

From the Pastor's Desk

Fr. Frank was "blown away" by the success of the pasta dinner and the generosity of the parish!! He was hoping that the dinner could raise maybe three or four thousand dollars to help the poor kids in his parish so they could go to the parish's summer camp. **When the final total hit a little over \$19,000 his eyes filled up and he was speechless (a moment that I enjoyed!).** Our parish is unbelievably generous for which both Frank and I thank you!!! How Frank performed the "miracle of the multiplication of the pasta" that night I will never know. When I saw the line of people going into the Parish Center after the 5:30 p.m. Mass stretching almost back to the church I panicked. I went in through the kitchen door expecting to find mayhem but there was Frank and a group of volunteers busy stirring the pasta, making salads, and putting out deserts and everything was calm. When I asked him if he wanted me to order pizzas he threw me out of the kitchen. The evening was a great success—everyone was fed, everyone had a great time and because of this a lot of kids in Macon, Georgia are going to have a great and safe summer. Thank you to everyone who financially contributed, who worked with Frank in the kitchen and who donated food for the evening.

The largest church denomination in the U.S. is the Catholic Church. The second largest is "fallen away" Catholics followed by the Baptists. This statistic always is on my mind and how we can get those who have left the Church "to come home". We all know someone in our families or among our friends who have left for one reason or another. Reach out to them and tell them about our **Come Home Program** that we are offering here at **St. Francis on Tuesdays May 3rd, 10th, and 17th**. Joe and Jean Mitcho provide this ministry with great wisdom and sensitivity and I am part of it too. We advertise this program but a personal invitation really works the best in getting someone to come to it. So if you know someone who has left the church reach out to them and encourage them to contact Joe and Jean at jfmitcho44@gmail.com or by e-mailing me at frkevin@stfrancis.org.

Our Lenten Journey is almost over. Have you learned something about yourself that needs more exploring? Maybe with a confidential, one-to-one, lay minister right here at St. Francis? Do not let Lent be an end. Make it your new beginning. **Stop by and talk with Kathy Walker, or please call 703-221-4312 and then press 4 to chat. or email at kwalker@stfrancis.org to keep exploring.**



If you would like to make a donation for **Easter Memorial Flowers**, and remember your loved ones in this way please fill out the information on the envelope on the table in the vestibule and drop it in the catch-all slot. These names will be listed in the bulletin during the Easter Season.

During Holy Week, Mass will be celebrated at 8:45 am and 12 noon Monday through Wednesday.

There will be NO Mass at 8:45 am and 12 noon on Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

Schedule for Holy Week and Easter Sunday March 20th—March 27th

March 20	Palm Sunday
Regular Mass Schedule	
March 23	Wednesday
6:30-8:00 PM	Individual Confession
March 24	Holy Thursday
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
8:00 PM	Mass of the Lord's Supper La Cena del Señor: 8:00 PM en el Gimnasio
March 25	Good Friday
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer
3:00 PM	Liturgy of Good Friday
6:00 PM	Via Crucis/The Way of the Cross— Church Parking Lot
7:00 PM	Liturgy of Good Friday en español en el Gimnasio
8:00 PM	Musical Meditation on the Stations of the Cross (Presented by all of St. Francis' Choirs and Musicians)
March 26	Holy Saturday
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer / Blessing of Easter foods
	<i>Note: <u>No Saturday 5:30 p.m. Mass</u></i>
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil
March 27	Easter Sunday
7:30 AM	Mass—Church
9:00 AM	Mass—Church
9:00 AM	Mass—in Parish Center
10:30 AM	Mass—Church
10:30 AM	Mass—in Parish Center
12:15 PM	Mass—Church
12:15 PM	Mass—in Parish Center
1:45 PM	Misa en Español

Note: No 5:30 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday

Confession Schedule for Lent

Confessions will be heard on **Wednesday, March 23, 2016** from 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm.

(No Confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday)

Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, March 25th and on Monday, March 28th

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

After all Masses this weekend (March 19th-20th), everyone will have the opportunity to very simply take part in an effort of the USCCB Anti-Trafficking Office and our parish Anti-Human Trafficking Committee to address **slave labor in the global supply chains of the fishing industry.**

Please save the date! Come to the parish on **Sunday, April 10th, at 10 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**, for a presentation on **“Making Informed Catholic End-of-Life Decisions.”** Sponsored by the parish and our Respect Life Committee, our guest speaker, Joseph W. Stuart, PLC, Attorney and Counsellor At Law, will help us to navigate the tough decisions we are often forced to confront—in a way that is faith-filled, loving and wise. Come make sense of all the confusion, come learn the differences between what the State permits and what the Catholic Church teaches, and much, much more. This will be an active discussion and you will leave better informed and better prepared to plan.

