

NOVEMBER

A month of remembrance.

All Saints Day
Memorial Garden Mass

Saturday, November 1st
10am Mass in Memorial Garden

Mass of Remembrance

Monday, November 3rd
7pm Mass in Church

Incense will be used at this Mass



Faith Direct is now ParishSoft

Dear Parishioners,

I hope this message finds you well.

I'm writing to inform you of an important update regarding our parish's online giving platform. Our trusted provider, **Faith Direct**, has officially changed its name to **ParishSOFT**.

Please be assured that **there will be no disruption to your giving**. Your **recurring gifts, account information, and current fees will all remain unchanged**, and your data will be transferred seamlessly to the new platform. The only difference you'll notice is when you **log in through the upgraded interface**, where you'll see the new ParishSOFT branding.

We are grateful for your continued generosity, which allows our parish to thrive and carry out its mission. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to our parish office.

Thank you for your faithful support.


In Christ,
Fr. Chris 🙏❤️

Help Send Our Teens to NCYC 2025!



Final Stretch of Fundraising - We're hoping to reach our goal of \$10,000 by this Sunday (11/2). Every gift makes a difference! Be sure to drop it off at the church this week. All checks can be made out to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Please add NCYC in the memo line and drop off in the gold slot in parish office near mailboxes.

Thank you for your support!

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

November 2 - Harvest Moon Festival 1:00-3:00pm (see pge 5)
Saint Francis Preschool's Annual Harvest Moon Festival will take place on Sunday, November 2, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Join us for food, games, basket raffles and an online silent auction. Online auction opens on October 26 at 12:00 pm. [Click here for more information.](#)
Contact Shelley Freeman, shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

November 2 - First Meeting for Walking with Moms in Need Ministry 10:15-11:30am. First meeting of new Ministry: Walking with Moms in Need to educate parishioners and to attract volunteers. No registration required. Contact Janine Costello, sfarespectlife@gmail.com.

November 3 – Mass of Remembrance - (see page 1)

November 4 - 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 tandmorgan@earthlink.net.

November 5- December 17: Fall Session II Parent Child Classes
These classes are a fun ways to connect with your child. Join us for these fun, low pressure, hands on classes (0-5 years of age). Join us Wednesdays for Making Music Praying Twice and/ or Sing & Sign at the Community Center. [Click here for more Information and to register.](#)

November 6 - Spiritual Warfare and Discernment of Spirits
7:00-8:30pm. 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. Avila Institute's Dan Burke incorporates scripture and St. Ignatius Rules for Discernment - renew your mind. In Founders Room. Contact Maureen Costello sentout72@gmail.com. [Register on Realm.](#)

November 7-9 Fair Trade and Alternative Gifts Market!
Shop returning and new vendors for the holidays! Market Hours:
Friday, November 7 – 8am-4pm
Saturday, November 8 – 4pm-5:30pm & 6:15pm-7:30pm
Sunday, November 9 – 8am-9am, 9:45am-11:45am,
12:30pm-2pm & 6:15pm-8pm
We are looking for donations for meals for the vendors. [Please sign up in St Francis Serves!](#) Thank you! Contact: dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.

November 8 - Knights of Columbus Veterans Appreciation Breakfast 9:00am-11:30am Join us at St. Luke the Evangelist Church 12333 Bayleaf Road Raleigh, NC 27614. All men and women who are currently serving, or have served, in the military are invited to attend. Please also bring your family members to enjoy a hot breakfast served by the Knights of Columbus. [Sign up here.](#)

November 8 - Greater Triangle CROP Hunger Walk
10:00am-12:30pm. Join fellow SFA community members and their families to walk in solidarity with those who are hungry and raise awareness of issues of hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster both locally and around the globe. Opportunities exist to walk, donate, or both! Invite a friend. [Register online.](#) Casey Slock, casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org.

November 8 - Corral Riding Academy Saturday on the Farm
9:30am - 12:00pm. CORRAL Riding Academy is a faith-motivated nonprofit that serves adolescent girls in high-risk situations through a long-term, holistic program of equine therapy and education. Join us as we do hands-on projects to support the NEUSE RIVER (Raleigh) campus and learn more about CORRAL's mission and programs! Families welcome! Contact Donna Schwede, Donna.schwede@gmail.com.

