



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Roman Catholic Church 18825 Fuller Heights Road Triangle, Virginia 22172 703-221-4044 www.stfrncis.org

Parish Office Hours - Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Fri. 8:00 AM-12:00 PM Phone 703-221-4044 Fax 703-221-3246 In a Sacramental Emergency - 703-221-5697 Saturday Vigil - 5:30 PM Sunday - 7:30 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:45 AM; 12:15 PM; 5:30 PM

@ 10:45 AM-Family Liturgy 1:30 PM - Español

Monday - Friday - 8:45 AM

Baptismal preparation is required of all parents who have not attended a class within the last three years prior to the celebration of baptism. Please call the parish office.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 PM and by appointment (English and Spanish)

MARRIAGE

Arrangements are made with the parish office.

VISITS TO AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Inform the office when someone needs a visit from a Communion Minister or one of the Friars.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

To register in the parish, please fill out a registration form found in the vestibule, at the parish office, or on the Parish website, and return it to the office.

PARISH COUNCIL

Terry Danner (Chair) 703-680-0860 Maggie Eves (Vice Chair) 703-304-8058

PARISH SCHOOL 703-221-3868

Grades Pre-school—8th FAX 703-221-0700 Dr. Tricia Barber, Principal

tricia.barber@verizon.net

Elizabeth Orille, Office Coordinator/Admissions

orillee.sfas@gmail.com

FRANCIS HOUSE: 703-221-6344

(Emergency Financial Assistance) Francia Salguero, Director

francias@stfrncis.org

2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026

540-273-0777

Brandon Jubar, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

bjubar@stfrncis.org

FRANCISCAN FRIARS 703-221-4044 Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M., Pastor x226 frjoconnor@stfrncis.org Fr. John Alderson, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar Rochester14220@gmail.com Fr. Ignacio Harding, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x229 ihardingofm@stfrncis.org Br. Henry Fulmer, O.F.M., Deacon/Pastoral Associate x227 friarhenry@stfrncis.org

PERMANENT DEACON

(Leave messages at Parish phone) Dcn. Michael Gomes dcnmike@stfrncis.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY x229 Fr. Ignacio Harding, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar ihardingofm@stfrncis.org Angelica Silva, Pastoral Associate 703-221-3127 x237 asalguero@stfrncis.org

PARISH STAFF 703-221-4044 Marcia Connolly, Receptionist x221 marciac@stfrncis.org Chanel Marquis, Compliance Officer x222 cmarquis@stfrncis.org Barbara Stouffer, Bookkeeper x232 barbaras@stfrncis.org

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY 703-221-3127 Elizabeth Brack, Secretary x234 lizb@stfrncis.org Marianne Hayes, DRE x236 recoor@stfrncis.org Sheila Noble, Assistant DRE x238

STEPHEN MINISTRY 703-221-4312 Kathy Walker, Director of Stephen Ministry x233 kwalker@stfrncis.org

MUSIC MINISTRY 703-221-4044 x231 Nikole Giraldi, Director

nikoleg@stfrncis.org

snoble@stfrncis.org

Colleen Wells, Assistant Director 703-221-4044 x231 cwells@stfrncis.org





Christmas is finally here! My hope is that you and your families will be able to step back over these next few days from the many responsibilities that you have, from the hectic pace of this season, to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. The coming of Christ among us.

There is without doubt many challenges in our world these days. It has more than its share of darkness, but it also has many examples of the light. The light of human beings who are honest, compassionate, generous, faithful, and faith filled.

As I look out on our congregation each week, I see many signs of that light among all of you. I encourage you during the Christmas season to let your light continue to shine.

The scripture readings of this Christmas season remind us of the hope that the Incarnation brings to all of us. Let us find within ourselves the patience and resilience to be instruments of that hope for others.

On behalf of the Friars and Staff, I wish all of you a very blessed and joyous Christmas.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M.

The Christmas Flowers were donated in memory of the following families: Halpin; and Gillespie.

And the following individuals:

Mary Goyette; Matthew Weedon; The Poor; Eileen McManus; Denis McManus; Jim Longi, Jr.; Sean Maguire; Noreen O'Herron; Cece





Hearing Assistance Earphones are available for use during the Mass, for those who would like sound amplification. They have been checked and are functioning well. See one of the friars or come to the sacristy before Mass.

For all Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers who wish to serve during the Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day Masses, the sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.



Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve (NO 8:45 a.m. Mass)

3:15 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant in church Followed by 4:00 p.m. Children's Mass (Children's Choir)

4:00 p.m. - Mass in the gym (Cantor)

5:45 Prelude 6:00 p.m. Children's Mass (Children's Choir)

6:00 p.m. Overflow Mass in the gym

7:30 Prelude 8:00 p.m. Mass (Teen Choir/Ensemble) 8:00 p.m. Spanish Mass in the gym

9:30 Prelude 10:30 p.m. Mass (Adult Choir)

(No Mass at Midnight)

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Mass (Cantor)

10:45 a.m. Mass (Cantor)

12:15 p.m. Mass (Cantor)

Dec. 26th 8:45 a.m. Morning Mass

Mass Schedule

December 31st 8:45 A.M.

5:30 P.M.

January 1st 9:00 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

12:15 P.M. Misa en español



J - O - Y...

Just One Yes!! What a powerful word! That is what is bringing us together this Christmas season. Mary's YES! All in Stephen Ministry are wishing you a Joy filled Merry Christmas!!

PLEASE NOTE:

December 24th-January 1st — Parish Office is closed; will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd.

St. Francis House Corner

Thank you for the donations from our parishioners. The items of the month are appreciated very much by our clients. With your generosity, we will continue to serve those who are in need.



Item of the Month: Sugar

- **Spaghetti Sauce**
- **Peanut Butter and Jelly**
- **Mac and Cheese**

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

Important Paper Forms

We ask that you please not allow children to play or write on the forms located on the tables directly below the bulletin board. These are very important papers. We thank you for your help in this matter.

Counseling at St. Francis of Assisi



Family Services Fredericksburg - Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington Counseling Services Offered at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Every Tuesday

Please call Catholic Charities' Intake Coordinator, Lee Ann Pompeii at 540-371-1124 with questions or to schedule an appointment. Cost is based on a sliding scale (income and dependents). Insurance accepted.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish and Catholic Charities are partnering to offer Catholic Charities Counselor Peter Drabbant's services to St. Francis of Assisi parishioners every Tuesday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. by appointment, in the Parish Office.

Peter, a native of Canada, is licensed as both a professional counselor (LPC) and a drug/alcohol counselor (CAADC / IC-RC). He is new to the region and to Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Arlington. Residing and providing therapy services in Michigan for 15 years, he ran a Catholic private practice for a few years and in 2006. joined a CMH (Community Mental Health) agency for 12 years providing individual therapy and crisis intervention for both adults and youth; treating those affected with depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder and scrupulosity; trauma; anger; behavioral issues; substance use; and couple/marital issues. He has

provided group therapy for those with personality disorders (DBT), substance use disorders (IOP) and Anger Management groups.



Boletín Semanal

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el viernes, enero 10, 2020. Las charlas bautismales Son a las 7:00 p.m. en el Salón del Hermano Juniper (Br. Juniper Room). Para más información por favor llamar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco—

Gracias a las donaciones de todos nuestros feligreses el Artículo del mes ha sido bien recibido por nuestros clientes. Con sus donaciones podremos continuar ayudando a los más necesitados.

Artículo del mes: Azúcar

- Salsa para espaquetis
- Crema de maní y mermelada
- Cereal
- Macarrones con queso

Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para más información Contactar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.

Formas en la Iglesia:

Les pedimos por favor no dejar a sus niños jugar o escribir en las formas que se encuentran en las mesas de la iglesia. Estos son documentos con información muy importante. Muchas gracias por su colaboración.

Please Pray For All those who are sick:

Imelda Pine; Barbara Borthwick;

Estrella Monzon; and Gary Ward.

And for those recently deceased: Jane Wilson (wife of Harold Wilson).

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: James O'Shaunessey; S. Defibaugh; James O'Sullivan; Drew; and Leo N. Company.

2020 March for Life Bus Transportation



Sign-up sheets for bus transportation to the 2020 March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 24, 2020 are located in the vestibule of the Church. The bus will leave at 10:30 a.m. on January 24, 2019 and return at the conclusion of the March. Please arrive at 10:15 a.m. and meet in the vestibule of the Church. This will allow us to attend the opening remarks and walk the March. We will not stay for the speeches in front of the Supreme Court. The bus will depart promptly at 3:30 p.m. from the Botanical Gardens near the Capital. If you do not sign-up and decide at the last minute to come, just show up for the bus on time. You are more than welcome.

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246

Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Friday: Closed

Religious Education for 2019-2020

December 22nd—January 5th NO RE—Christmas Break

Jan. 9 Thursday RE Session

12 Sunday RE Session

St. Francis High School Youth Ministry is called <u>REAL!</u>
<u>REAL</u> stands for Respect, Engage, Accept, Live! <u>REAL</u> is open to all High School teens. It is a place to connect your life and your faith, to share, support and have fun with other teens who are trying to live out God's call in their everyday lives. Please come see what <u>REAL</u> is all about!











