

From the Pastor's Desk

A young man dreamed of being an actor, but in the early 1980s, he wasn't getting the big parts he wanted. Broke and discouraged, he drove his beat-up old car to the top of the hill overlooking the city of Los Angeles and did something unusual. He wrote himself a check for ten million dollars for "acting services rendered".

This young man had grown up so poor his family lived in a Volkswagen van at one time. He put that check in his wallet and kept it there. When things got tough, he would pull it out and look at it to remind himself of his dream. A dozen years later, that same young man, the comedian Jim Carrey, was making fifteen million to twenty-five million a movie.

Studies tell us that we move toward what we consistently see. That we should keep something in front of us, even if it's symbolic, to remind us of what we are striving for. Every time we see it, we are moving toward our goal. It reminds us of what we are dreaming about. Proverbs say, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." With no vision you will get stuck. That's why many people have lost their passion. They don't have anything that reminds them of what they are dreaming about.

I believe that this can be true for our parish as well. Just as we as individuals need goals and a vision to strive for so do we as a parish. Our vision as a parish is to be a community of "dynamic disciples" that is known for our passion for serving God in the spirit of St. Francis. Each and every one of us has been called to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ. To help remind us of this goal and to keep this vision in front of us we have hung banners over the entrances into our church that state: **CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES**. Every time we see these banners may they inspire us to achieve this vision.

It is important for us as a parish to keep this vision in front of us. In the Old Testament God promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations. But God didn't just give him the promise; God gave him a vision. God said, "Abraham, go out and look at the stars—that is how many descendants you will have." Why did God give him a vision? God knew there would be times when it would look as if the promise would not come to pass, and Abraham would be discouraged and tempted to give up. In those times, Abraham would go out at night and look up at the sky. When he saw the stars, faith would rise in his heart.

Like Abraham, there will be times when it seems as if our dream of becoming a community of dynamic Disciples of Jesus Christ is not coming to pass. Like Abraham we will have to go back to our vision. We will need to keep the vision in front of us: **CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES**. I believe God is saying to us what he said to Abraham: "if you can see it then I can do it. If you have a vision for it, then I can make it a way. I can open new doors. I can break the chains that are holding you back." If we embrace this vision and maintain our focus on it God will help us make it a reality.

Next week in my Pastor's Desk I will share some thoughts on what it means to be a Disciple of Christ.

All young adults, college through mid-thirties, are invited to **Theology on Tap** (previously Theology Uncorked) on **Monday, May 16th at Ornerly Beer Company in Woodbridge**. **Br. Casey is paying us a visit** and will be our speaker for the night. The event begins at 6:30 p.m., and the talk starts at 7:30 p.m. **Please check out the Facebook event for more details or please contact John Lilly (jlilly@stfrancis.org or 703-221-4044 and then press 3 for Religious Ed; ext. 237.**

Mission 2016 Vitamin Campaign



Our Missioners traveling to Peru in July will again be carrying prenatal and children's vitamins for the parish medical clinics at Santa Ana and in the Pastoral Zone. The children of the "Squatter Towns" 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.
- \$15 provides a child with vitamins for a year.

Donations of any amount would be appreciated.

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

"If you do not make time to work on creating the life you want, you are eventually going to be forced to spend a LOT of time dealing with a life you do not want."—Kevin Ngo

Need someone to talk to? Someone that will listen to YOU... Please call **Kathy Walker in Stephen Ministry at 703-221-4312 and then press 4 or email kwalker@stfrancis.org** to get on with the life you want to live.



A women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Missionhurst on May 19-22, 2016. If you are interested in attending or sponsoring someone, please call **Pequette Schwerin, at 703-590-8492 or email atwislady@comcast.net**. For more information, please access arlingtoncursillo.org.



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

Follow us on:

Facebook: *St. Francis of Assisi Church*

Twitter: *@StFrancisVA*

Instagram: *stfrancischurchva*



St. Francis House Corner

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **60** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need We are in need of:

- Canned Fruit
- Hamburger Helper
- Peanut Butter and Jelly



For more information, please call **Francia at 703-221-6344**. Thank you for your continuing support.

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 **60** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **Hamburger Helper y Fruta En Latas**. Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la Señora Salguero al **703-221-6344**.

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán las siguientes fechas:

- Viernes, mayo 20
- Viernes, Junio 17

Las charlas bautismales son a las 7:00pm en la librería de la escuela. Para más información por favor llamar a la Señora Salguero al **703-221-6344**.

Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones—las inscripciones para la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones (VBS) están abiertas! VBS se celebrará del 20 de junio al 24 de junio, desde las 9:00 am-12:30 pm en el Centro Parroquial. Las inscripciones están abiertas a todos los niños de 4 años para entrar en sexto grado. Adultos y adolescentes voluntarios ven y únete a la diversión! Las inscripción y formas de voluntariado están en el vestíbulo de la Iglesia y también en nuestra pagina de internet. Para mas información por favor contactar a la oficina de **ER 703-221-4978** o Sharon Gardner al gardners.vbs@gmail.com.

There will be a session of Cyber Seniors on Thursday, May 19th in the Br. Juniper Room from 9:30am to



12:00pm. Attendance at a previous session is NOT required. 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 vocabulary required! **If you have questions, please contact Sharon at bbsle21@gmail.com or Jeanne at jcmitcho45@gmail.com.**

Franciscan Action and Advocacy

Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st, 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, May 22nd, at 9 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, June 8th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom**.

Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, May 21, 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.)

Rights and Responsibilities: In a world where some speak mostly of “rights” and others mostly of “responsibilities,” the Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities, to one another, to our families, and to the larger society. While public debate in our nation is often divided between those who focus on personal responsibility and those who focus on social responsibilities, our tradition insists that both are necessary. —USCCB

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.

Lunch Bunch will be meeting for the last time this spring on **May 19th at 12:30 in the St. Catherine Room**.

Please bring a brown bag lunch and all other refreshments will be provided. Rippon Lodge will not be able to accommodate a tour for us so we will eat lunch and head to the National Museum of the Marine Corps to see some of the new displays. We will re-schedule Rippon Lodge and discuss other areas of interest for the Fall. Hope to see you all there!! **For any**

further information contact **Becky Traver at Tandovi@aol.com or 540-699-2175**.



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

May 15 Sunday RE Sessions I&II
19 Thursday RE Session—**Last RE Thursday**
22 Sunday RE Sessions I&II—**Last Sunday RE**

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Annelies Gendron; Elena Brazil O'Donnell; Anna Paglio; and Lorraine Autobus.

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

If you or a family member is in the **hospital or homebound**, please call the parish office if you would like a visit from one of the friars. The hospitals are not permitted to give out the names of patients, so the only way we will know if you are in the hospital is if you or a family member informs us.



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!



Important Date Confirmation 2016

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

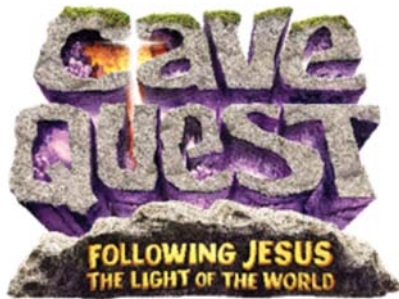
- 6:30pm—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 8:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

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

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

Enrollment for Cave Quest Vacation Bible School (VBS) is now open! VBS will

be held **June 20th—June 24th from 9:00 am-12:30 pm in the Parish Center.** It is open to all children ages 4 years to entering 6th Grade. 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 the contact RE Office at 703-221-4978 or Sharon Gardner at gardners.vbs@gmail.com.**



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.



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.

Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, June 12, 2016 from 1:30p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**

Are You New to the Parish??? Welcome!!

Registration forms are available on the tables in the vestibule, from the parish office or from the parish **website www.stfrncis.org.**

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Knights of Columbus, Potomac Council #9259** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.



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!

SUNDAY,	May 15th—Pentecost
5:30 PM	Mother's Day Novena †Stewart Theodore Raddigan †Pat Bardello †Hazel Orisini
7:30 AM	†Mike Martinelli †Michael Creegan
9:00 AM	†Charles Wright Myer †R.C. Day †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
10:30 AM	Mother's Day Novena †Robert Sweeney
12:15 PM	†Joyce and †Don McVay †Geralde Bigalke †Michael Creegan †Maria Lourdes Bassig †Ricardo Catindig †Aiden Palconit †Clara Kennedy
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish
MONDAY,	May 16—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Karalyn Schneider-Diaz Mother's Day Novena
TUESDAY,	May 17—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Margaret O'Connor †Michael Creegan †Robert Gardner
WEDNESDAY,	May 18—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	May 19—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Col. Ken Wickwire
FRIDAY,	May 20—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Carole Ann Kelley †Peter Palermo Tina Lee
SATURDAY,	May 21—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Mass Intentions on Sunday, May 22, 2016	
5:30 PM	†Ray Michalak †Paul Krieger †Eileen Rose Pastore †Christl Renzo
7:30 AM	People of the Parish
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Celine Nebbia
10:30 AM	†Richard Mance, Sr. †Joseph Alberteli †Eliette Boutin
12:15 PM	†Wilbert Friesen †Michael Creegan †Clara Kennedy †Catherine Russillo †Veronica Valentine †Oligario Tornes
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Michael Creegan

Readings for the Week of May 15, 2016

Monday	James 3:13-18; Mark 9:14-29
Tuesday	James 4:1-10; Mark 9:30-37
Wednesday	James 4:13-17; Mark 9:38-40
Thursday	James 5:1-6; Mark 9:41-50
Friday	James 5:9-12; Mark 10:1-12
Saturday	James 5:13-20; Mark 10:13-16
Sunday	Proverbs 8:22-31; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

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

The Ladies of the Fr. Mychal Judge, O.F.M. Ladies Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians **will be meeting on Saturday, May 28, 2016** in the **Knights of Columbus Hall** (located in the Parish Center). We will gather from 9:30 am-10:00 am to socialize. The meeting will begin at **10:00 a.m.**



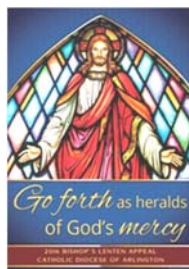
You must be: Catholic female of 16 years of age or older and Irish, Irish decent OR married to an Irish gentlemen, you are welcome to join us.

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"

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

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.



Bishop's Lenten Appeal

Only a few weeks left.

We are \$11,340 short of our goal.

Please consider making a donation if you have not already done so.

Calling all Facebook fans

Want to see photos of Bishop Loverde in action whipping up breakfast for our seminarians? Or Arlington teens hard at service at WorkCamp this summer? Follow the Catholic Diocese of Arlington for this and more shareable media that will enlighten, engage and inspire you, and maybe even your Facebook friends.

