



From the Friars

On **Monday, March 27th** Fr. Michael Calabria, a Franciscan, member of the faculty at St. Bonaventure University, will be the guest speaker at the monthly **Theology on Tap program at the Ornerly Brewery near Potomac Mills**. For the first time we are opening this evening to all adults, not just young adults.

I have suggested this because of the important nature of Fr. Michael's talk. He is an expert on the Muslim Religion and Muslim-Christian relations.

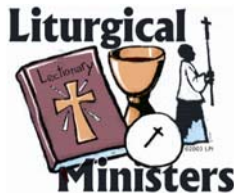
We live at a time when much misinformation is being disseminated about the Muslim Religion. You will find Fr. Michael's talk enlightening. I have heard him speak, he is excellent! Please plan to join us on the 27th.

I also call your attention to the Communal Penance service that we will be celebrating on **Wednesday, March 29th**. There will be four friars/priests available for individual confession. In addition on **Wednesdays in lent a friar will be available for confession from 7:30 pm-8:30 pm**. This is in addition to the usual **Saturday confession time of 4:00 pm-5:00 pm**.

Sincerely,

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

For all lectors, ushers, servers, and Eucharistic ministers who wish to serve during the Easter Vigil and/or Easter Day masses, the **sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule**.



Very Special Presentation on Christian-Islam Relations at the March 27th Theology on Tap

We have opened up the March Theology on Tap to adults of all ages for a very special talk from a renowned expert in Islam—Christian relations, **Fr. Michael Calabria, O.F.M., PhD**. Fr. Michael is a friar and Director of the Center for Arab and Islamic Studies at St. Bonaventure University. He has earned three Master's Degrees as well as a PhD and has presented more than 40 papers and articles all over the world on the topic. Please join him at the **Ornerly Beer Company, located in Woodbridge, VA on March 27th at 6:30 p.m. for food and beverages and the talk at 7:30 p.m.**

Below, please find the latest statement from Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez, Bishop of Austin and Chair of the USCCB Committee on Migration.

Fraternally in Christ,
Bishop Burbidge



The Full Statement of Bishop Vasquez:

We remain deeply troubled by the human consequences of the revised executive order on refugee admissions and the travel ban. While we note the Administration's efforts to modify the Executive Order in light of various legal concerns, the revised Order still leaves many innocent lives at risk.

The removal of one of the original seven predominantly Muslim countries temporarily barred from entering the United States is welcome, but we are disappointed that the revised order maintains the temporary shutdown of the U.S. refugee admissions program, continues the more than 60 percent reduction in the number of refugees who can be resettled into the United States this year, and still temporarily bars nationals from six predominantly Muslim countries from entering the United States.

The U.S. Catholic Bishops have long recognized the importance of ensuring public safety and would welcome reasonable and necessary steps to accomplish that goal.

However, based on the knowledge that refugees are already subjected to the most vigorous vetting process of anyone who enters the United States, there is no merit to pausing the refugee resettlement program while considering further improvement to that vetting process.

The United States has long provided leadership in resettling refugees. We believe in assisting all those who are vulnerable and fleeing persecution, regardless of their religion, including Christians, Muslims, and all others. We believe that by helping to resettle the most vulnerable, we are living out our Christian faith and "welcoming the stranger" as Jesus has challenged us to do.

Today, more than 65 million people around the world are forcibly displaced from their homes. Given this extraordinary level of suffering, the U.S. Catholic Bishops reaffirm their support for, and efforts to protect, all who flee persecution and violence, as just one part of the perennial and global work of the Church in defense of vulnerable persons. Resettling only 50,000 refugees a year, down from 110,000, does not reflect the need, our compassion, and our capacity as a nation. We have the ability to continue to assist the most vulnerable among us without sacrificing our values as Americans or the safety and security of our nation.

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:



- **Item of the Month: Toilet Paper**
- Cereal
- Spaghetti
- Pasta
- Hamburger Helper

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 who have responded so generously to requests for dinner items at the Drop-In shelter. With the help of our parishioners we provided

1,260 meals. **Beginning Saturday, April 1st, our responsibility will shift to supplying breakfast on Saturday mornings** as the Winter Shelter programs end. Directions and sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin board in the vestibule. **For more information, please call Francia at 571-572-5862.**

Kairos Prison Ministry Asks for Your Support



The Kairos Program is a prison ministry, which involves screened volunteers visiting and interacting with those who are incarcerated. Its

purpose is to build a Christian community within the prison. On **March 23-26, 2017 a parishioner will support the Kairos weekend at Deep Meadows Correctional Center.** You can assist our representative in two ways, which are listed below:

