

March 15, 2020

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

LENT



Our Mission Statement

Inspired by our patron Francis of Assisi, we seek to proclaim the reign of God by growing in Holiness through our experience of Christ in word, sacrament and one another, offering Hope to those who hunger for human dignity, and extending Hospitality to all.



See page 3 and 4

Weekend Mass:

Saturday: 5:30pm
Sunday: 7:30am
9:30am
11:30am
5:30pm

Daily Mass:

Monday - Friday: 9:00am
St. Mary of the Angels Chapel



The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi

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



Many of you know that we have a Feed the Need ministry here; people bring casseroles to the parish and people who need them, for all kinds of reasons, are able to come and receive them. It's a beautiful ministry, right out of the gospel. Along with the ministry, there often come prayer intentions and some of them are listed below.

- For a man, suffering from cancer, who is recovering from surgery.
- For a Godparent who suffers from post stroke issues & possible dementia.
- For a woman searching for employment: that she will find a job that fits her skills and her physical limitations.
- For a daughter struggling in school (academically and socially).
- For a family under much financial stress.
- For a marriage under stress.
- For a handicapped woman who is seeking God's guidance.
- For a woman searching for full time employment.
- For a FTN cook undergoing knee replacement surgery.
- For an immigrant family.
- For a woman, who suffers from Alzheimer's and for the loving husband who cares for her.
- For a daughter suffering from MS, who has osteoarthritis in her knees.
- For a son with leukemia who may require a stem cell transplant.
- For a man's peace & financial well-being.
- For an elderly man in hospice care and for his wife who has many health issues.
- For a woman suffering with illness, and for her loving husband, who cares for her, and for their children.
- For a child suffering with health issues.
- For a grieving family.

The intentions give us a sense of what people live through, and notice how often the words "search for" or "suffers from" appear; we offer our prayers for people who live through all kinds of things and we trust in a merciful and loving God who is never far from us.

It has now been more than two months since we received the announcement from Holy Name Province that the friars will be withdrawing from St. Francis. There is nothing new to report on the transition. We expect to hear sometime in the spring who the new pastor will be and we expect him to start here probably by late June or early July. We are holding the weekend of June 6/7 for a parish celebration; details to come. Blessings on your week!

Fr Steve

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

+ **Robert Williams**

+ **Carole Ivey**

Wife of William Ivey, mother
of Leslie and Samantha

+ **Robert Bold**

Husband of Connie Bold
and Father of Vikki and Steve

+ **Cathy Cortina Honeycutt**

The Living Tree is a campus-wide project during Lent sponsored by the stewardship committee. The lighted trees offer all of our St. Francis community including the Franciscan School and the St. Francis Preschool, from toddlers on up, the ability to embrace stewardship and answer God's call during this Lenten season. Trees can be found in Clare Fellowship Hall, the St. Francis Church Stewardship Area (right of the main doors to church), the Assisi Community Center, the Pre-School office in Elizabeth Hall and the TFS office in Thea Hall. Each tag represents an opportunity to Pray, Serve, Give, Learn, or Engage. Be the Change during the Lenten Season!

Weekly Financial Update

Did You Know? *The following is how your Offertory Donations are applied to support the ministries and operations of the Church / Parish.*

| | |
|---|-----|
| Liturgy | 10% |
| Operations, Facilities, Maintenance | 24% |
| Faith Formation, Play & Pray | 10% |
| Parish Life & Community Center | 4% |
| Tithe to Peace & Justice | 10% |
| Tithe to Education - Tuition Assistance | 10% |
| Communications, Strategy, Stewardship | 10% |
| Mortgages | 9% |
| Assessments | 13% |

Offertory represents 65.2% of the church income and is the primary funding source for our church ministries, service outreach, Parish operations.

Ways to Give

We commit to being fully engaged in the St. Francis Family.

We will:

Pray for our community in this way.

Sign up for recurring giving through FaithDirect by 4/15/20.
www.stfrancisraleigh.org/faithdirect

Increase offertory giving by 2% by 4/15/20. www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure

Join a new ministry, tell us which one.

Volunteer my time by:
www.stfrancisraleigh.org/talent

Volunteer my time by:

Perhaps you have a unique idea.

Share this with us.

Although we have not actively participated in offertory in the past, we commit to contributing \$_____ per month.

(If you have never participated in offertory, please remember that even \$5/week goes a long way to helping our parish. Currently 40% of our parish families do not contribute to offertory. Help us reach our parish goal of 100% participation.)

Questions, Contact Deb Royals-Mizerk
919-847-8205x222



Answer the Call!

