

## From the Pastor's Desk

It was great having Bro. Casey here last weekend!! He is an awesome person who is "on fire" with the Lord and being a friar. His enthusiasm and passion is infectious. While he was here we met with the parish staff to strategize on the best way to maximize his time that he will be spending with us over the summer. We discussed a whole range of activities and Casey also expressed a desire to teach two classes over the summer. One will be a Bible Class with the focus on how to read the bible. As Bro. Casey said, "with 73 books and more than 1600 pages, actually sitting down to read the bible can be such an overwhelming task that many Catholics don't even know where to begin. In fact, many Catholics find the Bible overwhelming, confusing, and even boring." So on Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9 PM Bro. Casey will use videos, pictures, activities, and even humor to give everyone who attends the class the confidence to read the Bible on a regular basis.

The second class Bro. Casey wants to offer he will do on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 to 5 PM and this one he is calling "Catholic Boot Camp". His goal is to teach an "everything you always *should* have known about Catholicism but were afraid to ask" class, covering the basics of the Bible, Catholic theology, liturgy and sacraments, spirituality and prayer, history, and social teaching in six weeks. It will be an ambitious project for him but he is excited about it because he feels our tradition has really failed over the years to evangelize and catechize our own people, and many adults honestly don't know their faith. He feels called to make the Catholic faith an interesting, engaging experience for everyone. I think I will be signing up for this class!! So mark your calendars for Bro. Casey's two classes.

Last week I drove up to New Jersey for a quick visit to see Fr. Jim. He is making progress with the treatment he is receiving on his legs and feet but of course not as fast as he wants it to be. He is getting unbelievable care at Holy Name Friary which is our Franciscan nursing home facility. Please keep Jim in your prayers especially for the gift of patience!! If you want to send him a card his address is Fr. Jim Toal, OFM Holy Name Friary, 2 Morris Road Ringwood, NJ 07456.

One last thing, if you know someone who may be struggling in life and could use a Stephen Minister please encourage them to reach out to Kathy Walker who is our Director of Stephen Ministry. We have trained ministers who would love to be of service and are waiting to be assigned by Kathy to help someone.

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Due to a high volume of calls, an additional phone line/number has been added at the church. If the main 703-221-4044 line is busy, please call [703-221-3127](tel:703-221-3127).



**NOW WHAT?**  
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### Discover: Hierarchy of the Catholic Church

The highest authority belongs to the Bishop of Rome (the pope). He is also referred to as Peter's successor. Pope Francis was elected on March 13, 2013 by the College of Cardinals.

As successors of the Apostles, bishops shepherd and oversee a particular diocese. Bishop Paul S. Loverde is the bishop of the Diocese of Arlington in which Saint Francis of Assisi resides. An archbishop oversees a diocese, but also oversees a geographical region of dioceses. Cardinals are usually bishops who serve as advisors and have been appointed to the special role of electing a new pope. Priests share apostolic authority with a bishop and serve the bishop of their diocese and may work in a parish. A Monsignor is an honorary designation bestowed by the pope to a priest, who is then made a member of the "papal household" without additional authority. Deacons are ordained ministers who assist the diocesan bishop and priests in various tasks, including Baptism, distribution of Holy Communion and witnessing of Matrimony.

A religious order exists as communities of individuals who live their lives according to certain vows, reflecting a particular set of values. Religious orders have their own hierarchy. Fr. Kevin Downey, O.F.M. is the pastor of St. Francis of Assisi. Our Franciscan Friars are part of the Holy Name Province of the Order of Friars Minor (O.F.M.). Holy Name Province is shepherded by a Provincial Minister who interfaces with the local bishops and reports to the Minister General in Rome.



**Next Saturday we will commission our new Stephen Ministers.** These very loving people will begin in our Parish the gift of caring ministry to those in need. They have answered the call to follow in Jesus' caring footsteps. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin in their Pastoral Care.

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.



*St. Francis House Corner*



The St. Francis House Food Pantry Provided food for **60 families this week**. We are in need of **Spaghetti, Pasta, Cereal, and reusable bags**. For more information, please call Francia at 703-221-6344. Thank you for your continuing support.

**Franciscan Action and Advocacy (FA&A)**

**Upcoming FA&A meetings** (open to all!): Our parish **V.O.I.C.E.** (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement) team is meeting to discuss community issues on **Sunday, June 7th**, at **10 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our parish **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and legislative advocacy efforts in the fight against the evil of human trafficking—sex and labor) is meeting on **Wednesday, June 10th**, at **7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom**. Our parish **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, June 20th**, at **11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our parish **Care for Creation Committee** is meeting to discuss environmental issues on **Sunday, June 21st**, at **9 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**.

