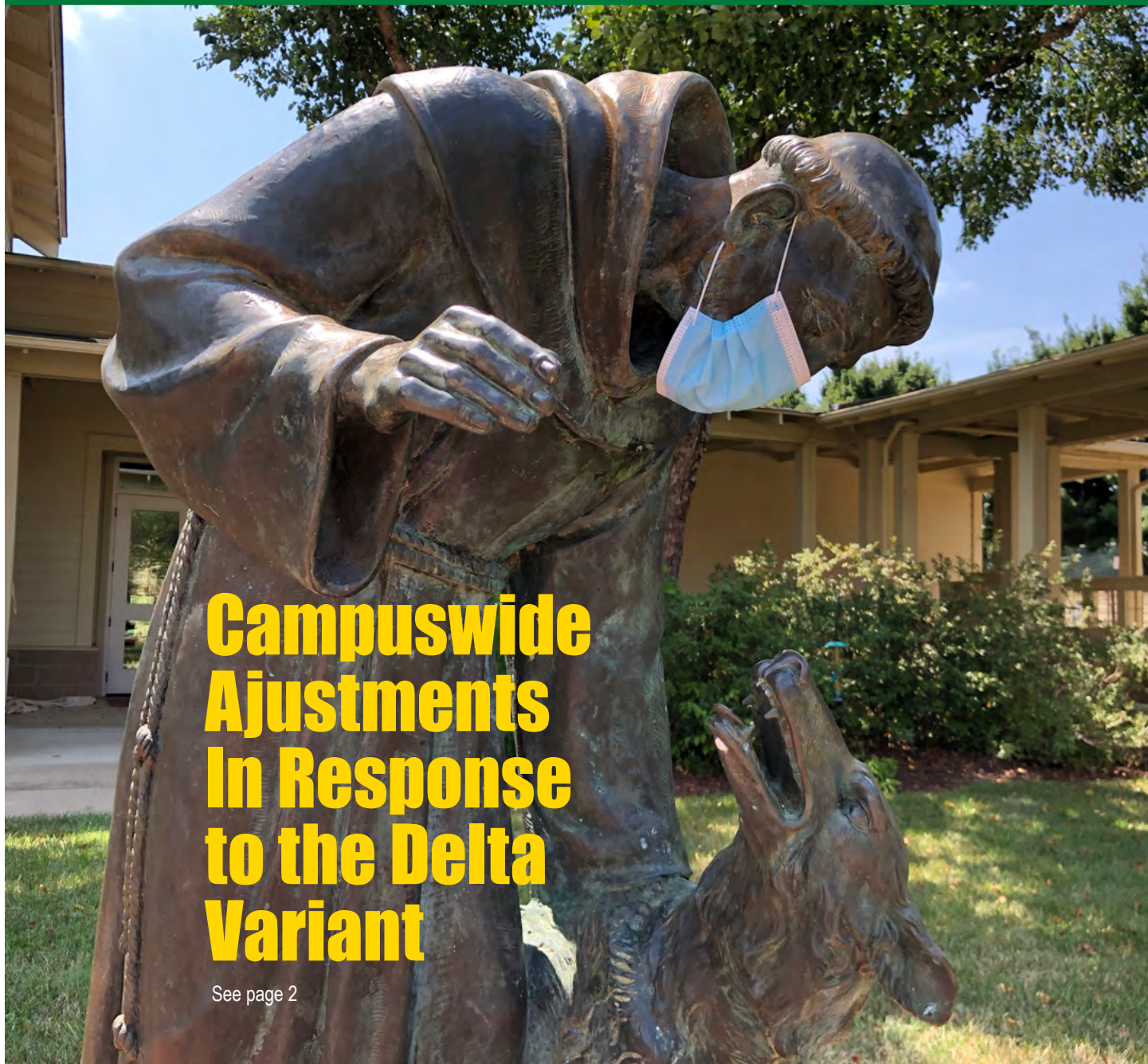


August 1, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Campuswide Adjustments In Response to the Delta Variant

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



Dear St. Francis Family:

I write to update you on some upcoming adjustments to our campus in response to the recent changes in national and state guidelines and the rapid spread of the highly contagious Delta variant of the Covid-19 virus.

