

*"For it is in
giving that
we receive."*



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. 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Fri. 9:00 AM—12:00 PM
Phone 703-221-4044
Fax 703-221-3246
In a Sacramental Emergency—703-468-1180

EUCCHARIST

Saturday Vigil - 5:30 PM (with Live Stream)
Sunday - 8:00 AM; 9:30 AM; 11:00 AM; 5:30 PM
12:30 PM - Español (with Live Stream)
Monday - 8:45 AM

BAPTISM

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 PM—5:00 PM and by appointment (English)
Saturday: 4:00 PM—5:00 PM and by appointment (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)
Francía Salguero, Director
francias@stfrncis.org
2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026

FRANCISCAN FRIARS

703-221-4044

Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M., Pastor x226
frjoconnor@stfrncis.org
Fr. James Scullion, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x227
frjscullion@stfrncis.org
Fr. George Corrigan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x228
frgcorrigan@stfrncis.org
Fr. Lalo Jara, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x229
frljara@stfrncis.org

PERMANENT DEACON

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY

x229

Fr. Lalo Jara, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
frljara@stfrncis.org
Angelica Silva, Pastoral Associate **703-221-6344**
asalquero@stfrncis.org

PARISH STAFF

703-221-4044

Maureen Deutermann, Receptionist x221
mdeutermann@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
snoble@stfrncis.org

STEPHEN MINISTRY

703-221-4044

Kathy Walker, Director of Stephen Ministry x233
kwalker@stfrncis.org

MUSIC MINISTRY

703-221-4044 x231

Nikole Giraldi, Director
nikoleg@stfrncis.org

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

CYM

540-273-0777

Brandon Jubar, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
bjubar@stfrncis.org

**SAINT FRANCIS
OF ASSISI**



Francis of Assisi – Military Adventures

Much of Francis' youth had been spent as an apprentice in his father's cloth business by day and as playboy by night—a time that the older Francis refers to as "When I was in sin." At the same time, the intrigue and rivalry of imperial and papal politics swirled around Assisi. When Francis was 16-years old, the popolo, as the merchant and new generation of leaders were called, rose up in revolt against the nobles of Assisi (1198 AD). The last remnant of feudal governance was replaced by the "commune" of the city-state of Assisi. Loyalty to the Emperor was replaced by nominal loyalty to the Papal State. The noble families of Assisi—likely including the family of the young woman who would become St. Clare of Assisi—fled to Perugia, the age-old enemy of Assisi, across the Spoleto Valley. While the people of Assisi thought it to be the definitive victory, it was but a lull in the conflict.

By 1202, the nobles sought to return to their lands and Assisi; the commune of Assisi sought to expand their influence and prestige—battle was in the air. The 20-year old Francis answered the call to arms joining the militia which would defend Assisi's honor and give Francis that grand adventure of chivalry where bravery and character were proven so that one could rightfully take on the shield of knighthood. Francis was equipped with accoutrements of war including a horse, so that this leader of the *societas invenum* who lead the night time parties and revelry would now lead this same band into battle. It was thought to be a grand affair as the militia marched from the city to the field of battle in the Valley below. It was a disaster. The militia was overwhelmed and many of the Assisians were slaughtered. The surrounding vineyards and fields were littered with the bodies of the dead and dying. Francis was apparently captured early in the battle before the slaughter and taken to imprisonment in Perugia. Given he rode a horse into battle, he was clearly a candidate for later ransom. All that Francis' family knew was that his body was not found among the casualties.

Six months after the battle, they received the message that their son could be returned for the right consideration and reparations. While negotiations continued, Francis languished in a damp and polluted prison in the underground of an Etruscan ruin. Prisoners were confined in near darkness in a subterranean vault, subsisted on a diet of stale food and tainted water, without sanitary facilities or access to medical care. Prison was an incubator for malaria, tuberculosis, and all manner of bacterial and viral disease. Many prisoners did not survive.

