

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

If you look at your "house" and you realize it is in need of repairs then maybe you should begin "repairing it" by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. **To help you, four priests will be available in the church this Wednesday evening December 9th from 7 PM to 9 PM hearing confessions.** Stop in and get your "house" in order for Christmas.



Liturgical Ministers

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.**

Altar Server Training

Paul Jacobsmeyer will conduct altar server training on:

Saturday, December 12th
from 1:00pm—2:00pm



Rising 5th graders and older boys and girls are eligible.
Contact Paul at 703-730-8280, or e-mail pjjake4@aol.com.

It is the Second Sunday of Advent.
Today we light the second candle on the Advent wreath; the Faith candle. It is also called the Bethlehem candle. It reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. Is your journey off course? Let Stephen Ministry work with you to keep this Advent season and beyond prayerful and your journey on track. **Please call 703-221-4312 and then press 4 or email Kathy Walker at kwalker@stfrncis.org to get started.**

Un-Trim A Tree Program

St. Francis of Assisi parish has supported the Un-Trim-A-Tree Program for more than 15 years, providing assistance for families in need in Dumfries, Triangle, and Quantico. This year St. Francis of Assisi will also be providing gifts for a number of refugee families' sponsored by Catholic Charities. To assist you in the process we have some answers to your frequently asked questions (FAQ'S) below:



What do I do with the tag? Take it home, shop for the gift and return the tag taped to the present by the request date.

What is the tag for? The tag is very important as it indicates the individual information, what the individual wants and also the way the gifts are sort and distributed.

Do I wrap the gift? NO. All gifts must be new and unwrapped, since this is the way we ensure the individual receives at least one of their wishes.

What if I lose the tag? When you get the tag home, copy the information down to ensure that if you lose the tag you still have the pertinent information like: name, sex, age, code, and wish.

What if I can't find the gift request on the tag? If you are unable to locate the requested gift, you can always buy a Gift Card so the parent or the individual can purchase the gift.

What if the gift request is too expensive? The guidelines for the Un-Trim-A-Tree program are that each individual gets two wishes with a maximum cost of \$35.00 per wish (this doesn't apply for the presents for the Refugee Families). If the present exceeds the maximum, you can always buy a Gift Card instead.

Does my present have to be back on the date requested? Yes! In order for us to meet the deadline, the present must be back on time. Keep in mind this is a huge program with over 700 children being served. If unable to fulfill a request, please return the tag back to the tree before December 7th.

What do I do with the Gift Cards? If purchasing a gift card, place the gift card with the tag in an envelope and drop it off at the Catch-All-box. Please do not put Gift Cards inside the presents.

Where do I drop the Present? On November 27th, St. Francis of Assisi placed a Christmas Angel Giving Tree on display in the vestibule of the church; gifts may be placed under the tree. They are removed daily. **Presents must be returned by Wednesday, December 16th.**

Can I give additional items than those requests on the tag? Yes, we always welcome and make good use of additional presents.

If I still have questions concerning the Un-trim-A-Tree Program? Please contact **Francia Salguero 703-221-6344 or 571-572-5862 calisa3@verizon.net**. Thank you very much for your continuing support to this program.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Francis House Corner

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **70** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need we are in dire need of:

- Canned Tuna
- Canned Fruit
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Spaghetti
- Small/ Medium can or plastic jars Spaghetti Sauce
- Cereal
- Hamburger Helper
- Canned goods (vegetables and soup)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly



For more details, please contact Francia at 703-221-6344 or calisa3@verizon.net.

Social Justice: Franciscan Action and Advocacy (FA&A)

This coming Christmas, please consider **purchasing the same kinds of gifts online that were available in the past at our parish Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade sales.** To view the catalog, please visit <http://goo.gl/luHze6>.

Please also consider **giving a Christmas gift that will help International Justice Mission fight human trafficking**—rescuing victims, bringing criminals to justice, restoring survivors, and strengthening justice systems. You just browse the catalog, choose a gift, pay, and then download and share your gift with a customizable e-card. It's easy! Your donation goes directly toward the gift category you select. All gift orders are tax deductible. To learn more, please visit <https://www.ijm.org/gift-catalog/how-it-works> and <https://www.ijm.org/gift-catalog/gifts>. Please contact Rob with any questions.

Save the date! The next **March for Life** in Washington, D.C. is **Friday, January 22, 2016**. Seat sign-ups on the bus going up from the parish will open soon...

