

July 4, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



as We Move Forward in Hope

A Reopening Update

See page 2



**Need an invitation
to Join Realm?**

[Click Here](#)

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.

**Forward
In HOPE**

Our parish journey
of resurrection

[Click here for updates on
our parish reopening](#)



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

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



Moving Forward in Hope: A Reopening Update

Dear St. Francis Family:

We are ready to take more steps forward as we regather our community of faith. The following four adjustments will take effect on the dates noted below:

EFFECTIVE, TUESDAY, JULY 6: The parish will be open to the public M-F, 9:00am-4:00pm. Receptionists will be available at the Pastoral Offices to assist you with your pastoral needs.

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, JULY 4: One more Mass will be added back to our weekend schedule. The Mass time will be 7:15am on Sunday (note the time change).

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, AUGUST 15: The time change for the early Mass on Sunday morning is part of a bigger adjustment to the Sunday morning schedule that will begin on August 15 (see below). Motivating the schedule adjustment is the growing trend in Catholic parishes to experience Sunday not only as a time to worship but also to grow in what our faith means and as a community, especially for adults.

Making this growth in faith possible is the extraordinary education of our staff, the knowledge and skills of other parishioners, and access to outside speakers who can engage us in meaningful ways about what we believe and how we live our faith. There is a great opportunity before us as we regather our community to provide ongoing formation for adult parishioners who 1) seek depth more appropriate for adults about the fundamentals of our faith, 2) would appreciate updates on pressing current issues (e.g., bioethics, the environment, societal issues, parenting), and/or 3) simply want to learn more about their faith.

After extensive discussions with and the endorsement of both church staff and the Pastoral Council about this initiative, we will launch this program for parishioners beginning this fall. As a first step, we will offer a program on Sunday morning, twice a month between September and May, for adults to gather for approximately one hour to learn more about the Catholic faith as noted above. In order to do this, an adjustment to the current Sunday morning Mass schedule is required so we have enough time to socialize and learn without major chaos on the parking lots before or after these Masses.

I am fully aware that time changes to Mass schedules are among the most delicate issues a pastor faces. The current Sunday morning Mass schedule has existed at St. Francis for many, many years and I know people have important reasons for selecting a Mass time that best suits their needs. I am also aware that there is a major pastoral need for us to provide intentional and ongoing formation for the adults of our parish.

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, AUGUST 15: On this day, we will also restart our late-morning Sunday Mass. Our Sunday morning Mass schedule will be:

7:15am

9:00am

11:45am

We will shift the 9:30am Mass to 9:00am. We will continue to livestream the mid-morning Mass as was announced a few weeks ago. The Saturday and Sunday evening Mass schedule remains unchanged.

The timing of this shift in mid-August will give us a few weeks to adjust to the schedule prior to the start of our fall faith formation programs. Once these programs begin in September, this adjustment will allow for faith formation of children and adults to take place between the conclusion of the 9:00am Mass and the beginning of the 11:45am Mass. Those coming for adult formation on Sunday and who would prefer to worship that morning as well will be able to go to Mass either before the adult formation sessions or after them. This also becomes an exciting new format for parents to be fed as first teachers in their children's faith as their younger children participate in faith formation on Sunday morning.

This is not a perfect solution for everyone at St. Francis. We took time to consider the impact this revised schedule will have on a variety of groups and individuals but believe this is the best solution for the vast majority of parishioners. I am grateful for your willingness to try this for a year to see if this can create a space for ongoing faith formation of our adult community while not seriously affecting a Mass schedule rhythm we have become accustomed to over several decades.

Msgr. Clay





The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

REMINDER

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, JULY 4: One more Mass will be added back to our current weekend schedule. The Mass time will be **7:15am on Sunday** (note the time change).

*The weekend schedule **until August 15** will be:*

*Saturday
5:30pm*

*Sunday
7:15am
9:30am*

5:30pm (Masks required by all for this Mass)

EFFECTIVE, TUESDAY, JULY 6: The parish will be open to the public M-F, 9am-4pm. Receptionists will be available at the Pastoral Offices to assist you with your pastoral needs.

