

From
the
Friars



As we move forward in this New Year I would like to give you an update on parish finances. I want to first thank our Finance Staff and Finance Committee for their great work in managing and overseeing the financial matters of our parish.

Every two years the diocese does an audit of our parish finances. We did very well on the audit with but a few minor recommendations to strengthen our financial operations.

As regards income, here I have good news and a challenge. The Annual Appeal brought in \$21,029 more than last year. The Christmas collection was also up versus last year.

The challenge we face is that the weekly collection is down significantly versus last year, especially during the Fall months.

Consequently I want to thank all of you for your great generosity, but also make a request. If possible could you increase the donations you make for the weekly collection, even if just by a small amount.

As I mentioned in my Appeal letter last Fall, when I first came to our parish in 1991 there were serious financial challenges. With your help we were successful in responding to those challenges. I know that I can count on your help once again.

With deepest appreciation,

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

Marriage Preparation Class will be held on **March 18, 2017 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. (Br. Juniper Room).**
The next will be held in the Fall.



*Marriage
Preparation*

For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 703-221-4044.

REMINDER

Please remember to bring in your blessed palms from home and leave them in the basket in the vestibule of the church by February 26th. They will be burned and used for ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 1st.

Thank you.

Please Note:

**The parish offices will be closed
Monday, February 20th
in observance of Presidents' Day.**

The same water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It is about what you are made of, not the circumstances. Need help finding your purpose? Please call **Kathy Walker at 703-221-4312 and then press 4 or email at kwalker@stfrancis.org** and start the process with a Stephen Minister to find out!



**March 1st
Ash Wednesday**

- 6:30 a.m.—** Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes
- 8:45 a.m.—** Mass with Distribution of Ashes
- 5:00 p.m.—** Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes
- 7:30 p.m.—** Mass with Distribution of Ashes
- 8:30 p.m.—** La Misa con distribución de las cenizas

Ashes will only be distributed during the above listed services. Ashes will NOT be distributed in between services.

Fasting and abstinence are encouraged during Lent and reflect the season's penitential nature. In the U.S. all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence, that is, days on which no meat is to be consumed. **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of fast, only one full meal during the day, as well as abstinence.

Fasting and abstinence are by no means the only types of penance. "Let us witness to our love and imitation of Christ by special solicitude for the sick, the poor, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, the bedridden, the discouraged, the lowly." (Tobit 12, Mt 6).

CAR RAFFLE 2017

Car raffle tickets have been mailed to each family. Once again we are participating with All Saints Catholic Church; a more generous venture than purchasing a vehicle on our own and each purchaser has a chance to win five cars plus \$20,000 in cash drawings! This makes "selling" at work or to family and friends more like an opportunity—just show them the ticket—it will sell itself! **Need additional tickets? Please contact Kathy Greene at 703-221-3868.**



ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP—Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 21st at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center Library**—Our topics will be the Sister Parish Ministry (presentation will be given by Terry Danner) and the Franciscan Secular Program (presentation will be given by John Carlson, OSF). All men of the parish are welcome.

For more information, please contact **Tony Mercogliano** at amercogliano@gmail.com or 571-332-7048.

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:



- **Item of the Month** : **Dish Soap**
- Cereal
- Spaghetti
- Pasta
- Canned Fruit

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

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT PUBLIC EDUCATION IN Prince William County?

If so, **SAVE THE DATE:**

Sunday, February 26th from 3:00pm—4:30pm
In the Parish Center Dining Facility

Join parishioners and neighbors in a *Community Forum* to discuss Pre-K and other Public Education concerns in Prince William County.

Questions? Please call:

Michelle Nicolai at 571-213-8348
michnicolai@comcast.net

Sponsored by St. Francis V.O.I.C.E



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.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Paul Walker; S.J. Defibaugh; Nancy Brown.

And for those recently deceased: Andrew Misenko; William 'Bill' A. Murphy; and Donald V. Widener.

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Leo N. Company; Nicholas Tsougas; S. Defibaugh; Josh Bookout; Brianna French; Glenn Harms; Joseph Sheridan, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Todos Supermarket
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Boletín Semanal

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español **serán el viernes, marzo 10**. 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**.

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:

- **Artículo del mes: Jabón De lavar Platos**
- Cereal
- Pasta
- Fruta en Caneca
- Espaguetis

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

Misa de Sanación Oficiada por el Reverendo José Eugenio Hoyos—La Renovación Carismática Católica Y el Grupo de Oración De San Francisco de Asís los invita **el viernes, febrero 24 del 2017** a las 7:00pm en Nuestra Parroquia San Francisco de Asís. ¡Te Esperamos! ¡Dios tiene grandes bendiciones preparadas para ti!

¿LE PREOCUPA LA EDUCACION EN LAS ESCUELAS PUBLICAS DE PWC?—Si es así, **GUARDE LA FECHA:** Domingo, Febrero 26 de 3:00pm a 4:30pm en el Comedor de la iglesia de San Francisco de Asís Unase a los parroquianos y vecinos en un foro de la comunidad para discutir el Pre-K y otras preocupaciones de la educación pública en el condado de Prince William ¿Tiene alguna pregunta? Por favor contactar a la Señora al **Michelle Nicolai 571-213-8348** michnicolai@comcast.net Patrocinado por el Grupo de V.O.I.C.E de San Francisco.

