



WE'VE REACHED
78.3
OF OUR GOAL
\$548,071.00

Help us reach
our GOAL today!



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

20.3% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN

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



THANK YOU
for all you do!
YOU ARE APPRECIATED
MORE THAN YOU KNOW!

[Click to view Fr. Chris' message](#)



Catholic Social Teaching Highlight: Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The Church teaches that how we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. The human person is both sacred and social and all people have a right and duty to participate in society. [Click here for more information.](#) [Click here to watch the USCCB video.](#)

This Weekend!

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

[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



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 25-26 | Join Us for Our Volunteer Celebration!

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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.

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.

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 9 | Corral Riding Academy Saturday on the Farm

9:30am -12:00pm. CORRAL Riding Academy is a faith-motivated non-profit 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! [For more information and to register click here.](#) Contact Donna.Schwede@gmail.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 13 | Generous Orthodoxy: A Call to Faithful Citizenship

7:00-8:30pm. As we prepare for the Day of Prayer for Compassionate Leaders, join us for an open-ended online conversation on what it means to pray for our leaders in a polarized world. Doug James from the Civil Discourse Ministry will lead the discussion, building on a reflection available at bit.ly/depolarizeSFA2026e. RSVP for link <https://this-is-who-we-are.org/event/generous-orthodoxy-a-call-to-faithful-citizenship/>

Reflection bitly goes to here:

<https://this-is-who-we-are.org/generous-orthodoxy-a-call-to-faithful-citizenship/>

Contact Doug James depolarizeSFA@gmail.com.

**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 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.

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.

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 9 | EM New and Refresher Training

6:30-8:00pm. Training for parishioners who desire to become a Eucharistic Minister and a refresher for existing EMs! Must be 16 years of age and confirmed. [Click here to register](#). Contact john.hajdin@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.

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.



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.

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.

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/>.

SFA Spiritual Directors

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

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



**REGISTRATION VIA REALM
IS NOW OPEN!**

Congratulations



Congratulations to Alison Dalziel and Jordan Phillips who celebrated the sacrament of marriage on 4/18/2026. May their lives always bear witness to Christ's love.

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.

QR code and text: **FORMATION
SUMMER CAMPS**

Logo for RE+ROUVAILLE of Western Carolina with a cross and the text "a marriage lifeline" and "HelpOurMarriage.org".

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

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.

\$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




Carry your own cups, utensils, straws, grocery bags and lunch containers




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
Chaplin of Cardinal Gibbons



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/>



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



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

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

Scams are on the rise



Please remain vigilant

Emails not sent from our official parish email address ending in "@stfrancisraleigh.org", should be considered fraudulent. Clergy and staff will NEVER ask you for favors or money. This includes email, text messages, and voice mail. ALWAYS check with the parish office when in doubt. NEVER click on a link, or respond to any request unless you have checked the validity of the message. If you receive scam email please forward them to Ryan.Edwards@stfrancisraleigh.org. He will block them.



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

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

Serve Learn Donate

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

Open play

PICKLEBALL

WITH WOMEN'S MINISTRY



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

REGISTER IN REALM BEGINNERS WELCOME

A Wonderful Team



*On a sunlit day, beneath a gentle sky,
St. Francis staff gathered and sat side by side.
From many ministries, hearts joined as one,
Sharing a picnic, simple joy, and fun.
We love the work that fills each day with grace,
We love our parish and each familiar face.
Grateful for clergy who guide and inspire,
With faith and devotion that lift us higher.
To all our parishioners we would like to say
Thank you and may you be blessed this day.*

Join the online SFA Social Network



News by parishioners, for parishioners
There is no cost to join. Must be 18+ years of age.
A safe 100% spam-free and toxic free environment
- by invitation only... *this is your invitation!*

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin

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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.