


From the Friars



The Parish Council has been approached as to the possibility of putting additional Holy Water fonts in the Church. The difficulty is that it can be a challenge on a typical Sunday to get near the current Holy Water fonts because of the crowds in the lobby of the Church.

The new Holy Water fonts would be mounted by the glass doors as one exits the main body of the Church.

We are looking into the possibility of six of these Holy Water fonts.

I have been asked recently if we can “turn the heat up in the Church”. The difficulty is that the temperatures in the Church on Winter days is initially quite cool because the doors to the lobby are open and the lobby is not heated. Once several hundred parishioners fill the Church, the temperature rises.

We are investigating the possibility of some form of heating system for the Church lobby. The original heating system for the lobby was a system of radiant heat pipes under the floor. This system broke down years ago. To replace it would cost thousands of dollars.

Sincerely,

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


The weekend of February 3rd-4th the memorial of St. Blaise, *blissing of throats will be conferred after all the Masses.* The custom began in the 16th century, although Blaise lived in the fourth century. He was the bishop of Sebaste in Armenia who, according to legend, saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. He is now the patron saint of all who have diseases of the throat. Please join us and receive a blessing of your throat as a sign of God's care for his people.




CONNECT • GROW • SERVE


Please come enjoy coffee, donuts, and light snacks 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.-3:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center Gym.

UNDIE SUNDAY




St. Francis' Cub Scout Pack 1385 and Boy Scout Troop 138 will be holding their 5th annual **Undie Sunday** to collect [mens and/or womens underwear \(new-still in the unopened packages please\).](#) Boxes will be located in the vestibule for your generous contributions of these items (underwear, thermals, t-shirts, socks, etc.) on **Scout Sunday, February 11, 2018.** These clothing items will be delivered to those in need at the Bill Mehr Drop-In Shelter.

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 11th.** They will be burned and used for ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday Service



February 14th
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).

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!



Votive Candles



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

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.

- **Items of the Month: Pancake Mix and Syrup**
- Hamburger Helper
- Pasta
- Peanut Butter & Jelly

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

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.

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
- 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.



Feria de Ministerios—Por favor ven y disfruta de café y donas mientras explora los más de 60 ministerios y organizaciones ofrecidos aquí en la Parroquia de San Francisco de Asís. La Feria de Ministerio se celebrará el domingo 11 de febrero desde las 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. en el Gimnasio del Centro Parroquial.

The **St. Francis Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting **Thursday, February 1st in the 5th grade classroom (located in the Parish Center) from 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.** All are welcome!



We will have a presentation from the Central Virginia Justice Initiative to inform us of their efforts in our area.

On February 8th, the feast day of St. Bakhita at 1:00 p.m., please join the USCCB for a webinar. The St. Francis AHTC has been invited to participate both in prayer and the presentation. More information will be available on their website as the date approaches. Please see this link <http://www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/index.cfm>.

For more information, please contact Margie Petrizza at 540-408-2408, margie.petrizza@gmail.com or Bob Eves at 703-304-9259, evesrc@verizon.net.

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. 28 Sunday RE Session
Feb. 1 Thursday RE Session
4 Sunday RE Session
8 Thursday RE Session
11 Sunday RE Session

**First Reconciliation and First Communion
Important Dates**

- First Reconciliation—Saturday, February 24th**
9:00am—all St. Francis School, RE Homeschool,
and SPII students
10:30am—All 2nd grade RE students (Thurs & Sun)
- First Communion Retreat—Saturday, March 10th (10am to 3pm) - Parish Center**—many volunteers are needed, so please contact **Sheila Noble** at snoble@stfrncis.org if you are able to help.
- First Communion Rehearsal—Friday, April 13th**
6:00-6:50pm—Rehearsal for 9:00am Mass—All St. Francis School, RE Homeschool, and SPII students
7:00-7:50pm—Rehearsal for 11:00am Mass—All 2nd grade RE students (Thursday and Sunday)
- First Communion – Saturday, April 14th**
9:00am Mass—Arrive no later than 8:30 am—All St. Francis School, RE Homeschool, and SPII students
11:00am Mass—Arrive no later than 10:30am—All 2nd grade RE students (Thursday and Sunday)

Confirmation Year II (2018) Important Dates

Questions, please contact **Sheila Noble** at snoble@stfrncis.org

- March 10, 2018**—Confirmation Reconciliation Service
12pm—Sun. 8:45am and Sun. 10:30am Sessions
1:30pm—Thurs., Homeschool, and High School Sessions
- March 18, 2018**—Mandatory NET retreat (1:30-7:30pm)
****Please note this is a Sunday and candidates only**
- April 27, 2018**—Confirmation Rehearsal
6:45pm—St. Francis School, Homeschool, and Sun. 8:45am Sessions
8:00pm—Sun. 10:30am, Thursday, and High School Sessions
- April 28, 2018**—Confirmation
10:00am—St. Francis School, Homeschool, and Sun. 8:45am Sessions
2:00pm—Sun. 10:30am, Thursday, and High School Sessions

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 28th

6:30 PM—8:30 PM

St. Catherine Room

REAL Leadership

Leadership Teams Only



Sunday, February 4th

SUPER BOWL

NO **REAL** ACTIVITIES



Sunday, February 11th

6:30 PM—8:30 PM

St. Catherine Room

REAL TIME (Youth Group)

All Teens Grades 9-12

Questions? Please contact **Brandon Jubar** at bjubar@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).

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.

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.



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 27—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Cy Kelly †Richard Parisi †Armando Andaya
SUNDAY,	January 28—4th Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:30 AM	†Deborah Barber McNeill †Jeff Mossbrucker †Mary Goyette
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
MONDAY,	January 29—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Laurence O'Brien †Margaret Smith †Helen O'Connor
TUESDAY,	January 30—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Tim McCue
WEDNESDAY,	January 31—St. John Bosco
8:45 AM	†Bernard Moran, Jr. †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	February 1—Weekday
8:45 AM	
FRIDAY,	February 2—Presentation of the Lord
8:45 AM	†Deborah Barber McNeill Christopher O'Brien
SATURDAY,	February 3—St. Blaise
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Wilma Jean Strati †Cyril Kelly
Mass Intentions on Sunday, February 4, 2018	
7:30 AM	†David King Beaudoin †Lucy King Beaudoin †Robert Earl Williams
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †John Lazzara
10:45 AM	†Diem Bui †Verna Bronzo
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy †Donald Widener People of the Parish
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†John, †Lynne, and †Nicole Belli †Keith and †Charles Harris Special Intention

Readings for the Week of January 21, 2018

Monday	2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20
Tuesday	2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday	2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6
Thursday	1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chronicles 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd; Mark 6:7-13
Friday	Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 or Luke 2:22-32
Saturday	1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34
Sunday	Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Secular Franciscan Order Open House

Come and see...what it means to follow Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis. There will be an Open House held on **Saturday, February 10th at 9:30 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room.**

For more information, please contact **John Carlson at 540-623-8316** or twinspappy@gmail.com.

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

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **CatholicMatch.com/goVA** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.