



Click to watch video

Migrant Ministry

CLOTHING AND TOILETRIES DRIVE

March 22-23



Stop by the Welcome Center for a list of items in need.



WE'VE REACHED
37.3%
OF OUR GOAL
\$548,071.00

Help us reach our GOAL today!



B+A BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

10.9% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN

[Click here to contribute to the BAA](#)

Palm SUNDAY

MARCH 28TH AND 29TH




REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE.
WE WILL BEGIN ALL MASSES OUTSIDE IN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECYCLE LAST YEARS PALMS, PLEASE BRING THEM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND



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. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM
Parochial Vicar



Stephen Andrews
Deacon In Residence

**March 15, April 12, April 19, April 26 Co-Ed
Spring 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 3:30-4:20pm / 5th-8th Grade: 4:30-5:30pm Each Session is \$23 or \$100.00 for all 5 sessions. [Info/Register Here](#). Contact Mary Arleth, mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

March 18 - Evening Prayer

6:30-7:00pm. Join us on Wednesday nights during Lent for a peaceful time of prayer in the church. This sacred time of reflection and worship offers an opportunity to deepen your faith and prepare your heart for Easter. All are welcome to come and pray together during this Lenten season. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

March 21 - Migrant Ministry Clothing and Toiletry Drive

The Migrant Ministry will collect full-sized toiletries and clean small-medium sized men's clothing in the Welcome Center. They can accept men's long sleeve shirts, jeans, hats, belts, boots and shoes sizes 8-11, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, laundry detergent, bar soap, and new towels & washcloths. Contact Tom Carlson, tcarlson28@gmail.com and Carlos Panameno, carlos.panamenojr@gmail.com.

March 21 - Young Adult Bonfire Night

6:30-8:30pm. Join other young adults in their 20s-30s for a relaxed evening in fellowship featuring sweet and savory smores! We are excited to host Fr. Joseph again to lead us in a discussion around the Examen Prayer and ways to improve our daily prayer lives. [Register here](#). Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

**SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

**Saturday, March 21st
8am-2pm
Fellowship Hall**

Walk-Ins Are Welcome
Two make an appointment please visit:
www.redcrossblood.org
Search by Zip Code 27613

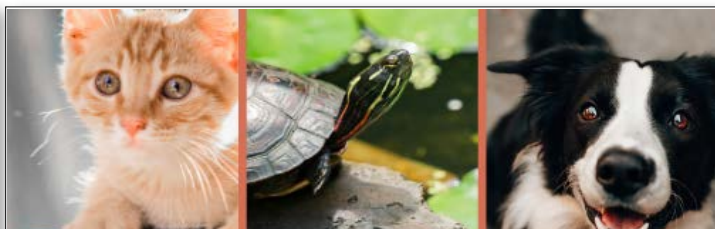


March 21 - American Red Cross Spring 2026 Blood Drive

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 you give blood. Please sign up for an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org. Search by Zip code 27613 for events on 3/21/26. Contact Bryan Kozak, bryan.c.kozak@gmail.com.

Now - March 22 - Remains of St. Francis to be visible for

veneration in Assisi From Sunday, February 22, until March 22, in the lower church of the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, pilgrims will be able—for the first time—to pray before the Saint's remains, as 2026 marks the 800th anniversary of his death. [Click here for details](#). Contact Mary Ellen McGuire, maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.



March 22 - Pet Adoption & Foster Event The office of Justice and Peace is sponsoring our first pet adoption day on Sunday March 22 from 10-12! St. Francis of Assisi loved animals, and so do we! We will have cats, dogs, and turtles in Fellowship and around campus, and they all need a home. Also, if you would like to volunteer, [register here](#). Contact Mary Ellen McGuire, maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

March 28 - Habitat for Humanity Catholic Coalition Site Build

8:10am-3:00pm. Come help build homes in our Pope Leo Village for those in need! [Register here](#). Contact Will Connolly, st.francis.h4h@gmail.com.

April 9 - May 28: Women's Ministry: Walking with Purpose

Bible Study 7:00-8:30pm. Ordering Your Priorities is a practical Bible study designed to help you focus on what truly matters. By seeking God's guidance, learn to align your schedule with your values, love your family intentionally, and build a fulfilling life. Join us to create a life that you don't need to escape. [Register here](#). Contact Julia Snyder, snyderjules5720@gmail.com.

