I've lived in Raleigh since 1984 and during that time have attended several Catholic churches in the area. I made my Confirmation here at St. Francis way back when it was the 'old' (much smaller!) church. At the time, my family were members of another church, but we moved to St. Francis because of the wonderful high school faith formation program they had. Even then I remember thinking that everyone I met and interacted with was so friendly and genuine, which is still true today. As an adult, I chose to join this parish because of the extremely positive experience I had all those years ago when I made my Confirmation.

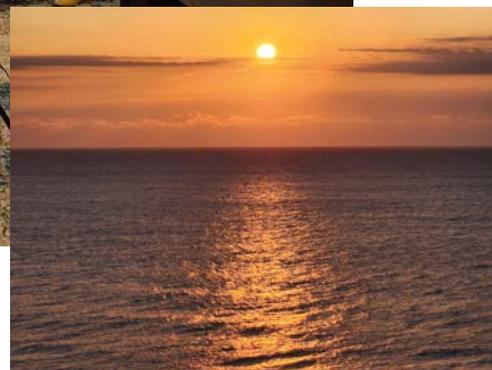
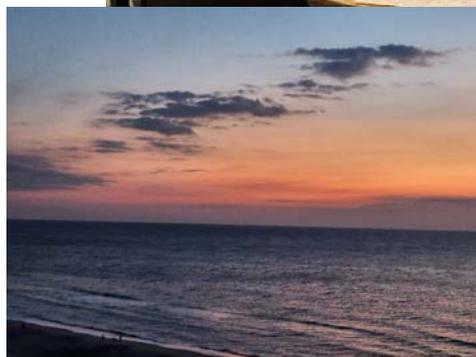
Next, when I think about what the parish means to me, the parish is a community where I feel comfortable and have the opportunity to give back. I've had the privilege of being a sponsor for two friends who have gone through the RCIA program here. As I told both of them, I think I got as much out of the experience as they did because as a lifelong Catholic, sometimes it's easy to get complacent about my faith, but attending the RCIA sessions really energized me. In addition, I volunteer as a youth faith formation leader, which I love! Monsignor Clay spoke last week in his homily about the importance of 'informing our youngest generation of Catholics about the importance of Jesus Christ and instilling in them an active faith in their daily lives.' Working with the youth in the parish gives me that opportunity and I'm so thankful to be part of their faith journey.

Finally, *why I share my time, talent, and treasure with the parish community.* Frankly, it's because I get a lot out of being a member of this parish and I'm thrilled that I can contribute and give back in some small way by volunteering and sharing my love of the Catholic faith with others. There is a quote on the St. Francis' website that states, 'Where your treasure is there your heart will be also' Matthew 6:21. That really resonates with me because I have always been happy to contribute financially, but it wasn't until I got more involved in the parish that I truly started to feel like a part of the community. So for me, my treasure and my heart are definitely here at St. Francis and I'm so blessed to be part of this special parish family.

# EDUCATION MINISTRIES

## Taking Time for Prayer and Reflection

Dawn Smith, Principal



This past week I participated in the annual Office of Education Diocese retreat for Principals and Directors. Traveling to a location away from home and work, provided me with structured time to take a step back, collaborate with other principals throughout the Diocese and share in each other's successes and challenges. In addition, I had some time to ponder my transition to Principal and my own personal successes, challenges and vision moving forward. During the retreat we spent some time reflecting on John's chapter 15 in the bible regarding the vines and the branches. The beginning of the chapter is shared below.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear

fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

We need to use scripture to nourish ourselves and nourish our lives. As school leaders we need to choose scripture that is relevant to our students and we need to ask ourselves what it is teaching them? Does it speak to the heart of our children and deepen their relationship with Christ? Are the scriptures speaking to my students and helping them grow in their understanding of who God is? We want to evangelize them so that they leave our school having a personal relationship with Christ.