All young adults are invited to join our friars, other young adults from our area and lay leaders for an open, honest discussion about journeying spiritually through the most difficult times in life. **“When the Bottom Falls Out”** is the theme

for the next **Woodbridge Theology on Tap, taking place February 27th at the Ornerly Beer Company and Public House in Woodbridge**. Please come to enjoy the camaraderie of other young adults in an informal setting with **“drinks and eats” beginning at 6:30 p.m. and the discussion following at 7:30 p.m.**



Votive Candles

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

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

- Feb. 19 NO RE—Presidents' Day Holiday**
23 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
26 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
- Mar. 2 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm**
5 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
9 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
12 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
16 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
19 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm

We are need of volunteers for VBS 2017! For more information contact **Marianne Hayes, DRE** at recoor@stfrncis.org or fill out form found on our website www.stfrncis.org or in the vestibule of the church.

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, February 19th
NO REAL ACTIVITIES
Presidents' Day Weekend

Sunday, February 26th
6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room
REAL Time (Youth Group)
All teens grades 9-12

Sunday, March 5th
6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room
REAL Time (Youth Group)
All teens grades 9-12

Third Annual Lenten Parish Mission—Join the rest of the parish for a 3-night Parish Mission, “Conversion: Change of Heart,” led by Fr. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R. Take the opportunity during Lent to spend a little extra time exploring your faith and the meaning of the season. **The Parish Mission begins Sunday, March 12th from 7:15 p.m.—9:00 p.m. and continues Monday and Tuesday nights from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. in the Church.** Our returning mission preacher is Fr. Tom, a Redemptorist priest, who has spent the last 14 years giving parish missions and retreats. He has a Master's Degree in Addiction Studies/Counseling and currently resides at St. Michael's parish in Chicago. Fr. Tom says the services are directed toward 4th grade through adulthood. That said, he would prefer a family attend, rather than not attend because of difficulty finding childcare. **See you there!**

SIGNS AND WONDERS



Last year, 200 parishioners enriched their Lenten journey by inviting friends and neighbors into their homes during Lent for fellowship, prayer and study. This year, the six-week study is “**Signs and Wonders: Encountering Jesus of Nazareth.**” Hosts are instrumental to the program's impact, and it is easy to host. All you need is an open heart to invite people from your life into your home for approximately an hour a week on a day and time that best fits your schedule. Hosts

receive a complimentary booklet that contains everything needed. **The study begins the week of February 26th,** the first week of Lent, so please register today to give your invited participants enough time to purchase their materials. Please visit www.stfrncis.org/small-groups for more information and to register as a host.

DON'T FORGET



Registration Is Open!

Men's Retreat: March 10 – 11, 2017
Women's Retreat: March 24 – 25, 2017

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 Mass. Cornerstone will take place at the 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.

Registration and payment is online at <http://www.stfrncis.org/cornerstone/>.

Rates are:

\$130 for a double room and \$145 for a single room.

Called and Gifted

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Called and Gifted Workshop scheduled for February 17th-19th has been postponed. Please watch the bulletin for the rescheduled dates.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY,	February 18—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Thomas and †Beverly McClutchy †Catherine Selepak †Paul Krieger
SUNDAY,	February 19—7th Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:30 AM	†Lee Orsini †Irene Stout †Howard F. Holehand, Jr.
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Deceased Members of the Alejandro Family †Bill Murphy
10:30 AM	†Roseanne Scruggs
12:00 PM	†Rev. Joseph P. Fallon †Clara Kennedy †Innocent Bobick
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Laura Lizarralde †Brian Lamb
MONDAY,	February 20—Presidents' Day
8:45 AM	†Rev. Peter J. Doherty †Jeffrey Proscia
TUESDAY,	February 21—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Margo Anderson
WEDNESDAY,	February 22—Chair of St. Peter
8:45 AM	†Lillian and †James Callahan †Helen O'Connor †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	February 23—St. Polycarp
8:45 AM	Roseanne Scruggs
FRIDAY,	February 24—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Austin Herr, III †Phyllis Dumoulin Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY,	February 25—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Linda Armstrong †Valerie Shaw †Rita Lapinski
Mass Intentions on Sunday, February 26, 2017	
7:30 AM	†Roseanne Scruggs †Albert Symes
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Teodosia Herrera
10:30 AM	†Frida Luisa †June Catts †Leo Battaglia
12:00 PM	†Clara Kennedy †Roseanne Scruggs †Margarita Portocarrero
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Owen Joseph Beirne †Ligia Lizarralde

Please Note: The Mass Intention book for 2017 is open.

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 slot.

We will be taking ONLY 3 intentions per Mass.

Readings for the Week of February 19, 2017

Monday	Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29
Tuesday	Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37
Wednesday	1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19
Thursday	Sirach 5:1-8; Mark 9:41-50
Friday	Sirach 6:5-17; Mark 10:1-12
Saturday	Sirach 17:1-15; Mark 10:13-16
Sunday	Isaiah 49:14-15; 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Matthew 6:24-34



The Young Irishlanders
Buy Tickets, View Video at:
<http://www.aohconcerts.org>

Reserved Seats: \$25—\$35

Saturday, March 11th at 8:00 p.m.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Center
18825 Fuller Heights Rd, Triangle, VA
I95 exit 150-A (Marine Corps Museum)

Information & Questions, please
e-mail: aohconcerts17@gmail.com

or

Phone: 703-634-2378, ext. 5

Mass to Pray for Healing for Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse—In 2004, Bishop Loverde began a series of diocesan-sponsored Masses for the community to gather together to pray for healing for victims/survivors of sexual abuse. Each Mass is followed by a reception. The next Mass will be on **Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:30 p.m. at St. Bernadette, 7600 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield.** Bishop Michael Burbidge will preside.