1. **Sign up for Prayer Chain or Prayer Wheel.** Intercessory prayer is powerful for those incarcerated as well as their families. A **Prayer Chain** is a visible, tangible way of showing the offenders how many people are praying for them, by linking paper strips with the printed name of a person who volunteers to pray for any amount of time during the weekend. A **Prayer Wheel** is different. It visually depicts specific, 30-minute timeslots covering the Kairos weekend, which shows the offenders they have prayer support 24/7. Sign-up to be a link in the Prayer Chain or take a timeslot on the Prayer Wheel by contacting **John Cipparone at johncip11@verizon.net or home: 703-580-6406 or cell: 603-512-9680** up to **March 21st.**
2. **Bake Cookies.** Kairos volunteers are responsible for bringing dozens of cookies as a metaphor for abundant love. If this is something you desire to do, **please use only the required recipes**, due to the many prison restrictions. The specific recipes are available on the parish website <http://www.stfrncis.org/prison-ministry/>. Any number of cookies are appreciated and they can be dropped off at the parish office up to **March 21st.**

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco— Agradecemos 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:

- **Artículo del mes: Papel Higiénico**
- Cereal
- Pasta
- Espaguetis

Muchas gracias por sus donaciones. Para mas información contactar a la Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.

Charlas Bautismales—En el mes de abril no tendremos charlas bautismales. Las próximas charlas bautismales en español **serán el viernes, mayo 12.** Las charlas bautismales **son a las 7:00pm en el Salón del Hermano Juniper (Br. Juniper Room).** Para más información por favor llamar a la **Señora Salguero al 703-221-6344.**

Encuentro Cuaresmal—Únase a nuestra comunidad de fe y casi 14.000 comunidades católicas en los Estados Unidos en un cambio de vida camino cuaresmal de encuentro con Servicios de Auxilio Católicos (Catholic Relief Services) (CRS). Cada estudiante de educación religiosa y los estudiante de SFAS han recibido un plato de arroz (rice bowl). También vamos a proporcionar más platos de arroz para quien quisiera uno en el atrio de la iglesia. Están disponibles en inglés y español. Esta es una gran forma de dar ofrendas para los niños. Tal vez sus hijos puedan sacrificar una película, juguete, comida rápida o hacer algunas tareas en el hogar con el fin de donar a un plato de arroz.

Al final de la Cuaresma, devuelva todos los platos de arroz a la oficina de ER o a la oficina parroquial. Por favor, **no las ponga en la caja de donaciones (catch all-slot).** Únase a nosotros en trabajar juntos para mejorar la vida de los otros durante esta Cuaresma. Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con **DRE Recoor@stfrncis.org** Marianne Hayes, o en nuestro sitio web en stfrncis.org.

You Can Make a Difference!

School has just started in Peru. Each Spring we support our Sister Parishes with funds to make it possible for some of the poorest families to send their children to Catholic Schools. This year the appeal is running from **March 5-26th.** See the bulletin board for more information and directions on how you can help!

Some of the tuitions are higher this year and some students are on partial scholarships. A few are in secondary school which is more expensive. Their new school year began in March, so they are counting on the funds that we promised to send them. If you have taken an envelope from the bulletin board please remember to return it with your check to the catch-all slot or return it to the bulletin board so someone else can sponsor that child. **Thank you!**

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 2016-2017

Mar. 12 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
16 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
19 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
23 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
26 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
30 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm

Apr. 2 Sunday RE Session 10:30am-11:45am & 4-5:15pm
6 Thursday RE Session 5-6:15pm
April 9th—April 23rd **NO RE, Easter Break. Classes will resume on April 27th.**

First Communion

The First Communion retreat is scheduled for **Saturday, April 1st from 10:00am to 3:00pm in the Parish Center.** Students will need to bring a bag lunch and dress comfortably. We need many volunteers to help this retreat go smoothly for the students, so please contact **Sheila Noble** at snoble@stfrncis.org to volunteer.

First Communion is Saturday, May 13th.



Reconciliation for Confirmation candidates

As a requirement for Confirmation, it is necessary that candidates receive the sacrament of Reconciliation in close proximity to being confirmed. Unless you have made prior arrangements, all Confirmation candidates must attend the Confirmation Reconciliation service on **Saturday, April 1st**. You will find specific session times listed below.

12:00pm	1:30pm
All Sunday RE (except High School)	St. Francis of Assisi School
All Thursday RE	Homeschool
	High School
	Aquinas

Confirmation is Saturday, May 6th.

