



	<b>St. Francis</b>
Goal:	\$522,280
Pledge Total:	\$523,749
Participating Families:	1,126
Percentage of Goal	<b>100.3%</b>

**BAA Status**  
**We've Exceeded Our Goal**  
**THANK YOU!**



A wonderful Confirmation with Bishop Luis. After all were confirmed Bishop Luis decided to swap hats with Xander for a quick photo.  
*Congratulations to all our newly confirmed!*



Everyone is invited!


Food Trucks!  
 Fun Activities for All!  
 Live Music and More!

Sunday, October 5, 12:45 - 4:30

www.stfrancisraleigh.org/FrancisFest



Don't miss our annual Francis Fest celebration as we come together for a fun afternoon of activities and events for the entire family. [Click here](#) for more information and to purchase your wristbands. There are also volunteer opportunities!

A click away  If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at [www.stfrancisraleigh.org](http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org).

[Website](#) / [Realm](#) / [St. Francis Serves](#) / [Prayer Request](#) / [Listing of Prayers of the Faithful](#)  
[KBL series](#) / [Bulletins](#) / [Employment Opportunities](#) / [St. Francis TV](#) / [Giving](#) / [Feed the Need](#)  
[Staff](#) / [Advertise in the Bulletin](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) / [All Ministries](#) / [Financial Summary](#)

The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi - 11401 Leesville Rd - NC 27613 - Tel: 919-847-8205



Fr. Chris Koehn,  
 Pastor



Fr. James Singarayar, HGN  
 Parochial Vicar



Fr. Jim Sabak, O.F.M.  
 In Residence



Fr. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM  
 Parochial Vicar



Stephen Andrews  
 Deacon In Residence

**September 9 - December 9, (Tuesdays) Fall DivorceCare**

**Fall Series** 6:30-8:00pm. Don't go through the pain of separation or divorce alone. Join the DivorceCare group where you'll find caring people who understand and provide support. [Register here](#). Contact Bill Morgan, [dejanuts@yahoo.com](mailto:dejanuts@yahoo.com).

**September 13/14, 20/21 "Feed a Family CPO Food Drive"**

Donations of Nonperishable food items, or a monetary donation, to the Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) truck. [For a list of needed items Click Here](#). Collections: before and after weekend morning masses and only before 5:30 pm masses (note: collections end at 6 pm Sat/Sun). Contact Anne-Marie Summers at: [summers51984@gmail.com](mailto:summers51984@gmail.com)

**September 14, 21 & 28 Co-ed Fall Youth Basketball Skills**

This clinic is designed for players to work on dribbling, passing, rebounding, shooting and defensive drills with Triple Threat Triumph. **1st Grade -4th Grade: 1:30-2:30 / 5th Grade -8th Grade: 2:35-3:35** Cost is \$20.00 for each session/ All dates \$75.00 [Click here for more information and to register](#). Contact [Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org)

**September 14 - Fiat Franciscus: Young Adult BBQ**

1:00-3:00pm. If you're in your 20s or 30s, come hang out with other young adults from the parish! Enjoy good food and great company at our cookout in the Founders Room at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Feel free to bring your favorite summer side dish. We can't wait to see you there! Contact Michelle Kaiser, [mmk4894@yahoo.com](mailto:mmk4894@yahoo.com)

**September 14 - Altar Server Training** 1:00 -3:00pm.

Contact Shannon Hoffman, [shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 14 - Always God's Children**

3:30-5:00pm. A confidential and welcoming setting for all members of the LGBTQ+ community, plus their friends and family. This meeting provides a safe place to pray and share our experiences together in relation to our Catholic faith. Contact Stacey Shine, [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 14 - Volunteers Needed – Help with Coffee & Donuts!**

8:30-11:00am. We need volunteers (teens and adults) to help with the preparation for coffee and donuts. We also need one volunteer to pick up donuts at Daylight Donuts at 8:00am. This is a fun and meaningful way to earn service hours and support your parish community! [Sign up on St. Francis Serves](#). Contact Stacey Shine, [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**Help Feed Durham Seniors! BROWN BAG MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP! 9/20, 9/27...** 9:00-11:30am.