Accounts written much later report Francis as a buoyant and engaging prisoner, cheering his companions, making peace among quarreling factions, and optimistically awaiting the assured release. Perhaps. But this is from an account written some 50 years later. Such an account is not considered likely given the story of Francis' life to this point. He was not particularly a religious or serious person, he held a romantic notion of knighthood and battle, and he had lived a life of luxury free of deprivation and suffering. Stories of the buoyant, optimistic prisoner also do not match the account of Francis once ransomed from prison.

Francis returned home in late 1203 after almost a year in prison. He returned with compromised health, face drawn and sallow, digestion impaired, and was plagued with bouts of recurring fever. When he was out of bed he was listless and kept to the house finding no joy in the beauty of nature that had previously delighted him, nor in the ribald nightlife he once led. More disturbingly, Francis was now plagued by strange dreams including one in which he saw his own house filled with mountains of armaments. He suffered flashbacks to the battle and prison which an early biographer says left him confused and unsure of himself, pilloried by bouts of self-loathing and guilt. The period lasted for 18 months until the spring of 1205. Diagnoses are speculative at best, but it seems likely that Francis had contracted malaria—common enough in Italy at the time—and was suffering from symptoms common to battle-affected soldiers: post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD).

In the spring of 1205 Francis broke free from the depression as he threw himself into preparation for another military adventure, this time an imperial-papal war in Southern Italy with the Assisi contingent lead by a local nobleman. This would be the defining moment when knighthood would be earned! Still, his behavior was erratic. After acquiring armor and a war horse, he turned around and gave it all away to a poor knight. But by summer, re-equipped, he ventured south to join the assembling army.

Traveling south some 25 miles to Spoleto, Francis made camp for the evening. Many early and late biographers report what happened next. Perhaps anxious and/or fevered, in any case unsettled, Francis dreamt he heard a voice asking him where he intended to go. Francis described his plans for battle, glory, and honor. Then the voice asked him, "Who can do more good for you—the master or the servant?" Francis replied, "The Master." The response was, "Then why are you abandoning the master for the servant, the patron for the client?"

The upshot is that Francis became convinced he was following a minor vassal into war, and there was a master who could be followed to greater glory. Later recounting by Francis saw the "master" as God in heaven—but perhaps that is clarity from years of later reflection. Whatever happened that fateful night, spiritual motivation seeming unlikely at this point, Francis abandoned military adventurism and returned home with an unsettled mind, adrift in life, his compass pointing in no particular direction.

St. Francis House Corner



St. Francis House an Outreach Program
from St. Francis of Assisi Parish
2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026
703-221-6344
Francia Salguero and Angelica Silva

At this time we are not in need of any food donations.

If you or your family find yourselves in need, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. St. Francis House is open **Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

Thank you for your continuing support and generosity. For more information, please contact **Francia Salguero** at **703-221-6344** or francias@stfrncis.org.

John Orille and Fr. George are for the Birds.... Are you?



John's son, Connor, a senior at Saint John Paul the Great HS, built and installed six bird feeders and four bird habitats as part of his Eagle Scout project. The Orille's clean and refill the feeders as does Fr. George. Then the birds do their part and they do it very well. Every two weeks they are able to go through a 12 lb. bag of wild bird seed. Are you for the birds? If you would like, please donate bird seed and be for the Birds!

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco
Casa St. Francisco Un Programa de Ayuda Social de la
Parroquia de St. Francisco de Asís
2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026
703-221-6344
Francia Salguero y Angelica Silva

Estamos aquí para servir a los necesitados!
En estos momentos no necesitamos ninguna donación de comida.

Si usted o su familia necesitan ayuda nosotros estamos aquí para ayudarlos. La Casa de San Francisco esta abierta **los miércoles y jueves de 9:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m.**

Gracias por su continuo apoyo y generosidad. Para obtener más información, no dude en comunicarse con nosotros al **703-221-6344** o francias@stfrncis.org.

