

April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Registration
Deadline
April 25**

**To Know
To Believe
To Live**

Join a Small Group

A LIFELONG FAITH JOURNEY

See pages 1-4
**Communities
of Calling**



First Eucharist see page 4

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.



Check your email for an
invitation to REALM



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

11401 Leesville Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 919-847-8205 www.stfrancisraleigh.org



I was really struck by an article I read by David Leonhardt in the New York Times last Monday on the risks associated with

vaccinations in our current pandemic. Here is an abbreviated version of what he wrote:

“Guido Calabresi, a federal judge and Yale law professor, invented a little fable that he has been telling law students for more than three decades.

He tells the students to imagine a god coming forth to offer society a wondrous invention that would improve everyday life in almost every way. It would allow people to spend more time with friends and family, see new places and do jobs they otherwise could not do. But it would also come with a high cost. In exchange for bestowing this invention on society, the god would choose 1,000 young men and women and strike them dead.

Calabresi then asks: Would you take the deal? Almost invariably, the students say ‘no.’ The professor then delivers the fable’s lesson: “What’s the difference between this and the automobile?”

In truth, automobiles kill many more than 1,000 young Americans each year; the total U.S. death toll hovers at about 40,000 annually. We accept this toll, almost unthinkingly, because vehicle crashes have always been part of our lives. We can’t fathom a world without them. It’s a classic example of human irrationality about risk. We often underestimate large, chronic dangers, like car crashes or chemical pollution, and fixate on tiny but salient risks, like plane crashes or shark attacks.

One way for a risk to become salient is for it to be new. That’s a core idea behind Calabresi’s fable. He asks students to consider whether they would accept the cost of vehicle travel if it did not already exist. That they say ‘no’ underscores the very different ways we treat new risks and enduring ones.

Covid-19 certainly presents a salient risk. ... Fortunately, it is also curable. The vaccines have nearly eliminated death, hospitalization, and other serious Covid illness among people who have received shots. The vaccines have also radically reduced the chances that people contract even a mild version of Covid or can pass it on to others. Yet many vaccinated people continue to obsess over the risks from Covid — because they are so new and salient.

To take just one example, major media outlets trumpeted new government data last week showing that 5,800 fully vaccinated Americans had contracted Covid. That may sound like a big number, but it indicates that a vaccinated person’s chances of getting Covid are about one in 11,000. The chances of getting a version any worse than a common cold are even more remote.

But they are not zero. And they will not be zero anytime in the foreseeable future. Victory over Covid will not involve its elimination. Victory will instead mean turning it into the sort of danger that plane crashes or shark attacks present — too small to be worth reordering our lives.

That is what the vaccines do. If you’re vaccinated, Covid presents a minuscule risk to you, and you present a minuscule Covid risk to anyone else. A car trip is a bigger threat, to you and others. About 100 Americans are likely to die in car crashes today. The new federal data suggests that either zero or one vaccinated person will die today from Covid.

It’s true that experts believe vaccinated people should still wear a mask, partly because it’s a modest inconvenience that further reduces a tiny risk — and mostly because it contributes to a culture of mask wearing. It is the decent thing to do when most people still aren’t vaccinated. If you’re vaccinated, a mask is more of a symbol of solidarity than anything else.”

Msgr. Clay

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

+ **Patricia Townsend**
Mother of Karen Hagens

+ **John Newton**
Husband of Ginny Newton,
Father of Anne Richards

+ **David Frost**
Husband of June Frost,
Father of Theresa Whitehurst

+ **Joan Richard**
Mother of Eileen That

+ **Sue Hirtzel**
Sister of Alma Hammer

+ **Tony Adamo**
Brother of Joe Adamo

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/faitH-direct/>



Text-to-Give: 919-629-1199

Additional Online Giving Methods:
www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure/

Registration closes Today!



**To Know
To Believe
To Live**

**Registration
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Join a Small Group

A LIFELONG FAITH JOURNEY

Communities
of Calling

We've provided this brief [video tutorial](#) on how to register for Know, Believe, Live small groups.

You'll need to [login to Realm](#) to register for a Know, Believe, Live Small Group. If you haven't set up your Realm account, please check your email for an invitation to join, and contact our Realm Support team with any issues.

Watch these special invitations to KBL from two of our Small Group leaders



Congratulations to our First Eucharist Candidates who received the Blessed Sacrament for the first time this weekend! May this day be an initial step for you into a life-long love of the Holy Eucharist. Your Saint Francis family rejoices and celebrates with you on one of the most sacred days of your life.



