

Forward in Hope: Our Parish's Journey of Resurrection

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Now Available!

**To Know
To Believe
To Live**

2

Imago Dei

A LIFELONG FAITH JOURNEY

See page 4

Communities
of Calling

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.

**How is the
Holy Spirit
Calling You
to Share
Your Gifts?**

See page 10



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

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



FACEMASKS AT ST. FRANCIS: YES OR NO? CONFUSED??

With the CDC and the NC Governor's Office announcing shifts in facemask protocols for those fully vaccinated, parishioners are asking why we are requiring those coming for Mass to wear one inside the church building. This has been discussed with our parish COVID-19 Task Force comprised of doctors working in emergency rooms, public health experts, medical researchers and professionals, and members of our staff, all parishioners, who provide us with reality checks based on their medical knowledge and experience in hospitals and other settings.

At this stage, we are still requiring facemasks indoors for two reasons: out of the common good for 1) our children under the age of 12 who are not yet vaccinated and 2) those who wish to return to Mass but who, for any number of reasons (e.g., cannot tolerate a vaccination because of compromised immunity issues), cannot be vaccinated at this time. Having both of these groups in a closed environment with a capacity of 1400 for an hour with a significant number of unmasked people, some of whom may not be vaccinated, is a risk we are not yet ready to take.

I cannot say how long we will continue to require facemasks while in the church, but we continue to review this on a regular basis.

Like you, I would like facemasks to disappear yesterday. As pastor, I am also the shepherd of a vast flock for whom my highest priority is their safety, especially our children and the vulnerable.

We continue to monitor developments with the C-19 virus and as things become clearer and we have more knowledge, we will continue the process of returning to normalcy at St. Francis, including the eventual removal of facemasks inside the church.

In the meantime, I remain grateful for your patience, your support, and your prayers, the latter especially for those in our world who are being hard-hit by the coronavirus today.

Msgr. Clay

MAY HE REST IN PEACE
AND PERPETUAL LIGHT
SHINE UPON HIM:

+ John S. Gbruoski
Father of John F. Gbruoski

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/

May Envelope Schedule

May 23 Weekly
May 30 Weekly



St. Francis Announces
New COVID-19
Adjustments to
Church Protocols
visit

<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faq/>

Forward in Hope: Our Parish's Journey of Resurrection



In this weekend's Gospel, on the Feast of Pentecost, we hear the Risen Jesus say, "Peace be with you," as he stands in the midst of his disciples. We want to extend that same message of peace to you, brothers and sisters, and pray that the peace of our Risen Lord and the grace and wisdom of the Holy Spirit is with our community as we enter this new phase of the pandemic, a phase of "resurrection."

At the direction of our pastor, Msgr. Clay, a committee has been formed and is meeting to discern the next steps for our parish in our efforts to return to fully-gathered ministry and activity on campus. This committee wrestled with what to name this new phase. "Re-opening" did not seem quite right as many aspects of our community have still been "open," most notably our schools and our liturgies. We also struggled with other phrases, none of which suited. In the spirit of the Easter season, we landed on the theme of resurrection, which acknowledges both the losses we have had to endure in the past eighteen months (loss of social interactions, loss of employment, loss of physical presence with loved ones, loss of loved ones through death, and more) and also the hope that we hold as baptized believers - that in time, God makes all things new. It is our intent to communicate the process of our parish's return to fully-gathered ministry on a regular basis in this section of the bulletin.

To aid in its discernment, our Resurrection Committee is in conversation with parish leadership, ministry leaders, and community members. It is keeping abreast of the continually changing recommendations from national, state, and local officials and health organizations, and spending time in prayer and discernment. Ministry groups of the parish were surveyed about their needs and their responses have assisted in determining the order in which groups will return to use our campus facilities.

Here is a quick overview of our progress thus far:

- The weekend of May 15-16, the capacity at weekend liturgies was increased to 600. While masks are still required for all, there is no social distancing in the main nave of the church. The side transepts are reserved for those who still desire to keep socially distant from others. Both entrances to the church are now being used for entrance and egress.
- In early-to-mid June the main church will be open from 9:00am to 12:30pm, Monday-Friday, and Saturday, Noon-7:00pm. This will allow time for private prayer and devotion, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist access to the tabernacle, and interaction with our parish receptionists before and after daily Mass.
- The Welcome Center desk will be staffed whenever the volunteer receptionists are ready to go and they will once again be available for assistance.
- Designated ministries will begin to come back to campus starting in early June. Because major maintenance is beginning on the boiler/chiller system for the Community Center, Chapel, Siena Center, and Elizabeth Halls these spaces will be temporarily unavailable. Facility usage will be considered given these constraints.