I was chosen and appointed to go bear fruit that will remain on the branch. Taking time for prayer and Bible reading should be key components of our life. It provides us with the fuel we need to grow

and remain healthy in your faith. Our relationship with Christ helps define our relationship with others. We need to put our faith and trust in Jesus. He will give us the necessary tools. Regular pruning of the branches helps us grow and flourish. As a school, we should be pruning our branches so that we are growing and expanding to meet the needs of our students and our community. Pruning should not be viewed as a negative task, but as a way to improve and to grow and bear more fruit.

Come grow with us. I welcome you to become a part of The Franciscan School. We have several virtual information sessions coming up in the next few months and our application for the 23-24 school year is currently available. More information regarding our school and the admissions timeline can be found on our website at [www.franciscanschool.org/](http://www.franciscanschool.org/) or contact Principal Dawn Smith at [dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org)



**Do you have a rising 6th 7th or 8th grader?**

The Franciscan School meets the academic, social, and emotional needs of students as they prepare to be citizens of the world in a faith-based environment

Upcoming Campus Tours & Information Sessions

**October 19th at 1:30 PM**

**November 7th at 8:30 AM**

**November 9th at 1:30 PM**

*Admissions and financial aid support available*

Contact Principal Dawn Smith for more details at

**[Dawn.Smith@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Dawn.Smith@stfrancisraleigh.org)**



# EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director

## Making Treats for Our Furry Friends



Throughout the year, but especially during the month of October, we take every available opportunity to help our preschoolers embrace the example of Francis of Assisi. This past week presented our preschoolers with another activity to show care for God's creation.

For several years, our preschool has made and delivered dog biscuits to the SPCA or another animal shelter. Not only does rolling, cutting, and shaping the biscuit dough allow the children to practice several cognitive and fine motor skills, but it allows them a chance to do a small act of kindness for some furry friends. As I have previously noted, we want our students to learn compassion, care, and service to others. We want them to know how important it is to take care of each other and all that God has created, but the lesson makes a bigger impact when

our children can easily relate to and understand how exactly they are helping. Like with the acorn collection for the pigs at Saving Grace a couple of weeks ago, most of our young students know what it is like to take care of an animal, particularly if they have a pet of their own. Making treats for dogs who do not have a family to take care of them is something that our little people can easily relate to and so it makes this lesson of service highly meaningful for them.

There were so many smiles of accomplishment as I watched a few of our classes make their biscuits. Each student got to pat, roll, and cut the dough into the shape of a dog bone, fire hydrant, of dog house. Sometimes those shapes can be tricky to cut, but a little perseverance can go a long way! Although our 2-year olds did not actually work with the dough, it

was still important to find a way in which they also could partake. As it turns out, many have some super counting and packing skills! They were able, with a little bit of assistance, take the baked biscuits and put them into delivery bags. In this way, everyone had an opportunity to take part in caring for the dogs.

Perhaps you and your family might consider baking dog biscuits for an animal shelter, a neighbor's dog, or even your own pet. Any way in which we show our children how to express care and comfort to others is always a valuable one. It allows us all to deepen our faith and grow closer to God!

To learn more about the exciting opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at [www.preschoolatstfrancis.org](http://www.preschoolatstfrancis.org).

# *This Weekend!*

## **A Death Row Exonoree Tells His Story**

Nancy J Jones, Parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi



Last call for this weekend's opportunity to hear the story of Death Row exonoree through a virtual engagement in partnership with organization Witness to Innocence.

As of August 2022, there are now 190 men and women exonerated from death rows around our nation. They all have stories to tell, and some have been written down and published (*The Sun Does Shine* and *Just Mercy* to name two) or made into films and documentaries. And yet some exonorees are willing to relive the horrors – of being innocent while arrested, charged, tried, and then sentenced to death – by telling their stories orally.

In this latter way, we are blessed to have the 100th exonoree from Arizona's death row to bring his story to us at St. Francis of Assisi via a live Zoom event on Sunday, October 23rd, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm. If you would like to hear his life-changing story and what he's also been doing since released from prison, sign-up here: <https://bit.ly/WitnesstoInnocenceSFA>. If you have any questions, send them to me at [prayerfulheart3@gmail.com](mailto:prayerfulheart3@gmail.com). Please note that this event will not be recorded.

