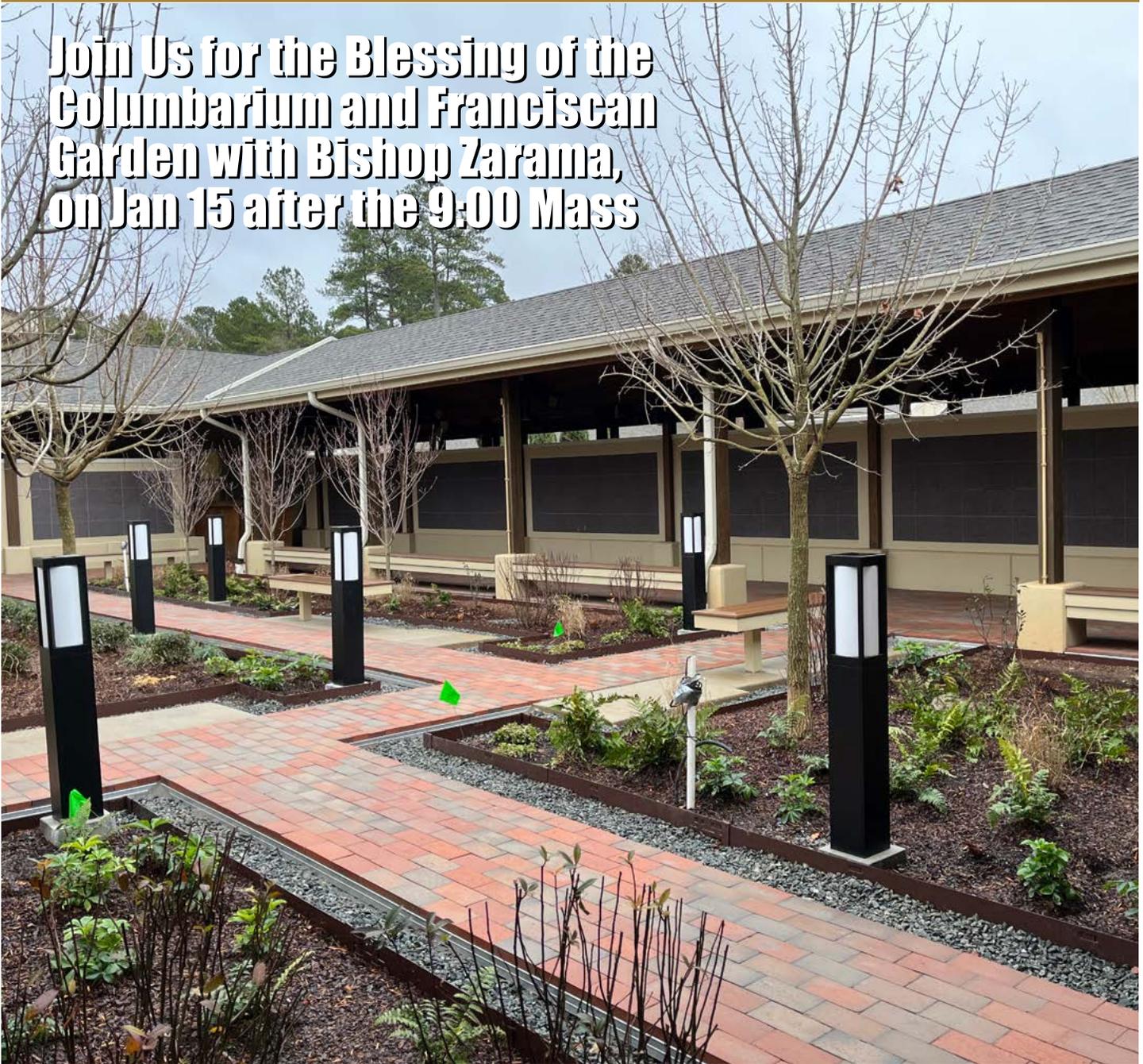


# Join Us for the Blessing of the Columbarium and Franciscan Garden with Bishop Zarama, on Jan 15 after the 9:00 Mass



See page 10

### 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 6





**BISHOP LUÍS IS COMING TO ST. FRANCIS:**

On Sunday, January 15, Bishop Luís will be with us for a few hours. He will be the principal celebrant at the 9:00am Mass. Following the Mass, he will dedicate the newest addition to our columbarium and bless our new Franciscan Garden.