Meals for the Shelter



During this time of need, St. Francis of Assisi Church is continuing to support our homeless brothers and sisters by providing meals. **From Saturday, April 4th until Saturday, October 31st**, our church will be providing

breakfast every Saturday. Due to the Coronavirus we have to do things a little differently than we used to do. Below you will find the sign-up information for the of items that you can donate to contribute to the meals for the shelter:

If you would like to provide support for the homeless shelter, please visit the following **Sign-Up Genius** link:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094EA5A622A3FD0-shelter>.

For more information or to support our meal program for the shelters in Prince William County, please visit us at www.stfrncis.org and sign-up in the **shelter sign-up Genius** or contact the **Director of St. Francis House and Meals Coordinator, Francia Salguero** at francias@stfrncis.org or 703-221-6344.

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by caring for Creation*



Care for Creation Ministry

Seasons of Creation 2021 - a time of grace each year that the Catholic Church, in ecumenical dialogue, offers to humanity to renew its relationship with the Creator and with creation, through celebration, prayer, worship, action, conversion and common commitment.

You can learn more at <https://stfrncis.org/category/C4C>

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 2021-2022

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Oct. 3 | Sunday RE Session |
| 7 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 10 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 14 | Thursday RE Session |
| 17 | Sunday RE Session |
| 21 | Thursday RE Session |
| 24 | Sunday RE Session |
| 28 | Thursday RE Session |
| 31 | Sunday RE Session |



Keep those used printer cartridges coming!

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

Please **do not** drop the cartridges 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!



High School Youth Ministry

**REAL Youth Ministry is getting ready
for the new school year!**

REAL Leadership (Planning)

Sunday, October 3rd—8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Leadership Team

REAL Time Online (Youth Group)

Sunday, October 17th—8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
All Teens Grades 9-12

REAL Online Halloween Party!

Sunday, October 24th—8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
All Teens Grade 9-12

Sign-up for text messages to get
information on Fall Activities!

**Text @sfacym to 81010 to receive
texts with meeting information.**

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

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Monday Morning Bible Study group will begin a study of the Catechism on **Monday, September 20th at 9:45 a.m.** Sessions will be held virtually and no materials are required as you can access the full Catechism on line. Please contact **Sheila Noble** (snoble@stfrncis.org) for more information, to register for the study, and obtain the link to join. All are welcome!



THURSDAY EVENING ADULT FAITH



Are you interested in drawing closer to God and taking your faith to the next level? Join us virtually on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and take the next steps to a calmer approach to daily life by focusing on the attributes of love, forgiveness, patience, humility, selflessness and kindness! We will be using Ascension's *The Activated Disciple* study, materials may be purchased using this link: <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/activated-disciple>. Please contact **Sheila Noble** (snoble@stfrncis.org) for more information, to register for the study and obtain the link to join. All are welcome!

RCIA



Are you or someone you know interested in learning more about joining the Catholic faith? If so, our dynamic and lively RCIA team would love to meet you! Please consider joining us in English on Wednesday, October 6th or in Spanish on Thursday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m. for an information night. Please contact **Sheila Noble** (snoble@stfrncis.org) for more information or to sign up.

Votive Candles

Envelopes are provided for candle money. **Please place them in the boxes located on the wall (next to the candles) in the church.**



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

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Sister Parish Collection

October 16th and 17th
at all Masses

"If someone who has the riches of this world sees his brother in need and closes his heart to him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (1 Jn 3:17)

Pandemic-driven hunger is making the world more unequal

LIMA, Peru—Worsening inequality, as poorer people and nations lose years of gains in the battle against hunger and poverty, is likely to be one of the lasting legacies of the pandemic. There are now 118 million more people living suffering from hunger; there are an additional 318 million that are now living with food insecurity. In North America and Europe, formal employment, social safety nets and the widespread availability of remote work cushioned the blow. But the developing world, home to billions of informal workers and gaps in government assistance, fared far worse. The region hit hardest by the coronavirus—Latin America and the Caribbean—saw the biggest jump. Almost 41 percent of people are hungry or food insecure. Here and elsewhere in the developing world, a still-chronic shortage of vaccines, as fresh waves of the virus send caseloads soaring, is now projected to worsen access to food this year.