... and all Saturdays in October and November. 9:00-11:30am. **We need volunteers** to prepare bag lunches for seniors in two Durham apartment complexes. These meals—sandwiches, fruit, snacks, and dessert—are delivered every other week and make a real difference. [Sign up via St. Francis Serves](#) or contact Pam Peroutky at [pperoutky@gmail.com](mailto:pperoutky@gmail.com).

**September 16 - October 28: Grief's Journey-Coping with loss of a loved one** 10:30am-12:00pm every Tuesday in Anthony Hall Conference Room. Seven week series offering hope following the loss of a loved one through death. A safe place to share your journey and to learn from others. Intended for those who are three months or more after a death of their loved one. [Register here](#). Dina DaRe, [dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 17 - Prayer Shawl Afternoons Group** 4:10-5:30pm. Join our Prayer Shawl Group once a month on Wednesday's afternoons from 4:15-5:30pm in Clare Hall, Room 201-202. Bring your knitting/crocheting and enjoy fellowship while creating shawls of comfort and prayer. Perfect for parents with children in choir or sports on campus. All are welcome! Contact Cindy Cardello, [cjcardello@yahoo.com](mailto:cjcardello@yahoo.com).

**September 18 - Women's Ministry: Discovering Our Dignity Book Study**, 7:00-8:30pm. Women of the Old and New Testaments were as flawed and broken as we can be, yet the power of God worked in their lives. Discovering Our Dignity will allow you to learn from their experiences and uncover ways to deal with unwanted circumstances and deferred hopes. [Register here](#). Contact Julia Snyder, [snyder-jules5720@gmail.com](mailto:snyder-jules5720@gmail.com).**September 19 - The Community Supported Agriculture Program CSA**

Purchase a fall subscription! This Farm to Church program supports local BIPOC farmers and sustainable farming methods. The fall season will include cabbage, collards, kale, broccoli, turnips, beets, mustard, Swiss chard, and carrots. Pick up your veggies Saturday mornings at St. Francis. **Order by 9/19/25**. [Click here to register and learn more](#). Contact Elizabeth Kearse, [eskearse@gmail.com](mailto:eskearse@gmail.com)

**September 20 - 2025 Convention: Grounded in Hope -**

**Interfaith Creation Care of the Triangle** 12:00 - 4:30pm, Join kindred spirits for the 2025 Convention Grounded in Hope as we connect with enlightening speakers, encounter one another and share our stories of Creation care, experience the natural world on a meditative walk, and find grounded hope in the face of ecological loss. Check-in begins at 11:30am. [Register here](#). Contact Joe Rabenstine, [ICCTriangle@gmail.com](mailto:ICCTriangle@gmail.com).

**September 20 - Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Knights**

**of Columbus** 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Join friends and family for an end of summer Spaghetti Dinner. Includes salad, bread, dessert, and beverage. Discounted, early purchase: \$10/individual; \$35/family (household). After 9/17/25 increases to: \$12/individual, \$45/ family. Limited walk-up availability. [Pre-order link](#). Contact: Nick Renga [nrenga@msn.com](mailto:nrenga@msn.com).

**September 20 - Jubilee of Justice Pilgrimage**

As pilgrims from around the world travel to St Peter's Square for the Jubilee of Justice on Sept 20, our parish recognizes and celebrates us all as Pilgrims of Hope and our journey to the bring God's intended justice of upholding innate human dignity to every person. [Click here for more information](#). Contact Casey Slock, [casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 21 - 2025 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge**

1:00-3:00pm. Boys and Girls ages 9-14 are invited to compete. Competitors will demonstrate their skill at penalty kicks, and winners will have the opportunity to progress through future higher-level contests. Parents and guardians, please [Click here to Sign up!](#) Contact Paul Geisen, [pgeisen@comcast.net](mailto:pgeisen@comcast.net).

**September 21 - Padre Pio Fraternity Of Secular Franciscans**

**Migrant Novena** 7:00-8:00pm via zoom, beginning September 21. This coincides with the USCCB National Migration Week. It will include praying the novena followed by discussion on various aspects of immigration. To register, please email Doug Thoren at [dphoren66@gmail.com](mailto:dphoren66@gmail.com).

