

November 26, 2023

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES: As we move into the Advent season next weekend, a time to prepare ourselves spiritually for the upcoming Christmas season celebrations, one way of preparing is celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament is called “the sacrament of honesty” and is a great way to clear out the things that hold us back from being the person God has called us to be.

We partner with St. Luke’s in holding combined services in Advent. We will have several priests present at each and the service lasts approximately one hour. The services dates/times are:

At St. Francis: Wednesday, December 6, 7:00pm
At St. Luke: Tuesday, December 19, 11:00am

There are other Penance Services available in our deanery if these dates/times do not work for you. Please consult the bulletin or call the office to find out the other dates/times/locations. We also celebrate this sacrament each Saturday afternoon between 4:00-5:00pm in the church.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SEASONS CALENDAR: We have organized our liturgical schedule for the seasons of Advent and Christmas and placed them in our bulletin and on our website for your viewing. Please check the calendar regularly so you are aware of the various liturgical celebrations we will have through early 2024.

-Fr. Michael

Thanksgiving Week Hours

Through Sunday, 11/26

Clare Hall will be closed this weekend. All entrances will be closed and there will be no donation drop-offs or pick-ups.

Saturday, 11/25 and Sunday, 11/26

Regular Reconciliation and Mass schedule. All other buildings will be closed.

*EMs to the homebound may pick up the Holy Eucharist from the Church between 7:30 -11:30am each day and after 2:00pm on Saturday.

Dec 3 - Celebrating 800 years of Greccio, the first live Nativity scene

Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall after 9:00am Mass as Fr. Jim Sabak explains the history and significance of the first live Nativity scene (creche) started by St. Francis 800 years ago in Greccio, Italy. This presentation is part of the “Why Faith” adult and family formation series. Coffee and donuts will be served. No registration required. Contact Kathy Sales, kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Dec 7 - Women’s Ministry December Cookie Exchange and Social

6:30pm. Celebrate the spirit of the season at the Women’s Ministry Cookie Exchange and Social on 12/7, 6:30-8:30pm. Exchanging cookies is optional! Bring the number of cookies that you’d like to go home with (split into bags of 6). We’ll be collecting diapers for the January service opportunity. Register via Realm. Contact Jackie Schroeder, schroederjackie@gmail.com [Parishioner Registration](#) / [Non-Parishioner](#)



St. Francis TV Episode 35 - Advent 2023

Jim Wahl talks about the many celebrations happening at St. Francis during this Advent season. [Click here to watch.](#)



[Advent Giving Tree](#)
[Click to watch](#)


Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive - Thank you so much for all the wonderful donations made to support the OLR food drive last weekend whether it be food donations or financial donations. We collected \$4600+ and well over 8,000 pounds of food. Their volunteers were so appreciative as they unloaded the full truck!

Black Catholic History Month is celebrated every November, highlighting the contributions of Black Catholics in society throughout history. This year, may we reflect on six Black historical figures on the road to sainthood! [View their stories here](#) and join in prayer for their canonization as Catholic saints.

Become a part of the TFS School Community: As you explore school options for your child’s education next year, we welcome you to become a part of The Franciscan School. More information regarding our school and the admissions timeline can be found on our website at www.franciscanschool.org/ or contact Principal Dawn Smith at dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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.

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Continuing Education: Adult Formation

As Catholics, formation in the faith is not just for the ‘pre-confirmation’ crowd of children, those being formed at home, in Catholic schools, in faith/youth formation, and adults in RCIA. Our faith is a continual process of building understanding and deepening those beliefs. Monsignor Clay points out...

