

## From the Pastor's Desk

On behalf of the friars and the entire staff of St. Francis, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is working so hard to make sure our Christmas liturgies will be special. I would especially like to thank Lisa Ostendorf, the parish maintenance crew and all the volunteers who will be decorating the church and the Parish Center to get it ready for the Christmas liturgies. We can never thank the music ministry enough, under the direction of Nikole Girdali and assisted by Colleen Wells, for the wonderful music that began with the Festival of Praise Concert and will continue throughout all our liturgies. We are truly blessed as a parish and we have so much to be grateful for. Be sure to be "pleasant" to the person who will be sitting where you usually sit every Sunday. Remember we have a reputation as a parish that is a "Welcoming Community"!!

A **Novena of Masses** will begin on Christmas Day and end on January 2nd. **SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS** are available on the tables in the vestibule. Please return the inside envelope to the catch-all slot before December 19th.

### Mass Schedule

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

3:15 PM Children's Christmas Pageant in church  
**Followed by 4:00 PM Children's Mass**  
(Children's Choir)

**4:00 P.M. – Mass in the gym** (Cantor)

5:45 Prelude **6:00 PM Children's Mass**  
(Children's Choir)

**6:00 PM Overflow Mass in the gym**

7:30 Prelude **8:00 PM Mass** (Teen Choir/Ensemble)  
**8:00 PM Spanish Mass in the gym**

9:30 Prelude **10:30 PM Mass** (Adult Choir)

#### (No Mass at Midnight)

#### Christmas Day

8:45 Prelude **9:00 AM Mass** (Cantor)

**10:30 AM Mass**

11:30 Prelude **12:00 Noon Mass** (Ensemble in church)

Dec. 26th

**8:45 a.m. Morning Mass**

The Christmas Flowers were donated in memory of the following families: **Mecca; Halpin and Gillespie; Taravella; Tarantino; Thomas; Giglio; Garland and Korzeniowski; Lim-Torrijos; Rayhel and Larke; Pair; and Angell.**



And the following individuals: **Lorenzo Manno; Marco Imbarlina; Candida Imbarlina; Joseph Imbarlina; John Francis Carpino; James M. Dart; Oscar and Dorothy Wallace; Donald and Ardeth Roberts; Rosemary and John Wenzel; Dorothy and Arthur Peitler; Ted Geary; Phyllis Taylor; Tina DeCarbo; Robert, Cecelia and Ann Annan; Ray and Irene Wagner; Stan and Florence Rezler; Thomas Wright; Carl Koenig; Rosalie Gruetzke; Calvin Whitehurst; Louis and Mary Gasper; Ben Badami; Nicholas G. Colletti; Mr. and Mrs. John L. Tiano; Gaston and Zelmira Gianni; Audrey Jones; Robert and Lois Feller; Dick Murray; Jim Longi, Jr.; Denis McManus; Pegi Guzzie; James, Janice and Jamie Callahan; Charles and Betty Miller; Mary E. Hoover; Dan Morris; William N. Bergeria; Thomas Scruggs; Phyllis and Jack Conway; Elizabeth Dart; Eileen McManus; Helen Baron; Jennie Fenton; Caroline Bernadette; John and Mary Flynn; Tom Flynn; Lee Dixon; Fran and Lucille Connolly; Carole Zovak; Anna Schlatterer; Leo Haffenbredl; Glen Brown; Georgja Brown; and Linda Tom.**



The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. **There will NOT be a Rosary Guild meeting on December 23rd.** Please join us at the next scheduled meeting, on **Tuesday, January 13, 2015** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the **St. Clare Room**. All are welcome. **For more information,**

**please call 703-221-2517.**

On **December 26th** we will celebrate the feast of **St. Stephen**. The patron saint of Stephen Ministry. St. Stephen was commissioned by the Apostles to go out and do... what they themselves did not have the time to keep up with.

Everyone in a situation wants the Pastor to be their first responder. And in most cases he is. But when he is called away to the next crisis, he suggests a Stephen Minister. We are an extension of Pastoral care to keep the care going. **We gladly follow in the footsteps of St. Stephen. Please give us a call at 703-221-4312.**



For all lectors, ushers, 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.**

### PLEASE NOTE:

**December 23rd-26th – Parish Office is closed; will reopen on Monday, December 29th.**

## Boletín Semanal

**Charlas Bautismales**—Las próximas charlas bautismales se realizarán el domingo, Enero 18 a las 10:00am 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. Ambos padres y padrinos deben asistir a la charla y no se permiten niños. Para más información por favor llamar a Francia al 703-221-6344.

**Misa de Nochebuena**—Los invitamos a participar de la pastorela y misa de Nochebuena el miércoles, 24 de diciembre a las 8pm en el gimnasio de la iglesia. ¡Ven y acompáñanos!

**No Habrá Misa en Español el Día de la Navidad**—Este año no vamos a tener misa en español el 25 de Diciembre. Si usted desea asistir a misa de Navidad tendremos una misa en inglés a las 12 del mediodía.

### St. Francis House Food Pantry



Have you ever been hungry and did not know where your next meal was coming from? St. Francis House Food Pantry Ministry provides weekly food assistance to at least 75 families in the Dumfries, Triangle and Quantico area.

