

# Remembrance

Please visit <a href="https://www.stfrancis-raleigh.org/remembrance-form/">https://www.stfrancis-raleigh.org/remembrance-form/</a> and complete the form to include your loved ones name in these remembrances. Please complete a new form for each name.

#### **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.



See page 7





With our focus last week on our beloved dead and the political drama enveloping our nation. National

Vocations Awareness Week, November 1-7, slipped off our radar. This week is set aside by the U.S. Catholic Church to focus on the important vocations of the priesthood, the diaconate, and the consecrated life of both women and men. We are blessed to have been served by men religious, Jesuits and Franciscans, since the founding of the parish until September 1. Now the parish is led by diocesan priests. We are blessed to have a permanent deacon in the parish, Deacon Steve Andrews, and his wife. Lois. We are invited to encourage vocations to the priesthood. diaconate, and religious life as these vocations are vital to the health and vitality of the Church. While the week went by due to other priorities. I ask you to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. One of the reasons the Franciscans withdrew from the parish is a lack of vocations. Many religious orders are facing the same challenges. We are in need of more young men to explore a vocation to the priesthood and for families to encourage their children to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The number one reason a young person considers this type of vocation is because someone invited them to do so. It requires sacrifice, a generous heart, and a love for the Lord and His people. Those who have responded to the call

and have served in this way tell us that it is a very rewarding life. I know this to be true because it is true for me.

Next Sunday, November 15, I will celebrate my 40th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. It is hard to believe I have been sowing and plowing the Lord's field for four decades. The time has flown quickly and I have experienced more joys than I can recount. It has had its challenges, certainly a low point being the scandal of the sex abuse crisis, but I have no regrets serving the Lord and His people for 40 years. I have had experiences I could never have imagined on November 15, 1980 when I was ordained by Bishop Gossman in New Bern at Centenary Methodist Church, the church next door to my parish church (which only seated 200 people). Perhaps being ordained in a Methodist Church was a harbinger of things to come. Among the many adventures I have had and horizons I have been invited to pursue. the privilege of shepherding a parish in building a new church and middle school, earning a doctorate, teaching at a worldclass university, and becoming an international expert on the RCIA stand out.

Because of COVID-19, I will not be celebrating a special Mass of Thanksgiving on my anniversary this year. Hopefully, I will be able to do something in November 2021. I am grateful for your prayers next Sunday and look forward to serving you as I begin my 41st year of service to the Lord and now the people of St. Francis of Assisi.

Msgr. Clay

### THROUGH BAPTISM MAY THEY WALK ALWAYS AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT:

**Luke Christopher Allred**Son of Chris and Jenn Allred

**Chase Edward Barnes**Son of Daniel and Karen Barnes

**Caroline Bragg**Daughter of Sean and Ashley Bragg

Kennedy Hope Brennan Daughter of Matthew and Mary Caitlin Brennan

Collins Greer Hunt
Daughter of Matthew and
Morganne Hunt

Emerson Blakely Hunt
Daughter of Matthew and
Morganne Hunt

Jack Matthew Hunt
Son of Matthew and Morganne Hunt

Jack McCauley
Son of Matthew and Rebecca McCauley

**Giovani Musick Sousa** Son of Johnny and Liz Sousa

# **■ Daily Mass 10am**

Daily Mass will continue in the Memorial Garden the week of November 9-13. It will move to the church if it rains or if it's too cold outside.

Wednesdays are reserved for TFS and Preschool Mass. All pandemic protocols are followed. No signups are required.



# Facility Maintenance Technician Full Time

A 2-Year degree in facility management or a construction trade, or a minimum of 3 years experience in a general maintenance environment.

Send a cover letter with resume or DOR application to trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org.

#### **November Envelope Schedule**

November 8 Weekly

November 15 Weekly

November 15 Christmas Flowers

November 22 Weekly

November 22 Human Development &

Human Dignity

Undated Thanksgiving/Food

for the Poor

November 29 Weekly



No Caring Casseroles allowed on 11/11 and 11/12 due to a facilities issue.

#### **Caring Casseroles & Feed the Need:**

Caring Casseroles & Feed the Need have moved! Our refrigerator is now located in Cupertino in the Community Center. Please note the following when dropping off your meal.

- Both Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles should be dropped off at the Community Center – specifically the middle door which opens into Cupertino Room. The middle door will be unlocked between 9am and 4pm Monday-Friday.
- The doors to the rest of the Community Center will remain locked.
- There will be one refrigerator for Feed the Need and one refrigerator for Caring Casseroles. They will be labelled accordingly.
- Please do not put anything in the freezer. We will be using both freezers for short term storage of meals for families.
- Please remember to put a label on each meal including the ingredients.
   We have some families with food allergies and you can help us keep them safe by just including the ingredients for each meal for both Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles.
- If you have any questions or would like to join this wonderful ministry, contact me at 919-847-8205x241 or email me at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org

Thank you so much for continuing to cook delicious, nutritious meals that benefit members of our St. Francis community who are in need.

