

From the Pastor's Desk

This past week I read in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 8:26—40) how God worked through the apostle Phillip to convert a court official and who then asked to be baptized. Phillip's influence on that court official had a major impact on his life. I found myself asking myself who have

been the "Phillips" in my life? Who have been the individuals who have influenced me and impacted my life? In light of this reflection I saw an obituary in the N.Y. Times that caught my eye. The obituary was about Robert Palladino who was a former Trappist monk and a skilled calligrapher. After leaving the monastery, Palladino taught calligraphy and typography at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. To his students he brought a world of elegant scholarship and quiet contemplation.

In 1972, Prof. Palladino's work had a powerful impact on one student in particular. The student had dropped out of school for economic reasons, but audited the calligraphy class. The student absorbed everything Prof. Palladino said about the design and execution of letters. The student was Steve Jobs. When Jobs and company designed the first Macintosh computer, they included the principles of typography that Jobs had learned from Palladino. Steve Jobs often said that had he not met Robert Palladino, Apple computers would not have the level of professionally-designed fonts and graphics that Apple computers are known for.

Prof. Palladino, who died on February 26, 2016 at the age of 83, said little about the influence he had on Apple. Though he had a major influence on Jobs, the converse cannot be said. To the end of his life, Prof. Palladino never owned, or even used, a computer. "I have my hand and I have my pen. That's it." A gifted young technical visionary encountered a master of the ancient art of calligraphy and their meeting led to a revolution in the written word.

When you think about it throughout our lives, we are blessed with parents, teachers, mentors and coaches who helped us to understand how life works. They generously shared the experience of their own struggles, mistakes and catastrophes so that we have an easier time in getting on with our own lives.

So who have been the "Phillips" you have met who have helped you see God's presence in your life? Who have been the Robert Palladinos who have challenged you to do good and meaningful things despite your own fears and misgivings? Let us take a moment this week to identify them and thank God for them. If they are still alive reach out to them and tell them how they made a difference in your life. Another great way to give thanks for them is by resolving to be a Prof. Palladino for some other Steve Jobs, showing them, by your own struggles and victories, how this gift of life works.

Phillip brought the court official to the Lord by reaching out to him. Do you know someone who has left the Church and who is no longer going to mass that you could reach out to and invite to "Come Back Home"? Someone for whom you could be Phillip for? We are offering the **Come Back Home program on three consecutive Tuesday nights beginning on May 3rd**. It is a great program but I need your help!! I need you to reach out to that family member or friend who have left the Church and encourage them to attend and so that we can repair any damage done by the Church or heal any hurt they may have experienced. For information on the program, please contact me or Joe Mitcho at jfmitcho44@gmail.com.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Mary Hayden; Kurt Nagel; Annelies Gendron; Bruce Meisner, Col. U.S, Army Retired; Thomas DeBack; Donna Smiley; and Hudson Beck.

And for those recently deceased: Michael Creegan (Husband of Otella Creegan).

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Tyler Jones, Bo Bosak, Joseph Sheridan, Ian French, Jeffrey Miller, Jeffrey Monken, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

This weekend is a joyous occasion here at St. Francis.

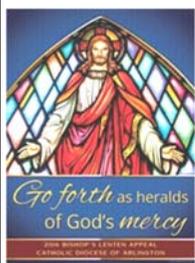
We have commissioned 11 wonderful and dedicated people into the call of Stephen Ministry. After 50+ hours of training, retreats, role playing, prayer, scripture, and community, these fantastically gifted people are ready to rightfully take their place among us in our St. Francis community as Stephen Ministers. They are very much needed as our ministry grows. Please welcome...



Angel Arroyo
Blair Dolinger
Jan Floom
Ron Lipscomb
Angelica Salguero
Hector Salguero

Josephine Selepak
Patty Swanson
Elisabeth Tefft
Jerri Teodosio
Barbara Yates

On behalf of all the Stephen Ministers and Friars we welcome you and wish all of you endless blessings.



2016 Bishop's Lenten Appeal **Go forth as heralds of God's mercy**

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is in full swing and we are asking **every household** in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able. *We are at 83% of our goal.* We are almost there. **The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and further Jesus' Mission in our diocese.** During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, let's join together to do the Lord's work—works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people in our diocese. Thank you!



The Easter flowers were donated in memory of the following:

Gaston and Zelmira Gianni.

St. Francis House Corner

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **70** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need We are in need of:

- Canned Fruit
- Hamburger Helper
- Peanut Butter and Jelly

For more information, please call Francia at 703-221-6344. Thank you for your continuing support.



Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francis—gradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **70** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **Hamburger Helper y Fruta En Latas. Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la Señora Salguero al 703-2221-6344.**

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán las siguientes fechas:

- Viernes, abril 15
- Viernes, mayo 20
- Viernes, Junio 17

Las charlas bautismales son a las 7:00pm en la librería de la escuela. Para más información por favor llamar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.

¿Necesita ayuda para completar su aplicación de ciudadanía? Caridades Católicas (Catholic Charities) Hogar Servicio para Inmigrantes (Hogar Immigrant Services) será el anfitrión de un taller de la ciudadanía el 23 de abril en St. Paul United Methodist Church-1400 G Street, Woodbridge VA 22191. La inscripción será desde las 10:00am hasta la 1:00pm. Por favor llame a [571-208-1572](tel:571-208-1572) para preguntas o más información sobre qué documentos debe traer. Habrá un cargo de \$120 para una consulta con un abogado, ayuda con su aplicación de ciudadanía y fotografías. Vamos aceptar efectivo o tarjeta de crédito.

LUNCH BUNCH



All 55+ please join our April Lunch Bunch on **Thursday, April 21st at 12:30 in the St. Catherine Room.** Please bring a brown bag lunch and all other refreshments will be provided. We will be planting herb and spring flower seeds and planning our spring trip and brain storming for next fall. For further

information, please contact **Becky Traver at Tandovi@aol.com or 540-699-2175.** See you there!!

Social Justice: Franciscan Action and Advocacy (FA&A)

May FA&A meetings: Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting on **Wednesday, May 11th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom.** Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st, at 11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room.** Our **Care for Creation Committee** (focused on environmental work/integral ecology) is meeting on **Sunday, May 22nd, at 9 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room.** Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st, at 9:30 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room.** (FAAC meetings are only open to council members. Parishioners are encouraged, however, to submit questions or ideas for FAAC discussion or consideration.) **V.O.I.C.E.** will meet here to discuss community issues on **Sunday, May 1st, at 10 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room.**

A **Project Rachel healing retreat** is a safe place to renew and rebuild hearts broken from abortion. It offers a confidential environment, where one can begin the process of healing. For more information and to register for the one scheduled for **April 29th–May 1st,** email: info@helpafterabortion.org, visit: www.helpafterabortion.org or call: (888) 456-HOPE (4673). Registration deadline is **April 25th.** Space is limited.

Poverty is sexist! To learn more, visit <http://goo.gl/9Jv3U5>.

For more information on any of the above and/or to get involved in justice/advocacy, please visit the FA&A section on the parish website (<http://www.stfrncis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at rgoraieb@stfrncis.org or 703-221-3127, ext. 228.

There will be a session of Cyber Seniors on April 21st in the Br. Juniper Room from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Attendance at a previous session is NOT required. These are **entry level sessions** designed for seniors who want to become more comfortable with the electronic devices that are now part of all our lives. No prior computer experience or vocabulary required! If you have questions, please contact **Sharon at bbsle21@gmail.com or Jeanne at jcmitcho45@gmail.com.**



If you are moving/changing your address, please notify the office so we can keep our records up-to-date. If you are changing your phone number because you are using a cellular phone and/or forgoing your land phone, the office would also like that information. Please call us at 703-221-4044. Thank you.

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Religious Education Calendar

Apr. 17 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
21 Thursday RE Session
24 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
28 Thursday RE Session

Important Dates—Confirmation 2016

Thursday, May 19th (6:30pm or 8:00pm)—Confirmation Rehearsal

- 6:30pm—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 8:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Saturday, May 21st (10:00am or 2:00pm)—Confirmation

- 10:00am—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 2:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

This weekend (April 16th and 17th) we will host Project Bread for Life, a grassroots Catholic effort which sells bread in order to raise money to support the work of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God religious community. The Sisters are located in Africa near Uganda and provide medical assistance and literacy training to the local community. **The bread is delivered to us fresh from a bakery in New Jersey and it is delicious! Thank you for supporting this worthy and wonderful program.**



VBS Save the Date!!
VBS is June 20th -24th!

Many volunteers are needed to make this a great week! Please contact **Sharon Gardner** for

information gardners.vbs@gmail.com.

Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, May 8, 2016 from 1:30p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**

Votive Candles—Envelopes are provided for the candle money. **Please place them in the Catch-All slot located in the vestibule of the church.**



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Mary Kate Vasquez, DMD
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction Ticket Sales

The St. Francis of Assisi School PTO will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 30th immediately following 5:30 pm Mass. All parishioners are invited to attend this family friendly event. **Tickets will be on sale April 16th-17th and April 23rd-24th after each Mass.** Checks, cash or Facts payments will be accepted. Tables for 8 people may be purchased for \$70. Individual ticket prices are as follows: \$10 for 12 years and up, \$6 for children 3-11. Please stop by the displays in the church vestibule for additional information.



ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP—Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 7:30PM in Parish Center Library**—Our topic will be *"Resisting the Destructive Political Culture"*. An article on this topic by Russ Testa of the Holy Name Province Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Office. This article is available at the following link: <https://www.hnp.org/signs-times-resisting-destructive-political-culture/>

All men of the parish are welcome. **For more information please contact Tony Mercogliano at amercogliano@gmail.com or 571-332-7048.**

St. Francis of Assisi Girl Scout Troop 2979 is hosting the "Rock the Ages" Father/Daughter Dance at the **Dumfries United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 30th**. **Daisies and Brownies can bring their special guy from (CORRECTION) 4:00pm-6:00pm, and then Juniors,**



Cadettes, and Seniors can bring their special guy from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

Dancing, beverages, snacks, Photo Booth and Professional Photographer will be provide to make this a special night to remember. **Price is \$25 per couple** and the Troop is offering a personalized tumbler with straw. For information on registration, please contact **Carole Rogan at carole.rogan@sbcglobal.net or 815-690-3997.** We look forward to seeing you!!

The **Lion's Club** has **2 donation drop boxes located on the window sill in the vestibule.**

Please consider donating your used eyeglasses to the Lion's Club. Your unwanted glasses will help someone see better. Thank you for always being so generous.



Follow us on:

Facebook: *St. Francis of Assisi Church*

Twitter: *@StFrancisVA*

Instagram: *stfrancischurchva*



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

alleluia
Liturgies For The Week

SUNDAY,	April 17—4th Sunday of Easter
5:30 PM	†Paul Krieger
	†Cynthia Palanzo
7:30 AM	†William Cooney
	†Fran Phoenix
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
	†Emily Homes
10:30 AM	People of the Parish
12:15 PM	The McHatton Family
	†Clara Kennedy
	†Gerald Bigalke
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Peter Palermo
MONDAY,	April 18—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY,	April 19—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	Aidan Zovak
WEDNESDAY,	April 20—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
	†Ivan Molina
	†Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	April 21—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	†Helen Taylor
FRIDAY,	April 22—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	†Margaret Hanrahan
SATURDAY,	April 23—Easter Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mass Intentions on Sunday, April 24, 2016

5:30 PM	†Agustina Peña
	†Joseph and †Julia Flood
	†Deborah Jean McGrath
	†John Bernard MacKinnon
7:30 AM	†Susie Yates
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
10:30 AM	People of the Parish
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy
	†Claudia Tornos
	Cecilia Zink
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Michael Creegan

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion



Workshops for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be held this year on:

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at **St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (in the upper Church)** in Fredericksburg

Saturday, May 14, 2016 at **Our Lady of Hope (in the upper church)** in Potomac Falls.

The time frame for all workshops will be from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.**

To register for one of the workshops or if you have any questions, please contact **Chanel Marquis** at 703-221-4044, ext. 222 or cmarquis@stfrncis.org.

Readings for the Week of April 17, 2016

Monday	Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10
Tuesday	Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30
Wednesday	Acts 12:24-13:5a; John 12:44-50
Thursday	Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20
Friday	Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6
Saturday	Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14
Sunday	Acts 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Current high school students and their families are invited to Christendom College in Front Royal, VA, one of the leading Catholic colleges in the nation for Open House on Monday, April 25th. The day includes meeting the college president, classroom visits, presentations, Mass and more!



Please register online at christendom.edu. Please contact Zac Inman with any questions at zinman@christendom.edu or 540-551-9232.



Keep those used printer cartridges coming!

Faith Formation has been helping to reduce the debt and be good stewards of our earth by recycling. With your contribution of used ink cartridges we can help reduce the debt and take care of the earth and it is so easy to do.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP THEM IN THE CATCH-ALL SLOT

(No laser cartridges.)

You can drop the cartridges off in the basket on the table in the vestibule or stop by the Faith Formation Office. Thank You For Your Continued Support!

ANNUAL SPRING TEA

The Columbiettes are hosting their annual spring tea and fashion show on **May 1st at 2PM in St Francis of Assisi Parish Center Gym**. Please join us for this worthwhile fundraising event. **Tickets are \$25 each. Tickets will be on sale on our web site: columbiettes.yapsody.com or after the masses on April 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd, and 24th.**



Are You New to the Parish??? Welcome!!

Registration forms are available on the tables in the vestibule, from the parish office or from the parish website www.stfrncis.org.

If you or a family member is in the **hospital** or **homebound**,



please call the parish office if you would like a visit from one of the friars. The hospitals are not permitted to give out the names of patients, so the only way we will know if you are in the hospital is if you or a family member informs us.