## **Thank You from The Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Cindy Cardello- Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Ministry would like to thank Parishioners who made shawls and lap robes during the past year. Those shawls were dropped off at the Reception Desk anonymously. They were then blessed by the group, a cross sewed on, wrapped with a card and distributed to grateful people in their time of need. The person could be in a nursing home, hospital, rehab, or suffering from an illness. It shows the love and care that the Community of St. Francis has for others. The Ministry has received many Thank You cards from those who received the shawls and lap robes stating how much it meant to them knowing that our Church Community was thinking and praying for them. We would also like to acknowledge those who, generously, left yarn for use by the Ministry members. Your generosity was truly appreciated and was turned into beautiful shawls, hats, scarves and baby blankets. Again, thank you.

P.S. If you know someone who can benefit from receiving one of these shawls/lap robes, please contact the Ministry Leaders, Cindy Cardello (919-846-8825 and leave message) and Diane Rotunno.



2023 Mass Intentions

Open

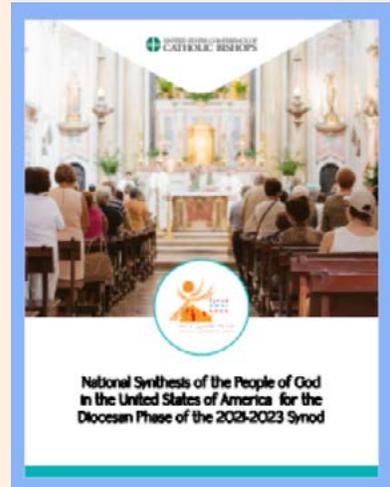
October 1st, the Mass Intention calendar for 2023 will open.  
 Payment is required at time of submitting.  
 You can pay either cash, check or using Faith Direct.  
 Click [HERE](#) for form.

## Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief

As we have all seen in the news, the impact of the storm has been devastating. Communities were destroyed, families lost everything, and the loss of human life was heart breaking. This is one of those situations where the generosity of our community is needed the most. While it may take years for the area to recover, the storm victims need our help now just to meet their basic needs of food, shelter, and clothing. Please use the QR code or log into to your [FaithDirect](#) account to make a donation.




[Click image above to view the Synod Summary Report: Parish Level Takeaways The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi](#)



[Click here to view the National Synthesis of the People of God in the United States of America for the Diocesan Phase of the 2021-2023 Synod](#)





## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In this Sunday's Gospel, the tax collector's prayer allows God to be God and so allows God to pour mercy into his heart. When we pray and give alms to the poor, we allow God's mercy to be poured into their hearts.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society brings love and mercy to families by providing money to help with everyday expenses when times get tough.

For example, this month one 37-year-old mother need extra help with rent because she missed work over the summer when her eight-year-old son had surgery. She was on a tight budget and was able to get help for rent from SVdP and some other sources while following up on a lead for another job that would increase her income by 30 percent.

The St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Francis of Assisi is a volunteer Catholic organization that aspires to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned. 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, an injury or sickness.

Is there a neighbor or friend of yours who is in temporary need because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please leave a message for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at 919-534-484...we want to help!

## Care for Creation

*God requires that we assist the animals when they need our help. Each being (human or creature) has the same right of protection.*

-- St. Francis of Assisi

Learn about current water problems in our state: [bit.ly/waternc](http://bit.ly/waternc)

**"Society . . . must put pressure on governments to develop more rigorous regulations, procedures, and controls."**

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si' On Care for Our Common Home*, Chapter I

Check [interfaithcreationcare.org](http://interfaithcreationcare.org) for local issues and **VOTE!**

For more eco info: [stfrancisraleigh.org/care for creation](http://stfrancisraleigh.org/care-for-creation)

To connect with us: [stfccreation@gmail.com](mailto:stfccreation@gmail.com)



## "Coffee with Clay" in the Assisi Café

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



November 3rd  
December 1st  
December 15th

## November 6 from 1-3

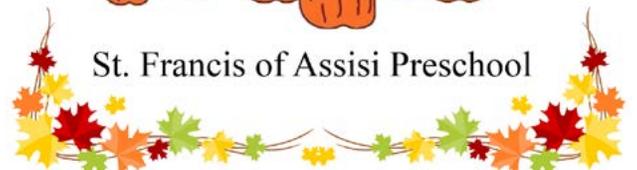


## HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL

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# Employment Opportunities

## THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL

### 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 [tfresume@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:tfresume@stfrancisraleigh.org) or contact [Trish.Adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Trish.Adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org) to obtain an application.

