

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Frank is coming back for a visit next weekend!! He called me a couple of weeks ago needing help. As you know he is now assigned to St. Peter Claver which is a parish that serves the poor in Macon, Georgia. The parish school currently has 164 children enrolled and is made up of 24% Catholic and 76% non-Catholic students. 60% of the student population receives free or reduced lunch. They have a Tuition Assistance program which serves 85% (138) of the student body. In addition, all 138 students are helped through individual donations and scholarships as a result of the parish's annual campaign and fundraising.

Fr. Frank saw a need and called me asking for help to address it. It is important for the kids in the parish school to have something constructive to do once they are out of school for the summer. The neighborhood in which Frank's parish and school is located and where his students are growing up does not afford them the opportunity to go out and play. It is not safe for them to be outside.

The parish started a summer camp last year so the kids would have a safe place to go to and have fun! The fee to attend the summer camp to cover all the costs is \$125 per week which includes all the field trips, a camp T-shirt and an afternoon snack. Fr. Frank has discovered that there were many poor kids who wanted to attend the summer camp last year but couldn't because their parents could not afford it. This was true especially for the Hispanic families.

Fr. Frank asked if he could come back to St. Francis and put on a Pasta Dinner to raise money for summer camp scholarships that would help kids who cannot afford to attend the summer camp. I told him that I thought that would be a great idea so he is coming here **NEXT WEEKEND**. The dinner is going to be on Saturday night **MARCH 5TH** in the Parish Center Dining Room beginning at 6:30 PM. There is no cost just a free will offering which will go to the scholarship fund. I am going to buy the pasta, salad and bread. Fr. Frank is going to make the sauce for the pasta but he said he could use some help. If anyone wants to make some sauce for the dinner or make a desert he would appreciate it. You can use the link below to sign up if you would like to bring something. Thank you in advance for your help!!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4ea9aa29a2fc1-father>.

Confession Schedule for Lent

Confessions will be heard every Wednesday during Lent from **6:30 pm until 8:00 pm**.
In addition to Saturday's from 4—5pm.

During Lent Mass will be celebrated at 8:45am and 12 noon Monday through Friday.

Dear Community of St. Francis Parish,

Your warm welcome for Br. Richard and me, as we came to preach about the Franciscan Challenge this past weekend, was truly an example of the wonderful Franciscan hospitality for which your community is known.

Your care and support of the Franciscan Friars who serve you now, and those to come in the future, is evidence of the love you have for those who have served you in the past.

Thank you for your participation in our annual Provincial fundraising event. Your gift ensures that the Franciscan spirit will endure in our world and in our church.

Thank you for being *the Body of Christ* to all the Friars and to the people we serve.

A very special thanks also to Fr. Kevin and all the Friars of the parish for sharing their home with us in a wonderful, fraternal way.

Many blessings,



Fr. David Convertino, OFM
Executive Director
Office of Development
The Franciscan Friars of Holy Name Province

Please visit our website for more information or to donate to the Franciscan Challenge at www.thefranciscans.org.



Leap Year!! One "extra day" to get it right! Just remember that Stephen Ministry is here to help you if you need it. Please call **Kathy Walker** at **703-221-4312** and then press 4 or email at kwalker@stfrncis.org to start.

CORNERSTONE ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, TRIANGLE, VA

Register Today! Only a few spaces open!
Women's Retreat: April 8—9, 2016
(\$120 for double room and \$140 for single room)

Cornerstone is a 26-hour retreat, held on separate dates for men and women ages 21 and over. It provides the opportunity to get away from all the stress of the outside world and enjoy all that God has to offer, while meeting others in our Christian community.

The retreat begins on Friday evening at 5:00pm and ends at approximately 7:00pm on Saturday evening with a liturgy. Cornerstone will take place at San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post, VA. Sleeping accommodations, all meals and snacks are provided. During the weekend, there will be time for prayer, Scripture reading and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please register today at <http://www.stfrncis.org/cornerstone/>.

