



A 5-YEAR PASTORAL PLAN FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITY, PART 2:

Healthy organizations are known for having a vision and concrete steps to implement this vision. The same is true for a parish.

Over the past year, several people have been working together to develop a five-year pastoral plan for our faith community which they completed in early May. Because the plan was just completed, well after budgets have been established for the new fiscal year that starts on July 1, and because there is a need for several groups of parishioners to be established and come together to brainstorm actions that will facilitate the accomplishment of this plan, the Pastoral Plan will begin on July 1, 2025 and will conclude on June 30, 2030.

Last week I presented the purpose, vision, and mission statements of the plan. This week I would like to address the first of three priorities, its two goals, and two objectives. **Priority One** is: **As St. Francis encountered Christ in the leper, we create conditions for encounters of love by being vulnerable, authentic, and meeting people where they are so transformation may occur.** Encountering Christ in effective ways is the heart of this priority. The committee unanimously holds that this is critical for our present and future as a faith community. Two goals were established, each having one objective.

Goal One: *Develop the tools and initiatives to help people encounter Christ, especially by connecting them to needs where their talents, skills, and charisms are best utilized.* The objective associated with this goal is: *Investigate and invest in programs and processes that have been proven to be effective in helping adults, especially young adults, encounter Christ.* We believe it is critical to identify and implement resources and processes that can move us more and more, both on a community and individual level, into knowing Christ personally, establishing a personal relationship with Christ in a world where being a cultural Catholic and living the Catholic faith is increasingly ineffective or perceived, falsely, as irrelevant.

Additionally, encountering Christ personally motivates one to respond to the Christ's call to follow Him as disciples and to care for one another. This encounter with Christ brings about a growing inner passion to live Christ actively in both divine and human relationships which, in turn, inspires us to explore and use our spiritual charisms and natural talents in order to share the Good News with others as our own relationship with Christ grows. Of particular concern in these efforts are young adults who are disproportionately absent from our faith community.


Goal Two: *Develop methods, programs, and opportunities to form our youth around Christ.* The objective associated with this goal is: *Investigate and invest in faith formation programs and processes that have been proven to be effective in helping youth encounter Christ.* Our youth face challenges unparalleled by this age group for many generations. Many of them are struggling to live in our contemporary world which is further handicapped by an unawakened faith in Jesus Christ who wants so much to help them. We are convinced that having a personal relationship with the Lord can be a game-changer for our youth and we need to discover and develop resources to help them.

Each objective will have a group of parishioners who are committed to implementing the objective by developing action plans to concretely move the needle in a positive direction over the course of five years. An opportunity to be part of a group will occur in July-August. Stay tuned for an invitation to be part of the effort to help our parishioners come to know Christ personally, especially our young adults and youth.

-Fr. Michael

SCAM ALERT:

Please be aware that a staff member of the parish, including the pastor, will never contact you via text message requesting assistance from you.

A click away  If you are receiving a paper copy, visit the parish website at www.stfrancisraleigh.org

[Website](#) / [Realm](#) / [St. Francis Serves](#) / [Prayer Request](#) / [Listing of Prayers of the Faithful KBL series](#) / [Bulletins](#) / [Employment Opportunities](#) / [St. Francis TV](#) / [Giving](#) / [Feed the Need Staff](#) / [Parishioner Business Ads](#) / [Franciscan School](#) / [Preschool](#) / [All Ministries](#)

May 27 Memorial Day Mass will be at 9:00am in the church. A roll call of deceased veterans related to our parishioners or who were parishioners will be included.

May 28 - Journey with Jesus in Mark
Join us for "Journey with Jesus in Mark," a Discipleship Study of Mark's Gospel to encounter Jesus, experience his love, and hear his call to follow him by practicing the discipleship habits reading and praying with Scripture. Tuesdays, starting May 28-July 23. [morning session \(10-11:30am\)](#) or [evening session \(7-8:30pm\)](#). Contact Jay Landry jay.landry@stfrancisraleigh.org

May 30 - Music Ministry Concert
7:00-8:30pm. Join us in the church as we celebrate another great year of liturgical music at St. Francis. Featuring our children and adult choirs. Contact jim.wahl@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 1 - Cong Le Presides At His First Mass at the 5:30pm Mass

You're also invited to Cong Le's Ordination, June 1 at 10:00am at Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.



There are many ways to give to St. Francis.



Scan the QR code to give

Text-to-Give: From your smartphone screen, create a new message. Click the "To:" field and enter 919-629-1199. Enter the dollar amount then tap the link to complete your gift. Register your credit/debit card.

To learn about all our giving options, [click here](#).

Low Gluten hosts available at all Masses beginning June 1/2

Currently, Low Gluten hosts are available for those with a gluten intolerance to receive the Body of Christ with prior check-in with a hospitality coordinator. Beginning in June, you will not need to check in with a liturgical minister as we have a new vessel to safely use for low gluten hosts. Please process in the priest's line for communion and indicate that you require a low gluten host. Questions? Kathy.Sales@stfrancisraleigh.org

June 1 - Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Knights of Columbus

6:40pm. Following 5:30 pm Mass in Fellowship Hall. Spaghetti dinner includes salad, bread, dessert, and drink. Pre-pay for best value \$10 per person/\$35 family (household); after May 30th \$12 pp/\$45 family. Limited walk-up availability. [Purchase online!](#) Contact Wes Evans, weforevergreen@gmail.com

