December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent





Our Mission Statement

Inspired by our patron,
Francis of Assisi, we seek to
proclaim the reign of God by
growing in Holiness through
our experience of Christ in
word, sacrament, and one
another, offering Hope to those
who hunger for human dignity,
and extending Hospitality to all.







Getting Ready to Celebrate Christmas Masses at St. Francis: I'm happy to see that we're making progress in returning to a more "normal" Christmas liturgy schedule although it will not be the way it was two years ago in pre-Covid times. Remember, just one year ago, we celebrated only three Christmas

Masses with a maximum capacity of 200 per Mass with registration required to enter the church. This year, there will be seven Masses, five on Christmas Eve (one of which will be in Spanish) and two on Christmas Day morning. The three 4:00pm Masses will be geared to children, one of which will be livestreamed. The 7:30pm Mass will be in Spanish. The traditional, more "solemn," Christmas Mass will be at 10:00pm later that night, and it, too, will be livestreamed.

We have spent a great deal of time identifying ways we can keep everyone safe in light of the pandemic and bring the following points to your attention as you consider the best way and time to celebrate the birthday of our Savior. Jesus Christ at St. Francis.

- 1. Hospitality is an intrinsic part of our parish identity and Christmas is a time when many visitors, who do not receive our bulletin or see our website, are among us. Let's help to make their visit a positive one, so they may know the welcoming presence of St. Francis.
- 2. Kindness and patience are virtues. The 4:00pm liturgies will provide us with an opportunity to practice them! Keep in mind that we are trying to keep everyone safe, so if you are asked to shift to another building for this Mass time, please note we are doing this for your safety. (Remember: Santa's watching!)
- 3. Because the first three Masses (all at 4:00pm) are always packed, we ask you to consider attending one of the other Masses this year, especially the ones on Christmas morning (9:00am and 11:45am), to help us manage the numbers who will arrive and keep everyone safe. It might be a nice way to try something new and have a story to tell in the future about the time you broke with custom and went to Mass on Christmas Day and found that "all was calm and all was bright."
- 4. Bishop Luís has not reimposed the obligation to worship in person, so the Christmas livestreamed Mass continues to be an option.
- 5. Two Masses will be livestreamed (Christmas Eve at 4:00pm and at 10:00pm) Please feel free to join us in this format, especially if you have concerns about being in the midst of large crowds. Do what is in your best interest and the interests of those with whom you live and interact with beyond your home.
- 6. Masks remain mandatory for all over the age of 4 regardless of vaccination status.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Fr. Michael

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE AND PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM:

- +Giuseppe Santoro
- +Jim Reid
- **+Paul Headley**Husband of Ginger Headley
- +Raya Di Giorgio

 Mother of Mara Di Giorgio
- **+Maria Kornacka**Sister of Barbara Wolak
- **+Barbara Allen Slifer**Sister of Joe Slifer

Weekly Envelope Schedule

December 19 Weekly
December 25 Christmas
December 25 Diocesan Priest Retirement
December 26 Weekly
January 1 New Year's Day/
Mary Mother of God



984-900-3103

Christmas 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This time of year can be very comfortable for us. We hear familiar stories of God's Word and of our own family histories and memories. While Jesus comes to us and lives among us in human nature, what he brings is new and different, even challenging.

I invite you to take time to embrace this challenge that God presents to us. Listen intently to God's Word and hear familiar readings in a new way. Let us be more open and accepting of the friends and family we gather with and listen with love to their stories and their struggles. And let us find quiet time during this busy season to listen more carefully to what the Holy Spirit is asking of each of us in our own lives.

And in this great time of challenges, uncertainties, and doubts may we remember that God works by little and by little, revealing glory in the what the world may overlook and find of little account. Let us especially accept this challenge to recognize God's hidden glory as a great gift and celebrate the joy of life.

Please know that I will keep you in my prayers in the Masses I offer on Christmas. May our Holy Family, Mary and Saint Joseph, and their Son, our Lord Jesus bless and make holy our family at Christmas and throughout the New Year.