Your donation of non-perishable food items each week helps us with this ministry. At this time we are in great need of **tuna, hamburger helper, jelly, peanut butter, canned vegetable and soups.** For more information, please contact Francia at 703-221-6344.

### Senior Corner

Openings are still available for Seniors to join our TECH WEDNESDAYS in the Parish Center Dining Hall from 9:30am-11:00am. These informative sessions will answer questions and provide training to the beginner through advanced user. Bring your laptop, tablet or phone and we will provide the WiFi! (Topics will include: email, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Blogging, MS Office, online privacy, managing photos, using your mobile phone and more.) For more information, please contact **Andrea Armstrong** at 571-264-2869 or [ahalaw03@gmail.com](mailto:ahalaw03@gmail.com).



If you or someone you know is homebound and would like a visit from our Senior Care Coordinator, please contact Anne Tunney.

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).

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

A round of applause to all who participated in the **Birthright baby-bottle fundraising campaign** during Respect Life Month! We were blessed to send Birthright a total of **\$3,268.00!** They were so grateful and appreciative! Thank you!

The parish **Fair Trade Global Bazaar** was a huge success! Blessings, thanks and appreciation goes out to the planning committee; all of the many volunteers; our friars; parish and school staff; confirmation students; our Knights of Columbus; the Tuesday morning Good News People group; and to all who purchased items and supported the sale! But the support of **Fair Trade** does not have to end here! Please continue to purchase (and encourage the sale of) Fair Trade products at local stores, as well as online. **For more information, please visit <http://www.crsfairtrade.org/> and <https://www.larrysbeans.com/> and/or contact Rob.**

Sponsored by our Respect Life Committee and Knights of Columbus, you are invited to join the parish at the **2015 March for Life** on **Thursday, January 22, 2015** in Washington, D.C. To reserve a seat on our bus (seating is limited) or to get more information, please contact Rob.

Upcoming FA&A meetings: **SFA VOICE Team:** Sunday, January 4, 2015 at 10 a.m. in the Br. Juniper Room. **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Grade 6 Classroom. **Respect Life Committee:** Saturday, January 17, 2015 at 11:45 a.m. in the St. Catherine Room. **Care for Creation Committee:** Sunday, January 18, 2015 at 9 a.m. in the St. Catherine Room. **These meetings are open to everyone! Please consider making a New Year's resolution to get involved!**

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.**

### Centering Prayer—Tuesdays 12-1 pm

in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in the church. **All are welcome.**



**Hearing Assistance Earphones** are available 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.

**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.

### SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **The Hearing Health Care Center of Manassas, Inc.** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Mission to Lima, Peru

Join fellow parishioners on the 2015 Mission to our Sister Parishes in Lima this June. Experience the cultural, political, economic, and faith realities of life for our brothers and sisters in Peru. Applications are due by December 31<sup>st</sup> and can be found on the bulletin board on your right as you leave church and on the parish website under "Our Ministries". **For more information, please contact Terry Danner at [terrydanner@verizon.net](mailto:terrydanner@verizon.net) or 703-680-0860) or Clarence Thompson at [clarencethompson@verizon.net](mailto:clarencethompson@verizon.net) or 703-680-4657.**

**Please Pray For** All those who are sick: Steve LeBlanc, Marian King, Molly A., Lisa and Jim Messerschmidt, Alan Wuertenberger, Jennifer Delinski, Rita Lapinski, Janice McLeod, Loretta Frankowski, Barbara Angell, Julie Durbin, Annelies Gendron, Jim Kearns, Joyce Benedict, and Catharina.

**And for those recently deceased:** Audrey A. Proscia (Mother of Jerri Teodosio), Henry Andreas, Paul Krieger; and Ann Bellissimo.

**Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way:** James Moore, Jason Larson, Amy Giraldi, Gavin Reed, Kevin Larrabee, Ned Parker, Joe Murray, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Michael Day, Andrew Smithey, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

**Mass Schedule**

<b>December 31st</b>	8:45 A.M. 5:30 P.M.
<b>January 1st</b>	9:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 12:00 P.M. Misa en español
<b>January 2nd</b>	8:45 A.M. 12:00 P.M.

**Coming Home this Christmas**

**season...**To those of you who have been away, we are happy that you have come to our Christmas celebration. If something in you says that you would like to talk about reconnecting, **please call Joe Mitcho at 703-967-9959.** We would love to hear from you! Peace to you during this beautiful season.