Marcello Antini
Olivia August
Brooke Barker
Alexandra Beerman
Jason Belanger
Frank Berger
Brooks Bokesch
Ana Borja
Colin Cassidy
Wyatt Cherry
Sophia Cooper
Bennett Crafts
Hudson Crafts
Roman Cuni
Gabriel de Leon
Chanel de Leon
Noah Deininger
Riley Duerr
Lucy Few
Elaine Fischlein
Addison Garcia
Seth Gayle
Morgan Gillet
Kyle Gorton

Taylor Hanacek
Lily Hazelton
Annabel Hill
Lucinda Hill
Corbin Hines
Noah Hoffman
Zoe Houfek
Charles Kaiser
Lucas Karam
Phillip Kavanagh
Jacob Krahel
Matthew Krzywicki
Sofia Lafferty
Rivers Leonard
Patrick Lundin
Diem Martin
Declan Meadows
Nolan Milz
Makenzie Miranda
Ian Montanez-Abreu
Emery Moreno
Robert Numbers III
Daisy Nystrom
Abigail O'Brien

Connor O'Brien
Hugh O'Malley
Jameson Oram
Ava Panaro
Kylie Perry
Graham Pridgen
Nicholas Reimers
Evelyn Riddle
Mia Roach
Whitaker Rohner
Alexander Santiso
Sawyer Schniepp
Noah Schudlik
Jordan Seaman
Riley Shoemaker
Lindley Shreve
Kaitlyn Sigler
Fabian Soto Jimenez
Kate Stevens
Prim Sullivan
Kendall VanderMeer
Andjay Ward
Smith Zola

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Mike Watson, Principal TFS

Not Your Typical Librarian

Kristina Kollauf, Media Specialist

We spoke about our amazing faculty in last week's bulletin, but, as we prepare for our Book Fair, we focus in on one of our newest faculty members. While media centers are usually known for holding masses of books, Kristina Kollauf, media specialist at The Franciscan School, aims to make TFS' media center known for a lot more.

"I want to lean away from the idea of a traditional library and lean into the idea of a learning commons – a place where students can come to collaborate, create and innovate," Kollauf says. "Kayla Dellinger and I are excited to revamp the media center to be a more accessible and appealing place for all students K-8."

When the pandemic hit last year, Kollauf became even more convinced of the significance of "ed-tech" for today's students – and first identified her passion for it. "After going completely remote, I recognized my love for "ed-tech" and the importance it holds when turning our students into 21st-century citizens," she says. "Knowing this was the direction I wanted to go in, a TFS family I'm close with sent me the media specialist opening and I applied immediately. I feel like I finally found my dream career."

Looking ahead, Kollauf says, the media center will offer an abundance of virtual and technology tools that enhance academic experiences and develop students into lifelong learners. "Ultimately, the role of a media specialist is to enrich learning through relevant and engaging resources that support the curriculum," Kollauf says. "By collaborating with staff, specialists, students and tech directors, I want to prepare students to be 21st-century citizens by teaching them important skills in media, internet, technology, research and reading. I don't want to merely show children the world – but teach them how to actively engage with it."



Kollauf also plans to increase TFS' book circulation by collaborating with Wake County Public Library and its interlibrary loan system. "I have always been wildly passionate about children's literature and I love finding ways to make kids fall in love with reading," she says.

Previously, Kollauf taught second and fourth grade at Farmington Woods International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program in Cary, N.C., and as a second-third combined classroom teacher for a magnet school for special education in West Allis, Wis. "Students have been – and always will be – the center of my work," she says. "I love making connections with students, joking around with them, learning details about their lives and dreams, watching them grow and seeing them smile as the learning finally starts to connect in their brains."

For Kollauf, starting as media specialist at TFS was more than an opportunity to steward her passion for "ed-tech" – it was also an opportunity to join a community. "There is a sense of belonging, care and support among the TFS family that I have not experienced before. I feel so lucky and blessed to be a part of it."