Registration opens 7/19



bit.ly/FormationK-12

You can mail your contribution to us at:

**St Francis Of Assisi
11401 Leesville Road
Raleigh, NC 27613**

You give can Online through:



<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faith-direct/>



Text-to-Give: 919-629-1199

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

SAVE THE DATE

Freshman Retreat

SUNDAY . SEPTEMBER 12

11:45 am MASS - 8:00 pm

FALLS LAKE . details to come

July Envelope Schedule

July 4	Weekly
July 4	Mortgage Sunday
July 11	Weekly
July 18	Weekly
July 25	Weekly
July 25	Sister Parish in NC & Guatemala

SCAM ALERT

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

KBL Episodes and Release Dates



May 3



May 17



June 7



June 21



July 12



July 26



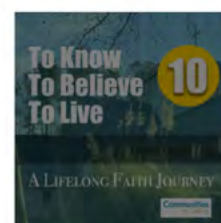
August 9



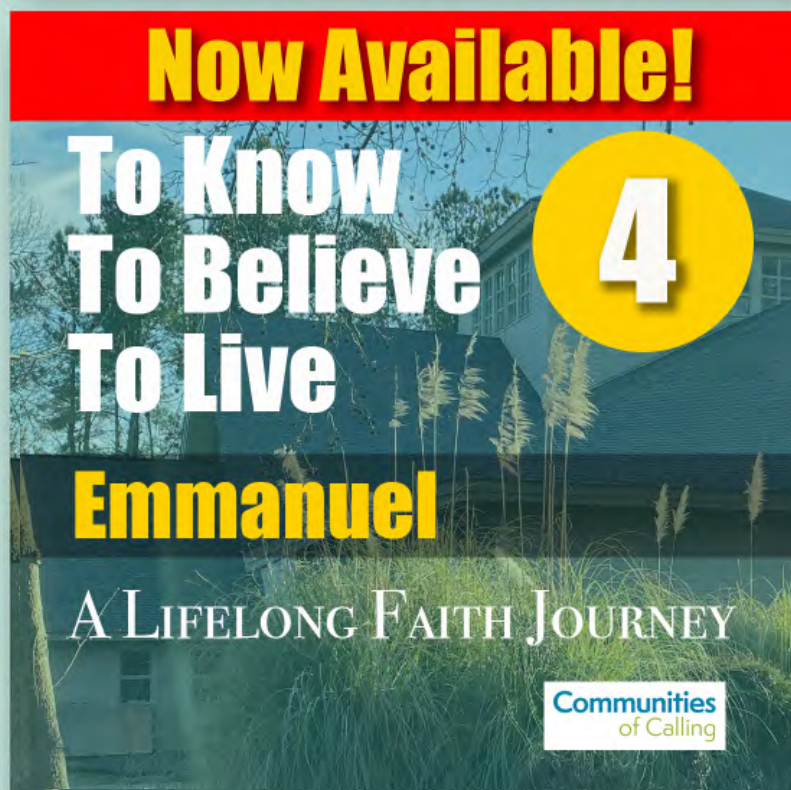
August 23



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

Happy Independence Day!



"He will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil." Deuteronomy 11:14

Hopefully, July 4th this year looks a little better for your family than it did last year as we were deep into the ramifications of COVID-19. While I know the importance of this holiday to our nation, when I hear the word "independence" I can't help but immediately think of preschoolers! So much of what we do at preschool is aimed at helping our students reach higher and higher levels of independence in multiple areas.

Our teachers are wonderfully adept at empowering their students to become increasingly independent in all developmental domains. This encompasses everything from entering the classroom without tears, to putting a puzzle together, to using scissors correctly. It also involves encouraging them to know that God is always around them and willing to listen. We can feel His presence during the sad and happy times in our lives, but also when we visit church. He loves us unconditionally and church is one important place that we can go to be closer to Him.

One of the beautiful things that results from our lessons is that we sometimes get to catch glimpses of our teachings being echoed back in what a child says or does not only in school, but at home too. One such heartfelt example was brought to my attention last week. A mom of a child in one of our two-year old classes shared with me a conversation that she had with her son, Owen, on a recent rainy evening.

She gave me permission to share with you the following excerpt of the conversation she had while helping get Owen ready for bed:

Owen: "Why is it raining?"

Mom: "Because God said we needed some rain."

Owen: "Why he do that?"

Mom: "God told the clouds to rain."

Owen: "Where he do that?"

Mom: "In Heaven where He lives."

Owen: "He not live in Heaven."

Mom: "Where does he live?"

Owen: "He lives in church, mommy."

