

August 6, 2023 Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord



The Ministry Fair Is Coming! Last Sunday I preached on the last set of “kingdom” parables in Matthew’s Gospel we have been hearing over the past three weeks. I noted that there are two understandings of this “kingdom,” the perfect one in heaven and the imperfect one on earth that is meant to be reflective of the perfect one. As disciples, followers of the Lord, we are called to reflect the Kingdom of God by our words and deeds as he did. Our community has a large footprint when it comes to reflecting the values of this kingdom with over 100 ministries. These ministries bring happiness to others, ease the sufferings of others, work for reconciliation and healing in relationships, promote justice, help us worship in a way that connects us to God and to those worshiping with us so we may go forth fortified to serve others. These ministries form our young people and adults.

I am amazed at all we do to be the face, voices, and hands of the Lord’s kingdom on earth. It has been a few years since we offered an organized way for our ministries to invite additional people to join us in serving others. We are always in need of more people to help our mission, especially those who have joined us more recently.

After all Masses the weekend of August 26-27, we will host a Ministry Fair in Fellowship Hall. Many of our ministry leaders will be present to tell you about what they do in the name of the Lord and our community and how you might be able to assist them. Mark this event on your calendars and plan to stop by for a visit. We will have activities for our youngest members while our older children, youth, and adults explore how the Lord may be inviting you to serve him and your brothers and sisters in a variety of ways, some episodically, others more regularly. I look forward to seeing you there.

2023 B.A.A. Goal Met! I am happy to inform you that we reached our B.A.A. goal for this year in late July, the earliest anyone can remember reaching the goal. I cannot express my gratitude enough to the 1145 households who supported the appeal which helps so many important ministries throughout the diocese. Well done!!

Fr. Michael

Bishop’s Annual Appeal: [Click on the link](#) Thank you for your generosity.

BAA totals for our Parish as of Thursday, August 2, as reported by the Diocese:

	2023 Campaign (8/2/23)	2022 Campaign (6/30/22)
Goal:	\$473,565	\$509,088
Pledge Total:	\$480,557 101.5%	\$459,567 90.3%
Received Total:	\$463,272 97.8%	\$435,917 85.6%
Participating Families:	1145 20.8%	1100 21.6%
Total Families:	5,500	5,100

To date we have exceeded our goal by \$6,992



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Reception to Follow
Caretaker Center
60 Leves Ave.
Pumpkin Lakes, NJ 07942



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

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The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi - 11401 Leesville Rd - NC 27613 - Tel: 919-847-8205

THE FRANCISCAN GARDEN



August 5/6 Franciscan Garden Campaign

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

[\(Click here to donate\)](#)



August 5/6 Curbside Care Ministry Care Packages

Our Curbside Care Ministry provides Care packages you can keep in your car to hand out when needed. Pickup from the Stewardship Center the first full weekend each month. Donate supplies to this ministry at St. Francis serves. Contact Tim Fasano, tim.fasano@stfrancisraleigh.org.

August 7 - Middle School Monday Night

At The Movies All middle school youth are invited to join us in Fellowship on Monday, Aug. 7th for Disney’s Mulan and popcorn! Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend and serve as chaperones or just to share fun and fellowship! [Register here via Realm](#). Contact jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org.

August 11 - SFA Women’s Ministry’s Durham Rescue Mission Back to School Service Event,

9:45am, The SFA Women’s Ministry invites you to join them at Durham Rescue Mission’s Back To School Event. We’ll be handing out backpacks and/or serving lunch from 9:45am-1:00pm. Bring a lunch if you’d like to join us on SFA’s campus after we return.

[Parishioner Registration.](#)

[Non-Parishioner Registration.](#)

Contact Anne Martin: ajmartin929@gmail.com.



At St. Francis, we all have heard of and perhaps participated in the listening sessions associated with the upcoming Synod in the Church. The ‘Synod on Synodality’ is a three-year process of listening and dialogue that officially began with a solemn opening in Rome on October 9-10, 2021, focused on getting the entire Church, both laity and clergy, into active conversation and discernment as a way of life...