The Franciscan School's innovative curriculum and openness to experimenting for success is just one of the ways we have built over twenty years of educational excellence into our school. To find out more about The Franciscan School, please do visit our website. You can also contact Principal Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org or reach out to our admissions team at admissions@franciscanschool.org.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Director St. Francis Preschool

Lifelong Keepers of God's Creation



"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." (Genesis 1:31)

If you know anyone who is a teacher, you likely are aware that teachers are generally really good at repurposing things. They are often able to look at something and find a novel way to use it. Someone else's trash is frequently a teacher's new treasure! This past week, with the celebration of Earth Day, our teachers were able to demonstrate how well they are inspiring our students to feel the same in an effort to learn how to appreciate and be caretakers of our planet.

When you look at an empty paper towel tube, what do you see? Hopefully, something to be put in the recycle bin, but maybe you also see something more. In one of our three-year old classes, they snipped the end of one side, dipped it in paint, and used it to make flowers for a card. What do you visualize when you see an empty juice bottle? One of our classes added some fingerprints and made lovely vases for Mother's Day. In

one of our two-year old classes, they used empty egg cartons and turned them into caterpillars when expanding upon a lesson on insects that come out in Spring. What can you do with leftover concrete cylinders that are the waste from drilling playground fence posts? Maybe turn them into garden décor for mom?

Not only did our teachers work hard to show our students how to use their imaginations to give new life to something old, but they spent lots of time and effort in emphasizing the gift of God's creation to us and more importantly, how we need to be lifelong keepers of it. If you walk past one of our four-year old classroom's windows, you might scratch your head in wonder at why there are small plastic bags hanging from the window. Upon closer inspection, you can see that seeds are sprouting! There were flowers being planted, butterflies waiting to hatch, and

fat, slippery worms all around! Everywhere that you looked, it was a chance to gain a better understanding of our beautiful planet!

At preschool, I have often said that we are so lucky to be able to walk with our young students as they start their faith and educational journeys. We are also fortunate to be with them as they begin to understand their part in taking care of our planet and ensuring that God's gift is vibrant and full of life for generations to come! May a respect and love for all that God has created remain with them into adulthood so that they share it with all those whom they encounter!

Not many spots remain for the 21-22 school year! To learn how to join our fantastic preschool, please visit our website at preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

SCOUTS BSA Troop 219 (Girls)

Scouts BSA Troop 219 is inviting girls ages 11-17 to join our St. Francis Scout Troop. Scouting is a great way to enjoy outdoor adventures and develop life skills in a fun, safe, and welcoming environment. We meet Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm and plan a weekend outing each month. From astronomy to service projects to zip-lining we do it all! We are holding an online interest meeting for girls and parents on April 28th at 7:30pm. Contact Scoutmaster Scott Cash at scoutmaster219tfs@gmail.com for details and visit www.scouts219.weebly.com to learn more.





Theatre with purpose Created for Young People



In Person

Fully Mounted Productions

CDC Guidelines Followed

Limited Enrollment

**PERFORMING ARTS
SUMMER SHARE**



Summer 2021

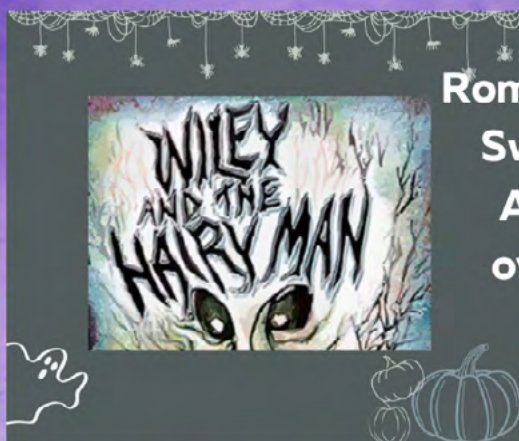
**PERFORMING ARTS
SUMMER SHARE**



**Meet Dr. Helen Chavis Otho
(Descendent of John Chavis)
Discover the roots of
the Lion King Story!**

**Is the Grass greener on the
other side of the fence? How
does choice impact ourselves
and others?**

Fall 2021



**Romp and Stomp with
Swamp Creatures!
An experience in
overcoming Fear.**

<https://www.purelifetheatre.com/registration>



<https://www.purelifetheatre.com/registration>



The Affordable Housing Issue Team of our Justice and Peace Advocacy team supports all of the efforts that parishioners make to help all in our community have safe housing for themselves and their family. Family Promise and St. Vincent de Paul are just two of those ministries. One such story of housing insecurity and how we can assist is from SVdP:

Employment insecurity due to the COVID pandemic continues in 2021. The SVdP of St Francis recently assisted a neighbor, who lost his job in January 2021 as a result of the pandemic. Our neighbor is a 47 year old man renting a small house in downtown Durham. He maintains a tight budget by using food stamps for all of his grocery purchases and by walking or taking the bus to work. His landlord commented on what a reliable tenant he has been over the last five years. He was able to obtain a job working 2 hours per day, but that amount was not sufficient to cover his monthly rent. SVdP St. Francis, Catholic Charities, and First Presbyterian were able to help him in paying his outstanding rent. During our last visit he was eager to share that he has now obtained a full-time job working nights as a janitor and will continue his two hour per day job. He was so grateful that SVdP was able to help him through this rough time so he is able to remain in his home.

The St.Vincent de Paul Conference here is in need of assistance to handle the work load. All our work with neighbors is done virtually. All volunteers will receive extensive training and support throughout the process and volunteers can specify their availability. If interested in finding out more, contact Cathy Smith at smithcr@gmail.com

Join Our Volunteer Tech Team



Contact jim.wahl@stfrancisraleigh.org

Help Needed for our Tech Ministry

One of the graces of the past year, has been our ability to stream our 9:30 Sunday liturgy to thousands of parishioners and guests each week. As we further reopen our liturgies, we want to ensure that this vital ministry continues. If you have experience with audio/visual equipment and want to share these talents with our community, please consider applying to assist us. We are looking for individuals who have:

- Experience with audio or visual technology
- Experience with streaming content
- Availability on Sundays for the 9:30am mass, maximum of 1x per month
- Potential availability other times for special events/liturgies
- Knowledge of/willingness to learn liturgical theology
- Knowledge and experience with OBS

Please prayerfully consider your participation and apply at the following link: <https://forms.gle/QEq4Dmiq9HdECHjPA>

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Happy Birthday Oak City Cares!



On April 13, Oak City Cares celebrated its 2nd birthday with an amazing celebration! Dignitaries, donors, community partners, staff, volunteers and guests of the center all came together virtually to celebrate and show their appreciation, love and support for the renowned multi-services center serving individuals and families that are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. With many community partners, Oak City Cares provides on-site life-sustaining and life-rebuilding services, as well as hospitality, welcome and community with the goal of ending and preventing homelessness and without the barrier of transportation and resources.

When people remain homeless for long periods, they become isolated and lose hope due to the lack of social supports that are necessary for anyone to overcome homelessness. Normally these brothers and sisters must travel from agency to agency searching for answers and services to meet their many needs, often receiving little to none. In the process their sense of self as children of God worthy of dignity and respect is diminished and may even disappear. Oak City Cares changes all of that for vulnerable folks in Raleigh.

At the birthday celebration, we heard from guests of the center whose dignity was preserved and hope restored as they were reawakened to the beauty of the person God created them to be. We heard from Daniel a very capable young man struggling to find work that paid a living wage who came to Oak City Cares

needing much more than just housing, and now works and lives independently. We heard from Ruben who was down and out, destitute, in his words who found folks at Oak City Cares who really cared about him and his well-being and helped him move from feeling rejected by society to remembering the value of living. We listened as Tracey explained his journey from homelessness due to an inoperable heart condition needing extensive medical care, to owning a home with extra rooms he rents out at a discounted rate to other folks in need of help.

"Our guests are amazing", says Tosheria Brown, Oak City Cares Director of Programs and Services. "Everyone has a different story, everyone has a different situation and they are all so unique. If you want to meet interesting people, come to Oak City Cares!"

As you might suspect, volunteers are critical to the success of Oak City Cares. Relationships between volunteers and guests of the center are key to making sure guests feel welcome and worthy. Right now due to the pandemic, they are not taking new volunteers during the week, but watch this website as things begin to open up more for an opportunity to do so: <https://oakcitycares.org/volunteer/>

St. Francis, however does have the privilege of providing breakfast to guests of Oak City Cares on a regular basis. Here are some links to sign up. We would love to have your help as we do our part to help folks remember their beauty and worth as children of God, deserving of all the material possessions needed to live a dignified life, especially a home.

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCmay23-2021
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune12-2021
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune27-2021
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjuly25-2021

If you have questions or if you'd like to take more of a leadership role in this ministry please contact Becky Cawley becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org or 314-409-5034.



How do you talk with your children about racism?

Racism is a difficult topic to talk about. Yet, talking is one of the first and often most important steps to understanding this very complex topic that is affecting the lives of all of us. And like all things parents teach their children about, the best place to do that is within the loving embrace of home.

