

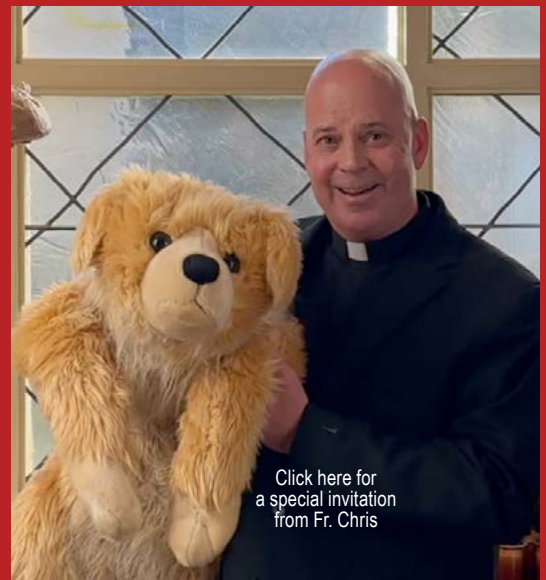


The Church is family [Click here to watch.](#)


LIVING STATIONS OF THE CRECHE



We are seeking volunteers to help with our Living Stations of the Creche, as part of the Creches, Carols and Cookies event on Friday, December 13, at 6:30 PM.



[Click here for a special invitation from Fr. Chris](#)

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



**SEND E-CARDS
INSTEAD OF PAPER
HOLIDAY CARDS**

CARE FOR CREATION CORNER

WE'VE MADE
317
LBS
OF
COMPOST



Fr. Chris Koehn,
Pastor



James Singarayar, HGN
Parochial Vicar



Fr. Jim Sabak, O.F.M.
In Residence



Fr. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM
Parochial Vicar



Stephen Andrews
Deacon In Residence



St Francis of Assisi

Living Christmas Pageant

SS Stacey Shine

✉ Contact

Click here to sign up for the pageant

December 7/8 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 Welcome Center the first full weekend each month. Donate supplies or volunteer with this ministry at St. Francis Serves.

Contact Alyson Zwerneman, alysonzwerneman@gmail.com.

December 8 - Adult Listening Session

10:00am-11:10am. How is God calling you to hope in this Advent season? Join us on Sunday, December 8th at 10:15 am for a "Listening Session" in which we reflect on this question in light of the Gospel and listen to the Holy Spirit's voice through one another. [Register here](#).

December 8 - Always God's Children

3:30-5:00pm. A confidential setting for those who identify as LGBTQ+, along with family and friends. This gathering provides a safe place to pray together, share our experiences, and talk over our concerns. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

December 9 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the church - Holy day of obligation, 9:00am, 11:45am, 7:00pm, also streamed.

December 11 Women's Ministry Christmas Music BINGO

7:00-9:00pm. Celebrate the spirit of the season at the Women's Ministry Cookie Exchange and Social on 12/11, 7:00-9:00pm! Exchanging cookies is optional. Bring the number of cookies that you'd like to go home with (split into bags of 6). We will play Christmas Music BINGO, too! [Register via Realm](#). Contact Jackie Schroeder, Schroederjackie@gmail.com.

Employment Opportunities:

[Afterschool Staff](#)

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

Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

December 11 - Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Join us for a special evening in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Wednesday, December 11, at 9:00 PM in the Chapel. The Mass will be celebrated in Spanish (Misa en Español), followed by a warm gathering with coffee and Pan Dulce in Padua. All are welcome! Contact Person Esperanza Neri, esperanza.neri@stfrancisraleigh.org.

December 12 - Career Networking Ministry: Careering Success Summit

8:30-11:30am. Join CNM for the most impactful career event of the year, designed to guide you on your career journey with faith, purpose, and actionable insights. This event is the Careering Success Summit features inspiring and informative keynotes, presentations, panel discussions, and more. Location: Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral Parish Center. [Register here](#). Contact: Paul Dean vpauldean@gmail.com.

December 13 - Crèches, Carols, Cookies Join us for a magical evening on Friday, December 13th, at 6:30 pm! Start in the Church with live music, then head to Fellowship Hall to see an extraordinary display of Fr. Jim Sabak's Crèches. This enchanting event is perfect for ALL ages and continues all weekend after each Mass. No registration needed—just bring your holiday spirit! Contact Email stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

December 19 - Coffee with Chris

Join us Thursday, for Coffee with Fr. Chris in Padua. It will be a time to visit with fellow parishioners and Fr. Chris to celebrate as we continue to walk this journey of faith together as a community dedicated to our Franciscan heritage. Contact stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

January 14 - March 12: Gospel of John, Part 1 Virtual Study

Join us for a virtual study of the Gospel of John, a testament to the divine nature of Jesus. Part One covers the prologue of John's Gospel and a significant portion of Jesus' ministry featuring miraculous signs that reveal Jesus' true nature and relationship with our Creator.

Contact barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com.

[Tuesdays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm](#) / [Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:30 am](#)

SCAM ALERT

Please be aware that a staff member of the parish, including the pastor, will never contact you via text message requesting assistance from you.