Our **Care for Creation Committee** (focused on environmental work/integral ecology) is meeting **this Sunday, March 20th, at 9 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room.**

Other upcoming FA&A meetings: Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting on **Wednesday, April 13th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom.** Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, April 16th, at 11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room.** Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, April 16th, 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.stfrancis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at rgoraieb@stfrancis.org or 703-221-3127, ext. 228.

Christ Centered Yoga begins multi-week sessions on **Tuesday evenings starting April 2nd and Saturday mornings starting April 16th.** Beginner and mixed level classes are available. Information can be found on the Parish website or email/ call contacts listed below.



For the *Tuesday class*, please contact **Rita Evans** at **540-270-0667** or breathofheavenyoga@outlook.com.

For the *Saturday class*, please contact **Tracy Morgan** at **540-446-9426** or spiritualyogava@gmail.com.

St. Francis House Corner



Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **56** families this week. At this moment we are in need of **Peanut Butter, Jelly** 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.**

Bill Mehr Drop-In Shelter

Many thanks to all who have responded so generously to requests for dinner items at the Drop-In shelter. With the help of our parishioners we provided **1,260 meals.** Beginning **Saturday, April 2nd,** our responsibility will shift to supplying **breakfast on Saturday mornings** as the Winter Shelter programs end. Directions and sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule. **For more information please call Francia at 571-572-5862.**

Donations for Refugee and Immigration Services

St. Francis House has received a request from the Refugee and Immigration Services to provide support for families who are relocating to the United States. The families can use the following **(NEW)** items:

Full and Queen size sheet sets, can openers, Kitchen and bathroom cleaning supplies, dish soap, mops w/pail, broom w/dust pan, toilet paper, paper towels, soap/body wash, alarm clocks, sponges, laundry detergent, kitchen trash cans, trash bags, shampoo, shower curtains w/hooks, light bulbs and lamps. **If you can help provide any of the above, please contact Francia Salguero at 571-572-5862 (cell) or email calisa3@verizon.net.**

Boletín Semanal

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 **56** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **crema de maní, mermelada y bolsas reusables.** Muchas gracias por sus donaciones.

Horario de La Semana Santa y Día de Pascuas

- Marzo 20** Domingo de Ramos
- Marzo 23** Miércoles 6:30pm-8:00pm Confesiones Individuales
- Marzo 24** Jueves Santo La Cena del Señor: 8:00pm en el Gimnasio.
- Marzo 25** Viacrucis en Español a las 6:00pm en el Parqueo de la iglesia seguido por la Misa de Viernes Santo a las 7:00pm en el Gimnasio.
- Marzo 27 Domingo de Pascuas** Misa en español en la iglesia a la 1:45pm.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK
 We would like to thank
Ameriprise Financial
 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 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 stfrancis.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@stfrancis.org

- Mar. 20—April 3rd NO RE, Easter Break. Classes will resume on April 7th.
- Apr. 10 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
14 Thursday RE Session
17 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
21 Thursday RE Session
24 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
28 Thursday RE Session

Important Dates—Confirmation 2016

April 10th (1pm-7pm) in the gym—Year II Confirmation Retreat with the NET Team.

April 16th (9am or 11am)—Reconciliation

- 9am—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 11am—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Thursday, May 19th (6:30pm or 8:00pm)—Confirmation Rehearsal

- 6:30pm—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 8:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Saturday, May 21st (10:00am or 2:00pm)—Confirmation

- 10:00am—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 2:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Important Dates—Confirmation 2017

April 9th (3pm-9pm) in the gym—Year I Confirmation Retreat with the NET Team.

April 15th/16th—Bread for Life Service Event

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4ea9aa29a2fc1-year>

Adult Confirmation classes will begin Tuesday, April 5th at 6:30pm in the Br. Juniper room (church side of campus). This six-week program is for Catholic adults who have already received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist (First Communion) and would like to complete initiation with Confirmation. Please register with Lisa Ostendorf and reserve a textbook lostendorf@stfrancis.org or 703-221-4044, ext. 277.

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



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 out or the 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@stfrancis.org



SAVE THE DATE

The Columbiettes will be hosting their Annual Spring Tea on **May 1, 2016 at 2 pm.**



CALLING.....ALL YOU IRISH LADIES by BIRTH OR MARRIAGE

Come by and see what is going on within our group! We would enjoy meeting you and having you JOIN us.

