







**Click Here to Make Your Pledge**  
 Select St. Francis of Assisi Parish Raleigh

**BAA Status: How Are We Doing?**

	St. Francis	St. Michael	St. Luke's
Goal:	\$522,280	\$456,448	\$146,556
Pledge Total:	\$389,687	\$481,781	\$136,481
Percentage of Goal	74.5%	105.6%	93%

**This Weekend!**  
 CELEBRATING  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
 WE THANK YOU ALL!

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 | 6:30PM TO 7:30PM  
 SUNDAY, APRIL 6 | 8AM TO 11:45AM

JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

**Palm SUNDAY**  
 APRIL 12TH & 13TH






REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE.  
 WE WILL BEGIN ALL MASSES OUTSIDE  
 IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECYCLE  
 LAST YEARS PALMS, PLEASE BRING  
 THEM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY  
 THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH

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

**April 1 - June 15 - Recovering Our Soul Connections: A Retreat for Women Who Have Been Sexually Abused** Begins online April 1 and culminates in an in-person retreat June 12-15, 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.](#)

**April 3 - May 15: Women's Ministry Bible Study: Living in the Father's Love** 7-8:30pm "Living in the Father's Love" is a Women's Catholic Bible Study that guides us to discover God's unconditional love and how the gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God. Share your Faith Journey with other women in this 6-week study beginning Thursday, April 3rd at 7pm in Anthony Hall- Room 403. [Register here.](#) Contact Julia Snyder, [snyderjules5720@gmail.com](mailto:snyderjules5720@gmail.com).

**April 5 and 6 - 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](mailto:Alysonzwerneman@gmail.com).

**April 5/6 - Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive Volunteers** This weekend we need volunteers (families, adults, youth) to collect and load a truck with the OLR food donations. Please bring your filled bags with you to Mass on the weekend of April 5/6. [Click here to sign up](#) to assist. Contact Tess Ferrer-Turner, [tessferrer89@yahoo.com](mailto:tessferrer89@yahoo.com).

**April 5-6 Join Us for Our Volunteer Celebration!** *This Weekend!*  
We are incredibly grateful for our dedicated volunteers and want to celebrate all that you do! Join us on Saturday, April 5, at 6:30 PM, or on Sunday, April 6, 8:00-9:00 AM or 10:00-11:45 AM These gatherings provide a wonderful opportunity to express our appreciation and celebrate together after Mass. We look forward to honoring you! In Fellowship Hall. Contact Stacey Shine, [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**April 6-12 - Family Promise** Family Promise of the Triangle: Small Commitment. Big Impact. Make a difference by helping support the lives of families experiencing temporary homelessness. We provide meals and groceries for one week while families work towards permanent housing. Be part of our next hosting, April 6 - April 12. Contact Jim Packard, [stfa.fp@gmail.com](mailto:stfa.fp@gmail.com).

**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).

**April 11 - Lenten Potluck Dinner** see page 3  
6:30pm after stations. [Register here.](#) Friday night in Clare Fellowship Hall

**April 12-Corral Riding Academy Saturday on the Farm**  
1:00-3:30pm CORRAL Riding Academy is a faith-motivated nonprofit that serves adolescent girls in high-risk situations through a long-term, holistic program of equine therapy and education. Join us as we do hands-on projects to support the NEUSE RIVER (Raleigh) campus and learn more about CORRAL's mission and programs! Families welcome! [Event registration.](#) Contact [donna.schwede@gmail.com](mailto:donna.schwede@gmail.com).

