

September 24, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Charisms: The Gifts That Keep on Giving: I once assigned a book to a course I taught seminarians on pastoral theology that contained many excellent insights (*Introducing the Practice of Ministry* by Kathleen Cahalan). A student asked a probing question one day about the meaning of the word “charism” which appeared as a major topic in one chapter of the book. I found myself floundering in my response, which led me to some research. What I discovered has had a significant impact on my understanding of baptism, life, and ministry.

Charisms are spiritual gifts given to everyone in baptism. These gifts are special abilities given to us by the Holy Spirit that enable us to be channels of God's love and redeeming presence in the world. Charisms are supernaturally empowering, enabling the recipient of the charism to have an effectiveness that surpasses one's natural, human abilities. There are many varieties of gifts and no one receives them all. They usually begin to manifest themselves as one emerges into adulthood but glimmers of them can sometimes be seen earlier in life. Everyone without exception receives charisms at baptism.

What distinguishes charisms from talents is that charisms are always for the benefit of others and not ourselves. They are not inherited from parents but given to us by the Holy Spirit. They wither if used for purposes that are not of God. Charisms require personal awareness, discernment, and acceptance if they are to develop and require communal recognition and support, especially in regard to formation and education in both knowledge and ability.

We have been running a program for a few years to help parishioners discover their charisms and discern how God may be calling them to develop and use them. This program is named, “Called and Gifted.” Over 200 parishioners have participated in this program and universally tell us that it has helped them tremendously in understanding **that** God has gifted them, **how** God has gifted them, and **where** those gifts may be placed at the service of others in a way that is rewarding to the recipients of the gifts and fulfilling to those who share them.

Our next program will be offered in October and I encourage you to consider attending. It runs over two days, Thursday evening, October 12, 6:00-8:30pm, and continues on Saturday, October 14, 9:00-4:00pm. There is no cost to participate. You may register by clicking the bulletin announcement hyperlink or calling Chris at the office. Registration closes on Friday, September 29.

-Fr. Michael

[Click here to watch Vince Kavanagh's amazing testimony.](#)

2022-2023 Annual Financial Report

[Click here to view a copy of the 2022-2023 Annual Financial Report](#)

St. Francis TV Episode 33 - Ministry Fair Recap


[Click here to view Episode 33](#)

Season of Creation. I pledge to pray, live, and advocate Laudato Si”

“God created the world. We have the responsibility to care for it.” Laudato Si –2015
Do your part! Decide on a NEW habit. Write the number on a leaf. Hang your leaf on the tree in the stewardship center. Contact Pam James, sfcreation@gmail.com.

FRAUD ALERT:

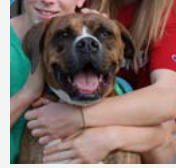
SFA employees, including our priests, only communicate with parishioners using our stfrancisraleigh.org domain. If you see anything other than this, please delete the email.

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](#) / [Feed the Need Staff](#) / [Parishioner Business Ads](#) / [Ask Chris](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) /

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

Mark Your Calendars



September 30 Blessing of the Animals

10am at the community center.



October 1 - FrancisFest 2023,

12:40pm. Our annual parish wide celebration of our patron Saint. A day of fun with Live Music and Entertainment, Game Truck, Crafts/Games, Inflatable Zone, Food Truck Rodeo,

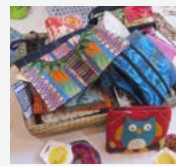
and Franciscan Tasting Room (Local & regional beers and wine). Sign up for one of our many volunteer Slots! Purchase Adult and Youth Wristbands! Visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/francisfest/> Contact Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org



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

8:30am. 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 Ilija Delio will be joining us as our keynote speaker for the day. Registration is open in Realm. **We have less than 30 seats left.** Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.



November 11/12 - Fair Trade Market

Mark your calendar for our annual Fair Trade and Alternative Gifts Market taking place November 10-12 at St. Francis. Check out our event

page to learn more about our vendors and to [discover how you can get involved!](#) Contact Javon.hansknecht@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Educated in Faith

At St. Francis of Assisi, the primary focus of formation is the education of families in the Catholic faith and the development of faithful followers of Jesus Christ. Two keystones of these faith formation programs are the St. Francis of Assisi Preschool and The Franciscan School (TFS), the Kindergarten through 8th grade school on our campus. Both schools just kicked off the new school year, and look forward to another...

[Read more](#)

Volunteer Spotlight: [Codi Southerland](#)

Get Involved, Make a Difference.

[Click here for a walkthrough on how to use our website for volunteer ministry and service.](#) St. Francis Serves.