Each of us is called by God. At Baptism we became a part of the Body of Christ and following Christ is the work of a lifetime!

Contact Deb Royals-Mizerk to learn how.
919-847-8205x222



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Come and See

Everyone is invited to be a part of this passionate steward community - a community that recognizes that all we are, have and will ever be, is God's.



Getting Our House in Order

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Envelope Number (if applicable) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email 1 _____

Email 2 _____

Cell Phone _____

Home Phone _____

We are updating our records. Please fill out and return this form with any corrections to confirm that you are an active member of the St. Francis community.

Please return by March 31, 2020

*Place form in an envelope and mail it to:
The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi
11401 Leesville Road, Raleigh NC 27613*

*or
Bring to any Mass the weekend of March 7/8 and place it in the second collection for our Annual Commitment Weekend.*

“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:21

Giving is Receiving



Thank you to all those who faithfully contribute to our parish offertory.

Dear St. Francis Family,

As faithful stewards, we **MUST** take care of our faith home and that means every person of this parish needs to prayerfully consider their commitment to our church. Consider how you are sharing your time and talent. Consider increasing your offertory today. If you are not contributing at all, there are many ways to give. We need the **entire** St. Francis family to responsibly give back so that we might continue to promote God’s kingdom on earth. May God, through the Holy Spirit, guide each family here to give back to this community remembering that making this commitment impacts the future of our church.

Here is the link to the ways to give: www.stfrancisraleigh.org/treasure/. Please contact Deb Royals Mizerk at 919-847-8205x222 if you need assistance.

Peace and blessings,
Deb Royals Mizerk,
Director of Stewardship

- Registered, engaged members who make regular identifiable contributions, receive the stewardship rate at our schools.
- Registered, engaged members who make regular identifiable contributions, can purchase niches in the Columbarium.
- Registered, engaged members who make regular identifiable contributions reap the benefit of their generosity through our many available ministries.

Not registered? Not sure? Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/register/> and register on line as a member of The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi.
Or call 919-847-8205x222

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The Helen Wright Center for Women – Help needed with Dinner Meal

The Helen Wright Center for Women has been providing warm food, genuine care, and safe shelter from the weather and violence to single women without children in their care, for years. Guests of the center are offered an opportunity to break the cycle of homelessness and achieve self-sufficiency through intensive case management services.

For over 20 years, St. Francis parish families have been quietly and beautifully providing meals, serving and visiting with women of the center on a monthly basis. Recently the number of women in need has grown so we could use your help with our monthly, 3rd Wednesday, evening meal. Follow this link for more information and to sign up: www.bit.ly/HWCWdinner2020

Guests of the center establish well-defined goals and objectives, are connected to services in the community, and are provided increased access to medical and psychosocial services, life skills education, and skill building. Case managers also help them find jobs, save money, and find a home. In other words, they are given a new lease on life. Wouldn't you like to be part of this life-giving endeavor?

If you have any questions, please contact one of our new ministry leaders, Lisa Demuynck at 919-522-7900 or Kate Griffith at 919-623-3982. Thank you Lisa and Kate for providing leadership for such important Gospel centered work!



Justice and Peace Formation and Advocacy Opportunity

Are you interested in:

- * addressing root causes of social problems in our world?
- * helping political policies better reflect our Catholic values?
- * the work of social justice, advocacy, and community organizing?
- * moving the needle of systemic wrongs and not just doing charity?
- * building the Kingdom of God here on earth?
- * making a real difference in people's lives?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we have a new opportunity to invite you deeper on your journey of discipleship.

We are looking for people interested in and passionate about the following issue areas:

- * Racism
- * Climate change
- * Immigration
- * Pre-born and end-of-life (abortion, euthanasia, and death penalty)
- * Mental Health
- * Peacemaking/nonviolence
- * Affordable/Sustainable Housing in Wake County
- * Education in Wake County
- * Wages and Jobs in Wake County

Our founding Franciscan friar, Fr. David McBriar O.F.M. often asked the question, "What does the city need, and how can we help?" We are still being led by this question.

So if you are curious, passionate, or puzzled, please come on March 24 at 7:00pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room.

Sign up at <http://bit.ly/jpformationadvocacy> to RSVP for this meeting, and please designate about which issue you feel most passionate.

Join us in this holy and important work!

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRIES



First Communion Parent Meetings

If you have a child completing Kindergarten this academic year, please attend one of our First Reconciliation/First Eucharist parent meetings for more information on enrolling your child in sacramental preparation. During the meeting, information on the sacramental preparation process will be provided and enrollment forms will be available. Please bring a photocopy of your child's baptism certificate (unless he or she was baptized at St. Francis) and payment for sacramental prep fee of \$75 in the form of a check or the exact amount of cash.