I hope that you might not only be reminded with this of how important your own faith model is to the young members of our community, but also see an example of the amazing work that our teachers do each day to inspire the next generation of our church!

To learn more about becoming part of our incredible preschool family and the opportunities we provide, please visit our website at www.preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Trevor Thompson, Director of Justice and Peace

Looking for Someone to Coordinate our Habitat for Humanity Partnership



There's something meaningful about picking up a hammer and nail and building a wall with Habitat for Humanity. What makes it especially fulfilling is that these walls become an affordable home for families in need.

Every year, our parish works alongside other Wake County faith congregations to build two homes. This year the St. Francis of Assisi Habitat Ministry is looking for someone to help coordinate our Habitat for Humanity partnership and prepare to kick off the 2021-2022 building season.

This volunteer will work with parish staff, Habitat staff, and other faith leaders in Wake County to coordinate Saturday work days throughout the fall. This will entail gathering St. Francis volunteers and coordinating periodic lunches. This role also serves as the liaison with Habitat for Humanity, which includes attending a few meetings, house blessings, and house dedications throughout the year. If this is a ministry that interests you, please contact Trevor Thompson, trevor.thompson@stfrancisraleigh.org.



EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Mike Watson, Principal TFS

A Great Year...and a Better One Ahead!



Happy Independence Day! We join you all in celebrating our country and all it offers those who are fortunate to live here and enjoy our freedoms and liberty. We hope all of our families are enjoying a great summer! We appreciate their support, their flexibility and the patience that allowed us to turn 2020-21 into a great year. As I have mentioned many times, if you had told me a year ago what an amazing year we would have in 2020-21, I would have questioned your grasp of reality! We were in a pandemic! However, it turned into a better year than I ever would have thought possible.

This great year was due to the amazing faculty and staff, who gave their all with extra work responsibilities, extra technical requirements, and a different teaching environment. It was due to the families who had faith in the school's safety measures, and the sage and informed advice of our school nurse, COVID task

force and administration. Also due, in very large part, to the students, who embraced the learning environment and followed the difficult mandates for masks and distancing with maturity beyond their years and the joy of being in school. Thanks to everyone at TFS for an amazing year.

The time for reflection, though, is past; we made it and are happy to move ahead. It is time for a relaxing summer of fun and adventure, then to prepare for an amazing 2021-22 year. We look forward to welcoming the over 110, and still rising, new students, and their families, who will join us in August. We are still accepting applications for those who want to attend our amazing parish school! The school administration is building schedules, looking to populate rooms with desks, and doing all the normal summer maintenance and upgrades that keep our campus beautiful...believe me, it is so nice to be back to a "normal" summer!

We are all looking forward to coming back enthusiastic to learn, ready to grow in love for our Faith, and ready to serve others as we are called to do. The Franciscan School is a wonderful school and community due to all those who strive to make it so, and this new school year will be the best one yet!

Do you want to learn more about how The Franciscan School prepares our students for their futures with an excellent educational and faith experience? Join us for our upcoming virtual information session on July 14 at 7:00pm to learn more on how we can support your family's goals for your child. More information can be found on our website at www.franciscanschool.org or contact Principal Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities



Director of Faith Formation

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Raleigh, NC announces an opening for a director of faith formation. The parish, an award winning and nationally recognized community of nearly 5000 households with a pastoral staff of 30, seeks an innovative, enthusiastic, and collaborative individual to oversee our comprehensive formation program serving pre-K through adults, including sacramental preparation and a year-round RCIA. The director supervises and collaborates with a formation and administrative team in establishing goals and implementing programs. The successful applicant will have a graduate degree in theology or related field, be conversant in the fields of evangelization and contemporary approaches to catechesis and have a minimum of five years in successful leadership in formation ranging from young children to adults.

A minimum of three years of supervisory experience is required along with demonstrated knowledge and skills in adult initiation and adult faith formation. The director works with the leadership team in building on the parish's longstanding history of bringing baptismal and ministerial priesthood together in the collaborative vision of Vatican II.

Applicants should submit a résumé, a 1-2 page statement explaining why the applicant is well suited for the position, three references, and salary requirements to: Search.Committee@stfrancisraleigh.org.