Afterward, he will gather with us in Fellowship Hall for a reception. We would love to see a full house at the 9:00am Mass and a good showing of parishioners for the dedication/blessing and reception.

**COLOMBARIUM QUESTION: CREMATION AND CATHOLICS:**

Catholics are increasingly choosing to be cremated. This has been particularly true since the onset of the pandemic. In 1997, the Catholic Church in the United States, with the approval of the Vatican, published guidelines to assist parishes and the families of those who are cremated in the proper and reverent treatment of these cremains (the word we use to describe the cremated remains of someone after cremation) as is befitting their human dignity. Since 1996 we have been blessed to have a columbarium and memorial garden as part of our community's life, one of the earliest columbariums located at a Catholic Church in the United States. Next Sunday we will see the first expansion of it with an additional 616 niches.

As we see cremation increase in frequency, it seems apropos to provide a bit of catechesis on cremation. In our country, there are various practices regarding the treatment of cremains. Some of them are influenced by the secular world, other Christian traditions, or other faiths that do not view the human body in the same way as the Catholic Church does. This has led to some confusion or lack of awareness about how a Catholic who is cremated should be treated. Here are a few comments from our official text, *The Order of Christian Funerals* (OCF), as guidance and education.

*The Order of Christian Funerals* says the following: "The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the cremains, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave, entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium, or buried at the sea intact just as a body would be laid to rest in a cemetery. The practices of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or a friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires" (OCF§417). This is our official Church teaching on this matter.

When possible and feasible, it is recommended that the cremation take place after the Funeral liturgy at which the body is present (OCF§418). This is because the body is of great importance in the Catholic faith since it served as a temple of the Holy Spirit and was once washed in baptism, anointed with the oil of salvation, and fed with the Bread of Life (OCF§412). Increasingly, the costs associate with funerals and other factors makes this recommendation impractical. Note that this is a recommendation, not a requirement.

The decision for cremation can be challenging. Please know we are here to assist you with your questions and discernment about the reverent treatment of your loved ones and you should cremation be an option you are considering.

*Fr. Michael*

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

+Mary Frances Kane  
Mother of Sue Frizell

**Weekly Envelope Schedule**

- January 8, Weekly
- January 15, Weekly
- January 22, Weekly
- January 22, Church in Latin America
- January 29, Weekly

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 JANUARY 7 TO JANUARY 15



## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 7, 2023, 5:30pm  
+Geneive Bourbina  
Requested by Susan and Jim Goethals

Sunday January 8, 2023  
Sunday, 7:15  
+Edward Qualter  
Requested by Pat and Paul Kelly

Sunday, 9:00  
+Reva Early  
Requested by The Bongiorno Family

Sunday, 11:45  
+Robert James Pluta  
Requested by Ann Tysiak Skinner and family

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

Monday January 9, 9AM  
+Kees De Vries  
Requested by The Monteith Family

Tuesday January 10, 9AM  
+Elinor Dewees  
Requested by Paul and Marianne Williams

Wednesday January 11, 9AM  
+Froilan Ferrer Sr. and +Narcisa Ferrer  
Requested by the Ferrer Family

Thursday January 12, 9AM  
+Charles Powell  
Requested by Deborah and Charles Bastianello

Friday January 13, 9AM  
+Ralph Celeste  
Requested by Randy and Vanessa Fleischmann

Saturday January 14, 2023, 5:30pm  
+Suzan Mehalko  
Requested by Roy and Marianne Norris

Sunday January 15, 2023  
Sunday, 7:15  
+Thomas Casey  
Requested by The Fleischmann Family

Sunday, 9:00  
+Ann Mintel  
Requested by Celesta Carlson

Sunday, 11:45  
+Elenea Siegfried  
Requested by Judy Kundrick

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

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

+Carle Cayton Sr.  
Requested by Pamela Cayton  
Remembrance

(ill) Martha DeCain  
Requested by Mark DeCain  
Health and Wellness

Recent Death  
+Mary Frances Kane  
Mother of Sue Frizell  
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 **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.



