

 **From the Friars**

On behalf of the Friars and staff of our parish I want to wish all of you a very Happy and Blessed Easter! This is indeed the day when we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord; that moment when we share in the hope and joy of the Lords triumph over sin and death.

As the author Michael tells us, "Easter blossoms out of Good Friday. There is no affliction, no hardship, no pain, no setback, no sin that cannot be a stage for something more positive and wonderful".


In this Easter season let us rejoice in the Lords triumph and let us be examples of the hope, the joy and the peace that it represents.

This Easter as at every Easter we welcome folks to our parish that may not be members of our parish. As I mentioned in years past, we celebrate this very special meal called Eucharist each Sunday of the year. Please know that all are welcome. All are welcome to be a part of the Franciscan experience. All are welcome to join us around the altar.

Best wishes to all for a great Easter !

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

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

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. 

Mass Intentions on Sunday, April 8, 2018

- 7:30 AM †Tim Johnson
People of the Parish
†Frances T. Bronzan
- 9:00 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
Ronnie Hall
†Josie McElrath
- 10:45 AM †Rita Zekoski
†Michael Natividad
†Rosa Caldwell
- 12:15 PM †George Beck
†Claudina Wright
†Clara Kennedy
- 1:30 PM Misa en español
- 5:30 PM †Terry Early

The Easter flowers were donated in memory of the following:



Richard, Ejner and Grace Johnson; Cheryl McNierney; Larry Dreis; Stanley and Josephine France; Vernon and Gloria Unger; Jean Jurick; Laura and Frank McNierney; John and Helen Parr; Mary Jo C. Wolfe; Fred Wolfe; Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Reioy, Sr.; George Beck; Virginia and Joseph Wohlers; Clifford E. and Ruth W. Brody; Rosemary and John Wenzel; Dorothy and Arthur Peitler; Ted Geary; Ferenschak Families; David and Agnes Ballantine; Rayhel/Larke Family; Matthew Weedon; Mary Goyette; Battista and Del Gatto Families; Mr. and Mrs. John Tiano; Hollessavie Dovi; Diane Tomasinski; Donald Widener; Juanita Chacon; Theora Widener; Blaine and Mary Hoover; Taravella Family; Louis and Mary Gasper; John Francis Carpino; Laurence O'Brien; Robert Laliberte; Pat Laliberte; Richard Wright; Tarantion Family; Thomas Family; Giglio Family; Clyde Richardson; Bryan Richardson; Badami Family; Charles and Betty Miller; Denis McManus; Eileen McManus; Jim Longi, Jr.; Sean Maguire; Caldari and Ildebrando Families; Kristin D. Adcock; Ward and Richmond Families; Mr. and Mrs. Carl D. Finn; Harry Rodman; Lorenzo Manno; Marco Imbarlina; Candida Imbarlina; and Joe Imbarlina.

COME HOME—TAKE ANOTHER LOOK

If someone you know has been away from the Catholic Church for whatever reason; divorce, birth control, lifestyle, invalid marriage, or any other reason, we encourage you to have them "Take Another Look".

Easter will be a time of great joy as we celebrate the resurrection of the Messiah. But your friend may not be experiencing this joy and feel she/he doesn't belong to this rejoicing church. St. Francis is inviting her/him to "Take Another Look: without feeling pressure or experiencing a "recapture" mentality.

We will have a short program on three Monday nights: May 14th, May 21st, and June 4th. Each night will begin at 7:30 p.m. and last no more than 2 hours.

If your friend has an interest, have them contact Lisa Ostendorf at 703-221-3127, ext. 277 or Joe Mitcho at 703-967-9959 or jfmitcho44@hotmail.com. We will send them more detailed information.



Jubilee Celebration

Please join us in celebrating **Fr. John O'Connor's 50th anniversary as a Franciscan Friar on Saturday, May 5th** at the 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass; followed by a reception in the Parish Center.