November 8 - Fiat Franciscus Young Adult Pilgrimage for Hope 9:00am-12:00pm. Join Fiat Franciscus Young Adults for a Pilgrimage for Hope. A morning of fellowship as we complete a small, 2 mile pilgrimage from Sacred Heart Cathedral to Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral. We will finish with brunch at A Place at the Table. [Register.](#)
Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

November 11 - Salute to Veterans at TFS 8:00-9:50am TFS is looking for Veterans to speak to two different classes on November 11. [Click here for more information and to sign up.](#) In the comment section, please put an email address that we can use for communication. If you have any questions, please email grace.gates@stfrancisraleigh.org.

November 12 - Women's Ministry Holiday Service for Healing Transitions 7:00-8:30pm. Join us Wednesday, November 12, 7:00pm to 8:30pm at the Padua Room in the Community Center. We'll assemble hygiene gift bags for women at Healing Transitions. Donations of \$25-\$35 cover supply costs. Your support benefits our community. [Click to register.](#) Contact Katie Coppins, sfawomensministry@gmail.com.

November 13 - JCM Presents: Adapting to Change: How AI and the Economy are Redefining Work 8:30-10:30am, at St Francis of Assisi - Founders Room. In this session, Dana Gower explores how today's rapidly evolving economy, automation, and artificial intelligence are transforming the world of work. Participants will gain insight into how economic and technological shifts are reshaping industries, redefining job roles, and creating new opportunities for growth. [RSVP.](#) [More information.](#)
Contact Paul Dean, vpauldean@gmail.com.

November 15 - Celebrating and Reflecting on Two Encyclicals on their 30th and 10th Anniversaries 9:00am-1:00pm. This event will focus on the encyclicals Evangelium Vitae (1995) and Laudato Si' (2015), written Pope St. John Paul II and Pope Francis respectively, which share complementary and prophetic messages promoting the protection, dignity, and thriving of human life. [Registration.](#) Contact Diocese of Charlotte & Sisters of Mercy, scaeducation@ccdcc.org.

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.

November 16-18 EM and MC Trainings
All current & new Eucharist Ministers(EM) & Mass Coordinator (MC) please sign up on Realm to attend one of the following trainings.
Sunday, November 16 EM Training: 1:00- 2:30pm
MC Training: 2:30pm-4:00pm
Tuesday, November 18 EM Training: 6:30pm-8pm
Sign up on Realm or for more information contact: Contact Person John Hajdin, john.hajdin@stfrancisraleigh.org.

January 7 - Order of Christian Initiation for Adults
Interested in exploring the Catholic faith? Do you desire to experience full initiation into the life of the Church? A new cohort group for OCIA will begin January 7, 2026. [Complete the interest form to find out more!](#)
Contact Charlee Halphen, charleehalphen@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions for 2026 are now available. Mass Intentions can be requested through the Parish Website or through the Front Office. For additional information please visit the Parish Website. Contact Shannon Hoffman shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org.



TFS Wins Bronze in Raleigh Best

We are excited to announce that The Franciscan School has been voted as one of the best in the annual News & Observer Raleigh Best Awards! The Franciscan School is the BRONZE winner for Favorite Private School. Thank you to everyone who voted for and continue to support our mission. Contact Dawn Smith, dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

TFS 2026/27 Application is now OPEN The application for the 2026-27 school year opened on October 1. We invite all parishioners to apply. If you are new to TFS, please visit our website (franciscanschool.org) and click [Apply Today](#) to begin an application. Current TFS families who have a rising kindergarten student should apply through the [Family Portal](#). Contact Dawn Marie Smith, dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Confirming Your Faith

Did you know that it was the belief in the great importance of the Eucharist by Pope Pius X (Pope from 1903-1914) that led to the First Eucharist being moved to a younger age and flipped with the Sacrament of Confirmation? According to Tim Hetzel, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at St. Francis, whose undergraduate thesis was on Confirmation, says, "It was Pope Pius X who saw people weren't receiving communion; they would receive it maybe once or twice a year, an Easter and Christmas kind of thing. Even if they would go to Mass, they didn't feel worthy to receive it, or it wasn't really part of the culture to receive it." That broke his heart because he believed the Eucharist [More](#)



Human Life and Dignity Grant Recipients Honored

The Office of Evangelization & Discipleship hosted its annual Human Life and Dignity (HLD) Grant Awards Luncheon last week, recognizing recipients of the 2025 awards for their ongoing commitment to upholding the sacredness of human life. The event coincided with... [More](#)