# **Weekend Masses**

Up to 200 people are welcome to attend the Sat. 5:30pm, Sun. 9:30am, and Sun. 5:30pm Masses. To sign up, visit our website at 12 noon the Wednesday prior.







# Sacrament of Reconciliation

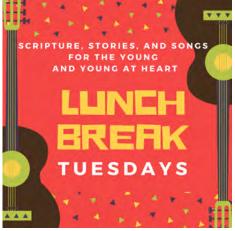
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4:00 to 4:45pm on Saturdays in the church.

All health and safety protocols will be followed but we will NOT be recording names of those who join.





https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/5539





# Join us for a Holiday shopping extravaganza unlike any other!







**Featured Fair Trade Vendors** 

Pala Village Market



**Our Children's Place** 



Lumago Design



**GumCha4Health** 



JustNeem



**Bull City Fair Trade** 





La Casa Del Arte







Purchase beautiful and thoughtful gifts for those you love while standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need working to provide a dignified life for their families. Follow this link to register for the Kickoff





















### PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

#### **Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive:**

Twice a year we help to fill the pantry at OLR, which serves the poor and rural communities, where approximately 24% live below the poverty line. This year, due to the Covid-19 crisis, the need is even greater. Please consider filling a bag! Bags will be distributed after masses on November 7/8; again, after masses on November 14/15. You may also pick up a bag in the Community Center Cupertino Room Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm on November 9-13, and November 16-20. A complete list of foods needed includes: rice and maseca flour, canned tomatoes, vegetables, fruit and meats, pasta and rice, macaroni and cheese, boxes of cereal, fruit juice, dried beans. peanut butter and jelly, diapers (all sizes) and wipes. Please drop off your bag on Saturday, November 21 from 4:00pm-6:00pm or Sunday, November 22 from 9:00am-1:00pm or 3:00pm-6:00pm. For more information, the list of foods needed or to volunteer, please visit https://www. stfrancisraleigh.org/our-lady-of-the-rosary/ Thank you for your generosity!



#### **Frozen Turkey Drive:**

It is that time of year! On Thursday, November 19, from 7:30am–12:00pm, we will be collecting frozen turkeys to benefit Passage Home. Would you please consider donating? The need this year is greater due to Covid-19. To donate, please, where a volunteer will pick it up right from your car! Thank you for your generous donations.

# **Calling All Cooks**

Kathleen Owen, Director of Parish Life

As most of you already know, The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi is a welcoming parish. It's also a very generous parish in so many ways. Several years ago, we started a new ministry, Feed the Need, which learns of parishioners who are going through significant life events like serious health issues, loss of a loved one, a new baby, or other situations. Families used to have to come pick up their cooked meals at the church, but now, with Caring Connections, we can serve those folks who are unable to come to church to pick up meals.

The glue that holds these two ministries together is Caring Casseroles. The Feed the Need ministry has a calendar with families listed on specific days. If a cook signs up to cook a specific meal for a specific family on a specific day, great! If not, then we rely on Caring Casseroles. A Caring Casserole may be a freezable casserole or freezable side dishes that we can pair with other cooked casseroles to make a home cooked meal for someone who has spent the day in the infusion chair, with a sick loved one in the hospital, or spent the night with a fussy newborn. Some homemade soup, a quiche, or some strawberries might make all the difference in helping someone remember that they are part of a community that cares about them and for them, in good times and bad.

So who can offer Caring Casseroles? EVERYBODY! Make a meal for your family and make some more or double the recipe to donate. It just needs to be freezable. You can drop off these casseroles, etc., in Cupertino Room in the Community Center, in the refrigerator on the left side of the room, from 9-12. Here's where you can check out all the details https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/caring-casserole/ or https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/ministries-2-2/feed-the-need-2/

Now, a couple of points: in the month of October, we received 42 Caring Casseroles, but we had to use 57 Casseroles to fill the meals we agreed to offer. That means we're using our overflow meals faster than we're getting them. With the holidays coming up, we expect our cooks to be busier with their families and we will be more dependent on Caring Casseroles than ever, so we're hoping you can help us keep up with demand.

And finally, please consider signing up to be a Feed the Need cook or a Caring Casseroles cook. You cook when it's convenient for you. Through the website, you have access to family preferences and allergies. We also call each receiving family weekly and we share their prayer requests with our cooks. It really is one of the most satisfying ways to get your whole family involved - select the family you'll cook for, the recipe you'll make, do the shopping and the cooking and then pray for the family you're helping, and you will be prayed for by the families who receive your meals. And isn't that what we're all called to do?

