



A WEEKEND CELEBRATION OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 @ 7PM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Transitus: Friday, Oct 3, 7pm at Immaculate Conception in the Main Church. Celebrate in prayer, light, music and word the passing of St. Francis from this life to our heavenly home (his "transitus") on the anniversary of the vigil of his death. This service will be bilingual. 810 W Chapel Hill St, Durham, NC.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 @ 10:00AM TFS COURTYARD

Blessing of the Animals: Saturday, October 4, 10:00am in courtyard of The Franciscan School (elementary side). Bring your pets to be blessed by our priests. Join us rain or shine!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 @ 10AM-12PM COMMUNITY GARDEN

Celebrate 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."



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 @ 12:45PM - 4:30PM

Francis Fest: Sunday, Oct 5, 12:45pm-4:30pm. Our parish community celebrates together with activities for all ages! See our website for more details. Join us rain or shine!

A click away  If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at 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](#)
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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

[Click here to register for the Convocation](#)

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



REGISTRATION OPEN ON REALM | \$15 FEE



Francis Fest

Live Music • Food Truck • Kids Activities • Fun for ALL

OCTOBER 5TH | 12:45PM - 4:30PM



Visit our website for more information, to buy wristbands, and sign up to volunteer.

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

September 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

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, 910-389-8936.

September 29 - Sister Parish Guatemala: Information Session

12:00-1:00pm. It is time to put together a delegation of parishioners to visit our sister parish in Guatemala next year! Come to a "lunch-n-learn" video call to learn more. Contact Mary Ellen McGuire, maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Cancer Support Group - Thursdays in October

7:00-8:00pm. Do you need to find comfort and peace within the storm? Is your storm cancer? St. Francis has a ministry for that, and we are here for you. Contact Suzanne Ziemer suzanne.ziemer@stfrancisraleigh.org.

October 1 - The Franciscan School 26/27 Application Opens

The application for the 2026-27 school year opens on October 1. We invite all parishioners to apply. If you are a current TFS family and have a rising kindergarten student, you must apply through the Family Portal. Parish families please visit our website (franciscanschool.org) to begin an application. Contact DawnMarie Smith, dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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. [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](#).

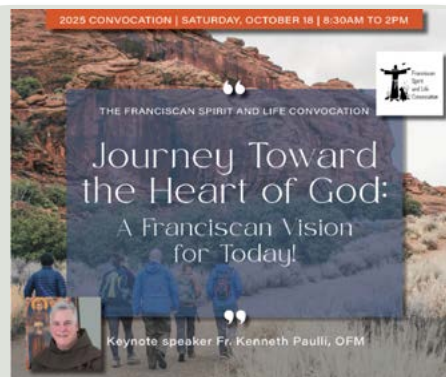
October 4 - Habitat for Humanity Catholic Coalition Site Build

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

October 3 - Transitus See page 1
7:00pm at Immaculate Conception

October 4 - Blessing of the Animals

See page 1
10:00am. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly friends for the Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 4, at 10:00am in the TFS Courtyard, rain or shine. Join us as we honor St. Francis of Assisi and celebrate the gift of God's creatures. All are welcome! Contact Shannon Hoffman, shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Gathering to Renew Our Franciscan Spirit and Life

On Saturday, October 18th, from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm, the 5th annual Franciscan Spirit and Life Convocation will take place at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Why is this gathering something you should consider attending? As Father Steve Kluge said when the friars 'officially' left the parish in 2020, "You are what makes this community 'Franciscan', not us. You are the Franciscans at St. Francis of Assisi." If you are someone who seeks more insight into what it means to be a Franciscan in the world, the title of the convocation, 'Journey Toward the Heart of God: A Franciscan Vision for Today,' should pique your interest. [More](#)



Ministry Spotlight: Feed the Need

Feed the Need is one of our ministries that seems self-explanatory by its name. As an outreach ministry providing home-cooked meals to those going through a life transition or a difficult time, the food they offer serves as a welcome respite from the daily chore of preparing a healthy dinner during stressful or busy periods. As Feed the Need coordinator Celesta Carlson says, "Whether they are recovering from surgery, grieving a loss, welcoming a new baby, or facing other challenges, our volunteers offer the comfort of a nourishing meal. Meals can be [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.

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.



October 5 - Francis Fest

Join us on Sunday October 5th from 12:45-4:30pm to celebrate our parish at FrancisFest 2025.

[Link for Sign up to Volunteer](#)

[Link to Order Wristbands](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

Contact ashley.watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

October 5 - Francis Fest: Monitor trash/compost/recycling 12:00-5:30pm. Help us get it right! Sign up to monitor trash/compost/recycling at Francis Fest (the biggest trash generating event of our parish). Kids (especially TFS middle schoolers) are welcome! Contact Pam James, Stfcreation@gmail.com. [Sign up here](#).

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. [Register Here](#).

October 10 - 23rd World Day Against the Death Penalty -

CANC Event 4:00-5:30pm. Join with Catholics for Abolition in NC for prayer and peaceful protest on Oct. 10th, World Day Against the Death Penalty. Start at HNoJ's Chapel for the rosary and then march to Central Prison. Or meet directly at Central Prison. Either way, stand against capital punishment! Questions to: catholicsforabolitionnc@gmail.com. [More Information](#). Contact Nancy J Jones, catholicsforabolitionnc@gmail.com.

