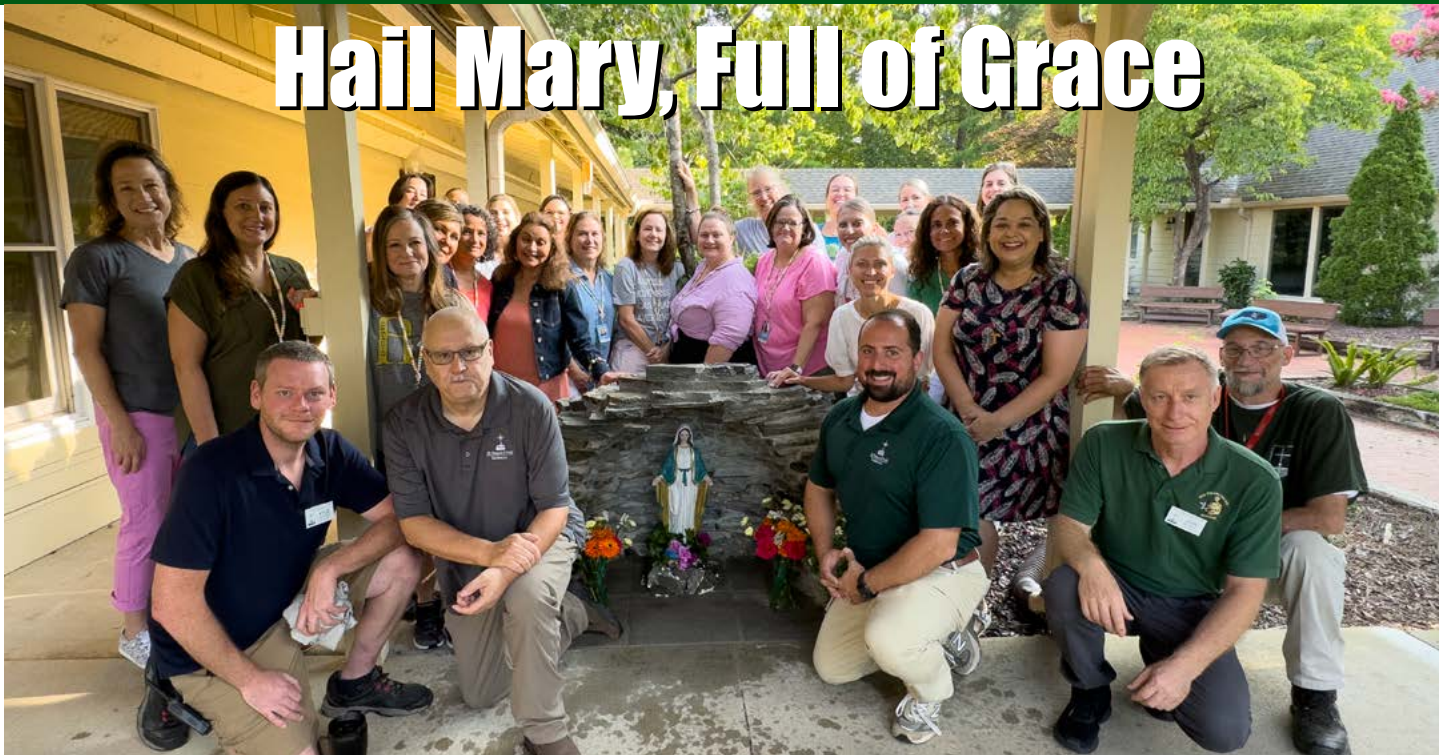
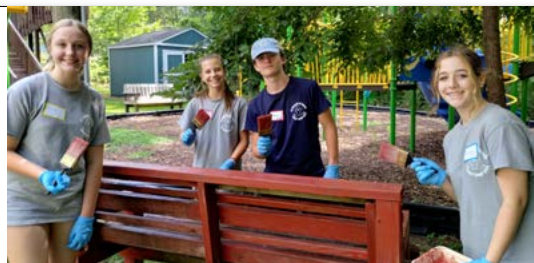


Hail Mary, Full of Grace



On Thursday we celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at our first Mass of the school season with our TFS and preschool students. We also dedicated the new grotto built by our own SFA maintenance staff which serves as a beautiful stop on the way to preschool for all of our parish and preschoolers to enjoy. Fr. Jim did the blessing and allowed each of the preschool teachers to take a turn sprinkling the statue of Mary with holy water.



The Youth Advisory Council, Engaging the Future
St. Francis of Assisi Parish has many councils that serve as resources and advisors to the parish leadership. They exist to assist our Pastor, the TFS Principal, the Preschool Director, and the Justice and Peace Director with short and long-term policies and concerns of the Parish, the Franciscan School, and the Preschool. These consultative bodies [More...](#)

[Volunteer Spotlight: Mae Villanueva](#)



Welcome
**FATHER
CHRIS**

.....

