




Happy Super Bowl Weekend!
We hope you have fun with family and friends. Please, please, take the opportunity to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Click on the link and give. Supporting the church throughout North Carolina brings the life of Jesus to so many. For our rural areas it is essential. Give now so we "kick-off" a successful campaign.

With love,
Fr. Chris



Scout blessing with active participation on Sunday

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



Fr. Chris Koehn,
Pastor



Fr. 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



February 7-14 NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK

Every year from February 7-14, National Marriage Week reminds us that marriage is more than a day or a ceremony. A marriage requires dedication and commitment that generates a lifetime of rewards. The week is part of a movement to strengthen and promote the benefits of marriage. Click the link below for resources by the USCCB.

[National Catholic Marriage Week](#)

Every Tues 2/11-3/25 - Grief's Journey-Coping with Loss of a Loved One 10:30am-12:00pm. A seven week series that offers hope following the loss of a loved one through death. (Anthony Conference Room). A safe place to share your own journey with grief and to learn from others. Intended for those who are three months or more after the death of their loved one. [Click here to register in Realm](#). Contact Dina DaRe, dina_dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.

February 9 - Always God's Children 3:00-4:30pm. 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. This meeting will be virtual. Please contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org for the information for the Zoom link.

February 10 - Saint Francis Preschool Summer Camp 7:00am. Saint Francis of Assisi Preschool is excited to offer 4 weeks of summer camp for ages 3, 4 and 5. [Click here to register](#). Contact Shelley Freeman shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

February 13 - Career Networking Ministry 8:30 -10:30am. CNM Presents: Unlocking Growth and Resilience through the Power of P.L.A.Y with Joy Carter at St. Andrews Church. CNM is a group of working professionals and job seekers committed to proactive career management through continuous learning and relationship building pursuant to the expansion of opportunities for immediate or future employment. Contact: Paul Dean vpauldean@gmail.com. [Register Here](#).

February 15/16 & 22/23 Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Drive Donations Needed 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 Ashley Watson, ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Feb. 15/16 & 22/23 Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Drive Volunteers Needed Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Food Drive Volunteers Needed to help collect donated items/load truck (1.25 hr. shifts) weekends of Feb. 15/16 & 22/23. See links for details. Donation Collection Volunteer Sign-Up. [Donation Collection Volunteer Sign-Up](#). Contact Ashley Watson, ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities:

See our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

February 16 Knights of Columbus President's Day Weekend Pancake Breakfast

10:00am. Join us after the 9:00am mass in the Fellowship Hall. 3 Pancakes, 3 Sausages, Donuts, Coffee, Juice etc. will be priced at \$7.00 per person and \$24.00 for a nuclear family of 4 or more. Net proceeds will support Fathers James' and Joseph's seminaries. Contact Nick Renga, nrenga@msn.com.

February 20 - Coffee with Chris

Join us Thursday, February 20th at 9:45am 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, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

February 22 - 2025 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest

9:00-11:00am. The Knights of Columbus Council 9709 will host the annual Basketball Free Throw Championship on Saturday, Feb. 22 from 9am-11am in the Assisi Community Center Gym. Please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A9A92BA2FE3-54496752-2025>. Contact Will Austin, will.austin@gmail.com.

February 26 - April 2: Women's Ministry Bible Study:

Fearless & Free 10:00am-12:00pm. Join us for a Women's Ministry Bible study based on the book of Ephesians. Sessions are on Wednesdays for 6 weeks. This study is ideal for those of us who long for wholeness of heart and are in need of freedom from past wounds. [Register here](#). Contact Eva Socko, esocko44@gmail.com.

March 1, Women's Ministry Retreat: Encountering Jesus

9:00am-2:30pm. Join Women's Ministry for a retreat: Encountering Jesus this Lent. Hear stories of women who experienced the Paschal mystery through their encounter with Christ, the cycle of living, dying, and rising. The retreat includes presentations, reflection time, group interactions and lunch. Childcare available. Register in Realm. [Retreat registration click here](#). / [Childcare registration click here](#). Contact Rosemary Czejkowski, czejkowskir@gmail.com.

April 1 - June 15 - Recovering Our Soul Connections: A Retreat for Women Who Have Been Sexually Abused

Begins online April 1, 2025, and culminates in an in-person retreat June 12-15, 2025 at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville, NC. Applications accepted until March 1. Email soulconnection366@gmail.com for flyer and application. See page 5.

Camp Francis - Registration is Open via Realm

June 16-20, June 23-27, July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25
Our popular summer camp, has lots of cool opportunities in athletics, science, arts and various enrichment areas! Camps are half-day or full-day based on age for the 2025-2026 school year. (Rising K-Rising 6th grade) Registration Link: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>

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.

Now through Easter - Greener Lent

Greener Lent is Lenten fasting, prayer and almsgiving through the lens of Laudato Si. Last year we saved 60,000 lbs of CO2e going into the atmosphere and provided over 500 people in Catholic parishes in subsaharan Africa potable water, changing many lives. Many GL participants committed to daily prayer. Information.

Sign up at the Greener Lent website <https://greenerlent.org/index.html>

[Click here for the Lenten Sacrifice Flyer](#)

Contact Rosemary Herhold, rosemaryherhold@greenerlent.org.

Dates for Lent Dinners, Stations and Evening Prayer.