October 10 - Mass of Creation & Jazz and Gelato!

6:30-8:30pm. Join us for a special Mass of Creation as we gather to celebrate God's gift of creation in prayer, song, and Franciscan spirit. After Mass, all are invited to Fellowship Hall for a joyful evening of Jazz and Gelato, a chance to relax, connect, and celebrate community together. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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.

October 11 - Young Adult Bonfire with Fiat Franciscus

6:30-8:00pm. Join us at the Labyrinth for an evening around the fire with good company, sweet and savory s'mores, and meaningful conversation. Father Joseph will lead a discussion on prayer as we gather in fellowship. Open to young adults in their 20s-30s, children & families are welcome too! Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

October 11 - Misa de la Herencia Hispana con Obispo Luis Rafael Zarama. 11:00am. Cathedral Holy Name of Jesus, 715 Nazareth St., Raleigh, NC 27606. 984-900-3182

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.

October 15 - Women's Ministry: Preparing for Advent with Handel's Messiah

7:00-8:30pm. Join Women's Ministry in the Padua Room on October 15 at 7:00pm to prepare for Advent with Handel's Messiah. This scripturally-based masterwork will help us reflect on the coming of the Messiah. Tickets for the December 7 performance at Duke Chapel will be available for purchase. [Register here](#). Contact Julia Snyder, jdsnyder@nc.rr.com.

October 18 - St Francis Convocation 2025 (See page 2)

Keynote by Fr. Kenneth Paulli of Siena College

October 20 - St Francis Inn Volunteer Trip Upcoming week-long mission trip where a delegation of 5 to 6 SFA volunteers prepare and serve hot meals to the hungry and homeless in St Francis Inn, a Franciscan Eucharistic community in urban Philadelphia. If interested please contact Diana Melo via email: melo.diana@gmail.com or text: 919-475-9941.

October 21 - The Chosen- Season 5 Viewing

9:45am. Join us in watching one episode of Season 5 of "The Chosen" each Tuesday at 9:45am in the Padua room beginning Oct. 21- Dec 16th. Contact: Tina Morgan tpm120@earthlink.net.

October 24-26: Richard Rohr Conference 9:00am-5:00pm

What do we do with Christianity? Join Richard Rohr and other teachers from the Center for Action & Contemplation to explore how to reimagine the faith, stories and traditions that have shaped our Christian lives. Contact Pam Peroutky, pperoutky@gmail.com or Deacon Steve, stephenwandrews@outlook.com 732-213-0104.

October 24 - Gates of Justice - North Carolina Master Chorale

7:30pm in the church. Join us for an inspiring evening of music that speaks to the soul and to society. The program features Dave Brubeck's The Gates of Justice, a bold fusion of jazz, classical, and spiritual traditions calling for racial and social unity, paired with Margaret Bonds' Credo, a powerful choral affirmation of human dignity and belief in justice. A stirring celebration of hope, resilience, and shared humanity — not to be missed. [Get your tickets here](#).

October 25 - Women's Ministry Communion Service in God's Creation

9:30-10:30am. Join us for the Women's Ministry's Communion Service in God's Creation at St. Luke's Outdoor Chapel. Led by Gladys Whitehouse, the service will be followed by some time to walk the paths of the outdoor Stations of the Cross and Rosary, enjoying fellowship and God's creation together. [Register here](#). Contact Lori Zagiba, lorizagiba@gmail.com.

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 charleelhalphen@gmail.com.

GETCONNECTED

Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities



Fr. James was feeling the love last week as a group of St. Francis parishioners made a pilgrimage to St. Ann's in Fayetteville to visit him.

Sister Parish in Guatemala

This ministry nurtures a relationship with a small, rural village in Guatemala called Las Margaritas II. We exchange visits and deepen our bonds of shared life and friendship. We invite parishioners to join us on pilgrimage for an experience of a life time or host villagers when they visit us every few years.

It is time for us to put together another delegation to visit in 2026! If you would like to learn more:

Information "lunch-n-learn" video call:
Monday September 29 from 12-1pm

To register, contact Mary Ellen McGuire,
Director of Justice and Peace and you will
receive the video link.

YOUNG ADULT
BONFIRE NIGHT
WITH FIAT FRANCISCUS

SATURDAY | OCT 11TH | 6:30-8PM
Location: Labyrinth at St. Francis Church

Join us for fellowship, sweet & savory s'more, & a discussion on prayer
with Fr. Joseph & other young adults!

Care for Creation

stfrancisleigh.org/care-for-creation/

"Care for creation is truly a
vocation for every human being"
Pope Leo XIV

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A Warm Home, a Grateful Heart

Click [here](#) to read more or visit <https://stfrancissvdp.org/blog/>

[Serve](#) [Learn](#) [Donate](#)

If you need help, please call our helpline at (919) 534-4842



Fr. Chris with Cardinal Kambanda from Rwanda 🇷🇼 in Washington DC Saturday, September 20. Both serve in the Order of Military Hospitallars of St. Lazarus.



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 [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

St. Francis Online Social Network



Join fellow parishioners on the SFA 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.

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin



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Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz, 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.