In Christ,

† Luis Rafael Zarama, J.C.L. Bishop of Raleigh Prayer Requests for December 18 to December 26



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 18, 2021 Saturday, 5:30 +Laura DiNapoli Requested by Lisa Marengo

Sunday December 19, 2021 Sunday, 7:15 +A. Marshall Clark Requested by Fleischmann Family

Sunday, 9:00 + James Kababik Requested by TFS 7th & 8th Grade Teams

> Sunday, 11:45 +George K Freeman Jr. Requested by Mary Freeman

Sunday, 5:30 For the Parishioners of St. Francis

Monday December 20, 9am +Frances Mary Slobodzian Requested by Veronica Slobodzian

Tuesday December 21, 9am + Virginia McGuinness Requested by Richard McGuinness

Wednesday December 22, 9am +Quang and Doan Nguyen Requested by Thank Kim Pham

Thursday December 23, 9am +Anna Johnson Requested by Carol Paniccia

Friday, December 24, 4PM-Church + Elizabeth Englehardt and +Robert Bradford Young Requested by John and Barb Young

> December 24, 4PM-Fellowship Hall Phillip Johnson Request by Donna Gingerella Personal Intention

December 24, 4PM-Gymnasium +Remy Yap Requested by Emma Dempsey

Friday December 24, 10PM + Genevieve Hauser Requested by Kathleen Hauser

Saturday, December 25, 9AM +Faith Mallare Requested by Jessie Mallare

Saturday, December 25, 11:45AM For the Parishioners of St. Francis

Sunday, December 26, 2021 Sunday, 7:15 +Marge Mollen Requested by Sharon Foster

Sunday, 9:00 + Christopher Golonka Requested by Ann Skinner

Sunday, 11:45 +Ryan Lynch Requested by Stephanie Lynch

Sunday, 5:30 For the Parishioners of St. Francis

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(ill) Daniel Maldonado Requested by Msgr. Clay Health & Wellness

+Kevin Hoey Requested by Ann Litts Remembrance

(ill) Clarence Dordulaw Requested by Veneriches Dordulaw Health & Wellness

> (ill) Jim Buckley Requested by Kerry Regan Health & Wellness

(ill) Ricky Santamaria Requested by Mary Cockrill Health & Wellness

+Giuseppe Santoro Requested by Jackie Adamo Remembrance

+Jim Reid Requested by Kathleen and Steve Owen Remembrance

> +Paul Headley Husband of Ginger Headley Remembrance

(ill) Carol Gault Requested by Tim Tetzel Health & Wellness

+Raya Di Giorgio Mother of Mara Di Giorgio Remembrance

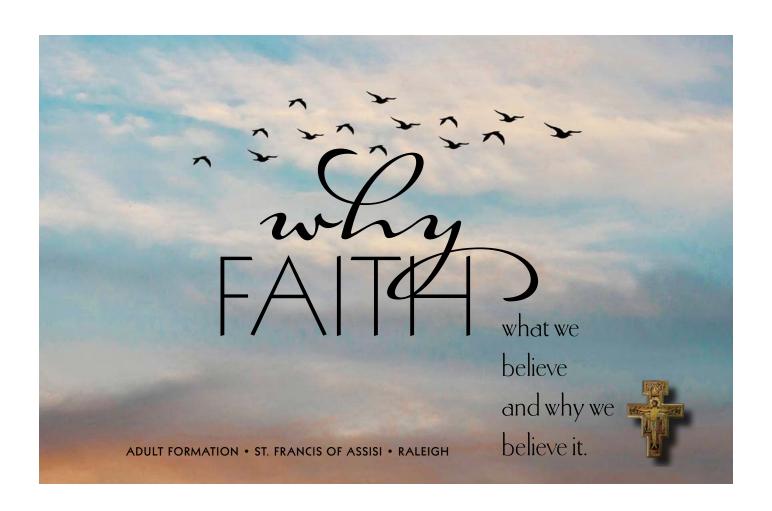
(ill) Barry Raffel Requested by Trish Raffel Health & Wellness

+Paula Almarza Requested by Diego Faria Remembrance

(ill) Kathy Cregan Requested by Maureen Emerson Health & Wellness

> +Maria Kornacka Sister of Barbara Wolak Remembrance

+Barbara Allen Slifer Sister of Joe Slifer Remembrance



Why Faith: What we believe and why we believe it

Jan 9: How do I pray?

Jan 23: Children and Faith: How to evangelize our children?

Feb 6: Conscience Development

Feb 27: LGBTQ+ & the Catholic Church

Mar 27: Redemptive suffering

April 3: Women in the Church

April 24: What is Catholic Social teaching?

