



WE'VE REACHED
80.5
 OF OUR GOAL
 \$548,071.00

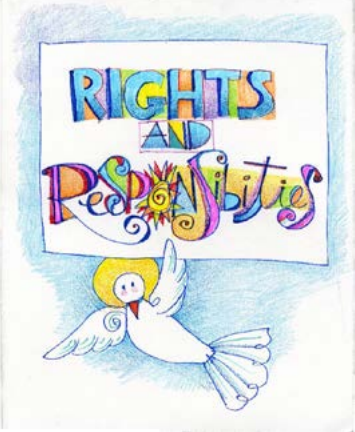
Help us reach
 our GOAL today!



BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL
 DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

20.9% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN

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

Catholic Social Teaching Highlight: Rights and Responsibilities The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Every person has a fundamental right to life and a responsibility to speak out when systems and situations do not. [Click here for more information.](#)
[Click here to watch the USCCB video.](#)




Community WELLNESS FAIR
 Saturday, May 30, 2026
 8:30am - 12:00pm
 Fellowship Hall



Get Free Screenings & Information

- Pulse
- Blood pressure
- Balance
- Home Improvements
- Long Term Care
- Tech Information
- Fitness

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](#)
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Connecting Parishioners to Events and Volunteer Opportunities

The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi - 11401 Leesville Rd - NC 27613 - Tel: 919-847-8205





800th Anniversary

2026 FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE

St. Francis Jubilee

Welcome to a sacred year of reflection, renewal, and joyful celebration as we honor the Jubilee Year of Saint Francis of Assisi. Rooted in the spirit of humility, peace, and deep reverence for all creation, this Jubilee invites our community to rediscover the timeless wisdom of St. Francis and live more intentionally in harmony with God, one another, and the world around us.

Throughout this year, we will come together as a community in prayer, service, and celebration, embracing the Franciscan call to simplicity, compassion, and care for all living things.

Information & Events

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 2/3 | Curbside Care Ministry Care Packages

Our Curbside Care Ministry provides care packages you can keep in your car to hand out when needed. Pickup from the Welcome Center the first full weekend each month. Donate supplies or volunteer with this ministry at St. Francis Serves. Contact Alyson Zwerneman alysonzwerneman@gmail.com.

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. Event information <https://this-is-who-we-are.org/event/generous-orthodoxy-a-call-to-faithful-citizenship/> Contact Doug James depolarizeSFA@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. <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/wellnessfair/>

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.

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](#).



Seek And You Will Find

As the cofounders of the JobWorks Ministry, Paul Dean and Dana Gower, say, "Today's workforce is undergoing unprecedented disruption. Job loss, career pivots, and uncertainty are increasingly common due to restructuring, artificial intelligence, and automation. The average worker now changes jobs every 3-5 years, yet most people find themselves unprepared with the strategies, tools, or networks needed to navigate these transitions effectively." Both men are longtime Catholics in the Diocese of Raleigh and felt a calling to use their expertise to help those in need. [More](#)



Care for Creation

Laudato Si' is Pope Francis' landmark encyclical issued in 2015 on the care for the Earth and all creation as part of God's plan for the world. As a follow-up to that letter, in 2021 Pope Francis encouraged everyone to develop an action plan to implement the points of his encyclical. Fortunately, here at St. Francis, the Care for Creation Ministry is pushing for just such an action plan. [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 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

Congratulations



Congratulations to Ashley Ames and Gregory Battschinger who celebrated the sacrament of marriage on 4/25/2026. May their lives always bear witness to Christ's love.

\$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

SFA Care for Creation



Feed the Need The Caring Cuisine fridge is nearly empty and desperately in need of side dishes, (rice, potato, vegetable) and main dishes (meatloaf, soups, pastas) gluten free options are particularly needed. For more info on Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles links below.

Feed the Need

https://stfrancisraleigh.galaxydigital.com/need/?s=1&need_init_id=8135

Caring Cuisine

<https://stfrancisraleigh.galaxydigital.com/ministries/caring-casseroles/>

Contact Celesta Carlson, feedtheneedsfa@gmail.com.



St. Francis of Assisi
Raleigh, NC

Serving With Heart, Offering Hope

A helping hand in a time of transition

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



May Crowning

Click to listen to Fr. Chris' homily of May 1

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

TFS Kindergarten Admissions-Spots Available

THE FRANCISCAN SCHOOL
— FAITH - ACADEMICS - SERVICE —

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.

THE LAUDATO SI' GOALS

In 2015 Pope Francis urges us to care for our common home in Laudato Si

See the 7 themes of that encyclical here: laudatosiactionplatform.org/laudato-si-goals/

Eucharistic Minister Training (For New Candidates or as a Refresher)

Tuesday, June 9th, 6:30pm-7:45pm

Training will take place in the church. Please sign up to attend on Realm.

Sign up on Realm or for more information.

Contact: John.Hajdin@stfrancisraleigh.org

GENEROUS ORTHODOXY: A CALL TO FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Monday, May 13
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

What does it mean to pray for our leaders in a polarized world?

Open play

PICKLEBALL

WITH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

FRIDAY
MAY 15

SEVEN
OAKS

6:30 TO
8:30 PM

REGISTER IN REALM BEGINNERS WELCOME

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

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/>

FORMATION SUMMER CAMPS



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

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

REGISTRATION VIA REALM
IS NOW OPEN!

MEN'S 18+SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

SEASON RUNS JUNE-JULY WITH
GAMES ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY

REGISTER NOW!

St. Francis Volunteer Celebration

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!





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

Join the online SFA Social Network

**Click to
Join**



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!*

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Diogenes Ruiz
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Licensed NC Realtor
diogenesruiz@live.com



James W. Patella
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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.