April 9 - May 7 Book Study: Life Everlasting

7:00-8:00pm. Join Rich Zemonek for a virtual and in-person study of Life Everlasting: Heaven, Hell, Death, and Judgment is a five-session mini-study designed for today's busy lives. Each session combines clear teaching, meaningful reflection, and practical application. Learn why these truths are meant to fill you with hope. [Click to register](#). Contact Rich Zemonek, rzemonek@yahoo.com.

April 9 - Apostolic Exhortation DILEXI TE

6:30-8:00pm. Contact maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org or Deacon Steve, stephenWAndrews@outlook.com

The St Francis Inn Philadelphia Ministry trips for 2026

April 13 - 17 - Open / Oct 19 - 23 - Open
Join a delegation to serve the Kensington community of Philadelphia, providing aid in the form of food, clothing, and so much more to anyone in need. Contact Diana Melo, Melo.diana@gmail.com.

April 16, 17, 18, All Day Breakthrough Healing Workshop

LORD OF THE HARVEST HEALING MINISTRY Experience healing and spiritual freedom at the Breakthrough Healing Workshop with Patrick and Joy Campbell. Through testimony, teaching, and prayer, participants learn how to overcome spiritual obstacles, heal past wounds, and grow in God's love. St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Monica's Hall in Raleigh. [Click here to register](#). Contact Maureen Costello, sentout72@gmail.com. Diocesan approved event - there is a \$25 registration fee for the entire event.

April 18 - Women's Ministry Spring Retreat: Live in the Joy of the Lord 8:30am-2:00pm. You are invited to catch your breath and lean into the steady joy that Christ promises us. Led by Sr. Helen Santamaria, S.L., this retreat is an opportunity to step away from the noise of daily life and reconnect with the deep, sustaining peace found in Christ's presence. [Register in Realm](#). Contact Rosemary Czejkowski, sfawomensministry@gmail.com.

April 21-May 26 and April 22-May 27: Gospel of Luke, Part 2 Virtual Study

The Gospel of Luke demonstrates the universal nature of Jesus' mission. In Part Two (Luke 12:1-24:53), readers travel with Jesus from the region of Galilee to the city of Jerusalem, where Jesus will enter into his passion and resurrection. Luke's focus on God's faithfulness will encourage you to trust. Contact Barbara Efrid, barbaraefirdlpc@gmail.com.

[Tuesday evenings - April 21 - May 26](#) 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[Wednesday mornings - April 22 to May 27](#) 10:00 am - 11:30 am

June 20-28 - Sister Parish in Guatemala

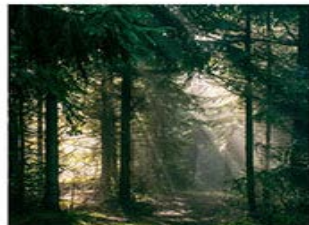
It is time for us to solidify a delegation to visit our sister parish in Las Margaritas II in Guatemala! Please reach out to Mary Ellen McGuire at maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

May 1 - World Wide Marriage Encounter

Marriage Encounter is a weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores & phones and focus on each other. Representatives will be passing out information after all masses the weekend of March 14-15 in the Welcome Center. [Register here](#). Or call 919-740-7435 Experience will be held at Cathedral School, Raleigh, NC. Contact Diana Forehand, Applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org.

NC Arbor Day is Friday, March 20

NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS STRENGTHEN ECO-SYSTEMS. OVER 25 MILLION ACRES ARE LOST TO DEFORESTATION A YEAR.



Lenten Chain of Intentions Stop by the Welcome Center and take part in our Lenten Chain of Intentions. Write a prayer, fasting, or almsgiving intention and add it to the growing chain. This meaningful activity is a wonderful way for individuals and families to journey together through Lent. Contact stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.



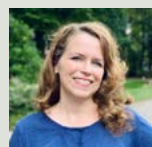
Let The Little Children Come To Me

In the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 19:13-14, Jesus admonishes his disciples: 'The children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked them, but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'" Certainly, the fact that we have a robust faith formation program, The Franciscan School, and the St. Francis Preschool at St. Francis speaks to our parish's continuing dedication to the youngest members of our faith. [More](#)



Ministry Spotlight: 50+ Adults Group

Are you looking for a group here at St. Francis in your age range to do ministry with? The St. Francis 50+ Adults Group was formed to provide opportunities for social, spiritual, charitable, and educational activities for the benefit of its members, the parish, and the Wake County community. Membership is open to persons 50 years of age or older who attend St. Francis Parish or reside in Wake County and the surrounding areas. [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.

