

**From
the
Friars**



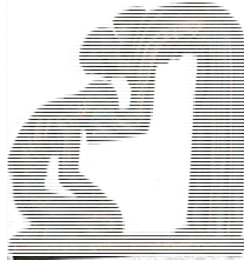
This weekend begins the season of Advent. Perhaps the phrase that best represents the theme of the season is "Stay Awake". Indeed Advent is that moment of the year when we are challenged to step back, take a good look at our lives and once again prepare for the coming of Christ.

On a practical level it is the challenge to slow down our lives, to create the time and space to reflect on our relationship with Jesus Christ, and to reconnect ourselves to be faith filled and faithful disciples.

Advent is the season of waiting. Most of us are not comfortable with the experience of waiting, however, advent is a season of waiting with a purpose. It is the experience of waiting and preparing for the celebration of Christ, present among us. May this Advent season be a time of prayer and renewal for you and your families.

Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M.

On December 6th at 7:30 p.m., we will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. **This will be a traditional Communal Penance with music, readings from scripture, and a short homily.** Several priests will be available for individual confessions.



In the Hospital 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.



Lectors

If you have not already done so, you may pick up your Workbook for the new year; they are on the bookshelf in the sacristy.



On December 10th from 3:30 pm—5:00 pm. we will be presenting a Coffee House prayer service entitled *The Longest Night*. This service will center on the holidays after a loss. Whether it is the loss of a loved one, family situation, spiritual loss, or coming to terms with things in your life. Please join us for refreshments, discussion, prayer, music, and fellowship as we help each other at this time of the year. **Please call Kathy Walker at 703-221-4312 and then press 4 for more details.**

Next Saturday (December 3rd) - Please Come Help Distribute the Christmas Wreaths at Quantico National Cemetery



On Saturday, December 3rd, volunteers will descend on Quantico National Cemetery to help **distribute 8,400 Christmas wreaths** on the graves of our fallen national heroes. Volunteers will arrive early (**9-9:30 AM**), use the main entrance on Joplin Road (Route 619), pass the large flagpoles at the main gate, take the first left onto Rappahannock Place and park their vehicles alongside the roadway – **not off on the grass.**

At 10:00 AM a short ceremony will commence with the presentation of Colors by the Quantico MCB Honor Guard at the circle in Section 10 followed by the distribution and placement of the 2016 Christmas wreaths.

Many, many hands are needed and you are encouraged to attend and assist. In December Quantico National Cemetery is usually cold and blustery so dress very warmly and bring work gloves.



Advent Yoga class on Tuesday, December 6th 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.



Please tear-off and return. Envelopes are provided and located in the vestibule of the church.

2016 St. Francis Parish Appeal

Parishioner Name: _____

Address: _____

- Yes, I/we will make a one time gift (enclosed amount \$ _____)

OR

- Yes, I/we will make an annual pledge in the amount of:
 _____ \$360 _____ \$720 _____ \$960 _____ \$1,200 _____ Other Amount \$ _____

St. Francis House Corner



Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **75** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need we are in need of the following items:

- Cereal
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Vegetables

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

Un-Trim A Tree Program

St. Francis of Assisi parish has supported the Un-Trim-A-Tree Program for more than 16 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 and the Bill Mehr Homeless Shelter. 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. **Do Not Wrap the present**

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. When you get the tag home, copy the information down or take a picture to ensure that if you lose the tag you still have the pertinent information like: name, sex, age, code, and wish.



Where do I drop the Present? On November 27th, St. Francis of Assisi will place 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 Sunday, December 11th. (NO Exceptions)**

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.



**BE A FRANCIS-CAN
NOT A FRANCIS-CAN'T**

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco—gradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **75** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de:

- Cereal
- Atún
- Bolsas de papel
- Bolsas Reusables

Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la **Señora Salguero** al **703-221-6344**.