The Play and Pray Sunday morning ministry is currently accepting applications for childcare providers in our 1 and 2 year old rooms. The goal of Play and Pray is to partner with parents of young children, providing an opportunity for parents to attend Mass as a couple, and their children to begin to hear the stories of Jesus, and learn about our Catholic traditions using language and activities that are age appropriate. Providers play, sing songs and read Bible stories with the children. A strong candidate will have experience working with young children and be excited to share their faith with toddlers. Employees are required to be Level C certified, which includes successful completion of a background check. Play and Pray hours are 8:30am-1:00pm every Sunday, except for major holidays. If interested, please send a cover letter and resume to Tara.Moore@stfrancisraleigh.org.



The Franciscan School, part of the education ministry of St. Francis of Assisi, has the following position available beginning in the 21-22 school year.

Elementary Teachers - Kindergarten and First Grade

The Franciscan School is seeking qualified classroom teachers in kindergarten and first grade. The primary role of the classroom teacher is to instruct students in the Diocesan Curriculum for that specific grade, while challenging them to move beyond their current level of academic success. The candidate will demonstrate the ability to draw the students out to reach their full potential as it applies to the goals and requirements of the Diocesan curriculum.

As an instructor in a school with over 650 students, the ability to tie together the lessons within each grade as part of the grade level team, and make them build upon each other year after year, using established best practices and methods for instruction, is essential. The applicant would be responsible for working together with the entire faculty and the administrative team to provide a safe and academically challenging environment; one that builds upon the charism of the Catholic Church, and our Franciscan traditions, to form our students as fine young men and women prepared for their futures academically, socially, and morally.

If you are interested in joining a dynamic educational environment working with dedicated professionals to provide an academically challenging experience for our students, please send a cover letter, résumé, educational philosophy, and three references to: Dawn.Smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Bridges After School Program – Part-time positions

We are currently seeking candidates to work in our Bridges After School Program on a part time basis. Candidates must have a strong desire and ability to work with children, be at least 18 years old, and pass a background screening. Bridges staff work within the program hours of Monday through Friday from 2:00 to 6:00pm. If interested, please submit a cover letter and resume to Joey Bradshaw, Head of Bridges, joseph.bradshaw@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Spanish Enrichment Instructor (Part time)

St. Francis Preschool is seeking an individual who is bi-lingual in Spanish to join our staff as a Part Time Spanish Enrichment Instructor. This person will be responsible for developing and delivering fun-filled lessons that will engage and enhance the preschool experience of our three, four and five year olds. This position will be approximately 10 hours per week.

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



Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL
— FAITH — ACADEMICS — SERVICE —
www.franciscanschool.org



VIRTUAL SCHOOL DIOCESE of RALEIGH OFFICE OF EDUCATION

The Diocese of Raleigh Office of Education has created an exciting new option for Catholic education - The Diocese of Raleigh Virtual School. Registration has begun for grades K-8 and this school will open mid-August 2021.

Please join us for a parent informational session. Both sessions will be the same, therefore attendance is only needed once. Pre-registration is required.

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 1:00pm – 2:00pm

https://zoom.us/join/join?secret=05MwxFbUji_x6F&from=joinlink

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 6:00pm – 7:00pm

<https://zoom.us/join/join?secret=3JlqKWAPQr51qs1&from=joinlink>

After pre-registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the actual Zoom meeting link for your assigned time.

For more information visit <https://dioceseofraleigh.org/news/announcing-opening-diocese-raleigh-virtual-school>

Direct questions to DORVS@raldioc.org



ZERO WASTE IN THE HOME

• Get rid of unwanted junk mail

- <http://bit.ly/poch21>
- <http://bit.ly/ouprsc>
- <http://bit.ly/catchoi>

- Refuse freebies you don't need

- Buy items in glass, metal or cardboard not plastic

To learn - - <http://bit.ly/stfcoc21>

To help: Peter at stfccreation@gmail.com

ADAPTED WITH PERMISSION FROM CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

Kathleen Owen, Director of Parish Life

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2



Stephen Ministry at St. Francis

Part 2 of IV

One of the biggest obstacles to people reaching out for help in our community is their concern about being a burden or a bother. I asked our Stephen Ministers what they received in return for their Stephen Ministry. I think you'll agree that by being open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, both the Stephen Minister and the Care Receiver are transformed!

What has it meant to me to be a SM?