Ministry Spotlight: Lectors

"At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church," says ministry coordinator Mike Wrzesien, "the lector ministry plays a vital role in the celebration of the Mass. Lectors are more than just readers; they are proclaimers of the Word of God, tasked with bringing the sacred scriptures to life for the parish community." As those who attend Mass at St. Francis know, the dedication and reverence our lectors demonstrate help to foster a deeper understanding and connection to the divine message within the congregation. [More](#)

Veteran's Day Breakfast

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

November 8, 2025 at 9am
St. Luke's Parish Hall
12333 Bayleaf Church Road,
Raleigh, NC.



Feed the Need – Intake Volunteer Opportunity Help coordinate meal support for parishioners in need! Intake volunteers collect basic information through an online form from home, ensuring confidentiality and sharing details with our meal team. Flexible schedule and full training provided. Great volunteer opportunity. Please contact Mary Morch or Celesta Carlson for more information at feedtheneedSFA@gmail.com.



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.



Congratulations to Anna Cochis and Drew Dembek who celebrated the sacrament of marriage on 10/26/2025. May their lives always bear witness to Christ's love.

St. Francis TV - Episode 46

Vocations
with
Fr. Mike Schuetz

Click here to watch

Serving With Heart, Offering Hope
How One Mother Found a Fresh Start--and How You Can Help

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

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

St. Francis of Assisi
Raleigh, NC

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

Women's Ministry invites you to support our

Healing Transitions Service Project

November 12
7 - 8:30 pm
Assemble packages

What You Can Donate:

- \$20
- \$30
- \$40

Register and make donation through Realm

FAIR TRADE & ALTERNATIVE GIFTS MARKET

NOVEMBER 7-9

Volunteer to donate food for vendors on St. Francis Serves

Click to Join

Join fellow parishioners on the parish social network - a toxic free online platform where it's safe and spam free. Meet great people and set up your own page so others can know you better. There is no cost to join. Must be 18+

St. Francis of Assisi Preschool



HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



November 2nd
1:00-3:00 Pm
Fellowship

Food
Games

Basket Raffle
Silent Auction



Advent Penance Schedule

Monday, November 17th at 11am
St. Francis of Assisi, Raleigh

Wednesday, November 19th at 6:30pm
Our Lady of the Rosary, Louisburg

Friday, December 5th at 7pm
at Our Lady of La Vang, Raleigh

Thursday, December 18th at 6:30pm
St. Luke's, Raleigh



Care for Creation

stfrancisraleigh.org/care-for-creation/

"Ecological conversion is not just about caring for the environment, it's letting our faith reshape how we live." - St Francis

EM and MC Training

All current and new Eucharist Ministers(EM)and Mass Coordinator (MC) please sign up on Realm to attend one of the following trainings.

Sunday, November 16th

EM Training: 1pm- 2:30pm

MC Training: 2:30pm-4:00pm

Tuesday, November 18th

EM Training: 6:30pm-8pm

Sign up on Realm or for more information contact:
John.Hajdin@stfrancisraleigh.org

GET CONNECTED

Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Come and See!



Join the OCIA & become a sponsor today!

Information session:

Sunday, November 16th @ 10:30 am in Founders Room

Spiritual Direction is an ancient Christian tradition in which two people enter a sacred space to dream, explore, and discern a path toward a deeper relationship with God. People turn to spiritual direction in times of deep faith, doubt, or life transition to discern God's movement in the experience. [Click here for more information.](#) Contact Nancy Jones, prayerfulheart3@gmail.com.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT

December 12- 14, 2025
Rockfish Retreat Center

Come discover God's JOY this Advent season, deepen your faith, and build lasting community.

Register Here



follow @sfa.retreat.team



for more info contact
morgan.jess@gmail.com



Interested in becoming Catholic?

Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Let the Order of Christian Adults walk with you on your journey of faith. A new cohort will begin **January 7!** Fill out the interest form using the QR code.



Scam Alert

Msgr. Clay (and those on the SFA staff) never request parishioner cell numbers via email. Always check the sender's email address to verify that the domain name appears after our name exactly like this (stfrancisraleigh.org).

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

Sasool

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984-344-1444

UMSTEAD
REALTY

919-412-8224



Diogenes Ruiz, Parishioner

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Phil Thalheimer, Parishioner

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

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.