La Antorcha Guadalupana visitará nuestra iglesia San Francisco de Asís nuevamente este año. Las imágenes santas de la Virgen y San Juan Diego llegará el **miércoles, 30 de noviembre**. Tendremos una misa a las 6:00pm, seguida por un aperitivo ligero. Habrá oportunidad de acompañar a las imágenes en el camino a Washington DC el día siguiente.



Misa De Todas Las Almas en Español—En la solemnidad de Todos Las Almas, estaremos celebrando una misa en español el viernes, noviembre 11 a las 7:00pm. En la iglesia tendremos una canasta donde usted puede colocar un papel con los nombres de sus seres queridos que ya fallecieron. Estaremos rezando por ellos todo el mes de Noviembre. Para mas información por favor hablar con el Padre John Heffernan.

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el viernes, noviembre 18. Las charlas bautismales son a las 7:00pm en el Salón del Hermano Juniper (Br. Juniper Room). Para más 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 Lunes, Diciembre 12 empezando con una misa a las 7:00pm en la iglesia y seguido por un danza y celebracion . Para mas información por favor hablar con el Padre John Heffernan al 703-864-2053.

Mission 2017—Join St Francis Parishioners in July 2017 on a journey to our Sister Parishes in Lima. Peru.
Departs Sunday, July 2nd
Returns Monday, July 10th

- Applications and a **deposit of \$100** now being accepted. The final date for receipt of applications is **January 31, 2017**.
- Fee includes airfare, lodging, most meals and local transportation.
- Full payment (**\$1,500**) is due by **January 31, 2017** Applications are available on line at <http://www.stfrancis.org/sister-parish-in-peru/> and next to the Sister Parish section of the church bulletin board.

Questions? Please contact Terry Danner at 703-680-0860 or terrydanner@verizon.net or contact Chuck O'Hern at 910-795-6203 Charles.ohern@usmc.mil

Faith Formation Office

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

Religious Education for 2016-2017

Children’s Christmas Pageant

Registration has begun for the Children’s Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. Forms are available in the vestibule, on our website at stfrncis.org and in the RE Office. For more information please call 703-221-3127 or email mfjabrooks@gmail.com. **Registration Deadline is December 3rd.**

RE Schedule

Nov. 27	<u>NO RE—Happy Thanksgiving</u>
Dec. 1	Thursday RE Session 5PM-6:15PM
4	Sunday RE Session 4PM-5:15PM
8	Thursday RE Session 5PM-6:15PM
11	Sunday RE Session 4PM-5:15PM
15	Thursday RE Session 5PM-6:15PM
18	Sunday RE Session 4PM-5:15PM

December 22nd—January 5th NO RE—Christmas Break

St. Francis High School Youth Ministry is now called **REAL!** **REAL** stands for Respect, Engage, Accept, Live! **REAL** is open to all High School teens. It is a place to connect your life and your faith, to share, support and have fun with other teens who are trying to live out God’s call in their everyday lives. Please come see what **REAL** is all about!



**Sunday, November 27th
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
No REAL Activities**

**Sunday, December 4th
No REAL Activities**

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](http://www.stfrncis.org).

Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, December 11, 2016 from 1:30p.m.—2:30p.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.

BEST **Advent** EVER

We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We shop for gifts, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and visit family and friends until we are ready to drop. This year, prepare for Christmas in a different way. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Advent Ever: Rediscover Christmas. You will receive daily emails with inspirational videos, practical tips, or free Christmas music that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most. You will experience Christmas in a way you have never experienced it before. Are you ready for your best Advent ever? To sign-up, please visit BestAdventEver.com.