St. Francis House Corner

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **60** families this week. At this moment we are in need of **cereal** and **reusable bags (no paper bags)**. For more information about the St.



Francis House Food Pantry, please call Francia at 703-221-6344. Thank you for your continuing support.

When Did I see You Hungry, Lord?

St. Francis has pledged to provide Saturday dinners during the winter months at the Winter Shelter and **we need your help**. Sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board in the vestibule. **For more information please contact Francia at 703-221-6344 or calisa3@verizon.net.**

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales serán el **viernes, marzo 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.**

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francis—gradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **60** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **cereal y bolsas reusables**. **Muchas gracias por sus donaciones.**

Quando te vi con hambre, Señor?—San Francis se ha comprometido a proveer cenas para el alberge todos los sábados. Necesitamos su ayuda. Para mas información por favor llamar a **Francia al 703-221-6344** o escribirle a su correo electrónico **calisa3@verizon.net** o firmarse en las hojas que están en el vestíbulo de la iglesia.

Sopa y Las Estaciones (Vía Crucis)—Los viernes durante el tiempo de Cuaresma estaremos celebrando “Sopa y las Estaciones” empezando el **12 de febrero a las 6:00pm** con una cena de sopa y pan en el comedor del Centro Parroquial seguido por las estaciones en español a las 8:00pm en la iglesia. Los esperamos a que se una con nosotros en este tiempo de comunión y de oración.

Servicio Penitencial—El miércoles, **Marzo 16 de 6:30-8:00pm** tendremos en nuestra parroquia el Servicio Penitencial, oportunidad para reflexionar en la palabra de Dios, examinar nuestra conciencia y confesar nuestros pecados.

Horario de Confesiones durante el tiempo de Cuaresma—Las confesiones serán escuchadas todos los viernes de 8:00-9:00pm.

Sacramentos para Adultos—Cualquier adulto que desee celebrar algún Sacramento por favor contactar al **Padre John Heffernan al 703-864-2053**. El Padre John se encuentra de viaje en estos momentos y regresara en marzo 10. por favor llamarlo después de esta fecha.

Votive Candles—Envelopes are provided for the candle money. **Please place them in the Catch-All slot located in the vestibule of the church.**



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

For those of you who have thought about getting involved in our parish’s social justice ministry, but maybe need more information before taking the first step, please contact Rob via phone, email or in office (contact info below)! There are many different ways to get involved here in Franciscan Action and Advocacy. For example: *care for creation/environment; respect life; anti-human trafficking; legislative advocacy; community outreach (immigration/refugees, homeless, at-risk youth, and more); faith formation; multicultural ministries; Franciscan Holy Name Province Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation efforts; interfaith dialogue; communications; prayer; and more!* Our work is Christ-centered and in harmony with the Holy Scriptures and Social Teaching of the Catholic Church.

March FA&A meetings: 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, March 6th, at 10 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting on **Wednesday, March 9th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Grade 7 Classroom**. Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, March 19th, 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, March 20th, at 9 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, March 19th, at 9:30 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. (FAAC meetings are only open to council members. Parishioners are encouraged, however, to submit questions or ideas for FAAC discussion or consideration.)

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.stfrncis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at rgoraieb@stfrncis.org or 703-221-3127, ext. 228.

Many Members One Body, a support group for gay and lesbian Catholics and their families, will be held on **Thursday, March 3rd, at 7 pm** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. For more information, please contact **Fr. Kevin Downey at 703-221-4044.**

Could not find the perfect Christmas gift for your friend? Why not sponsor someone for the next Cursillo weekend? This is a weekend opportunity to get closer to Christ, and share in the Catholic community. **The women's weekend will be held March 3rd-6th**, at San Damiano Retreat Center at White Post. **The men's weekend will be April 21st-24th** at Missionhurst. If you are interested in more information, please call **Pequette Schwerin at 703-590-8492** or email at **wislady@comcast.net**. You can also access the website at **arlingtoncursillo.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

Religious Education has a New Website Page! Parents please check out the new Parish website at stfrncis.org. Religious Education has a new page along with some new added features. We have a Parent Blog with insightful articles and we are on Pinterest! Please feel free to email me with Catholic resources that you have found helpful.

