 **From the Friars**

More on the current crisis in the Church.

These past few weeks as you follow the stories of the actions of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury, the implications of it, and the response of individuals there are certain statements that are often heard, "That is it, I have had it with the "Church"; I am so disgusted with the "Church"; I am going to leave the "Church".

What I find disappointing with these statements is that it reflects a certain acceptance of "Clericalism" in the Church. It suggests that the "Church" is only the Pope, the Cardinals, Bishops, priests, and hierarchy.

Indeed they are all part of the "Church" but the "Church" is much more than the hierarchy. The Church is primarily made up of the person "in the pew". That is you, your spouse, your children, your Catholic friends. The hierarchy is there to minister to and serve you.

You have an important role as "Church". Please do not let others convince you that you do not.


Sincerely,

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

Prayer Service

In view of the current situation, we will be holding a Prayer Service here at St. Francis of Assisi Church for the healing of Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse. The Prayer Service will be held on **Wednesday, September 26th from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. in the Church. All are welcome.**



 **New to St. Francis?** Please think about joining the Columbiettes, a group of Catholic women who promote the spiritual, social and charitable welfare of its members. Please contact **Dee Weikert** at deeweikert@hotmail.com for more information and to receive an invite to a small gathering.



SOLES 4 SOULS
WEARING OUT POVERTY

For the least of our brothers and sisters. **L.A.O.H. (Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians)** will be collecting new or gently used shoes for the men, women, and children impacted by Hurricane Florence! There will be two boxes in the vestibule of Church during the weekends of **9/22-9/23, 9/29-9/30, and 10/6-10/7** for drop-off. We ask that the shoes be banded together and placed in the box. For more information, please visit www.soles4souls.org or contact Mary Kay Jones at jonesmk@aol.com or 540-287-4383.

Francis Fest: Important Notes!



Our 11th Annual *Francis Fest* is scheduled for **Sunday, October 7th from 1-5pm** on the Parish Grounds. Great food, activities for all ages, entertainment and comradery guaranteed!

Lots of assistance from parish members is needed to make the festival the great success it has been in past years. Here is what you can do to help:

- **Check your wine cellar for overstock for our Wine Wheel.** Boxes will be in the church foyer for wine drop off the weekends of **9/22-9/23 and 9/29-9/30, as well as the weekend of the festival.**
- **Gently used, clean stuffed animals needed for our game prize booth.** Please drop off donations in church foyer, **clearly marked for Francis Fest** the same weekends as mentioned above for wine donations.
- **Cakes/baked goods for our cake wheel should be dropped off in the school foyer the morning of the festival.** Both the cake and wine wheel are two very popular events which help to offset the cost of the festival.
- **Volunteer to help for a shift at the festival.** We need set-up and clean-up crews as well as assistance for the various activities during the festival. **Volunteer sign-up is simple and is done completely online.** Please go to bit.ly/francisfest2018 to sign-up.
- **Festival tickets on sale at a discount!** Buy your festival tickets ahead of time and save! Festival tickets will be on sale the weekends of **9/22-9/23 and 9/29-9/30** after all Masses. **Pre-sale tickets are 6/\$5.** The day of the festival tickets will be \$1 each. All events, food and drink at the festival are charged by the ticket, so plan to buy ahead and take advantage of the discount.

As part of our **Annual Francis Fest** on October 7th, we will again be having a **55 and Over Craft Show** where you can present your crafts and sell them if you wish. We will provide the space, and ask only if you do choose to sell your craft, that you donate a portion of the profits back to the parish. Each year the show has been more and more successful, and we would like to include even more crafters this year. Please contact **Rosemary Schatz with questions, or to request space at 703-670-2450.** Table space is limited so do not delay to reserve your spot.



Marriage Preparation Workshop
Saturday, October 27, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Br. Juniper Room
This will be our last workshop for this year.



The next workshop will be held on April 6, 2019. Please contact the Parish Office at **703-221-4044** to register.

