



November is Black Catholic History Month.

[Click here for a timeline](#) highlighting some important moments.



Advent Giving Trees

Nov 15-Dec 14:

Share the spirit of the Christmas season by supporting the St. Francis of Assisi Advent Giving Tree. Our primary recipients are organizations in the community that work directly with people in need. There are 2 ways you can support the Advent Giving Tree.

1. Take a paper ornament from the trees located in the Community Center and the Welcome Center and follow the instructions on the ornament for when to return the gift. Return gift by the date on the tag (or if no date then please return by December 14th) to: Community Center Lobby: Monday-Friday from 8am-2:30pm Dec. 1st thru December 14 OR In the Welcome Center: Before or after Mass on the weekends and during the week from November 22-December 14.

Community organizations whose families are included on our tree this year include Catholic Parish Outreach, Hispanic Family Center, Duke Children's Hospital, Emily K Center, Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Passage Home, St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia. Parish ministries that benefit include Prayer Shawl, Feed the Need, St. Francis Brown Bag Ministry, and Oak City Cares.

2. Make a Financial donation thru Parish Soft. (make sure to select the Advent Giving Tree drop down) The following organizations will be beneficiaries of our financial donations this year: Helen Wright Center, Ronald McDonald House in Durham, Helene Foundation, St. Vincent de Paul Ministry.

Contact Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

FROZEN TURKEY DRIVE
HELP US, HELP OTHERS
COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT
7:30am -12pm

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](#)
[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

Now Through 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.](#)

Nov. 15/16 & Nov 22/23 - Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive

Volunteers We need volunteers (families, adults, youth) to pass out bags after Masses the weekend of Nov. 15/16. We also need volunteers (families, adults, youth) to collect and load a truck with the OLR food donations the weekend of Nov. 22/23. Click here to sign up to assist. [Sign up here.](#) Contact Tess Ferrer-Turner, tessferrer89@yahoo.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.

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 18 - 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 tandmmorgan@earthlink.net.

November 19 - 50+ Adult Group Potluck
11:30am Join us in Clare Fellowship Hall: If last name starts with, then bring: A thru D = Main Dish; E thru L = Salad/Side Dish; M thru Z = Dessert/Bread. Coffee, soda and water will be provided. Contact Pat Spencer, spencer1334@bellsouth.net.

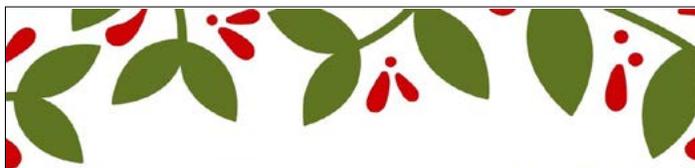
November 20 - Frozen Turkey Drive 7:30am - 12:00pm. We will be collecting frozen turkeys to benefit Passage Home. Please bring your turkey to the Community Center parking lot, where a volunteer dressed in silly Turkey hats will pick it up right from your car! Thank you for your generous donations. Contact Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

November 22/23 Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive Food Collections Bring nonperishable food items, or a monetary donation, to the truck. Collections: before and after weekend Masses. [Click here](#) to see a list of the current needs and for a link to make a donation through Parish Soft (formerly Faith Direct) Contact Tess Ferrer-Turner, tessferrer89@yahoo.com.

December 1 – Peace in the Holy Land: An Educational Event
7:00pm-8:30pm. How does our faith call us to respond to the ongoing violence, hunger and suffering in the Holy Land? Join us to learn more about its historical origins, the current situation, and how we can pursue peace and advocate for justice together. [Click here for more information.](#) Contact: Jim Rice jrice0313@gmail.com.

December 4, Women's Ministry Christmas Carol Bingo and Cookie Exchange Celebrate the spirit of the season at the Women's Ministry Cookie Exchange and Social on 12/4, 7:00-9:00pm! Exchanging cookies is optional. Bring the number of cookies that you'd like to go home with (split into bags of 6). We will play Christmas Music BINGO, too! [Register via Realm.](#) Contact Jackie Schroeder, schroederjackie@gmail.com.

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.



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

Come and See!



Join the OCIA & become a sponsor today!
Information session:
Sunday, November 16th @ 10:30 am in Founders Room



Click to Join

Join fellow parishioners on the St. Francis social network (like Facebook only better, no ads, no spam) - a safe toxic free online platform. Meet/Connect with fellow parishioners - set up a personal page, upload pictures, post blogs, share interests, There is no cost to join. Must be 18+

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

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



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Ministering To Our Youth

The Youth Ministry at St. Francis is an integral part of our faith formation ministries, fostering faith, friendship, and service. Tim Hetzel, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and Jess Montrella, Middle School Evangelization and Formation coordinator, spoke about the resurgence of youth ministry following the pandemic.

"For at least a year," says Tim, "we had kind of a virtual youth ministry, or were trying to do virtual youth ministry when we're on Zoom in our small groups. That worked as well as it could, and then when we got back, it was similar to how schools did it, which was sort of like 'being in your cohort' kind of thing. You didn't really see [More](#)



Ministry Spotlight: Rosary

The focus of the ministry is in answer to Our Blessed Mother's call for us to "pray, pray, pray," as requested in her appearances at Guadalupe, Lourdes, Fatima, and Medjugorje. To accomplish this calling, prayer is held after daily Mass, as mentioned above, and, once a month, the ministry has a special gathering in honor of Our Lady. Eucharistic Ministers who serve at some of the Senior Living Centers also pray the Rosary before the weekly Communion Service. Other Rosary members have formed a Rosary Group at home, with family and neighbors. There are many opportunities to answer Mary's call to pray the Rosary. [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.



The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre celebrated their annual Mass for deceased members at St. Francis. Monday, November 10th.



Janelle Obaydi,
Preschool Community
Outreach Coordinator
and organizer of the
1st Responder's
Preschool Parade

Firefighters including Ladder 23

Music and movement teacher, Karla White,
Airforce Intelligence Officer

Thank you to all First Responders who participated in the parade.



Faith Direct transition to ParishSOFT Giving

As you know by now, Faith Direct has now become ParishSOFT Giving. For most of our parishioners, the transition should be rather seamless. Any appeal you may have selected will continue to be processed as requested without any action on your part.

There are a few things we would like to bring to your attention related to the transition:

- If you require any help donating or selecting appeals, the client service number is (866) 930-4774, or you can still use (866) 507-8757. If you do call for help, you will be serviced by the same people you may have worked with in the past.
- If you have been a weekly donor in the past, Faith Direct processed your weekly donations once a month on either the 4th or 15th, selected by you. Now weekly donations will be processed weekly rather than a lump sum.
- To access your account, use the following URL with your former Faith Direct ID and password: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-674>
- If you have any further questions, please feel free to call either Toni Hammes or Rob Neppel at the parish office.

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.




Serving With Heart, Offering Hope
Finding Hope After a Heart Attack

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

Serve Learn Donate

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

Care for Creation

stfrancisraleigh.org/care-for-creation/

November 16 – World Day of the Poor

Spotlight
Catholic action against environmental inequality

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin



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



13200 Strickland Rd
984-344-1444



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.