May 1: Pro-Life & Abortion

May 15: Eucharist and Service

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES

Living Rosary



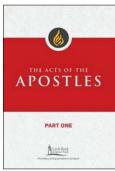
Join us on Sunday, December 19th at 4:30 pm in Fellowship Hall!

This All-Family event will look a little different as it will be happening before the 5:30 pm Mass!

All ages and abilities are invited to come make a Rosary bead luminary and learn about how to pray the Rosary together! This will be a no-hush environment. Bring the babbling toddlers, the crying babies and all children of God who love to make a joyful noise! Come see how your family can grow closer to Christ in this season! Hot Chocolate provided & Glow-in-the-dark rosaries to take home!

There is no cost for this event, but please RSVP at: https://bit.ly/3rrQASc.

Acts Of The Apostles, Part I & II - Registration is Open via Realm



THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

This is an "in-person" Bible Study, which will meet for a total of 10 sessions on Wednesday mornings from January 26 through April 6, 2022, from 10:00-11:30am. (There is no class on March 2 in honor of Ash Wednesday). Registrants will meet in the Padua Room (in the Community Center) beginning at 9:30 AM for light refreshments and coffee and class will begin promptly at 10:00 AM. Masks are required. (If deemed necessary, this study may convert to Zoom format.) Study, reflection questions, prayers, and access to online resources are included.

Cost is \$30.00 per person. Books will be available at the first meeting.

Registration limited to first 20 registrants.

Acts tells the story of how the Gospel was spread and explains the Church's growth from its beginning at the time of Jesus' ascension at Pentecost. Acts describes the Holy Spirit's empowerment of Peter, Paul and other disciples' preaching, and details how they brought the Faith from Jerusalem, Judea, throughout Samaria and, ultimately, to the ends of the earth. Acts records the conversion of Paul and the momentous decision of the Church to welcome Gentiles as well as Jews into the Church. Acts is the second volume of literary work begun in the Gospel According to Luke.

Facilitator: Cindy Cardello

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Advent Hope and Joy at the Heart of The Franciscan School

By Father Jim Sabak, O.F.M.



We're still here!! And we're thriving!!!

Now why would there be cause for such exclamations?! Because even though we aren't even half-way through the school year we are approaching the conclusion of the Advent season, and coming to the brink of Christmas and the beginning of another calendar year; so we pause to take stock of what we have accomplished in really only a very short time.

And what we have accomplished at The Franciscan School is recognizing and affirming that hope and joy lay at the center of all we undertake and all we achieve. This is no small matter given the many obstacles and challenges that came with opening another academic year. Yet, even with so many ominous warnings and troubling clouds of anxiety and stress on every horizon, we have gathered every morning to declare our trust in God that come what may God will see us through it to something wonderfully new and amazingly unexpected. This is hope and joy at work, and it is both powerfully symbolic of the Advent season and of our 8 Franciscan heritage.

If Advent is anything, it is a season that reorients us not just to the need but more importantly the necessity to people of ceaseless hope. We do not merely endure life, we explore, we question, we discover, and we persevere in life. It is hope that enables us to meet the uncertainties of any time or place in which we live and address them head on without fear. We can do this because being a believer means that we are equipped with a tenacity that refuses to ever take "No!" for an answer. If, as God's messenger Gabriel tells Mary at the Annunciation, "nothing is impossible for God," then life lived with God is filled with countless "Yes's!" A believer understands this truth and this understanding leads to an immeasurable joy that opens her or him to marvels and awe.

This is precisely the perspective through which we teach our students, from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade, at The Franciscan School. In every area of study and instruction we teach them to face and to respond to the world's pain and sadness with hope and with joy. We thrive because we know that we have a future, which is the promise Advent dares us to believe in. We succeed because we help our students to envision that future in practical, meaningful, and other-centered ways.

This vision is fundamentally Franciscan because for Saints Francis and Clare hope and joy were the only tangible realities worth believing in because they enabled one to see what glories lay hidden in the ordinary and the everyday. The world, for them, was pregnant with expectations and dreams. In Advent we come to see how God's dream comes true in the joining of heaven and earth in Christ's birth. For the students at The Franciscan School the hope and joy of God's dream is furthered in our care for one another and in our service toward and concern for the greater community.

More information about our parish school. The Franciscan School, can be found on our website at www.franciscanschool.org/ We are accepting applications for next year and have seen great demand. Join us!