**Employment Opportunities:****Part-time Administrative Assistant for Finance & Planning**

Please see our website for more information

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

**September 23 - JustFaith: Faith & Immigration Justice**

Tues afternoon 1-3pm IN PERSON now available. Starting Sept 23.  
[Register here](#). Contact Casey Slock, [casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 23 - November 5 Virtual Study: Women of the New Testament**

7:00-8:30pm. Join us for a virtual 7-week study of the women of the New Testament. Learn more about how women were essential to the ministry of Jesus and the flourishing of the early church. Sessions on Tues PM and Weds AM start soon. Register in Realm. Men and women welcome. [Click here for Tuesday PM](#) / [Click here for Wednesday AM](#)  
 Contact Barbara Efird, [barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com).

**September 24 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck Lunch**

11:30am. Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall: If last name starts with, then bring: A thru D = Dessert/Bread, E thru L = Main Dish, M thru Z = Salad / Side Dish. Coffee, soda and water will be provided.  
 Contact Pat Spencer, [spencer1334@bellsouth.net](mailto:spencer1334@bellsouth.net).

**September 25 - Coffee with Chris**

9:40 -10:30am. Join us Thursday, September 25 at 9:45am for Coffee with Fr. Chris in Padua. It will be a time to visit with fellow parishioners and Fr. Chris to celebrate as we continue to walk this journey of faith together as a community dedicated to our Franciscan heritage.  
 Contact Stacey Shine, [stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**September 27 - American Red Cross Fall Blood Drive**

8:00am-2:00pm This drive is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall. There will be drinks, snacks & lunch (after 11:30 am) after you give blood. Please sign up for an appointment at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). Search by Zip code 27613 for events on 9/27/25. Contact Bryan Kozak, [bryan.c.kozak@gmail.com](mailto:bryan.c.kozak@gmail.com).

**September 28 - October 4 - Family Promise of The Triangle**

Family Promise. Small Commitment. Big Impact. Make a difference by helping support the lives of families experiencing temporary homelessness. We provide meals and groceries for one week while families work towards permanent housing. Be part of our next hosting.  
 Contact Jim Packard, [stfa.fp@gmail.com](mailto:stfa.fp@gmail.com), 910-389-8936.

**October 2 - Spiritual Warfare and Discernment of Spirits -**

**A Six Part Series** 7:00-8:30pm. (See page 5) Anxiety, depression and angry thoughts are not who you are. Learn to beat back lies, from the enemy, you've come to accept instead of fighting. Six week video series by Avila Institute's Dan Burke incorporates scripture and St. Ignatius Rules for Discernment to help you renew your mind. Meets every Thursday evening for six weeks in Founders Room. Contact Maureen Costello [sentout72@gmail.com](mailto:sentout72@gmail.com). [Register on Realm](#).

**Oct. 2-Nov. 20 - Fall Bible Study: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible**

7:00-8:30pm. Join Rich Zemonek for a virtual and in-person study, Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. This study helps you get the "big picture" by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. [Register here](#).

**October 4 - Habitat for Humanity Catholic Coalition Site Build**

8:00am-3:30pm. [Register](#). Contact Will Connelly, [st.francis.h4h@gmail.com](mailto:st.francis.h4h@gmail.com).



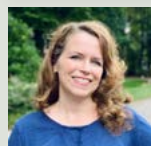
## Francis Fest, A Celebration of Community

Francis Fest, A Celebration of Community  
 Francis Fest is a hallmark of the St. Francis of Assisi community, but it wasn't always in its current form. "When we first started this parish, Father English, if you remember, had the house across the street," says Tricia Henry, long-time parishioner and former Director of the Community Center. "That's actually where the first picnic started. They had a mass at the picnic table in his backyard. I guess you could say that he started the very first small social gatherings of the community." Those first small gatherings have grown into the Francis Fest we know today. [More](#)



## Ministry Spotlight: Cross Step

When looking at the comprehensive faith formation program available at St. Francis, some parents may not realize how soon the program begins. As the first teachers of the Faith, parents are essential in teaching their children prayers and the importance of Mass. However, very young children can find Mass challenging to follow and understand. That's where Cross Step can support parents in introducing their children to the Faith! [More](#)



**Are you New to St. Francis?** We warmly welcome you to our community! If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about how to get involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to [Stacey Shine](#). We look forward to connecting with you and helping you feel right at home.

