



WE'VE REACHED
99.3%
OF OUR GOAL
\$548,071.00

Help us reach
our GOAL today!



**BISHOP'S
ANNUAL APPEAL**
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

28.1% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN
Last Week's Totals



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*Help Us Cross the BAA Finish Line
Only \$4,052 to go.*

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FIRST SATURDAY
COMMUNION
SERVICE

September 5
9 am in the Chapel

This Weekend!



JOIN OUR TEAM

Altar Server → Training

Sunday, August 30th at 1pm
in the Church

Altar Server Training is available for Rising 5th graders through High School, who have received their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

 Shannon.Hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org

A click away  If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at www.stfrancisraleigh.org.

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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



Deacon Stephen Andrews
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Thomas Costello
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Frank Bandy
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Phil Rzewnicki, OFS
Permanent Deacon

Aug 16-30 | Prayer Shawl Ministry If a shawl, lap robe or childrens' blanket is needed for someone in need of comfort, it is available through the Prayer Shawl Ministry. These are prayed over, a cross sewn on, blessed, and a card inserted. It could be for a serious illness, home-bound, hospital, nursing homes, etc. Many who have received one said to feel the love of God in it when they put one on. Contact Cindy Cardello at cjcardello@yahoo.com or Diane Rotuno at dlmrotunno@gmail.com.

August 29-30 | You Can Vote

A representative from You Can Vote will be available in the Welcome Center following Mass with voter registration and information. "We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a civilization of truth and love." (USC-CB, Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship). Contact Mary Ellen McGuire, Maryellen.Mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

August 30 | Altar Server Training 1:00-2:30pm. Altar Server Training is available for Rising 5th graders through High School, who have received their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Contact Shannon Hoffman shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Co-ed Fall Youth Basketball Skills Clinic 8/30, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27 & 10/11. This clinic is designed for players to work on dribbling, passing, rebounding, shooting and defensive drills with Triple Threat Triumph. 1st Grade -4th Grade: 1:30-2:30 / 5th Grade -8th Grade: 2:35-3:35 Cost is \$23.00 for each session/ All dates \$105.00 Click here for more information and to register. Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 1 | EM New and Refresher Training

6:30-8:00pm. At this training you will learn the process of becoming a Eucharistic Minister. Anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister must be: Members of St Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Confirmed, 16 years of age or older. Contact John.Hajdin@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 1 | New Care of Creation Mass!

12:10pm. Attend the Season of Creation mass at Sacred Heart Church, 200 Hillsborough St., Raleigh celebrated by Monsignor David Brockman to honor The World Day of Prayer for Creation, and marking the beginning of the ecumenical Season of Creation, September 1 - October 4. Contact Pat & Paul Kelly, mpmkelly@hotmail.com.

September 5 | First Saturday Communion Service

9:00-9:30am. First Saturday Communion Service followed by devotion to our Blessed Mother. Contact Lori Zagiba, lorizagiba@gmail.com.

September 8 | Level C - Safe Environment Training

10:00am. We will be hosting a Level C Safe Environment Certification Training, on Tuesday, September 8th at 10am in Founders Room. [Please use this link to register today!](#) Contact Shannon Hoffman, shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 8 - December 15 | DivorceCare Fall Series

6:30-8:00pm. You don't have to face separation or divorce alone. DivorceCare is a safe, caring group where you'll find understanding people, emotional support, and practical tools to help you heal and move forward with hope. [Click here for more information and to register.](#) Contact Bill Morgan, dejanuts@yahoo.com.



September 9 | St Vincent de Paul Dental Clinic

The Dental Clinic is in formation and in need of a Web Developer to set up its website. If you are interested in either of these positions, contact Deacon Steve at 732-213-0104 or StephenWAndrews@outlook.com.

September 15 - December 22 | The Chosen- Seasons 3&4

Viewing 9:45-11:15am. Please join us on Tuesday mornings in the Padua Room of the Community Center beginning September 8 to view seasons 3 and 4 of The Chosen — "a groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus, seen through the eyes of those who knew him." Contact: Tina Morgan tandmmorgan@earthlink.net.

September 14 | St Francis Youth Basketball League

Registration Deadline St. Francis Youth Basketball League Registration Join us for the 36th season of the St Francis Youth Basketball League. This program is open to girls and boys grades 1 thru 8. Registration is NOW! Regular **Registration ends Sept. 14** and **late registration runs thru Oct 6**. Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org. [Register here.](#)

September 14 | Pen Pal Ministry Meeting

7:00-8:30pm. Interested in making a big difference to one person on your own schedule? Join the Pen Pal Ministry on Sept 14 at 7:00pm in the Founders Room to learn about our ministry and how our ministers write or text their pen pals on NC's Death Row using a secure app. Contact Catherine Maher, sfapenpal@gmail.com.