**Help an immigrant become a citizen!** Hogar Immigrant Services is currently seeking naturalization workshop volunteers. Attorney and non-attorney volunteers are needed at monthly Saturday workshops to help clients fill out applications for U.S. citizenship. No previous experience or foreign-language skills necessary. Training is provided the morning of the workshop. If interested, please email [volunteer.hogar@ccda.net](mailto:volunteer.hogar@ccda.net) or call 571-208-1572, ext. 102. Upcoming workshop dates are May 23rd (Fairfax) and June 13th (Fredericksburg).

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 and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at [rgoraieb@stfrncis.org](mailto:rgoraieb@stfrncis.org) or 703-221-4978, ext. 228.

**Open AA Step Study Group Friday night**  
Group meets 7-8:00 p.m. in the **Br. Juniper Room**.  
Come study the 12 Steps to Recovery.

**Boletín Semanal**

**Charlas Bautismales**—Las próximas charlas bautismales se realizaran el domingo, **junio 21 a las 10:00pm** en el Salón del Hermano Juniper. Por favor recuerde que para tomar la charla y recibir el sacramento del bautizo los padres tienen que estar registrados en nuestra parroquia y registrarse para la charla con anterioridad. Ambos padres y padrinos deben asistir a la charla y no se permiten niños. Para mas información por favor llamar a **Francia al 703-221-6344**.

**Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francis**—Agradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **60 familias**. Muchas gracias por su apoyo constante.

**Grupo de Oración**—El grupo de oración se reúne todos los viernes a las 7:00PM en el Salón de Santa Catherine. Todos están cordialmente invitados acompañarnos en oración y en amistad.

**Misa de Pentecostés**—El grupo de oración te invita a la misa de pentecostés el viernes, mayo 22 a las 6:30 PM en la Parroquia San Antonio de Padua. Localizada en 3305 Glen Carlyn Road. Falls Church, VA. Te esperamos.

*Senior Corner*



**Seniors on the Go!**

**Calling All Seniors!** Join us for the **Senior Lunch Bunch** scheduled for **Thursday, May 21st at 12:30pm** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our special guest will be Dumfries Supervisor Maureen Caddigan. Feel free to bring your questions and concerns as Maureen updates us on the latest in the community! Bring a brown bag lunch and dessert and beverages will be included.

**Our Cyber-Seniors** will hold their last classes for the season, at the Hampton Inn on Route 234, on **May 21st and 28th**. Many heartfelt thanks to Andrea Armstrong, and her able assistant, Sharon Eisenzopf, for sharing their time and talent with us.

For additional information on senior care, please contact **Anne Tunney, M.S.W., Coordinator of Senior Care** at 703-221-4044, ext. 229 or [annet@stfrncis.org](mailto:annet@stfrncis.org).

**Mission 2015 Vitamin Campaign**

**Our Missioners traveling to Peru in June** will again be carrying prenatal and children's vitamins for the parish medical clinics at Santa Ana and in the Pastoral Zone. The children suffer greatly from the developmental effects of poor nutrition. Children's vitamins are expensive and hard to obtain in Peru.

- \$10 provides prenatal vitamins for an entire pregnancy.
- \$10 provides a child with vitamins for 10 months.

Donations of any amount would be appreciated.

**Envelopes can be found on the bulletin board on your right as you leave church.**



### COME HOME—TAKE ANOTHER LOOK

If you have been away from the Catholic Church for whatever reason: divorce, birth control, lifestyle, a painful memory, or any other reason, we would love for you to take another look. The Easter season is a time of great joy as we celebrate the resurrection of the Messiah. But you may not be experiencing this joy and feel that you don't belong to this rejoicing church. St. Francis of Assisi parish in Triangle is inviting you to "Take Another Look" without feeling pressure.



**We will have a short, two night program at St. Francis of Assisi parish on Monday, May 18th and Tuesday, May 26th. Each night will begin at 7:00pm and last no more than 2 hours.**

If you have an interest, please let us know by calling **Joe Mitcho at 703-967-9959**. We will send you more detailed information.

**Please Pray For** All those who are sick: Jim Kearns, Cheryl McNierney, Fran Phoenix, Lisa Sweeney, John Moretti, Jonathan Ottman, Joan Matochik, and Annelies Gendron.

**And for those recently deceased:** George Beck (Husband of Yvonne Beck); and Marian King (Mother of Dottie Gray).

**Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way:** Andrew Wagner, Tom Giraldi, Michael Beatty, Elizabeth L. Keegan, Stephen Hudson, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

**Enrollment for Vacation Bible School (VBS) is now open!** VBS will be

**June 22nd—June 26th from 9:00 am—12:30 pm in the Parish Center.** It is

open to all children ages 4 years to entering 6th Grade. Kids come join us as we "trek" through Everest VBS, exploring one of the most majestic, beautiful (and sometimes dangerous!) places on earth as we discover God's power and promises all along the way. Adults and teens—volunteer and join the fun! Do you have little ones (under 4 years) at home? They can join in the nursery as you volunteer. Registration and Volunteer forms are in the foyer at Church and also available on the website. Questions? **Please contact Sharon Gardner at [gardners.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:gardners.vbs@gmail.com) or the RE Office at 703-221-4978. The registration deadline for VBS is Sunday, May 31st.**



