

SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

Son of God, love's pure light...



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
Sunday - 8:00 AM; 9:30 AM; 11:00 AM; 5:30 PM
12:30 PM - Español
Monday - Friday - 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

Dan Sullivan (Chair) 703-282-2117
Phil Bongiorno (Vice Chair) 703-6806910

PARISH SCHOOL 703-221-3868

Grades Pre-school—8th FAX 703-221-0700
Dr. Tricia Barber, Principal
tbarber@stfas.org
Elizabeth Orille, Office Coordinator/Admissions
lorille@stfas.org

FRANCIS HOUSE: 703-221-6344

(Emergency Financial Assistance)
Francia 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. Chris Dunn, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x229
frcdunn@stfrncis.org

PERMANENT DEACON

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY

x229

Fr. Chris Dunn, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
frcdunn@stfrncis.org
Angelica Silva, Pastoral Associate 703-221-6344
asilva@stfrncis.org

PARISH STAFF

703-221-4044

Samuel Blakeney, Business Manager x223
sblakeney@stfrncis.org
Maureen Deutermann, Receptionist x221
mdeutermann@stfrncis.org
Chanel Marquis, Compliance Officer x222
cmarquis@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

MUSIC MINISTRY

703-221-4044

Nikole Giraldi, Director x231
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

*Christ
the Savior
is Born!*



Dear Parishioners,

We once again come to that special time of the year; Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. This is that moment when we celebrate the hope and promise that Jesus' life has brought to all of us.

The hymn *Silent Night* speaks of a time when "All is calm, all is bright". The reality of course, is that as we look at the state of our world; all is not calm, all is not bright. We continue to face a number of challenges in our nation and our world. Yet despite that, the Christmas message is a message of hope.

Jesus was born into a world that certainly had its share of difficulties and challenges. He confronted the pain and suffering of the people of his time. He walked the journey that we walked. His life showed us the way. He showed us that the challenges and difficulties that we face are, for the people of faith, not the last word.

This is the season of light. Jesus is that light, and as the Gospel of Christmas reminds us: "What came through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it".

I give thanks this year for the ways that you and your families have been a light for our parish: for your continued financial support for our parish, your coming together to worship, and now after a hiatus of two years your participation in our many parish social activities.

I give thanks for your great generosity to our St. Francis House Outreach Program. This year because of the continued implications of COVID, and the challenges of inflation, we have seen record numbers of those in need coming to Francis House for help.

All may not be calm this Christmas, but there is much that is bright; that we can be thankful for.

On behalf of myself, Fr. Jim, Fr. George, Fr. Chris, and the Staff of our parish, I wish you all a blessed Christmas and God's many blessings in the New Year!

Sincerely in Christ,

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



December 25, 2022 | The Nativity of the Lord

Is 52:7-10 | Heb 1:1-6 | Jn 1:1-18

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

The day we have been awaiting has arrived: Christ is born! All of our Christmas preparations - wrapping gifts and preparing holiday meals to be shared among family and friends - are meant to glorify and reflect God's own work for and in us. That is, God's greatest gift of himself, clothed in mortal flesh, who would one day offer himself as the bread of life: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." Jesus came to the world in the form of the most helpless of us all, a newborn infant, so that through him we would be reconciled to the Father, for "to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God." We celebrate the Incarnation of the Lord, for Christ is our salvation! It is through Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit that we are adopted into God's family and receive the fullness of his grace. The fullness of God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ. "The Lord has made his salvation known"; "he has spoken to us through the Son." Let us give thanks and rejoice this day!

WITNESS How might you go out and proclaim the coming of the Lord? Don't forget: sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ isn't limited just to speaking to others. It includes *living* as Christ did - feeding the hungry, caring for the sick and the poor, defending the helpless - because we are Christ's body in the world.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Good News of Jesus Christ is not meant to be kept to ourselves. Today's Gospel reading reminds us that John the Baptist testified to the light of Christ before Christ had yet publicly appeared. Sharing the Good News is not optional! Even the earth proclaims the Good News in Isaiah, "announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, 'Your God is King!'" Indeed, Christ the King - God in human flesh - has arrived. Just as John was sent before the Lord to proclaim his coming, so are we charged: Sent out to the world to go and announce the Gospel of the Lord, "so that all might believe."