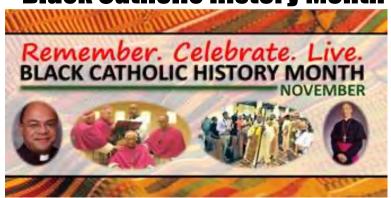
No Caring Casseroles allowed on 11/11 and 11/12 due to a facilities issue.

## **SCAM ALERT**

Scammers are at it again sending malicious emails to parishioners. You will NEVER get a soliciation email from our pastor or bishop asking for "a favor", or for emergency help in the form of money. Please do not open or click on them. Simply trash them. They could cause havoc on your computer and your pocket book.

## JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

# November Black Catholic History Month



by St. Francis parishioner Leon Cooke and Trevor Thompson, Director of Office of Justice and Peace.

In order to highlight the important place black Catholics have played in Catholicism, the Church has lifted up the month of November as BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH.

The reason behind the selection of the month of November was the number of important dates to Catholics of African descent that fell within this month. For example, November 3rd is the memorial of St. Martin de Porres who was the first black saint of the Americas and November 13th is the birth of St. Augustine who was the first Doctor of the Church from North Africa.

It is also often forgotten that Christianity was originally a religious tradition that emerged from what we now call

the Middle East and the Mediterranean, in country's whose racial and ethnic make-up were much more diverse than what we might think when considering the Church's history. The late Catholic monk and historian of Catholic African-American history, Fr. Cyprian Davis, O.S.B, said in an interview, "Remember, Ethiopia was a Christian nation earlier than many nations in Europe. It was a Christian kingdom before Ireland was evangelized, before more of North Germany was evangelized, and before Poland was a Catholic country."

In the world today, there are over 200 million people of African descent in the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world, and central Africa is where the

most vigorous growth for the Catholic Church has been for years. In the US, the Catholic Church has about 3 million black Catholics, which is roughly 4% of our country's Catholic population; however, we have just 250 black priests, less than 1% of the total US clergy.

In the Diocese of Raleigh, it is important to know that we have an organization called African Ancestry Ministry and Evangelization (AAMEN) to create an atmosphere in which individuals of African Ancestry can maintain their identity, heighten their visibility, and enhance their lives as Catholics. Among the ways that AAMEN supports these efforts is by providing liturgical and pastoral support to several communities of African Catholics, including the Swahili, Igbo, and Francophone communities.

In celebration of Black Catholic History Month, AAMEN has also put together a brand new set of videos called "The Gift of Catholicism" featuring a collection of black Catholic leaders and designed to invite viewers into the mind and heart of our Catholic tradition. You can access to these videos by going to https://dioceseo-fraleigh.org/news/gift-catholicism

We will offer a couple more articles in the bulletin this month that speak about the legacy and beauty of this black Catholic diversity in the Church.





### **EDUCATION MINISTRIES**

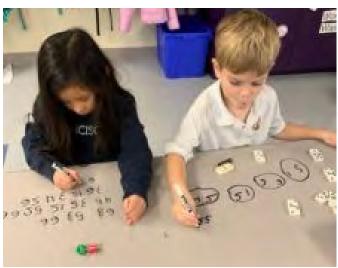
# Find out More About TFS for the 2021-22 School Year

Mike Watson, Principal TFS









# How can I Find out More About TFS for the 2021-22 school year?

Deciding where to send your child to school can be a difficult decision. With so many options and programs to choose from in the Raleigh area, making the right decision for your child can seem overwhelming. As you consider your options here are three reasons we think The Franciscan School could very well be the place for your child:

#### **Small class size**

Our class sizes for grades K-8 are intentionally small. We feel giving your child the opportunity for more one on one time with their teacher is a way to develop individual needs while still learning in a classroom environment. Experiential learning is a way our teachers embed the concepts being taught in the classroom. Teachers often find ways to explore how concepts and ideas are brought to life so

children have real and tangible takeaways with each lesson.

#### **Community and Service Values**

In the spirit of the Franciscan mission, students are introduced early to the concept of community and service. Each day begins with Morning Prayer in the courtyard in which the entire school gathers to pray and give thanks for the day ahead. Each month students and staff participate in service projects that benefit those in the Raleigh and surrounding areas. Learn more about how our students make a difference.

#### **Faith based education**

Our students are nurtured in a prayerful environment with catholic traditions and Franciscan values. The school works closely with parents, their children's first teachers, to prepare each child with a foundation of faith and values that will serve them far beyond their time at the school.

The Franciscan School wants to partner with you to achieve the goals you have for your child and their educational experience. Join us for one of our upcoming virtual information sessions:

November 12, 7pm December 8, 12pm January 13, 9am February 18, 7pm March 16, 12pm

Our Principal Mike Watson will lead each of the sessions and faculty and parents will join the session as well to help answer any questions you may have about The Franciscan School.