As you know, we have a Pandemic Task Force comprised of medical doctors, public health officials, staff, etc. who have been guiding us since the pandemic began. The Task Force is keeping abreast of the ever-changing recommendations and guiding me so our protocols reflect this changing environment. After consulting with the Task Force, I am announcing the following **effective July 31**:

1. If you are not vaccinated, I remind you that you are required to wear a mask indoors in all public areas of the SFA campus as has been our protocol since June 14. This will now include all unvaccinated children above the age of 5.
2. Beginning this weekend, we strongly encourage all who attend Mass or are attending an indoors meeting on our campus to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status since the vaccinated may spread the virus to others while not experiencing any direct effects of it personally due to their immunity.
3. Upcoming events celebrating our regathering as a community have been temporarily postponed. The August 1 and August 15 events after the mid-morning Sunday Mass will occur when it is safe for us to regather and enjoy coffee, donuts, and fellowship together.
4. We will shift the 9:30am Mass to 9:00am beginning Sunday, August 15, as previously announced. It will continue to be livestreamed.
5. We will temporarily pause restoring the additional 11:45am Mass to our weekend liturgy schedule.
6. The 5:30pm Mass on Sunday will remain a mask-mandatory Mass for everyone attending regardless of vaccination status.

My highest priority as your pastor is keeping everyone safe. As we have been reminded by our national, state, and local officials and health organizations, the only way to stop the new surge of cases and ensure the safety of our entire community is to be vaccinated. I urge all unvaccinated parishioners who can be safely vaccinated to consider this and receive the vaccine.

For those who may be hesitant to receive the vaccination because of concern over the use of aborted fetal cell lines, I remind you that the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Doctrine Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have publicly declared that receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is morally permissible since aborted fetal cell lines were not used in the development of these vaccines and are not contained in them. These two bodies have also declared that it is in the interest of the common good to be vaccinated.

I extend a special thank you to our Task Force for their dedication and commitment to keep us all safe. I also thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue the journey to the day when we may freely gather at St. Francis unencumbered by masks or the coronavirus.

Msgr. Clay

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

Cordelia Rose Bransfield

Daughter of Mick and Laura Bransfield

James Brian Cash

Son of Josh and Brigid Cash

Ella Margaret Giombi

Daughter of Anthony and Kristen Giombi

Amelia Charlotte Hooley

Daughter of Bob and Meghan Hooley

Amelia Rose Parker

Daughter of Brett and Alyssa Parker

Vivienne Steddum

Daughter of Chris and Lauren Steddum

Beatriz Amaris Zulueta

Daughter of Lawrence Zulueta and Maria Ballesteros

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE
AND PERPETUAL LIGHT
SHINE UPON HER:

+Cathy Keizer

Sister of Susan Greiner

August Envelope Schedule

August 1 Weekly
August 1 Mortgage Sunday
August 8 Weekly
August 15 Assumption
August 22 Weekly
August 29 Weekly

MASS REQUEST FOR JULY 31 TO AUGUST 8, 2021



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 31, 5:30pm
+Jim Kristie
Requested by Ron Smith

Sunday Aug 1, 2021
Sunday, 7:15am
Edward & Michelle Williams
Requested by Clark & Lawson Families

Sunday, 9:30am
+ Annette Brandl
Requested by Robert Stachewicz

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

Monday Aug 2, 9:00am
+Dolores Baugh
Requested by Carolyn Paar-Hirt

Tuesday Aug 3, 9:00am
+Mary Ann Jankowski
Requested by Carolyn Paar-Hirt

Wednesday Aug 4, 9:00am
+ Frank Furnari
Requested by Nancy Furnari

Thursday Aug 5, 9:00am
+Raymond Villaverde
Requested by Elena Kramer

Friday Aug 6, 9:00am
Beth Simon (ill)
Requested by Patricia Clawson

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

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

(ill) Sig Fuchs
Requested by Sig Fuchs
Heath & Wellness

Recent Death
+Cathy Keizer
Sister of Susan Greiner

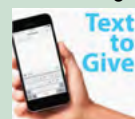
You can mail your contribution to us at:

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/

KBL Episodes and Release Dates



May 3



May 17



June 7



June 21



July 12



July 26



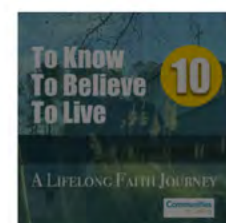
August 9



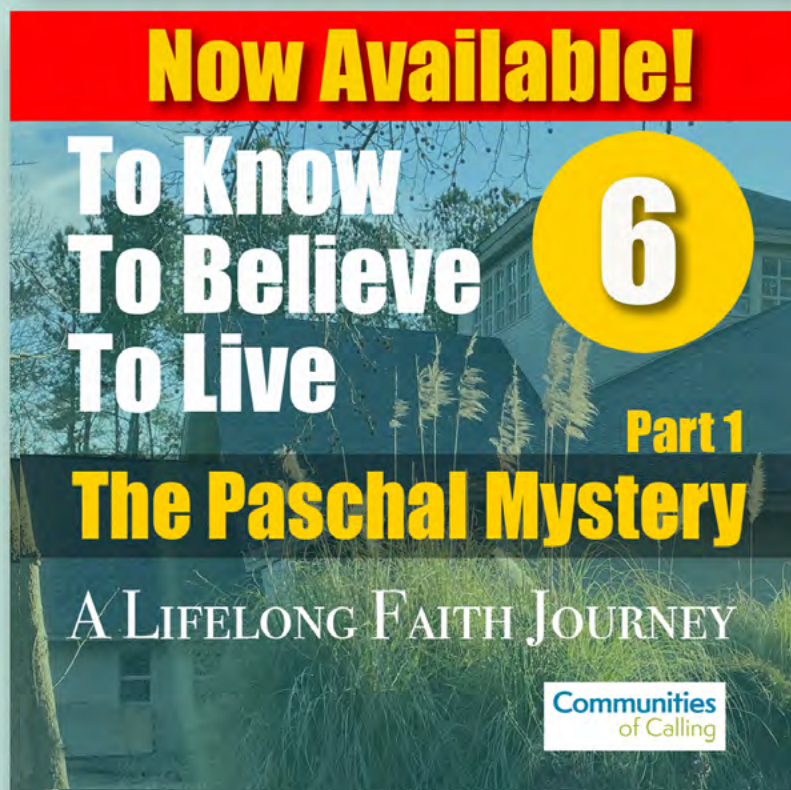
August 23



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.

NEW! **Panorama of the Old Testament** **Fall Virtual Bible Study** **Registration is Open!**

Panorama of the Old Testament explores the sweeping saga of God's people and their sacred journey. The study surveys the variety of books found in the Old Testament as it uncovers interwoven themes, the background of familiar characters and God's overall plan of salvation. This study is open to the first 20 participants who register. The Zoom link and material distribution information will be sent at a later date.

Facilitators: Barbara Efird and Cindy Cardello

Meeting dates: Wednesday mornings, September 22 – October 20th (5 sessions) via Zoom 10:00am – 11:30am

Cost: \$20 per person. Commentary, study and reflection questions, prayer, and access to recorded lectures are included in the registration cost

Registration Information:

Registration is required and will be done through Realm.

Detailed instructions, including a video tutorial can be found on <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/adult-formation/>.

Step 1: Login to Realm (<https://onrealm.org/StFrancisRaleigh>)

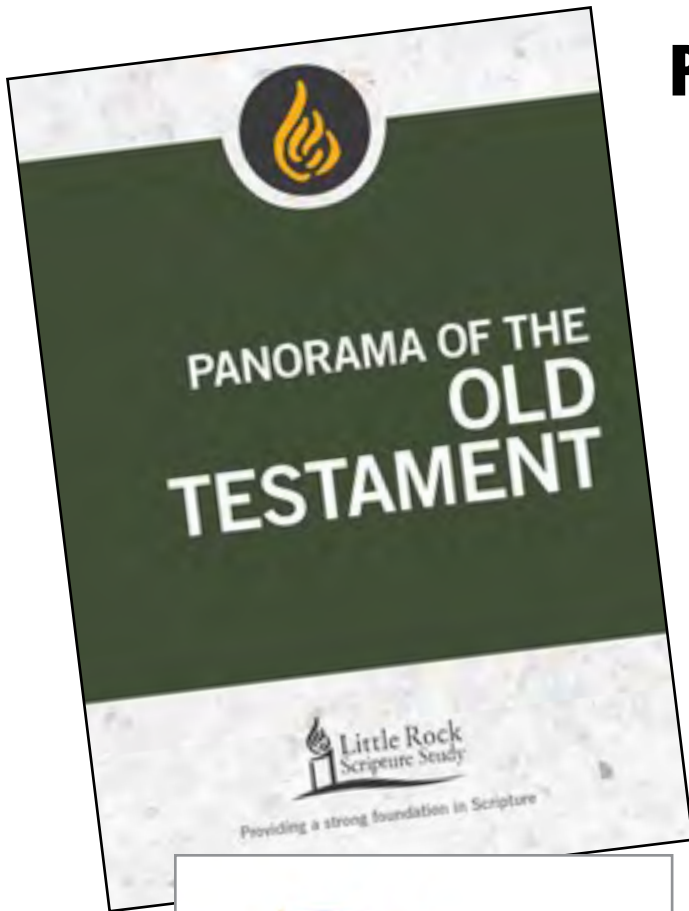
Step 2: Click on the Events tab on the left side of your screen and then "All Events"

Step 3: Find the event "Panorama of the Old Testament".