Few countries witnessed a bigger surge than Peru. Once a global success story—it capitalized on the commodities boom to halve poverty and malnutrition over the past two decades—the coronavirus-plagued South American nation is now a study in deepening inequality. New national data shows a spike in poverty from 20 percent to 30 percent in just one year, as the poor lost far more of their wealth than the rich. The upper middle class and wealthy are secure and thriving. In Goshen City, Milinka and Luis Miguel's father, a motorcycle taxi driver, and mother, a toy factory worker who lost her job in the pandemic, saw their income collapse last year. They're now surviving on about \$9 a day. Most of that goes to cover water, electricity, gas and cellular data so their children can tune in to virtual classes. They lunch at a "communal pot"—a makeshift food station of the sort now popping up across poor quarters of the capital where destitute neighbors are pooling and sharing meager rations. Our Sister Parish, Santa Anna, operates several.

When both children became overly docile and sat languidly in the house with no interests, the parents at first thought they were depressed. The clinic said they were both severely anemic. Their mother, Marimar Avila, 27 said, "The doctor told me to feed them more. But with what money? With what food? We don't have the virus, but the pandemic is killing us."

But even in the areas outside the poorest areas, people are falling into poverty. Small scale manufacturing business, e.g., kitchen stoves, have no customers. Once prosperous owners have their business fail, income disappear and have joined the ranks of the food-insecure. The owner said. "Do you know what it's like to spend your whole life working, building a company, and then, to end up here? What am I going to do now? My savings are gone. How am I going to rebuild?" And it is not just rebuild, how will they afford bills, food, health care visits and especially medicines?

"How much are the potatoes?" Marimar Avila asked. The merchant in the covered market, a 20-minute walk downhill from her shack, gave a price a few cents more than she paid last week. "They're so small," she said, holding one. "They're so small." A jump in global food prices—they rose in May at their fastest monthly rate in more than a decade, due to weather issues and surging demand in China—has made it harder to feed her children. At their local market, the prices of cooking oil, corn, flour, chicken and fish have all jumped by double digits since January. "We can't make the math work," she said. As Avila walked back up the hill carrying eggs, rice and potatoes for their biggest meal of the week—Sunday dinner—a neighbor, Isabel Quispe, 49, waved down a foreign journalist. "Please, help," she said. "We need food."

Quispe cooks for her neighbors at a communal pot, typically with donated food. The day before, their stocks were dry, so one neighbor dug into her pockets and bought potatoes and onions. Quispe has five households in the neighborhood to feed—about 18 people. "We don't have enough," she pleaded. Quispe said. "But here, we are going hungry, and nobody is coming to help."

This is a reduction of a larger article by Anthony Faiola which appeared in the Washington Post on July 12, 2021. You can read the full article at [bit.ly/SisterParishHunger](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/latin-america/pandemic-driven-hunger-is-making-the-world-more-unequal/2021/07/12/). Also take a moment to watch a video from Fr. Tony Wilson, O.F.M., the pastor at Santa Ana. You can find it at stfrncis.org/sister-parish-in-peru/



Mass Intentions

| | |
|---|--|
| SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM | October 2—The Guardian Angels Reconciliation †Alice Tippit †Ethylene Monroe †Danny O'Connor |
| SUNDAY, 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:30 PM 5:30 PM | October 3—27th Sunday In Ordinary Time †Helen and †George Callaway †Ana Luz Santiago †Barbara Borthwick †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Nieves Sagudan †Abrielle Flores †Danny O'Connor †Esperanza Parreno Christopher Duffy Misa en español People of the Parish †Henry and †Pia James †Christopher James |
| MONDAY, 8:45 AM | October 4—St. Francis of Assisi †Jim McCann †Barbara Borthwick †Kay Mercogliano |
| TUESDAY, 8:45 AM | October 5—Weekday Anna Krepps Engert Gretchen May †Barbara Borthwick |
| WEDNESDAY, 8:45 AM | October 6—Weekday †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik †Seth Mitcho |
| THURSDAY, 8:45 AM | October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary †Otella Creegan †Sheila Connolly †Patricia Berry |
| FRIDAY, 8:45 AM | October 8—Weekday †Spencer Sagudan †Trinidad Andres |
| SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM | October 9—Weekday Reconciliation †Alice Tippit †Sr. Kathleen Kean, S.J. †Steve Pishock |