PLEASE NOTE: December 23rd-26th and December 29th-January 2nd the Parish Office is closed. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd.

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

Item of the month: Cooking Oil

At this time we are in need of the following items:

- Cereal
- Jelly
- Pasta
- Spaghetti
- Spaghetti sauce
- Peanut Butter

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.

Meals for the Shelter



Winter is here, and it is a very rough season for the homeless. Our parish is committed to provide dinners for the homeless shelter. At this moment, we are in great need of dinners.

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.

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

Artículos del mes: Aceite de cocina

En este momento necesitamos los siguientes artículos:

- Cereal
- Jalea
- Pasta
- Espaguetis
- Salsa para espaguetis
- Crema de maní

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.

The Car Ministry



If you have a used car to donate, please consider The Car Ministry, is a charitable agency that processes and repairs donated vehicles, which are given at no cost to needy families and individuals, who can support a car, and who have been referred by pastors and social workers. These vehicles transform people's lives because transportation allows them to obtain employment in places that were previously inaccessible and it makes them self-sufficient because they now have a means to get to work. **For more information, please contact Larry Gordon at 703-237-8479 or John Enzmann at 202-255-2463.**



Have you completed your Commitment Card? Scan the QR Code.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Planet Home Lending
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

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 2022-2023

December 15th-January 4th NO RE—Christmas Break

Jan. 5	Thursday RE Session
8	Sunday RE Session
12	NO RE—Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
15	NO RE—Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
19	Thursday RE Session
22	Sunday RE Session
26	Thursday RE Session
29	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!



There is a book located in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel next to the Tabernacle for you to write your own prayers of petition. During the *Prayer of the Faithful* during weekend liturgies, an intercession will call to mind those prayers in a general way. In this manner, the public prayer of the church is bound to the many prayers of the

faithful who live in the body of Christ!

How to High School—Saturday, January 7, 2023

Join John Paul on Saturday, January 7th from 12-4 pm for our hit readiness and skills workshop! Open to all 7th and 8th graders. For registration and more details, please visit: https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry.



Upcoming Admissions and Financial Aid Deadlines:

Friday, January 6, 2023: School Application Priority Deadline
Friday, January 6, 2023: Scholarship Application Deadline
Wednesday, January 18, 2023: Financial Aid Priority Deadline

Please visit jpthegreat.org for details, registration information and more!

Tithing Information

End of Year Statements: Due to the high cost of postage, we have decided that the end of year tax statements for 2022 will not be automatically sent to each parishioner. **We will provide a tax statement to any parishioner that requests one** by contacting Chanel Marquis at cmarquis@stfrncis.org.

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.



What gives ultimate meaning and purpose to life?

Why do we search for Jesus?

Join us to deepen your relationship with Him!!

Discovering Christ will be presented at St. Francis of Assisi beginning in January!! Participants in this 7-week series will meet on Thursday evenings **beginning January 5th and continuing through February 16th** to 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 4th**. *The cost for registration for this event is \$35 per person and all meals are included.* **Registration fliers can be found on the tables in the vestibule.** Please contact Sheila Noble at 703-221-3127, ext. 238 or snoble@stfrncis.org for more information.

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.





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 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we rejoice in the birth of Our Savior! His arrival, foretold by prophets throughout the centuries, brings to the world a great mystery of our faith: this tiny baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a humble manger - born of a virgin - was both human and divine. He is both our Creator and our Savior; both the Eternal Word, who existed before the beginning, and a man, who dwells among us.

In response to this mystery, our Blessed Mother proclaims, "*My soul rejoices in the Lord!*" These words are also the theme for this second preparatory year toward our diocesan Golden Jubilee celebration in 2024. We rejoice with her, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the incarnate Savior.

Jesus' birth was marked by a star shining in the sky. The light that Christ brought into the world on this day has shone brightly for two millennia. It has revealed God's glory as it has guided Christians to love one another, protect the vulnerable, care for the poor, serve those in need, educate children, heal the sick, welcome the newcomer, work for justice and live in peace with our neighbors.

As we celebrate the true Light coming into the world, may we strive daily to walk in that light always! May we also renew our promise to bring others into the light by sharing the love that God has for us, his beloved sons and daughters.