Step 4: Click on the "Register by August 23" button and follow the instructions

Registration closes on Monday, 8/23 and is limited to the first 20 participants.

For registration questions, or for more information, please contact Patti.Panizza@stfrancisraleigh.org.



MASS SCHEDULE AND PROTOCOLS

While on all public areas of our campus:

Masks are strongly encouraged to all over the age of 5, regardless of your vaccination status.

Mask are required for ALL who are unvaccinated.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday, 5:30pm

Sunday, 9:30am (livestreamed)

(We will shift the 9:30am Mass to 9:00am beginning Sunday, August 15)

Sunday, 5:30pm: All attending are required to wear masks

Weekday Mass Schedule

9:00am

(We will temporarily pause restoring the additional 11:45am Mass to our weekend liturgy schedule.)

Registration for Faith Formation K-12 is Open!



Families MUST be registered parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi to participate in Faith Formation.

Our Cross Walk (K-5), Cross Train (6-8) and Cross Road (9-12) programs are designed to make our youth/children feel "at home" at St. Francis, a place where they can have fun and be themselves, while knowing that they are valued and loved by God! Our programs include:

- Small group-based model
- Centered on the Sunday mass, 9:00am Mass (K-5), 5:30pm Mass (6-12)
- Meet twice per month, September through May
- Offer fellowship in a fun, safe environment
- Include monthly Family events, youth retreats and socials to build relationships
- Encourage and provide opportunities where families can grow together in faith.
- For the 2021-2022 school year, we are offering a home-based faith formation program for grades K-5 only.
- If your family requires special accommodations, we will be offering virtual small groups as a substitute for grades 6-12.

Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faith-formation-k-12/> for additional information about our K-12 program and how to register. A Realm login is required to register. Details on how to register via Realm and establish a Realm login can be found on this page, or visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/realm/>.



All parish high school freshman and sophomores are invited to join us for a day-long retreat at Falls Lake on Sunday, September 12. Join us for a day filled with swimming, food, fun and fellowship. Teens will be challenged to work together and grow in community while growing deeper into the foundations of our faith.

Youth will gather in the meeting space at church and begin the day with Mass at 11:45am. At the end of the day, pickup will be at 8:00pm in the main church parking lot. Parent volunteers will be needed to drive youth to and from the retreat site.

Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/formation-retreats/>

Registration Fee: \$50.00, includes snacks, dinner, retreat supplies and activities. Registration is via Realm.



People often enter the church looking for Holy Water to take home. Unfortunately, if a priest is not available, we have no way of providing this. Fr. Jairo has blessed the water in a special font located in the gathering space, (to the right of the church doors) and it is good to go! We do not have containers, but parishioners and guests are more than welcome to bring their own to fill.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Director St. Francis Preschool



The early days of preschool



Recent Photos



"...He distributed to those who were seated; likewise, also of the fish as much as they wanted." John 6:11

In last week's Gospel, we heard the story about Jesus feeding thousands with only a small amount of bread and fish. Jesus miraculously provided enough food for the crowd to eat their fill while also having baskets of leftover food. In Monsignor Michael's homily, he spoke of abundance and our willingness to believe that God is one of "addition"; He looks to fill our lives when we trust in Him.

As I thought more about the words 'abundance' and 'addition', I reflected on the special year ahead for our preschool. This coming school year will be extra exciting! as we look to celebrate the many years in which our preschool has been in existence- 30 years!

Over the last three decades, we have grown from only a couple of classes to eleven for the 2021-2022 school year! Our staff has expanded to almost 30 exceptionally enthusiastic and loving individuals! We have been able to add programs in Spanish, community service, science and music/movement. Within the last 10 years we have opened a before/after-care program as well as a class for 5-year olds. Our natural playground area in front of our building was created shortly after the Leesville Road expansion was

completed. As I have previously written, through the generosity of our playground families and community partners, we were able to open our fantastic new playground this past Spring. These are just a few examples of how our wonderful preschool has grown in size and shape since it first began under the leadership of Fr. David McBriar and Nancy Bourke back in 1991. There is no doubt that God has provided in abundance for our preschool to foster the developmental and spiritual growth of some of the youngest members of our community!