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Preschool Director



Last week I shared several insights into the celebrations that some of our classes had for St. Nicholas. As you can imagine, our teachers are always looking for organic learning opportunities to grow the faith of our students. These often occur when various feast days or other important days pass throughout the liturgical year.

This past week, I had the privilege to watch as one of our 2-year old classes learned the story of St. Lucy of Syracuse. St. Lucy's feast day was December 13th. She was a virgin martyr who is considered the patron saint of those with eve ailments and those who are blind. It is said that she had her eyes torn out through torture for being a Christian, but through a miracle, she could still see. St. Lucy was also known for serving those who were imprisoned in underground chambers by bringing them food and blankets. It is said that she made herself a crown with candles so that her arms were free to carry these supplies during the night. In some celebrations, therefore, it is customary to make a crown with candles as our 2-year olds did.

If you walk by my office in Elizabeth Hall, you will see that I have a small statue of St. Lucy in my window. It was a gift to me a couple of years ago from a family of a

student named Victor, who was in one of our 2-year old classes. His family has encouraged me to share their personal story of hope. While Victor was here with us, he lost the sight in one eye due to the pooling of of blood on his eye. The family was told that the large amount of blood would normally be caused by trauma yet he had not had experienced any. The family was also told by doctors that it might be cancer, but none of the tests/ scans showed any abnormality. Victor's immediate and extended family had a deep devotion to St. Lucy and prayed continually for him. Without any medical explanation, Victor's eye suddenly healed and his sight was restored. I am delighted that he is with us again this year and is doing well!

This past week, one of our 4-year old classes took the opportunity to celebrate the feast day of the Lady of Guadalupe which was on December 12th. On this day, we remember the story of our Blessed Mother and how she appeared to a poor widow in Mexico in the 1500's. The story recalls how the old man, Juan Diego, had a vision of Mary appear to him and tell him to go to the bishop with a request to build a church on the spot where she appeared. The bishop asked Juan Diego to bring him a sign or proof.

Juan Diego then returned to the site where Mary appeared. She gave him roses to carry to the bishop. When Juan Diego returned to the bishop, he opened his cloak and the roses, which did not normally grow in the area, fell to the ground. On his cloak was the picture of Mary just as she had appeared to Juan Diego. The students in the class made smocks with roses on them and processed to the church to visit the statue of the Lady of Guadalupe. They worked so hard to create their "cloaks" and it was a wonderful sight to see them beaming as they entered the church!

Hearing stories like these and watching our students learn about them enhance my own faith too. They remind me to continually offer God my gratitude and thanksgiving for all the ways that He is present in my life!

On behalf of myself, the teachers, and staff at preschool, let me extend many heartfelt Christmas wishes to you and your family for peace, good health, and joy this holiday season and in the year ahead!

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year will begin online in January! General parishioner registration starts on Wednesday, January 12th. Please see the preschool website for details:

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Emmanuel, God With Us - Living Our Reality



A festively decorated home in the early evening during the holidays has the beauty to touch us in many ways. For most of us, the trimmed tree, the stacked presents, the joyful music, the beautiful nativity scenes and the twinkling lights are all touch points to our past. Wonderful thoughts of our youth or our children when they were small bring nostalgia and feelings of joy. Wonder and awe of this Christmas or next Christmas often usher in feelings of love and put smiles on our faces. For most of us.

Preparing for Christmas during the Advent season is a reality in our busy lives. We make ready amazing celebrations for those we love during these weeks and we make room for treasured guests to visit. Our prayer for you is that God is one of your treasured guests this holiday season. Our prayer for you if feelings of Christmases past are not so joyful, is that God help you this Advent and Christmas move beyond the pain.

Making room for God in our lives is about healing our pain and deepening our relationship with Him and each other. Making room for God as a treasured guest is about preparing our hearts and our lives for the reality that Emmanuel, God with us, is in fact with us - loving us, rooting for us, longing for us to make a turn toward Him in our lives - every minute of every day. It is about realizing that Emmanuel calls us to so much more than honoring the baby Jesus lying in a manger.

The Christmas season is a time for us to begin to live out or to re-imagine and recommit ourselves to live out this reality in our lives. What would it look like in your life to live every day as if you know God is right there, beside you. What is God calling you to?