**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.

# At a Glance

This week's events are shown in red.

## January 7/8

### Used Cell Phone Drive

The Knights will have a manned collection table in the Stewardship area of the church.

## January 8

### Why Faith? How Do I Pray and Know God is Listening?

10:15-11:15am in Founders Rm / refreshments

## January 11

St. Francis 50+ Adult Group Bingo Wednesday at 12:00 noon in Clare Fellowship Hall.

## January 14

at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, there is a **Rosary for Life** at 10:30am and a Mass for Life at 11:00am. Afterwards, at the Halifax Mall in downtown Raleigh, starting around 12:30pm, there is a **Youth Rally and March for Life**. You can find more information about these events at the Diocese of Raleigh website [here](#).

## January 15

### Columbarium and Franciscan Garden Blessing:

Bishop Luis will bless after the 9:00am Mass

## January 16

**Mass celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** on Monday at 12:00pm at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.

## January 17

### Book Group Opportunity

Dignity and the Death Penalty: Evolution of Catholic Teaching (Alice Hugh Brown, author) Meets online Tuesday evenings, January 17 through February 21, from 7pm to 8pm. For more information or to register: [Complete this short Google Form](#). Registration is required.

## January 18

The 50+ Adult Group invites you to our monthly luncheon in Claire Fellowship Hall for "Potluck Lunch" on Wednesday, at 11:30.

## January 21

### Habitat for Humanity

The following are our St. Francis Habitat Saturdays where we need volunteers: January 21 (a wall build), March 4, and April 22. [Catholic Coalition](#). To sign up for the Apostles Build on January 21, please go to the link at [Apostles Build](#).

## January 26

### Mental Health Series: Dementia

6:30pm in Founders Rm. Contact [beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org)

## January 28

### Women's Ministry - Yoga and Breakfast

9-11am in Clare Fellowship Hall

## February 11

### Day of Reflection with Steve Kluge

9:00am to 3:00pm. Registration opens in mid January.

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH



*This Weekend*

“How do I Pray and know God's Listening?”

presented by Kathy Sales



10:15AM -11:15AM | FOUNDERS RM | REFRESHMENTS

"Why Faith: what we believe and why we believe it" Next session: January 22nd.

# Exciting Update to one of our Ministries



Our Helen Wright Center Ministry Breakfast Ministry is responding to the Center's needs by shifting to serving dinner on the first Saturday evening of every month from 6-8pm. The Helen Wright Center serves as a shelter for women experiencing homelessness. Come serve the meal or support the ministry through donations of food or supplies. This is a great opportunity for the whole family. Discover and sign up for future opportunities [HERE](#). Please email Angela James at [2angelajames@gmail.com](mailto:2angelajames@gmail.com) with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

## *This Weekend*



### **Knights of Columbus Used Cell Phone Drive**

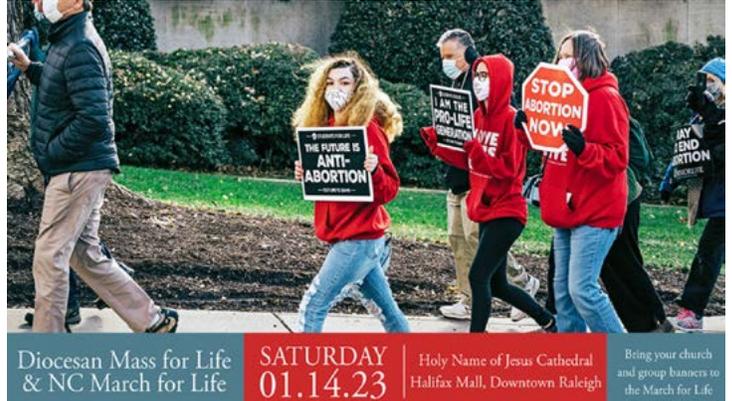
The St. Francis Knights of Columbus Council 9709 will be conducting a used cell phone drive to benefit InterAct of Wake County ([www.interactofwake.org](http://www.interactofwake.org)). InterAct provides support services for victims of domestic violence. The used cell phones we collect are used to call 911 emergency services. All cell phones are required to have this capability with or without a cell phone service provider.

