

**From the Friars**

As you are aware, we are being asked to take up a number of extraordinary second collections for the victims of the very serious hurricanes that have impacted the U.S. I suspect that we will also be asked to take up a collection for those impacted by hurricane Maria, and perhaps for the victims of the Mexico earthquake.

My sincere thanks for your great generosity for these causes. I ask, however, that as you decide what to donate in these second collections, that you please do not then reduce the amount of your weekly donations in the first collection. We rely heavily on the first collection in order to pay our bills and keep the Parish functioning.

Again, many thanks for your generosity.

Sincerely,

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

There are now separate numbers for the **Parish Office (703-221-4044)**, **School Office (703-221-3868)**, and **Religious Education Office (703-221-3127)**. If a parishioner wishes to reach someone in those offices, we ask that they please call the designated number. This is a change from the previous arrangement where you would be able to dial an extension after reaching the general number of the parish. **We had to make this change to correct problems we were having with the former system.**



**Marriage Preparation Workshop**
Saturday, October 7, 2017
9 am – 3:30 pm
Br. Juniper Room
This will be our last workshop for this year.
The next workshop will be held on April 7, 2018. Please contact the parish office at 703-221-4044 to register.

Marriage Preparation

ST. FRANCIS MEN'S GROUP

Our October meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 10th at 7:30 pm in the Br. Juniper Room**. Please join us for presentations by Francia Salguero, Director of the St. Francis House and John Cipparone representative from the Kairos Prison Ministry—which involves trained and screened volunteers visiting and interacting with those who are incarcerated to build Christian community internal to the prison.

For more information please contact **Tony Mercogliano** at amercogliano@gmail.com or 571-332-7048.

Francis Fest: Important Notes!

Our 10th Annual *Francis Fest* is scheduled for **Sunday, October 8th 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 weekend of **9/30-10/1, 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/francisfest2017 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 **9/30-10/1** 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 8th, 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 call or email **Jeanne Mitcho with questions, or to request space at 703-670-8039 or jcmitcho45@gmail.com**. Table space is limited so do not delay to reserve your spot.

We are in need of an interpreter for a deaf member of our parish. If someone has this skill, please contact the Parish Office at 703-221-4044.



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!

Volunteers Needed!

A little of your time could make a big difference in a child's life. **Dumfries Elementary School** has a need for several types of volunteers during the school day and tutors after school. Could you help? *Male volunteers would be especially appreciated.* This program is sponsored by St. Francis VOICE. **Please contact Sharon Danner at 703-680-0860, or sharondanner1@verizon.net.**



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.



The St. Francis Anti-Human Trafficking Committee (engaged in action, awareness and advocacy efforts in the fight against human trafficking) is meeting **Thursday, October 5th at 7:00-8:30 in the Br. Juniper Room**. All are welcome! For more information please contact **Margie Petrizza at 540-408-2408, margie.petrizza@gmail.com or Bob Eves 703-304-9259, evesrc@verizon.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: Jabón de Lavar Platos**
- 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.**

Charlas Bautismales—Las próximas charlas bautismales en español serán el viernes, octubre 13. 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.

Festival de San Francisco de Asís—Los invitamos a participar del Décimo Festival anual de San Francisco de Asís el domingo, octubre 8 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 8; día del Festival de San Francisco tendremos una misa bilingüe a las 12:15 PM y después daremos comienzo al festival. **Este día Octubre 4 NO tendremos misa en español.**

Festival Internacional—Los invitamos el domingo, septiembre 24, 2017 a las 10:45am en el Salón del Hermano Juniper a una reunión de organización para los interesados en la planificación de nuestro primer Festival Internacional de Pentecostés.

Nos encantaría invitar a las diferentes comunidades multicultural de San Francisco, Iglesia católica para estar presentes. Para información por favor llamar a la **Señora Francia Salguero 703-221-6344.**



Please Pray For **All those who are sick:** Jack Haneklau; Richard Pembricks; Chad Burns; Aaron Childs; Mary Fearing; Bev Lyle; Barbara Kraus; Patricia French; Kimberly Klesen; Anabella Van Kempen; and Angie Powell.

And for those recently deceased: Enrique Lizarralde.

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.

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 2017-2018

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|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Oct. 1 | Sunday RE Session |
| 5 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 8 | NO RE—Columbus Day Weekend |
| 12 | Thursday RE Session |
| 15 | Sunday RE Session |
| 19 | Thursday RE Session |
| 22 | Sunday RE Session |
| 29 | Thursday RE Session |
| Nov. 2 | Sunday RE Session |
| 5 | Thursday RE Session |

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!



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

MY COKE GIVES PROGRAM

Help **St. Francis of Assisi School** turn Coke product caps into points that can be used towards the purchase of physical education, sports, art, technology and/or classroom supplies for the school. Just look for 'My Coke Rewards' stamps on individual and multi-pack products of Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, etc. Simply gather the caps and bring them to the school office; our volunteers will gladly take it from there. **For more information, please contact William Sharp at 571-408-5213 or via e-mail at youcandance5678@yahoo.com.**



MYSM (Middle School Youth Ministry) is looking for a few new volunteers! Please contact **Sheila Noble** (snoble@stfrncis.org) if you are interested and available to help plan and/or supervise monthly middle school youth group meetings. **Middle school students are AWESOME and never dull!!** We guarantee all volunteers will have a great time and very rewarding experience!!



