



Transitions: Fr. Alex will leave for Holy Family Catholic Church in Elizabeth City on Tuesday. We are grateful for his generous service to our community. I am particularly grateful to him for his care for those in need of anointing, especially on Sundays and Mondays when we cover Rex Hospital. If you haven't had an opportunity to leave a personal message for him, you may do so in the books that are on the large table in the gathering area this weekend. His new address is: 1453 North Road Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909. May God bless him as he begins a new chapter of ministry in the diocese.

Fr. James Singarayar, HGN, has arrived and may be visible at several of our weekend and daily Masses. Please welcome him should you see him. We will have more information about him to share with you in the near future.

As we send Fr. Alex forth on Tuesday and welcome Fr. James as our new parochial vicar, the transition has caused some parishioners to feel a bit unsettled about the recurring priest turnover at St. Francis. I wish to assure you there is nothing wrong with our community in relation to these transitions. A major factor contributing to this dynamic is a declining number of available priests, something made more dramatic in a diocese that is growing. Bishop Luis has responsibility to staff every parish of the diocese with a priest, be it a diocesan or religious order priest. We have barely enough priests to cover all our parishes so he has to move priests, especially parochial vicars, in order to keep all parishes staffed. This is our new normal. Fr. Jairo was sent here to be prepared to become a pastor and Fr. Alex was sent here to transition back to being a pastor. Both were determined ready to become pastors when openings needed to be filled, hence their transfers.

Some people also seem unclear about Fr. Jim's presence in the parish now that the Franciscans have given the parish back to the diocese. Fr. Jim was a full-time parochial vicar when he came in 2017 but eventually was hired for a part-time assignment as diocesan director of worship in 2018, a position he applied for in light of his doctorate in sacramental theology, while remaining parochial vicar. When the Franciscans withdrew in 2020, Fr. Jim's part-time ministry was expanded to a full-time one, something needed for a diocese our size. Fr. Jim's status in the parish is priest-in-residence. He resides in the rectory and participates in parish life when his schedule permits. He also is involved with ministry with his Franciscan province that takes him away from the parish. The combination of all this leaves him a bit limited in how much he is able to serve the parish. We are always grateful when he is able to provide priestly ministry at St. Francis, but it will not be regular in light of his other commitments.


This serves as a reminder that we need to pray for more men to step forward to serve as priests, especially for our diocese and from our diocese and parish.

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.

BAA totals for our Parish as of Thursday, June 15, as reported by the Diocese:

	2023 Campaign (6/15/23)		2022 Campaign (6/30/22)	
Goal:	\$473,565		\$509,088	
Pledge Total:	\$463,189	97.8%	\$459,567	90.3%
Received Total:	\$429,444	90.7%	\$435,917	85.6%
Participating Families:	1109	20.2%	1100	21.6%
Total Families:	5,500		5,100	
To-Go:	\$10,376			

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](#) / [Ask Chris](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) /

June 24/25 Franciscan Garden Campaign

[Click here](#) for a special video message from Fr. Michael about our Franciscan Garden. ([Click here to donate](#))



June 24, 26, 27 - TFS Parking Lot Closed

The TFS parking lot will be closed and inaccessible on Saturdays, June 24, and on Monday June 26 and Tuesday, June 27.

June 26-30 - Mission Mercy, High School Youth Summer Service Opportunity 9:00am-6:00pm

High School Youth are invited to a week-long mission experience, serving families in need right here in Raleigh. Youth will serve as camp counselors for this camp, as well as have time for unpacking their experience, fellowship with other youth, and worship opportunities after the camp concludes for the day. Contact Tim Hetzel: tim.hetzel@stfrancisraleigh.org. Register through [Realm](#).

Camp Francis

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](#)



Resurgence Through Evangelization

When discussing evangelization, Monsignor Michael Clay notes that in 1970, "Alvin Toffler's book, Future Shock, described why and how our world was rapidly changing and what we could expect the future to look like. He predicted Catholicism and Evangelicalism would be the two largest denominations in the U.S. today. This is the case. However, the evangelical tradition may outpace Catholicism in the U.S. if current trends continue." [Read more](#)



GROWING IN HOLINESS
OFFERING HOPE
EXTENDING HOSPITALITY



[Click here for a walkthrough on how to use our new service site, St. Francis Serves.](#)
[Click here for mobile training on St Francis Serves](#)
Contact Tim Fasano at dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.

THE FRANCISCAN GARDEN

GOAL \$120,000

To donate to the completion of our Franciscan Garden, please visit www.stfrancisraleigh.org
(Click here to donate)



July 19 - RCIA Inquiry Session, Founders Room, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Interested in Exploring a Possible Call to be a Catholic?
Consider Joining our Inquiry Sessions held in Anthony Hall Founders Room. Begin your faith journey in our community.
Contact Jeanne M. Lewin, jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org
Link: www.stfrancisraleigh.org/rcia

2023-2024 Cross Step (Preschool-Aged Faith Formation)

Registration Open in Realm through September 10
Cross Step provides weekly liturgical lessons during the 9:00am Mass for preschool-aged children, ages one (and walking) through age five, who are not enrolled in kindergarten. [More information](#)
Contact andrea.javier@stfrancisraleigh.org [Registration Link](#)

July 27-30 Recovering Our Soul Connections

A retreat for women who have been sexually abused.
Contact: soulconnection366@gmail.com

See what your generosity is doing at Oak City Cares

Discover the impact your St. Francis community is having at Oak City Cares: "Your engagement with the guests gives us all the ability to see each other as humans, each of us walking our own path."
[More information](#) Contact tim.fasano@stfrancisraleigh.org, 919-847-8205 [Click here to get involved.](#)

October 28 - The Heart of Matter: Encountering Christ in all Creation | 2023 Convocation, 8:30am

Save the Date! Join us on Saturday, October 28, 2023 for the 3rd annual Franciscan Spirit and Life Convocation "The Heart of Matter: Encountering Christ in all Creation". Sister Ilia Delio will be joining us as our keynote speaker for the day. Registration will open on Realm in September. Contact Kathy Sales, kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities

Preschool Lead Teacher (2yo), Coordinator of Liturgy and Sacraments, Coordinator of Middle School Formation, Director of Pastoral Care. Substitute Teachers for the 23-24 school year.
See our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

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/>

If you can't access information through the hyperlink because you do not use the internet, please call the office to get information. (919) 847-8205