The Knights will have a manned collection table in the Stewardship area of the church after every mass on 1/7 and 1/8.

When donating, please data wipe (reset) your phone before donation. We cannot turn over any phones that still have data on it. If you're not sure how to do this, contact [support@kofc9709.org](mailto:support@kofc9709.org) or leave your email address and phone number with the phone. Also, we are just collecting the phones, accessories such as chargers are not necessary. Thank you from your Knights of Columbus!"

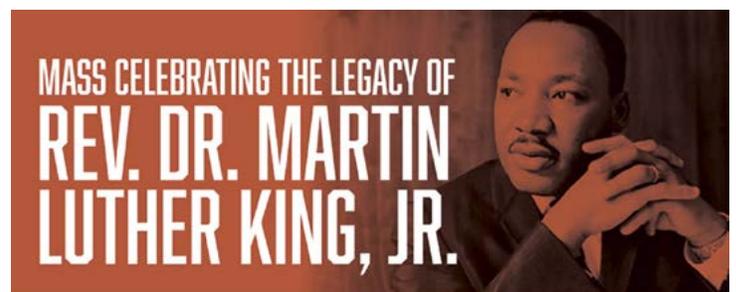
# Want to Pray and March for Life, Justice, and Peace in January?

There are several opportunities next month to join fellow Catholics and people of good will in prayer and public witness for the dignity and sanctity of all human life.



On January 14 at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral, there is a Rosary for Life at 10:30am and a Mass for Life at 11:00am. Afterwards, at the Halifax Mall in downtown Raleigh, starting around 12:30pm, there is a Youth Rally and March for Life. You can find more information about these events at the Diocese of Raleigh website [here](#).

There are also several local groups from the Diocese of Raleigh coordinating bus trips to Washington DC for the annual national March for Life on January 20th. If you are interested in joining fellow Catholics for this event, please contact Trevor Thompson at [trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org) for a list of travel contacts for these groups.



**MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023 | 12:00 PM**

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CATHEDRAL | 715 NAZARETH STREET, RALEIGH, NC 27606

Lastly, there is a Mass celebrating the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday January 16, 2023 at 12:00pm at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. The main celebrant is Bishop Luis Rafael Zarama and the homilist is Rev. Carl Gales, SVD, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The intention of this Mass will be for the promotion of justice for social issues. Please bring disposable diapers, in the original, unopened packaging for the service project benefitting Catholic Charities.



## Yoga & Breakfast

Join the Women's Ministry for a beginners yoga class followed by a guided meditation, food & fellowship.

January 28th from  
9:00am - 11:00am  
in Fellowship Hall

Register in Realm. Cost is \$3 for teacher stipend.  
Please bring a light breakfast item to share.  
Email [morgan.jess@gmail.com](mailto:morgan.jess@gmail.com) for more info.



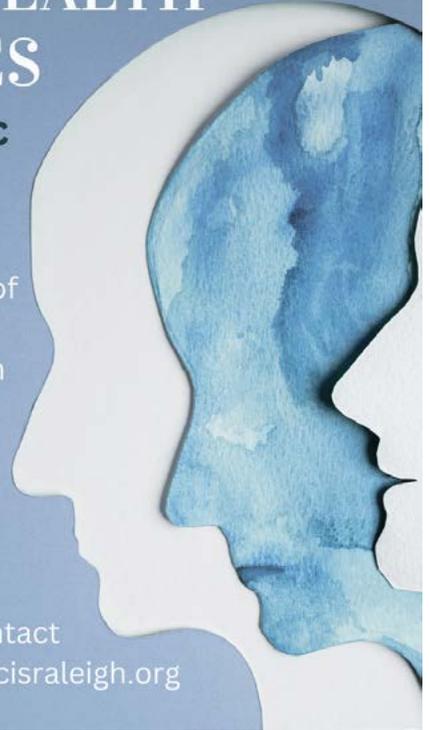
# MENTAL HEALTH SERIES

## January's Topic Dementia

A guest speaker from the Dementia Alliance of North Carolina will provide a presentation and share resources.