While several things have changed and grown since those early days, one thing remains constant; the teachers and staff have continued to nurture the curiosity, faith, and compassion of our children. They encourage students to explore the world around them through intentional play-based endeavors that are both teacher-directed and student-inspired. They partner with parents to introduce a life of faith through prayer, service to others, and participation in a spiritual life. By targeting social-emotional skills, our staff help shape our children into becoming compassionate, kind, and generous individuals. Among the ways that they do this so successfully is through activities

to acknowledge others' feelings/ideas, supporting cooperation/sharing, and partaking in simple projects of service both in and outside of our parish. We strive to encourage our children to become good people. Aren't we fortunate that we can emphasize this through the words of the teachers as well as those of our heavenly Father?

Our 30th anniversary committee is hard at work planning for a lot of fun and festive activities throughout the year. We remain hopeful that COVID safety protocols will allow us to implement them. I encourage you to stay tuned to our parish & preschool websites and Facebook pages, as well as to the parish bulletin, for what's coming. God has provided our preschool with much over the years including blessing us with amazingly invested staff, precious children, engaged families, and a supportive church community. We ask for your ongoing prayers of gratitude for all that we have been given in our outstanding preschool as well as prayers of hope for all that we wish to accomplish in the future. We hope that you will be able to join us this year to celebrate our abundant blessings!

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Mike Watson, Principal TFS

Celebration of our 2020-21 school year!



At TFS, we continue with the traditions and customs that make our school a special place as we anticipate a return to a more normal year. This past year has been challenging; but it was a valuable and much more normal year than anyone ever would have thought back in August of 2020 when we started last school year. I say it right out to everyone who asks... this past year was a good year at TFS with excellent instruction by dedicated teachers to their hard-working students. No one liked masks and cohorts; but with each passing week last year we got closer to where we expect to be in a "normal" year, and to the environment where we should be in our education of our students! We especially look forward to welcoming back our TFS students, new and old, on August 18th for another great year!

Our students and faculty did very well last year, both with the COVID restric-

tions and the academic challenge we offer at TFS, and we are so proud of the entire faculty, staff and all the students who made even a pandemic year a truly special year under trying circumstances. We are at the point now that we have high hopes that the 2021-22 school year will be a much more normal year and that we can return to our traditional structure. We await the announcements from the Governor's office and the CDC, and the guidance from the Diocese of Raleigh of what the requirements for the new year will be, as we look forward to having a much clearer view of how this next year will go. It would be especially meaningful if we could kick off our new school year with fewer restrictions and the ability to recognize and celebrate together all that we hope to accomplish this year.

Regardless of how we structurally begin this school year, it will be a celebration and recognition of all the benefits of a

Catholic education. We appreciate the support of Catholic education here at St. Francis of Assisi parish. We look forward to celebrating the return of our families, faculty and staff, and all who experience the specialness of TFS each year. We will welcome our students back with joy, including welcoming well over 120 new students, for an even more spectacular academic year. We are anticipating a great school year, and we thank all of our supporters for making every year a great year at TFS!

The Franciscan School's innovative curriculum and record of success is how we have built over twenty years of educational excellence into our school. To find out more about The Franciscan School, please do visit our [website](#). You can also contact Principal Mike Watson at michael.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org or reach out to our admissions team at admissions@franciscanschool.org.

Facing the Challenges of this New School Year

by Parishioner Chuck Small



This summer has been a welcome respite from the 2020-21 school year, a year of academic, social and emotional challenges for students, parents and educators. As a public high school

counselor, I saw firsthand what accompanied the COVID-19 shutdown and gradual reopening.

Students and their families reported a prevalence of anxiety and depression. At the high school level, we could see wide variations in academic performance and increases in the number of classes failed. Now, the approaching 2021-22 school year offers a good opportunity to keep these principles of Catholic social teaching in mind -- as they apply to any school environment.

- When all of us who can be safely vaccinated do so, and continue to exercise prudence in large gatherings, we exemplify the principles of life and dignity of the human person, the care for God's creation, and the rights and responsibilities of us all.
- Our solidarity with what society refers to as "essential workers" calls us to recognize the dignity and safeguard the health and economic security of each bus driver, custodian, cafeteria worker and clerical office employee as well as teachers and other educators.
- And our involvement in public schools -- as taxpayers, regardless of whether we have children enrolled in the system -- requires us to think about our call to family and community and to recognize the economic and social challenges placed on our society's poorest and most vulnerable members.

Public schools draw from all segments of our community and do not promote a faith tradition. Still, a key responsibility of a strong public education is the formation of young people who can articulate and exemplify the values that drive them. Those values are likely to be tested this fall as many students enter a school for the first time in a year and a half. For ways to interact with the school closest to you, go to www.wcpss.net and click

on the "Community" tab. There is one thing you can do right now: Pray for our students and staff as we navigate a new set of challenges.

Join Chuck Small and other Wake County School Leaders as they discuss "Back to School After COVID" on Monday, August 9th at 7pm via Zoom.