More information can be found on our website at www.franciscanschool.org or contact Principal Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

## EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Director St. Francis of Assisi Preschool

# **What is a Saint? and What do Saints do?**



"In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love." St. Teresa of Calcutta

As you recall, last Sunday we celebrated All Saints Day. This is an important day in our church. At preschool, we try every year to balance the kids' excitement for Halloween with this significant day. Given that the world around them is full of spooky decorations, lots of candy, and costume choices, it is not always easy to keep the scales balanced. As Catholic educators, we recognize, however, how crucial it is to teach our students about the saints.

Our teachers use creativity in combination with expertise to bring the saints "to life" for our preschoolers. They often utilize stories and art projects to begin and expand on their lessons. As I have written in previous articles, young children will learn and remember what they are taught better when they can relate to or have had experience with the new material. Because we always celebrate the feast of St. Francis with our preschoolers, this is often a good starting point. The children can pull from what they learned about St. Francis and add it to the new information. Learning about St. Joseph, Jesus' father, or St. Anne, His grandmother, are also good connections as most of our students have a family with at least one or the other. St. Nicholas is a favorite one to learn about at Christmas time. Many teachers add the stories of St. Valentine and St. Patrick as

well. All of these well-known saints can provide a strong beginning idea for who a saint is and what they did to show how much they loved Jesus. Having images of these saints already in their imaginative repertoire helps our preschoolers better understand less familiar saints. What other saints can you discuss at home based on everyday life? I know that my two children learned early all about St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost things, because it was easy for their mother to lose things!

As many classes were focusing particularly on saints last week. I posed a few questions to some of our preschoolers. They were: What is a saint? and What do saints do? I enjoyed hearing their enthusiastic answers. Following are just a few: Thomas, one of our older 2-year olds: A saint is... one of the statues that you see at church and Jesus is there." He clearly has been observant on his occasions. to church! From one of our 3 year olds. Joey: "They pray." We know this is true! Evelyn, a 4-year old: They "help people & love people." A 5-year old, James said, "They bring messages from God." While I appreciated all of their thoughts and on-target answers, I think, Miles, another 4-year old, said it best: Saints are... "maybe us!" In Fr. Jairo's homily last week, he said that we are all called

to be saints; we are all called to be holy people of God. We have a responsibility to emphasize with our children that they too can be a saint. One of the beautiful things about our Catholic preschool is that we are already setting our students on the path of learning how to be a saint. We do this in lots of ways including by teaching them to help and love people, by teaching them to pray, and by teaching them about church among other things.

The above quote from St. Teresa further reiterates that it's not necessarily what we do, but rather how we do it. I interpret her words to mean that even our youngest people can make a big difference by performing just small acts. Little things can help keep you on the path to following Jesus. Ms. Mili, one of our teachers, summed it up when she said that it is essential to teach our children about saints because they provide a role model for how we should really live our lives and stay close to Jesus. May we always remember in all that we think, do, and say that God loves us and wants us to share His love with others!

To learn more about the wonderful opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at: preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at: shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org

# This Week and Next

#### **Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive**

Twice a year we help to fill the pantry at OLR, which serves the poor and rural communities, where approximately 24% live below the poverty line. This year, due to the Covid crisis, the need is even greater. Please consider filling a bag! Bags will be distributed after masses on November 7/8; again, after masses on November 14/15. You may also pick up a bag in the Community Center Cupertino Room Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm on November 9-13, and November 16-20. A complete list of foods needed will be attached to your bag. Bag drop off will be the weekend of November 21/22, times to follow. Check the bulletin for more information.

#### St Vincent de Paul

A mother of two who was furloughed from her job, was planning to go back to work. However, when she was just getting ready to return, she discovered she needed unexpected surgery. After a successful surgery, it was time to get ready to return to work. The only problem was finding enough money for the monthly rent payment. Reaching out to others for financial help was not a familiar task, but one that had to be done knowing that soon a paycheck would help to make life as normal as possible during a pandemic. Several agencies, including St. Vincent de Paul helped to pay her rent. We received an email thanking us for our help. It was the difference between having shelter or being homeless. When the time is right, she said she will be sure to help someone else in need. Much like the circle of love, the circle of help must not be broken. All work with our neighbors is done virtually. If interested in helping contact Cathy Smith at <a href="mailto:smithter@gmail.com">smithter@gmail.com</a>.

#### The Faith and Science Forum

This group meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 1:00 to 2:30pm via Zoom to share information by discussing books, to ask questions, and to support one another in our mutual discovery and appreciation of our common home where Spirit illumines all things. Please

contact Ron Monti at (919) 841-0807, montiron@aol.com or Tracy Hurley at 828-773-3152, danandtracy@hotmail.com.