**Thursday January 26th at 6:30pm in Founders Room**

Questions contact  
[beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org)



# SAVE THE DATE:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

Join us for a Day of Reflection with Steve Kluge  
Registration will open mid January on Realm.  
Registration will open mid January on Realm.

*"Living Christ with a Franciscan Heart"*



# EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Dawn Smith, Principal

## New Middle School Advisory Program



Middle school can sometimes be hard to navigate. With a change in how classes are arranged, the academic rigor that can be found, developments personally and socially, and new expectations and responsibilities set on students, it's important that they are supported well in order to thrive and flourish. New this year, The Franciscan School has launched its first-ever Middle School Advisory Program. The program aims to equip students with academic, social, and emotional life skills that foster individual well-being and promote a healthy, faith-based community connection.

"As the Principal at TFS," says Dawn Smith, "my role is to support new initiatives and help provide the time, space, and resources to introduce new programs that will strengthen our focus of faith, academics, and service." The Middle School Advisory Program was created from a vision that Smith and Assistant Principal Colette Dziadul had for TFS's middle school students as they both previously worked in schools with advisory programs. Smith was instrumental in building the advisory program at her former middle school twenty years ago. During that time, she served as an advisor for sixth grade students and continues to have relationships with some of her previous students to this day.

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The middle school experience at TFS has been intentionally crafted to ensure that the students are surrounded by excellent academics, caring faculty, instruction in God's word and programs (such as Advisory), all that focus on educating the whole child. Dziadul's experience with a previous school's advisory program has helped her understand the importance of this program at TFS. "The Middle School Advisory Program plays a critical role in fostering the development of the whole child," shared Dziadul. "Advisory engages our students in meaningful and relevant activities designed to develop valuable life skills of teamwork, communication, empathy, and citizenship." Through a variety of lessons and activities within the program, faculty will empower students with life-enhancing themes that will address developmentally-appropriate needs and concerns. Advisory time also allows students to foster relationships with faculty and peers, providing an opportunity to grow together.

Jari Pathenos, middle school teacher and mentor in the advisory program, believes the program is "essential as a supplement to academic studies as we focus on the social emotional well-being of ourselves and others. Kids need to learn how to handle difficult situations and how to problem-solve difficult tasks." Pathenos mentors a small group of 6th

grade students and provides a safe environment for them to express feelings, struggles, hopes, successes, and fears. "Sixth grade is a transition year, and we have focused on social and emotional changes that the kids are experiencing," explains Pathenos. "I am sharing tools and authentic examples to help guide kids to self-advocate, to learn from setbacks, to keep pushing forward with a growth mindset, and to basically take the lead in their own life."

Melissa Walsh, also a middle school teacher at TFS, is an advisory teacher with Rachel Espinoza, the school's 3rd-8th grade Art teacher. "It's nice for the middle schoolers to feel like they have a home base and a go-to teacher to ask questions," says Walsh. "It also allows us to hold middle school-wide enrichment activities such as performances and guest speakers without disrupting our schedules, which we've never had the opportunity to do before." Walsh enjoys working with Espinoza to help make the transition to middle school a little easier for students while also providing the academic support they need.

During the program, students will be engaged in topics such as Digital Citizenship, Service Learning, Fostering a

Continue on next page

Continued from previous page



Respectful Community, Leadership, Self-Advocacy, Growth Mindset, Life Balance, and Personal Choice. Smith shares that even in the first semester of the program's launch, they've received positive feedback from students. Two eighth grade students, Max Tenace and Indi Mareno, shared their sentiments: "Each week we have a new lesson that helps us live and learn as Jesus did," says Tenace. And Mareno shares that "This time is for good team building and learning leadership skills. I wish this had been in place since my sixth grade year."