Marriage Preparation



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: Dish Soap

- Hamburger Helper
- Spaghetti, Pasta, etc.
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Fruit

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

SEASON OF CREATION

Walking Together this week, please check out buynothingproject.org, which is using Facebook groups to bring myriad random acts of kindness for neighbors to participate in day-in and day-out. People freely give (and get) stuff like clothes, dinners, crock pots, plants, rabbits, laundry detergent, antiques, bicycles, canoes, flowers, cement blocks, eggs, beds, broccoli, custard, and crickets. There is no limit to what you can give or receive. And, check out <https://freecycle.org/> to reuse and keep things out of the landfill. It is up to you to get actively involved in a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns and neighborhoods.



Please join the Care for Creation Ministry in our litter clean-up on **Saturday, September 29th at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Parking Lot.** The group will pick up litter on the St. Francis of Assisi property, the adjacent woods, and the park property. All supplies are provided. Please contact **Scott Deane at 757-696-7192, or vadeanes@yahoo.com** for more information and to sign-up.



The 55+ Ministry will host a weekly small faith group meeting on **Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in the St. Catherine Room, beginning September 25, 2018.** We will be studying various forms of Catholic prayer.

Please register online and purchase your workbook/journal directly from Ascension Press before the first meeting using <https://ascensionpress.com/studies/29759/registrations/new> and contact Lisa Ostendorf with any questions at lostendorf@stfrncis.org.

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.

Boletín Semanal

Festival de San Francisco de Asís—Los invitamos a participar del 11 Festival anual de San Francisco de Asís el domingo, octubre 7 de 1pm-5pm en los campos de la iglesia. ¡Tendremos comida, actividades para todas las edades, entretenimiento y mucho más!

Misa Bilingüe—El domingo, octubre 7; día del Festival de San Francisco tendremos una misa bilingüe a las 12:15 PM y después daremos comienzo al festival. **Este día Octubre 7. NO tendremos misa en español**

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el **viernes, octubre 12.** 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: Jabón de Lavar Los Platos

- Ayudantes de Hamburguesa (Hamburger Helper)
- Espagueti, Pasta, etc.
- Tuna Enlatada
- Fruta Enlatada

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

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Mary Ashburn; Randy Ransom; Laurie Coligan; and David Tekverk.

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

Participate in the International Day of Prayer for Peace—Our Parish will be leading one of the prayers and songs at the International Day of Prayer for Peace at **St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Woodbridge, VA.** On **Sunday, September 23rd** all are invited to attend both the program, which runs from **3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**, and the dinner, immediately following. This is a wonderful opportunity for interfaith unity in prayer.



Votive Candles
Envelopes are provided for the candle money. **Please place them in the new boxes located on the wall (next to the candles) in 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 2018-2019

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Sep. 23 | Sunday RE Session |
| 27 | Thursday RE Session |
| 30 | Sunday RE Session |
| Oct. 4 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 7 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 11 | Thursday RE Session |
| 14 | Sunday RE Session |
| 18 | Thursday RE Session |
| 21 | Sunday RE Session |
| 25 | Thursday RE Session |
| 28 | Sunday RE Session |
| Nov. 1 | Thursday RE Session |
| 4 | Sunday RE Session |

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, September 23rd

6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room

REAL LEADERSHIP
Leadership Team Only

Saturday, September 29th

10:00 AM—12:00 PM
St. Francis Parking Lot

REAL Life-Adopt-A-Spot Trash Pick-Up
All Teens Grade 9-12

Sunday, September 30th

6:30 PM—8:30 PM
St. Catherine Room

REAL TIME (Youth Group)
All Teens Grades 9-12

Sunday, October 7th

FRANCIS FEST
12:00 PM—6:00 PM
SIGN-UP TO HELP

REAL Life
All Teens Grades 9-12

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

Discover Bible Studies for Adults

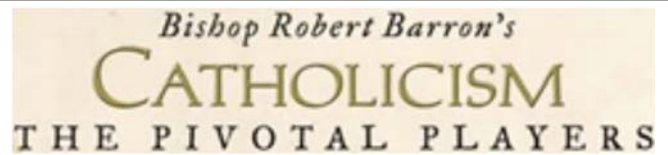
Sunday Study:
"A Biblical Walk Through the Mass"
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in St. Catherine Room
Classes begin September 23, 2018



Monday Study: "The Psalms"
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in St. Catherine Room
Classes begin September 24, 2018

Self-paced Home Studies Available
September 1, 2018—December 31, 2018:

Please visit www.stfrancis.org/resources for course descriptions and to register for any study, and please contact Lisa Ostendorf at lostendorf@stfrancis.org with questions.