#### Contemplative Spirituality Solace of Fierce Landscapes

We continue to meet virtually every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 1 to 2:30pm to dialogue on *Solace of Fierce Landscapes* by Belden C. Lane, where the author explores why so many in history were drawn to the hazardous terrain of deserts and mountains in search of Christian spirituality. Those reading the book have found it to be truly captivating due to its many unique insights into our Spirituality. If you have questions or are interested in joining the sessions contact Tracy Hurley at danandtracy@hotmail.com, 828-773-3152 or Deacon Steve at stephenwandrews@outlook.com. 732-213-0104.

#### Contemplative Spirituality Thomas Merton's Bridges Series

Did you know that when John Robert Lewis crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965, he knew that he was going to be arrested and he had two books with him that he was going to read while he was in jail. One was his bible and the other was a book by Thomas Merton. Why would a 23 year old Baptist have a book to read written by the Catholic Monk? Experience Why. Join us virtually, on Fridays from 1 to 2:30pm. We will dialogue on book from Merton's Bridges to Contemplative Living Series. Contact Tracy Hurley at danandtracy@hotmail.com, 828-773-3152 or Deacon Steve at stephenwandrews@ outlook.com,

732-213-0104.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – The ministry meets virtually every 1st and 3rd Mondays from 7 to 8 am. The meetings provide a way for men to come together in prayer and fellowship. For discussions, we select a book that deals with faith and life issues. The Men's Ministry provides a safe haven for men to meet other Christian men for friendship and the sharing of our journey through life. If interested contact Norm Tuomi at <a href="mailto:norman3722@att.net">norman3722@att.net</a> or Ralph Guenther at <a href="mailto:rguenther2@nc.rr.com">rguenther2@nc.rr.com</a>

**GriefShare** – Surviving the Holidays Sunday, November 15, from 2-4 via Zoom. For information, please contact Kathleen Owen at (919) 847-8205x241 or <a href="mailto:kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org">kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org</a>.

**DivorceCare** – Surviving the Holidays Sunday November 15, from 2-4 via Zoom For information, please contact Kathleen Owen at (919) 847-8205x241 or <a href="mailto:kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org">kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org</a>.

Cancer Companions – Celebrating Christmas in Your Cancer Journey, December 6, from 2-4. For additional information, please contact Kathleen Owen at (919) 847-8205x241 or kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org.

You can mail your contribution to us at:

St Francis Of Assisi 11401 Leesville Road Raleigh, NC 27613

You give can Online through:



#### **Faith Direct:**

https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faithdirect/



Text-to-Give: 919-629-1199

**Additional Online Giving Methods:** 

https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure/



## **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 ca ncelled. 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: The monthly support group meeting for LGBTQ+ people and family and friends. To receive an invite to the online meeting, email Chuck Small at chuck.smallsfa@gmail.com. Next meeting, December 6.

**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 St. Mary of the Angels Chapel.

**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: sessions resumed virtually Tuesday September 1, 6:00 – 8:00pm in the Padua Room of the Assisi Community Center. 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 Ministry:** Breakfast, Padua Room of the Assisi Community Center. Visit https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/mensministry/ for details. **Padre Pio Secular Franciscans:** Learn more about living

Franciscan spirituality in the secular world. Monthly Gatherings the 4th Sunday of the month, 1-3 Founders Room.

Contact: Ellen Ferrone - ellen.ferrone@gmail.com.

**Peace Pole Prayer:** Join us after the 9:30am 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. Contact Angela Azzopardi, 919-848-1347.

#### **Women's Ministry:**

- Tue Evenings with Anna Fowler annafowler@nc.rr.com
- 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:

#### **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/offer-or-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. At this time all other volunteer opportunities are suspended until it is safe for us to come together again. Please check your weekly bulletin for updates. Stay well.

#### Cardinal Gibbons Parish Affiliation Forms

The parish offices are closed due to the pandemic. Those needing Parish Affiliation Forms completed for Cardinal Gibbons 2021-2022 Academic year, the form may be emailed directly to toni.hammes@stfrancisraleigh.org or mailed:

St. Francis of Assisi, 11401 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 Attention: Toni Hammes

The information will be sent from St. Francis directly to CGHS. Please email <u>Toni.Hammes@stfrancisraleigh.org</u> if you have any questions.



# Get Ready

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

As we near the end of the liturgical year and prepare for Advent, the readings get us ready for the Second Coming of Jesus by addressing our own final encounter with him. The Church summarizes the last realities each person must reflect on: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. In short, when we die, we will face personal judgment. If our response has been to return Jesus' love, the reward will be heaven. But if we reject Jesus, the result will be hell.

This should not be a source of anxiety or fear, but rather faith, serenity, and

# **Sunday Readings**

Wisdom 6:12-16

Resplendent and unfading is Wisdom, and she is ... found by those who seek her

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 or 4:13–14

If we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

#### Matthew 25:1-13

[Jesus said,] "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." hopeful confidence. If we are not quite ready, now is the age of mercy, and God's grace abounds for those who seek it. It is a healthy thing to be prepared and wise. All of us know our final encounter with Jesus at the end of life is coming. It would be foolish to ignore it or not maturely reflect on its implications.