#### Advisory Program Growth Mindset

As Principal, Smith is committed to continuing this program and helping it grow and develop each semester. "This program is needed because middle school is an exciting and yet complex time for our students as so much is expected of them. A complete education encompasses not only academic discipline, but also expanded awareness of self, social interactions, and the world. A designated advisory time allows teachers to connect with a group of students to provide academic and social-emotional support and to strengthen the community of the school."

We are excited to watch this program grow and our students flourish as they take new steps into middle school and eventually on to high school.

As you explore school options for your child's education next year, I welcome you to become a part of The Franciscan School Community. Join us for our next Virtual Information Session on Wednesday, January 25. 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).

# EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director

## Oh Come Let Us Adore Him



Outside of Fellowship Hall, you can find the preschool's 'collaborative art' wall. With the help of one of our 3-year old parents, Ms. Emily Edwards, the classes work together to each decorate a piece to add to the overall art that will be depicted. In this way, we recognize the uniqueness of each individual class while also honoring the beauty which we can create together.

The current scene was designed to celebrate our Savior's birth and the feast of the Epiphany. Our students learn that the three Wise Men brought special gifts to the Christ Child. Many classes discuss what they might bring to Baby Jesus. While their answers often include typical baby gifts such as toys, diapers, and blankets, we also encourage them to ponder the gifts of kindness which they might give. What can they give from their hearts to help someone else? What gift would you give to honor the love which God showed us through the birth of His Son?

In addition to making collaborative art, several of our classes processed to church this past week to recreate the Wise Men visiting Baby Jesus. Some left wrapped presents with their gift wishes for Him. These simple acts help bring to life many of the lessons that were learned while creating the art scene of the Magi. Let us think about how we can all take lessons like these and put them into action in our daily lives.

May 2023 be filled with countless blessings for not only ourselves, but for all those around us too!

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Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is opening on January 12! Please visit our website at: [preschoolatstfrancis.com](http://preschoolatstfrancis.com) to learn more.

We will also be hosting an Open House for prospective families at 10:30 on January 29. Come join us and see how your child can become part of our wonderful preschool!

# Two upcoming opportunities to get involved with Corral Riding Academy



Just before Christmas, about 20 parishioners gathered virtually to learn about serving as tutors with Corral Riding Academy. CORRAL is a faith-motivated nonprofit that equips adolescent girls in high-risk situations through a long-term, holistic program of equine therapy and education to prepare each girl and her community with skills, resources, and opportunities so that she can gain access to a bright future. It was an inspiring and exciting conversation that you can check out [HERE](#).



It is not too late to become involved with this awesome organization. If you would like to be a tutor at Corral, watch the video linked above then sign up for the January 10th Volunteer Training from 7-8pm.

## Corral Community Work Day

Not sure you can commit to a regular opportunity like this, or interested in helping Corral in another way, then please consider signing up for

Corral's January Community Work Day. This is a great opportunity for the entire family to get your hands dirty and to help this amazing organization. Learn more and sign up by clicking [HERE](#).



## Registration Extended Revelation

by Little Rock Scripture Study

Choose Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning sessions  
Sessions limited to 20 participants

Tuesday Evening: 7:00-8:30 PM - January 24 through March 21, 2023

Wednesday Morning: 10:00-11:30 AM – January 25 through March 22, 2023

Cost: \$15.00 (cost of book) – Pick up books in parish reception area beginning January 20, 2023.

Facilitated by: Barbara Efird, Cindy Cardello and Diane Rosendahl

NOTE: We will not meet on February 23rd or 24th in honor of Ash Wednesday.

<https://litpress.org/Products/6709/Revelation>

Come, break open this ancient text with us and discover its ongoing relevance for us today. Studies conducted virtually via Zoom. A link will be sent to participants prior to the first session. Questions? Contact Janie Hebert, [janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org).



## The Little Things?

It's the first bulletin of January in 2023 which means... Happy New Year to all of you.

A few bulletins ago ([see Striving for a Better Grade? /12-18-2022](#)) I spoke about the importance of helping our children get closer to God and resolutions in the new year.