Information/Registration Meeting Dates:

Monday, May 4 at 6:30pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room
Thursday, May 7 at 6:30pm in Clare Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, May 26 at 6:30pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room

To register for one of the meetings, RSVP at <https://form.jotform.com/62304764767160>.

*Registration forms for Sacramental Preparation enrollment are available ONLY at the meetings.

If you have any questions about First Eucharist/Reconciliation preparation, please contact Sarah Bowser, Coordinator of Children's Formation, sarah.bowser@stfrancisraleigh.org, 919-847-8205x496.



Youth Confirmation Preparation Meetings

Prayerfully discerning celebrating Confirmation? Thinking about completing your Christian Initiation? Interested youth who are currently in 7th grade through high school and at least one parent must attend one of the offered information/registration meetings listed below. Confirmation preparation is a two year long journey, can start as early as 8th grade, and will culminate with the celebration of Confirmation in the fall of 2022.

Information/Registration Meeting Dates:

Sunday, April 19, 3:45pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room
Tuesday, April 21, 7:00pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room
Thursday, April 23, 7:00pm in Anthony Hall Founders Room

To register for one of the meetings, RSVP at <https://form.jotform.com/60824762171152>.

If your family is planning on participating in the 2020-22 Confirmation preparation process, you MUST register at one of these meetings! Please understand that due to the program starting in October, we will not be able to facilitate any meetings in the fall.

Questions? Please contact Martina Dumberger, martina.dumberger@stfrancisraleigh.org, 919-847-8205x264.



FAMILY FORMATION
Meeting, Knowing, Loving, Serving Christ

CROSS WALK GRADES K-5
CROSS TRAIN GRADES 6-8
CROSS ROAD GRADES 9-12

Save the Date!
Registration opens April 21st!
For information about our programs, visit <http://bit.ly/FormationK-12>

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Welcome Home



We have been discussing Lent and how we incorporate our values of Faith, Academics, and Service during this season and throughout the year. Speaking with Father Jim on how to give a sense of how academics, not always considered a Lenten attribute, would fit in with Lent, I realized that the 8th graders who spoke at Masses before Catholic Schools week had already explained it better than I could.

To quote from our 8th grader Diana's speech: "TFS is not just a school, it is a community where people matter. Our voices are heard, our prayers valued, and our presence important. The people at TFS are a highlight of my school journey that will forever remain with me wherever I go. From the moment I step inside the school, I see God everywhere I look. I see God in the middle of our community every day during morning prayer. I see God in our teachers, who work so hard to prepare us for the future, who are always willing to help us when we need it, who motivate us to give our absolute best every time, and show their deep support for us both inside and outside the classroom. I see God in the friends I have made at TFS, who keep me fueled throughout the day, and resemble Jesus Christ in their actions, love and happiness. I look forward to coming to school every day to see them..."

May 20th is the day the 8th graders will graduate from TFS...when I leave TFS, I will take the knowledge, the tools, the faith and the good that I have learned, and use them to make an impact and pass it on. As the years pass, I will look back at TFS as my home, as a place where God resides and that brought so much happiness to my childhood. I thank God for blessing me with being a part of The Franciscan School and look forward to carrying out God's Mission as a member of our Catholic and Franciscan community."

If you are interested in finding out more about how our Academics is seamlessly incorporated with Faith and Service as part of the excellent Catholic education to be found at The Franciscan School, please do not hesitate to contact me, Principal Mike Watson by email at michael.watson@stfrancis-raleigh.org or reach out to our admissions team at admissions@franciscanschool.org. The faculty, parents, and students of TFS look forward to welcoming you to The Franciscan School community!



Read Across America

Study after study shows that early reading with children helps them learn to speak, interact, bond with parents, and read early themselves, and reading with kids who already know how to read helps them feel close to caretakers, understand the world around them, and be empathetic citizens of the world. Washington Post Feb. 16, 2017.

The week of March 2 we recognized Read Across America Day as well as Dr. Seuss' Birthday! Our friends here at the preschool celebrated reading all week long with secret readers, Dr. Seuss art, and dress up days!

We still have some availability for our 2020/2021 school year, don't miss out on a great opportunity for your child(ren)! Please call the preschool office at 919-847-8205x377 and schedule a tour with Jennifer Stephens.

You can also visit the school's website at www.preschoolatstfrancis.com.