Email Marianne Hayes, DRE at recoor@stfrncis.org

Feb. 28 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
Mar. 3 Thursday RE Session
6 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
10 Thursday RE Session
13 Sunday RE Sessions I&II

HUNGERING FOR THE JOURNEY—Join our

parish community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. All RE students and SFAS students were given a Rice Bowl. Please have your family participate in this wonderful act of mercy. If you give up a meal or do not movies have your child donate to the Rice Bowl and do not forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app! Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives! For more information contact Marianne Hayes, DRE recoor@stfrncis.org



STEMFest 2016 is coming to St. Francis!

St. Francis of Assisi School will be holding a Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) festival ("STEMFest 2016") in May and we need your help!

You don't need to be a Scientist, Engineer, or Mathematician to help! Yes, we can use anyone with a STEM-related background who is willing to speak to students about their career. We can also use volunteers willing to help brainstorm learning activities, collect materials, solicit potential sponsors and speakers, set up for the festival, run activities, conduct demonstrations, and help with cleanup.

If you can help, please contact **Marc DiCocco** at 703-897-4311 or via e-mail at MarcDFlyer@gmail.com. Mr. DiCocco will be holding a kick-off meeting soon to discuss plans, needs, and ideas. Please consider helping in any way you can!

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Mary's Flower Shop
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Celine Nebbia, Fran Phoenix, Michael Breeding, Richard Hamner, Clyde Richardson, and Annelies Gendron.

And for those recently deceased: Craig Weirich; and Bill Skillman.

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

ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP—Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 8th 2016 at 7:30PM in the Br. Juniper Room**—Our topic will be Chapters 3 and 4 of Pope Francis' recent encyclical on the care of creation—Laudato Si'. This document as well as the study guide which we will be using is available on the parish website at: <http://www.stfrncis.org/environmentintegral-ecology/>. All men of the parish are welcome. For more information please contact **Tony Mercogliano** at amercogliano@gmail.com or 571-332-7048.

BE THE DIFFERENCE

THE SCHOOL YEAR STARTS MARCH 1ST IN PERU!! IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE. This year we have children from 3 different Catholic schools who need help with their tuition. Their needs range from \$90-\$500 for a year of schooling. This year we are adding two more opportunities to help our sister parish families. Santa Ana school is offering a badly needed after school program. Could you donate \$5 to pay for one child to have 1 month of tutoring and childcare? Any increments above that would be appreciated. The entire cost of the program, for 50 children, is only \$2,250 for the school year. Santa Ana has a highly effective micro-loan program that has benefited several groups of women to start or enhance new businesses. This year we would like to supplement this fund so that they can increase the number of loans. You will find marked envelopes for all these donations on the bulletin board. Please be sure to return them by **March 6th**. See the bulletin board and/or website for more information or call **Sharon Danner** at 703-680-0860.

Cyber Seniors—Join us on **Thursday, March 3, 2016, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Br. Juniper Room.** Among other things, we

will be exploring the various types of computer devices, (i.e. iPad, Chromebook, laptop, Surface Book, etc...) and the advantages and limitations of each. We will also look at the types of storage devices available (i.e. flash drive, external hard drive, disc, etc...) as well as the Cloud. We will talk about options for backing up critical information from your electronic devices. These are **entry level sessions** designed for seniors who want to become more comfortable with the electronic devices that are now part of all our lives. **No prior computer experience or technical vocabulary required!**



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Third Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, February 28—3rd Sunday of Lent
 5:30 PM †John Shookster
 †George and †Helen Callaway
 †Jean Stanley
 7:30 AM †George Winckler
 †Judy Cloy
 9:00 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 10:30 AM People of the Parish
 12:15 PM †Clara Kennedy
 †Arline Prior
 †Adrian Steven Robinson
 Grace Bergwall
 1:45 PM Misa en español
 5:30 PM †Sara Belli
 †George and †Helen Callaway