Now that we are a week or so into January, how are you doing with your resolutions? A study online, found that almost two-thirds of people abandoned their New Year's resolutions within the 1st month. How many resolutions have you broken? How many have you kept?

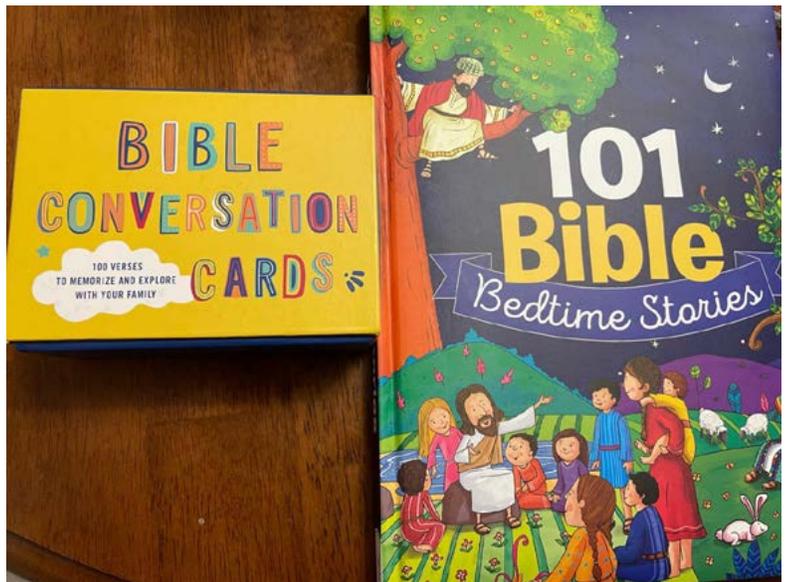
Do any of your resolutions include helping your children get closer to God? As parents, we may think that living out our baptismal vows for our kids includes taking them to church on a weekly basis, enrolling them at our Catholic schools and/or having them attend faith formation. This is good, but is this enough? This is a tough question, one I've grappled with myself.

How are we modeling our baptismal call for our kids? How often do we talk to them about God? How often do we pray with them? Read books? Scripture? Show them living examples of Christ? Do we engage our children in Christ-centered conversation - even about the little things?

Knowing that so many of our young people are leaving the church (some before they are 18), what role do we play? As parents, are we raising fans of Jesus Christ or are we raising disciples of Jesus Christ? - a tough question indeed. Are we convenient cheerleaders or models of the faith we proclaim?

I've broken many resolutions and struggle as a parent myself, but it's never too late. Let's renew our resolution to be better Christ-centered models for our children even with the little things, which have a funny way of turning out to be the big things, and sometimes the most important things of all.

Pax Et Bonum



# St. Francis Peace Pole Dedication



Last Sunday after the 9am Mass, we dedicated our newly installed Peace Pole in front of Clare Hall. We have long had a Peace Pole in this location, but over time this pole and surroundings needed updating. We were excited to gather for a rededication of a new pole and our spruced-up space on Sunday, January 1st, which happens to be the World Day of Peace. Parishioners circled around the peace pole and offered prayers for peace in our hearts, families, and world. Msgr. Clay and a number of youth shared in the sprinkling of holy water as we lifted our prayers for peace to the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Peace Poles are internationally-recognized symbols of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family; each Peace Pole bears the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in different languages on each of its sides. A group of parishioners gather at the Peace Pole after the 9am Mass every Sunday for a short prayer. All are welcome to join us!





### Divorce Care Spring Series

January 24-May 2: A Seminar with Experts During the first 30–40 minutes of the meeting, the Divorce Care group watches a video seminar featuring top experts on divorce and recovery subjects. These videos are produced in an interesting-to-watch television magazine format featuring expert interviews, real-life case studies and on-location video. You will hear experts discuss topics like loneliness, anger, depression, financial changes in divorce, and you will hear how others coped with feelings like these and found recovery and healing. A Support Group with Focus After viewing the video, Divorce Care participants spend time as a support group discussing what was presented in that week’s video seminar and what is going on in the lives of members. Come find healing and restoration when you are facing a very difficult time in your life. <https://www.divorcecare.org/leaderzone/my/groups/158303>