The Parish is hosting a **Special Olympics Mash-Up Basketball Game Sunday, March 19th at 3 p.m. in the Parish Center.** Athletes from Special Olympics and St. Francis of Assisi Parish will combine teams to play basketball and raise awareness and support for those with intellectual disabilities. Each year, participants and attendees have come away from the experience with a better understanding of special needs children and adults. If you haven't attended in the past it is a pretty awesome afternoon! Everyone is invited and encouraged to come and cheer. We will have food and games as well. **This is a great family event!**

Baptismal Preparation Class—Our next class will be held on **Sunday, April 9, 2017 from 1:30p.m.—2:30p.m.** in the Br. Juniper Room. **Please call the parish office to register at 703-221-4044.**



St. Francis High School Youth Ministry is now 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, March 19th

6:30 PM—8:30 PM

St. Catherine Room

REAL Time (Youth Group)

All teens grades 9-12

Sunday, March 26th

NO REAL ACTIVITIES

Saturday, April 1st-Sunday April 2nd

Lenten Cross Sale

Handmade Lenten Crosses to help raise funds for the **REAL!** program. The crosses will be offered for donation after all the Masses in the vestibule of the church. Your support is greatly appreciated!!

NO REAL MEETING



CORNERSTONE
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI TRIANGLE, VA

This is your last chance to invest in yourself...

Join us on the Women's Cornerstone Retreat,

March 24th-25th

Come be a part of the fellowship, prayer, wine, music and song.

Spaces are still available. Check out

<http://www.stfrncis.org/cornerstone/>

You will not be disappointed!!

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Phyliss Shaw.

And for those recently deceased: Keith Bassett; Michael Bridges; Florence Fogarty; and Kristin Adcock.

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Andrew Wagner; Leo N. Company; Nicholas Tsougas; S. Defibaugh; Josh Bookout; Brianna French; Glenn Harms; Joseph Sheridan, James Moore, Kyle McVay, Kyle Traylor, Kasey Eggie, Eustaquio Castro-Mendoza, Marc Gendron, and Darryl Saungweme.

LAOH Bake Sale: On Sunday, March 19th,

The Ladies of the Ancient Order of Hibernians will sponsor a bake sale and an Irish Basket Raffle. Proceeds will benefit St. Francis House. Donated baked goods are appreciated. Please contact **Ginny Murphy** at ginmurphy28@gmail.com or 703-203-7933 with any questions about donating baked goods.



Open AA Step Study Group Friday night
Group meets 7-8:00 p.m. in the Br. Juniper Room.
Come study the 12 Steps to Recovery.

Third Sunday of Lent

SATURDAY,	March 18—Lenten Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Paul Krieger †Samuel C. Deitz †Vera Kock
SUNDAY,	March—19th 3rd Sunday of Lent
7:30 AM	†Harper Grey Sullivan †James L. Mooney †Harry Ravert
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Robert J. Nevens †Andy Misenko
10:30 AM	†Valerie Shaw †Jim Kearns †Doris Palmer
12:00 PM	†Rev. James P. Fallon †Clara Kennedy †Roseanne Scruggs
1:30 PM	People of the Parish
5:30 PM	†William A. Murphy †Santos Bueno, Sr. †Roberta Rongavilla
MONDAY,	March 20—St. Joseph, husband of Mary
8:45 AM	†Carole Ann Kelley †Rev. Peter J. Doherty †Roseanne Scruggs
TUESDAY,	March 21—Lenten Weekday
8:45 AM	Maria Woo †Rogelio Aseneta †Capt. David Peth
WEDNESDAY,	March 22—Lenten Weekday
8:45 AM	†Lillian and †James Callahan †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	March 23—Lenten Weekday
8:45 AM	Souls in Purgatory †Mary Bryant Noel and Rose Peña
FRIDAY,	March 24—Lenten Weekday
8:45 AM	Arismendi Peña †Eladio Elomina †Robert McWhorter
SATURDAY,	March 25—Annunciation of the Lord
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Michael J. Strati †Seth Mitcho †Brian Shea

Votive Candles

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



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Christopher K. Brown, CPA, PLLC
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Readings for the Week of March 19, 2017

Monday	2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a
Tuesday	Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19
Thursday	Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23
Friday	Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34
Saturday	Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38
Sunday	1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Mass Intentions on Sunday, March 26, 2017

7:30 AM	†Joseph Eugen Koehl †Norman Bachman †Harry Ravert
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Joseph Hoa Vu †Katharine Toland Quinn
10:30 AM	†William A. Murphy Steve Thompson †Donald Widener
12:00 PM	†Clara Kennedy †Roseanne Scruggs Dominick "Nick" Zadak
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	People of the Parish



No pain, no gain. We often hear this proverb when faced with doing a difficult, demanding, even sometimes physically painful task. We forge through the unpleasantness because our desire for the end result is stronger than our impulse to avoid the pain. And that is why we have Stephen Ministry... so you do not go through life's pains alone. **To know that someone is there that cares, please email Kathy Walker at kwalker@stfrncis.org to get started with a Stephen Minister today.**

10 DAYS IN THE HOLY LAND October 31 - November 9, 2017



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For a detailed brochure, please contact
Friar Henry L. Fulmer, OFM at:

703-221-4044, ext. 227 or at friarhenry@stfrncis.org
DON'T MISS THIS TRIP OF A LIFETIME!!