Sunday, December 22nd Christmas Break NO REAL ACTIVITIES

Sunday, December 29th Christmas Break NO REAL ACTIVITIES



Sunday, January 5th 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. St. Catherine Room REAL Time (Youth Group) All Teens Grade 9-12

Questions? Please contact Brandon Jubar at bjubar@stfrncis.org.

Readings for the Week of December 22, 2019

Monday Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 Tuesday 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;

Luke 1:67-79; Isaiah 62:1-5;

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25 or

Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20; Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1:6: John 1:1-18 or

John 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22
Friday 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a and 2-8
Saturday 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
Sunday Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21

or Colossians 3:12-17:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank Ross Tree Service

for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.



Our inclement weather policy is to follow the Prince William County Schools announcement for both School and Church activities. The Parish Offices are closed when the Quantico Marine Corps Base issues a Code Red for its employees.

Daily Mass, Weekend Masses, and Penance Services will be celebrated regardless of the weather; however, parishioners are encouraged to use their best judgement regarding the safety of traveling to the church for Mass. In very severe weather, it is customary for the Bishop to excuse Catholics from the obligation of Sunday Mass. In the event that happens, that notice will be posted on the homepage of the parish website.

Baptismal Preparation Class

Our next class will be held on **Sunday**,

January 12, 2020 from

1:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m. in the

Br. Juniper Room. Please call the Parish

Office to register at 703-221-4044.





SAVE THE DATE!! The 2020 Discovering Christ session will begin at St. Francis of Assisi parish on Thursday, January 9th. Participants in this 7 week series will meet on Thursday evenings at 6:45 p.m. beginning January 9th and continuing through February 20th. Enjoy a delicious dinner and fellowship, listen to a dynamic teaching and join in a small group discussion about the meaning of life in Jesus Christ. There will be a retreat day on Saturday, February 8th. The cost of registration for this event is \$25 per person and all meals are included. Please contact Sheila Noble, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, at 703-221-3127, ext. 238 or snoble@stfrncis.org for more information or to register.



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 * Arlington, Virginia 22203 * Office (703) 841-2511 * Fax (703) 524-5028

Christmas, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Psalm at Mass on Christmas proclaims: "A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us!" It is this truth that fills us with joyful hope even in the midst of the darkness we experience. There is no reason to despair. The Light has conquered the darkness! Our call is to allow this Light to guide us as we strive daily to grow in holiness, faithfulness and integrity.

We are also sent forth each day to radiate the presence of Christ to others. We do so by loving all people without exception, by forgiving those who have offended us and by sacrificially and generously serving those in most need.

Each year we hear the timeless story of the three wise men who set out on a long journey with only a star to guide their way. What tremendous trust they must have had in God, not to know where they were going, but to obey humbly and do as they were asked. What a powerful witness for each of us. May we follow God's call in our life with trust and obedience, so that at the end of our journey here on earth, we may embrace Jesus Christ, the Lord of Lords, the King of Kings.

It is my hope and prayer that during this Christmas season and into the New Year, we place our relationship with the Lord as our highest priority and remain instruments of His peace, joy and light in our parishes, homes, workplaces and communities.

The Lord is born for us! May He fill you with abundant blessings this Christmas and always. Merry Christmas to one and all!

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge

Michael 7. Burlidge

Bishop of Arlington







Gospel Today Fourth Sunday of Advent / Matthew 1:18-24

The angel spoke to Joseph in a dream saying, "Through the Holy Spirit Mary will bear a son and you will name Him Jesus." Joseph was a good and righteous man and obeyed God's message taking his wife Mary into his home.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Directions

- [1] Color the tree green, write your good deeds on the ornaments and color them in.
- [2] Cut out and fold at right angle to stand up by itself.
- [3] Each week of Advent complete the tree and repeat steps 1-2.
- [4] After you have 4 weeks of trees colored, filled in and cut out, attach week 1 to week 2 by matching the corner letters and gluing or taping halves together up to the fold line. Do the same for week 3 and week 4. which will then attach to week 1 and 2 to complete.

Color tree and fill in aood deeds. then color ornaments and cut out.









All of God's children are blessed with a variety of time, talents and treasures. This Advent, make a "gift to others" of your abilities, then write what you do on the ornaments on your "Share Me"

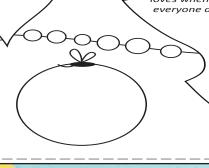
> There will be a tree for each week of Advent, and the 4 stand alone pieces will be joined together into a 3-D tree; iust in time for Christmas!

> > Your finished tree is a wonderful gift to baby Jesus on Christmas! (Jesus loves when we help everyone around us.)











Jean W. Allen Parishioner Senior Mortgage Loan Originator

571-275-9310

jean.allen@PlanetHomeLending.com

5285 Shawnee Road, Suite 250 • Alexandria, VA 22312



CHRISTOPHER K. BROWN

Certified Public Accountant

703-221-2899

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