So we invite you to gather your family together read this book: *Ghost Boys* and then gather via Zoom with other parishioners for an enlightening discussion on May 12. Follow these links for more information and to sign up: www.bit.ly/REIT-book52021.

While this book is not Catholic per se, our tradition and the Gospel invite us to look at all of life through the lens of our faith. Come join us to do just that.



Employment Opportunity

Full time Maintenance Tech

www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs



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.



Daily Mass 10am

Daily Mass is held Mon., Tues., Thur., and Fri. in the church.

Wednesdays are reserved for TFS and Preschool Mass.

All pandemic protocols are followed. No signups are required.

Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles are located in the Community Center



Bring all meals to the center door 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday

One Family in Christ

WHO PRAYS, SERVES & SHARES

IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

BAA Goal: \$509,088.28

Pledged Gift Amount: \$428,578 (83.4%)

Received Gift Amount: \$367,297 (72.1%)

Number of Donors: 1,086

22.6% of registered parish families



2021 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
CATHOLIC DIOCESE of RALEIGH



Catholic Parish Outreach

www.cporaleigh.org

(919) 873-0000

Watch the latest episode of St. Francis TV featuring Cardinal Gibbon HS and the work the students are doing with the support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

Caring Casseroles & Feed the Need:

Caring Casseroles & Feed the Need is back! 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 9:00am and 4:00pm 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.

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: 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.

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, ltucker40@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 – Our next session will begin meeting virtually via zoom from February 2 to May 11 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@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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: first and third Monday of each month at 7:00am via Zoom. Contact is 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, 1-3 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

12 - 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.

April Envelope Schedule

April 25 Weekly

May Envelope Schedule

May 2 Weekly

May 2 Mortgage Sunday

May 9 Weekly

May 16 Weekly

May 16 Catholic Home Mission/
Communications

May 23 Weekly

May 30 Weekly



Bringing Home the Word

Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)
April 25, 2021

A Love-Filled Sacrifice

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

At the center of his painting, *Hands of the Crucified*, Renato Guttuso (1912-1987) places the piercing reality of pain represented by the hand of Jesus. The dark reds, blacks, and blues give way to the brightness of the oranges, yellows, and whites. This choice of palette is purposeful. Death is depicted with the same palate as a sunset, when darkness closes in on the light. But then night gives way to the colors of the sunrise when new life springs forth. The brutal darkness that leads to his death is replaced by the light-giving act of the love of God.

The Good Shepherd also shows the beauty of this love-filled sacrifice. This is why the Father loves Jesus; because he lays down his life for us. He has the power to do so and does it freely. This is because the Shepherd's mission and vocation is centered on the good of the sheep. They are the center of his daily cares and concerns. Jesus tells us that you and I are the utter focus of his heart and life. You are worth it. It is a beautiful thing to be loved by someone. Imagine if this someone is God himself.

As modern as this painting looks, the artist honors a traditional symbol. Byzantine art often depicted the blood from Jesus' side falling into a chalice to connect the passion of Jesus with the eucharistic sacrifice. Notice that the artist does the same by showing the blood falling into a simple chalice with a host at its center. +

Sunday Readings

Acts 4:8-12

[Peter said,] "He is 'the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.'"

1 John 3:1-2

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are.

John 10:11-18

[Jesus said,] "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

*Jesus tells us that you
and I are the utter
focus of his heart
and life.*

A Word from Pope Francis

True rest is not simple, because there is false rest and true rest....Man has never rested as much as today, yet man has never experienced as much emptiness as today! Opportunities to amuse oneself, to go out, cruises, travels; but many things do not give you fullness of heart. Indeed, they do not give you rest.

—General Audience, September 5, 2018



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Jesus, how well do I imitate your love by sacrificing for others?
- Do I seek salvation, peace, and healing from Jesus?



DIOCESE OF RALEIGH Office of Communications
7200 Sunnyside Drive Raleigh, North Carolina 27613 919-821-9730 www.dioceseofraleigh.org

Power and Purpose Conference

Come experience the Holy Spirit's power and healing at the Power and Purpose Conference on June 4-6 at Franciscan University of Steubenville. Rediscover the "one thing" – the one Person – that matters most – Jesus Christ. Allow him to reveal the purpose of your life: to live in true freedom and joy of the Spirit. Be uplifted by the witness and fellowship of disciples like you. Register at steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/ppc, or contact Laura Werner at steubenvillemission-NC@gmail.com for more information.

