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OF OUR GOAL
\$548,071.00


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our GOAL today!



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

19.6% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN

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



Catholic Social Teaching Highlight: Solidarity The Church teaches that we are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. At the core of solidarity is the pursuit of justice & peace. Our love for all our sisters and brothers calls us to promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

[Click here for more information.](#)
[Click here to watch the USCCB video.](#)

Earth Day Celebration

This Weekend!


Sunday, April 19
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Fun! Games! Info!

"The Earth is our environment to protect and the garden to tend to."
- Pope Francis



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. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM
Parochial Vicar



Stephen Andrews
Deacon In Residence



CELEBRATING

VOLUNTEERS

WE THANK YOU ALL!

**APRIL 25
&
APRIL 26**

Join Us for Our Volunteer Celebration! We are incredibly grateful for our dedicated volunteers and want to celebrate all that you do!

Join us on **Saturday, April 25, at 6:30 PM,**

or on Sunday, April 26, 8:00–9:00 AM or 10:00–11:30 AM.

These gatherings provide a wonderful opportunity to express our appreciation and celebrate together after Mass.

We look forward to honoring you! In Fellowship Hall.

Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org

April 18/19 & April 25/26 | Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive Volunteers We need volunteers (families, adults, youth) to pass out bags after masses the weekend of April 18/19. We also need volunteers (families, adults, youth) to collect and load a truck with the OLR food donations the weekend of April 25/26. [Click here to sign up to assist.](#)

April 25/26 | Our Lady of the Rosary Food Drive 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 financial donation through Parish Soft.](#) Contact Odile Fredericks, odilefredericks@bellsouth.net.

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.

April 19 | Earth Day Celebration Volunteers Needed Volunteers are needed to support this year's Earth Day Celebration. Opportunities include assisting with activities and clean-up, as well as helping with Coffee and Donuts hospitality. Please use the links below to sign up. Thank you for helping make this event a success.
Volunteer for activities and clean up: [Click here.](#)
Volunteer for Coffee and Donuts Hospitality: [Click here.](#)

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 Efir, 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

April 22 | 50+ Adult Group Potluck 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. Annual Book Exchange and Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange (Complete Set). Contact, spencer1334@bellsouth.net.

April 22 | Medical Presence and Safety Volunteer Info Session 7:00pm Anthony Hall Room 403. [Register on Realm.](#)

April 24 | Diocesan Anti-Death Penalty Gathering & Pizza Social 12:00-1:00pm. Catholics for Abolition in NC invites you to a pizza lunch at the Catholic Center, 1300 Stonehenge Drive, Raleigh, on Friday April 24, from Noon to 1:00. Join us for this opportunity to connect with other Catholics who share your convictions, and enjoy meaningful conversation, fellowship, and food together. RSVP: director@catholicsforabolition-nc.org. Contact Nancy J Jones director@catholicsforabolitionnc.org.

April 25-26 | Join Us for Our Volunteer Celebration!

We are incredibly grateful for our dedicated volunteers and want to celebrate all that you do! Join us on Saturday, April 25, at 6:30pm, or on Sunday, April 26, 8:00–9:00am or 10:00–11:30am. These gatherings provide a wonderful opportunity to express our appreciation and celebrate together after Mass. We look forward to honoring you! In Fellowship Hall. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Anything with a Plug Recycling

Sunday, April 26
Monday, April 27

April | Sunday 26- Monday 27 | Anything with a Plug Recycling

7:30-10:30. Drop off electronics and small home appliances in the Community Center parking lot at traffic circle next to the Chapel on Sunday, April 26. On Monday, April 27 drop off at school parking lot next to the dumpsters. No large appliances. Please check website for acceptable items: <https://www.anythingwithaplugrecycling.com/>

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. [Register here](#). Or call 919-740-7435. Experience will be held at Cathedral School, Raleigh, NC. Contact Diana Forehand, Applications@NCMarriageDiscovery.org.

May 2 | Fiat Franciscus Young Adults Retreat: Pray, Decide, Don't Worry: Discernment for Everyday Life 9:00am-2:30pm.

Searching for clarity in your life? Join other young adults to learn how to slow down, tune out the noise and learn to listen to the voice of God. Explore the rich Catholic tradition of discernment, learn practical tools for how to discern both large and small decisions in daily life. [Register here](#). Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

May 4-10 | Family Promise

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.



