



Thank You!

WE'VE REACHED
100%
OF OUR GOAL
\$548,071.00

**We Did It:
Congratulations to
everyone who
contributed!!!**

B+A BISHOP'S
ANNUAL APPEAL
DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

24.7% OF FAMILIES HAVE GIVEN

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



WHAT ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR?

Everyone is searching for something — Purpose, Peace,
Hope, Healing, or a Deeper relationship with God.

Join us for the Elevated Parish Mission
October 25, 26, & 27



→ Main Church
Meeting Rooms
← Fellowship Hall
↑ Preschool

[Click to view](#)

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

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[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



Deacon Stephen Andrews
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Thomas Costello
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Frank Bandy
Deacon In Residence



Deacon Phil Rzewnicki, OFS
Permanent Deacon

September 5/6 | 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.

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 10 | JobWorks Career Ministry: Intentional Career Planning: From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be

10:30am-12:30pm. Join JobWorks Career Ministry and guest speaker Russell W. Scott for "Intentional Career Planning, From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be." This interactive session, you'll cut through the noise, get clear on what you want, and walk away with a next step for moving your career forward. Location: St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, 625 Magdala Pl, Apex, NC 27502. [RSVP here.](#) Contact Paul Dean, vpauldean@gmail.com.

September 12 | Corral Riding Academy Saturday on the Farm

9:00am-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! [Registration](#) Contact Donna Schwede donna.schwede@gmail.com.

September 12/13 & 19/20 | CPO 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 Anne-Marie Summers

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.

Co-ed Fall Youth Basketball Skills Clinic 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 13 | Young Adult Cookout with Fiat Franciscus

1:00-3:00pm. Join Fiat Franciscus for a Young Adult Cookout in the Fellowship Hall! Enjoy food and fellowship while meeting other young adults in our parish. Bring a side dish and a lawn game to share. Main dishes will be provided, and families and children are welcome. Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

September 13 | Always God's Children 3:30-5:00pm.

A confidential setting for members of the LGBTQ+ community, plus their parents, grandparents and friends. This meeting provides a safe place to pray and share our experiences together in relation to our Catholic faith. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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.](#)

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.

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 17 | Life In The Spirit Seminar 7:00-8:30pm.

Lord of the Harvest Healing Ministry invites you to attend a Life In The Spirit multi-week seminar to help you experience God's love through the power of Holy Spirit. Every Thursday evening for six weeks. Open to people of all levels of faith within the diocese. St Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church. For details contact Maureen Costello sentout72@gmail.com. [More...](#)

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 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 20 | 2026 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge

2:00pm. Boys and Girls ages 9-14 are invited to compete at the local level. Competitors will demonstrate their skill at penalty kicks, and winners will have the opportunity to progress through future higher-level contests. Parents and guardians, please [Click here to Sign up!](#) James Hoose, jameshoose02@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.](#)

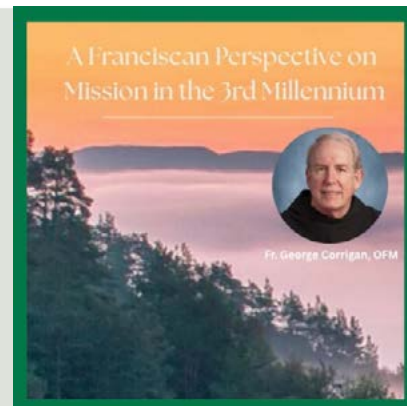
September 23 | Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

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.

September 27 Care for Creation

A recycling adult formation event that between the 9:00 and 11:45 Masses.



A Franciscan Perspective on Mission in the 3rd Millennium

Since Jesus and the Apostles, the Church has been "on mission." It was true then and remains true today. It is the purpose of the Church, perhaps best said by Pope Francis: To the extent the Church is missionary, she becomes "church." In this present age the Church has expressed this divine mission and self-understanding in various documents, describes herself as: "missionary by its very nature" (AG 2), missionary in her "deepest identity" (EN 14), missionary in that it is part of... [More](#)



Crop Walk

The 'CROP Hunger Walk' takes place every October in our area to support people struggling with hunger worldwide. These community-based fundraising events support Church World Service's global mission to advance just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Of the funds raised during a CROP Hunger Walk, 25% is returned to the host community to support local efforts to fight hunger. [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.

September 26 | American Red Cross Fall Blood Drive

8:00am-2:00pm. Please join the Knights in Fellowship Hall to support the American Red Cross and our larger Raleigh community through your gift of life. Please sign up for an appointment at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> searching sponsor code 'stfrancis'. Walk-ins are also welcomed. Never attended before? [Watch the video of last year's event](#). Contact Chris Miranda cmiranda0711@gmail.com.

