

From the Pastor's Desk

I have great memories of my grandfather. He was a man of integrity. He was a dairy farmer who loved his family and passed down simple yet important life lessons. My dad told me a story that when he was young Grandpa asked him to give him a hand in washing down some borrowed farm equipment before they returned it to a neighbor. My dad asked him, "Why are we cleaning this? It was dirty when we got it." My grandfather's response to my dad was "that you should always return something a little better than you found it".

Years later and a week after Grandpa's funeral, I helped my dad vacuum, wash, and refuel a car he had borrowed from a friend. After returning the car, my dad's friend said to me, "Whenever I loan something to your dad, I know whatever I lend him will come back in even better shape."

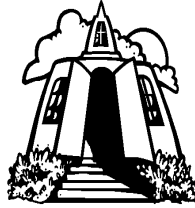
And that is my grandpa's legacy. He left the world just a little better than he found it. I hope I can do the same.

A father instills in his son the importance of respect and generosity, and then his son instilled those same lessons in his son. That same legacy of love is the legacy of Jesus Christ to us. Our very identity as Disciples of Christ is centered in such complete and constant love; our faithfulness in imitating the compassion and forgiveness of Christ is lived in our openness of heart and spirit to love selflessly, completely and unconditionally, as God has loved us in Christ. Jesus the Healer and Reconciler, Jesus the Footwasher, Jesus the Crucified, entrusts to us his Disciples a "new" standard and understanding of love: a love that places others first and the common good before our own, a love that renews and re-creates all human relationships, a love that transforms the most godless and secular world view into the compassion and justice of God. The challenge for us as Disciples of Christ in our world today is to keep this legacy of love alive and to pass it on.

Join Father Kevin on a trip to Greece: in the footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle which features a **3-night Greek Islands and Turkey Cruise.** This is an 11 day trip which will take place **October 12-22, 2016.** [There are still four spaces available.](#) Information on the trip can be found in the vestibule of the church and on the parish [website www.stfrancis.org](http://www.stfrancis.org). **If you have any questions please contact to Father Kevin.**



Do you know someone who has not been to church in a while? We encourage you to bring them to our Come Home program in May. Everyone deserves to be welcomed into a loving community and experience God's love. **The first of three meetings will begin on Tuesday, May 3rd in the Br. Juniper Room at 7:00 p.m.** Please contact **Joe Mitcho** (jfmitcho44@gmail.com or 703-967-9959) for more information.



This week Stephen Ministry will celebrate three years of Commissioned work here at St. Francis. I would like to take this time to congratulate all 41 Stephen Ministers for their outstanding work. **And thank Fr. Kevin for his vision and support.** We are strong because of the cross section of outstanding individuals that believe in giving back to their community. **My heartfelt thanks for all you do!**



Interested in learning about Liberation Theology?

Fr. Joe Nangle, O.F.M. will discuss Liberation Theology with our parishioners going to Peru this summer

All are Invited

When: 7:30pm-9:00pm, Tuesday, May 3rd
Where: Parish Center Library

Fr. Joseph Nangle, O.F.M. served as a missionary for many years in Peru and is former executive director and co-director of the Franciscan Mission Service (FMS). As FMS director for 12 years, Fr. Joe brought his experiences as a missionary; he was a sought-after peace and justice activist and lecturer to the lay mission program. He integrated Catholic social teaching, a radical Franciscan commitment to the Gospel, a preferential concern for the poor and a sense of humor into the formation of more than 80 lay women and men who answered the call to international mission.

A Novena of Masses will be offered for all Mothers, living and deceased, and will begin on May 8th. **Spiritual Bouquet Cards** are available on the tables in the vestibule. Please drop the inside envelope in the Catch-All Slot in the vestibule or in the parish office **no later than Thursday, May 5th.**



James Dumoulin, Troop 1390 Life Scout, Eagle Scout Project: New or "Gently Used" Sports Equipment and Outdoor Activity Drive to benefit St. Francis House on **May 14th-15th and 21st- 22nd.** *Boxes will be located in the vestibule for your generous contribution of these items: basketballs, footballs, kickballs, soccer balls, small orange cones, baseballs, bats, gloves, helmets, bases, Frisbees, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, and bubbles.* Donated items will be distributed to children and families in need in Eastern Prince William County through St. Francis House. **Please note: No bikes, skateboards, Razors, electric scooters, shoes or clothing.**



St. Francis House Corner

Thanks to the donations from all our parishioners we were able to provide food for **65** families this week. Because of the increase of families in need We are in need of:



- Canned Fruit
- Hamburger Helper
- Peanut Butter and Jelly

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

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francis—gradecemos a todos nuestros parroquianos por todas sus ofrendas a la Despensa de Comida; con sus donaciones pudimos ayudar a **65** familias. En estos momentos estamos necesitados de **Hamburger Helper y Fruta En Latas**. **Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.**

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán las siguientes fechas:


- Viernes, mayo 20
- Viernes, Junio 17

Las charlas bautismales son a las 7:00pm en la librería de la escuela. Para más información por favor llamar a la **Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344**.

ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:30 PM in Br. Juniper Room**—At that time we will have a presentation by a member of the parish's Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council on the topic of Human Trafficking.

All men of the parish are welcome. For more information please contact **Tony Mercogliano at amercogliano@gmail.com or 571-332-7048**.



Many Members One Body, a support group for gay and lesbian Catholics and their families, will be held on **Thursday, May 5th, at 7 pm in the Br. Juniper Room**. For more information, please contact **Fr. Kevin Downey at 703-221-4044**.

Social Justice: Franciscan Action and Advocacy (FA&A)

Franciscan Mission Service prepares and supports lay Catholics for two-year international, one-year domestic, and 1-2 week short-term mission service opportunities in solidarity with impoverished and marginalized communities across the globe. To learn more, please visit <http://franciscanmissionservice.org/>.

Upcoming FA&A meetings: Our **Anti-Human Trafficking Committee** (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting on **Wednesday, May 11th, at 7 p.m.** in the **Grade 6 Classroom**. Our **Respect Life Committee** (advocating for the consistent ethic of life from conception to natural death) is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st, at 11:45 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. Our **Care for Creation Committee** (focused on environmental work/integral ecology) is meeting on **Sunday, May 22nd, at 9 a.m.** in the **Br. Juniper Room**. Our **Franciscan Action and Advocacy Council (FAAC)** is meeting on **Saturday, May 21st, at 9:30 a.m.** in the **St. Catherine Room**. (FAAC meetings are only open to council members. Parishioners are encouraged, however, to submit questions or ideas for FAAC discussion or consideration.)



Circle of 6 (<http://www.circleof6app.com/>) is an app for you and your friends to stay close and to stay safe. It's fast, easy-to-use and private.

Originally designed for college students to prevent sexual violence, it's also handy for teenagers, parents, friends, or all communities seeking to foster healthy relationships and safety. Need help getting home? Need an interruption? Two taps lets your circle know where you are and how they can help. Circle of 6 app for iPhone and Android makes it quick and easy to reach the 6 people you choose. It is the mobile way to look out for each other on campus or when you're out for the night. A simple tool to prevent trouble before it happens.

For more information on any of the above and/or to get involved in justice/advocacy, please visit the FA&A section on the parish website (<http://www.stfrancis.org/welcome-introduction/>) and/or contact **Rob Goraieb, O.F.S. at rgoraieb@stfrancis.org or 703-221-3127, ext. 228**.

Pope Francis's Encyclical:

"There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, substituting for fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy."

(Chapter 1, paragraph 26)

—Compiled by
Chelsea Miller and Adam Petrizza
from our parish *Care for Creation Committee*



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



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Honorable Service Realty Group
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 am—2:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Religious Education Calendar

May 1	Sunday RE Sessions I&II
5	Thursday RE Session
8	NO RE —Happy Mother's Day
12	Thursday RE Session
15	Sunday RE Sessions I&II

Important Dates—Confirmation 2016

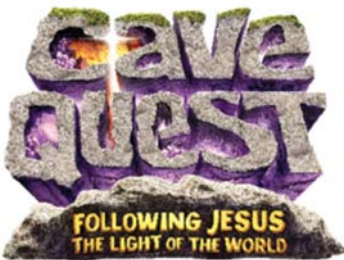
Thursday, May 19th (6:30pm or 8:00pm)—Confirmation Rehearsal

- 6:30pm—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 8:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Saturday, May 21st (10:00am or 2:00pm)—Confirmation

- 10:00am—St. Francis School, Thursday RE, CYM
- 2:00pm—All Sunday RE sessions, Homeschool

Enrollment for Cave Quest Vacation Bible School (VBS) is now open!



VBS will be held **June 20th—June 24th** from **9:00 am-12:30 pm** in the **Parish Center**. It is open to all children ages 4 years to entering 6th Grade. Adults and teens—volunteer and join the fun! Do you have little ones (under 4 years) at home?

They can join in the nursery as you volunteer. Registration and Volunteer forms are in the foyer at Church and also available on the website. **Questions? Please the contact RE Office at 703-221-4978 or Sharon Gardner at gardners.vbs@gmail.com.**



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!

Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, May 8, 2016 from 1:30p.m.—2:00p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**

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.