## 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](mailto:Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org).

## 50+ Adult Group

### 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch

The 50+ Adult Group will have its “Potluck Lunch” on Wednesday, October 26 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 = Salad/Side Dish

D thru J = Main Dish

K thru Z = Dessert/bread or rolls

Coffee, soda and water will be provided.

This “Potluck Lunch” will also be the annual Pajama Drive (Pajamas in sizes 3-8) to be donated to the Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO).

If you have any questions, please contact Pat Gerney at [pgerney@gmail.com](mailto:pgerney@gmail.com) or call 919-803-8276.

## 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](mailto: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!

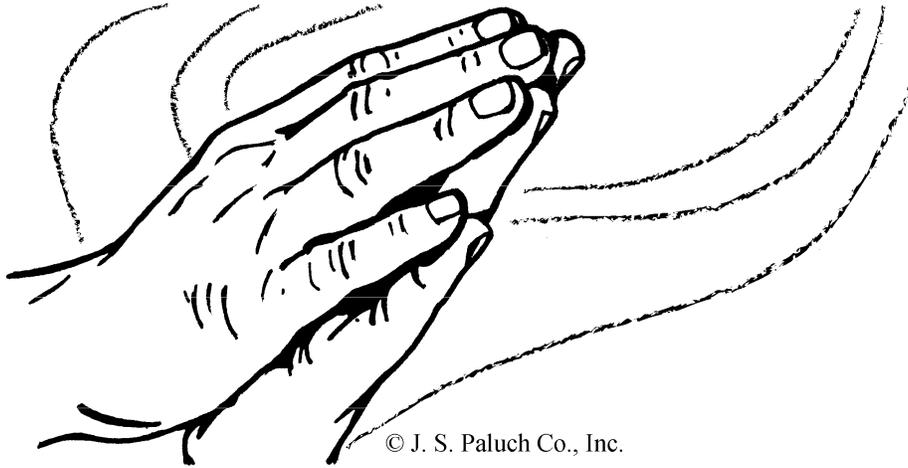
Please contact [Andrea.Javier@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Andrea.Javier@stfrancisraleigh.org)

# Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## October 23, 2022

The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds;  
it does not rest until it reaches its goal,  
nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds.

— *Sirach 35:17-18a*



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<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America <b>Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.</b> Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email <a href="mailto:eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com">eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com</a> <a href="http://www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com">www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com</a></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: left;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">DAUNTLESS</h1> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>Transmissions.com</i></p> <p style="font-size: 1.1em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>8809-B Gulf Court • Raleigh, NC 27617</i></p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Gil Gutierrez   (919) 786-0230</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;"><a href="mailto:gil@dauntlesstransmissions.com">gil@dauntlesstransmissions.com</a> • <a href="http://www.dauntlesstransmissions.com">www.dauntlesstransmissions.com</a></p> </div> <div style="border: 2px dashed red; padding: 5px; text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;"> <p style="margin: 0;">10% Labor Discount with this coupon</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div> </div>	
<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Protecting <b>Seniors</b> Nationwide</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Medical Alert System</p> </div> <div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Free Month</li> <li>No Long-Term Contract</li> <li>Price Guarantee</li> <li>Easy Self Installation</li> </ul> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; font-size: x-small;"> <p style="margin: 0;">✂ Please Cut Out This "Thank You Ad" and Present It The Next Time You Patronize One of Our Advertisers</p> <h1 style="margin: 0;">Thank You</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Thank you for advertising in our church bulletin. I am patronizing your business because of it!</p> </div>	

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