As we prepare to celebrate Fr. John O'Connor's Golden Anniversary as a friar, we would like to share our memories of his years of ministry as our pastor. A video is being prepared and we need your input! Digital photos can be emailed to Jeanne Mitcho jcmitcho45@gmail.com. Photos may be dropped off at the parish office. If you would like your photo returned, please write your name and address on the back. The deadline for submission is **April 29th**. Help us make our celebration great!

Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, April 2nd

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: Cooking Oil and Salt

- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tuna

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

Bill Mehr Drop-In Shelter—Many thanks to all of our parishioners who have responded so generously to requests for dinner items at the Overnight Shelter. With the help of our parishioners, we provided 1,320 meals. **Beginning Saturday, April 7th, our responsibilities will shift to supplying breakfast on Saturday mornings as the Winter Shelter**

program ends. Directions and sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the Church. **For more information, please contact Francia Salguero at francias@st.frcis.org or 571-572-5862.**

Many Members, One Body; our parish ministry for Catholics who are gay or lesbian, will hold an Easter Potluck on **Thursday, April 5th at 7pm in the Br. Juniper Room.** All parents, friends and family members are cordially invited. **Please R.S.V.P. to Anne Tunney at annetunney@yahoo.com.**



55+ Ministry Invites You to

Sight and Sound Theatres' Production of *Jesus*
Wednesday, April 25th in Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Cost: \$140 per person

Bluebird Tours of Prince William County is organizing a day trip to Sight and Sound Theatres in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see the production, *Jesus*. This is an action-packed musical stage adventure that takes you on a miraculous journey alongside the most famous person to ever walk the earth. The cost includes a ticket to the 11:00 a.m. performance, a buffet luncheon at the Eden Roc Resort and round trip bus fare. Reservations opened on January 26th and are by phone only through Bluebird Tours 703-339-0333 until the tour is full. For more information, please visit www.pwcgov.org/bluebird. *The 55+ Ministry will host a post-show discussion on Sunday, April 29th at 10:00 a.m. in the St. Catherine Room.*

Boletín Semanal

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el **viernes, abril 13**. 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.**

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco: Gracias a las donaciones de todos nuestros feligreses el Artículo del mes ha sido bien recibido por nuestros clientes. Con sus donaciones podremos continuar ayudando a los más necesitados.

Artículo del mes: Aceite de Cocina y Sal

- Fruta Enlatada
- Crema de maní y mermelada
- Atún Enlatado

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



ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP—Our April meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Br. Juniper Room.** The topic will be a video presentation on the "Mark's of A True Christian Man", given by Fr. Mike Schmitz at the March 3, 2018 Men's Conference sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington.

Father Mike, a priest from the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota, is the director of the Newman Center at the University of Minnesota (Duluth). His YouTube channel— with more than 1 million views—serves as a digital platform for his dynamic and direct video talks on issues facing millennial Catholics with headlines including, "Why should I confess my sins to a priest?". His message provides an understanding that as men of God, we must take responsibility for who we are in building God's kingdom and striving to be competent as well as to show love to our brothers and sisters in the community and where we work.

For more information, please see the Men's Group page on the parish website or contact

Tony Mercogliano at amercogliano@gmail.com or Mike Chamberlin at michael.chamberlin@verizon.net.

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Warren Greaver; Patrick Leo Redmond; and Aaron Childs.

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.

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

March 25th—April 8th **NO RE**, Easter Break. Classes will resume on April 12th.

ENCOUNTER LENT—Please join our Religious Education community-and nearly 14,000

Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey of encounter with

CRS Rice Bowls. Pick up your family's **CRS Rice Bowl** from the RE Office or in the vestibule of the Church. Each RE student and St. Francis of Assisi School student has received a Rice Bowl, but there are plenty more to be filled! **For more information, please go to crsricebowl.org or please contact Marianne Hayes, at recoor@stfrncis.org.**



Please donate small religious items (rosaries, prayer cards, pins, small prayer books, etc.) to Religious Education for incentives for Catechists to use in their classrooms.

Save the Date! VBS will be **June 18th -22nd**. Registration and volunteer forms will be available in April.