Thank you for your patience and prayers as we work our way along this journey of resurrection. Please continue to watch this space for updates and new information. May the Spirit, first given to the Church at Pentecost, be poured out upon our community and move in new and powerful ways. Peace and all good, brothers and sisters!

Jenn Fiduccia
Director of Formation
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community

KBL Episodes and Release Dates



May 3



May 17



June 7



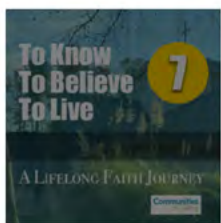
June 21



July 12



July 26



August 9



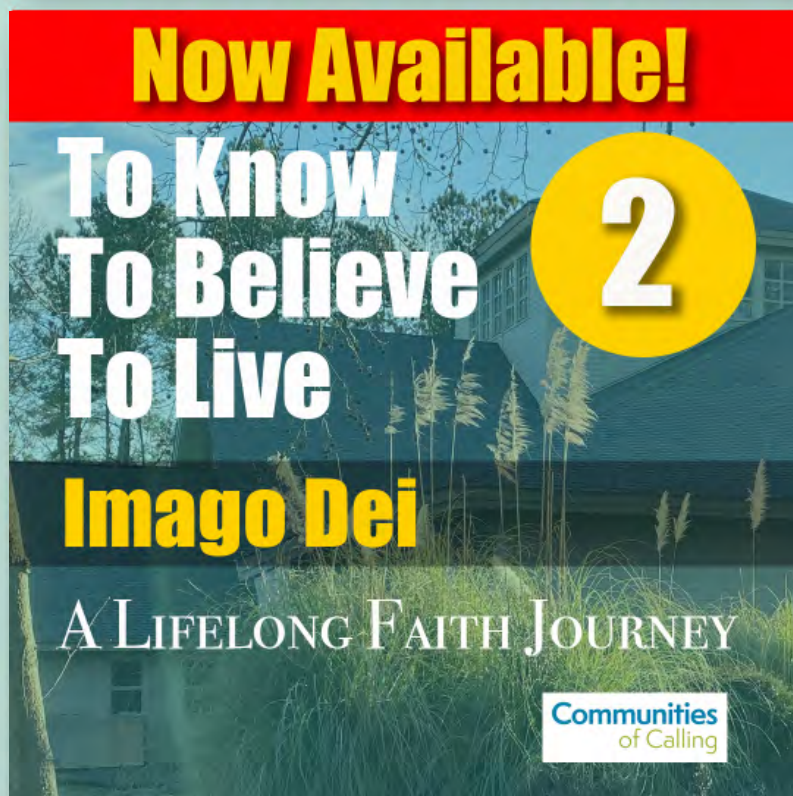
August 23



September 6



September 20



Watching Msgr. Clay's To Know, To Believe, To Live series but are not part of a small group?

If you are planning to participate in the Know, Believe, Live series, but are not in a small group, we invite you to join a Realm Group so you can receive updates and communications about the series as they occur.

Please note: you do not have to join the Realm Group to view the series which will be posted twice a month at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/know-believe-live/>

To join the Group:

- 1.) Login to Realm on the web <https://onrealm.org/StFrancisRaleigh> or on the Realm Connect app.
- 2.) Select "Groups" (or "More" and then "Groups" if you're using the App)
- 3.) Select "Find Groups"
- 4.) Select "Formation & Education"
- 5.) Look for the Group "KBL – Participants Not in a Small Group"
- 6.) Click the "Request to Join" button and a staff member will add you to the Group!

Please contact Patti.Panizza@stfrancisraleigh.org or Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org with questions about joining the Realm group for non-small group KBL participants.