Upcoming FA&A meetings (all are welcome!): The **V.O.I.C.E.** (Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement) team here at the parish is meeting to work on community issues on **Sunday, January 3rd**, at **10 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, January 16th**, at **11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our **Care for Creation Committee** (focused on environmental work/integral ecology) is meeting on **Sunday, January 17th**, at **9 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting on **Wednesday, January 20th**, at **7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom**.

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

(<http://www.stfrancis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at rgoraieb@stfrancis.org or 703-221-4978, ext. 228.

Boletín Semanal

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 **70** familias. En estos momentos nuestra despensa de comida esta escasa de los siguientes alimentos:

- Atún
- Fruta enlatado
- Macarrones con queso
- Espagueti
- Salsa para espaguetis
- Cereal
- Canecas con vegetales
- Canecas con sopa

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales serán el **viernes, diciembre 18** a las 7:00pm en la librería de la escuela. Para mas información por favor llamar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.

Misa En Honor a Nuestra Señora Virgen de Guadalupe

Los invitamos a la celebración a Nuestra Señora Virgen de Guadalupe. El sábado, Diciembre 12 a las 7:00pm en la iglesia. Para mas información por favor hablar con el padre John Heffernan al 703-864-2053.

Misa de Nochebuena—Los invitamos a participar de la pastorela y misa de nochebuena el jueves, diciembre 24 a las 8:00pm en el gimnasio de la iglesia. Ven y acompáñanos.

No Habrá Misa en Español el Día de la Navidad—El

Viernes, 25 de Diciembre no tendremos misa en español. Si usted desea asistir a misa de Navidad tendremos misas en ingles a las 9:00am, 10:30am, and 12:15pm.

Dando en Navidad—Por los últimos 15 años nuestra Iglesia

San Francisco de Asís ha asistido a las familias en necesidad del área de Dumfries y Triangle con regalos de Navidad. En el vestíbulo de la iglesia encontraran dos arboles de navidad con etiquetas con información para los regalos. Si usted desea ayudar a una familia necesitada por favor tome una etiqueta, compre el regalo y devuélvalo sin empacar con la etiqueta pegada al regalo antes del miércoles, diciembre 16. Para mas información por favor llamar a **Francia al 703-221-6344.**

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Teddy Placek, Annelies Gendron, Steve Dowell, Gregory Dowell, Patricia Littlefield, A.A. McGill, Michael Ryan, Michael Creegan, Hunter Harris, Katherine Gonsorcik, Nancy Brown, Celine Nebbia, Gizzy Slocum, and Fran Phoenix.

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Ian French, Jeffrey Miller, Jeffrey Monken, Elizabeth L. Keegan, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

Best Advent Ever!

Mathew Kelly is returning to provide "The Best Advent Ever: Rediscover Mercy." If you liked Mathew's Best Lent Ever series, earlier this year, you will love his Advent program. This e-mail program will provide inspiring videos and spiritual coaching that will help to "transform your life, relationships, work and ability to genuinely embrace and experience life." (Dynamic Catholic) This program is free and will begin on **November 29th and run through December 23, 2015.** Log on to www.dynamiccatholic.com; at the top banner click on "Catholic Moments" and scroll down to Advent & Christmas where you will find further instructions to sign up. Get the most from your Advent experience with Mathew Kelly. **For more information, please contact John Habel, at jhabel@stfrncis.org.**

Advent Yoga class on Tuesday, December 15th from 6:00PM to 7:30PM in St. Catherine Room. A donation of \$15 is suggested, however any amount is appreciated. All class proceeds will be donated to the St. Francis Un-Trim-A-Tree Project. Class will be limited to the first 20 registrants. **For more information, please contact Rita Evans at 540-270-0667 or at breathofheavenyoga@outlook.com.**



Mark Your Calendars for the Annual Festival of Praise!

December 18th at 7:30 p.m.



Enjoy a wonderful evening of Christmas Praise presented by the combined choirs and instrumentalists of the Saint Francis Music Ministry, full of music that will stir your heart and leave you feeling joyful! After the Festival, join us in the Parish Hall for food and fellowship. The Concert is free of charge, however a free will offering

will be accepted to help cover the cost of the Concert.

For more information, please contact Nikole Girdali at nikoleg@stfrncis.org.

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Religious Education Calendar

We still have room in all grades if you need to register your child. Also, we are in need of **two** more Catechists for Sundays at 8:45 a.m.-10:00a.m. and 10:30a.m.-11:45 a.m. **For more information, please call the RE Office at 703-221-3127 or email recoor@stfrncis.org.**

Dec. 6 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
10 Thursday RE Session
13 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
17 Thursday RE Session

Christmas Break—December 20th-January 3rd. RE Class resumes on Thursday, January 7th.