Lenten Dinners - Fellowship Hall - 7pm - Friday nights

March 7 after stations

April 11 after stations

Stations of the Cross - Church- 6:30pm - Friday nights

March 7

March 14

March 21

March 28

April 4

April 11

Evening Prayer - Church - 6:30pm - Wednesday nights

March 12

March 19

March 26

April 2

April 9



Meet The Parish Councils

Every organization, whether a Fortune 500 company, a small LLC, or a Catholic parish, needs advisory and administrative structure to accomplish its objectives. St. Francis of Assisi is blessed to have several Councils that offer advice and guidance on the well-being and growth of the faith community. These councils focus on the schools, our parish youth, the parish's 'Justice and Peace' goals, the parish financial administration, and general parish governance. [More](#)

Encountering Jesus

Preparing for Lent



Women's Ministry Retreat
March 1, 9 am to 2:30 pm



Phoebe Circle

The Phoebe Circle is a ministry formed about two years ago in collaboration with the 'Discerning Deacons Project,' whose role is advocating for the reinstatement of the women's diaconate during the Pope's call for a worldwide synod, including representation from the laity and clergy. Phoebe represents this effort because, as explained in a story on our website on 'Women in the Church,' "when Saint Paul wrote his Letter to the Romans, Phoebe, a saint in the Roman Martyrology, has become... [More](#)

Catholic Parish Outreach Donation Drives Coordinator Needed

We are looking for a couple or 2 individuals to take over the volunteer role for coordinating the CPO food drives that are held twice a year. You would help coordinate volunteers, bags, and truck logistics alongside the parish staff. If you are interested and want to learn more, contact Ashley Watson, ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.



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."

Immigration Assistance Available

If you know families in eastern North Carolina—from Alamance County to the Outer Banks—who need support with immigration matters, Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services is here to help. They provide guidance and assistance with completing and submitting various immigration-related processes. For more information or assistance, please encourage them to reach out to Catholic Charities. [Click here for more information: https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/immigration/](https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/immigration/)



Whitney and Andrea Polites celebrate the blessing of their marriage on Friday Jan 31st.

N.C. bishops issue joint statement:

Immigration is 'a moral concern' affecting dignity and human rights



St. Vincent dePaul helps people in need. A mother of four who lost her home and most of her children's clothing and belongings. Read about how SVdP was able to help. Visit the [SVdP website](#). Contact Cathy Smith, smithcr@gmail.com.

PLANT A TREE! AIM TO SHADE EAST/WEST HOME WINDOWS

CARE FOR CREATION CORNER

YTD WE'VE DONATED **2806** LBS OF FOOD



JUST ENGAGED? LET'S PLAN YOUR WEDDING!

Congratulations to all newly engaged couples! Start your journey together with a beautiful wedding at St. Francis of Assisi.

Contact Martina Dumberger at marriages@stfrancisraleigh.org pre-marriage preparation.

This week, our Preschool students were treated to a wildlife presentation which featured some very interesting feathered friends.

Our preschool rocks!

Thank you, Ms Heidi!

Recovering Our Soul Connections:

A Retreat for Women Who Have Been Sexually Abused

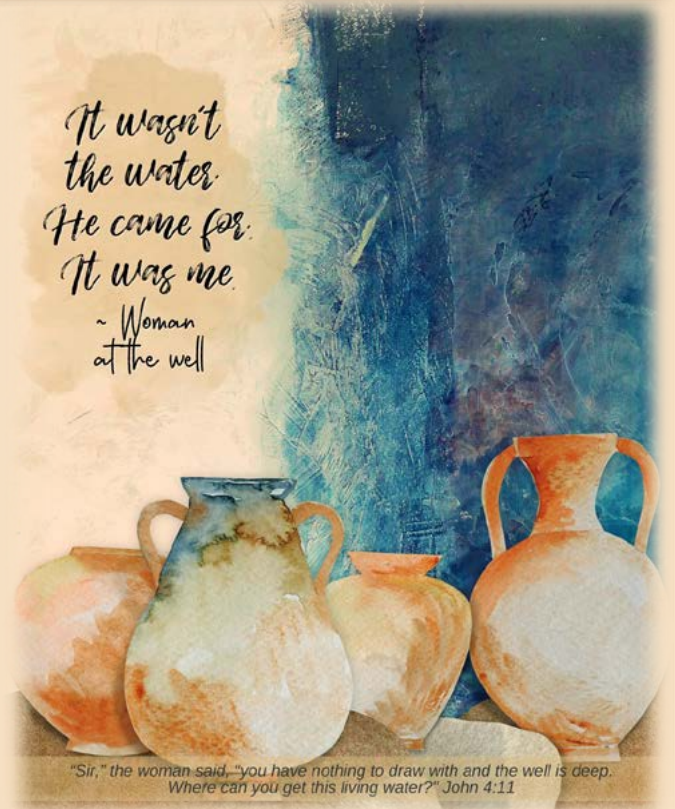
June 12-15, 2025

at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville, NC

“It is a life-changing healing spiritual event led by dedicated and caring professionals which I strongly recommend to those in need.”

Retreatant

*Applications will be accepted until **March 1, 2025** or until the retreat is full*



To request an application or more information,
please email us at

[**soulconnection366@gmail.com**](mailto:soulconnection366@gmail.com)

or visit us on **Facebook at Recovering Our Soul Connections**

Register soon, space is limited to 12 retreatants



Contributions from the Diocese of Raleigh; the Catholic Community of St. Thomas More, Chapel Hill; and the North Carolina State Court of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas cover 70% of the total expense. **Cost to retreatants is \$200.**