Faith Formation Office  
Phone: 703-221-4978 Fax: 703-221-3246  
Office Hours:  
Monday—Wednesday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm  
Thursday: 5:00 pm—6:15 pm  
Friday: Closed  
Sunday: 8:45 am—12:00 pm

### Religious Education Calendar

May 17 Sunday RE Sessions I&II—Last Sunday RE

*To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others.*

—Saint John Paul II

### RE Registrations for 2015-2016 Catechetical Year

Registrations for next year were emailed on **April 27<sup>th</sup> to all those families currently registered in the RE Program** to begin registration for next year. **On May 26<sup>th</sup> RE registration will be open to all new RE families. Forms will be available in the back of the church and our website on May 26<sup>th</sup>.** Please begin to consider volunteering, we are in need of Catechists, Co-Catechists, Special Needs Catechists, Catechists Aides. **Please contact Marianne Hayes, DRE at 703-221-4978 or [recoor@stfrancis.org](mailto:recoor@stfrancis.org).**



### 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!**

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!



### SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Family Healthcare Chiropractic Center** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Centering Prayer—Tuesdays 12-1 pm  
in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
in the church. **All are welcome.**



**Readings for the Week of May 17, 2015**

**Monday** Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33  
**Tuesday** Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a  
**Wednesday** Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19  
**Thursday** Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; John 17:20-26  
**Friday** Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19  
**Saturday** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25;  
 Genesis 11:1-9 or  
 Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b or  
 Ezekiel 37:1-14 or Joel 3:1-5;  
 Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39  
 Genesis 11:1-9 or  
 Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b;  
 Ezekiel 37:1-14 or Joel 3:1-5;  
 Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39  
**Sunday** Acts 2:1-11;  
 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or  
 Galatians 5:16-25; John 20:19-23 or  
 John 15:26-27, 16:12-15



**Votive Candles** are available in the church by the statues of St. Joseph and Mary. **Please use the box** at each statue to deposit your dollar for each candle.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**

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

**Saturday, May 23, 2015** 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@stfrancis.org](mailto:cmarquis@stfrancis.org).



**Catholic Charities Thrift Shop**

This spring, why not do some good while you clean by donating those unneeded gently used items to the Christ House Thrift Shop! *We welcome donations of in-season clothing, shoes, jewelry, donations of antiques, collectibles, housewares, and small pieces of furniture such as plant stands and accent tables.* Please drop off donations any day of the week between 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 125 S. West Street in Alexandria. Donating to our store supports our mission to help people in need within the community and throughout the 21 counties in the Arlington Diocese. For more information, please visit: [www.cdda.net](http://www.cdda.net).



*Liturgies For The Week*

**SUNDAY, May—17th—Ascension of the Lord**  
 5:30 PM Mother's Day Novena  
 †James Lewis  
 †Joyce Benedict  
 7:30 AM †Thomas Colosimo  
 †Margaret O'Connor  
 †Paul and †Connie Arcudi  
 †Cecile Butcher  
 9:00 AM †Tillman Snead  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik  
 †Elizabeth Enzmann  
 Tarria Morera  
 10:30 AM Eladio Elomina  
 †George and Yvonne Beck  
 12:00 PM †Ethel and †George Moore  
 Raymond and Margaret Walsh and Family  
 †Clara Kennedy  
 †Joseph Boulay  
 Beatriz Lazarus  
 Madeline Quinteros  
 1:30 PM People of the Parish  
 5:30 PM †Daniel Maris  
 †Restituta L. Dabu  
**MONDAY, May 18—Easter Weekday**  
 8:45 AM Mother's Day Novena  
 Peaches Callahan  
**TUESDAY, May 19—Easter Weekday**  
 8:45 AM Mother's Day Novena  
 †Rev. Joseph P. Fallon  
 †Michael and Veronica Tokar  
 †Agatha Back  
**WEDNESDAY, May 20—Easter Weekday**  
 8:45 AM †Peter Palermo  
 †Rev. Peter J. Doherty  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik  
**THURSDAY, May 21—Easter Weekday**  
 8:45 AM Riley Daniel Flynn  
**FRIDAY, May 22—Easter Weekday**  
 8:45 AM †Lillian and †James Callahan  
 †Ray Michalak  
**SATURDAY, May 23—Easter Weekday**  
 4:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation  
**Mass Intentions on Sunday, May 24, 2015**  
 5:30 PM †Joyce Benedict  
 †Paul Brady  
 †John Bernard MacKinon  
 †Frank and †Alice Furnari  
 7:30 AM Joan Weber  
 9:00 AM Ronald and Cathy Hall  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik  
 10:30 AM †Shirley Solonoski  
 12:00 PM †Eladio Elomina  
 †Alta and †Loyce Golden  
 †Clara Kennedy  
 †Paul Brady  
 †Elaine Louiselle  
 1:30 PM Misa en español  
 5:30 PM People of the Parish