****Please note the change in the RE Calendar: November 15th Sunday RE was cancelled due to the Parish Thanksgiving Francis Fest. June 5th will therefore be the last day of RE for all Sunday RE classes.****

Do not be afraid of presenting Christ to someone who does not yet know him. Christ is the true answer, the most complete answer to all the questions which concern the human person and his destiny. Without Christ, the human person remains an unsolvable riddle. Therefore, have courage to present Christ! Certainly, you must do this in a way which respects each person's freedom of conscience but you must do it.

Saint John Paul II

Service Hours Opportunity—Any Confirmation students or scouts (12 years of age or older) in need of service hours, please contact **Brittany Steenberge at 317-509-2247 or bsteen10@gmail.com** to help with the Officer Candidate School Holiday Party on Quantico Marine Corps Base at OCS on **December 12th from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Follow us on:

Facebook: St. Francis of Assisi Church
Twitter: @StFrancisVA
Instagram: stfrancischurchva



Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, December 13, 2015 from 1:30p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Mid-County Physical Therapy
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the Week of December 6, 2015

Monday Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
 Tuesday Genesis 3:9-15, 20;
 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
 Wednesday Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30
 Thursday Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
 Friday Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
 Saturday Zechariah 2:14-17 or
 Revelation 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;
 Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Luke 1:26-38 or
 Luke 1:39-47
 Sunday Zephaniah 3:14-18a;
 Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;
 Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Please join us **Tuesday, December 8th** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the **St. Catherine Room**. All are welcome. **For more information, please call Otella Cregan at 703-221-4692.**

Save the Date: Steve Angrisano, a popular Catholic musician and composer, will be leading a three-part music and Advent Reflection series from **December 13th-15th at St. Francis.**




Are you looking for an opportunity to examine your relationship with God, your family and others in your life? If so, then a Cornerstone retreat is what you need. These 26-hour retreats are held on separate dates for men and women. Both will be held at the San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post, VA. Do not let an opportunity to reflect, renew and strengthen your faith pass you by. *Online registration begins December 13th for the men's retreat and January 4th for the women's retreat.* <http://www.stfrncis.org/cornerstone/>

Men's Cornerstone retreat: March 11th at 5:00pm—March 12th at 7:00pm (\$120 for double room and \$140 for single room).

Women's Cornerstone retreat: April 8th at 5:00pm—April 9th at 7:00pm (\$120 for double room and \$140 for single room).

If you would like to make a donation for **Christmas Memorial Flowers** envelopes are available on the tables in the vestibule. Anyone who would like to remember their loved ones can fill out the information on the envelope and drop it in **the catch-all slot on the wall in the vestibule.** Those names will be listed in the bulletin during the Christmas Season.




SUNDAY, 5:30 PM	December 6—Second Sunday of Advent †Paul Krieger †Kathleen Raymond †Andy Hite †Santina Guiliano †John Plower
7:30 AM	†Irene and †Stan Wagner †Kathleen Raymond †Helen Fay Swartzbeck †Naldo Ponsi
9:00 AM	†Nicholas Colelitti †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathleen Raymond People of the Parish †Kathleen Raymond Christopher Endrizzi
10:30 AM	†Clara Kennedy Anna Endrizzi †Kathleen Raymond †Dierdre Jett †Doris Burkard
12:15 PM	Misa en español †Paula Johnson †Kathleen Raymond
1:45 PM 5:30 PM	MONDAY, December 7—St. Ambrose †Nick Pirko, Sr. †Kathleen Raymond Kaylee Bennett †Maria and †Gervasio Favor †Eileen Bolen
7:00 PM	TUESDAY, December 8—Immaculate Conception People of the Parish †Donna Bowman Old †Kathleen Raymond †Janet Sarsfield Fr. Joe Kiernan, O.F.M.
8:45 AM	WEDNESDAY, December 9—St. Juan Diego †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathleen Raymond
8:45 AM	THURSDAY, December 10—Advent Weekday †Enrique Cuellar
8:45 AM	FRIDAY, December 11—Advent Weekday †Will Cannon †Ray Zicaffose †Doris Burkard
4:00 PM 5:30 PM	SATURDAY, December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe Sacrament of Reconciliation †Audrey Proscia Betsy and Karen Dennison Fiona and Hazel Winston †Miguel and †Felicitas Castaneda

Please Note: The Mass Intention book for 2016 will open on **Monday, December 14, 2015.** To schedule a Mass you may come in or call the office. We also have envelopes located on the tables in the vestibule. Just drop the envelope in the catch-all box.