



Please find below, a statement from Russell Testa, the JPIC Director for Holy Name Province regarding the tensions in Charlottesville, VA. In light of Mr. Testa's statement, the provincial ministers of the seven OFM provinces in the United States have also released a statement, which can be viewed on ESCOFM.org.

St. Francis of Assisi stated in his Testament: "The Lord revealed to me that we should greet others with: 'The Lord grant you peace.'" In today's world, in light of the violence in Charlottesville, VA and the seemingly ever-growing disintegration of public unity, such a greeting may seem trite. However, the greeting is an aspiration as much as a statement of fact. It also is a call to action.

Displays of overt racism, xenophobia and exclusion are jarring. They shake us up and force us to explore the more subtle and structural nature of discrimination in our society, in addition to the overt actions. Unfortunately, after being shaken we must admit that far too often we find ourselves returning to a point of ignoring much of the dehumanizing activity. We believe this return to "normal" arises out of a numbing of our souls from the onslaught of degrading actions. To fight this numbing and remain vigilant, we need the support of others.

We are heartened by the statements of so many religious and public leaders decrying the violence and hate in public display in Charlottesville and their call for a community to unite against the hate. With this call comes a challenge: too often a call for unity is misinterpreted as a call to welcome, to dialogue, to forgiveness without understanding that these invitations must include a demand of repentance for wrongdoing.

The call to peace and unity is not one of quiet, or silence; rather it is a call to non-violent confrontation. A confrontation that always makes room to welcome the other whom we confront, but makes clear that certain actions, certain beliefs are never acceptable.

Franciscans seek to be bridge-builders, trying to bring people together. Implicit in the act of bridge-building is the assertion that all parties have something to give and gain in the new experience of community. However, there are times, and now might be one of them, when we must acknowledge that some individuals and groups, unless they abandon and repent for their brutalizing actions and attitudes, have nothing to bring to the building of community. This is an uncomfortable experience for followers of St. Francis who seek to welcome all.

To overcome the hate, we believe we must continue to join with others in the stand against racism, xenophobia and other dehumanizing actions. We also must repent from our own participation, often through ignorance, in these evil institutions and work towards reconciliation by building the world that the Gospel inspires us to seek.

We commit ourselves to this work and hope that we can do our small part to build the world of peace.

May the Lord Grant You Peace,

Russell Testa, JPIC Animator
Holy Name Province Franciscans (OFM)



Our annual Labor Day Picnic will be held **Monday, September 4th** at **Locust Shade Park** from **11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, with a **prayer service at 12:00 p.m.**

Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. **A sign-up poster for family food donations will be available in the vestibule on the weekend of August 26th-27th.** Please plan to join us for our family day of fun and good food. *The picnic will be held rain or shine. If it must be cancelled due to extreme conditions, the cancellation will be posted on the parish website.*



Marriage Jubilee Mass: Are you celebrating your **Silver or Golden Marriage Jubilee this year?** Were you married in **1967 or 1992?**



Then contact the parish office to make sure that you are registered for the "2017 Marriage Jubilee Mass." This Mass will be celebrated at **2:30 p.m.** on **October 15th** at **Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, in Potomac Falls, VA.** The parish office must submit all registrations to the *Office for Family Life* as soon as possible. Registrations forms are available in the vestibule. Please contact **Chanel Marquis** (cmarquis@stfrancis.org or **703-221-4044, ext. 222**) in the parish office with any questions. Do not delay. **Registration is due no later than September 21st.**

Do you like to sing? The Saint Francis Music Ministry welcomes singers of ALL ages. Rehearsals begin AUGUST 28th



Sometimes we sit listening to the choirs and wish we were singing with them. ***Now is your chance!*** Come check out a rehearsal and learn more about the choirs. All singers are welcome. **Please consider joining us in making joyful music through one of our choirs:**

- The **Adult Choir** sings at the 9:00 Mass every Sunday and rehearses every **Monday evening from 7:30 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.**
- The **Worship Ensemble** sings at the 12:00 Noon Mass every Sunday and rehearses every **Thursday from 7:30 until 9:00 P.M.**
- The **Teen/Young Adult Choir** sings several times monthly, usually in conjunction with the Youth Ministry Schedule, at the 5:30 Mass on Sunday and rehearses every **Monday evening from 6:00 until 7:15 P.M.**
- The **Family Liturgy Choir** sings at the 10:30 a.m. mass and is open to all children of the Parish grades 2 through 8. Rehearsals are the **first and third Wednesdays of each month from 6:45 – 7:45 P.M.** **First rehearsal is September 6th.**

All rehearsals take place in the choir area of the church. For more information, please contact Nikole Girdali at nikoleg@stfrancis.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: Dish Soap**
- Hamburger Helper
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Canned Tuna
- Spaghetti and Pasta
- Cereal
- Spaghetti Sauce

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

Parish VOICE Committee REMINDER

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote. Register to vote. New to the area? In addition to registering in our parish, please remember to register to vote. The U.S. Catholic bishops remind Catholics, "We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a better world" You can pick up a mail-in voter registration form at DMV offices, libraries, etc. **For a full list of locations or to register online go to:**

<http://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/how-to-register/>.