[Click here for mobile training](#) on St Francis Serves. Contact Dina DaRe at dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Sep 20-Oct 25: Fall Parent Child Classes

Anyone with little ones birth-5 years who are interested in some fun community building experiences and making new friends. Join us for Making Music Praying Twice classes and/or Sign Language at the Community Center. [Click here for info](#). Contact Jess Kelly, info@signsoflearning.com

Sep 23/24 Franciscan Garden Campaign [Click here](#) for a special video message from Fr. Michael about our Franciscan Garden. [\(Click here to donate\)](#)

Sep 23/24 Catholic Parish Outreach Food Drive Bring donated items (no glass please!) to the CPO truck on these weekends before or after Mass. Note collections end at 6pm on Saturday and Sunday. See the following links for a list of needed items and volunteer opportunities for helping with donation collection: [Donation collection](#) (Sept. 23 and 24).

Sep 24 - Why Faith? Facts & Myths about Annulment

Why Faith? Adult formation on Sunday, Sept 24, 10:15am in Founders. Join Vikki Newell's talk on Facts and Myths about Annulment. Refreshments will be served. Contact stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Sep 24 - Family Life Formation | The Domestic Church: Living God's Plan as a Family Family Life Formation begins on Sunday, Sept 24, 10:15 am in Fellowship Hall. Join Gladys Whitehouse's talk on The Domestic Church: Living God's Plan as a Family. Refreshments will be served. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Sep 26-Nov 21: Season 2 of "THE CHOSEN" at St. Francis of Assisi Every Tuesday 9:45am in the Padua Rm. Angel Studios-THE CHOSEN is the first ever multi-season series about the life of Christ. Contact Tina Morgan, tandmmorgan@earthlink.net.

Sep 27 - 50+ Adult Group September Potluck Lunch in Clare Fellowship Hall. If last names starts with, then bring: A thru C = Salad/Side Dish, D thru L = Main Dish, M thru Z = Dessert/bread. Coffee, soda and water will be provided. Contact Pat Gerney, pgerney@gmail.com

October 3 - Late Registration Ends for Nov-Feb Youth Basketball League. Join us for the 33rd season of the St. Francis Youth Basketball League. This program is open to girls and boys grades 1 thru 8, in 6 different divisions. Contact Mary Arleth, Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org, 919-847-8205x358.

October 6 - High School Priesthood Discernment Group: High School Juniors and Seniors who might be thinking about a possible call to the priesthood are invited to a no-commitment discernment meeting in the Raleigh area. Please [Click here](#) for information. .

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/>

October 7 - Saturday Prayer Service and Mass Join us for the First Saturday Rosary Prayer Service by Ignited By Truth. We will begin with Mass in the Chapel at 9am. The prayer service will include the Rosary, The Divine Mercy chaplet and other prayers and last 90 minutes. Mass in Chapel at 9am, Rosary at 10am. Contact, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

October 12 and 14 - Called & Gifted Spiritual Gifts Discernment

Oct 12, 6:30-8:30pm and Oct 14, 9am-4pm [Register](#) Discern the presence of charisms in your life. Charisms are abilities given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to be God's goodness for people. Contact chris.damico@stfrancisraleigh.org, 919-870-8205X222.

October 13 - Volunteer at the State Fair Peace Booth, 9:00am

The Peace Booth at the NC State Fair needs you! Volunteers needed to run three 2-hour shifts from 9am-3pm, sharing faith statements on peace and more! Individuals, families & groups allowed. Volunteers will receive a free entry-ticket to the State Fair! [Register](#). Contact JaVon Hansknecht, javon.hansknecht@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Oct 14 - Women's Ministry Nature Immersion and Hike, 9:00am

Join Women's Ministry for a nature immersion experience, also known as an "awe walk," where we will connect with God through nature and one another. Participants are welcome to stay after for a hike and fellowship. Register in Realm. Contact sfawomensministry@gmail.com for more information. Contact Jess Kelly sfawomensministry@gmail.com [Parishioner registration](#) / [Non-parishioner registration](#)

10/15, 10/22, 11/5, 11/12 : Fall Youth Soccer Co-ed Sunday Skills Clinic

Join us for a Sunday Co-ed Soccer Skills Clinic at St. Francis of Assisi offered by Coerver Premier for grades Kindergarten to 5th grade. Group 1: Kindergarten 2nd grade 1pm-2pm
Group 2: 3rd to 5th grade 2:05pm-3:05pm Contact Mary Arleth, Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org / [Registration](#)

October 16-20: St. Francis Inn Join our October 16-20 trip to St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia for a mission of solidarity, hospitality, and compassion to the poor and hungry of Philadelphia. No cost for attending this trip. Contact John Budway, budwayjj@bellsouth.net, (305) 205-5104. [Information](#)

Planned Giving Seminar Information

If you missed either of the Estate Planning Seminars, please see links for more information.

<http://www.foundationfor.org>

<https://www.foundationdor.org/professional-advisors>

<https://www.foundationdor.org/publications>

Employment Opportunities: Coordinator of Justice and Peace, Director of Formation, Administrative Assistant for Formation, Coordinator of Middle School Formation, Director of Pastoral Care, Spanish Teacher (Gr. 5/6),
See our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org