Mass Intentions on Sunday, October 10, 2021

| | |
|----------|--|
| 8:00 AM | †Filomena Ponsi †Steve Carlson The Carlson Family |
| 9:30 AM | †Kay Mercogliano †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Laurie Zeiszler |
| 11:00 AM | †Ann Cunnick Kevin Neary †Oligario and †Claudia Tornos |
| 12:30 PM | †Maria Luisa Velazquez †Inosencio Rodriguez |
| 5:30 PM | People of the Parish †Adelina Pimentil |

Readings for the Week of October 3, 2021

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Monday | John 1:1—2:2, 11; John 2:3, 4, 5, 8; Luke 10:25-37 |
| Tuesday | John 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42 |
| Wednesday | John 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4 |
| Thursday | Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13 |
| Friday | Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26 |
| Saturday | Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28 |
| Sunday | Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30 or 10:17-27 |



The Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi

Each year on the evening of October 3rd the Franciscan family throughout the world pauses to celebrate the solemnity of our Holy Father Francis's Transitus, passing over from this life to the next. St. Francis spent the last few days before his death in praising the Lord and teaching his companions whom he loved so much to praise Christ with him—and to "Welcome, my sister death." The Franciscan community ritually remembers the passing of Francis of Assisi from this life into God as a reminder to renew our own commitment to follow Christ in the way of the poor man of Assisi. Please join us Sunday evening **October 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** in the Church to celebrate the Transitus.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Mark Cramer; Harry Wahl; Chad Burns; Bill Myers; Sue Long; Lilly Diaz; Aaron Childs; Gary Ward; Richard McClevey; Ted Zamerski; and Aurea Simbulan.

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



If you are moving/changing your address, please notify the Parish Office so that we may be able to keep our records up-to-date. **Change forms are also available on the tables in the vestibule,** from the

Parish Office, or from the parish website www.stfrancis.org. If you are changing your phone number because you are using a cellular phone and/or forgoing your land phone, the Parish Office would also like that information. **Please call us at 703-221-4044, ext. 222. Thank you.**

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 10:2-16

Jesus said, "Let the children come to Me; do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10: 14
Then Jesus hugged and blessed the children.



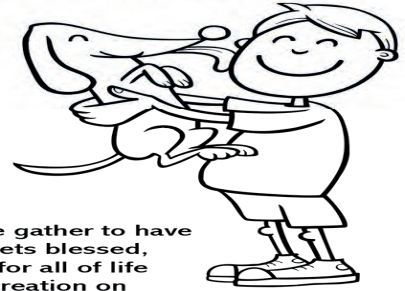
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"All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."

Canticle of the Creatures, St. Francis of Assisi



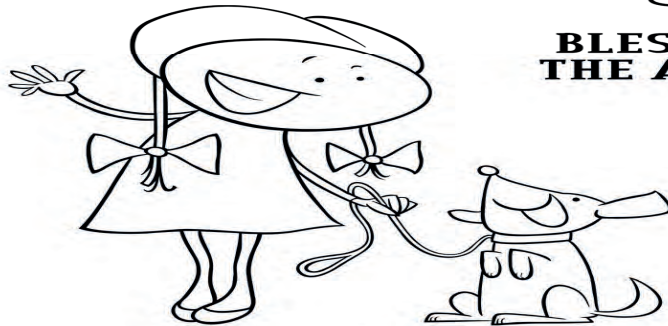
Blessing of the Animals in honor of The Feast of St. Francis, lover of all creation.



As we gather to have our pets blessed, pray for all of life and creation on Respect Life Sunday.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



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CHRISTOPHER K. BROWN
Certified Public Accountant

703-221-2899

Christopher K. Brown, CPA, PLLC
17739 Main Street, Suite 340
Dumfries, VA 22026

christopherkbrowncpa@gmail.com



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