If you have questions about KBL, please contact Kathy Sales at kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Director St. Francis Preschool



“Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me;” (Mark 9:37)

Last week, you may remember that my article highlighted the team of preschool teachers who are called to work with our 2-year olds. Among the many things on which these teachers focus are skills to prepare them for the increased expectations of the 3-year old classrooms. This week, I'd like to share some thoughts from our amazing 3-year old team. As you might imagine, they too bring an overwhelming amount of enthusiasm and dedication to each day! They are gifted and passionate teachers who go above and beyond to bring a fun and faith-filled experience to our 3-year olds. The following are some of their thoughts on this age group:

Q: What is one thing that amazes you about the 3's?

A: Their language has exploded so that they can more easily share their ideas, dreams, and their experiences outside of school. They are truthful and often not afraid to share their honest opinion such as when they tell you that you have bad breath or that your dress is pretty! They can take a piece of what they learn in the classroom and use their imaginations to build on it while excitedly telling you more about it.

Q: What makes 3-year olds so fun?

A: Their sense of wonder is still truly pure! They learn, laugh, and love so freely! Their expanding language skills allow them to share their creative thoughts while also carrying on a conversation. These skills can often lead to some very funny comments. For example, “When I was a baby, I was really good, but not anymore!” They certainly are learning to articulate a budding sense of humor!

Q: What are some important things that a 3-yr old learns at preschool?

A: Three year olds have a more developed power of words to voice their preferences and feelings. Allowing them to practice that voice during their interactions with those around them is very important. Learning to use words to share kindness and care is an essential skill. In doing so, they are developing a deeper understanding that everyone was made special by God and that they should recognize and appreciate all of the different gifts that we have been given.

Q: How do you see 3-yr olds exemplifying their faith?

A: They have a firmer grasp of the knowledge that God loves them and wants them to love others. It is not unusual during class prayer intentions to hear them offer a prayer for a friend. They will freely give encouragement to a peer who

is hurt or sad. Although there might be some disagreements with a friend during class, by the end of the day, all is generally forgotten and replaced with goodbye waves and hugs!

We are so grateful for our fantastic 3-year old team who answer the call to help these young students to grow and develop each day in fun and unique ways! Thank you Ms. Kathryn, Ms. Sheeba, Ms. Nicole, Ms. Karla, Ms. Annie and Ms. Laurie!

Space is limited for the 21-22 school year! To learn how to join our wonderful preschool, please visit our website at: preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Mike Watson, Principal TFS

TFS Alumni Success:

The importance of Relationships and Maintaining a Strong Foundation of Faith



Seventh grade with classmate Cole Strickland



With family at an LSU vs. Texas game

While it's been nearly a decade since Cameron Stutts '12 walked the halls of TFS, to him, it feels like it was yesterday. "My fondest memories at TFS had to be in PE class and participating on sports teams after school. I have always been a competitive person and strive for victory," Stutts says. "I enjoyed the Catholic background that TFS instilled in my life. I felt that through attending a Catholic school, I grew closer to God during my elementary and middle school years."

Stutts, who was part of the TFS community from second to eighth grade, later attended Cardinal Gibbons where he played varsity soccer, winning a State Championship, before graduating in 2016. After high school, he attended the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) where he received his degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing and innovation. Today, he works as a sales development representative at a telecommunications company, CommScope. CommScope, a leader in the hospitality and municipalities markets, specializes in networking and infrastructure. In his role, he makes

calls to both new and existing companies providing them with value and product knowledge. In addition to his work responsibilities, Stutts is also pursuing his Master's of Business Administration (MBA) at UNC Charlotte. He is on track to graduate in December 2021. Stutts credits his time at TFS for instilling the importance of relationships and maintaining a strong foundation of faith.

"The key things that I learned while at TFS is to cherish the relationships you have while growing up, open your heart to God and enjoy the little things in life," Stutts says. "My faith at TFS grew through attending mass and speaking with my religious leaders. They instilled strong beliefs that there is a higher presence in my life. In my life, I took some of my relationships for granted because I was constantly worried about the big picture. I have learned to live in the moment and cherish the simple pleasures that life gives you. Nothing is permanent and you should be thankful each day for your life."

He credits a few key teachers at TFS for shaping his outlook on life and work ethic – both of which he carries with him to this day. "Mr. Will Stevens and Mr. Chris Cadran created an enjoyable work environment reminding me to have a good attitude in everything I do," he remembers. "Mrs. Carolyn Moser challenged me to become a better student. I was never good at science growing up, but she always believed in me. This taught me resilience and determination for achieving success." However, Stutts believes all the teachers and staff at TFS go above and beyond for their students – which he believes will help him succeed in wherever life takes him next.