Words That Change Hearts

By Kathleen M. Basi

It's really hard to say "I'm sorry."

Maybe it's a pride thing. We want to believe we're good people, and rightly or wrongly, admitting fault calls that into question. Plus, it leaves us vulnerable. There's always a chance that the other person won't accept our apology. We no longer have control over the direction of the relationship—we've given the control to someone else.

However, as difficult as it is to say "I'm sorry," it's even more difficult to say "I forgive you." In fact, most people don't say it at all. They tend to say "It's OK" or "Don't worry about it" even though clearly it was not OK, or an apology wouldn't have been necessary.

The words "I forgive you" feel incredibly presumptuous. It's as if we're putting ourselves on a pedestal of self-righteousness: Look at me; I'm so holy I can forgive you. It seems better for the relationship if we pretend we were square in the first place.

At a deeper level, though, those three words are so challenging because they actually require a change of heart. They're



"I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" are gifts of self.

hard to say, because often we don't want to forgive. We'd rather gloss over the offense and pretend to dismiss it while secretly burying it in a deep emotional hole, where we can dig it up and mull it over at our leisure.

But the hardest words to say are often the most important. "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you" are gifts of self. An apology is a gift of one's vulnerability. Forgiveness is a gift of unconditional love. In both cases, simply saying the words

changes our hearts.

There are words within the sacraments of the Church that are "efficacious" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1131). They don't require an accompanying action—the words themselves are the action. When your confessor says "your sins are forgiven," that's it. The words have done the work.

Laypeople can't forgive others' sins, but our words do have great power to move our own hearts. It's almost impossible to say "I forgive you," for instance, to someone who has hurt you unless you really mean it. (Just try it sometime.)

Of course, it's not always that simple. Some wounds are fathoms deep—layered by time, distance, and severity. Yet, choosing repentance and forgiveness in the relationships of the here and now might well be the key to unlocking healing for older, deeper hurts as well.

It puts us closer to the heart of the God whose forgiveness and mercy know no bounds. +



Risen Lord, you are the Good Shepherd who watches over us and protects us from all harm. Give me the courage to be a loving shepherd and advocate for the poor and vulnerable.

From Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

April 26-May 1

Monday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 11:1–18 / Jn 10:1–10

Tuesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 11:19–26 / Jn 10:22–30

Wednesday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 12:24–13:5a / Jn 12:44–50

Thursday, St. Catherine of Siena:
Acts 13:13–25 / Jn 13:16–20

Friday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 13:26–33 / Jn 14:1–6

Saturday, Easter Weekday:
Acts 13:44–52 / Jn 14:7–14

Bringing Home
the Word 
April 24, 2021

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Contact Us! Parish Office: 919-847-8205 fax: 919-870-1790

Welcome

New Parishioner Registration	Toni Hammes	847-8205x265
Becoming Catholic	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x238
Get Involved!	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222

Priests and Deacon

Pastor	Msgr. Michael Clay	847-8205x224
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Jairo Maldonado	847-8205x226
In Residence	Rev. James Sabak, O.F.M.	919-832-6281
Deacon	Stephen Andrews	732-213-0104

Director of Pastoral Ministries	Kathy Sales	847-8205x488
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Sacraments

Baptism	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244
First Reconciliation	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496
First Eucharist	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496
Confirmation	Thomas Bulick	847-8205x239
Matrimony	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244
Holy Orders	Msgr. Michael Clay	847-8205x224
Anointing of the Sick	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Reconciliation Appointments		847-8205x249
RCIA	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x238
Sacraments Administration	Martina Dumberger	847-8205x264
Funeral Planning	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Columbarium Niches	Trish Adamkowski	847-8205x236

Staff email: firstname.lastname@stfrancisraleigh.org

The Franciscan School

Principal	Mike Watson	919-534-4840
Receptionist (Main Number)	Katie Hall	919-534-4837
Assistant Principal, K-5	Dawn Smith	847-8205x254
Assistant Principal 6-8	Colette Dziadul	847-8205x651

St. Francis Preschool

Director	Heidi Hobler	847-8205x240
Assistant to the Director	Shelley Freeman	847-8205x262

Faith Formation

Director	Jenn Fiduccia	847-8205x238
Children's Faith Formation	Sarah Bowser	847-8205x496
Coordinator of Youth Ministry	Marisa Ferrara	847-8205x223
Middle School Faith Formation	Thomas Bulick	847-8205x239
Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery)	Tara Moore	847-8205x489

Parish Operations

Communications and Webmaster	Diogenes Ruiz	847-8205x271
Director of Facilities	Marc Kieilty	847-8205x227
Director of Finance	Rob Neppel	847-8205x243
Director of Stewardship	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222
Human Resources	Trish Adamkowski	847-8205x236
Parishioner Records	Toni Hammes	847-8205x265
Safe Environment Specialist	Trina Sugrue	847-8205x245

Get Care!