Join us as we welcome Fr. Chris to our community on Saturday, August 17 at 6:30pm and Sunday, August 18 at 10am. Please sign up to bring food on St. Francis Serves.



Scan to Bring Food!

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](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) / [All Ministries](#)



GETCONNECTED
Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities

August 17 and 18 Welcome Fr. Chris Reception

Join us as we welcome. See pg 1.

August 17 and 18 Tech Ministry Training

We need at least fifteen people to step forward and share their technical skills and gifts. Training on our new sound and video equipment will be before and during all Masses on 8/17 and 8/18. Contact Jim Wahl at jim.wahl@stfrancisraleigh.org for more information.

August 18 - CPO Children's Clothing Collection

CPO is in need of children's clothing. We accept size infant through 5. Boys and girls size 3 through 5 are in short supply. Clothes can be left in CPO bins in Clare Hall. Contact Sue Hand, sgnhrleigh@aol.com.

August 18 - Abolish the Death Penalty

Join SFA Pen-Pal Ministry, Catholics for Abolition in NC (CANC) and NCCADP on August 18th at the Church on Morgan, Raleigh from 3:30 to 5:00 PM. for "Time is Running Out". Program information and registration : [Events from August 7 – May 7, 2025 \(nccadp.org\)](#). Contact Paul Wilson, wilsonpf99@gmail.com.

August 22 - Documentary & Discussion: Preserving our Planet.

Thursday, August 22 7-9pm in Founder's Room. Join us to watch The Minimalists: Less is Now and an animated short on the Pope's Laudato Si. Panel presentation followed by small group discussions, then learn about opportunities to engage. Refreshments served. [Click here to sign up on Realm](#). Contact Heather Scanlon 7scanlons@gmail.com.

August 24-25 Ministry Fair - After ALL Masses

See page 3.

August 28 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch

11:30am. Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall. If last names start with, then bring: A thru C = Main Dish, D thru L = Salad/Side Dish, M thru Z = Dessert/Bread. Coffee, soda and water will be provided. Contact Pat spencer1334@bellsouth.net.

Walking with Purpose Bible Study: Touching the Divine

[September 4 - AM Study](#): Weds AM, 10-12 in Padua starting 9/4
[September 19 - PM Study](#) Thurs PM, 7-8:30 in Anthony starting 9/19

Join Women's Ministry for Touching the Divine, a Walking with Purpose Bible Study. This study focuses on the many qualities of Jesus revealed through the Gospel of John. It draws us into deeper, loving relationship with Jesus as we reflect on His life, personality and true satisfaction for our soul. Contact Jess Kelly, sfawomensministry@gmail.com.

September 7 - Knights of Columbus End of Summer

Spaghetti Dinner 6:30pm. Includes salad, bread, dessert, and beverage. Discounted, Advance Sales Price: \$10 for individual and \$30 for family (living within a household). After 9/4/24: \$12/individual and \$45/ family. Contact Wes Evans: weforevergreen@gmail.com
[To preorder click here](#).

Support our Local Parishioner-Owned Businesses**[Parishioner Owned Businesses Ad Page](#)**

To advertise email: diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org

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

Sept 7 - 22 Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Drive Volunteers Needed

Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Drive Volunteers Needed: Two ways to help (1) distribute bags after mass on weekend of Sept. 7/8 (15-30 min.). (2) Collect donated items/load truck (1.25 hr. shifts) weekends of Sept. 14/15 & 21/22. See links for details or contact Mark Baumgartner, markbaumga@gmail.com.

[Bag Distribution Volunteer Sign-Up](#) / [Collection Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

September 9 - Prison Pen Pal Meeting

7:00pm. The SFA Prison Pen Pal Ministry serves and ministers to almost half of the 136 men on Death Row and we will meet on Sept 9 at 7 PM in the Padua Room, across from the Chapel. Come learn about the incredible stories of God's love permeating prison walls. Contact Ellen Zaytoun, erzaytoun@gmail.com.

September 10 - DivorceCare Fall Series

6:00-7:30pm. You don't need to go through the pain of separation or divorce alone. With DivorceCare you'll find caring and supportive people who understand the emotional turmoil and pain. Meets weekly in the Padua Room of the Community Center/Gym. [Register here](#). Contact Bill Morgan, dejanuts@yahoo.com.

September 10 - Grief's Journey-Coping with loss of a loved one,

10:30am-12:00pm every Tuesday in Anthony Hall Conference Room. A seven week series offering hope following the loss of a loved one through death. A safe place to share your journey and to learn from others. Intended for those who are three months or more after a death of their loved one. Contact: dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org. [Register here](#).