This Week and Beyond...

February 28 - April 3 **LGBT Ministry Lenten Small** **Christian Community**

We will gather in the homes of ministry members on each Friday, February 28- April 3 for a simple Lenten meal and then prayer and sharing on the Sunday Scripture readings from an LGBTQ faith perspective. Hosts will provide a light supper, so registration is required to allow us to plan. Exact location address and directions will be provided to those who sign up for each session. Contact Chris at coneill95@gmail.com for more details.

March 22 – August 23 **St. Francis Feeds** **Breakfast at Oak City Cares.**

We are now serving every 4th Sunday of the month, in addition to every other 2nd Saturday of the month! Oak City Cares is a new multi services center which replaced our beloved Oak City Outreach Center. On our scheduled dates, we provide the food, serve the breakfast meal, and visit with guests in the dining room of this brand new, beautiful center. We hope you'll join us sometime and bring your family and friends as together we seek to live out the Gospel in this very meaningful and much needed way. Thank you for any help you can provide! To sign up: www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCmarch22-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCapril11-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCapril26-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCmay24-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune13-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjune28-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCjuly26-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCaugust8-2020
www.bit.ly/breakfastatOCCaugust23-2020

March 25 **50+ Seniors Group Potluck Lunch**

If you're 50 years or older, you're invited to join us on March 25 for our monthly potluck luncheon in Clare Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon. Please arrive by 11:30 so you can sign-in, etc. and we can begin the blessing at noon! All are welcome, and you do not have to be a member of St. Francis Church or the group to attend, so bring your friends. Come and share a delicious meal and lively conversation! You can determine what to bring by using the initial of your last name, for March we'll be using potluck luncheon menu #1, and if last name starts with
A thru D = main dish,
E thru M = dessert/bread or rolls,
N thru Z = salad/side dish.
Please bring sufficient food for 8-people. Fr. Steve Kluge will give a short humorous talk on his adventures as a friar, representatives from the N.C. Symphony will be present for ticket sales to the 2020 - 2021 Friday Favorites. Also, members of the Senior Ministry from Grove Baptist Church will be in attendance to share our Potluck and fellowship with the group.

March 24 **Contemplative Spirituality**

This Tuesday evening we will begin dialoging on Book #4 of the series *Bridges to Contemplative Living* with Thomas Merton, at 7:00pm. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month in Anthony Hall Room 202. The Title of Book #4 is *Discovering the Hidden Ground of Love* and can be ordered from Amazon. If you don't have a book, come anyway we will have extra copies. Bring a friend. For questions, contact Deacon Steve at 732-213-0104 or stephenwandrews@outlook.com.

April 6 **Men's Prayer Breakfast**

Join us at 7:00 am in the Padua Room of the Assisi Community Center. We are discussing the book titled *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen. Any questions, contact Norman Tuomi at norman3722@att.net.

April 8 **Grief Support Group - Keeping Healthy**

St. Francis Of Assisi Grief Support Group will meet on second Wednesday of each month in Anthony Hall Room 402 from 10:00 to 11:30am. Being able to share your grief with others who are also coping with the death of a loved one (family member or friend) helps you to understand the process of grief. "Grief shared is Grief diminished." Monthly Support group meetings:
April 8: Common myths about grief
May 13: Dealing with insomnia

*The tree I pass
Once, twice, thrice
A day,
Dares me not to contemplate
That once unnoticed buds
Have almost overnight
Burst into bloom.
Or so it appears to me.
Petals of various shades of
violet
Call,
Cry out,
Command:
See!
But more than see,
Understand.
God is a too often unnoticed
bud
Waiting to bloom within
each of us.*

Fr. Steve K.

Fridays During Lent



Fridays at 6:00pm during Lent Stations of the Cross in the church



Friday Nights 6:30pm during Lent Join us for Soup Suppers

(Clare Fellowship Hall
6:30pm after stations -
entertainment at 7:00pm)



March 20th
(Entertainment: **Grace Lee** - singer)
Cream of Mushroom
Vegetarian Chili
*

March 27th
(Entertainment: Straight Shooters - singalong)
Black Bean
NE Clam Chowder
*

April 3rd
(Entertainment: Family Piano Academy)
Roasted Butternut Squash
Broccoli Cheddar

LENT

February 27 - April 4 Lenten Weekly Book Study for Moms.

Thursdays, 9:30-11:00am or Tuesday 7:00-8:30pm
Gather with mothers in our parish community to discuss God's presence in our everyday lives. We will walk through the book, *Everyday Sacrament - The Messy Grace of Parenting* by Laura Kelly Fanucci. Cost: \$20 includes book and hospitality. Contact Tara Moore at tara.moore@stfrancisleigh.org. To register, visit membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/4103.