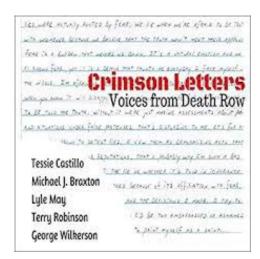
Here's a start - and it's a thread that unites us – service and encountering those who find themselves in harm's way. There is a longing in all of us to care for each other, especially those less fortunate. Whether by providing hope to those

hungering for human dignity, or help and support to family members, members of our own community, or our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, this desire to reach out and care for each other comes directly from God.

Follow this link to get to our website and find opportunities in the community to serve and to encounter our struggling brothers and sisters this holiday season and any time throughout the year: https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/offer-or-receive-help/. On this page you will find a number of opportunities through local partner agencies/ministries (like Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, NC Food Bank, The Center for Volunteer Caregiving, etc.) who are, with many precautions in place due to COVID, providing resources and support to our brothers and sisters in need. Won't you ioin them?

Reach out to Becky Cawley at <u>becky</u>. <u>cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org</u> with questions or to explore other ways to get involved through ministries of service and encounter at St. Francis.

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES



Sharing Seasons Greetings with those on Death Row

Trevor Thompson, Director of Justice and Peace

In September 2020, we hosted a virtual discussion with North Carolina Death Row inmate Lyle May, one of the authors of Crimson Letters: Voices from Death Row. Lyle is one of the Catholic men on Death Row at Central Prison in Raleigh, and St. Francis has been supporting him and his continuing education efforts for the past twelve years. Tessie Castillo, the editor of Crimson Letters, has organized virtual events around the country over the last year with Lyle and the co-authors of this book. On January 2nd, we have another opportunity to reconnect with Lyle and the co-authors and share how much we've appreciated hearing their stories.

Long-term confinement and a death sentence can lead to a sense of despair for many on Death Row, especially around the holidays, but the conversations and relationships that we have begun have given so much hope and confidence to these men. Please join us to reconnect and to remind George, Chanton, Alim and Lyle that they are seen and appreciated and loved!

We will meet over Zoom on Sunday, January 2nd from 3:30pm to 5:00pm EST.

https://zoom.us/j/7083779545

George, Chanton, Alim and Lyle will call in for 15 minutes each to hear from us. For those who attended our last virtual event or have read Crimson Letters - let's tell them about the impact they've made this year. What do you remember most about your conversations with them? How have they inspired action and change in your life? For those for whom this might be the first foray into the work of mercy called "visiting the prisoner," you are welcome to join and be a part of this exchange of life and love.

On our call, we will also have an opportunity to hear more about the latest developments with the co-authors. They've been hard at work in 2021! Alim released the first ever music single from Death Row. George completed his first book of poetry, INTERFACE, which will be published with Bleakhouse in 2022. Lyle has published over a dozen new articles on criminal legal reform, and Chanton is wrapping up a memoir 10 years in the making. And together, they've written a second edition to Crimson Letters, coming soon in 2022 with new essays and stories from the lives of these remarkable men.

PRAYER:

Lord of heaven and earth, We pray You would have mercy on all those who despair amid calamity. In these days, tornados have devastated communities and taken lives. Empower Your Church to love with Your love as we serve our neighbors in their need. Let us all turn to You in this time in waiting, repentance, and faith, as Christ is exalted as Lord of all. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Amen

Justice and Peace Ministries



Donating and Volunteering for Disaster Recovery

In light of the destructive tornados that devastated parts of our country last weekend, we are collecting donations for Catholic Charities. Funds collected in this special appeal will be used to support the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church and local agencies as they respond to immediate emergency needs and aid in long-term recovery. You can give a check or cash noting "Disaster Relief" in the memo line or on the envelope, or you can make a gift via St. Francis Faith Direct by noting "Disaster Relief" as the beneficiary of your donation.

In addition, If you are interested in being part of a team that would assist with in-person disaster recovery efforts in partnership with other on-the-ground organizations, please contact Trevor Thompson, trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Longest Night Prayer Service



Over the course of the last year, you may have lost a loved one, lost a job or financial security, have become stressed or overwhelmed in so much uncertainty, or are just unable to celebrate Christmas traditions as you always have. Whatever the case, bring those burdens to the LORD at the Longest Night Prayer Service.

Tuesday, December 21, 7:00pm

Join live at St. John Fisher Chapel Located on the St. Thomas More South Campus 632 Laurel Hill Road, Chapel Hill Overflow Parking Available at St. Thomas More Church.