St. Francis of Assisi: The Reformer

Rebuild my Church! Christ's mission to St. Francis is the perennial task of the Church in every age of its life. But how is that reform and renewal accomplished? The radical simplicity of St. Francis' life demonstrates how the foundations of true and lasting reform are to be built on the solid rock that is the witness of the saints.

In this episode of the series *CATHOLICISM: The Pivotal Players*, Bishop Barron and his team travel to Italy to visit all of the locations that played a significant role in the formation and vocation of St. Francis of Assisi, which in turn formed the life of the Church.

Please join us to continue the celebration of the life of St. Francis and view this episode on **Saturday, October 6th at 6:30pm in the Br. Juniper room!** Please contact Sheila Noble at snoble@stfrancis.org with any questions.

Baptismal Preparation Class

Our next class will be held on
Sunday, October 14, 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.



"I was **sick** and **you visited** me..."
—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

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.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Mid-County Physical Therapy
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM	September 22—Weekday Sacrament of Reconciliation †Cy Kelly †Gladys Spring †Margaret Potter
SUNDAY, 7:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:45 AM 12:15 PM 1:30 PM 5:30 PM	September 23—25th Sunday in Ordinary Time †Charles Longuemare, I †Charles Longuemare, II †Alice Tippit †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Vu Van Long †Timothy West †Joseph Powers †James L. Mooney †Marguerite H. Mooney †Clara Kennedy †Virgilio Echevaria †Anita Tornes Echevaria Misa en español †Teopisto and †Conchita Alorro People of the Parish John Maris
MONDAY, 8:45 AM	September 24—Weekday †Gladys Spring
TUESDAY, 8:45 AM	September 25—Weekday †Kathryn Gonsorcik †Michael and †Veronica Tokar †Sarah Ecklund
WEDNESDAY, 8:45 AM	September 26—Weekday †Isabella Lineberry †Robert Earl Williams †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
THURSDAY, 8:45 AM	September 27—St. Vincent de Paul †Frank and †Helen Cordes †Gilberte Degan
FRIDAY, 8:45 AM	September 28—Weekday †Paul Hrabsky †Joan Devins Michael Resh
SATURDAY, 4:00 PM 5:30 PM	September 29—Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels Sacrament of Reconciliation †Clifford Buckley †Cy Kelly †Margaret Potter

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!

Readings for the Week of September 23, 2018

Monday	Proverbs 3:27-34; Luke 8:16-18
Tuesday	Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21
Wednesday	Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9
Friday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22
Saturday	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 or Revelation 12:7-12a; John 1:47-51
Sunday	Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48



St. Francis Week

September 30 – October 7, 2018

Oct. 3rd	<i>Transitus Service</i> 7:30pm Church
Oct. 4th	<i>Francis Day (Mass) In the Park</i> 10:00am Locust Shade Park Amphitheater
Oct. 4th	<i>St. Francis School Walk-A-Thon</i> 11:00am Locust Shade Park
Oct. 6th	<i>Blessing of the Animals</i> 12:00 pm Parish Grounds
Oct. 6th	<i>Catholicism: The Pivotal Players Series</i> <i>'St. Francis of Assisi: The Reformer'</i> 6:30pm Br. Juniper Room
Oct. 7th	<i>Bilingual Mass</i> 12:15 pm Church
Oct. 7th	<i>Francis Fest</i> 1:00pm-5:00pm Parish Grounds

Mass Intentions on Sunday, September 30, 2018

7:30 AM	†Felicite Leguerrier †Palmyra C. D. Longuemare †Alice Tippit
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Helen and †George Callaway †Betty Jane Carmack
10:45 AM	People of the Parish †James E. Hamilton, Jr. †Iris Hamilton
12:15 PM	†Donald Widener †Clara Kennedy †Helen and †George Callaway
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Jack Monaghan †Robert D. Umfer †Helen and †George Callaway

**BE A FRANCIS-CAN
NOT A
FRANCIS-CAN'T**