September 14-20 | CPO 18th Annual H2O for Hunger Challenge

For one week you can drink tap water instead of your preferred beverage. Send your savings to CPO to feed the hungry in your community. OR you can just contribute any amount to help the food insecure in our community. Every dollar given will be matched by CPO Friends. For more information, go to www.cporaleigh.org or call 919-873-0245. Catholic Parish Outreach, 2013 Raleigh Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27604 \$55 feeds a family for a week. CPO served enough food to feed more than 143,000 people last year a week or more of nutritious food. Contact Kelli Rappi, www.cporaleigh.org. [See flyer.](#)

Sept. 15-Oct 27 | Grief's Journey-Coping with Loss

10:30am-12:00pm. A Seven week series offering hope following the loss of a loved one through death. A safe place to share your journey and to learn from others. Intended for those who are three months or more after a death of their loved one. Meet in Anthony Hall Conference Room. [Register here.](#) Contact Dina DaRe, dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.

September 17 | Women's Ministry: Light Up the Night Craft & Social

6:30pm. "Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16 Bring your friend and your creative spirit for a night of fun, and leave with a beautiful pressed flower lantern. We will gather and learn techniques to turn flowers and mason jars into a beautiful light. Founders room. Cost:\$15 for materials. Contact Rosemary Czejkowski, sfawomensministry@gmail.com. [Register.](#)

September 19 | Housing for All Assembly

1:00pm. Are you concerned about the cost of housing in Wake County? Come, be present with SFA parishioners and other churches in this ONE Wake interfaith effort to share our concern with county and city leaders. Scripture teaches that care for the poor is an essential part of Christian discipleship and Church affirms housing as a fundamental human right. This is our faith in action and your presence speaks volumes. Contact Nancy Dilger, ndilger3@gmail.com. [Register here.](#) [Download flyer.](#)

September 19-20 "Try-It" Weekend

The Better Cleaning Products project lets parishioners try four simple, homemade cleaners from inexpensive, safe, accessible ingredients. They contain no harmful VOCs, are safer for aquatic life, and cost less than commercial cleaners. Participants may complete an optional survey to share experiences and help determine whether the program should continue. Contact Rosemary Herhold, rosemary.herhold@gmail.com.

September 21 | Franciscan Values In Action (VIA)

6:00pm. A new program to continue the parish's outreach while showing how that outreach impacts our faith. It is called 'Franciscan Values in Action', or VIA. [Register here](#). Contact Mary Ellen McGuire, maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Virtual Bible Study - Paul's Letter to the Romans Join us for 7 weeks as we break open the rich treasury of Paul's letters and come to a fuller understanding of the life-changing reality of the death and resurrection of Jesus. In this study, discover what Paul has to say about the themes that are most essential to Christian life: faith, salvation, relationships, and community. **Registration closes September 14** or when at capacity of 25 participants. This study is on Zoom and the Zoom link will be sent to you prior to the first meeting. Please purchase the book from Liturgical Press when you register. Facilitators: Barbara Efird, Cindy Cardello and Diane Rosendahl.

[Tuesday September 22nd at 7:00 pm.](#)

[Wednesday September 23rd at 10:00 am.](#)

September 23 | Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

6:30pm. Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church? Do you have a desire to complete your Sacraments? Let the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults walk with you on your journey of faith. Classes will begin September 23! Contact Felipe Mendez, mendezman68@gmail.com.

September 24 - April 15 | Women's Ministry: Walking with Purpose Bible Study

7:00-8:30pm. Feeling overwhelmed by life's demands and unrealistic expectations? "Keeping in Balance" is a biblical study exploring Old and New Testament wisdom to help you manage pace and pressure. Learn to prioritize God, set healthy boundaries, and find calm, steadiness, and a lifestyle of health and holiness amidst daily challenges. [Register here](#). Contact Julia Snyder snyderjules5720@gmail.com.

FrancisFest 2026

October 4th 12:45-4:30pm



- Food Trucks
- Youth Activities
- Live Music
- Franciscan Tasting Room
- Inflatables

October 4 | FrancisFest

Join us on Sunday October 4th from 12:45-4:30pm to celebrate our parish at FrancisFest 2026. More Details to come!

Contact Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.



Values in Action

Ever since the Franciscan beginnings of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, under the leadership of David McBriar, we have been committed to service; service directed toward the entire Raleigh community. Many years ago, when the Friars took over and held the first meeting of the Social Concerns Committee, Father David, then pastor, asked, "What does the city need, and how can we help?" At that meeting, the committee decided to tithe 10% of the weekly offertory for those in need in the area. [More](#)



Blood Drive

"Ready to help save a life?" That is the tagline on the American Red Cross blood donation page, and it is no exaggeration. One of the easiest ways to be an everyday hero and impact lives, especially with such a small sacrifice of your time, is to donate blood. You can make a life-saving impact, and the Knights of Columbus All Saints Council 9709 at St. Francis is here to make it even more convenient. [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.