A Reminder to Repair What's Broken

Many of us have busy lives and do not always have a focus beyond our family's needs and our responsibilities. It isn't that people don't care, and especially at St. Francis, where we have had extraordinary community involvement since the parish's founding, but just sometimes the problems of the world can be too much. Sometimes, we just need to be reminded of how much we have and how blessed we are. These reminders come in many forms, and one was the "Love Forward Together March" in mid-February. [More](#)



L'Arche

Have you heard of L'Arche, French for 'The Ark', or heard of the L'Arche ministry we have here at St. Francis? The organization has been in existence since the 1960s and was founded as a community-based alternative for those who were different in their ability to function in society, often living in deplorable conditions. The L'Arche Charter says, "In a divided world, L'Arche wants to be a sign of hope. Its communities, founded on covenant relationships between people of differing intellectual capacity, social origin, religion and/or culture, seek to be signs of unity, faithfulness and reconciliation." [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.

May 6-April 22 | Virtual Book Study: God's Grandeur

1:00-2:00pm. Explore the complementarity of our Catholic faith with nature and science. Scientists, philosophers and theologians share insights on the cosmos, evolution, purpose of creation, the human person and more. For novices, science enthusiasts, and those who appreciate the splendor of God's creation. [Register here](#).
Contact Ron Monti, montiron@aol.com.

May 10 - Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

10:00-11:30am. Join fellow parishioners for a Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast after the 9:00 am Mass in the Fellowship Hall (10:00 -11:30 a.m.). Price: \$7.00/person or \$24.00/family (living in a household) for 3 pancakes, 3 sausages, donut, coffee, juice, etc. Event proceeds [support worthy charities](#). Contact Nick Renga, nrenga@msn.com.

May 11 | Pen Pal Ministry Meeting

7:00-8:00pm. Current and potential pen pals with those serving time on NC's death row, please join us on Monday, May 11th at 7p in the Founders room to share, support, and learn. Our goal is to provide a match for each person who has requested a pen pal. Email questions to sfapenpal@gmail.com.

May 15 | Women's Pickleball and Fellowship Night

6:30-8:30pm. Join the women of St. Francis for a fun pickleball night! All skill levels welcome. Meet at Seven Oaks Swim & Racquet Club courts (near the pool). Bring a paddle (extras available) and water. Sign up in Realm; consider bringing a snack or drink. Play at your own risk; weather-dependent event. [Register here](#). Contact kathryn.noblitt@gmail.com.

May 30 | Community Wellness Fair Saturday

8:30am-12:00pm in Fellowship Hall
Take part in our first Community Wellness Fair and discover resources to support your mind, body, and spirit. With more than 40 local vendors, this event offers practical tools, expert guidance, and supportive services for all ages.

Featured Activities & Screenings:

- Pulse Screenings
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Balance Assessments
- Long-Term Care Resources
- Technology Assistance
- Home Improvement Guidance
- Fitness Information

Join us for a morning of learning, connection, and healthy living. All are welcome! Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Camp Francis Counselors in Training | June 15-19, June 22-26, July 6-10, July 13-17, July 20-24

An opportunity for teens (rising 9th-12th grade) interested in developing leadership skills and working with children. They will work with other C.I.T.s and Camp Staff. They are to look at themselves as role models for the campers they will be working with. For information and to apply Contact Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 1-July 23 | Youth Summer Volleyball League Registration

Registration is open for Coed League for children of all skill levels - rising 3rd graders through rising 9th graders. Teams have an hour practice on Mon. or Wed. Games are held on Thurs. night. [Click here for more Information and to Register](#). Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June-July | Men's 18+ Summer Basketball League Registration

League play during June and July on weekends only. Teams will have no practice time. Registration is TEAM BASED only. Players will form their own teams and submit registration and fee as a team. Each player must also complete an Individual Player Registration. Teams will provide their own jerseys. [Register Here!](#) Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 12-14 | Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat

If you desire healing from a past abortion, you are invited to experience the love of Jesus Christ at a Project Rachel weekend retreat in the Raleigh area. It is strictly confidential, for both women and men and includes discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service, and a Mass of the Resurrection. Participation offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. For more information or to register contact Project Rachel at: project.rachel@raldioc.org or call (919) 852-1021. The website is: rachel-nc.org Cost is \$350 for lodging, meals, and all retreat materials. Discount of \$50 if you register before May, 12. Spanish and English speakers are welcome. If there is a financial burden, assistance is always available.

