


From the Friars



As one watches TV and/or reads the paper, one quickly becomes aware that the issue of immigration, and immigration reform dominates the news these days.

My family has recently done research on our genealogy and I know a number of people who have received gifts that enable them to do a DNA research as to the countries that their ancestors came from. My family are descendants of Irish and Germans.

What this reminds us of is that most all of us come from ancestors who were not born here in the USA. We are decedents of immigrants.

Last week, I was in New York City for meetings at our Provincial headquarters. During a break in the meetings, I took a walk through mid-town Manhattan. As I looked at the thousands of people that passed by me, I thought to myself, there are not five people at any given moment, passing me by, that are of the same race or nationality!

We are a nation of immigrants, immigrants from a diversity of nations and races. This is what made America great in the past and will make America great in the future.

The Catholic Churches view of the immigration issue is very clear.

From the message of Pope Francis for the 104th World Day of migrants and refugees January 2018, "Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age. The Lord entrusts to the Churches motherly love every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future."


May we do our part.

Sincerely,

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

End of Year Statements:

Parishioners will be provided with a statement of their donations for 2017. Statements will be mailed by the end of January. It is not necessary to request a statement.



A special **thank you to Mountcastle-Turch Funeral Homes** for providing the 2018 calendars for the parish.

Theology on Tap
January 22, 2018
Ornery Beer Company and Public House
 14389 Potomac Mills Rd., Woodbridge

Young Adult Gathering at **6:30 p.m.**
Talk Open to All at **7:30 p.m.**

The speaker for the January Theology on Tap will be **Russell M. Testa, Director of the Office for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC), serving Holy Name Province** Franciscans and their ministries. Russell founded JPIC in 2000 and is responsible for developing the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) which furthers the continuum of social justice ministry, from direct service to education and advocacy. His talk will be "Climate Change and Building Community." Please join us!



2018 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL BEGINS!



This month many of us will receive a mailing from Bishop Burbidge regarding the 2018 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). The theme for the 2018 BLA is "Living in Faith~Giving in Gratitude." After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to this important appeal that funds many programs and ministries that serve the people in our diocese. Together, through the BLA, let us renew our personal commitment to the Lord's work in our diocese.



CONNECT • GROW • SERVE

Please come enjoy coffee and donuts while you explore the **more than 60 ministries and organizations offered here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish**. The Ministry Fair will be held on **Sunday, February 11th from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the Parish Center Gym**.

St. Francis House Corner



Thanks to the donations from all of our parishioners, the items of the month have been very much appreciated by our clients. With your generosity we will continue to serve those that are in need.

- **Item of the Month: Pancake Mix and Syrup**
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta
- Cereal (**kid friendly**)
- Peanut Butter & Jelly

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

Bill Mehr Drop-In Shelter (Winter Shelter)

Winter is here, and it is a very rough season for the homeless. **Our parish is committed to providing dinner every Saturday, at 7:00pm** for the Bill Mehr Homeless shelter (winter shelter). At this moment **we are in dire need of your help!** Sign-up sheets, directions, and more information are located on the table in the vestibule of the Church. **For more information, please contact Francia Salguero at francias@stfrncis.org or 571-572-5862.**

Cyber Seniors

Weekly classes on Tuesdays from **9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**
January 9th – February 13th
Br. Juniper Room

All adults are welcome to receive hands-on technology assistance for free, during any of our weekly sessions. Bring your cell phones, laptops or tablets for hands-on training from one of our friendly volunteers. This is the perfect opportunity to learn how to use that shiny Christmas gift to stay in touch with family




and friends. **Please contact Lisa Ostendorf at lostendorf@stfrncis.org for more information.**

Votive Candles

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



 The **Lion's Club** has **2 donation drop boxes** located on the window sill in the vestibule. Please consider donating your used eyeglasses to the Lion's Club. Your unwanted glasses will help someone see better. Thank you for always being so generous.

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco:

Gracias a las donaciones de todos nuestros feligreses el artículo del mes a sido bien recibido por nuestros clientes. Con sus donaciones podremos continuar a los mas necesitados.