REGISTRATION LINK BELOW

<https://forms.gle/p3z6UMTbkFi6YhN86>

Supporting Public Education for All in Wake County

Did You Know?

- 1 Wake County Public School System is the largest school system in NC, serving nearly 162,000 students.
- 2 In the last school year, 50,843 WCPSS students qualified for free or reduced price lunch. (NOTE: ALL students are eligible for FREE meals in the 2021-22 school year.)
- 3 Over 4500 students in WCPSS experienced homelessness in the 2019 school year. (McKinney-Vento Program/Student Data. WCPSS. <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/31389>)
- 4 WCPSS school buses serve all 191 schools, covering 857 square miles twice daily.
- 5 WCPSS employs over 19,000 teachers, staff and instructional support personnel.

District Facts / Overview. Wake County Public School System. (2021). <https://www.wcpss.net/domain/100>.

The Catholic Community of St. Francis will host a panel discussion with WCPSS educators. Monday, August 9 at 7:00PM via Zoom. Check next week's bulletin for details!

Introducing Our Latest Commissioned Stephen Ministers!



Back Row – Peg Dennison, Jennifer Wilson, Steve Owen, Trish Adamkowski, Jess Kelly
Front row- Trish Villareal, Mae Villanueva, Tara Moore, Elizabeth Thomas, Kate Shiring.
Not pictured: Bernie McShane, Tom Burke, Thomas Bulick, Moira Roberts, Heidi Hobler. Mary Conroy

The Class of 2020 was finally commissioned. They are to be commended for completing their training via Zoom, weathering the pandemic and becoming active ministers just when our parish needed them most!

If you'd like to learn more about Stephen Ministry at St. Francis, please watch us on St. Francis TV at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/> or contact Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205,x241

And for those who are still concerned about face to face contact, we can offer Stephen Ministry via Zoom or FaceTime!

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Becky Cawley, Justice and Peace Specialist

Volunteer Opportunities in the Community

As we enter the last few weeks of summer perhaps the time is right for you and your family to volunteer your time and talents directly with our community partners. We've put together a list of partners below that includes many opportunities available during the week and on weekends to volunteer doing many different tasks using many different talents. For instance, there are opportunities available in agriculture, hunger relief, transportation, care giver support, in-home connections, community health education, food recovery, crisis line help and administration.

Take a look, invite a friend, bring your family, follow the links to sign up and gather more information on the needs of each community partner and then relish in the fact that in volunteering you will be helping a neighbor and living the Gospel at the same time.


- Food Bank of NC - hunger relief, garden opportunities: <https://foodbankcenc.org/get-involved/volunteer/>
- Catholic Parish Outreach – hunger relief opportunities, contact Kathy their volunteer coordinator at cpovol.coordinator@raldioc.org or phone/text at 919-847-1466
- Inter-Faith Food Shuttle - garden, hunger relief opportunities: <https://www.foodshuttle.org/volunteer>
- Oak City Cares - outreach to people experiencing homelessness - administration, hunger relief opportunities: <https://oakcitycares.org/volunteer/>
- Church World Services - welcoming and supporting new and settled refugees and immigrants in the community: <https://cwsrdu.org/get-involved/>
- Joseph's Primary Care, offering quality health care without regard to income, is in need of volunteer medical professionals: call 919-386-6866
- HopeLine, confidential crisis/suicide prevention helpline: <https://www.hopeline-nc.org/volunteer>
- Center for Volunteer Caregiving - transportation, care giver support, in-home connection opportunities: <https://volunteercaregiving.org/>
- Note in the Pocket - clothing children with dignity and love: <https://noteinthepocket.org/volunteer/>

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the above or other opportunities to volunteer please contact Becky Cawley at becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x267.

And may these opportunities provide moments of deepening and awakening as you and your loved ones move along your spiritual journey.

Back to School Supply Drive

Saturday July 24 – Sunday August 8
St. Francis of Assisi Church



Drop off to bins in the Church before Mass or to the bin outside Cupertino on Sat/Sun 5-6pm, Sun 9-10am

Help us fill 200 backpacks for children in need.

For donations and a list of needs: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/back-to-school-supplies-drive/>

Volunteers/Families are welcome: www.bit.ly/SFA-BTSSdrive2021

Back to School Drive Financial Donations:

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/NC674/43917>

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/>

Our Transportation Ministry needs volunteers!

There are parishioners who would love to come to Mass, but no longer drive. Could you drive someone to your favorite Mass once every three weeks? This ministry is famous for lifelong friendships and celebrations. Contact Stephanie Smith at 919-302-0080 for more information.