September 10 - Women in the Old Testament Virtual Bible

Study Join us to begin a journey through Israel's beginnings, captivity and freedom from the earliest women in salvation history. We will learn the impact of women including Sarah, Deborah, Ruth, Judith, Ester and many others. Their complexities and gifts broke stereotypes and continue to reveal God to us. Contact Barbara Efirid, barbaraefirdpc@gmail.com. [Tuesday PM Sessions](#) / [Wednesday AM Sessions](#)

September 10/11-October 29/30 Book of Revelation -

Discipleship Study Join us for a Discipleship Study of one of the most hopeful and creative books of the Bible: The Book of Revelation. Is it about Armageddon & the end of the world? Or, is it God's loving call for us to turn back to God by following Christ? Contact Jay Landry, jay.landry@stfrancisraleigh.org.

[Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 8:30 pm in Founders Rm.](#)

[Wednesday mornings, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm in Founders Rm.](#)

September 14-22 "Feed-a-Family CPO Food Drive" Donations

Needed 7:00am 6:00pm. Donations Needed – September 14/15 and 21/22. Bring nonperishable food items, or a monetary donation, to the Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) truck. Collections: before and after weekend morning masses and only before 5:30 pm masses (note: collections end at 6 pm Sat/Sun). Contact: Mark Baumgartner, markbaumga@gmail.com.

Employment Opportunities:

[TFS Media Specialist, Coordinator of Cross Step Program.](#)

[Middle School Formation Coordinator, Afterschool Staff](#)

See our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>

Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

September 15 and 29 - Synodal Listening Sessions. Join us for Synodal Listening Sessions after the 9 am Mass, Sundays. We embrace Pope Francis' call to become a Church that listens to the needs of everyone. Contact Jay Landry, jay.landry@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 19 Regular Registration ends for the St Francis Youth Basketball League Join us for the 34th season of the St. Francis Youth Basketball League. This program is open to girls and boys grades 1 thru 8. Registration is NOW open! [Regular registration](#) ends Sept.19 and late registration runs thru October 3. Contact Mary Arleth, mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 21 - Sacred Silence: An Invitation

Join the Women's Ministry on Saturday, 9/21 for our fall retreat: Sacred Silence: An Invitation. Experience what can happen when we spend quiet time recognizing Christ's presence within and all around us. We'll conclude the day with Adoration and experience Christ present to us in the consecrated host. [Click here to register.](#)
Contact Rosemary Czejkowski, czejkowskir@gmail.com.

October 14-18 St. Francis Inn

Consider joining our October delegation to St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia for a mission of solidarity, hospitality, and compassion to the poor and hungry. This is an immersive Franciscan community experience to live, serve, and receive. Contact John Budway, budwayji@bellsouth.net.

There are many ways to give to St. Francis



Scan the QR code to give

Text-to-Give: From your smartphone screen, create a new message. Click the "To:" field and enter 919-629-1199. Enter the dollar amount then tap the link to complete your gift. Register your credit/debit card.

To learn about all our giving options, [click here](#).

Safe Environment Level C Renewals

Are you returning to volunteer ministry with children and youth? Every Wednesday emails have been going out from techsupport@dioceseofraleigh.safeenvironment.org to remind existing volunteers to update their safe environment compliance. If you have not gotten this email, please contact Safe@stfrancisraleigh.org. Thank you for being active in our ministries! Contact trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org.

WASH VEGGIES IN A BOWL VERSUS UNDER RUNNING WATER

CLICK THIS IMAGE TO LEARN MORE!

WE'VE MADE **245 LBS** OF COMPOST

do **ONE** THING

Find Your Purpose
SFA Ministries



St. Francis of Assisi

Ministry Fair

This event offers a unique opportunity to meet with ministry leaders and discover the many ways you can become actively involved in our parish community. See you at the fair!

August 24 and 25

Fellowship Hall | After each Mass

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The following are the BAA totals for our Parish as reported by the Diocese

	2024 Campaign (7/3/24)		2023 Campaign (8/2/23)	
Goal:	\$473,612		\$473,565	
Pledge Total:	\$474,894	100.3%	\$480,557	101.5%
Received Total:	\$460,222	93.7%	\$463,272	97.8%
Participating Families:	1,037	19.2%	1,145	20.8%
Total Families:	5,400		5,500	



Go to givetobaa.org and follow the prompts to make a one-time donation, set up a pledge or become a SUSTAINER with a recurring gift. Make sure to select Saint Francis of Assisi as your parish affiliation. [Click here to give](#). Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Welcome back students, parents, and teachers as our new school year gets underway. Fr. Chris sported his Mary colors and gave a great homily to a full church on Thursday.

It was a beautiful day and a beautiful blessing. Thank you to all who helped us celebrated Mother Mary and the beginning of our school year.

It's going to be a great year!