



Thank you, Bishop Luis for joining us to celebrate the Franciscan School's 25th Anniversary. And thank you to everyone who helped make this a joyous Community Mass. Fr. Chris and the Bishop took a moment to record a short BAA message. [Click here to view the video.](#)

**Our Current BAA Status**

▶ Goal:	\$522,280	
Pledged:	\$206,283	39.5%
Received:	\$178,710	34.2%
Families:	510 out of 5400	9.4%



**Congratulations TFS  
 25 Years!**

Congratulations to our wonderful Franciscan School, now in its 25th year of service. Under the leadership of principal Dawn Smith, TFS continues to be a beacon of Catholic Education helping to form children with an emphasis on Catholic education. Our thanks and best wishes go out to the staff, students, and families that make The Franciscan School such an exceptional place for our K-8 students. To learn more about TFS, [click here.](#)



Dawn Smith      Bishop Zarama      Fr. Chris Koehn

A click away If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at [www.stfrancisraleigh.org](http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org).

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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 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](mailto:ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**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](mailto:esocko44@gmail.com).

**February 26 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch**

11:30m. Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall. If last name 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. We will have a Catholic Parish Outreach children's book drive for new & gently used children's books. Contact Pat Spencer, [spencer1334@bellsouth.net](mailto:spencer1334@bellsouth.net).

**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, [czejkowski@gmail.com](mailto:czejkowski@gmail.com).

**March 7 - Lenten Potluck Dinner - Following Stations of the Cross**

6:30-8:00pm. Join us on Friday, March 7th for a powerful Family Stations of the Cross at 6pm with a Lenten Potluck Dinner to follow at 6:30 PM in Fellowship. Please bring a meatless soup, chowder, or chili to share, preferably in a crockpot to keep it warm. [Register in Realm](#) Contact Stacey Shine [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**March 8-9 Migrant Ministry Clothing and Toiletry Drive**

Our Migrant Ministry is collecting toiletries and clean men's clothing including long sleeve shirts, pants, hats, belts, men's boots and shoes sizes 8-11. Toiletries include toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, laundry detergent, bar soap, clean towels and washcloths. Learn more about Migrant Ministry Contact Tom Carlson, [tcarlson28@gmail.com](mailto:tcarlson28@gmail.com).

**March 9 - Solidarity Sunday**

10:15am in Clare Fellowship Hall. See page 4.

**March 9 - "No Greater Love"**

is a Biblical Pilgrimage through Christ's final hours that reveals Christ's Amazing love for us, by best-selling Catholic author Edward Sri. The study begins Sunday 3/9 for 5 weeks, via Zoom from 4 to 5:30 pm. Contact Anna Fowler at (919) 971-1481, [annafowler@nc.rr.com](mailto:annafowler@nc.rr.com).

**March 16, March 23, April 6, April 13 - Co-Ed Spring Youth Basketball Skills Clinic**

This clinic is designed for players to work on dribbling, passing, rebounding, shooting and defensive drills with Triple Threat Triumph 1st Grade-4th Grade 1:15-2:15pm / 5th-8th Grade: 2:30-3:30pm Each Session is \$20 or \$75.00 for all 4 sessions. [Info/Register Here](#). Contact Mary Arleth, [mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org).

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE



Wednesday, March 5, 2025 - Distribution of Ashes at ALL Services

7:00am Liturgy of the Word (No Communion) 5:30pm Liturgy of the Word (No Communion)  
9:00am School Mass 7:00pm Mass  
11:45am Mass

**Dates for Lent Dinners, Stations and Evening Prayer.**

Lenten Potluck Dinners - Fellowship Hall - 6:30pm - Friday nights  
March 7 - 6:30pm after stations [Register Here](#)  
April 11 - 6:30pm after stations

Stations of the Cross - Church 6:00pm - Friday nights

March 7 - Family Focused  
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

Greener  Lent



Are you looking for a meaningful Lenten experience?

Join Greener Lent Sign up at [www.greenerlent.org](http://www.greenerlent.org)

**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](mailto:soulconnection366@gmail.com). [Click here for the flyer.](#)

**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/>

**LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER**



*Family Fun*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH | 6:30PM**

**FELLOWSHIP HALL | REGISTER IN REALM**  
BRING A MEATLESS SOUP, CHILI, OR CHOWDER TO SHARE.

**Encountering Jesus**

**Preparing for Lent**



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



**Composting With Class**

As most everyone knows, 'Care for Creation' is ingrained in the Franciscan charism and the mission of The Franciscan School (TFS), our parish K-8 school. That's why the school was open to a new program when members of St. Francis of Assisi's Care for Creation (C4C) ministry contacted TFS principal Dawn Smith and JaVon Hansknecht, the Director of Justice and Peace at St. Francis Parish and Casey Slock, the Coordinator of Justice and Peace, to pilot a lunch waste composting program during May 2024. It was an idea that aligned with what we were teaching our students at TFS. [More](#)



**St. Vincent de Paul**

The St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Conference at St. Francis of Assisi (SFA) continues its devotion to those in our society experiencing poverty. It supports those in need by providing financial assistance for rent or utilities to those experiencing a temporary, acute economic crisis. Why is the ministry named after St. Vincent de Paul? Saint Vincent de Paul was an Occitan French Catholic priest dedicated to serving the poor. Vincent became the superior of the 'Congregation of the Mission,' the 'Vincentians' (in France, known as 'Lazaristes'). With vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and [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."



# SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

**CHURCHES FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE**  
 Are you conflicted about the violence in Israel and Palestine? How can we pursue peace while also advocating for justice? **Reg. In Realm**

**MARCH 9 2025**  
**10:15 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL**




**Tuesday Dinner with the Monsignors**

Right to left: Fr. Jim, Monsignor Staib, Fr. Fraser, Monsignor Wall and Fr. Chris. Dinner and stories at Metro 8 in Durham. 2/18/25



**We need your prayers**

Raleigh's Kairos Prison Ministry International 40-man Christian volunteer team at Central Prison will present a 4-day Cursillo-like retreat to 42 residents from 3/5 to 3/8. We need your prayers and we need to let the residents know you are praying for them to receive the Love of Christ. If you would like to participate in this important prayer effort, send your first name to Mike McGrail, [mike@mcgrailgroup.com](mailto:mike@mcgrailgroup.com). Your first name will be added to a prayer link, like the ones in the photo above as a visible sign of those who are joining together in prayer during the four days.



**St. Vincent dePaul** helps people in need.  
 A woman with disabilities in her late 80's called SVdP after she was evicted, and the sheriff had already padlocked her apartment. [More...](#)  
 Visit the [SVdP website](#).  
 Contact Cathy Smith, [smithtcr@gmail.com](mailto:smithtcr@gmail.com).



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

CARE FOR CREATION CORNER

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

**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/)





Church grounds photos by Marc Kleity

*Fr. James, Fr. Joseph, and Fr. Chris so bright,  
Walk through the snow, in the soft, quiet light.  
We thank God for this gift, pure and grand,  
A blanket of white across the land.  
May all be safe and hearts filled with cheer,  
As we praise God for this beauty so near.*

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Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz, [diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org).

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.