March 16, 23, 30, April 6 Homily Helpers during Lent:

With Fr. Steve K. 9:30am in the chapel.

Thursdays in Lent Lenten Discussion with Fr. Steve Kluge: The Stations of our Lives within the Stations of the Cross

Join Fr. Steve Kluge on Thursdays in Lent at 7:00pm in the Padua Room of the Assisi Community Center for a reflective discussion about how Jesus' journey connects with our lives and the lives of our brothers and sisters who are struggling today. Fr. Steve K. will use a script for the Stations of the Cross that he has written for the basis of this discussion. Each week, the discussion will be focused on three different stations. This is a great opportunity for deepening our relationship with Christ and opening our eyes to the many ways the world is still in need of His redeeming love.

March 16, 23, and 30 Unraveling the Three Days

Join Fr Jim as we explore the power of depth and meaning contained in the liturgical celebrations of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. Monday nights, March 16, 23, and 30 at 7:00 pm in the Church.

March 21 "beLOVED": A Day of Renewal for Women

Join other women of the parish for a day of celebrating what it means to be made in God's image. Explore topics like everyday spirituality, mindfulness, and making time for God. Meet new people in a small group, enjoy personal reflection time, and participate in praise and worship. Join us for our optional pre and post-session workshops which include yoga, art, service, and more. Registration is required and the deadline to register is March 14. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/formation-retreats/>. Questions? Contact jennifer.fiduccia@stfrancisraleigh.org.

March 22 Discovering Lent: A Family Event

on Sunday, March 22 after both 9:30am and 11:30am Masses! Journey as a family through stations in Clare Fellowship Hall to learn about topics related to preparing for Easter, such as sacramentals, prayer, new life, service, and Holy Week. Light refreshments will be provided and all are welcome! RSVP at <https://form.jotform.com/200484626053047>.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES



Camp Francis:

Registration is NOW OPEN! We have lots of really cool opportunities in athletics, technologies, arts, and various enrichment areas! We have several new opportunities this summer for all age groups. Kids can join us for half day or full day. All camps have min. and max. number of students so camp availability is based on enrollment. For more information: <http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>.

Parent /Child Classes:

Registration is now open for Spring classes! Are you looking for a fun filled activity to do with your young child? Want to learn sign language to better communicate with your infant or toddler? Want to learn some new signs with your toddler and incorporate them with song? Want to connect with your toddler or preschooler with music?

Check out Community Life's Parent/ Child Classes.

All Parent/Child Classes are located in the Cupertino Room of the Assisi Community Center.

For more information, visit our website at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/parent-child-classes-2/>.

Stations & Suppers:

Join us Friday nights during Lent beginning with Stations of the Cross in the church at 6:00pm, followed by a simple supper in Clare Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm followed by entertainment at 7:00pm. For information regarding menu and costs, visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/stations-supper/>.

Youth volleyball League:

Registration is Coming Soon! The Game Level program is for children of all skill levels that are rising 3rd graders through rising 9th graders. Teams will have an hour practice on either Monday or Wednesday. All Games will be held on Thursday nights.

Youth Basketball Skills Camp:

Registration is Now Open!

Skills Camp 1: 1st-4th graders 5:45 -6:45pm

The following Thursdays:

March 19, 26, April 2, 16

Skills Camp 2: 5th-8th graders 5:45 -6:45pm

The following Thursdays:

April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21

Registration fee is \$90 per child/session or \$20 per child for each individual camp.

To register, please visit:

<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/cl-youth-basketball-clinic/>.

Scout Sundays

Ashley Watson, Coordinator of Community Programs

Twice over the past month, you may have noticed the Scouts in your mist serving at a few of our masses. For over twenty years, our scouting programs support hundreds of youth each year and those same youth provide service to our community each and every year through troop projects as well as individual award efforts. These Scout groups have done a little bit of everything including: cleaning up trash; making meals and cards for Feed the Need; building structures and equipment for the preschool and TFS; preparing our environment for special liturgies; serving hospitality after mass; participating in Brown Bag Ministry; and so much more.

If you'd like more information about the scouting programs of St Francis, please see our website at <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/community-organizations/>.