Next Sister Parish Ministry Meeting

What: Agenda topics include a debrief on the 2017 Mission, recommendations for the 2018 Mission and to determine projects to support with the October collection.

When: 7:30pm, Tuesday, September 5th

Where: Br. Juniper Room

All Are Welcome!

Save the Date

St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia, PA
September 11th-15th, 2017

We are currently forming our mission team to work along side our sisters and brothers at St. Francis Inn, Philadelphia, PA. At the Inn we will live amongst the Friars, religious, lay ministers and Franciscan volunteers as we serve the poor, the homeless, and the marginalized of the Kennsington neighborhood in northeast Philadelphia. Please consider joining us as we respond to our call of discipleship standing in solidarity with those who have least in life. **For more information contact John Habel, jxhabel@comcast.net.**



Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco:

Gracias a las donaciones de todos nuestros feligreses el artículo del mes a sido bien recibido por nuestros clientes. Con sus donaciones podremos continuar a los mas necesitados.

• **Artículo del mes: Papel Higiénico**

- Atún Enlatado
- Espagueti & Salsa Para Espagueti
- Crema de Maní y Jalea
- Cereal

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

Picnic del Día del Trabajo—Te invitamos a celebrar el Día del trabajo en el Locust Shade Park el Lunes ,Septiembre 4 de 11am-3pm (Con un servicio de oración a las 12 del mediodía). En el vestíbulo de la iglesia hay una hoja de inscripción y pedimos que cada familia traiga frutas, verduras o ensaladas para al menos 10 personas. El picnic consistirá de (hamburguesas, perros calientes, panecillos, y condimentos) También tendremos refrescos. Solo se cancelara el picnic debido a condiciones Extremas del clima, si se cancela lo publicaremos en la página web de la parroquia. Esta es una gran oportunidad para nosotros, los integrantes de la familia parroquial para que nos reunamos. ¡Esperamos contar con su presencia!

RECORDATORIO DEL COMITE PARROQUIAL VOICE

Los Católicos se preocupan. Los católicos votan. Regístrese para votar. ¿Eres nuevo en el área de Triangle? Además de estar registrado en nuestra parroquia recuerda también registrarte para votar. Los obispos católicos de Estados Unidos les recuerdan a los católicos que: "Somos llamados a considerar nuestros principios y nuestras opciones políticas, nuestros valores y nuestros votos, para ayudar a construir un mundo mejor." Puedes encontrar y llevar un formulario de registro para votar por correo en las oficinas del DMV, bibliotecas, etc. Para una lista completa de los lugares donde puedes encontrar el formulario o para registrarte online, puedes ir al sitio web: <http://www.elections.virginia.gov/registration/how-to-register/>.

Summer time is a good time to **make** a new friend. How about inviting someone for an iced coffee or a bar-b-que? Can you then **be** a friend, even in need? Once you have made friends, how about **inviting** them to a Cursillo encounter weekend to further their relationship with Christ?



Our upcoming weekends are **September 14th-17th for Women; and October 26th-29th for Men.** Both will be held at the beautiful San Damiano Retreat site near Winchester.

For more information, please email Pequitte Schwerin at wislady@comcast.net or access the arlingtoncursillo.org website. We will be looking for 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 Registration Weekend

Religious Education will have a table outside the church for information regarding registration after all the Masses the weekend of August 26th and August 27th. Registration can be completed online with electronic payment at <http://www.stfrncis.org/welcome-and-introduction/>. Paper registration forms are online also for cash and check payments.



Religious Education is in need of Catechists for the upcoming year. Training is provided. **Catechists are needed for Sunday and Thursday classes for grades 1-8 and special sacrament classes.** If you would like to share your faith with the children of the Parish, please contact **Marianne Hayes, DRE at 703-221-3127 or recoor@stfrncis.org**.

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!



SUMMER 2017
ACTIVITIES WILL BE ANNOUNCED

Please Pray For All those who are sick: Anabella Van Kempen; Angie Powell; Aaron Childs; Bev Lyle; Liman Le; Karen Davis; Nancy Brown; S.J. Defibaugh; Pat Littlefield; Woody Littlefield; Elena Eladia Brazil; and Richard L. Laffman.

And for those recently deceased: Lawrence O'Brien.

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

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Montclairfamilydentistry.com
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Baptismal Preparation Class

Our next class will be held on
Sunday, September 10, 2017 from
1:30p.m.—2:30p.m. in the Br. Juniper Room.



PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD SOON

If you are interested in serving your parish as a member of the Pastoral Council, candidate questionnaires are now available in the vestibule and the parish website. Nominations will be accepted until **September 24, 2017.**

Purpose of the Pastoral Council

Fulfill and sustain the purpose of the Parish Mission and Vision Statement

Assist the pastor in the ministerial development of the parish through recommendations and active cooperation in the setting of broad policy and direction for the parish

Responsibilities:

Attend monthly meetings during a term of two and one-half years

Participate in the planning and execution of parish events

Participate in open forums of communications with the pastor, associate pastors, staff members, and members of the pastoral council

Actively encourage vigorous and effective volunteerism and participation in the life of the parish

Be available to greet parishioners at weekend liturgies

Please Note:

All nominees will be reviewed by the Pastor and nominating committee and ten (10) will be selected for the October election.

For additional information, please contact a member of the nominating committee.

Joe Mitcho, Chair jfmitcho44@gmail.com

Mary Battista, maryorsal@comcast.net

Antonio Mayorga, antoniomayorga@gmail.com

Tony Mercogliani, Amercogliano@gmail.com

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you or someone you know is considering being initiated into the Roman Catholic faith, make plans to attend our first RCIA meeting on **Wednesday, August 30th at 7:30 pm in the Br. Juniper Room.** It will be a great opportunity to discover more details about the program and ask questions. You may also contact **Friar Henry Fulmer at friarhenry@stfrncis.org.**



RCIA Sponsors Needed

Sponsoring an RCIA Candidate/Catechumen is a unique opportunity to share your faith. If you are a confirmed Catholic and are interested in sharing the journey with an adult seeking full initiation, please contact **Friar Henry Fulmer at friarhenry@stfrncis.org.**

alleluia
Liturgies For The Week

SATURDAY,	August 26—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Connie and †Jerry O'Shea Regina Lee †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
SUNDAY,	August 27—21st Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:30 AM	†Phillip Valeso †Harry Ravert †Charlie Fishetti
9:00 AM	†Flor Rodriguez †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Paul E. Tekverk, Sr.
10:30 AM	†Heidi Hinkamp Rucci †Vergilio Echavaria †Milly Stearns
12:00 PM	†Donald Widener †Clara Kennedy †Marta Pohl Zolorzano
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†William Ignatuck Thomas Lee People of the Parish
MONDAY,	August 28—St. Augustine
8:45 AM	†Zoe Lemaire
TUESDAY,	August 29—Passion of St. John the Baptist
8:45 AM	†James F. Teodosio †Sadie
WEDNESDAY,	August 30—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Joseph L. Procia, Sr. †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	August 31—Weekday
8:45 AM	†George Beck †Margaret Egan
FRIDAY,	September 1—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Michael J. Strati †Robert Earl Williams †Christopher Hrabsky
SATURDAY,	September 2—Weekday
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	†Felicita Castaneda †Cecilia Zink †Antonietta Minarchi

Often the answers to our prayers does not come when we are down on our knees but while we are on our feet serving the Lord and serving those around us. The call is out for those who would like to talk about joining Stephen Ministry. [The next class for formation starts this October.](#) Please call 703-221-4312 and then press 4 or email Kathy Walker at kwalker@stfrancis.org to inquire. How will you "serve"?



Readings for the Week of August 27, 2017	
Monday	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Mark 6:17-29
Wednesday	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51
Friday	1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 25:1-13
Saturday	1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday	Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27

Mass Intentions on Sunday, September 3, 2017	
7:30 AM	†Pam Hodge †Harry Ravert Thomas Lee
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Florence Fogarty
10:30 AM	†Jane Sequeira †Armando Andaya
12:00 PM	†Donald Widener †Clara Kennedy †Joan Berard
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	Alcira Camacho People of the Parish †Theresa Aug

**St. Francis Anti-Human Trafficking Committee & ACTS/
Sexual Assault Services**

Every 98 seconds an American is sexually assaulted and every eight minutes child protective services substantiates, or finds evidence for, a claim of child sexual abuse. Learning about sexual violence is important because more than likely, someone you know has been victimized. ACTS Sexual Assault Services is the organization in Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park that provides sexual assault services to children, teens and adults. ACTS provides individual and group support, counseling, hospital accompaniment, court advocacy and accompaniment, community education, Hispanic Services, and a 24/7 hotline...all at no charge.

To learn more about sexual violence and opportunities to volunteer. **The St. Francis Anti Human Trafficking Committee has asked ACTS Sexual Assault Services to speak at their monthly meeting on Thursday, September 7th at 7:00 in the Br. Juniper Room. For more information, contact Margie Petrizza at 540-408-2408, margie.petrizza@gmail.com or Bob Eves at 703-304-9259, evesrc@verizon.net.**



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