2025 CONVOCATION | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 8:30AM TO 2PM

THE FRANCISCAN SPIRIT AND LIFE CONVOCATION

# Journey Toward the Heart of God: A Franciscan Vision for Today!

Keynote speaker Fr. Kenneth Paulli, OFM will present on "Journey Toward the Heart of God: God is Good, All the Time... All the Time, God is Good."  
Contact: [Stacey.Shine@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Stacey.Shine@stfrancisraleigh.org)

REGISTRATION OPEN ON REALM | \$15 FEE



### Session 1 Topics

Becoming God: How the Liturgy Transforms Us and the World - *Jim Wahl*

The Keynote Address: A Reprise - *Fr. Ken Paulli, OFM*

Aging and Living the Franciscan Charisms - *Gladys Whitehouse, OFS*

Franciscan Missionary Discipleship - *Fr. Tim Kulbicki, OFM Conv.*

Integral Ecology: How Do We Care for Our Common Home? - *Pat and Paul Kelly*

### Session 2 Topics

The Franciscan Way of the Cross: How does the San Damiano Cross Speak of Passion and Resurrection - *Fr. Jim Sabak, OFM*

Coaching for Conversion: A Franciscan Approach to Guiding Others Toward God - *Jennifer Fiduccia*

St. Francis of Assisi: Rooted in Prayer - *Ann O'Hara*

Shaping the Environment (Literally) for Effective Ministry and Credible Witness in your Parish - *Fr. John Grace*

Gathered, Transformed, Sent: Justice in the Liturgy - *Angela Flynn*

**October 4 - Invitation to Honor the Season of Creation in the Community Garden** 10:00-12:00am. Celebrate the feast of St. Francis, in the garden on this final day of the Season of Creation to learn how sustainable gardening in the Franciscan Community Garden honors the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si as volunteers hear the "Cry of the Earth" and the "Cry of the Poor." Contact Pat & Paul Kelly, [mpmkelly@hotmail.com](mailto:mpmkelly@hotmail.com).

**October 11 - Pilgrimage of Hope at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral** 3:40-4:50pm. Meet for prayer, reflection and action followed by 5:00 mass as Catholics celebrate a Jubilee year and 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's Canticle of the Creatures. This is a sacred opportunity to encounter Christ in Creation, and renew our relationship with God, the Earth, and one another. Contact Pat and Paul Kelly, [mpmkelly@hotmail.com](mailto:mpmkelly@hotmail.com).



**October 5 - Francis Fest**  
Join us on Sunday October 5th from 12:45-4:30pm to celebrate our parish at FrancisFest 2025. [Click for details.](#)  
Contact [ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org).

**October 14 - First Responder's Dinner** 6:30pm. The Knights of Columbus is hosting, in Fellowship Hall an Appreciation Dinner for our First Responders, the firefighters, police, and sheriffs' deputies who protect and serve in our community. Contact Tony Rivezzo, [arivezzo82@gmail.com](mailto:arivezzo82@gmail.com).

**Through October 7 - St. Francis Youth Basketball League Registration** Join us for the 35th season of the St Francis Youth Basketball League. This program is open to girls and boys grades 1 thru 8. Registration is NOW! Regular Registration ends Sept,17 and late registration runs thru Oct 7. Contact Mary Arleth, [mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org). [Register Here.](#)

**October 18 - St Francis Convocation 2025** See ad on this page  
Keynote by Fr. Kenneth Paulli of Siena College

**Take Time to Respond** The new school year can be a time of transition for young people. Make time each day to listen to your children and nurture open communication. Most importantly, listen carefully and reflect for a few seconds before you respond. Take the example of Mary, Mother of Jesus, who carefully considered things in a way that was close to her heart. Do not simply react, take time to respond.

**November 16 - OCIA Sponsors Needed** 10:30am-11:30am. The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults needs you! God has called and they have answered in abundance! Journey with one of our participants as they grow closer to God. Sponsor information session will be held on November 16 at 10:30am in Founders Room. [Submit your interest here!](#) Contact Charlee Halphen [charleehalphen@gmail.com](mailto:charleehalphen@gmail.com).