Seeking God's Goodness Through Our Five Senses



Parish Retreat
November 10 - 12, 2017
Canaan Valley Resort
Register Online Today!
www.stfrncis.org/retreats

Parishioners of all ages are invited to participate in our parish retreat at beautiful Canaan Valley Resort, located only 3 hours away in West Virginia. By combining the theology of God's omnipresence with the concept of mindfulness, participants will learn to expand their image of God by raising awareness of the present and blocking out distractions. The retreat is designed to appeal to parishioners of all ages with appropriate, interactive breakout sessions. The retreat begins in the evening of **Friday, November 10th (Veteran's Day Observed) and ends Sunday, November 12th following breakfast and morning Mass.** *The cost is \$79/night per hotel room, plus a retreat fee of \$110 per adult and \$45 per child ages 6 – 12 (children 5 and under are free).* The retreat fee covers all meals throughout the retreat as well as space rental and materials. **Registration is online at www.stfrncis.org/retreats.** Please contact Lisa Ostendorf lostendorf@stfrncis.org with any questions.

St. Francis of Assisi School is seeking Lunchroom Staff and Substitute Teachers.

Our lunchroom staff oversees lunch and recess for each of the three lunches (6-8, K-2 & 3-5).



Duties include but are not limited to:

- Monitoring the students during lunch
- Assisting younger students with opening milk cartons, food containers, etc.
- Supervising recess
- Tidying up after each lunch (cleaning tables and sweeping the floors)

Hours are Monday—Friday from 10:55AM to 12:55PM. If you are **unable to work Monday-Friday, but able to work 2-3 set days a weeks**, we can certainly accommodate your schedule. This is a paid SFAS staff position.

If you are **interested in being on our SFAS Substitute Teacher list**, please contact the school for an application. You are welcome to indicate specific grades and/or encore subjects that you would like to be considered for when an occasion to 'sub' becomes available. This is a paid SFAS staff position.

If you are interested in either of these positions, you must undergo a background check and complete VIRTUS training. **Please contact Shari Phillips in the school office (phillipss.sfas@gmail.com or 703-221-3868)** to apply for either position or for any further questions.

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Liturgies For The Week

SATURDAY,	September 30—St. Jerome
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	Jun Ho Choi Maria Lee †Argentina Fernandez
SUNDAY,	October 1—26th Sunday In Ordinary Time
7:30 AM	Thomas Lee †Helen and †George Callaway †Kathy Danino
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik Tom Woods †Florence Fogarty
10:45 AM	†Susan Flynn People of the Parish †Tom Berta, Sr.
12:15 PM	†Clara Kennedy Karen Dennison Maritza Winston
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Donald Widener †MaryCabral
MONDAY,	October 2—Guardian Angels
8:45 AM	†Thomas and †Beverly McClutchy
TUESDAY,	October 3—Weekday
8:45 AM	Gretchen May †Mary Vullo
WEDNESDAY,	October 4—St. Francis of Assisi
8:45 AM	†Gertrude Drownowski †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik
THURSDAY,	October 5—Weekday
8:45 AM	William May †Everett Newman
FRIDAY,	October 6—Weekday
8:45 AM	†Michael Bridges †Susan Pittel †Joseph Podeswa
SATURDAY,	October 7—Our Lady of the Rosary
12:00 PM	Blessing of the Animals
4:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 PM	Angie Powell In Thanksgiving
	Mass Intentions on Sunday, October 8, 2017
7:30 AM	†Andy Weber People of the Parish †Thomas Balwinski
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Andy Misenko †Seth Mitcho
10:45 AM	†John Chapa
12:15 PM	Bilingual Mass †George Beck †Clara Kennedy †Betty Allen
1:30 PM	NO MASS
5:30 PM	

Readings for the Week of October 1, 2017

Monday	Zechariah 8:1-8; Matthew 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday	Zechariah 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56
Wednesday	Nehemiah 2:1-8; Luke 9:57-62
Thursday	Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Luke 10:1-12
Friday	Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16
Saturday	Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Luke 10:17-24
Sunday	Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

October is Respect Life Month. This weekend we have set up a display table in the vestibule with information on different Respect Life topics like: Abortion, Euthanasia, End of Life Decisions, Advance Medical Directive, Project Rachael and Capital Caring. Please feel free to take a pamphlet.

Also we are initiating a new program called Spiritual Adoption where you can pledge to pray for nine months for a baby in danger of abortion. While this child will remain unknown to his or her "spiritual parent," God knows who the child is. Many people have found that naming "their child" helps to keep them focused on the reality that their prayers are helping to save a particular baby from the harm of abortion. There are pledge cards on the table in the vestibule. Please complete and leave the right hand portion in the basket.

The next meeting of the Respect Life Committee will be at **4:00PM on October 14, 2017.** For more information, please contact **Marv Floom** at marv_floom@verizon.net or **703-878-9243.**

Volunteer Prince William

There are many volunteer opportunities within Prince William County and **Volunteer Prince William** is dedicated to mobilizing volunteers to meet the needs of our community. You can volunteer as much or as little time as you can. Whether it be driving a veteran to the doctor, helping a brain injury survivor with gardening, or delivering a hot, midday meal to a homebound senior, there are so many ways to volunteer. There is also a Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.) which provides meaningful service opportunities to adults aged 55 and older, matching your skills, life experiences and interests to help meet community needs. **To find a listing of opportunities, please visit www.volunteerprincewilliam.org.**

Respect Creation Live Simply

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank
Precision Painting & Powerwashing
for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.