Oil is the natural resource mentioned in the Gospel because without the light and warmth that an oil lamp provided, the guests could get lost in the dark or need to abandon the wait because of the cold. As we journey through this life, awaiting the marriage feast of Jesus, our hearts can get dimmed and icy if we are not lit by the oil of love and the warmth of the Spirit. We don't know the day or the hour when Jesus will come take us into the eternal banquet, but we know for sure that day is coming.

The wise guest is the person fueled by the oil of love and ready for any eventuality. As the Boy Scout motto goes—Be Prepared. +

All of us know our final encounter with Jesus is coming. It would be foolish to ignore it.

## A Word from Pope Francis

The study of the sacred Scriptures must be a door opened to every believer.... Evangelization demands familiarity with God's word, which calls for dioceses, parishes, and Catholic associations to provide for a serious, ongoing study of the Bible, while encouraging its prayerful individual and communal reading.

-Evangelii Gaudium, November 24, 2013



## REFLECTIONS QUESTIONS GRESTIONS SEELFECTION

- Am I constantly in contact with the mercy of God so I am always ready?
- How am I living now so that I am always prepared for the final encounter with Jesus?



# **Art as Spiritual Therapy Retreat**

Back by popular demand is our Art as Spiritual Therapy retreat. Come experience the healing aspects of arts and crafts. Our presenters will show you how to use some hands-on arts and craft activities to renew your spirit. Among others activities, expert potters will guide you in creating your own piece of pottery, kiln fired just in time for Christmas. The retreat is one night, November 20-21. The special price is \$175, which includes all materials, meals, lodging and access to the beautiful grounds at Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC. Space is limited to make sure everyone has proper working space, so register now at <a href="www.catholicconference.org/art-therapy">www.catholicconference.org/art-therapy</a>. For more information email <a href="mailto:info@catholicconference.org">info@catholicconference.org</a> or call 828-327-7441. While on the website, check out our "Behold, I make all things new" New Year's Retreat.

# Translating the Message

By Johan van Parys

My nieces and nephews are great kids—intelligent and kind—and I'm proud to be their uncle. Still, I regret their lack of participation in the life of the Church. From what other parishioners tell me, this is happening all around, not just in my family. Why are we losing so many young people? Why doesn't the Gospel message get through to them?

This issue of the best way to communicate the Gospel can be traced back to the apostles. Think about our Church's beginning—the time of Pentecost. Outside the Upper Room, I imagine great festivity as people from many regions and nations gathered in Jerusalem. Inside the Upper Room, the apostles were hiding, burdened with fear and uncertainty. Then suddenly everything changed. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the apostles overcame their fear and burst into the street. The sight of the apostles, on fire with the Spirit as they spoke about God's marvelous deeds, must have quieted the crowd. Miraculously, everyone was able to understand them despite ethnic differences and linguistic barriers.

The apostles presented the Gospel truth in different languages through various channels.



From Jerusalem, the apostles spread throughout the world proclaiming the Good News to every nation known to humankind. They succeeded because they presented the Gospel truth in different languages through various channels.

Successful missionary activity has always relied on the translation of the one and true message into the vernacular and familiar idioms of the people receiving the message. The failures of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century mission attempts in China were attributed to the Church's refusal to allow a Chinese Catholic rite that would have included "baptismal" pre-Christian theological language and accommodated ancestor worship, which was very dear

to them. On the flip side, the success of the Church's mission in Central Africa has been ascribed to the introduction of a Congolese rite that considers the ethos of Central Africa and allows typical African modes of celebration.

As we preach the Gospel in our current, ever-changing reality, we can do one of two things: turn inward and hide in a romanticized understanding of our perceived glorious past, or find new ways to preach the Gospel. The first option might prove disastrous as the Church continues to crumble. The second, though not easy, offers hope—and the promise of a Church ever new and true.

Let us listen carefully to the spiritual needs of our people, learn to understand and speak their languages, and use their idioms wisely to spread the Good News. Let us pray for the knowledge and courage to do what needs to be done.

Finally, let us pray for the safe return of loved ones whose journeys have led them away from our Church. +



Lord, I am grateful for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Help me to keep awake to the movement of your Spirit in my life.