Being a Stephen Minister has given me a source of pride, knowing that I was trained and able to help anyone in their walk with Christ during the most difficult times. I have been blessed to be able to share what SM is with many family, friends and colleagues that have asked about it over the years. Being a SM has given me peace, a deep peace that knows the Holy Spirit is present in the ministry working through me to achieve His ends.

Being a SM has been a blessing! Not only have I been privileged to walk with some amazing women through trials in their lives, they have given me insight and inspiration for my own life's trials as well.

What have I learned from being a SM?

Mostly, I've learned how to be more compassionate when amongst others who are struggling. I've learned to not try to 'fix' everything, knowing now that God through his son Jesus and the Holy Spirit is providing any cures, not me. As a Stephen Leader, I've learned how to listen better and seek out those nuances that might help a fellow SM to get through a challenge in their SM relationships.

What has humbled you being a part of SM?

The fact that SM takes place at so many different denominations and churches of every sort across North America was a highlight of our Stephen Leadership training. I know I am but one of many thousands who practices SM in every setting you can think of with every type of person you can imagine! I'm part of something much, much larger than myself or our Parish, with resources that are available to help us at a moment's notice.

What gives you strength being a SM?

I've felt the Holy Spirit, seen the Spirit working through me as I've been blessed to minister with others. I've seen how the right question or thoughtful remark at the exactly right moment can help someone get past a particularly difficult time. I know God, working through me, uses me for holy purposes and that gives me an inner peace and strength that I so appreciate.

What have you learned from being a SM?

God is Good! I truly believe the Holy Spirit is right there with me in my caring relationships. It seems that the right words always come to me at the right time to bring light onto a situation that we are talking about.

What has humbled you being a part of SM?

I have been humbled to see the strength and faith my CR's have shown to me during our times together. I am humbled to be a part of their journey and to witness God's goodness through them.

What gives you strength being a SM?

I have had CR's tell me that it's because of our time together that they are praying more, talking more with God, and having

a relationship with God that was lacking before. Knowing that I was able to be a part of their faith journey strengthens my own relationship with God as well. Plus my amazing fellow SM's strengthen me as they are always there for me!

Being able to minister to someone as a Stephen Minister, one on one, is a great gift. I've learned that just being there to be that "other" person for someone, as they deal with a life struggle, is like sharing the burden with them. It does not make the life issue go away, but helps them to deal with it. I've learned that the purpose of the Stephen Ministry relationship is not to solve their problem, but walk with them as they work their way through the problem. The training for this ministry prepares you well to be able to do this.

Being a Stephen Minister has been very humbling. I was in a caring relationship for over a year, walking with someone who was facing a difficult diagnosis. We continue to keep in touch after the formal relationship ended. I am honored that this Care Receiver wants me to share this final journey.

I have been a minister for about 7 years. I have worked with a variety of women with a wide variety of stresses. Each time that I walk with someone as they journey is an privilege and a lesson. How the human spirit can rise above strife when they know they are not alone is a amazing thing. The Holy Spirit is definitely involved when two people journey together, when there is crack in the road to overcome. I thank God I said yes when asked, "Do you want to become a Stephen Minister?" Please just reach out to me at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241.

One Family in Christ

WHO PRAYS, SERVES & SHARES

IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

BAA Goal: \$509,088.28

Pledged Gift Amount: \$466,467 (91.6%)

Received Gift Amount: \$429,418 (84.4%)

Number of Donors: 1,219
25.4% of registered parish families

Where's the rest
of the parish?

4700 parish families
 -1219 BAA participants
 = 3481 missing
 We need everyone in
 order to reach our
 goal!



2021 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
 CATHOLIC DIOCESE of RALEIGH



The book is called *The Mindful Catholic – Finding God One Moment at a Time* by Dr. Gregory Bottaro. Let's plan to have lunch meetings on Thursdays, starting on July 8 at noon. That should give you some time to get the book and read the first chapter. We'll finish on August 26 just in time for back to school or back to whatever autumn has to bring.

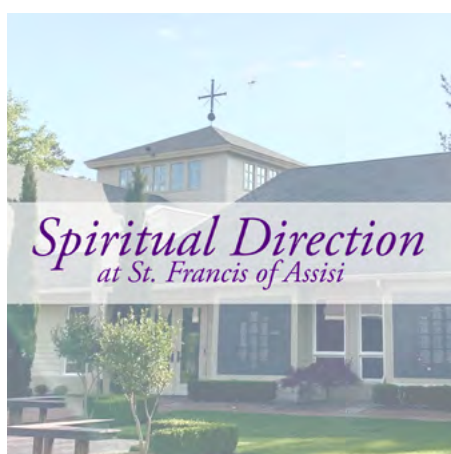
To sign up, log into your Realm account at onrealm.org. You can go to Groups, Find Group, then up at the top right type in The Mindful Catholic and click Join and you'll be registered. If you don't have a Realm account, you can get one at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/realm/>. If none of this works, you can email/call me at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241.

