



**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:	\$399,294	\$487,998	\$138,044
Percentage of Goal	76.5%	107%	94%

# Holy Week

APRIL 17TH - APRIL 20TH









## Holy Thursday

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
 Reposition in Fellowship Hall until Midnight  
 11:45pm Night Prayer

## Good Friday

9:00am Morning Prayer  
 3:00pm Passion of the Lord  
 7:00pm Outside Stations of the Cross

## Holy Saturday

9:00am Morning Prayer  
 10:00am Easter Food Blessing  
 8:30pm Easter Vigil

## Easter Sunday

6:00am Sunrise Mass (Memorial Garden)  
 7:15am Mass (Church)  
 9:00am Mass (Church & Fellowship Hall)  
 11:45am Mass (Church & Fellowship Hall)

There will be no Mass in the Chapel beginning Tuesday, April 15 until Tuesday, April 22 at 9:00am.  
 All Holy Week and Easter Services will take place in the Church or in Fellowship Hall.

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](#)  
[Staff](#) / [Advertise in the Bulletin](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) / [All Ministries](#)

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 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 13, 27 - 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 18 - Stations of the Cross** - Church 6:00pm - Friday night (7:00pm Outside)

**April 23 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch** 11:30am Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall. If last name starts with, then bring A thru C = Main Dish; D thru L = Dessert/Bread; M thru Z = Salad / Side Dish. Coffee, soda and water will be provided. Contact Pat Spencer, [spencer1334@bellsouth.net](mailto:spencer1334@bellsouth.net).

**April 23 - May 28 - Women's Ministry Bible Study: Reclaiming Friendship** 10:00am-12:00pm. What does the Bible say about friendship? A Women's Bible study group welcomes new and current members to read Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection by Mallory Smyth. The group will meet from 10AM to noon, April 23-May 28, in the Padua Room of the Community Center. [Register Here.](#) Contact Heather Thorstensen, [heather.thorst@gmail.com](mailto:heather.thorst@gmail.com).

**April 26 - Farm to Church CSA** (Community Supported Agriculture) | Each season there is an opportunity to join. When you join, you receive produce from the farm every Saturday that you will pick up from St. Francis. There is also an option to purchase pasture raised eggs. Sign up for the 2025 Spring Season. The season will begin on April and end on June 21st. [Register Here](#)

**April 26 - Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Pig Pickin' & Open House** 3:30-7:00pm. Enjoy pig cooked on site, live bluegrass music, tour the warehouse which serves over 10,000 individuals each month, enjoy our bake sale and have a chance to win some great raffle prizes! Your support of this event helps CPO provide help and create hope for our neighbors. Click here to [purchase tickets](#): Contact Kelly Rapp, [Kelly.Rapp@ccharitiesdor.org](mailto:Kelly.Rapp@ccharitiesdor.org).

**April 27 - Earth Day Celebration** 10:00am-1:30pm AFTER 9AM AND 11:45AM MASS. Join us in Fellowship Hall as we recognize our call to "Care for God's Creation" and celebrate our beautiful planet! Peruse educational stations and activities for all ages on topics such as recycling, composting, Laudato Si', and more! ([Volunteer? Click here to learn more!](#)) Contact Pam James, [stfccreation@gmail.com](mailto:stfccreation@gmail.com).

**Apr 27-28 Recycle! "Anything with a Plug"** 7:30-10:30am Drop off electronics and home appliances in the Community Center parking lot at traffic circle next to the Chapel on April 27. On April 28 drop off at school parking lot next to the dumpsters. Click here to see what is accepted. <https://www.anythingwithaplugrecycling.com/>

**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 1 - L'Arche Ministry: Cooking Together!** 1:30-4:00pm. Join us every 1st Thursday of the month! Be with adults/youth with and without intellectual disabilities as you make fun foods together! New recipes each month! Build relationships, foster connection, and build inclusive communities! To learn more about L'Arche NC, [click here!](#) To [sign up online](#) [CLICK HERE!](#) Contact Gladys Whitehouse, [gladys.whitehouse@gmail.com](mailto:gladys.whitehouse@gmail.com).

