



A NEW CHAPTER FOR OUR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS:

Many of you read and commented on the 8-part series I presented last fall about the challenges facing our youth and young adults as well as our efforts to be more effective in responding to those challenges. While there is no magic formula to resolve this ongoing crisis, we are embarking on a new chapter of our community's life in an effort to make a difference.

Beginning April 12, we reorganized a position on our pastoral staff, originally designed to oversee our high school ministry, to now cover youth and young adult ministry. In addition, we raised this position from a coordinator level to a director level in our organizational chart. Elevating this position is intended to demonstrate our commitment to place more resources toward and to give increased status to this ministry.

Last fall, a young adult ministry was inaugurated at St. Francis and has had a small but steadily growing number of young adults become involved with it. Two young adults, Beth Gaudette and Tim Fasano, have been instrumental in developing a program and providing opportunities for our young adults to gather, socialize, pray, and minister to one another and beyond the parish. They have done this as volunteers. Placing this ministry under the direction of a parish pastoral employee is meant to signal that this ministry has the community's wholehearted commitment and support. The new director will act primarily as a consultant to this group and its leaders to help them maintain momentum as they grow this ministry at St. Francis.

Our high school ministry has had its ups and downs over the past few years. The time has come to get this critical group of our community onto a consistently positive trajectory, both in terms of proximate preparation in the 9th grade for Confirmation and a more robust youth ministry overall. We have been blessed to have several adults, who have been and are faithful and committed to this vital part of our community through thick and thin, as volunteers. Without them, I'm not sure we would have any credible ministry to our high school youth today. I am most grateful to them for their dedication and efforts. Having a director take the reins over this ministry and who possesses the vision and skills to produce good fruit bodes well for growing our efforts to provide meaningful ministry to our high school teens.

Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee charged with the responsibility of vetting applicants for this new director, I have hired Tim Hetzel, currently coordinator of liturgy at St. Francis, to become the inaugural director of youth and young adult ministry. Tim is well known to us as he has served in the parish for several years, and he brings a decade's worth of youth ministry experience to this position. He and I are working together over the next four months so we have a ministry in place by the fall for our high school youth. I normally do not become this involved once a new person is hired as one of our pastoral ministers, but our initial efforts are so important to me that I have decided to become personally involved in the planning as a sign that this ministry is one of my highest pastoral priorities. Please keep Tim's work in the coming months in your prayers. He and I both thank you.


Fr. Michael

Bishop's Annual Appeal: [Click on the link](#) to strengthen the vulnerable, our faith, our youth, our vocations and HIS Presence. Thank you for your generosity.

Employment Opportunities

The Franciscan School for the 2023-2024 Academic Year: Language Arts Teacher (Gr.6), Social Studies Teacher (Gr. 6), Teacher (Gr. 2), Teacher (Gr. 4), Instructional Teaching Assistants.

The Church has immediate openings for: Coordinator of Liturgy and Sacraments, Coordinator Middle School Formation, and Director, Justice and Peace. Please see our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

A click away  If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at www.stfrancisraleigh.org.

[Website](#) / [Realm](#) / [St. Francis Serves](#) / [Prayer Request](#) / [Listing of Prayers of the Faithful KBL series](#) / [Bulletins](#) / [Employment Opportunities](#) / [St. Francis TV](#) / [Giving Staff](#) / [Parishioner Business Ads](#) / [Questions? Ask Chris](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) /

April 15/16

Migrant Ministry Donation Drive

After all Masses / Contact Person: Tim Fasano

Email: tim.fasano@stfrancisraleigh.org

Link: <https://stfrancisraleigh.galaxydigital.com/ministries/migrant-ministry-collection-drive/>

April 16 - Always God's Children

3:00PM via ZOOM. Contact

kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org to request link.

April 18 - "THE CHOSEN"

In Padua Room. Every Tuesday thru May 30, 9:45am - 10:30am Contact Person: Tina Morgan

Email: tandmmorgan@earthlink.net

April 19 - RCIA Inquiry Session

Wednesday, April 19, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Contact Jeanne M. Lewin

jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org

Visit www.stfrancisraleigh.org/rcia

April 20 Coffee with Clay in the Assisi Cafe

9:40am - Join Monsignor Clay for coffee and conversation after Daily Mass in the Community Center at the Assisi Cafe.

April 20 - Women's Ministry Caring Casseroles

7:00pm - 9:00pm, in Clare Fellowship Hall

Women's Ministry brings ingredients and gather in Fellowship Hall to prepare casseroles for Feed the Need freezers. A St Francis Serves link will go out to sign up for specific ingredients and supplies. Contact Jessica Kelly, sfawomensministry@gmail.com [Register Here](#)

April 20 - June 8 - Women's Bible Study - Fearless and Free

Thursdays, 7:00pm - 8:30pm in Founders Room.

Sign up on Realm. 8-week Catholic Bible Study on the Book of Ephesians for Women by "[Walking with a Purpose](#)." Contact drclinton76@gmail.com
[Parishioner registration](#) / [Non-parishioner registration](#)

April 22 - Catholic Parish Outreach 11th Annual Pig Pickin & Open House

Register at www.CatholicCharitiesRaleigh.org/cpo-pig-pickin. Contact Kelly Rapp, Program Director, at Kelly.Rappl@ccharitiesdor.org.