Do you want to learn more about the educational experience at The Franciscan School? To find out how we can support your family's goals for your child through the love and support provided by our dedicated TFS faculty and our innovative programs, please visit our website at www.franciscanschool.org or contact Principal Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities



The Franciscan School Bookkeeper (Full time, 12-month, 40 hour per week)

The Franciscan School bookkeeper is responsible for managing the school tuition program, including payment processing, financial assistance, and the tuition management system. This person answers questions from new and current families related to tuition assistance in a confidential and discrete manner. In addition, the position processes all school invoices, accounts payable and receivable and works closely with parish finance personnel in the oversight of school budget and finances. This position works in collaboration with the Home and School Association (HSA) to ensure HSA processes deposits and check requests in accordance with SFA policies and procedures. Bachelor's degree plus minimum 2 years professional experience in accounting, business, communications or a related field is preferred (or an equivalent combination of education and experience). Strong project management, computer/database and organizational skills are required, as well as excellent customer service skills. Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to Mike Watson, Principal (michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org).

Instructional Teaching Assistant

The Franciscan School is seeking an Instructional Teacher Assistant (ITA) whose primary role is to assist the lead teacher and grade level team in creating a classroom environment that is consistent with the mission of the school and the parish. The ITA supports the lead teacher by providing general assistance with daily tasks, such as copying and planning for lessons, small group assistance, supervision of students when necessary, handling of disciplinary issues when appropriate, and assisting with special projects, such as field trips. To apply for a teaching or ITA position, please send a resume and cover letter to: Dawn.Smith@stfrancisraleigh.org. Candidates for teaching positions should also include his/her educational philosophy.

Volunteer Receptionists Needed

Do you have the gift of hospitality? Do you like helping people? You may be a perfect weekday volunteer receptionist!

As we look ahead to re-opening, we will need volunteers to staff the front desk of the church. The duties include answering the telephone and transferring calls, directing people to various locations on campus and assisting parish staff for 3.5 hours (9a-12:30p, 12:30-4p), one day a week. If you would like more information, contact Kathleen Owen at 919-847-8205x241 or kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org



Administrative Assistant for Pastoral Ministries (Full Time, Non-exempt, 40 hours per week)

This position provides outstanding administrative support to the departments within pastoral ministry in the area of communications, finance, database maintenance, and event support. The ability to handle multiple tasks in an effective and efficient manner is a must, as this position has a wide variety of duties, which includes assisting with funeral coordination, preparing liturgy worship aides, coordinating mass intention process, managing volunteer scheduling, administrative and logistical support for events and donation drives, as well as website and newsletter design and communications. The successful candidate will have strong organization and time management skills, superior customer service skills, ability to work under time sensitive constraints and maintain a high level of confidentiality. A minimum of 3 years administrative support is required, in addition to excellent knowledge of MS Office and desktop publishing. Experience working in a ministerial environment is preferred.

To apply, please forward a cover letter and resume to:
Trish.Adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Lead Teacher – 2 year old (2 days per week) Lead Teacher – 4 year old (4 days per week)

St. Francis Preschool is seeking an enthusiastic individual who is passionate about providing a faith filled education experience to the children enrolled in our 4 day 4-year-old class or our 2 day 2 year old program. The lead teacher creates a nurturing and exciting early educational experience for the children enrolled in the preschool while overseeing the safety and physical well-being of the children at all times. The teacher will engage the children in play and activities that are age and developmentally appropriate. Early Childhood teachers must have either a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or elementary education, or must have 4 years of experience working with young children and have or be in the process of attaining an early childhood credential.