Please Pray For All those who are sick: Anna Paglio; Lorraine Autobus; Mary Hayden; Kurt Nagel; Annelies Gendron; and Bruce Meisner, Col. U.S. Army Retired.

And for those recently deceased: Celine Nebbia (Aunt of Joan Matochik); Mary Bryant (Mother of Debra Zolp); Catherine Saccoccia (Mother of Ken Saccoccia); Robert Sweeney (Father of Valerie Cathell); and Mildred Ruth Malley (Mother of Marianne Hayes).

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Tyler Jones, Bo Bosak, Joseph Sheridan, Jeffrey Miller, Jeffrey Monken, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

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.



If you are moving/changing your address, please notify the office so we can keep our records up-to-date. If you are changing your phone number because you are using a cellular phone and/or forgoing your land phone, the office would also like that information. Please call us at 703-221-4044. Thank you.



Keep those used printer cartridges coming! Faith Formation has been helping to reduce the debt and be good stewards of our earth by recycling. With your contribution of used ink cartridges we can help reduce the debt and take care of the earth and it is so easy to do.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP THEM IN THE CATCH-ALL SLOT

(No laser cartridges.)
You can drop the cartridges off in the basket on the table in the vestibule or stop by the Faith Formation Office. Thank You For Your Continued Support!

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.



Follow us on:

Facebook: *St. Francis of Assisi Church*
Twitter: *@StFrancisVA*
Instagram: *stfrancischurchva*



alleluia
Liturgies For The Week

SUNDAY,	May 1—6th Sunday of Easter
5:30 PM	People of the Parish †Timothy Halpin †James Allan †Luisa Nunez Manabet
7:30 AM	Thomas Lee
9:00 AM	†Catherine Murphy †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
10:30 AM	†Therese Boutin LaFontaine Renato Lentija †Arthur Thompson
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Michael Creegan †Victoria Maier
MONDAY,	May 2—St. Athanasius
8:45 AM	†Thomas and †Ellen Sheehan
TUESDAY,	May 3—Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
8:45 AM	Gretchen May
WEDNESDAY,	May 4—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	†John Dumoulin, Sr. †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik †Michael Creegan
THURSDAY,	May 5—Ascension
8:45 AM	Otella Creegan and Family
FRIDAY,	May 6—Easter Weekday
8:45 AM	†Michael Creegan †Joyce and †Don McVay
SATURDAY,	May 7—Easter Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Mass Intentions on Sunday, May 8, 2016	
5:30 PM	†Marion Richmond †Palmira Coimbra †Mildred Ruth Malley
7:30 AM	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 AM	†Dorothy Gallagher †Laura Garcia-de-Quevedo †Dr. Anthony Mancuso †Nora Gallagly †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Marie Newman †Flor Rodriguez †Teodosia Herrera †Vilma Zelvaggio
10:30 AM	Otella Creegan †Arthur Thompson
12:15 PM	†George Beck †Donna Bowman Olds †Antoinette Yagelski †Mildred Ruth Malley †Clara Kennedy †Michel Gaspard
1:45 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish

Readings for the Week of May 1, 2016

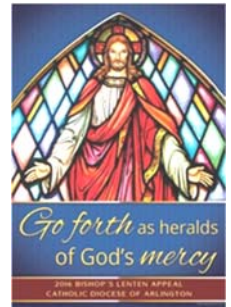
Monday	Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14
Wednesday	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; John 16:12-15
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23 or Hebrew 9:24-28, 10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53
Friday	Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23
Saturday	Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23b-28
Sunday	Acts 7:55-60; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20; John 17:20-26

AMS Pilgrimage Mass Bulletin Announcement

The Marine Memorial Chapel and The Fr. Vincent Capodanno Council of the Knights of Columbus (KofC) is sponsoring a bus trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine to attend the 22nd Annual Memorial Mass that will take place on **May 15th at 12pm in the Upper Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.** The Archbishop of the Military Services Diocese, Archbishop Broglio will be the principal celebrant. **All are welcome, please reserve your seat on the bus by phone, text, or email to PGK Keith Matheson at 727-637-2489 or K.matheson@yahoo.com.**

2016 Bishop's Lenten Appeal
Go forth as heralds of God's mercy

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is in full swing and we are asking **every household** in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able. *We are at 90% of our goal. **We are almost there!*** The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and further Jesus' Mission in our diocese. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, let's join together to do the Lord's work—works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people in our diocese. Thank you!



Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion



There is one workshop remaining for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, which will be held on:

Saturday, May 14, 2016 at Our Lady of Hope (in the upper church) in Potomac Falls.

The time frame for the workshop will be from **10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.**

To register for the workshop or if you have any questions, please contact **Chanel Marquis at 703-221-4044, ext. 222 or cmarquis@stfrancis.org.**

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