October 7 | Walking with Purpose Bible Study: Seven Habits that Make Life Work 10:00am-12:00pm. God wants us to experience the joy that comes from focusing on what matters most to Him. Are you ready to discover what matters most in life and how to prioritize things? If you want to create an abundant life that you enjoy and don't need to escape, join us! [Register here](#). Contact Jeanette Cottone jyc1@msn.com.

October 16 | NC State Fair Peace Booth

9:00am-3:00pm. The Peace Booth is a visible presence at the North Carolina State Fair that lets fairgoers know that there are viable alternatives to the militarism and violence that are so pervasive in the world. If you would like to represent our parish during this time slot, free tix! Contact Mary Ellen McGuire maryellen.mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.

October 17 | Franciscan Spirit and Life Convocation

8:30am-2:00pm. Join us on for a day of inspiration, learning, and fellowship. Fr. George Corrigan, will present "Mission in the 3rd Millennium: A Franciscan Perspective – The Journey So Far and the Journey Ahead," exploring how the Franciscan charism continues to shape the Church's mission in today's world. [Register here](#). Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Oct 19 - 23 | The St Francis Inn Philadelphia Ministry Trips for 2026

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.

October 25-27 | Elevated Parish Mission | What Are You Searching For?

6:30-8:30m - Everyone is searching for something—purpose, peace, hope, healing, or a deeper relationship with God. Join us October 25-27 for the Elevated Parish Mission, a three-night parish-wide experience designed to help you encounter the transforming love of Jesus Christ and discover the joy of living as His disciple.

[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

Brown Bag Ministry

Help Feed Durham Seniors – Volunteer with Brown Bag Ministry! We need volunteers to prepare bag lunches for seniors in two Durham apartment complexes on 8 Saturdays in August and September. These meals—sandwiches, fruit, snacks, and dessert—are delivered every other week and make a real difference. [Sign up here](#).

Catholic Parish Outreach (CPO) Volunteers Needed

Volunteers Needed Two ways to help (1) distribute bags after Mass on weekend of Sept. 5/6 or (2) Collect donated items/load truck weekends of Sept. 12/13 & 19/20. See links for details.

[Bag Distribution Volunteer Sign-Up](#) / [Donation Collection Volunteer](#)

Contact Anne-Marie Summers summers51984@gmail.com.

Employment Opportunities:

- After School Care Staff (Part-time)
- Assistant Principal (Full-time)

See more details here: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>.



The Chosen

SEASON 3

8 Episodes

SEASON 4

8 Episodes

September 15 - December 22 | The Chosen- Seasons 3 and 4 Viewing 9:45-11:15am (see page 2)

Walking with
Moms in Need



Supporting pregnant and
parenting mothers in our
community.



Join our Realm group to
learn more
and receive requests for
baby items and basic needs.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS

Saturday, Sept. 26th
8am-2pm
Fellowship Hall

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



give blood, give life

LEVEL C SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING



Join us on Tuesday, September 8th at 10am for an in person Level C Training.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
SHANNON.HOFFMAN@STFRANCISRALEIGH.ORG



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



REGISTRATION VIA REALM
IS NOW OPEN!



Keeping the lights on during a cancer journey

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

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



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 Colette Dziadul, Colette.Dziadul@stfrancisraleigh.org.

So many ways to support Habitat!



People of faith have been supporting Habitat since our founding more than 40 years ago. We share a prophetic call to serve those in need of safe, equitable affordable housing. We would not have been able to serve the more than 1,000 families with new homes or supported 700 additional families with repairs, without your support! [See full article.](#)



ONE WAKE
Affordable Housing Accountability Action

	Increase budget from \$30 million to \$70 million	Tour Nehemiah with ONE Wake	Identify 100 acres of public land for affordable housing with ONE	Attend ONE Wake accountability action in 2025
Janet Cowell Mayor				
Johnathan Lambert-Melton At-Large				
Mitchell Silver District A				
Megan				

Click here to view the message from Paul Williams

September 19 | Housing for All Assembly

See page 2



Calling Creative Members of our Parish

You are invited to participate in this unique exhibit of parishioner created art in celebration of St. Francis' 800th Anniversary. It's easy:

1. Sign up at <https://form.jotform.com/SFa11401z/800Jubilee>
2. Submit your work by the **Monday August 31** deadline.
3. Transmit electronically or deliver your work to Diogenes Ruiz's office in Clare Hall
(If you are submitting electronically put "800 Jubilee Art" in the subject line.)

Questions and submission: diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Join the online SFA Social Network



CLICK HERE
to Send a request to join.
Put "JOIN SOCIAL"
in the subject line.
You will then receive the link.

Connect with fellow parishioners - a safe place to interact. No spam, or annoying advertisements. All are welcome. Share your interest such as writing, photos, books, music, art, etc with like-minded individuals. Contribute to the Faith blog and/or the General blog - tell us about yourself. Join us!

If you have questions, please contact
diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org

Advertise in the Parish Bulletin



Fresh, healthy Lebanese Mediterranean food.
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Phil Thalheimer, Parishioner

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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.