If interested in joining our wonderful preschool staff, please send resume and cover letter to Heidi Hobler at Heidi.hobler@stfrancisraleigh.org.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

Kathleen Owen, Director of Parish Life

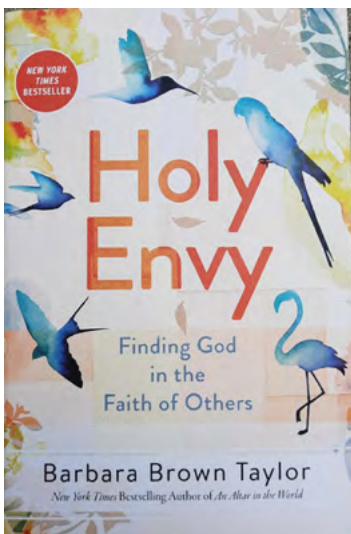
Part of the Team

I don't know about you, but I've spent a lot of time in office lobbies. Between doctor's offices, business meetings and job interviews, I've spent many hours with those angels among us, receptionists. I can tell you that they can set the tone for whatever is ahead of you – whether that's a medical test, a presentation, or an attempt at a new career. They can diffuse the tension or ramp it up in how they respond to your needs.

As part of our re-opening plan, the team at St. Francis is looking for a few great folks to be that first contact with the parish – whether in the office or on the phone. The perfect candidate will have a warm smile, good eye contact, a calm presence, and the ability to use a switchboard, email and our website. They will be available during week days and be able to commit to a 4 hour shift most weeks. Bonus points for a sharp wit and superior trivia knowledge. [Just kidding - maybe!]

When you think of the reasons people contact a church or come on campus to a church, you'll get an indication of why the smile, the eye contact and the calm presence is important. People come or call the church to get paperwork completed – usually a week or two after it's due. They need to get married, have their baby baptized, be a god parent. Maybe they need to turn in a Stewardship form for their child's school application. Perhaps they are in need of a priest – to bless an item, to offer them reassurance regarding a struggle they are having, or to offer a sacrament. They may be in financial difficulty, need pastoral care or they may just be interested in signing up for the latest offering they saw in the bulletin. Some people are on campus for the first time to attend a funeral or a wedding rehearsal.

So if you know of who could fill this high profile angelic volunteer position, I hope you'll let me know. I'm at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241. There will be training and you'll have the entire staff of St. Francis to support you in this role.



Book Discussion

You are invited to join a Zoom group meeting on alternate Fridays to discuss the book *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Episcopal minister Barbara Brown Taylor, who had lost her way in the church. Taylor, while teaching a college course on world religions, developed the book from field trips she took with her students to monasteries, temples, and mosques, weaving together stories from the classroom with personal reflections of how the beauty of other traditions led her to a renewal of her own faith. It is also the story of a generation of young Americans who are growing up with more religious diversity than their parents and grandparents and who are still trying to decide whether this is a good thing or bad thing.

“by turns inspiring, enchanting, and provocative, Taylor reminds us that God is bigger than any one religion. Prepare to be surprised and, best of all, to come to know God in a new way.”

-JAMES MARTIN, SJ, Author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*

**The sessions will be via Zoom every first and third Fridays
of the month beginning June 4 from 1 to 2:30 pm.**

If interested or if you have questions please contact
Tracy Hurley at (828) 773-3152 / danandtracy@hotmail.com or
Deacon Steve at (732) 213-0104 / stephenwandrews@outlook.com.

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org



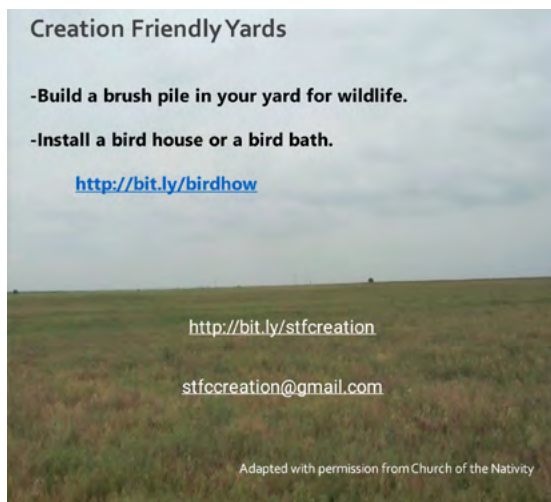
Witness for Racial Justice

**Tuesday May 25, 4 – 5:30 pm
Creedmoor Rd**

Come stand in peaceful solidarity and be a prophetic witness to truth and justice for our brothers and sisters of color on Tuesday May 25, 4:00 – 5:30 pm, the anniversary of George Floyd's death. We will join with members of Benson Memorial United Methodist Church, Temple Beth Or and Pullen Memorial Baptist Church to honor the inherent dignity of all lives lost or harmed in any way by systemic racism.