August 14-16 | Single, Single Again Retreat

6:00-12:00pm. Come enjoy a beach weekend of spiritual enrichment, friendship and relaxation. Our theme is "Ebb and Flow: From Challenges to Change". Location is the Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores. Contact GingerlaBelle@gmail.com. [Click here for flyer](#). [Click here for the registration form](#).

The St Francis Inn Philadelphia Ministry trips for 2026

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.

Make every day Earth Day
NOT JUST WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22
Visit the Care for Creation webpage

a marriage lifeline
RENOUVELLE
of Western Carolina
HelpOurMarriage.org

SFA Spiritual Directors

Keep your Lenten Spiritual Growth Growing!
Spiritual direction is a definitive way to continue exploring your life with Christ. SFA has three spiritual directors who will walk with you on the most important journey in the world! [Click here to learn more](#). or email Nancy at prayerfulheart3@gmail.com

TFS Kindergarten Admissions-Spots Available

We invite all parish families to apply for the 26/27 school year. Please visit franciscanschool.org to begin an application. Contact Dawn Smith, dawn.smith@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Two ordained to transitional diaconate

[Click here to read the full article and to watch the video.](#)

April 15, 2026
Diocese of Raleigh

Photos courtesy of the Diocese of Raleigh



Bishop Luis during last week's consecration with the two new Deacons right behind him. Beautiful lighting coming from above. Fr Chris and the rest of St Francis was super gracious in hosting this event.

Peace and Blessings,
Greg Mintel

Photo courtesy of Greg Mintel

Employment Opportunities:

Maintenance Tech (FT/40 hrs) Responsible for ensuring all areas of the campus are in good repair, maintaining a safe environment and professional appearance of all campus buildings. See more details here:

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

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PK-12 FAITH FORMATION
& SACRAMENTAL PREP
2026-2027**



REGISTRATION VIA REALM
IS NOW OPEN!



**FORMATION
SUMMER CAMPS**

ADVOCACY

CATHOLIC

“Ask them, tell them, to work for peace and to reject war and violence.” -Pope Leo



Pope Leo urges Catholics to contact our representatives to advocate for peace in Iran.

Contact NC Senators here

GET CONNECTED

Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities

MEDICAL PRESENCE AND SAFETY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Healthcare professionals
- Current/retired first responders
- Current/former military
- Corporate security
- Risk management
- Mental health professionals
- Anyone else interested in helping to make our parish a safer place to gather and pray.

To learn more attend an information session

April 22nd - 7:00pm, Anthony Hall room 403



Register in Realm





\$7
PER PERSON

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, May 10 | 10am
Fellowship Hall

Breakfast includes:
3 Pancakes
3 Sausages
Donuts
Coffee and Juice
\$7 per person
\$24 Family of 4 or more




Group Leader Needed

For Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregiver Support Group

We are seeking a leader to start a second monthly daytime group. Ideal candidates have a background in nursing or social work with relevant experience. Training and collaboration will be provided.

CONTACT STACEY.SHINE@STFRANCISRALEIGH.ORG




CAMP FRANCIS

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/>

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



2026 YOUTH CO-ED SUMMER VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Open to children of all skill levels in rising 3rd-9th grades.

For questions, please contact
Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org

Open play

PICKLEBALL

WITH WOMEN'S MINISTRY



FRIDAY MAY 15 **SEVEN OAKS** **6:30 TO 8:30 PM**

REGISTER IN REALM **BEGINNERS WELCOME**

PRAY, DECIDE, DON'T WORRY
DISCERNMENT FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



OUR REGISTRATION LINK IS OPEN!
MAY 2ND
9AM-2:30PM
\$20 FEE
BREAKFAST & LUNCH
WILL BE PROVIDED!

FR. LUKE RAWICKI
Chaplain of Cardinal Gibbons

MEN'S 18+ SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

SEASON RUNS JUNE-JULY WITH
GAMES ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY




REGISTER NOW!



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.



Serving With Heart, Offering Hope
SVdP helps when the lights go out.

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

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

St. Francis of Assisi
Raleigh, NC

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

Make check payable to: St. Vincent de Paul of St. Francis of Assisi

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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@stfrancisleigh.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.