Or Join virtually streaming at www.youtube.com/DioceseofRaleigh.

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

March For Life



MARCH FOR LIFE (DC) - The Respect Life Committee in the Diocese of Raleigh is reserving buses for the Annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, January 21, 2022. The cost of the bus trip is \$60.00 per person. Make your reservation through email address: blk4jmj@gmail. com. To guarantee your seat, reservations are required and payments are due no later than Wednesday, December 29 (post dated checks will be accepted). Reservations after 12/29 will be put on a waiting list. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Klein at 919-815-1369 or via the email that is listed.



- Have Santa bring only one special gift.
- Wrap gifts in magazine paper or newspaper or use reusable bags.

For resources: <u>stfrancisraleigh.org/care for creation</u>
Connect with us: <u>stfccreation@gmail.com</u>

Responsible Shopping at our On-line Fair Trade & Alternative Gift Market Continues



Click on image to shop

Even though the in person Fair Trade and Alternative Gift Market is over, it's not too late to continue to shop more responsibly and to live out our values as Catholic Christians.

Here is a link to our on-line market so you can continue to make a positive difference in the lives of others this holiday season as you shop: https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/fair-trade-2021/. (Please note that all purchases will be shipped directly to you.)

Group Opportunities

Due to the changing nature of reopening our doors, please check the group opportunity to confirm whether it is held in a virtual format or in-person.

AA Meeting: For our Alcoholics Anonymous friends whose meetings have been cancelled. The Internet is full of online recovery resources. Online meetings like this one - you can belong to more than one, or two, or three. AA.ORG main website has a list. There are private Facebook groups, endless websites, and speaker tapes. It's all there.

Al-Anon Meetings: Sun. 7:00pm, LaVerna, lower level.

Always God's Children: Always God's Children: Meets on the second Sunday of the month. A support group for LGBTQ+ people and family and friends. To receive an invite to the online meeting, contact Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241.

Adult Open Play Nights: Assisi Community Center Gym. Visit http://stfrancisraleigh.org/adult-open-play to contact the ministry leaders for each of our adult open play nights.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group:

The first Wednesday of the month, 1:00-3:00pm and the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00-9:00pm, in the Padua Room of Assisi Community Center. Linda Tucker, Itucker40@nc.rr.com, 937-478-9537. Centering Prayer: Thursdays, 9:35am or 7:30pm in Laverna.

Community Center Classes: Regular exercise classes and parent/child classes run weekly, September-May.

www.stfrancisraleigh.org/programs-and-classes.

Community Garden: Saturday mornings,10:00am.

Call Pat or Paul Kelly at 919-413-8833, email mpmkelly@hotmail.com, or just drop by.

Divorce Care: Divorce Care – Our next session will begin meeting from September 7-December 14, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:00pm. For more information contact Bill Morgan at dejanuts@yahoo.com or visit https://www.divorcecare.org/about.

Grief Support Group: Contact Marsha Riely at marshariely@mac.

com or Marlys Varga at marlysvarga@hotmail.com.

GriefShare: Contact Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleighorg.

Job Connections: We provide tools and advice on how to stay motivated and on target. To enroll, contact Mary Horner at sfa.jcm@gmail.com.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: We will resume sessions on Monday September 20. The ministry meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month from 7 to 8 am via Zoom. Contact Deacon Steve Andrews at 732-213-0104 or stephenwandrews@outlook.com.

Padre Pio Secular Franciscans: Learn more about living Franciscan spirituality in the secular world. Monthly Gatherings the 4th Sunday of the month, 1:00-3:00pm Founders Room. Contact: Ellen Ferrone - ellen.ferrone@gmail.com.

Peace Pole Prayer: Join us after the 9:00am Mass on Sundays to pray for peace in the world and our country. Meet in front of Clare Hall for a few minutes of prayer.

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Contact Cindy Cardello, 919-846-8825 or Diane Rotunno, 919-844-7153 for details.

Rosary Ministry: Mondays, 7:30 - 8:30pm, St. Mary of the Angels Chapel, Marian Monti, ianmar94@aol.com.

50+ Adults Group: Monthly potluck luncheons throughout the year and monthly game days, September through May in Clare Fellowship

Hall. Pat Gerney, 919-803-8276.