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



Monday – Friday 8am-5pm

Casseroles is accepting casseroles every week from Monday-Friday (with the exception of holidays when campus is closed). For more information, visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/caring-casserole/>



You don't have to go through difficult times alone. Our Stephen Ministers are there to care. To find out more talk with Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org



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, contact Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241

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

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers Support Group: The first Wednesday of the month, 1:00-3:00pm and the third Wednesday of the month, 7:00-9:00pm, in the Padua Room of Assisi Community Center. Linda Tucker, 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 from September 7 to December 14, 2021 from 6:00 - 8:00pm. For more information contact Bill Morgan at dejanuts@yahoo.com or visit <https://www.divorcecare.org/about>.

Grief Support Group

Contact Marsha Riely at marshariely@mac.com or Marlys Varga at marlysvarga@hotmail.com.

GriefShare

Contact Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
July 4, 2021

The Pain of Suspicion

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

A bright and luminous painting from 1905 by Maurice Denis shows the Child Jesus in Nazareth, apparently teaching the other children. *Nazareth* highlights the peace, beauty, and joy of those years when Jesus was growing in wisdom and strength right before Mary's eyes.

The little dovelike white ribbons on the heads of the kneeling children indicate the knowledge and spirit Jesus was imparting.

Yet when Jesus returns to Nazareth as an adult, things were quite different. The townspeople were suspicious of

his wisdom as they remember him as the carpenter, son of Joseph and Mary. Those humble roots don't justify the knowledge and power with which he spoke. Perhaps envy or jealousy blinded them and brought Jesus to quote the Old Testament, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house" (Mark 6:4).

Their closed hearts pained Jesus, as he would have most certainly wanted to show all the love and power of God to his fellow Nazoreans. Scripture says Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith.

We can also limit everything Jesus wants to do in and for us with our lack of belief in him and his power. Perhaps those of us who are closest to him through daily prayer and regular sacraments are the least convinced of his power. Dare to let Jesus in and do with you what he wants! +

*Perhaps those who
are closest to Jesus
through prayer and
regular sacraments
are the least convinced
of his power.*

Sunday Readings

Ezekiel 2:2-5

Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and constraints, for the sake of Christ.

Mark 6:1-6

Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary?...He was amazed at their lack of faith.

A Word from Pope Francis

[Religious] freedom remains one of America's most precious possessions. And, as my brothers, the United States Bishops, have reminded us, all are called to be vigilant, precisely as good citizens, to preserve and defend that freedom from everything that would threaten or compromise it.

—Visit to the White House, September 23, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Does my familiarity with Jesus lead me to routine and lack of faith?
- In what ways have I seen Jesus work and answer prayer?



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St. John Bosco Conference

Calling all catechists, Catholic school teachers, youth ministers, evangelizers, RCIA coordinators, and anyone who hands on the faith to others! Attend the St. John Bosco Conference on July 12-15 at Franciscan University of Steubenville. This is your time, your place to come be renewed in mind, heart and skills. Experience many engaging speakers, moving worship and outstanding fellowship that will rejuvenate you for life and mission. COVID policy in place. Register with this code SJB21LWerNC at steubenvilleconferences.com/adult/sjb, or contact Laura Werner at steubenvillemission-NC@gmail.com with questions.

Are “Those People” Us?

By Kathleen M. Basi

You would think that in a society that prizes knowledge—in a world shaped by the ability to study the microscopic building blocks of the human person—we would have moved beyond defining people by stereotypes. Yet reality indicates otherwise. It’s a sad truth about human nature that we are really good at building walls to divide *us* from *them* and not nearly as good at breaking those walls down.

Forwarded emails, written in inflammatory language, make blanket statements about Muslims, Protestants, Catholics, liberals, and conservatives. Neighbors protest in response to a home being built nearby for underprivileged kids or disabled adults. We make assumptions about people’s character based on the way they dress, their political affiliation, or physical characteristics.

