

**From
the
Friars**



We had a great celebration of Easter. It was so good to see so many parishioners, friends, and guests come together to celebrate the Eucharist.

There are so many to thank for the beautiful celebrations that took place. A special thanks to Nikki Giraldi, Colleen Wells, and the cantors, musicians, and members of our choir; the RCIA formation team for their weeks of formation for those received and confirmed into the Church; Lisa Ostendorf for arranging the floral displays; Pequitte Schwerin for helping during the Easter day liturgies; Friar Henry for putting together the Holy Week presiders books; Darlene Dowdy for catering the RCIA Reception; Julian Brooks, Delvis Olviedo Ramirez, and Brightness Housecleaning for set-up and clean-up; and Deacon Michael Gomes.

And finally to all who ministered at the 9 liturgies: Ushers, Lectors, Eucharist Ministers, and Altar servers; many thanks !

All in all, a great day!

Sincerely,

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

**The Easter flowers were
donated
in memory of the following:**

Claudina and Thomas Wright; Marjorie and Gus Carroll; John and Sheila Varner; Ken Lieb; Margaret Vittitow; Phyllis and Jack Conway; Dana Lawrence DiRisio; Stacy Moffett; Sharon and Ron DiRisio; Anthony DiRisio; George King Moffett, III; and Catherine (Allison) Asselin.



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!



**EUCCHARISTIC
MINISTERS**

Eucharistic Ministers and Altar servers are needed for **First Communion Masses on Saturday, April 14th (9:00am, 11:00am and 1:00pm)** and **Altar Servers for Confirmation services on Saturday, April 28th (10:00am and 2:00pm)**. Please



contact **Sheila Noble** at snoble@stfrncis.org if you are available and would like to help. **Thank you!!!**

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.

We would like to extend a huge **thank you** to the ministries that so graciously hosted Soup Suppers during Lent: **St. Francis Friars; ChristLife; Columbiettes; Knights of Columbus; Religious Education; and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.** We would also like to extend a huge **thank you** to the following Lectors for leading the parish in the inspiring 'Franciscan' version of the Stations of the Cross during Lent: **Paul Camarca; Lynn Casey; John Cipparone; Marv Floom; Steve Jones; Walt Kasenski; Pat Koch; Olivia Neason; and Pequitte Schwerin.** Thank you!



The **Rosary Guild** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. Please join us **Tuesday, April 10th** from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the **St. Catherine Room**. All are welcome. For more information, please call **Otella Creegan** at 571-264-0312.

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.

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: Insect Repellent

- 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.**

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.



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: Repelente Para Insectos

- 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.

CARE FOR CREATION!

Please join us on **Sunday, April 15th at 10 a.m. in the Br. Juniper Room**. We will discuss our Earth Day celebration plans including *tree seedling handouts after the Sunday Masses on April 22nd*. Everyone is welcome to join us.



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 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)



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.

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 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

Saturday, April 21st (Begins at 8:00 PM)
(Ends at 7:30 AM) **Sunday, April 22nd**

Parish Center

REAL FUN (LOCK-IN)
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.**

Votive Candles

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



alleluia
Liturgies For The Week

SATURDAY, April 7—Easter Saturday
 4:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:30 PM †Cy Kelly
 †Adolfo and †Maria Pereira
 †Michael Rosenblatt

SUNDAY, April 8—2nd Sunday of Easter
 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

MONDAY, April 9—Annunciation of the Lord
 8:45 AM John Scott

TUESDAY, April 10—Easter Weekday
 8:45 AM †Janet Sarsfield

WEDNESDAY, April 11—St. Stanislaus
 8:45 AM †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
 †Kathryn Gonsorcik

THURSDAY, April 12—Easter Weekday
 8:45 AM †Clara Kennedy

FRIDAY, April 13—Easter Weekday
 8:45 AM †Bamidele Abogunrin
 †Jeffrey Bachman
 †Robert McWhorter

SATURDAY, April 14—Easter Weekday
 4:00 PM Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:30 PM †Paul Krieger
 †Cy Kelly
 †John Restante

Mass Intentions on Sunday, April 15, 2018

7:30 AM †Eileen Bolen
 People of the Parish

9:00 AM †Mary Mancaso
 †Celine Nebbia
 †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik

10:45 AM †Claudina Tornes
 †Tom Bellino
 †John Lyons

12:15 PM †Clara Kennedy
 †Michael Slade
 †Bob Anderson

1:30 PM Misa en español
 5:30 PM †Sebert Guckian
 †Dan Maris
 Ethyl Comyns

Readings for the Week of April 8, 2018

Monday Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10;
 Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7b-15

Wednesday Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21

Thursday Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36

Friday Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15

Saturday Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21

Sunday Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2:1-5a;
 Luke 24:35-48

2018 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) Living in Faith~Giving in Gratitude

Currently our parish has reached **83%** of our goal for the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). We are very grateful to those who have already supported this year's appeal.



We know that there are families who have not yet made a pledge to the BLA and we are asking for support from every parish household.

There are BLA envelopes in the vestibule of the church that you may fill out and place in the Catch-All slot or bring to the Parish Office or you may go to our parish website (www.stfrancis.org), which will take you to the diocesan website, to make a one-time donation or a pledge that can be paid throughout the year.

Please reflect on your blessings and consider joining in support of the BLA. Every pledge is important! Thank you!

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.

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!



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.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK
 We would like to thank
Dumfries Heights Apartments
 for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.