Women's Ministry:

- Friday Morning with Celesta Carlson - ccarlson210@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

To all our volunteers:

Here are a few ways you could help members of our parish:

Caring Connections

We are looking for a volunteer ministry coordinator for Caring Connections. The duties would be to add/edit/delete tasks in our lotsahelping-hands.com app, create announcements to the ministry, monitor that tasks are being picked up, and if not, notify me. Training is provided. Total weekly time commitments – 1 hour. If you're interested, contact Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241.

FaceTime and Zoom

If you'd like to learn how to use FaceTime or Zoom or be connected to watch our daily and Sunday programs, or if you'd like to teach someone over the phone, please visit our https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/offeror-receive-help/.

Cards and Artwork

If you'd like to send or receive cards to/from fellow parishioners and establish a connection with other folks who are sheltering in place, or if you have kids who would love to send their artwork to brighten someone's day, or if you'd like to receive some artwork, visit https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/offer-or-receive-help/.

Make a Meal and Deliver Groceries

If you would like to make a meal or help deliver groceries to those in need, please visit: https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/offer-or-receive-help/.

Thank you!

All of our Parish Life Ministries and the Community Center would like to thank you for serving the St. Francis Community. Please check your weekly bulletin for updates. Stay well.

Fr. Steve Kluge's New Book



Available at: www.grateful-leper.com

	fice: 919-847-8205 fax: 919-87	70-1790	Staff email: firstname.lastname(@stfrancisraleigh.org	
Velcome Iew Parishioner Registration Recoming Catholic Priests and Deacon	Toni Hammes Jonathan Vanegas-Calderon	847-8205x265 847-8205x238	The Franciscan School Principal Receptionist (Main Number) Assistant Principal, K-5 Assistant Principal 6-8	Mike Watson Katie Hall Dawn Smith Colette Dziadul	919-534-484 919-534-483 847-8205x254 847-8205x65
lastor arochial Vicar n Residence leacon birector of Pastoral Ministries	Msgr. Michael Clay Fr. Jairo Maldonado-Pacheco Rev. James Sabak, O.F.M. Stephen Andrews Kathy Sales	847-8205x224 847-8205x226 919-832-6281 732-213-0104 847-8205x488	St. Francis Preschool Director Assistant to the Director Faith Formation Director of Faith Formation	Heidi Hobler Shelley Freeman Jonathan Vanegas-Calderon	847-8205x24 847-8205x26 847-8205x23
Administrative Assistant Sacraments Saptism Cirst Reconciliation Confirmation Matrimony Holy Orders Acconciliation Appointments Reconciliation Appointments RCIA Sacraments Administration Columbarium Niches	Tim Hetzel Marisa Ferrara Marisa Ferrara Thomas Bulick Tim Hetzel Msgr. Michael Clay Kathleen Owen Jonathan Vanegas-Calderon Martina Dumberger Kathleen Owen Trish Adamkowski	847-8205x249 847-8205x244 847-8205x223 847-8205x223 847-8205x239 847-8205x224 847-8205x241 919-847-8205 847-8205x236 847-8205x236 847-8205x236	Admnistrative Assistant Coordinator of Elementary Formation and First Sacraments Coordinator of Youth Ministry Middle School Faith Formation Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery) Parish Operations Director of Facilities Director of Finance Human Resources Parishioner Records Safe Environment Specialist Communications and Webmaster	Janie Hebert Marisa Ferrara Thomas Bulick Andrea Javier Marc Kielty Rob Neppel Trish Adamkowski Toni Hammes Trish Adamkowski Diogenes Ruiz	847-8205x22 847-8205x49 847-8205x49 847-8205x23 847-8205x24 847-8205x24 847-8205x24 847-8205x23 847-8205x26 847-8205x27
Get Care! Care Home Eucharist Visits Feed the Need (meals) Medical Facility Visits Fransportation to Mass Stephen Ministry St. Vincent de Paul Good Grief GriefShare	Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Leave Voicemail Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 919-534-4842 847-8205x241	Prayers Prayer Line Mass Requests and POTF Receive a Prayer Shawl Support Groups Divorce Care Job Connections Seeing God in your Cancer AA Daily Reprieve Group Al-Anon Alzheimer's Caregivers Support	Stacey Shine Kathleen Owen	f99@gmail.com 847-8205x249 847-8205x241 uts@yahoo.com 610-755-5392 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 919-923-1234 937-478-9537
let Involved! Vorship Ministries					
Director of Liturgy and Music Coordinator of Liturgical Minister Ultar Servers & Thurifers Children's Liturgy of the Word Church Keeping Cross Bearers Joseph Randazzo Deaf Ministry Environment & Art Eucharistic Ministers Funeral Ministers Hospitality Hands ectors Master of Ceremonies Medical Presence at Mass	Joanie Madormo rmadormo Jackie Kelly Beverly Saunders	203-512-8807 919-846-5795 om 919-412-8365 919-848-3383 847-8205x244 919-845-9718	St Francis Serves Community Garden Curbside Care Duke Children's Hospital Family Promise Gabriel Project Migrant Ministry Prison Pen Pal R.A.R.E. Tom Zimmerman Red Cross Blood Drive Refugee Resettlement Habitat for Humanity St Vincent de Paul Ministers Support Circles Kat and Ferrel Guil St Francis on Mission	Joe and Geanie Slifer Ron Smith Trevor Thompson Bruce Cartier bcart sfapen thomaspzimmerman@bellso Bryan Kozak Aggie Dalton aggiedal Trevor Thompson stfa Ann Binghamstfrancissvdp44	910-728-9200 ton@gmail.com a.fp@gmail.com