Employment Opportunities



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.



Director of Bridges Before and After School Program

The Bridges Program at The Franciscan School provides the opportunity to extend learning and fun to the beginning and end of each school day. Bridges Before and After School program offers homework assistance, inside & outside play, and arts & crafts. The head of bridges is responsible for the overall running of the program which includes policy recommendations, supervision of staff, purchasing supplies, facilitating outside vendors and interacting with parents, as it relates to their child's time in the program. This is a full time, benefit eligible position. Preferred candidates will have previous experience working with elementary aged children, as well as supervisory experience. Successful completion of the diocesan background check is required.

If you are interested in joining our wonderful staff, please email a resume and cover letter to Dawn. Smith@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 Teacher - Kindergarten

The Franciscan School is seeking a qualified kindergarten classroom teacher. 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

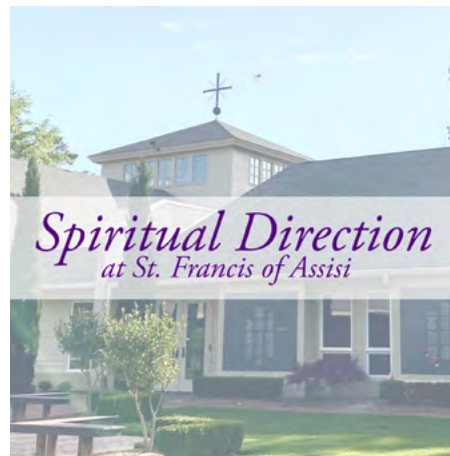
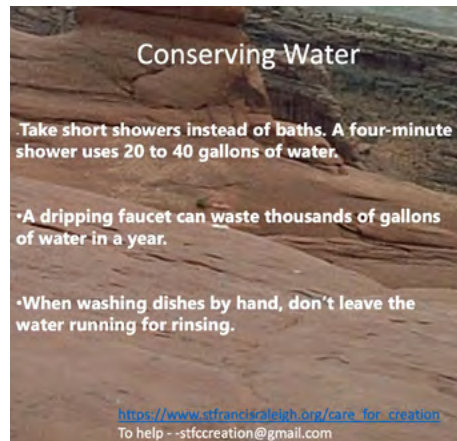
We are currently seeking candidates to work in our Bridges After School Program on a part time basis. Candidates must have a strong desire and ability to work with children, be at least 18 years old, and pass a background screening. Bridges staff work within the program hours of Monday through Friday 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.



FrancisFest volunteers needed now. The event planning team is forming now to plan our annual parish wide celebration of our patron saint, St Francis of Assisi. Our whole parish community joins for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! <http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/francisfest/>

Please contact Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org if you are interested in being part of the planning team.

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>

PARISH ATHLETICS

Very excited to share that Parish Athletics Soccer, T-ball & Baseball will be back for the fall season. Ages 3 Yrs old- 5th grade. All games on the TFS fields. Season runs 8/14-10/31. Includes shirt, medal and end of season picnic. Registration is open now but we are quickly approaching the season start. Visit www.parishathleticsnc.org for more information and registration and like our FB page at Parish Athletics Soccer & Baseball-N. Raleigh/TFS.

Email kristindeininger@gmail.com for any questions or concerns."



Bringing Home the Word

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
August 1, 2021

A Church of and for the Poor

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The book of James is one of the hardest hitting in the New Testament. He is a tell-it-like-it-is apostle, warning the early Church not to show partiality to the rich and powerful. This is always a danger, especially in a Church that relies on donations. While gratitude to donors is understandable and proper, it's easy for gratitude to become preference, partiality, and a different moral standard. James warns the Church against this.

Jesus warns us, too. He talks about inviting the poor to a party rather than those who can repay us. He tells us that

when we give, that the left hand should not know what the right is doing. He warns the rich that the path to heaven is narrow.

Jesus' call to salvation was for all, but his pastoral focus was certainly with the poor. So, he dedicated much of his time reaching out to those who could give nothing in return: the blind, deaf, lame, and lepers. And his attention didn't stop at the materially poor but extended to sinners and those thought to be impure.

This love for the weak was a sign of the Messiah as proclaimed by many prophets, including Isaiah. The Anointed of God would come to vindicate the poor, orphaned, widowed, sick, and oppressed.

Jesus did exactly that, and it was this solicitude and miraculous power that began convincing Galileans, and eventually those in Jerusalem, that he was the long-awaited One. Pope Francis said he longed for a Church of the poor, for the poor. It seems Jesus did, too. +

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to the fearful of heart:
Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.