[Read more](#)

August 12 - DivorceCare Fall Series, 6:00pm

You don't need to go through the pain of separation or divorce alone. Join the DivorceCare group where you'll find caring people who understand the issues you face and practical counsel and stress management. The group meets online weekly to view videos with experts on topics with group discussion. Contact Bill Morgan. Email dejanuts@yahoo.com. [Click here for more information.](#)

August 13 - Always God's Children - Monthly Group, 3:30-5:00pm

For information and location, please contact Kathy Sales at kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org.

August 14 - Middle School Cornhole & Pizza Extravaganza

6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. All Middle School Youth & families are invited to attend. Parent chaperones are needed and welcome to join in the fun! Additional games will be available. [Register through Realm here.](#) Contact Janie Hebert for more information janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org, or Jeanne Lewin, jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org.

August 16 - Support our Ronald McDonald House Ministry (Third Wednesday of every month)

Each month when St. Francis arrives at the "House," we are told of the excitement around our cooking. This never gets old! Being able to give one guest a moment to rest from their day's weariness is as much a gift to us as it is to them. [Register here.](#)
Contact michelle.harris95@gmail.com

August 23 - RCIA Inquiry Session, Founders Rm., 6:30pm-8:30pm

Interested in exploring a possible call to be a Catholic or seeking adult Confirmation? Consider joining our no-obligation Inquiry Sessions held in Anthony Hall Founders Room, located down the hall from the church restrooms. For more information contact Jeanne Lewin, jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org
Link: www.stfrancisraleigh.org/rcia

August 26/27 - Parish Ministry Fair

Embark on a journey of discovery at our Parish-wide Ministry Fair. Learn about the countless opportunities to get involved in our community and how you are being called to share your gifts. This will take place in Clare Hall after every Mass the weekend of August 26/27. Learn more here! Contact JaVon Hansknecht, Javon.hansknecht@stfrancisraleigh.org. [Click here for more information.](#)

Employment Opportunities

TFS Administrative Assistant/Front Office (full time), 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

August 27 - Is God Calling You to Join the RCIA Team? 10:20am

We are seeking more parishioners to assist with our [RCIA ministry](#). We are hosting a no-obligations information session on Sunday, August 27 immediately following the 9:00am Mass in Founders, facilitated by Msgr. Clay and the RCIA Team. Questions? Contact Jeanne Lewin at jeanne.lewin@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 11 - "Creation at the Crossroads"

Weekly Book Webinar Every Monday, 7:00pm, 9/11/23 until 11/27/23. Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral's Laudato Si' Circle and NCCCCH is offering a Monday night webinar series for the entire diocese covering the book, "[Creation at the Crossroads](#)", by Monsignor Edward Ciuba, responding together to the cries of the earth and the poor. Parishioners must purchase book themselves. Register now by emailing socialconcern@hnojnc.org.

Sep 19-Oct 31 & Sep 20-Nov 1 - Adult Bible Study Virtual - Isaiah Part 1 - Tue PM or Wed AM Sessions

Registration is open on Realm for adult bible studies on either Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. The Book of Isaiah gives witness to the story of God's judgment against Israel and an enduring promise of divine redemption. No cost to register-purchase book from Liturgical Press or Amazon. Facilitators: Barbara Efirid, Cindy Cardello & Diane Rosendahl. Contact janie.hebert@stfrancisraleigh.org.
[Register for Tuesdays](#) / [Register for Wednesdays](#)

Pre-K Aged Faith Formation (CROSS STEP) Registration Open for 2023-2024

Cross Step (Preschool-Aged Faith Formation) Registration Open in Realm through September 10. Cross Step is a ten-month program that provides weekly liturgical lessons during the 9:00 am Mass for children, ages one (and walking) through age five, who are not enrolled in kindergarten. [Register here.](#) [Click here for more information.](#)

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.

Sharing graces from our Migrant Ministry

Migrant Ministry celebrated our first fiesta of the summer! Check out our [ministry blog](#) for more pictures, reflections, and to learn about how you can continue to support this amazing ministry!
Contact MaryLou Holloway, mlholly10@gmail.com

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