Bringing Home the Word

Third Sunday of Lent (A)
March 15, 2020

Evil Exchanged for Good

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

There is a detail in today's first reading that you shouldn't miss. After hearing Moses and his people complain, God stands in front of Moses on the rock and asks Moses to strike toward him. God knows the Israelites' anger directed at Moses is really meant for God himself. God takes the blow and responds with flowing water. He accepts violent rejection and grants us life in return. He exchanges evil for good.

God had already guaranteed the Promised Land, but the Israelites feared to enter it. God had done many

miracles for them already, yet they still didn't trust him. In spite of it all, God understands they strike out of their own dissatisfaction, fear, and interior slavery. In the same way, Jesus knows we will strike out at him, yet he responds with love. Nowhere is this truer than on the cross. Christ allows the soldiers to strike, crown, and kill him, saying, "Father, forgive them..." He is whipped and made to carry a cross, yet he consoles the women of Jerusalem. When his side is pierced, living water flows.

When we complain against God, he offers us mercy and salvation. Rather than blame, assault, or reject, let us do as the penitential act calls—strike our own breast and cry, "I have greatly sinned... Have mercy..." God will respond as he always does, by pouring forth the water of his Spirit which never runs dry into our hearts. +

Jesus knows we will strike out at him, yet he responds with love.

A Word from Pope Francis

This season of Lent is a good occasion to draw near to [Jesus], to encounter him in prayer in a heart-to-heart dialogue; to speak with him, to listen to him....In this way we can renew in ourselves the grace of baptism, quench our thirst at the wellspring of the Word of God.

—Angelus, March 19, 2017



Sunday Readings

Exodus 17:3-7

[The LORD said,] "Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink."

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit.

John 4:5-42 or John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

[Jesus said,] "The water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What are my usual complaints against God?
- What responses of mercy does God show me?



Diocese of Raleigh News

The Heart of Mary Magdalene

Attend a morning retreat on April 25 as Olivia Woodford presents "The Heart of Mary Magdalene." The dramatic presentation explores what Mary Magdalene may have experienced in the weeks following the Resurrection as she grappled with the extraordinary events she had witnessed in the days and weeks before and how the relationships with key disciples helped strengthen her faith and confidence to be part of the movement to continue Jesus' ministry. Register by April 20; \$20 registration fee paid at the door includes lunch. Location: Holy Infant Catholic Church, Fellowship Hall, 5000 Southpark Drive, Durham; Fellowship Hall. Time: 9:30am to 12:30pm. Register online at <https://holyinfantchurch.org/the-heart-of-mary-magdalene>.

Group Opportunities

AA Meeting: The Daily Reprieve Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Mon. thru Fri. at 7:00am in the Laverna Center (log cabin across from the Chapel.) Enter thru the garage.

AI-Anon Meetings: Sun. 7:00pm, LaVerna, lower level.

Always God's Children: LGBT people, family, and friends are invited to this support group to discuss issues of personal concern in a confidential, welcoming place.

Meets April 5 at 3:15pm in Anthony Hall Room 406.

Visit www.stfrancisraleigh.org/LGBT.

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: Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00pm in the Cupertino Rm. of the Assisi Community Center. Confidential, co-ed healing from separation and divorce. Contact Bill Morgan at dejanuts@yahoo.com.

Grief Support Group Next meeting is April 8, 10:00-11:30am in Anthony Hall Room 402. Contact Marsha Riely at marshariely@mac.com or Marlys Varga at marlysvarga@hotmail.com.

GriefShare

Contact Marlys Varga at marlysvarga@hotmail.com.

Job Connections: We provide tools and advice on how to stay motivated and on target. To enroll, contact Mary Horner at sfa.jcm@gmail.com.

Men's Ministry: Breakfast April 6, 7:00am, Padua Room of the Assisi Community Center. Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/mensministry/> for details.

Padre Pio Secular Franciscans: Learn more about living Franciscan spirituality in the secular world. Monthly Gatherings the 4th Sunday of the month, 1-3 Founders Room.

Contact: Lee Cunningham - emcunningham3@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: Clare Hall Room 201, March 19, 12:00noon-2:00pm. 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.

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

DivorceCare and DivorceCare4Kids:

We need adults and teens to help facilitate our next session of DivorceCare and DivorceCare4Kids session. Training is provided. If you or your 9-12th graders have experienced divorce and are looking for service hours, **Contact Kathleen Owen at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241.**

Stephen Ministers:

We're always looking for Stephen Ministers who are inactive, but who would like to become active ministers again. We're offering some skills refresher gatherings and would love to have you there.

Contact kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org or 919-847-8205x241.