James 2:1-5

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 7:31-37

And [immediately] the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

*While gratitude to donors
is understandable,
it's easy for it to become
partiality and a different
moral standard.*

A Word from Pope Francis

Remember that story about the poor widow lady...Her husband had committed suicide; he jumped from the bridge into the river. And she wept. She said, "I am a sinner, a poor woman. But my poor husband! He is in hell."...And the Curé of Ars said, "But wait a moment, ma'am, because between the bridge and the river, there is the mercy of God."

—Homily, March 18, 2019



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do I have a heart for the poor as Jesus did?
- How can I express that real preference in practical ways?



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27th Annual Run for Life

27TH ANNUAL RUN FOR LIFE is staying Virtual - We're looking for runners and sponsors for the annual 5k Run and 1 Mile Fun Run from August 21-29. Please check our website www.raleighrunforlife.org or www.runnc.com for more info. If you have any questions, please contact Janelle Buchanan at 214-497-0756 or Kathy Klein 919-815-1369. All proceeds benefit Birthchoice.

Prearrange My Heart

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR

My mother asked me to go with her to help prearrange her funeral. A little time has passed since she first asked. We haven't gone yet, so I've had some time to think about it. Slogans like, "Save now, rest in peace later," and, "We put them in the ground, no money down," and, "You only get one chance to make a lasting impression" have been running through my mind. You must have a sense of humor about this. I always smile when I see the sign for Burns Funeral Home & Crematory.

I understand that families can be especially vulnerable when they lose a loved one and that the argument in favor of prearrangements is heavily on the side of making important decisions about death and burial well in advance of that emotionally charged experience. It makes sense. The stress of planning will be over; attention can be given to other important details.

It also makes sense that prearrangement can help lock in the price of the burial and all that accompanies it. The idea of a payment plan, not having to pay out a large sum all at once, makes even more sense—and it's easy on the wallet. If death isn't imminent, plans can even be altered, sometimes without incurring any further expense. All good, financially sound ideas.

From a practical perspective, all that I've read makes me think we should do



this. After all, my mom wants to. Why not? But truth be told, I feel a lot of personal resistance. Not because I don't trust the funeral home. Or because I don't feel we'll get a good deal. It's not because I worry about the expense. And it's not because we haven't found the right funeral home.

I realize I'm resisting because I don't want to face the raw, heart-wrenching truth that someday my mom will die, and my brother and sisters and I will have to figure out what life will be like without her. The grace of that moment cannot be paid for in advance, neatly organized or prearranged.

Just thinking about mom's funeral has caused me to rearrange my thinking about death, my emotions, and my relationship with her. I'm thinking about life in a way I had not before. I find myself suddenly tangled up in the stages of loss and grief: denial, anger, bargaining, and all the rest. I wonder how long it takes to get to the singularly, unique experience of acceptance. And when she dies, what then? When death does come, the saving mercy of Jesus, for her and for us, is all that is truly prearranged. +

Considering preparing for a funeral in advance stirs the emotions.

PRAYER

Lord, you are the bread of love, compassion, and peace. Strengthen me with this bread so I can serve others.

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

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 2–7

Monday, Weekday:

Nm 11:4b–15 / Mt 14:13–21

Tuesday, Weekday: Nm 12:1–13 /

Mt 14:22–36 or Mt 15:1–2, 10–14

Wednesday, St. John Vianney:

Nm 13:1–2, 25–14:1, 26–29a, 34–35 /
Mt 15:21–28

Thursday, Weekday:

Nm 20:1–13 / Mt 16:13–23

Friday, Transfiguration of the Lord:

Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 / 2 Pt 1:16–19 / Mk 9:2–10

Saturday, Weekday:

Dt 6:4–13 / Mt 17:14–20

Bringing Home
the Word 

August 1, 2021

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

Padre Pio Secular Franciscans: Learn more about living Franciscan spirituality in the secular world. Monthly Gatherings the 4th Sunday of the month, 1-3 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. Pat Gerney, 919-803-8276.

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. Please check your weekly bulletin for updates. Stay well.

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



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 Kieley	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	josephjrando1@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 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 mjpfrates@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
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

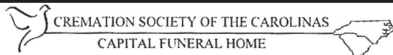
Knights of Columbus Bryan Kozak gk@kofc9709.org
Secular Franciscan Order Ellen Ferrone http://ofscentralnc.org

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



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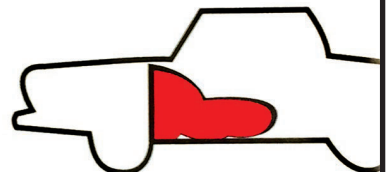
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