- **Artículo del mes: Mezcla de Panqueques y Jarabe**
- Hamburger Helper
- Espagueti
- Cereal (**Para niños**)
- Crema de Maní y Jalea

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

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el **viernes, febrero 9**. Las charlas bautismales Son a las 7:00 p.m. en el Salón del Hermano Juniper (Br. Juniper Room). Para más información por favor llamar a la **Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.**

¡COMIENZA LA PETICIÓN CUARESMA DEL OBISPO DE 2018!

—Este mes, muchos de nosotros recibiremos correspondencia de Monseñor Burbidge sobre la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2018. El tema de La Petición Cuaresmal Del Obispo de este año es "*Vivir en la fe ~ Dar por gratitud*". Después de reflexionar sobre las muchas bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, se les ruega que, en espíritu de oración, consideren la posibilidad de hacer una promesa de contribución a esta importante petición que financia muchos programas y ministerios al servicio de la población de nuestra Diócesis. Juntos, por medio de La Petición Cuaresmal Del Obispo, renovemos nuestro compromiso personal con la obra del Señor en nuestra Diócesis.

Lenten Small Faith Groups

Join in the largest Adult Faith program of the year by hosting a few friends, family and neighbors into your home for an hour a week during Lent. Each year, hundreds of St. Francis of Assisi parishioners enrich their spiritual life at this sacred time by participating in small faith groups. **The 4 – 10 person groups meet in Host homes, beginning the week of February 11th, as part of a six-week study.** This year, we will consider and discuss the booklet, "Amazed and Afraid: Discover the Power of Jesus" from The Evangelical Catholic. Hosts are instrumental to the program's success, and it is easy to host. All you need is an open heart to invite people you already know into your home for approximately an hour a week, on a day and time that best fits your schedule. Each registered Host receives a free guide book which contains every prayer, scripture passage, reflection and discussion question. There is no training required, and it is completely up to each Host as to who to invite and when to meet. To register as a Host, receive your free copy of the guide book, and learn more about the program, please visit

www.stfrncis.org/small-groups or contact **Lisa Ostendorf at lostendorf@stfrncis.org.**

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 2018

- | | |
|---------|---------------------|
| Jan. 21 | Sunday RE Session |
| 25 | Thursday RE Session |
| 28 | Sunday RE Session |
| | |
| Feb. 1 | Thursday RE Session |
| 4 | Sunday RE Session |
| 8 | Thursday RE Session |
| 11 | Sunday RE Session |

We have a need for **Substitute Catechists** for all sessions and all grades, Sunday 8:45 AM, Sunday 10:30AM and Thursday 5PM. Training will be provided. If you are able to help, please contact **Marianne Hayes, DRE** at 703-221-3127.

St. Francis High School Youth Ministry is 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, January 21st
6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room
REAL TIME (Youth Group)
All Teens Grade 9-12

Sunday, January 28th
6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room
REAL Leadership
Leadership Teams Only



Sunday, February 4th
SUPER BOWL
NO **REAL** ACTIVITIES



Questions? Please contact Brandon Jubar at bjubar@stfrncis.org.

St. Francis of Assisi Elementary, Middle and Preschool will host an open house for new prospective families on **Sunday, January 28th at 1:00 pm**. Please plan to join us for a tour of our facility and to meet our wonderful teachers.



For admission questions, please contact **Shari Phillips** at 703-221-3868 or phillipss.sfas@gmail.com.



**Women's Cornerstone Retreat
Registration is open!**

Registration is open for the popular 4th Annual Women's Cornerstone Retreat, scheduled for **April 6 – 7, 2018** at the San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post, Virginia. Whether you are looking to build camaraderie with other women or simply longing for an opportunity to deepen your spiritual life, this 26-hour retreat is an unforgettable experience. **To register and pay online, please visit www.stfrncis.org/cornerstone or contact Lisa Ostendorf lostendorf@stfrncis.org.**

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Angie Powell; Tom Hines; Aaron Childs; Nancy Brown; S.P. Defibaugh; B. Lyle; and Judy Mitchell.