Lenten Penance Services

Tuesday, March 17th at 10:30am
St. Bernadette's, Fuquay Varina

Wednesday, March 18th at 11am
Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh NC

Wednesday, March 18th at 6:30pm
Our Lady of the Rosary, Louisburg

Thursday, March 19th at 10am
St. Michael the Archangel, Cary

Monday, March 23rd at 6:30pm
St. Ann, Clayton

Tuesday, March 24th at 7pm
St. Catherine of Siena,
Wake Forest

Wednesday, March 25th at 7pm
St. Raphael the Archangel, Raleigh

Thursday, March 26th at 7pm
Holy Name of Jesus, Raleigh



Dates for Lent Dinners, Stations, Evening Prayer, and Service Sundays

Dates for Lent Dinners, Stations, Evening Prayer, and Service Sundays

Stations of the Cross | Friday Nights | Main Church | 6:00pm

March 20

March 27 - Family Focused - TFS Courtyard

April 3 - 7:00 pm Outside Stations of the Cross (Begin TFS Courtyard, conclude Memorial Garden)

Lenten Potluck Dinners | Friday Nights | 6:30pm

March 27 - [Register Here](#) | in Jacoba Hall - TFS Cafeteria | Hosted by Knights of Columbus

Evening Prayer | Wednesday Nights | Main Church | 6:30pm

March 18

March 25

Service Sundays

March 15 Post-Incarceration Re-entry

Simulation 1:00pm-4:45pm | [Register Here](#)

March 22 Pet Adoption Event 10am-12pm.

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION
DILEXI TE
(I Have Loved You)

POPE LEO XIV



ON LOVE FOR THE POOR



THURSDAY
APRIL 9
6:30-8PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

If you chose to read Pope Leo's Exhortation Dilexi Te during Lent, you are cordially invited to join us for a post-Easter gathering on **Thursday, April 9th, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM**, where we will share our insights and experiences from reading the document.

REGISTER IN REALM



maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org

Deacon Steve

StevenWAndrews@outlook.com

St. Francis of Assisi Columbarium Committee Guidelines for Flower Placement



To honor our loved ones, a live flower may be placed by using one of our approved flower holders. Flowers will be removed at the discretion of the committee. Flower holders are available in the hallway closet near the parish office reception desk.



St. Francis of Assisi
Raleigh, NC

Serving With Heart, Offering Hope

SVdP offers a persevering young woman hope as she navigates a new job and motherhood.

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

Serve

Learn

Donate

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

Sister Parish News - Summer 2026



Click to watch

Our Sister Parish in Guatemala awarded the student scholarships that are funded by St. Francis. The community is so grateful for our support. In addition, here is a personal invitation for us to visit July 9-19! This is a transformative cultural exchange, rooted in prayer, relationship, and solidarity. Contact Mary Ellen McGuire maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

ADVOCACY

CATHOLIC

CORNER

Weekly tidbits for how to bring our faith into the public sphere



Lenten Almsgiving:
Catholic Relief
Services Rice Bowls

Learn more here

VOICES



PROJECTION MINISTERS NEEDED

We need help at all Masses with projecting slide on the screens and monitors. Anyone high school age or older is eligible for weekend masses.

TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

CONTACT: john.hajdin@stfrancisraleigh.org

St. Francis Pilgrimage March 2026

Thank you to Fr. Chris and the Knights of Columbus for making this wonderful pilgrimage possible.
A special thanks to Mark and Theresa Baumgartner for unleashing their coordination superpower.

National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton





Buffet Dinner at the Red Barn



Gettysburg Cyclorama



Hanging out at the Hotel

Spring groups forming now.

Just Action!

How to Advocate and




Just Action! How to Advocate
Groups registering now, Program March-April
 Do you want to take action for faith-filled justice and unsure how to get started? Are you already taking action for justice and want to be more effective? Learn how to stand in solidarity with those affected by the issue, mobilize others for action, and advocate effectively for lasting change. Contact Casey Slock, casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Just Action! Advocate for Justice - Tuesdays 12-2pm, virtual:
Just Action! Advocate for Justice- Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm, in-person:





Join us for an unforgettable summer where friendships bloom, laughter echoes, and memories are made.

Camps Offered the weeks of:

- June 15-19
- June 22-26
- July 6-10
- July 13-17
- July 20-24

For more Information & to Register:
<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>

Join fellow parishioners on the SFA social network




Interact with fellow parishioners - set up your profile page, share interests, hobbies, books, music, events, pictures, post blogs, free stuff, meet new people. There is no cost to join. Must be 18+
 (a 100% spam free environment - a safe toxic free private online platform by invitation only. This is your invitation!)

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin





Fresh, healthy Lebanese Mediterranean food.
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James W. Patella
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 with over 18 years of experience.

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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.