The Folks at St. Francis of Assisi in Triangle



**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.

**End of Year Statements: Parishioners will be provided with a statement of their donations for 2014. Statements will be mailed by the end of January. It is not necessary to request a statement.**

**Faith Formation Office**  
Phone: 703-221-4978 Fax: 703-221-3246  
**Office Hours:**  
**Monday—Thursday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm**  
**Friday: 8:00 am—12:00 pm**

**Religious Education Calendar**

**Christmas Break—December 21st-January 4th. RE Class resumes on Thursday, January 8th.**

- Jan. 8 Thursday RE Session
- 11 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
- 15 **NO RE—MLK Holiday**
- 18 **NO RE—MLK Holiday**
- 22 Thursday RE Session
- 25 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
- 29 Thursday RE Session

**Retreat Dates:** The retreat dates are set for the **2014-2015** Religious Education Year. Please mark your calendars for these mandatory retreats. All retreats take place in the Parish Center. For more details or to sign up for one of the Mini Retreats, please visit the website: <http://www.stfrancis.org/Ministry/Religious%20Education-441-Home/>

**Confirmation Year 2:** For those receiving in the Spring of 2015; Candidates must attend the **Extended Retreat.** Please visit the Confirmation page on the St. Francis website to sign up.



Extended Retreat (Candidates Only)  
**Saturday, February 28th**  
**3:00 pm-9:00 pm**

**Confirmation Year 1:** For those receiving in the Spring of 2016; Candidates must attend the **Extended Retreat.**

Extended Retreat (Candidates Only)  
**Friday, February 27th** **4:30 pm-9:30 pm**

**First Communion:** For those receiving in the Spring of 2015; Candidates must attend the **Extended Retreat.** Visit the First Communion page on the St. Francis website to sign up.

Extended Retreat  
**Saturday, April 18th** **10:00 am-3:00 pm**



**Retreat for all men.** Start the new year with a weekend retreat for men on **January 16th-18th, 2015 at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean, VA.** The Rev. Julio Martinez, OFM, Conv. will be the retreat director. **For**

**reservations or information, please contact Paul Allard at 703-569-1040 or the Retreat House at 703-356-4243. See [www.dominicanretreat.org](http://www.dominicanretreat.org) for details.**

**Baptismal Preparation Class**—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, January 11, 2015 from 1:15p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**SUNDAY, December 21—Fourth Sunday of Advent**

5:30 PM †John Brown Oder  
 †Ann Grande  
 †Ceasar Noriega  
 Felina Corpuz  
 †Edward Murphy

7:30 AM Susanna Choi  
 †Ann Grande  
 Melanie Campbell  
 †Agnes Han  
 †Brian Moore

9:00 AM †Ann Grande  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik  
 †Reed Furman

10:30 AM †Viola Lopez

12:00 PM The Cryan Family  
 †Matthew M. Linstrom  
 †Gerald Bigalke  
 †Clara Kennedy  
 †Robert and †Frank Layne  
 †Solpecio Tornes  
 †Lucia Tornes  
 †Mary Rozon

1:30 PM People of the Parish

5:30 PM †Helen Tyrer

**MONDAY, December 22—Advent Weekday**

8:45 AM †Agnes Han  
 Souls in Purgatory

**TUESDAY, December 23—Advent Weekday**

8:45 AM †Michael Ryan  
 †Agnes Han

**WEDNESDAY, December 24—Advent Weekday**

8:45 AM **NO MASS**

4:00 PM †Bill, †Marion, and †Kelsey Richmond  
 †Raymond Barber  
 †Christopher Hrabsky

4:00 PM (GYM)  
 †John Morrissey  
 †Robert Macumber  
 †Gerard Egal

6:00 PM †Bryan Richardson  
 †Barbara Arcuni

6:00 PM (GYM)

8:00 PM †James Harding  
 †Patricia and †Michael Ryan  
 †Ann Grande  
 †Bob Walker  
 †Richard T. Hess

8:00 PM Misa en español (GYM)

10:30 PM †Fr. Alexius Mulrenan  
 †Janet Sarsfield  
 †Joseph and †Julia Flood  
 †Deborah McGrath  
 †Al Maziekus

**THURSDAY, December 25—Christmas Day**

9:00 AM †Margaret E. Strobl  
 †Joseph and †Marian Pittel  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik

10:30 AM Christmas Novena  
 †Mike Dowd

12:00 PM †Matthew M. Linstrom  
 †Clara Kennedy  
 †Jerry and †Connie O'Shea

**FRIDAY, December 26—St. Stephen**

8:45 AM Christmas Novena  
 †Mark Norman Olds  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik  
 †James F. Callahan  
 †Robert E. Williams  
 †Agnes Han

**SATURDAY, December 27—St. John**  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Mass Intentions on Sunday, December 28, 2014**

5:30 PM Christmas Novena

7:30 AM John and Janice Wagner  
 †Vincent and †Loretta Jacobsmeyer

9:00 AM †Lee Dixon  
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik

10:30 AM †Viola Lopez  
 †Marguerite L'Heureux  
 Karen Fagan

12:00 PM †Matthew M. Linstrom  
 †Clara Kennedy  
 †Ann Grande  
 †Loretta M. Garzke  
 People of the Parish  
 †Arthur Cuellar



**Readings for the Week of December 21, 2014**

**Monday** 1 Samuel 1:24-28; 1 Samuel 2;  
 Luke 1:46-56

**Tuesday** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

**Wednesday** 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 1:18-25

**Thursday** 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;  
 Hebrew 1:1-6;  
 John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

**Friday** Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

**Saturday** 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

**Sunday** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or  
 Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3;  
 Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or  
 Hebrew 11:8; 11-12, 17-19;  
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

*Christmas Blessings*