**April 13 - Always God's Children**  
3:30-5:00pm Parents and grandparents of LGBTQ+ children or grandchildren: Looking for a safe place to gather and feel welcome? Consider this meeting of Always God's Children (AGC). This is a confidential gathering where we discuss our roles as families with LGBTQ+ people in relation to our Catholic faith. Contact Stacey Shine, [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**April 29 - Gospel of John, Part 2 Virtual Study**  
The Gospel of John is a testament to the divine nature of Jesus, the Light of the World. Part Two of our study begins with the final "sign" of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, takes readers to the hour of Jesus' glorification in his passion, death, resurrection.  
Contact [barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com).  
[Weds AM Session](#) / [Tues PM Session](#)

**April 29 - Recycling 101, a Webinar with Interfaith Creation Care of the Triangle** 7:00 – 8:00pm via Zoom in Founder's Room. Join John Wilson, a documentary filmmaker and conservationist from Chapel Hill, as he explains how to recycle more effectively. Sponsored by ICCT, its Earth Friendly Practices Team, and Orange-Chatham Interfaith Care for Creation.  
[Learn more about the speaker, watch parties here.](#)

**April 30 - Women's Ministry Caring Casseroles Social**  
7:00-9:00pm in Fellowship. Join Women's Ministry for an evening of fellowship and meal preparation for our Caring Casseroles Ministry. Ingredients will be provided with a requested donation at signup. All are welcome - a great way to check out our ministry. [Click here.](#)

**May 17 - A Silver Soiree - A Night to Celebrate The Franciscan School** 7:30-10:00pm. Join us for a special dessert reception on Saturday, May 17, as we celebrate 25 years of excellence at The Franciscan School. This adults-only reception will bring together fellow parents, alumni, and staff, honoring our rich history, incredible journey, and exciting future. Enjoy delicious desserts, great company, and a memorable night of celebration. Before the Soiree, there will be a Mass at 5:30 pm honoring the 25th Anniversary. All families are welcome to join us as we reflect on the school's history and the many blessings we've shared over the years! Tickets are available for purchase [here](#).

**June 2-July 24 - Youth Summer Volleyball League Registration**  
Registration is open for Coed League for children of all skill levels - rising 3rd graders through rising 9th graders. Teams have an hour practice on Mon. or Wed. Games are held on Thurs. nights. [Click here for more Information and to Register](#)

**June 16-20, June 23-27, July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25 Camp Francis Explorers Counselors in Training**  
An opportunity for teens (rising 9th-12th grade) interested in developing leadership skills and working with children. They will work with other C.I.T.s and Camp Staff. They are to look at themselves as role models for the campers they will be working with. For information and to apply Contact Ashley Watson, [ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**Employment Opportunities:**  
The Franciscan School is seeking a 4th grade teacher for the 2025-26 academic year. Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>  
Director of Justice and Peace, Full-time, immediate opening. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>



Click here to visit the parish website  
for all Lent activities  
<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/lent-2025/>

## Raleigh Deanery Lenten Penance Service

Tue. April 8, 7:00 – 9:00pm  
Holy Name of Jesus, St. Joe, St. Mary and NC State (At HNOJ Cathedral)

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

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

### LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER



*Family Fun*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH | 6:30PM**  
FELLOWSHIP HALL | REGISTER IN REALM

Stations of the Cross - Church 6:00pm - Friday nights  
April 11, April 18 (7:00pm Outside)

Evening Prayer - Church - 6:30pm Wednesday nights  
April 9

## Holy Week & Easter Schedule

### PALM SUNDAY, April 12 & 13

Regular Mass Schedule.

We will begin all Masses outside in the Memorial Garden

### WEDNESDAY, April 16

6:30pm - Evening Prayer Service

### HOLY THURSDAY, April 17

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Reposition in Fellowship Hall until Midnight

11:45pm Night Prayer

### GOOD FRIDAY, April 18

9:00am Morning Prayer

3:00pm Passion of the Lord

7:00pm Outside Stations of the Cross

### HOLY SATURDAY, April 19

9:00am Morning Prayer

10:00am Easter Food Blessing

8:30pm Easter Vigil

### EASTER SUNDAY, April 20

6:00am Sunrise Mass (Memorial Garden)

7:15am Mass (Church)

9:00am Mass (Church & Fellowship Hall)

11:45am Mass (Church & Fellowship Hall)