[Click here to see Msgr. Clay's new website https://www.harvest4god.com/](https://www.harvest4god.com/)

# Harvest4God

Welcome to A Harvest for God!  
Christian Initiation in the Rural and Small-Town Parish



[Click here to read Paragraph 60: "What comes from the Holy Spirit cannot be stopped"](#)

St. Pioabo, 2018 (C. M. James, printed with artist permission)



Fr. Chris stopped by to bless the wonderful ladies and the creations made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thank you to all for crafting such beautiful shawls for those in need.



## Stephen Ministry Care Receivers A Listening Ear You Can Trust

[Stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org) | 919-847-8205x234

Click to watch video.

## Habitat For Humanity

SITE BUILD - OLD POOLE PLACE - RALEIGH, NC  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 8:15AM - 3:30PM

Come swing a hammer and help us build homes for families in need.

\*Need lunches provided for 25-30.

Please contact for more details:

Will Connelly | [st.francis.h4h@gmail.com](mailto:st.francis.h4h@gmail.com)



SCAN ME



### October 2 - Spiritual Warfare and Discernment of Spirits

- A Six Part Series 7:00-8:30pm in Founders Room. Meets every Thursday evening for six weeks. Contact Maureen Costello [sentout72@gmail.com](mailto:sentout72@gmail.com). [Register and for more info.](#)

Oct 2, Week 1 Hope In The Storm

Oct 9, Week 2 - Renewal Of The Mind

Oct 16, Week 3 - Discernment Of Spirits

Oct 23, Week 4 - An Invitation To Healing

Oct. 30, Week 5 - Renouncing The Lies Of the Enemy

Nov. 6, Week 6 - Fight, Don't Run

JOIN OUR TEAM

# Altar Server

## → Training

Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm  
in the Church

[Shannon.Hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:Shannon.Hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org)

## GET CONNECTED

Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities

## Welcome Ruckus Scratch Kitchen at Leesville Towne Center, our newest bulletin sponsor!



Ruckus Scratch Kitchen  
Leesville Towne Centre  
13200 Strickland Rd, Raleigh, NC 27613  
Monday – Sunday: 11:00am – 11:00pm  
984-344-1444

We're excited to introduce our newest Ruckus location, right here in Leesville Towne Center, just around the corner from St. Francis. At Ruckus Scratch Kitchen, we bring the same community spirit you know from Ruckus Pizza, with an elevated menu that blends our famous hand-tossed pizzas and pastas with fresh, chef-driven dishes made from scratch.

For more than 20 years, Ruckus has been a place where families, friends, and neighbors gather to enjoy great food in a fun, welcoming atmosphere. Our new Leesville restaurant was built with the community in mind — from family dinners and school spirit nights to catering for church and neighborhood events.

We're grateful for the warm welcome and look forward to serving you soon. Stop by Ruckus Scratch Kitchen at Leesville Towne Center and taste what makes Ruckus a local favorite! Scan the QR code to get a \$5 coupon from your mobile phone.



See you at Ruckus

Robert Royster  
919-816-2113

### St. Francis Online Social Network



**Are you an artist, cook, poet, or musician?** Share your passion with our parish community. Join fellow parishioners by submitting your recipes, art, poetry, or music to be featured on the St. Francis social network. There is no cost to participate. It's an opportunity to engage with others in our community and share your gifts.

[Click here to get started.](#)

Questions, contact [diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org).

Join fellow parishioners on the SFA Online Social Network.

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## Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

**Sasool**  
Fresh, healthy Lebanese Mediterranean food.  
919-847-2700

**RUCKUS SCRATCH KITCHEN**  
13200 Strickland Rd  
984-344-1444

**UMSTEAD REALTY**  
919-412-8224  
Diogenes Ruiz, Parishioner

**SIERRA SOCKS**  
Change Your Socks, Change Your World  
&  
**WEAR SIERRA**  
Fashion and Accessories

**BODYLASE**  
Luxury Med Spa in Raleigh and Cary  
**\$100 OFF**  
your first treatment

- Botox, Fillers & Injectables
- Skin Rejuvenation
- Laser-Hair Removal
- Body Sculpting and more!

**MY PRO PHOTOGRAPHER**  
All types of photography including weddings. Live Streaming on location anywhere.  
(919) 599-7683  
Phil Thalheimer, Parishioner

[Click here for ad rates and to advertise in the parish bulletin.](#)

Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz, [diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org). Take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your business in front of our many parishioners and thank you for helping to support our parish through the bulletin ad program.