ChristLife is a lay Catholic ministry established in 1995



ask.
seek.
knock.

discovering
CHRIST
a seven-week experience

in response to the Church’s call to a New Evangelization. Their vision is to equip Catholics for the essential work of evangelization so that others might come to know personally the love of God through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, becoming his followers and members of the Church. **Discovering Christ will be presented at St. Francis of Assisi beginning in January!!** Participants in

this 7 week series will meet on Thursday evenings **beginning January 5th and continuing through February 23rd** to enjoy dinner and fellowship, listen to a dynamic teaching and join in a small group discussion about the meaning of life in Jesus Christ. There will be a retreat day on **Saturday, February 4th**. *The cost for registration for this event is \$25 per person and all meals are included.* **For more information, please contact Sheila Noble at 703-221-3127, ext. 238 or snoble@stfrncis.org.**

Valentine Dinner Dance



The Columbiettes are sponsoring a **Valentine’s Day Dinner Dance on February 11, 2017** in St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center, 18825 Fuller Heights Rd., Triangle, VA 22172. You will not want to miss this special event which will include an open bar with wine and beer, hors d’oeuvres, a delectable dinner and dessert; all to the music of a DJ Please contact **Irene Sullivan** if you have any questions at dan_irene@verizon.net.

CATERING
By Darlene



SATURDAY, 5:30 PM	November 26—Weekday †Bryan Richardson †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Jo Rita Murray
SUNDAY, 7:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM 12:15 PM 1:45 PM 5:30 PM	November 27—First Sunday of Advent People of the Parish †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Joseph Kam Dinh Vu †Maria Cuc Thi La †Peter Joseph Schwartz †Rose DeMarco Eileen Carlins †Clara Kennedy †Rita Curley †Elinor Dybala Misa en español †Peggy Short In Thanksgiving
MONDAY, 8:45 AM	November 28—Advent Weekday †James Teodosio All Souls
TUESDAY, 8:45 AM	November 29—Advent Weekday †E.J. and †Geri Prudot †Helen C. Buckley †Frank and †Ann Kobalchik
WEDNESDAY, 8:45 AM	November 30—St. Andrew †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY, 8:45 AM	December 1—Advent Weekday †Telka Penley
FRIDAY, 8:45 AM	December 2—Advent Weekday †Janet Sarsfield
SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM	December 3—St. Francis Xavier Sacrament of Reconciliation †Yvette T. Nichols †Lola and †Hank Troidl †Jo Rita Murray
Mass Intentions on Sunday, December 4, 2016	
7:30 AM	Thomas Lee †Darryl Lease †Barbara Ann Lamm
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Joseph Dominique Ky Ngoc Vu †Maria Phuong Thi Dinh
10:30 AM	†Betty Allen †Paul and †Ann Cremer
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy †Sofia Auro Rodriguez †Avelene Alena Rodriguez
1:45 PM 5:30 PM	Misa en español People of the Parish †Michael Creegan



Votive Candles

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

Readings for the Week of November 27, 2016

Monday	Isaiah 4:2-6; Mathew 8:5-11
Tuesday	Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday	Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
Thursday	Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday	Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

THEOLOGY ON TAP



All single and married young adults are welcome, including college students!

“The Unique Experiences of a Friar Minor”



“The story of a Franciscan who taught at a university, became an Assistant Chief of a fire department, landed on an aircraft carrier, and built a skyscraper in Manhattan.”

Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M.

Ornery Beer Company

14389 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Monday, November 28th

Event begins at 6:30 p.m.

Talk starts at 7:30 p.m.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE to order

Christmas wreaths, centerpieces and table top holiday trees. You can order online **until December 15th** at

www.mickmanholidaygifts.com using

our coupon code **KNIGHTVA003**. The

Holiday Evergreens you purchase for yourself, family, and friends will be delivered in a festive carton with your personalized message. You will get a \$3 discount and our Knights of Columbus Council will receive a \$5 donation. **Free shipping on orders over \$60.**



Please Pray For

All those who are sick: Dolores Lasco; Annelies Gendron; Rita Lapinski; and Clyde Richardson.

And for those recently deceased: Maureen North.

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Josh Bookout; Brianna French; William Place, Glenn Harms; Bo Bosak, Joseph Sheridan, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.