Care

Home Eucharist Visits	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Feed the Need (meals)	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Medical Facility Visits	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Transportation to Mass	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Stephen Ministry	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
St. Vincent de Paul	Leave Voicemail	919-534-4842
Good Grief		
GriefShare	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241

Prayers

Prayer Line	Paul Wilson	wilsonpf99@gmail.com
Prayers	Mary Arleth	847-8205x358
Receive a Prayer Shawl	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Support Groups		
Divorce Care	Bill Morgan	dejanuts@yahoo.com
Job Connections	Mary Horner	610-755-5392
Seeing God in your Cancer	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
AA Daily Reprieve Group	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Al-Anon	Madeline Horrigan	919-923-1234
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support	Linda Tucker	937-478-9537

Get Involved!

Worship Ministries

Director of Liturgy and Music	Jim Wahl	847-8205x230
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministers	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244
Altar Servers & Thurifers	Joanie Madormo	rmadormo@sbcglobal.net
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Jackie Kelly	203-512-8807
Church Keeping	Beverly Saunders	919-846-5795
Cross Bearers Joseph Randazzo	josephrandazzo1@gmail.com	
Deaf Ministry	Jean Cooke-Byrne	919-412-8365
Environment & Art	Theresa Baumgartner	919-848-3383
Eucharistic Ministers	Tim Hetzel	847-8205x244
Funeral Ministers	Lisa Gianturco	919-845-9718
Hospitality Hands	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222
Lectors	Mike Wrzesien	919-624-1592
Master of Ceremonies	Michael & Julie Ducatte	919-622-8883
Medical Presence at Mass	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Music Ministry	Joyce Petzka	jepetzka@gmail.com
Parking Ministry	Steve Burdett	919-845-2714
Ushers	Troy Chaput	troychaput@gmail.com
Weekend Receptionists	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Weekend Welcome Hosts	Deb Royals-Mizerk	847-8205x222
Wedding Directors	Carol Ricotta	919-554-8896

Outreach Ministries

Director of Justice and Peace	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270
St. Francis Feeds	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267
Brown Bag Ministry	Mailbox	stfrancisbbm@gmail.com
Oak City Cares	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267
Catholic Parish Outreach	Sue Hand	919-846-7954
Panera Food Pick Up	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267
Ronald McDonald House	Mailbox	stfrancismhministry@gmail.com
Our Lady of Rosary Food Pantry	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267
Interfaith Food Shuttle	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267

St Francis Serves

Community Garden	Pat & Paul Kelly	919-413-8833
Curbside Care	Lori Piraino	lpiraino7@gmail.com
Duke Children's Hospital	Joe and Geanie Slifer	919-870-6993
Family Promise	Ron Smith	919-455-7786
Gabriel Project	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270
Migrant Ministry	Bruce Cartier	bcartier7@gmail.com
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Red Cross Blood Drive	Bryan Kozak	910-728-9200
Refugee Resettlement	Aggie Dalton	aggiedalton@gmail.com
Habitat for Humanity	Trevor Thompson	stfa.fp@gmail.com
St Vincent de Paul Ministers	Cathy Smith	419-348-8843
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St Francis on Mission

International Mission Trips	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270
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St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia	John Budway	305-205-5104

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Just Faith	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270
Justice Theater Project		http://www.thejusticetheaterproject.org/
Peace Pole Prayer	Ben Whitehouse	whitehouseben5@gmail.com
Racial Justice	Becky Cawley	becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org

Get Involved!

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

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

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St. Francis of Assisi Community Center

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, 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

membershipack352@yahoo.com

Knights of Columbus

Secular Franciscan Order

Faith Formation Ministries

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

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Tim Hetzel

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Thomas Bulick

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Marisa Ferrara

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