First Reconciliation and First Communion Important Dates

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)



Baptismal Preparation Class

Our next class will be held on **Sunday, April 8, 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.**

Confirmation Year II (2018) Important Dates

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

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, April 1st
NO REAL EVENTS
EASTER SUNDAY



Sunday, April 8th
6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room
REAL TIME (Youth Group)
All Teens Grades 9-12

Sunday, April 15th
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.

Adult Confirmation classes will begin Tuesday, April 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Br. Juniper Room, on the church side of campus. This six-week program is for Catholic adults who have already received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist (First Communion) and would like to complete their initiation with Confirmation. **Please register with Lisa Ostendorf to obtain the paperwork and to reserve a textbook at lostendorf@stfrncis.org or 703-221-3127, ext. 277.**



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Enchanted Florist** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.


Liturgies For The Week

SATURDAY,	March 31—Holy Saturday
9:00 AM	Morning Prayer/Blessing of Easter Food
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil
	†John Shookster
	†Gina Balistreri
SUNDAY,	April 1—Easter
7:30 AM	†Robert Earl Williams
	†Normand Richard Marquis
	†Mick Rosenblatt
9:00 AM	†Bob Walker
	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
	†Deacon Kenneth Klear
9:00 AM	(Gym)
	People of the Parish
10:45 AM	†Diem Bui
	†Hien Ti Vu
	†Duc T. Vu
10:45 AM	(Gym)
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy
	†Shandelle Barton
	Special Intention
12:15 PM	(Gym)
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	NO MASS
MONDAY,	April 2—Easter Monday
8:45 AM	†Harry Ravert
TUESDAY,	April 3—Easter Tuesday
8:45 AM	Gretchen May
	†Harry Rodman
	†Houessavi Dovi
WEDNESDAY,	April 4—Easter Wednesday
8:45 AM	Tom Ryan, Sr.
	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
	†Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	April 5—Easter Thursday
8:45 AM	†Aurora Ilagan
FRIDAY,	April 6—Easter Friday
8:45 AM	†Eileen Bolen
SATURDAY,	April 7—Easter Saturday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Cy Kelly
	†Adolfo and †Maria Pereira
	†Michael Rosenblatt

Readings for the Week of April 1, 2018

Monday	Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15
Tuesday	Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18
Wednesday	Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35
Thursday	Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48
Friday	Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14
Saturday	Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15
Sunday	Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31

The VIRTUS *Protecting God's Children* is the adult safe-environment program being offered by the Diocese of Arlington. **The Diocese requires all adult employees and also volunteers who have substantial contact with children to attend the seminar. This includes:**

- ⇒ Vacation Bible School volunteers
- ⇒ Nursery volunteers
- ⇒ Confirmation retreat parent volunteers
- ⇒ School parent volunteers, who chaperone field trips, volunteer in the classroom, etc.
- ⇒ Mommy & Me volunteers
- ⇒ Coaches for all sports
- ⇒ Boy Scout/Girl Scout leaders and assistants (regardless of whether they are parishioners)
- ⇒ Catechists and Assistant Catechists
- ⇒ CYM and MSYM volunteers
- ⇒ All church and school employees

St. Francis of Assisi Parish will host a seminar on



Saturday, April 7th from 10 am—2 pm in the Parish Center Dining Facility (begins promptly at **10 am**). To attend this workshop you must pre-register with your full legal name. The seminar is **limited to 70 people**, but there are a number of seminars offered throughout the Diocese; please check availability on the VIRTUS website.

To register: Go to www.virtus.org and click on the yellow link labeled "Registration" (you may either view a list of sessions or begin the registration process). To register for a specific session, select "Begin the Registration Process". Then, from the pull-down menu, select "Diocese of Arlington, VA". Then follow the online prompts.

Every adult member of the parish is invited to register and attend the workshop—it is our duty as members of this community of faith to be aware of how we can support and protect all children.

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.



Christ
the Lord
is risen
today

alleluia



Votive Candles

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