## Holy Week:

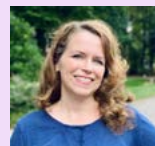
### A Week to Consider the Whole

Holy Week and the lead-up to the celebration of Easter are all about family and community. As Pastor Chris Koehn emphasizes, "A lot of the gifts of Holy Week, that maybe all of us as a parish family don't take advantage of, model the idea that 'Church is always family.' If your family has traditions for that week, that's where our starting point is." When Father Chris grew up, Holy Week was time off from school, and many offices were closed, so it was a time for family for him. He remembers that people vacationed that week, and he recalls 'celebrating' and spending time with his family. "For Holy Week," Father Chris says, "families should consider 'What makes our life blessed?'" [More](#)



## Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry at St. Francis offers a space where women can gather to deepen our faith, share our gifts, lift each other up, and feel valued and loved," explains Jess Kelly. "In this space," she says, "women can find a connection in community, a sense of belonging, and opportunities to serve others, all while deepening our relationship with Christ. We do this by embracing our Catholic identity through events, such as ... [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."

Over 375 people have joined already!

# Greener Lent

St. Francis is the largest participant and has already saved the carbon equivalent of 279 gallons of gas!

Head into the final weeks of Lent with a meaningful fast for the earth, the poor and our souls.

**Are you willing to give up beef for the final weeks of Lent?**

**Join Us!**  
[www.greenerlent.org](http://www.greenerlent.org)

## A Convenient Option for Giving



# Introducing Tap-to-Give

We've introduced a convenient option for those who prefer to use a credit card for contributing to offertory as the basket is passed around during Mass. [Click here to learn more.](#)



**SHOP AT A FARMER'S MARKET & BUY FOOD LOCALLY GROWN**

Click this image to learn more

YTD WE'VE DONATED  
**3392**  
LBS  
OF FOOD

**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/>

**The St. Francis Prison Pen Pal Ministry** has a long legacy of writing, sharing and praying with the men on NC's Death Row and practicing this important corporal act of mercy. The friendships that have resulted are spiritually enriching and life changing, but we still have several inmate requests for pen pals unfilled. If interested, please email Catherine at [stfapenpal@gmail.com](mailto:stfapenpal@gmail.com) and [click here to read our story.](#)

**Brown Bag Ministry** - Help needed as a Brown Bag Ministry coordinator. Great way to meet the wonderful community of St. Francis and serve the senior citizens of Durham. You would be part of a 4 person team with a very flexible schedule of once a month. If interested contact Karina Miranda at [karinamiranda86@yahoo.com](mailto:karinamiranda86@yahoo.com).

**Stephen Ministry** - Stephen Ministers offer prayerful and emotional support by listening with their ears and hearts to your concerns. If you are in need of a Stephen Minister email [stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org) or [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org). or call 919-847-8205x234

*Night of Worship*  
Friday Night, April 4th  
Praise, Adoration, & Music for ALL AGES  
Students FREE + FOOD

IGNITED BY TRUTH

# Catholic CONFERENCE

LENTEN RETREAT



FR. ROBERT SPITZER  
Author & President, Magis Center

FR. AUGUSTINE WETTA  
Author, Discernment with the Desert Fathers

FR. JASON BROOKS  
Speaker & Retreat Director

SONJA CORBITT  
Speaker/Author, The Bible Evangelista

MSGR. JAMES SHEA  
Speaker/Author, President, University of Mary



5<sup>th</sup> APR | SATURDAY 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM  
**REYNOLDS COLISEUM**  
MAIN STAGE • NC STATE • RALEIGH

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[www.IgnitedByTruth.org](http://www.IgnitedByTruth.org)