October 3 | 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.

October 3 | Transitus Service | Chapel

7:00pm. Join us for our Transitus Service as we prayerfully commemorate the passing of St. Francis of Assisi from this life to his heavenly home. Through prayer, candlelight, music, and the Word, we will reflect on the final moments of our patron saint on the vigil of his death. Contact Jim Wahl Jim.wahl@stfrancisraleigh.org.

October 3 | Blessing of the Animals

10:00am. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly friends for the Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 3, at 10:00am in the TFS Courtyard, rain or shine. Join us as we honor St. Francis of Assisi and celebrate the gift of God's creatures. All are welcome! Contact Shannon Hoffman, shannon.hoffman@stfrancisraleigh.org.

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.

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 10 | World Day Against The Death Penalty

10:30-11:30am. Death Penalty Abolitionists: Join CANC outside Central Prison, at 10:30am, protesting the death penalty in NC, standing in solidarity with the 122 men & women on death row, and praying for the 43 who were executed between 1984 and the last execution in 2006. NC doesn't need the death penalty! [Register](#). Contact Nancy J Jones director@catholicsforabolitionnc.org.

October 12-18 | 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.

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.

October 18 | Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Respect

Sun, 10:15-11:15am, Founders Room. A presentation on the latest version of the [U.S. Catholic bishops' letter](#) on political engagement and voting. We'll walk through the bishops' wise, nuanced counsel on how to navigate the messiness we face during this important but polarizing election season. Contact Doug James, depolarizeSFA@gmail.com.

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](#).

October 25 | Greater Triangle Area CROP Hunger Walk

2:00-4:00pm. Our Franciscan spirit calls us to care for the poor and marginalized. Join the St. Francis of Assisi Community Team to support just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster both locally and around the globe. Family Friendly! [Register today](#) to walk, donate, or both. Contact Mary Ellen McGuire Maryellen.Mcguire@stfrancisraleigh.org.



800th Anniversary
2026 FRANCISCAN PILGRIMAGE

St. Francis Jubilee Art Exhibit

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 **Deadline extended to September 14.**
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.

YOUNG ADULT COOKOUT WITH FIAT FRANCISCUS

SEPT 13 1-3PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Bring a side and lawn game to share, and meet other young adults in our church! We will provide the mains! Family + kids are always welcome!

Contact Michelle Kaiser with any questions!
mmk4894@yahoo.com



Turn Off Outdoor Lights Help Migrating Birds Find Their Way



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS

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

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



give blood, give life

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)



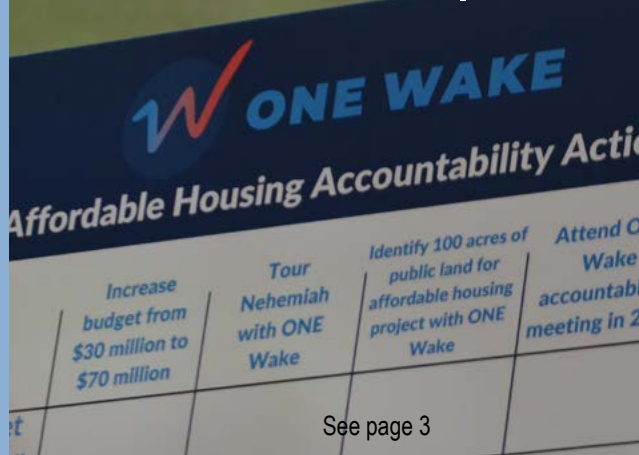
LEVEL C SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING



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

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

September 19 | Housing for All Assembly



Click here to view the message from Paul Williams



See page 3

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

U.S. bishops' letter on politics and voting

"...a better kind of politics..." Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*

Sun, Oct 18, 2026, 10:15-11:15am, Founders Room

More info: depolarizeSFA@gmail.com



Download letter

"Catholic Social Teaching bisects our current party structure...No [party] encapsulates even the bulk of what the Church calls us to be..." Cardinal Robert McElroy.



THE USCCB COLLECTION

FORMING CONSCIENCES for FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

A Call to Political Responsibility from the
Catholic Bishops of the United States,
with New Introductory Note

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS



Living Water Season of Creation 2026

Care for Creation/recycling adult formation event
Sept 27 between the 9:00 and 11:45 Masses.

Greater Triangle Area

CROP HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 25, 2026



JOIN THE SFA TEAM TO WALK OR GIVE

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

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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.