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 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:	\$410,867	\$496,672	\$146,533
Percentage of Goal	78.7%	108.8%	99.9%



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 28 at 9:00am.
 Daily Mass will take place in the church the week after Easter.
 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.

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

Mark Your Calendar May 24th



10th Anniversary Celebration



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 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.

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.

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.

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.

April 27 - Volunteers Needed – Coffee & Donuts for Earth Day Celebration 8:30-11:00am. We're looking for volunteers to help with coffee and donuts as part of our Earth Day celebration. Volunteers are needed to pick up donuts, assist with setup, and make coffee. A staff member will be present for support. Your time and effort are greatly appreciated—please consider volunteering! [Register here](#). Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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 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.

April 27 - Young Adult Bonfire & Discussion on Prayer
6:30-8:30pm. Join fellow young adults (20-30s) at a relaxed bonfire, featuring sweet and savory s'mores! Fr. Joseph will be joining us to lead a discussion on prayer, and how we can navigate questions and challenges many of us face when approaching prayer. [Registration](#).
Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.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.
[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.

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.

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.

May 15/18 - Spring High School Youth Retreat
High schoolers! Join us for the Spring High School Youth Retreat at Camp Chestnut Ridge! We will find God in the peaks & valleys together as we build community. Enjoy a weekend of talks, small group discussions, prayer and worship, free time, fun and making connections with God and one another. [Register](#). Contact Tim Hetzel, tim.hetzel@stfrancisraleigh.org.

May 17 - Women's Pickleball & Happy Hour
3:30-5:30pm. Ladies, join us for a free, fun social event! Pickleball open play (all skill levels welcome!) at Seven Oaks from 3:30-5:30 followed by Happy Hour at the The Wandering Moose Tavern at 5:45. [Register in Realm](#). Contact Jess Kelly, sfawomensministry@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 or call (919) 852-1021. The website is: 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

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.

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.



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."

PALM SUNDAY HIGHLIGHTS





Serving With Heart, Offering Hope

A 34-year-old mother of three was making ends meet on her own. She runs a tight budget.

Click [here](https://stfrancissvdp.org/blog/) to read more or visit <https://stfrancissvdp.org/blog/>

Serve

Learn

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St. Francis of Assisi
Raleigh, NC

If you need help, please call our helpline at (919) 534-4842

Our Lady of the Rosary Thanks you!

Thank you all for your generous donations during the OLR Food Drive. The response from our parish was wonderful, with a donation of 3,500 pounds of food and \$3,500+. These donations help OLR support many families in need. Contact Ashley Watson, ashley.watson@stfrancisleigh.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.](#)



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Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz, diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisleigh.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.