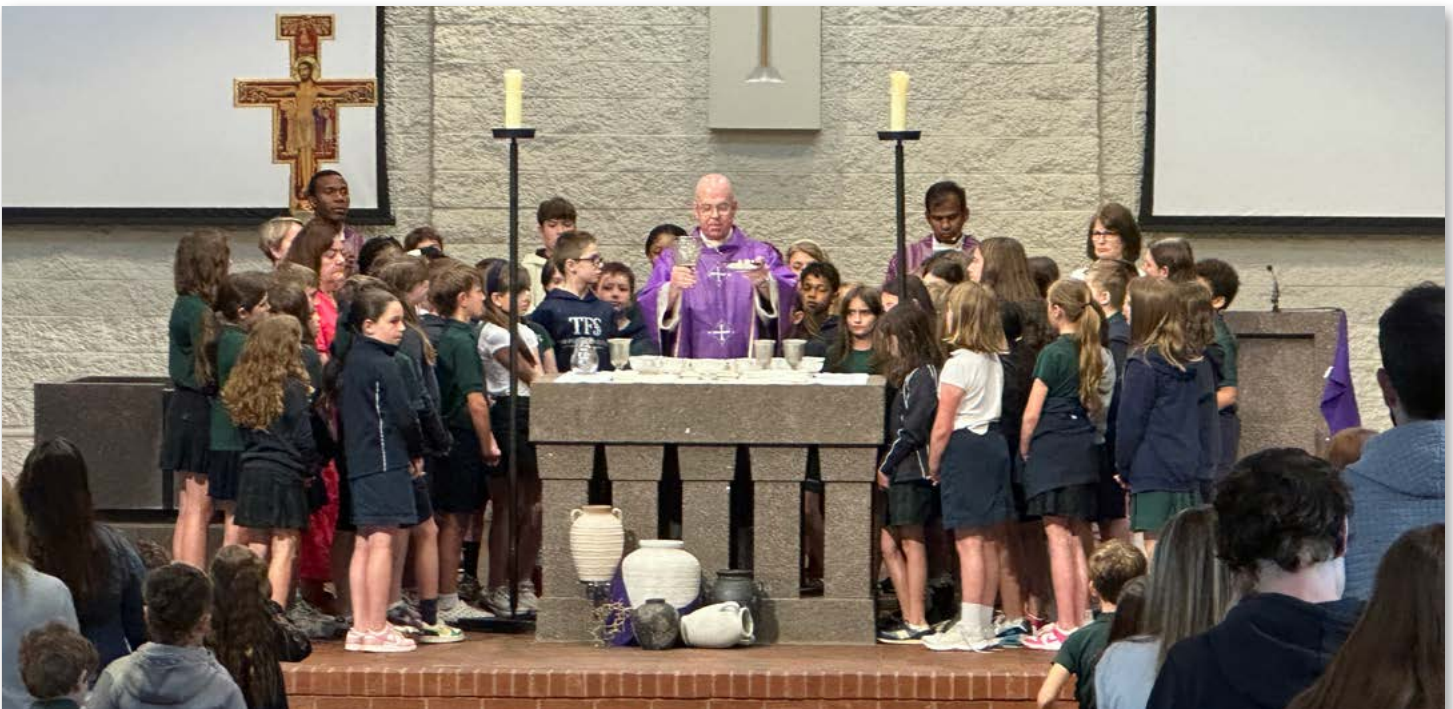
Adults 2-Day Admission \$30  
Saturday Lunch Options:  
Pizza, Sandwich, or Bring Your Own  
Students All Ages FREE & Pizza

CATHOLIC 540-AM DIVINE MERCY RADIO

WILMINGTON CATHOLIC RADIO

**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/)



During Wednesday's community Mass, Fr. Chris highlighted Fr. Joseph's birthday which was on Wednesday. The Mass was celebrated in Spanish and English and two TFS students helped Fr. Chris with his homily as Fr. Joseph was seated on the steps to the altar. It was a wonderful celebration of the Eucharist and Fr. Joseph's birthday.



## Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

**JUICE THAT BRAND**  
Powerful Promotions

No cooking.  
No meal planning.  
No stress. No mess.

**Tastefully Served**

Mustard and Spanish Skillet (\$7)

**UMSTEAD REALTY** LLC

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Change Your Socks, Change Your World

&  
**WEAK SIERRA**  
Fashion and Accessories

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Luxury Med Spa in Raleigh and Cary

**\$100 OFF**  
your first treatment

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- Laser Hair Removal
- Body Sculpting and more!

north carolina  
**MASTER CHORALE**  
RESIDENT CHORUS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA SYMPHONY

[Click here for ad rates and to advertise in the parish bulletin.](#)

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.