We will meet at Benson Memorial - 4706 Creedmoor Rd, Raleigh, NC 27612 at 4:00 pm, begin in prayer, stand in solidarity outside, holding signs (no polls), wearing masks and social distancing. Sign up at www.bit.ly/demonstration-52021

Scripture and the principle of solidarity within Catholic Social Teaching tell us that we are one human family despite our racial differences, united to each other through Christ. And that solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of others. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the good of all people.



Braver Angels

Parish Workshop: Restoring Civility to Our Polarized Society

There are so many ways in which we find ourselves increasingly polarized – left versus right, neighbor against neighbor. Does this frustrate and alarm you? Do you worry about how it's hurting families, communities, our nation, and the world? Is this a moral and spiritual issue for you? Are you ready to do something about it?

You're not alone. Polarization is painful; it stands in our way as we try to make the world a better place. If you agree (and even if you don't!), please consider joining your fellow parishioners and friends on Sunday, Jun 6, 1-4pm for "Depolarizing Within", an online workshop designed to help soften the impact of polarization in political conversations. Register at bit.ly/depolarizeSFA2021a.

Skilled, experienced moderators from Braver Angels (formerly Better Angels) will lead the workshop. Braver Angels, a national organization with a strong presence in the Triangle area and across North Carolina, exists to promote respect, civility, empathy, and goodwill in our interactions with those with whom we disagree politically.



Visit <http://bit.ly/SFAmentalhealth2021> to sign-up to attend these opportunities for VIRTUAL conversation around mental health and mental illness.

May 25, 7pm-8:30pm: Mental Health Resources in our Community with a panel of leaders from our community sharing what resources are available to individuals and families experiencing mental health challenges during the pandemic.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13)

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Becky Cawley, Justice and Peace Specialist

Your gifts

How is the Holy Spirit Calling You to Share Them?

Today is Pentecost Sunday a memorial of the amazing day, in the form of fiery tongues, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus. On that momentous day with the disciples afraid and locked inside a room, Jesus came to them and said, "Peace be with you. As the father has sent me, so I send you." He then empowered them to do so by breathing upon them and saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Pentecost then is the birthday of the Church Jesus established nearly 2,000 years ago, with empowered disciples full of the Holy Spirit.

But it's more than this too. In today's Scripture we are reminded that Pentecost is also an event of the present. We are reminded that the gift of the Holy Spirit that we too receive through the Sacraments is meant to be shared with others. In other words, the gift of the Holy Spirit moves us to action today and inspires us to share.

St. Paul explains how the sharing of the various gifts of the Holy Spirit enriches the Church and the world. He refers to the varieties of gifts, fruits, and charisms given to the Church as coming from the same Spirit who activates all of them in Christians for the common good. They may take different forms like prophecy, teaching, administration, acts of charity, healing and speaking in tongues, and they may reside in different persons but, "What the Spirit brings is ... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22). He continues, "Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit" (5:25). Paul insists that our gifts are to be used in the present time for the benefit of others, for the common good and for the building up of the Body of Christ.

Sometimes this isn't as easy as it sounds. Sometimes we can't see our gifts because our vision is cloudy due to circumstances beyond our control in our lives or in the world. Sometimes it's easier not to see our gifts, to continue on our current path despite the fact that our lives may be less fulfilling or the path good for us.

Sometimes we forget that we are made in God's image and infinitely loved by Him who gave us these gifts, and as such our gifts are good, holy and important.

So on this Pentecost Sunday remember, you have gifts and your gifts matter! You have unique, holy and beautiful gifts meant to be shared, meant to build up the Body of Christ and the world and meant to enrich your life in the process. Perhaps you could take some time today to reflect: What are the gifts I've been given? How is the Holy Spirit calling me to share them?