MONDAY, February 29—Lenten Weekday
 8:45 AM
 12:00 PM

TUESDAY, March 1—Lenten Weekday
 8:45 AM †Thomas and †Beverly McClutchy
 Gretchen May
 †Ray Michalak
 †Mary Sikora
 Alicia McGinnis
 †Harry Rodman
 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 2—Lenten Weekday
 8:45 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 12:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 3—Lenten Weekday
 8:45 AM
 12:00 PM

FRIDAY, March 4—Lenten Weekday
 8:45 AM
 12:00 PM †Joyce and †Don McVay
 †Thomas Ennis

SATURDAY, March 5—Lenten Weekday
 4:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation
Mass Intentions on Sunday, March 6, 2016
 5:30 PM Ryan Staten
 †Virginia Elisabetta Timpano
 †Jean Stanley
 7:30 AM †Judy Cloy
 †Lee Dixon
 †Denny Larsen
 9:00 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 10:30 AM People of the Parish
 12:15 PM †Clara Kennedy
 The Mandina Family
 1:45 PM Misa en español
 5:30 PM †Elizabeth Benedetti

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 Instagram: stfrancischurchva



Readings for the Week of February 28, 2016

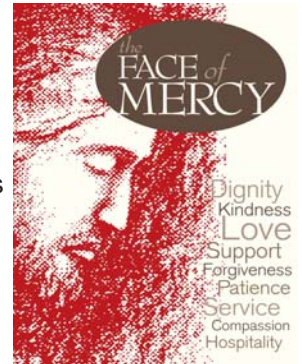
Monday 2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Luke 4:24-30
Tuesday Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35
Wednesday Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19
Thursday Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23
Friday Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34
Saturday Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14
Sunday Joseph 5:9a, 10-12;
 2 Corinthians 5:17-21;
 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Celebrate Lent with FRIENDS

HOSTS may pick up their materials this weekend (February 27th-28th) after all Masses or stop by the parish office during the week. **Sessions begin the week of February 29th. It is not too late to sign up!** Register today as a HOST or PARTICIPANT by visiting

www.stfrancis.org/small-groups

The FACE OF MERCY is a five-week series featuring readings, teachings and testimonials. This series provides time to build trust within existing friendships, and develop new ones. It's a way to help one another move forward on a path to spiritual growth. All are welcome!



There is a \$10.00 fee per participant, to be collected at your first meeting. Groups will not meet during Holy Week and Easter.

Go on a Mission Without Leaving Triangle

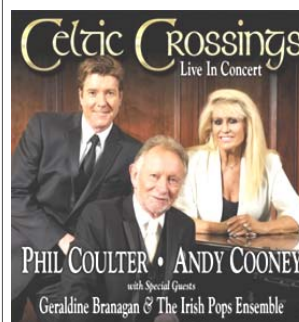
Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM will be leading our Lenten Parish Mission on discipleship in the Franciscan tradition in this Year of Mercy. Please join us in the church for three evenings—**February 28th, 29th, and March 1st from 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.**

What is a parish mission? A mission is a mini retreat designed for busy people; an opportunity to step back a bit, to slow down and simply reconnect our lives with God; a time of spiritual refreshment and invigoration.

Buy tickets after Mass today and March 5th-6th

Save the ticket processing fee

One night **ONLY—Friday, March 18th at 8pm**
Forest Park High School Auditorium



The Powerful and popular songs of **Phil Coulter**, Ireland's Musical Ambassador with the magnificent voice of **Andy Cooney** and **Geraldine Branagan** bring together a RARE 10 city tour for an evening of outstanding Irish music, joy, and culture for all. Ticket information (**\$36-\$49**) and video samples at

www.celtic-crossingsdc16.org.