Please be assured of my prayers for you! May *your* soul rejoice in the Lord and may his peace and abundant blessings be yours this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Burbidge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning of the first name.

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 4:00 PM	December 24—Advent Weekday †Harry Ravert †Maria Tang Thi Pham †MC Otto A. Christofferson
4:00 PM	(GYM) †Eileen Bolen
6:00 PM	†Helen and †Clifford Buckley †Imelda Pine
6:00 PM	(GYM) †Janet Sarsfield
8:00 PM	†Joseph Hoa Vu
8:00 PM	Misa en español (GYM) †Gisella Melendez
10:30 PM	†Gregory Edward Sanderson †Normand Richard Marquis †John A. Shookster
SUNDAY, 8:00 AM	December 25—The Nativity of the Lord †Tom Cuong Quoc Phan †Eddie and †Helen Girdaukas People of the Parish
9:30 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Robert E. Williams †Marie Newman
11:00 AM	†Marion Noel Trudnak Christmas Novena †Bob Piccoli
MONDAY, 8:45 AM	December 26—St. Stephen, First Martyr Christmas Novena †Stephan Hien Vu †Joseph Duc Vu
TUESDAY, 8:45 AM	December 27—St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Christmas Novena †Mary J. Goyette †Janet and †Harry Rodman
WEDNESDAY, 8:45 AM	December 28—Holy Innocents †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik Christmas Novena †Mary Lou Jackson
THURSDAY, 8:45 AM	December 29—Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas Christmas Novena †Mary Ann Milo †Margarita A. Salvador
FRIDAY, 8:45 AM	December 30—Holy Family Christmas Novena The Vu Family †Maximinn and †Basilisa Trespeses
SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM	December 31—Seventh Day with the Octave of Christmas Reconciliation †Alice Tippit Christmas Novena †Elmer Foster

Readings for the Week of December 25, 2022

Monday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22
Tuesday	1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a & 2-8;
Wednesday	1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
Thursday	1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35
Friday	Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Colossians 3:12-21 or Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
Saturday	1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18
Sunday	Number 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

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.**



Please Pray For All those who are sick: Paul Puletz; Estrella Monzon; JJ Powell; Michelle Fornelli; Collin Callahan; Solange Wahl; Ricardo Sayson; Recaredo Monzon; Jean C. Tekverk; Ann Hackett; Juliet Erasmo; Maureen Caddigan; S.J. Defibaugh; Lisa Kraus-Lyle; Corazon N. Atienza; Eric Brown; Jan Bond; Delores Baytan; Tomas Bernardo; David Back; Chad Burns; Bill Myers; Sue Long; Gary Ward; and Ted Zamerski.

And for those recently deceased: Mary Wells-Yow (mother of Christine Wells).

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

Mass Intentions on Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:00 AM	†Betsy P. Dennison †Jack Haneklau †Anita Sanchez
9:30 AM	Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
11:00 AM	Christmas Novena †Clyde and †Mabel St. Clair
12:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish

The Christmas Flowers were donated in memory of the following families: Tarantino; Thomas; and Korzen.



And the following individuals:

Steve Eastvedt; Lewis H. Breeding; Mary Phyllis Shaw; Michael B. Breeding; SSG Loni Deirdre Angulo; Marc Oliver; Blaine and Mary Hoover; Charlotte M. Stafira; Jessica-Marie A. Tisak; Mary Jo and CB Wolfe; Don Clausen; Lorenzo and Tillie Sabourin; Mary Ann Burke; Phyllis Taylor; Steve Ferguson; Margaret Vittitow; Mary Lou Jackson; Eleanor and Bill Davis.



< **KID'S KORNER** >

Gospel Today

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) / John 1:1-18

John describes how the Word came into the world in the form of Jesus. All those who accept Jesus become children of God by sharing in Jesus' love. No one has seen God, but through Jesus, God was revealed to us.

Merry Christmas

Year A



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**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
THE TRUE LIGHT**

Find and write the missing letters (from A to Z) not found within the lights.

Unscramble the letters and fill in the blanks to complete the sentence below (the same word is used twice).

He himself was not the _____ :
he came only as a witness
to the _____

—JOHN 1:8

COLOR PAGE



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Please Continue To Pray For




World Peace

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