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Troy Chaput

Kathleen Owen Carol Ricotta

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847-8205x270

John Budway

Becky Cawley

Trevor Thompson 847-8205. http://www.thejusticetheaterproject.org/

Becky Cawley becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org

Ben Whitehouse whitehouseben5@gmail.com

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Toni Hammes

Leon Cooke

Norm Tuomi Ralph Guenther

Kathleen Owen

Kathleen Owen

Kathleen Owen

Pat Gerney

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919-740-7515

847-8205x241

847-8205x241

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St. Francis of Assisi Community Center Coordinator of Community Center Ashley Watson 847-8205x444 Athletic Programs Mary Arleth 847-8205x358 Assisi Café Ashley Watson 847-8205x444 Ashley Watson Parish Events (FrancisFest) 847-8205x444 Summer Camps (Camp Francis) Community Organizations Ashley Watson 847-8205x444 Girl Scouts of USA Melissa O'Connor 847-8205x296 BSA Scouts:Troop 352 (6th-12th, boys) Robert Sadler scoutmaster352@gmail.com BSA Scouts:Troop 219 (6th-12th, girls) Scott Cash scoutmaster219tfs@gmail.com BSA Cub Scouts: Pack 352 (K-5th) Rebecca Brooks membershippack352@yahoo.com Knights of Columbus Steve Becker gk@kofc9709.org http://ofscentralnc.org Secular Franciscan Order Ellen Ferrone **Faith Formation Ministries Baptism Ministry** Tim Hetzel 847-8205x244 847-8205x244 Marriage Ministry Tim Hetzel Confirmation Sponsors Thomas Bulick 847-8205x239 Children's Formation Group Leader Tara Moore 847-8205x489 Family & Marriage Enrichment Team Tim Hetzel 847-8205x244 Middle School Formation Group Youth Ministry Group Leader RCIA Team & Sponsors Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery) Thomas Bulick 847-8205x239 847-8205x223 Marisa Ferrara Jonathan Vanegas-Calderon 847-8205x238 847-8205x489 Tara Moore Young Adults Bible Study Group Tim Hetzel 847-8205x244

MASS SCHEDULE WEEKEND MASSES*

fb.me/YoungAdultsofStFrancis

Sunday: 7:15am, 9:00am (also livestreamed), 11:45am, 5:30pm

WEEKDAY MASS*
9:00am

*Masks are required for ALL over the age of 4, regardless of your vaccination status, in all public areas of our campus.



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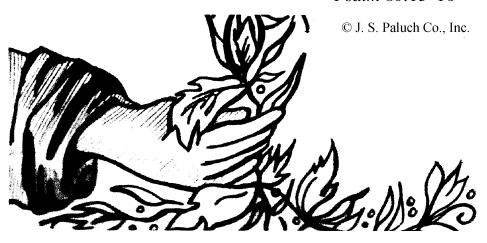
Fourth Sunday of Advent December 19, 2021

O LORD of hosts,

look down from heaven and see; take care of this vine,

and protect what your right hand has planted.

— Psalm 80:15–16



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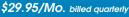
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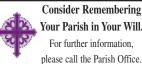
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