We’d all like to think we’re the exception to such subtle bigotry. We’d like to think we respect the gift of life in whatever form God gives it—disabilities and all—but how many of us answer questions about our unborn children with “as long as the baby’s healthy” or forward emails of poor taste?

We readily admit that “those people” (whoever they may be) are just as important as we are in the eyes of God. But when it comes to making out birthday invitations for our children’s celebrations or expanding our own social



circles, does our gaze automatically slide past certain individuals to people who feel a little more...well...like us?

When we separate people into *us* versus *them*, we give ourselves permission, however unconsciously, to see *them* as *less than*. Jesus asks more from us. In one Gospel story after another, he challenges us to tear down the barriers erected by humanity.

We know that Jesus came for everyone—it’s a tenet of our faith. It’s a lot easier to say those words, though, than to acknowledge that our hearts aren’t opened as wide as Jesus’. Saint Paul urged the Galatians not to consider themselves as Jew or Greek, slave or free,

male or female (see Galatians 3:28). A modern litany might speak to religion, race, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

It’s not easy to overcome our biases. But nobody ever said following Jesus would be easy. In fact, Jesus made it clear that the Christian journey involves dying to oneself. What also must die is our own unacknowledged prejudices. +

*We’d all like to think
we’re the exception
to subtle bigotry.*



*Lord, you accept everyone
with unconditional love.
Help me overcome my fear
of others so I can love and
accept them as you do.*

—From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day
in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

July 5–10

Monday, Weekday:
Gn 28:10–22a / Mt 9:18–26

Tuesday, Weekday:
Gn 32:23–33 / Mt 9:32–38

Wednesday, Weekday:
Gn 41:55–57; 42:5–7a, 17–24a / Mt 10:1–7

Thursday, Weekday: Gn 44:18–21,
23b–29; 45:1–5 / Mt 10:7–15

Friday, Weekday:
Gn 46:1–7, 28–30 / Mt 10:16–23

Saturday, Weekday: Gn 49:29–32;
50:15–26a / Mt 10:24–33

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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 Kathy Sales 847-8205x488

Priests and Deacon

Pastor Msgr. Michael Clay 847-8205x224
Parochial Vicar Fr. Jairo Maldonado-Pacheco 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
Administrative Assistant Stacey Shine 847-8205x268

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 Kathy Sales 847-8205x488
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

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 Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
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 bcarter7@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	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Pastoral Presence Ministries		
Caregivers	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Centering Prayer	Alice Stanford	919-781-5860
Emmaus Ministers	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
EMs to Abbotswood	Anita Misko	630-699-0519
EMs to the Homebound	Melanie Fraites	mjpfraites@gmail.com
EMs to the Magnolia Glen	Jacob House	919-449-7634
EMs to the Meadows	Andrea McVerry	amcverry@yahoo.com
EMs to Rex Hospital	Edward Gilmartinedward.gilmartin@gmail.com	
EMs to Springmoor	Janice Horner	484-949-1417
Prayer Line Ministers	Pauk Wilson	wilsonpf99@gmail.com
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Cindy Cardello	919-846-8825
	Dianne Rotunno	919-844-7153
Rosary Ministry	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241

Ministries of Support & Care

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregivers	Linda Tucker	937-478-9537
Caring Casseroles Cooks	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Feed the Need Cooks	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Job Connections Mentors	Mary Horner	610-755-5392
Medical Facility Visitors	Sharon Holland	hollandbozo@yahoo.com
Transportation to Mass Drivers	Stephanie Smith	919-302-0080
Weekday Volunteer Receptionists	Toni Hammes	847-8205x265

Social Groups

AAMEN Ministry	Leon Cooke	919-740-7515
Always God's Children	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
LGBTQ+ Ministry	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Men's Ministry	Norm Tuomi	norman3722@att.net
	Ralph Guenther	rguenther2@nc.rr.com
	fb.me/YoungAdultsofStFrancis	
Young Adults	Kathleen Owen	847-8205x241
Women's Ministry	Pat Gerney	919-803-8276
50+ Adults Group		

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	
membershi-pack352@yahoo.com		
Knights of Columbus	Bryan Kozak	gk@kofc9709.org
Secular Franciscan Order	Ellen Ferrone	http://ofscentralnc.org
Faith Formation Ministries		
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	Kathy Sales	847-8205x488
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	