### High School Basketball:

The Parish High School Boy's Basketball league registration is OPEN! This parish league is open to both parishioners and non-parishioners of the community. The boys league is for grades 9-12 For questions contact: [Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org). For more information and registration, please see: <http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/high-school-basketball-leagues-2/>



### The Knights of Columbus will be holding their annual Free Throw Contest

on January 8th from 3:30-5 PM in the Community Center Gymnasium for boys and girls ages 9-14. Age Group winners will be eligible to move on to Regional and State Level contests. We hope to see you there!

Participants: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45A4AF22ABF-CCE9-knights10>



### Caregivers Support Group Info Session

January 26 at 2:00pm in the Padua Room: As a caregiver for my husband, I live my life just trying to make it from Sunday to Sunday. Each day is a new day in which my prayer is for the strength to make it through another day. The purpose of this group is to provide support to caregivers who are struggling to make it “from Sunday to Sunday.” Please join us on January 26th at for an informational meeting. Together we can support each other and practice a little self-care as we care for those we love. For questions or to rsvp contact [beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org).



The St. Francis 50+ Adult Group invites all those 50 years of age or older to join us Wednesday, January 11, 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.

The 50+ Adult Group invites you to our monthly luncheon in Claire Fellowship Hall for “**Potluck Lunch**” on Wednesday, January 18 at 11:30.



We have lots of really cool opportunities in athletics, technologies, arts, and various enrichment areas! Kids can join us for half day or full day. All camps have min and max number of students so camp availability is based on enrollment. Registration and more information will be available late January. For questions contact: [Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org)

# Parish will be Mortgage Free by March!

We are delighted to share with the Parish Community that we are on track to be Mortgage Free by March. Our last payment will be February. As a result, we will be transitioning the Mortgage Sunday giving option, via envelopes and Faith Direct, to becoming the Maintenance Reserve Sunday. As we have shared with you, the cost of maintaining our beautiful campus is increasing as our facilities age. A recent asset and reserve study projected over the next 20 years it will cost \$18 million dollars to maintain the campus.

For those of you who have been making Mortgage Sunday contributions, those envelopes will be replaced by Maintenance Reserve Sunday envelopes in March. We hope that you consider continuing your donations as we shift our focus to Maintenance. If you currently donate toward the Mortgage using Faith Direct, those donations will be transitioned to Maintenance Reserve donation for you. Thank you for your continued support as we reach this significant milestone.



## Upcoming Young Adult Events

What?	When?	Where?
Sunday Socials	2nd & 4th Sundays after 9am Mass	Gathering-space Fireplace
Bible Study	January 25th & following 3 Wednesdays at 7pm	Laverna

**Questions contact**  
[beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:beth.gaudette@stfrancisraleigh.org)

## Employment Opportunities

### Coordinator of High School and Young Adult Formation

We are seeking a passionate, dynamic individual to be a part of our pastoral staff as the Coordinator of High School and Young Adult Formation. In collaboration with the formation team and a large volunteer group, this position oversees a comprehensive formation program serving youth in grades 9 through 12, and leads the efforts to grow our young adult formation into a vibrant ministry. The coordinator will develop and implement programs using contemporary Catholic evangelization and catechetical approaches.

The successful applicant will have a bachelor's degree with strong relational, communication, organizational, and leadership skills. We strongly desire someone with understanding in the fields of evangelization and contemporary approaches to catechesis, as well as experience with youth/young adult ministry.

If you are an active, fully initiated Catholic, who desires to be a part of a truly collaborative and innovative team, please email a cover letter and resume to [Search.Committee@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Search.Committee@stfrancisraleigh.org).



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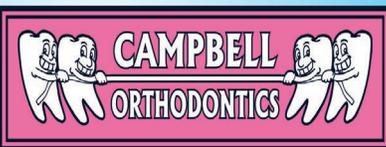
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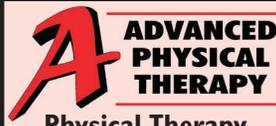
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