**May 11 - Knights of Columbus Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast** Join us after the 9:00 am 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 many worthy charities. Contact Nick Renga, [nrenga@msn.com](mailto:nrenga@msn.com).

**May 12 - The Prison Pen Pal Ministry** Virtual meeting at 7:00pm about this important corporal act of mercy. We will have guest speakers and other pen pals sharing their experiences serving the men on Death Row, as well as Q & A. If you would like to learn more about this writing ministry and receive the attendance link, please email [sfapenpal@gmail.com](mailto:sfapenpal@gmail.com).

#### **Employment Opportunities:**

Director of Justice and Peace, Full-time, immediate opening. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>

### 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 6-8 Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat June 6-8, in the Raleigh area. The weekend retreat is strictly confidential, for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service, and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. For more information or to register for the retreat, contact Project Rachel at: [project.rachel@raldioc.org](mailto:project.rachel@raldioc.org) or call (919) 852-1021. The website is: [rachelinc.org](http://rachelinc.org) Cost is \$200 for lodging, meals, and all retreat materials. **Discount of \$50 if you register before May 9**, Spanish and English speakers are welcome. If there is a financial burden, assistance is always available.

### June-July Men's 18+ Summer Basketball League Registration

League play during June and July on weekends only. Teams will have no practice time. Registration is TEAM BASED only. Players will form their own teams and submit their registration and fee as a team. Each player must also complete an Individual Player Registration. Teams will provide their own jerseys. [Register here](#). Contact [Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org)

### 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).

### 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 Liturgy of the Church Year: The Easter Vigil

"The Easter (or Paschal) Vigil is THE liturgy of the Church year and is the most important Eucharistic celebration of the year. Its roots reach back to the Apostolic generation. In the Church's earliest centuries, it lasted all night until dawn. In fact, in the earliest Church, there were no separate liturgies during Easter Sunday; the Vigil held 'privilege of place,'" so says the National Catholic Register.

Father Jim Sabak, O.F.M., our resident Franciscan Friar, has published a book on the importance of Vigils in the early Church, with "'Vigilemus et Oremus': The Theological Significance of 'Keeping Vigil' in Rome from the Fourth to the Eighth Centuries." The book is a journey... [More](#)



## Migrant Ministry

As we enter the Spring and Summer growing season, the St. Francis Migrant Ministry is already preparing to welcome the migrant workers who travel here each year. Some of these guest workers have already arrived, but most come in May and June. They travel and work through H2A visas and are here to help out with working on farms and gathering the crops grown in the area, and the St. Francis Migrant Ministry is here to help make their stay a better experience. [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."



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

Click this image to learn more

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





On behalf of the entire St. Francis of Assisi staff and everyone who is served by our wonderful ministries, we want to say **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who make it possible for our parish to serve so many. Last weekend's volunteer appreciation event was a great opportunity to connect with many of you as Fr. Chris gave a heartfelt blessing. Thank you for all you do for our parish and may God bless you and your family.



**April 16 - Last Chance to Purchase a TFS 25th Anniversary Brick** In honor of The Franciscan School's 25th anniversary celebration, we are excited to offer a special Commemorative Brick in our renovated courtyard (Summer 2025). This unique opportunity is a wonderful way to honor or remember a TFS student, a special teacher, or a group. The cost of each brick is \$125. The funds from the commemorative brick project will support anniversary celebrations and the Timberwolf Fund. The deadline to purchase bricks for the first installation (Summer 2025) is APRIL 16. [Purchase Anniversary Brick](#)

## 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.](#)

**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

**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).





Fr. James gave a wonderful homily at our Wednesday morning community Mass on the topic of "Freedom" He spoke about Jesus crucified, freeing us from sin. The American flag - representing our liberty - paid for by the lives of our friends and neighbors, and he spoke about the Bible, the word of God freeing us to live according to God's will in our lives. Awesome homily! Thank you Fr. James!

## Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

**JUICE THAT BRAND**  
Powerful Promotions

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

Tastefully Served



UMSTEAD  
REALTY LLC

SIERRA SOCKS  
Change Your Socks, Change Your World  
&  
WEAK SIERRA  
Fashion and Accessories

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!



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.