Here are a few opportunities to share your gifts in the community:

- The Inter-Faith Food Shuttle (<https://www.food-shuttle.org/volunteer>) has gotten so creative with their volunteer opportunities. Take a look if you haven't in a while. You will find multiple ways to volunteer on weekends and during the week, as an individual or in families or groups, doing agriculture and garden work, community health education and hunger relief initiatives. And if volunteering at IFFS excites you, reach out to Becky Cawley at becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org to explore other ways to get involved.
- Our community partner Oak City Cares, the multi-services center for people and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless, is opening up a bit in response to the new CDC guidelines. They are in need of help during the week and on weekends. Sign up here if you can help:

Weekday: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0544AEA822A2FC1-updated>

Weekend: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f45ada828a2fc1-newupdated>

- We are continuing our scheduled breakfasts at Oak City Cares as well. Here are opportunities to help:

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune12-2021

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune27-2021

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjuly25-2021

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCaugust14-2021

www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCaugust22-2021

- And you will find many more opportunities here: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/offer-or-receive-help/> or contact Becky Cawley at becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org

May you know the gift of the Holy Spirit that quietly works in us and through us every day in the ordinary yet holy moments of our lives. May you also know how deeply enriching it is to share this gift.



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., Tue., Thu., 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: \$454,462 (89.2%)

Received Gift Amount: \$403,303 (79%)

Number of Donors: 1,186

24.7% of registered parish families



2021 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
CATHOLIC DIOCESE of RALEIGH

ST. FRANCIS TV



EPISODE 4

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.smallsa@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
- 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.



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>



Bringing Home the Word

Pentecost Sunday (B)
May 23, 2021

The Patience of Mary

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

A common image of Mary—surrounded by the apostles in the upper room, awaiting the Holy Spirit—has a name: *Regina Apostolorum*, Queen of the Apostles. She is enthroned as Queen Mother because, when her Son the King was enthroned and lifted up, he told her, “Behold your son.” With those words he entrusted Mary to the care of John, the apostles, and the whole Church. As any good queen and mother, she defends her own.

She is also called the Spouse of the Spirit, because it was in union with

the Spirit that she engendered the Son. She also engenders him in the apostles and in our souls through her powerful intercession and waiting on the Spirit.

One of Mary’s best qualities is waiting patiently until God’s power arrives. After the annunciation she waited nine months with Jesus in her womb. Then she waited some thirty years while Jesus grew and prepared for his mission. She waited during his public life and watched as his fame spread, but also as his enemies plotted. She waited at the foot of the cross and endured that unending Holy Saturday until the resurrection. And she waited patiently on the first Pentecost Sunday for the coming of the gift of the Holy Spirit promised by her Son. She knew he would come through, as he always did.

We get impatient with God and want him to respond on our timetables according to our expectations. He waits to give us a chance to adapt our hearts to his plan and timing. He waits until the time is just right. +

One of Mary’s best qualities is waiting patiently until God’s power arrives. We get impatient and want him to respond on our timetable.

Sunday Readings

Acts 2:1–11

And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were.

1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Gal 5:16–25

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ.

John 20:19–23 or John 15:26–27; 16:12–15

But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth.

A Word from Pope Francis

The Holy Spirit...reminds us that first of all we are God’s beloved children; all equal, in this respect, and all different. The Spirit comes to us, in our differences and difficulties, to tell us that we have one Lord—Jesus—and one Father, and that for this reason we are brothers and sisters!

—Pentecost Homily, May 31, 2020



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How often do I seek Mary’s intercession or help?
- Patience is a fruit of the Spirit. How can you practice more patience this week?



DIOCESE OF RALEIGH Office of Communications
7200 Sunbeam 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.

The Many Faces of Mary

By Johan van Parys

I celebrated my first Communion in 1967. Of the many religious gifts I received, my absolute favorite was a statue of Mary. She wore a beautiful pastel dress and had flowing blonde hair and brilliant blue eyes. Even more exciting, she played “Immaculate Mary.” The statue received a place of honor in my bedroom which, according to my concerned mother, looked more like a shrine. Part of my bedtime routine was to pray the Hail Mary in front of Mary. Then I took a moment of silence before winding up the mechanism and listening to “Immaculate Mary” as I quietly hummed along.

A couple of years later I realized that in real life Mary didn’t have blonde hair or wear pastel robes, and she had only herself as the immaculate conception until fairly recently. This came as a spiritual shock, and I felt betrayed; however, my curiosity of who Mary was and what she may have looked like was piqued.

Mary, mother of Jesus and wife of Joseph, was Jewish. More than likely she was born to a poor family and led a hard life. She undoubtedly worried about her son, especially when he set out to complete his mission at about age thirty. Regardless, she stayed by his side. She even flanked the cross he was nailed to and cradled his body after he was lowered from it.