And for those recently deceased: Patricia Dunn (Mother of Lisa Davis); Tim McCormick; and Virginia Ramos (Sister of Estrella Monzon)

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Jonathan Boron; Tyler Jones; Drew; Leo N. Company; S. Defibaugh; Brianna French; James Moore; Kyle McVay; Kyle Traylor; Marc Gendron; and Darryl Saungweme.

Valentine Dinner Dance

The Columbiettes are sponsoring a Valentine's Dinner Dance on **February 10, 2018, from 6:30 PM to 10 PM in the Parish Center Dining Hall**

18825 Fuller Heights Road, Triangle VA 22172.

Cost is \$38 per person/\$75 per couple

All profits will be going to Parish needs.

Tickets will be sold after masses on:

January 20th-21st, 27th-28th, and February 3rd-4th.

Please contact **Irene Sullivan** if you have any questions at dan_irene@verizon.net.



You can also buy tickets on line at Columbiettes.yapsody.com

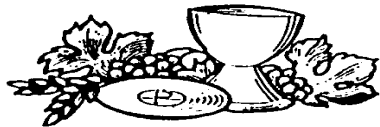


Music By Slable

CATERING
By Darlene



Baptismal Preparation Class
Our next class will be held on **Sunday, February 11, 2018 from 1:30 p.m.—2:30 p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY,	January 20—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†James M. Ryan †Cyril Kelly
SUNDAY,	January 21—3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:30 AM	Leroy Barton Donna Barton †Henry Barratt
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Deacon Tom Woods
10:45 AM	†Carlos Polanco, Jr. †Martha Perez Joseph Carhart
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish Jan Mazur †David Lee Maris
MONDAY,	January 22—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Alain Daniel Nall
TUESDAY,	January 23—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Leah Bendele †Sheila Lane Weir
WEDNESDAY,	January 24—St. Francis de Sales
8:45 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik †Roseanne Scruggs
THURSDAY,	January 25—Conversion of St. Paul
8:45 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik Nesha Ignatuck Justin Maris
FRIDAY,	January 26—Sts. Timothy and Titus
8:45 AM	†Deborah Barber McNeill †George Britton †Ignatius Keevan
SATURDAY,	January 27—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Cy Kelly
Mass Intentions on Sunday, January 28, 2018	
7:30 AM	†Deborah Barber McNeill †Jeff Mossbrucker
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Larry Dreis †Jack Deckert
10:45 AM	†Virginia and †Joseph Wohlers †Laura and †Frank McNierney †Cheryl McNierney
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy †Dan Morris †Eftimia Liaskova
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Brian Lamb People of the Parish †Betty Bryant

Readings for the Week of January 21, 2018

Monday	2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday	2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday	2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20
Thursday	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18
Friday	2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5; Mark 4:26-34
Saturday	2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41
Sunday	Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

The Christmas Flowers were donated in memory of the following families: [Rayhel](#); and [Larke](#).



And the following individuals: [Robert and Irene Eastved](#); [Jim and Geri Cotton](#); [Erik Eastved](#); [John and Helen Parr](#); [George Beck](#); [Stan and Florence Rezler](#); and [Etsuko Lieb](#)

Mission 2018

Join St. Francis Parishioners in June 2018 on a journey to our Sister Parishes in Lima, Peru.

*Departs Saturday, June 16th
Returns Monday, June 25th*



- Applications and deposit of **\$100** now being accepted. The final date for receipt of applications is **January 31, 2018**.
- Fee includes airfare, lodging, most meals and local transportation.
- Full payment (**\$1,500**) is due by **January 31, 2018**
- Applications are available on line at (<http://www.stfrncis.org/sister-parish-in-peru/>) and next to the Sister Parish section of the church bulletin board.

Questions? Please call:

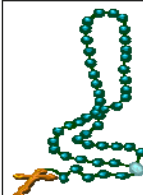
Terry Danner at 703-680-0860

terrydanner@verizon.net

Or

Chuck O'Hern at 910-795-6203

Charles.ohern@usmc.mil



The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Please join us **Tuesday, January 23rd** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the [St. Clare Room](#). All are welcome. For more information, please call **Otella Creegan** at 571-264-0312.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank

Beloved1Care.com

for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.