 From Grateful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

## WEEKDAY READINGS

November 9-14

Monday, Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Rome): Ez 47:1–2, 8–9, 12 / 1 Cor 3:9c–11, 16–17 / Jn 2:13–22

**Tuesday,** St. Leo the Great: Ti 2:1–8, 11–14 / Lk 17:7–10

Wednesday, St. Martin of Tours: Ti 3:1–7 / Lk 17:11–19 **Thursday,** St. Josaphat: Phmn 7–20 / Lk 17:20–25

Friday, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini: 2 Jn 4–9 / Lk 17:26–37

Saturday, Weekday: 3 Jn 5–8 / Lk 18:1–8



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<b>Contact Us!</b> Pa	rish Office: 919-847-8205	fax: 919-870-1790	Staff email: firstname.lastname(	@stfrancisraleigh.org	
Welcome			The Franciscan School		
New Parishioner Registration	Toni Hammes	847-8205x265	Principal	Mike Watson	919-534-4840
Becoming Catholic	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x238	Receptionist (Main Number)	Katie Hall	919-534-4837
Get Involved!	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222	Assistant Principal, K-5	Dawn Smith	847-8205x254
Priests and Deacon			Assistant Principal 6-8	Colette Dziadul	847-8205x651
Pastor	Msgr. Michael Clay	847-8205x224	St. Francis Preschool		
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Jairo Maldonado	847-8205x226	Director	Heidi Hobler	847-8205x240
In Residence	Rev. James Sabak, O.F.M.	919-832-6281	Assistant to the Director	Shelley Freeman	847-8205x262
Deacon	Stephen Andrews	732-213-0104	Faith Formation		0.4= 000= 000
Sacraments	<del>-</del> :	0.47.0005.044	Director	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x238
Baptism	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244	Children's Faith Formation	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496
First Reconciliation	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496	Coordinator of Youth Ministry	Marisa Ferrara	847-8205x223
First Eucharist	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496	Middle School Faith Formation	Thomas Bulick	847-8205x239
Confirmation	Thomas Bulick	847-8205x239	Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery)	Tara Moore	847-8205x489
Matrimony	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244	Parish Operations	Diagrama Duia	0.47 0005,,074
Holy Orders	Msgr. Michael Clay	847-8205x224	Communications and Webmaster	Diogenes Ruiz	847-8205x271
Anointing of the Sick	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241	Director of Facilities	Marc Kielty	847-8205x227
Reconciliation Appointments RCIA	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x249 847-8205x238	Director of Finance	Rob Neppel	847-8205x243 847-8205x222
Sacraments Administration	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	847-8205x264	Director of Stewardship Human Resources	Deb Royals-Mizerk Trish Adamkowski	847-8205x222
	Martina Dumberger		Parishioner Records	Toni Hammes	847-8205x265
Funeral Planning	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241	Safe Environment Specialist	Trina Sugrue	847-8205x245
Columbarium Niches	Trish Adamkowski	847-8205x236	Sale Liviloriment Specialist	IIIIa Sugrue	041-02038243

Care Home Eucharist Visits Feed the Need (meals) Medical Facility Visits Transportation to Mass Stephen Ministry St. Vincent de Paul Good Grief	Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen Leave Voicemail	847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 919-534-4842	Prayers Prayer Line Prayers Receive a Prayer Shawl Support Groups Divorce Care Job Connections Seeing God in your Cancer AA Daily Reprieve Group	Paul Wilson Jackie Adamo Kathleen Owen Bill Morgan Mary Horner Kathleen Owen Kathleen Owen	wilsonpf99@gmail.com 847-8205x268 847-8205x241 dejanuts@yahoo.com 610-755-5392 847-8205x241 847-8205x241
Good Grief GriefShare	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241	Al-Anon Alzheimer's Caregivers Support	Madeline Horrigan Linda Tucker	919-923-1234 937-478-9537