Advent Penance Services 2024

All are bilingual (English and Spanish) unless noted

Servicios de Penitencia de Adviento 2024: todos son bilingües (inglés y español) a menos que se indique lo contrario

10 Dec/Dic, 11:00 AM-12:15 PM, Our Lady of Lourdes

10 December, 7:00-9:00 PM, St Andrew & St Mary Magdalene (English only)

11 Dec/Dic, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, St Bernadette

13 Dec/Dic, 10:00-11:30 AM, St Michael

13 December, 7:00-9:00 PM, Our Lady of La Vang (English only)

16 Dec/Dic, 7:00-9:00 PM at St Catherine

17 Dec/Dic, 7:00-9:00 PM, Holy Name of Jesus & St Joseph, St Mary, NCSU

18 Dec/Dic, 7:00-9:00 PM, St Raphael

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know someone who needs a Prayer Shawl or Lap Robe?

These are made with love, prayed over, cross sewn on, blessed by the group and wrapped with a note inserted. A child's blanket is also available. They are available for hospital, serious illness, etc. If they do not have one already, contact Cindy Cardello at 929-846-8825 or Diane Rotunno at 919-844-7153.

CENTENNIAL RAFFLE 100

Celebrate 100 Years and Win the Ultimate Deanery Experience!

JOIN THE CENTENNIAL RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN EXCLUSIVE TRIPS FROM ACROSS OUR DIOCESE AND EXPERIENCE THE BEST EACH DEANERY HAS TO OFFER.

EACH PRIZE PACKAGE INCLUDES **TOP-NOTCH ACCOMMODATIONS, DINING, AND UNFORGETTABLE ACTIVITIES.**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIESRALEIGH.ORG/CENTENNIAL-SUNDAY-RAFFLE
FOR ALL 8 PRIZE DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!

\$10/TICKET OR 3 FOR \$20.

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR ANY UPDATES!

WINNERS WILL BE DRAWN ON DECEMBER 12, 2024



Crèches, Carols, and Cookies: Something for Everyone!

Last year, we celebrated the 800th year of Saint Francis' use of a crèche, or nativity, to celebrate the birth of Christ. As you may recall from that story, before 1223, the faithful heard about the birth of Christ in Mass as described by the priest in Latin, which many may not have understood. St. Francis asked a friend to borrow his donkey and ox and set up a nativity scene in a cave just outside Greccio, with a costumed person playing Mary and Joseph and perhaps a wax figurine as Jesus. Last year at our parish... [More](#)



Ministry Spotlight: EM to Rex

As with the EM Ministry to the Homebound, the celebration and reception of the Eucharist are fundamental as a sacrament in the Catholic faith. Sometimes, we can find ourselves unable to attend Mass and receive the body and blood of Christ due to illness or injury. In the spirit of Matthew's gospel where Jesus says, "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me" the Catholic Community of St. Francis has... [More](#)



Are you New to St. Francis? We warmly welcome you to our community! If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about how to get involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to [Stacey Shine](#). We look forward to connecting with you and helping you feel right at home."



Please Pardon the Inconvenience

For the next several weeks and throughout the Christmas holidays, work will be underway on the mechanical system which supplies heating and cooling to several buildings on campus. As a result, some parking spaces will be encumbered in front of the Community Center, and the main driveway may occasionally be narrowed down to one lane. However, outside of unforeseen circumstances, the driveway will not be affected during school carpool hours, or on weekends.



St. Vincent dePaul helps people in need.

Hear about how volunteers prevent the loss of Section 8 vouchers that enable the working poor to afford their rent in these challenging times.

<https://youtu.be/HylogrIEk5o>

Visit the [SVdP website](#).

Contact Cathy Smith, smithtcr@gmail.com.



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](#).

*Sign up to light
The Advent Wreath*



IF YOUR FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH PRIOR TO MASS PLEASE USE THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP. PLEASE ONLY SIGN UP FOR ONE MASS.

In this season of Advent, as we anticipate the birth of Our Lord, may we be lifted in spirit to a higher ground. Let us renew our strength, our hope, our faith, and not grow weary.



Here is a short video by the TFS video club. Thanks to all the 5th and 6th grade students who participated in the video club - and thanks to the parents for being the first teachers of the faith. Click on the image above to watch the 1-minute video.

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

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Anna Broadwell, LCMHC, MDiv
Psychotherapist
(919) 205-8592
anna@groundedcompassion.org
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[Click here for ad rates and to advertise in the parish bulletin.](#)

Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz,
diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Joy of the Season
December 10th, 2024 7:30pm
Meynandi Concert Hall

north carolina MASTER CHORALE

BODYLASE
Luxury Med Spa in Raleigh and Cary

\$100 OFF*
your first treatment

- Botox, Fillers & Injectables
- Skin Rejuvenation
- Laser Hair Removal
- Body Sculpting and more!

Take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your business in front of our many parishioners and thank you for helping to support our parish through the bulletin ad program.