April 22 - 21 Day International Climate Action Challenge Starts [\(video link\)](#)

<https://pod.servicespace.org/apply/climate>



Girl's F.I.R.E

[Click here to read story](#)

April 23 - 52 Ways to Care for Creation at Home and at Church

10:00AM in Founders Room | Refreshments will be served. As part of the Adult Formation: Why Faith? Trevor Thompson will speak about 52 ways to Care for Creation at Home and at Church.

Contact: stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org

April 24 - Cristo Rey RT High School OPEN HOUSE

April 24, AND May 11, from 6:00 - 7:00 PM [Click here for details](#)

April 24 - Young Adult Bible Study

7:00 PM in Laverna Contact: young.adults@stfrancisraleigh.org

April 24 - Anything With A Plug Recycling

7:30-10:30AM electronic recycling event on campus - near the dumpsters at the top of the lower parking lot. We cannot accept items before or after these hours. Contact: trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org

April 26 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch 11:30am

If last names starts with, then bring: A thru C = Main Dish / D thru J = Dessert/bread / K thru Z = Salad/Side Dish
Coffee, soda and water will be provided.

Contact Pat Gerney, pgerney@gmail.com, 919-803-8276

April 28-29 - Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference

[Click here for details](#)

April 30 - The Shroud of Turin: Truth or Myth 10:10 AM

In Founders Room | Refreshments will be served. As part of the Adult Formation: Why Faith? Ron Monti and John Orth will speak about the Shroud of Turin: Truth or Myth.

May 6 - Spirits with the Spirit, 6:30pm.

Join the young adult ministry for a happy hour following Saturday 5:30pm Mass on the first Saturday of the month. Individuals in their 20's and 30s are welcome to gather at the Assisi Café for wine, snacks, and fellowship. Questions, contact young.adults@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Email young.adults@stfrancisraleigh.org

May 6 - Women's Ministry Outdoor Mass with Fr Jim and Hike

Saturday, 9:30-11:30 (You are welcome to stay for a hike after Mass as long as you'd like) Location: Annie Wilkerson Nature Preserve Park, 5229 Auls Haven Drive, Raleigh NC 27614. Capped at 40 people. Register on Realm closes May 1st, Free.

Need for Volunteer Weekend Receptionists

All dates, all Masses - Our volunteer schedule is active on St Francis Serves. Contact MaryLou Holloway

Email: mlholly10@gmail.com

May 16 - Young Adult Kickball, 4:30 pm

Join the Young Adult Ministry for a Kickball game on the baseball field on Sunday, April 16, at 4:30pm. Anyone in their 20s and 30s is welcome; feel free to bring a friend! For questions, contact young.adults@stfrancisraleigh.org.

May 23,24 - Adult Bible Study -

The Eucharist In Scripture (Virtual) by Little Rock Bible Study

2 sessions: **Tuesdays PM:** 6:30-8:00pm, May 23-June 27 (or)

Wednesdays AM: 10:00-11:30am May 24-June 28

Biblical theme of meals being shared in relationship with God. Register through Realm-no fee. Purchase books once registered. Barbara Efird, Cindy Cardello & Diane Rosendahl, Co-Facilitators
Contact Person: Janie Hebert at 919-847-8205X237

<https://e.onrealm.org/events> Email: janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org

June 5-July 28 - Youth Volleyball League Registration

Coed League for children of all skill levels - rising 3rd graders through 9th graders. Teams have an hour practice on Mon. or Wed. Games are held on Thurs. nights. Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org
919-847-8205x358 Register <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/athletics/>

Camp Francis

June 12-16, June 19-23, July 10-14, July 17-21, July 24-28

Camp Francis has opportunities in athletics, technologies, arts and enrichment areas! Half-day or full-day camps based on age for the 2023-2024 school year. (Rising K-Rising 12th grade)

Contact Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org 919-847-8205x444

Registration <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>

June 12-16 - Mercy Camp – Middle School and 9th Graders

8:30am-3:00pm. Teens get a hands-on opportunity to perform many Corporal Works of Mercy throughout the community. Contact becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org / Register through [Realm](#)

June 19-23 - St. Francis Inn, 9:00am-5:00pm.

St. Francis Inn, in the inner city of Philadelphia, is a soup kitchen and thrift store for those who find themselves poor, alienated, food insecure and homeless. Youth and chaperones are transformed through the Franciscan spirit of service. Contact Becky Cawley, becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org / Register through [Realm](#)

June 26-30 - Mission Mercy, 9:00am-6:00pm

Teens serve as camp counselors for Pequeños Gigantes at the Hispanic Family Center. The youth return to campus for prayer, spiritual experience, and fun social events. Contact Becky Cawley
Email: becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org / Register through [Realm](#)

Parishioner Owned Businesses Ad Page

Support our local parishioner-owned businesses

To advertise email: diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org

Link: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/parishioner-businesses/>