	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222		
Worship Ministries				
Director of Liturgy and Music	Jim Wahl	847-8205x230	St Francis Serves	
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministers		847-8205x244	Community Garden	Pat & Paul Kelly 919-413-8833
Altar Servers & Thurifers	Joanie Madormo rmadorm	no@sbcglobal.net	Curbside Care	Lori Piraino Ipiraino7@gmail.com
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Jackie Kelly	203-512-8807	Duke Children's Hospital	Joe and Geanie Slifer 919-870-6993
Church Keeping	Beverly Saunders	919-846-5795	Family Promise / WHIN Hosts	Ron Smith 919-455-7786
		zzo1@gmail.com	Gabriel Project	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Deaf Ministry	Jean Cooke-Byrne	919-412-8365	Migrant Ministry	Bruce Cartier bcartier7@gmail.com
Environment & Art	Theresa Baumgartner	919-848-3383	Prison Pen Pal	Jill Balogh sfapenpal@gmail.com
Eucharistic Ministers	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244	R.A.R.E. Tom Zimme	erman thomaspzimmerman@bellsouth.net
Funeral Ministers	Lisa Gianturco	919-845-9718	Red Cross Blood Drive	Bryan Kozak 910-728-9200
Hospitality Hands	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222	Refugee Resettlement	Aggie Dalton aggiedalton@gmail.com
Lectors	Mike Wrzesien	919-624-1592	St Francis Builds / Habitat	Diane & Bob Steinbeiser 919-846-8026
Master of Ceremonies	Michael & Julie Ducatte	919-622-8883	St Vincent de Paul Ministers	Cathy Smith 419-348-8843
Medical Presence at Mass	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241	Support Circles Kat and Fe	errel Guilroy ferrel.guillory@gmail.com
Music Ministry	Joyce Petzka jepe	etzka@gmail.com	Whitaker House	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Parking Ministry	Steve Burdett	919-845-2714	St Francis on Mission	'
Ushers	Troy Chaput troy.ch	naput@gmail.com	International Mission Trips	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Weekend Receptionists	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241	Sister Parish - Guatemala	Carie Gunnells carie.gunnells@gmail.com
Weekend Welcome Hosts	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222	St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia	John Budway 305-205-5104
Wedding Directors	Carol Ricotta	919-554-8896	St Francis Learns	
Outreach Ministries			Catholic Social Teaching	http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/
Director of Justice and Peace	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270	Care for Creation	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
St. Francis Feeds	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267	Community Conversations	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Brown Bag Ministry		sbbm@gmail.com	Engaging Spiritualty	Becky Cawley 847-8205x267
Oak City Cares	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267	Just Faith	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Catholic Parish Outreach	Sue Hand	919-846-7954	Justice Theater Project	http://www.thejusticetheaterproject.org/
Panera Food Pick Up	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267	Peace Pole Prayer	Ben Whitehouse whitehouseben5@gmail.com
Ronald McDonald House	Mailbox stfrancisrmhmir	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Study Circles	Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Jobs for Life Dinners		rone@gmail.com	Stady Sholos	TOVOL THOMPOON O'T OZOOKZIO
Our Lady of Rosary Food Pantry	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267		
Interfaith Food Shuttle	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267		
	200ky damoy	JII OLOOMLOI		

<b>Get Involved!</b>	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222			
Parish Life Ministries Director of Parish Life Pastoral Presence Ministries Caregivers Centering Prayer Emmaus Ministers EMs to Abbotswood EMs to the Homebound EMs to the Magnolia Glen EMs to the Meadows EMs to Rex Hospital EMs to Springmoor Prayer Line Ministers Prayer Shawl Ministry Rosary Ministry	Kathleen Owen  Kathleen Owen Alice Stanford Kathleen Owen Anita Misko Pat Spencer Jacob House Andrea McVerry Edward Gilmartinedward.g	847-8205x241 847-8205x241 919-781-5860 847-8205x241 630-699-0519 704-608-1678 919-449-7634 cverry@yahoo.com	St. Francis of Assisi Community Coordinator of Community Center Athletic Programs Assisi Café Parish Events (FrancisFest) Summer Camps (Camp Francis) Community Organizations Girl Scouts of USA BSA Scouts:Troop 352 (6th-12th, boy BSA Scouts:Troop 219 (6th-12th, girl BSA Cub Scouts: Pack 352 (K-5th) Knights of Columbus Secular Franciscan Order Faith Formation Ministries	Ashley Watson Mary Arleth Ashley Watson Ashley Watson Ashley Watson Melissa O'Connor /s) Mark Priest scoutman Socott Cash scoutman Rebecca Brooks membershippack352 Bryan Kozak Ellen Ferrone	aster219tfs@gmail.com 2@yahoo.com gk@kofc9709.org http://ofscentralnc.org
Ministries of Support & Care Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Caring Casseroles Cooks Feed the Need Cooks Job Connections Mentors Medical Facility Visitors Transportation to Mass Drivers Weekday Volunteer Receptionists Social Groups AAMEN Ministry Always God's Children LGBTQ+ Ministry Men's Ministry Young Adults Women's Ministry 50+ Adults Group	Stephanie Smith Toni Hammes  Leon Cooke Chuck Small Jane Paris Norm Tuomi no	937-478-9537 847-8205x241 847-8205x241 610-755-5392 dbozo@yahoo.com 919-302-0080 847-8205x265 919-740-7515 984-204-0012 919-847-7431 orman3722@att.net enther2@nc.rr.com incis 847-8205x241 919-848-1347	Director of Faith Formation Assisi Scripture Study Baptism Ministry Marriage Ministry Confirmation Sponsors Children's Formation Group Leader Family & Marriage Enrichment Team Middle School Formation Group Faith Formation Regist. & Events Youth Ministry Group Leader RCIA Team & Sponsors Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery) Young Adults Bible Study Group Stewardship Ministries Director of Stewardship Stewardship Committee Way of Francis B	Thomas Bulick Patti Panizza Marisa Ferrara Jenn Fiduccia Tara Moore Tim Hetzel Deb Royals-Mizerk Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x238 847-8205x238 847-8205x244 847-8205x244 847-8205x239 847-8205x244 847-8205x239 847-8205x237 847-8205x223 847-8205x238 847-8205x244 847-8205x244 847-8205x244