The Ladies of the Fr. Mychal Judge, O.F.M. Ladies Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians **will be meeting on Saturday, April 2, 2016** in the Br.

Juniper Room (located on the left side of the church). **Social time will be from 9:45 a.m.-10:00 a.m. and the meeting will be from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.** If you are: Catholic female of 16 years of age or older and Irish, Irish decent OR married to an Irish gentlemen, you are welcome to join us. There is also a way to become an associate member...come check us out!



You may further seek admittance to the FINEST Irish Catholic Organization in the World—all we ask is for you to live our motto of:

"Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity"

For more information or/and if you are eligible and interested in joining, please contact Mary Kay Jones at 540-287-4383 or jonesmk@aol.com.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Michael Creegan, Annelies Gendron, Sheryl Richardson, Clyde Richardson, Josephine DeSimone, Norma Eure, Celine Nebbia, Michael Breeding, and Richard Hamner.

And for those recently deceased: Fran Phoenix.

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.

PALM SUNDAY



SUNDAY, March 20—Palm Sunday
 5:30 PM †Donna Bowman Olds
 †Paul Krieger
 †Ron Emmons
 †Bernard Brommer
 †John and †Mary Misyak
 †Mary Lou Jackson
 7:30 AM †Judy Cloy
 †Janis Brodrick
 †Joseph P Conner, Jr.
 †Fran Phoenix
 Thomas Lee
 9:00 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 †Manie Perez
 †Peter Joseph Schwartz, Jr.
 10:30 AM †Lorenzo Gaglio
 12:15 PM †Clara Kennedy
 †Arline Prior
 The McHatton Family
 1:45 PM Misa en español
 5:30 PM People of the Parish

MONDAY, March 21—Monday of Holy Week
 8:45 AM
 12:00 PM

TUESDAY, March 22—Tuesday of Holy Week
 8:45 AM Patricia Russo
 12:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 23—Wednesday of Holy Week
 8:45 AM †Michael Joseph
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 †John Bernard MacKinnon
 †Kathryn Gonsorcik
 12:00 PM

THURSDAY, March 24—Holy Thursday
 8:45 AM **NO MASS**
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 8:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
 †Fr. Alexius Mulrenan, O.F.M.
 †Seth Mitcho
 †Robert Earl Williams
 8:00 PM Misa en español (Gym)

FRIDAY, March 25—Good Friday
 8:45 AM **NO MASS**
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 3:00 PM Liturgy of Good Friday
 7:00 PM Liturgy of Good Friday en español el Gimnasio
 8:00 PM Musical Meditation on the Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, March 26—Holy Saturday
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer/Blessing of Easter Food
8:00 PM Easter Vigil
 †Fr. Alexius Mulrenan, O.F.M.
 †Augustine and Marjorie Carroll
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik

Mass Intentions on Sunday, March 27, 2016

8:00 PM Easter Vigil
 7:30 AM †Judy Cloy
 †Mel Tossell
 †Scott Kujawa
 9:00 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 †Avelina Sembillo
 †Peter Joseph Schwarz
 †Bob Walker
 9:00 AM (Gym)
 10:30 AM †Lorenzo Gaglio
 †Deborah McGrath
 †Joseph and †Julia Flood
 10:30 AM (Gym)
 12:15 PM †Jerry and †Connie O'Shea
 †Clara Kennedy
 †Grace Bergwall
 12:15 PM (Gym)
 1:45 PM Misa en español
 5:30 PM **NO MASS**

The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Please join us **Tuesday, March 22nd** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the **St. Clare Room**. All are welcome. For more information, please call Otella Creegan at 703-221-4692.



Readings for the Week of March 20, 2016

Monday Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11
Tuesday Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25
Thursday Isaiah 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9;
 Revelation 1:5-8; Luke 4:16-21
 Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14;
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
Friday Isaiah 52:13—53:12;
 Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9;
 Philippians 2:8-9; John 18:1—19:42
Saturday Genesis 1: 1-2; 2 or 1: 1,26-31a;
 Genesis 22: 1-18 or
 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18;
 Exodus 14: 15 - 15: 1;
 Exodus 15: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18;
 Isaiah 54: 5-14; Isaiah 55: 1-11;
 Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6;
 Baruch 3: 9-15, 32-4: 4;
 Ezekiel 36: 16-17a, 18-28;
 Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or
 Romans 6: 3-11; Luke 24: 1-12
Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43; 1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
 Colossians 3:1-4 or
 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-9

Liturgical Ministers For all lectors, ushers, servers, and Eucharistic ministers who wish to serve during the Easter Vigil and/or Easter Day masses, the **sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule.**