Mothers are often the first to know the truth about their children, and Mary



knew Jesus was the Messiah before anyone else did. She testified to this not only during her lifetime, but also after she was assumed into heaven during her many apparitions.

I find these apparitions fascinating—not that they happened, but rather how they happened. It seems like Mary was and continues to be the supreme missionary. She understood that by taking on the image of the people to whom she was appearing, she could more easily win them over to her Son. In an instant, this foreign religion would receive a local face.

When she appeared in Mexico as Our Lady of Guadalupe, she appeared as an Aztec princess. Thus, the Aztec people

could recognize themselves in Mary, and she became one of them. In Vietnam, she appeared as Our Lady of La Vang, a Vietnamese woman; in Africa, as an African woman; in Belgium, as a blonde woman. Indeed, Mary has taken the shape, color, and form of almost every woman on this planet. This affirms that we’re each created in God’s image and that Jesus died for all of us.

Today, my entire house is filled with religious art. Many might think of it as more of a shrine than a home—old habits die hard. I have images of Mary from all around the world. In these Marian statues I see the face of Mary, the Mother of God and our heavenly mother. I also see the faces of all mothers.

Similarly, the diverse statues of Mary in our churches allow us to recognize ourselves in her. We are invited to become more like her by taking on her virtues.

As we celebrate Mary in May, may we learn from her and turn to her with our every need. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us! +



*Lord, your Spirit renews
our faith, hope, and love.*

*Empower me to be your
presence of love and
compassion to others.*

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

May 24-29

Monday, Blessed Virgin Mary:
Gn 3:9–15, 20 or Acts 1:12–14 / Jn
19:25–34

Tuesday, Weekday:
Sir 35:1–12 / Mk 10:28–31

Wednesday, St. Philip Neri:
Sir 36:1, 4–5a, 10–17 / Mk 10:32–45

Thursday, Weekday:
Sir 42:15–25 / Mk 10:46–52

Friday, Weekday:
Sir 44:1, 9–13 / Mk 11:11–26

Saturday, Weekday:
Sir 51:12cd–20 / Mk 11:27–33

Bringing Home
the Word 
May 23, 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
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	josephjrandazzo1@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
Prison Pen Pal		sfapenpal@gmail.com
R.A.R.E. Tom Zimmerman	thomaspzimmerman@bellsouth.net	
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
Support Circles Kat and Ferrel Guilroy		ferrel.guillory@gmail.com

St Francis on Mission

International Mission Trips	Trevor Thompson	847-8205x270
Sister Parish - Guatemala	Liz Mosler	lizmosler4@gmail.com
St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia	John Budway	305-205-5104

St Francis Learns

Care of Creation		stfccreation@gmail.com
Engaging Spirituality	Becky Cawley	847-8205x267
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

Deb Royals-Mizerk

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Kathleen Owen

847-8205x241

Kathleen Owen

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Alice Stanford

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Angela Azzopardi

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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

Parish Events (FrancisFest)

Ashley Watson

847-8205x444

Summer Camps (Camp Francis)

Ashley Watson

847-8205x444

Community Organizations

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

Bryan Kozak

gk@kofc9709.org

Secular Franciscan Order

Ellen Ferrone

http://ofscentralinc.org

Faith Formation Ministries

Director of Faith Formation

Jenn Fiduccia

847-8205x238

Assisi Scripture Study

Jenn Fiduccia

847-8205x238

Baptism Ministry

Tim Hetzel

847-8205x244

Marriage Ministry

Tim Hetzel

847-8205x244

Confirmation Sponsors

Thomas Bulick

847-8205x239

Children's Formation Group Leader

Sarah Bowser

847-8205x496

Family & Marriage Enrichment Team

Tim Hetzel

847-8205x244

Middle School Formation Group

Thomas Bulick

847-8205x239

Faith Formation Regist. & Events

Patti Panizza

847-8205x237

Youth Ministry Group Leader

Marisa Ferrara

847-8205x223

RCIA Team & Sponsors

Jenn Fiduccia

847-8205x238

Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery)

Tara Moore

847-8205x489

Young Adults Bible Study Group

Tim Hetzel

847-8205x244

Stewardship Ministries

Stewardship Committee

Deb Royals-Mizerk

847-8205x222

Way of Francis Ben Whitehouse whitehouseben5@gmail.com