Transportation Ministry:

Drivers Needed for the Transportation Ministry. There are people on our waiting list who would like to come to Mass, but don't have transportation. If you have room in your car, could you bring someone even once each month? **Contact Stephanie Smith at 919-302-0080.**

Visitation Ministry:

Visitation Ministry needs volunteers. Could you visit someone who is in the hospital or nursing home? Your smile can make the difference between an ordinary day and a great day! **Contact Sharon Holland at hollandbozo@yahoo.com**

Eucharist Ministry to The Meadows

Would you consider volunteering on Saturday at The Meadows? There is a need for volunteers with the Eucharist Services. This is a great opportunity for families. **Contact Andrea McVerry at amcverry@yahoo.com.**

Caring Casseroles:

Please remember that some of our families are facing challenging circumstances and could use your help. Consider making a freezable casserole (not frozen) to help someone who is caring for a loved one who is ill, someone who is between jobs, or someone who just needs to feel the care and love of our parish as they rise to meet the challenges of life.

Visit <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/caring-casserole/>.

Job Connections Ministry:

If you are a human resources professional, life coach, or employer, please consider volunteering to help those who are looking for their next job or career. Job Connections Ministry works with people on how to network, resume updates, interviewing skills, etc.

Contact Mary Horner at 610-755-5392 or sfa.jcm@gmail.com.

Parking Ministry:

Help needed for the Parking Ministry. Our mission is to provide safety in the St. Francis parking lot for pedestrians. Perks are an orange vest, a road cone, and the thanks of many parishioners. Just a few extra minutes before you attend mass will make all the difference. **For more information, contact Steve Burdett at 919-669-8099.**

EM Ministry to the Homebound

The EM to the homebound ministry is in need of volunteers. This is a great opportunity to carry out the mission of our church. This ministry only requires 1 - 2 hours of your time every 3 - 4 weeks and is very flexible. You schedule your visits with our homebound parishioners, based on your availability and theirs. **Contact Pat Spencer with any questions or to volunteer at 704-608-1678 or spencer1334@bellsouth.net.**

Contact Us!

Parish Office: 919-847-8205 fax: 919-870-1790

Staff email: firstname.lastname@stfrancisraleigh.org

Welcome

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

Franciscan Friars

Pastor Fr. Steve Patti, O.F.M. 847-8205x224
Assistant to the Pastor 847-8205x249
Associate Pastor Fr. Steve Kluge, O.F.M. 847-8205x226
Associate Pastor Fr. Jim Sabak, O.F.M. 847-8205x261
Deacon Stephen Andrews 732-213-0104

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 Fr. Steve Patti, O.F.M. 847-8205x224
Anointing of the Sick Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
Reconciliation Appointments 847-8205x249
RCIA Jenn Fiduccia 847-8205x238
Sacraments Administration Martina Dumberger 847-8205x264
Funeral Planning Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
Columbarium Niches Trish Adamkowski 847-8205x236

The Franciscan School

Principal Mike Watson 919-534-4840
Receptionist (Main Number) Diana Chapman 919-534-4837
Assistant Principal, K-5 Michele Northington 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
Admissions and Marketing Jennifer Stephens 847-8205x377

Faith Formation

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

Parish Operations

Dir of Strategic Planning Tricia Henry 847-8205x375
Communications and Webmaster Diogenes Ruiz 847-8205x271
Human Resources Trish Adamkowski 847-8205x236
Safe Environment Specialist Trina Sugrue 847-8205x245
Director of Stewardship Deb Royals-Mizerk 847-8205x222
Parishioner Records Toni Hammes 847-8205x265
Director of Finance Rob Neppel 847-8205x243
Director of Facilities Marc Kielty 847-8205x227

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 Marsha Riely marshariely@mac.com
GriefShare Marlys Varga marlysvarga@hotmail.com

Prayers

Prayer Line Jackie Adamo 847-8205x268
Prayers Jackie Adamo 847-8205x268
Receive a Prayer Shawl Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241

Support Groups

Divorce Care William Morgan dejanuts@yahoo.com
Job Connections Mary Horner 610-755-5392
Seeing God in your Cancer Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
AA Daily Reprieve Group Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
Al-Anon Madeline Horrigan 919-923-1234
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Linda Tucker 937-478-9537

Get Involved!