[Read more](#)

Volunteer Spotlight: [Lauren Berry](#)

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Advent begins on Sunday, December 3, 2023

Reconciliation Service
Wednesday, December 6 at 7pm at St. Francis
Tuesday, December 19th at 11am at St. Luke's

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday, December 8th at 9 am (with TFS), 11:45 am, & 7 pm

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Monday, December 11th at 9:00 pm *Misa en Español* | Chapel

Living Stations of the Creche | Celebrating 800 years of the Nativity in Greccio
Friday, December 15th at 6:30pm | Begin outside of Chapel

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24th at 7:15am and 9am

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULES

The Season of Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve
4 pm Mass in Church (also Live-Streamed)
4 pm Mass in Gym
4 pm Mass in Fellowship Hall
10 pm Mass in Church (also Live-Streamed)

Monday, December 25th Christmas Day
9 am and 11:45 am Mass in Church

No Daily Masses for December 26 and 27

Sunday, December 31st Feast of the Holy Family
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Monday, January 1st at 9am in Chapel
NOT a Holy Day of Obligation

[Click to enlarge](#)

ADVENT 2023 PENANCE SERVICES
RALEIGH DEANERY

DECEMBER 04: ST. EUGENE (WENDELL) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 05: ST. BERNADETTE (FUQUAY-VARINA) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 06: ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA (WAKE FOREST) AT 10AM

DECEMBER 06: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (RALEIGH) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 07: ST. BERNADETTE (FUQUAY-VARINA) AT 11AM

DECEMBER 07: ST. ANDREW (APEX) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 13: OUR LADY OF LOURDES (RALEIGH) AT 11AM

DECEMBER 13: ST. MICHAEL (CARY) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 15: ST. MICHAEL (CARY) AT 11AM

DECEMBER 18: HOLY ROSARY (LOUISBURG) AT 6:30PM

DECEMBER 19: ST. LUKE (RALEIGH) AT 11AM

DECEMBER 19: HOLY NAME OF JESUS CATHEDRAL (RALEIGH) AT 7PM

DECEMBER 20: ST. RAPHAEL (RALEIGH) AT 7PM



Nov 18-Dec 10: Advent Giving Trees

Share the spirit of the Christmas season with families in need by supporting the St. Francis of Assisi Advent Giving Tree. Our primary recipients are organizations in the community that work directly with people in need. There are 2 ways you can support the Advent Giving Tree.

1) Take a paper ornament from the trees located in the Community Center and Stewardship Center and follow the instructions on the ornament for when to return the gift.

Return gift by the date on the tag to: Community Center Lobby: Monday-Friday from 8am-2:30pm starting November 20-December 10 OR In the Stewardship Center: Before or after Mass on the weekends and during the week from November 20-December 10.

Community organizations whose families are included on our tree this year include Catholic Parish Outreach, Hispanic Family Center, Duke Children's Hospital, Emily K Center, Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Passage Home, St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia. Parish ministries that benefit include Prayer Shawl, Feed the Need, St. Francis Brown Bag Ministry, and Oak City Cares.

2) Make a Financial donation thru Faith Direct.

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NC674/40890>

The following organizations will be beneficiaries of our financial donations this year: Helen Wright Center, Ronald McDonald House in Durham, Helene Foundation, St. Vincent de Paul Ministry.

Contact Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Through Dec 12: DivorceCare Fall Series, 6:00pm. Join the DivorceCare group where you'll find caring people who understand and provide practical counsel. [Register here](#). Meets online weekly for group discussion and topical videos with experts. Contact Bill Morgan, dejanuts@yahoo.com.

December 15 - Living Stations of the Creche, 6:30pm. Come experience the living Stations of the Creche, Friday, December 15, 2023 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Celebrating the 800th year of St. Francis' living nativity of Jesus' birth. Contact James Wahl, [Click here for video](#). We are in need of signups for each of the stations. [Click here to sign up](#). Contact jim.wahl@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Feed the Need - Our Feed the Need ministry provides temporary meal assistance to members of our community who are facing life transitions including job loss, new baby, grief, hospitalizations, illness etc. If you (or someone you know) would benefit from meals made with love during a life transition, please [click here](#) to complete the form, or email feedtheneedsfa@gmail.com and a ministry member will be in touch.

Stephen Ministry - The upcoming holidays can be filled with stress and anxiety. Stephen Ministers offer prayerful and emotional support by listening with their ears and hearts to your concerns. Email stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org or call 919-847-8205 x234 and leave a message. Contact Kathy Sales, kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities:
Director of Formation, Director of Engagement and Development, Campus Director of Safety and Security, Director of Liturgy/Sacraments. 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