Worship Ministries

Director of Liturgy and Music Jim Wahl 847-8205x230
Coordinator of Liturgical Ministers Tim Hetzel 847-8205x244
Altar Servers & Thurifers Joanie Madormo rmadormo@sbcglobal.net
Children's Liturgy of the Word Jackie Kelly 203-512-8807
Church Keeping Beverly Saunders 919-846-5795
Cross Bearers Joseph Randazzo josephjrandazzo1@gmail.com
Deaf Ministry Jean Cooke-Byrne 919-412-8365
Environment & Art Theresa Baumgartner 919-848-3383
Eucharistic Ministers Tim Hetzel 847-8205x244
Funeral Ministers Lisa Gianturco 919-845-9718
Hospitality Hands Deb Royals-Mizerk 847-8205x222
Lectors Mike Wrzesien 919-624-1592
Master of Ceremonies Michael & Julie Ducatte 919-622-8883
Medical Presence at Mass Kathleen Owen 847-8205x241
Music Ministry Joyce Petzka jepetzka@gmail.com
Parking Ministry Steve Burdett 919-845-2714
Ushers Troy Chaput troy.chaput@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 stfrancisrmhministry@gmail.com
Jobs for Life Dinners Ellen Ferrone ellen.ferrone@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 / WHIN Hosts Ron Smith 919-455-7786
Gabriel Project Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Migrant Ministry Bruce Cartier bcartier7@gmail.com
Prison Pen Pal Jill Balogh jbalogh@nc.rr.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
St Francis Builds / Habitat Diane & Bob Steinbeiser 919-846-8026
St Vincent de Paul Ministers Cathy Smith 419-348-8843
Support Circles Kat and Ferrel Guilroy ferrel.guilroy@gmail.com
Whitaker House Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270

St Francis on Mission

International Mission Trips Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Sister Parish - Guatemala Carie Gunnells carie.gunnells@gmail.com
St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia John Budway 305-205-5104

St Francis Learns

Catholic Social Teaching <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/>
Care for Creation Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
Community Conversations Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270
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
Study Circles Trevor Thompson 847-8205x270

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 | Pat Spencer | 704-608-1678 |
| 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 | 484-949-1417 |
| EMs to Springmoor | Janice Horner | 847-8205x268 |
| Prayer Line Ministers | Jackie Adamo | 847-8205x268 |
| Prayer Shawl Ministry | Cindy Cardello | 919-846-8825 |
| | Dianne Rotunno | 919-844-7153 |
| | Barbi Taperek | 919-744-7234 |

Rosary Ministry

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 | Chuck Small | 984-204-0012 |
| LGBT Ministry | Jane Paris | 919-847-7431 |
| Men's Ministry | Norm Tuomi | norman3722@att.net |
| | Ralph Guenther | rguenther2@nc.rr.com |
| Young Adults | fb.me/YoungAdultsofStFrancis | |
| Women's Ministry | Kathleen Owen | 847-8205x241 |
| 50+ Adults Group | Angela Azzopardi | 919-848-1347 |

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) | Mark Priest | scoutmaster352@gmail.com |
| BSA Scouts:Troop 219 (6th-12th, girls) | Scott Cash | scoutmaster219tfs@gmail.com |
| BSA Cub Scouts: Pack 352 (K-5th) | Mike Hutchinson | membership@pack352.com |
| Knights of Columbus | Bob Weisenberger | 919-723-7424 |
| Secular Franciscan Order | Lee Cunningham | http://ofscentralnc.org |
| Faith Formation Ministries | | |
| Director of Faith Formation | Jenn Fiduccia | 847-8205x238 |
| Assisi Scripture Study | Jenn Fiduccia | 847-8205x238 |
| Baptism Ministry | Tim Hetzel | 847-8205x244 |
| Marriage Ministry | Tim Hetzel | 847-8205x244 |
| Confirmation Sponsors | Thomas Bulick | 847-8205x239 |
| Children's Formation Group Leader | Sarah Bowser | 847-8205x496 |
| Family & Marriage Enrichment Team | Tim Hetzel | 847-8205x244 |
| Middle School Formation Group | Thomas Bulick | 847-8205x239 |
| Faith Formation Retreats and Camps | Jennifer McCourt | 847-8205x269 |
| Faith Formation Registration & Events | Patti Panizza | 847-8205x237 |
| Youth Ministry Group Leader | Marisa Ferrara | 847-8205x223 |
| RCIA Team & Sponsors | Jenn Fiduccia | 847-8205x238 |
| Play and Pray (Sunday Nursery) | Tara Moore | 847-8205x489 |
| Young Adults Bible Study Group | Tim Hetzel | 847-8205x244 |
| Stewardship Ministries | | |
| Director of Stewardship | Deb Royals-Mizerk | 847-8205x222 |
| Stewardship Committee | Deb Royals-Mizerk | 847-8205x222 |
| Way of Francis | Ben Whitehouse | whitehouseben5@gmail.com |