June 1- July 28: Summer Men's 18+ Adult Basketball League

This is open to Men age 18 or older. Registration is TEAM BASED. Players will form their own teams and submit a team registration. There will also be the ability to register as a free agent. Games will be held on Saturdays and Sundays in June and July. [Info and registration.](#) Contact Mary.Arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 2 and 5 - Lector Formation and Training

All lectors and those interested in becoming a lector are strongly encouraged to attend one of the upcoming formation and re-training sessions held on [Sunday, June 2](#) from 10:15a-12:15p or [Wednesday, June 5](#) from 6:30p-8:30p. Registration via Realm: Sunday, June 2nd or Wednesday, June 5th. Please contact Kathy Sales, kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org. 919-847-8205x488

June 6 - Women's Ministry Happy Hour at Zinc House

6:30-8:30pm. Women's Ministry Summer Happy Hour Thursday June 6th, 6:30-8:30pm at ZincHouse Winery & Brewery (6225 Wake Forest Hwy, Durham). We'll provide light fare, fellowship and fun! Beverages and an on site food truck for purchase. We'll scope a spot, weather and space dependent; find us at the green balloons. [Register here.](#)

June 6 - Daily Mass Coffee Connections!

Join us Thursday, June 6 at 9:45am for Coffee after daily Mass in Padua. It will be a time to visit with fellow parishioners to celebrate as we continue to walk this journey of faith together as a community dedicated to our Franciscan heritage. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 9 - Fr. Jim's 25th Anniversary

Fr. Jim's 25th Anniversary: Join us on Sunday, June 9 between 10am-11:45am in Clare Fellowship Hall to celebrate Fr. Jim's 25th Anniversary of his ordination. If you would like to volunteer to bring food, please scan the QR code or [link here](#). Contact stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Parishioner Owned Businesses Ad Page

Support our local parishioner-owned businesses
To advertise email: diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org
Link: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/parishioner-businesses/>

June 9 - Want to Serve as a Wedding Coordinator?

If this sounds like a ministry you would like to join, please join us on Sunday, June 9 from 1-2pm. Contact Kathy Sales, kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org. 919-847-8205x488. See display ad on page 3.

June 10-14, June 17-21, July 8-12, July 15-19, July 22-26

Camp Francis is our popular summer camp, and has lots of cool opportunities in athletics, technologies, arts and various enrichment areas! Camps are half day or full day based on age for the 2024-2025 school year. (Rising K-Rising 8th grade) Contact Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org Contact Phone 919-847-8205 ext. 444
Registration Link: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>

Camp Francis Explorers Counselors in Training

An opportunity for teens (rising 9th-12th grade) interested in developing leadership skills and working with children. They will work with other C.I.T.s and Camp Staff. They are to look at themselves as role models for the campers they will be working with. For information and to apply. Contact Ashley Watson, Ashley.Watson@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 17 - 21 Mercy Camp

8:00am-3:00pm . Rising 6th – 9th graders!
Come join us for Mercy Camp!

July 8 - 12 Mission Mercy

8:30am-9:00pm. Rising 10th graders through College Freshmen!
Join us for Mission Mercy!

For more information and to register for Mercy Camp or Mission Mercy visit: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/service-camps/>
Contact Becky Cawley, becky.cawley@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 25 - Pitch In for Charity and support Catholic Charities

6:30pm. Durham Bulls at Durham Bulls Athletic Park. Each ticket purchased through Catholic Charities link will support our neighbors in need. [Pitch 4 Charity.](#) Contact Malcolm.Nicol@ccharitiesdor.org. 984-900-3116

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers offer prayerful and emotional support by listening with their ears and hearts to your concerns. If you are in need of a Stephen Minister email stephenministry@stfrancisraleigh.org or call 919-847-8205 x234 or contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Employment Opportunities:

[Preschool Teacher Assistant \(Part-time\) – two-year old classrooms](#)
[Preschool Before and After school program workers](#)
[Middle School Formation Coordinator](#) See our website:
<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org



Godspeed Monsignor Michael Clay

Monsignor Michael Clay came to St. Francis Parish at a uniquely challenging time. The Friars had chosen to withdraw in December of 2019, effective in the summer of 2020, and Bishop Zarama assigned Monsignor Clay as pastor. Having been established as a Franciscan-led parish shortly after its founding, the friars' withdrawal after 32 years of service shocked many in the community. Coming from Catholic University, Michael Clay was... [more](#)

Volunteer Spotlight: Mary Cockril

2024

SAVE THE DATE
BACCALAUREATE MASS
FOR ALL
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
SUNDAY JUNE 2, 2024
5:30 PM MASS

MEET IN THE GATHERING
SPACE TO JOIN THE
PROCESSION WEARING
YOUR CAP AND GOWN



Wedding Coordinators Needed!!

Do you enjoy helping others? Do you love weddings, but don't want the stress of having to plan one yourself? If you answered Yes, then this is the ministry for you!

What does a Wedding Coordinator Do?

- Contacts the bride two weeks before the wedding to confirm wedding details and last minute reminders
- Assists at wedding rehearsals on Friday evenings (1 hour) and is present on Saturday for one hour before the wedding to assist the wedding party with any needs and to get down the aisle! Commitment is 1.25 hour on Saturdays
- Training is provided and all volunteers assist around their schedule, approx. 1 time a month

If this sounds like a ministry you would like to join please join us on Sunday, June 9th from 1pm-2pm in the Anthony Conference Room

Kathy Sales
kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org
919-847-8205 x488

St. Francis Minute with Kathy Sales



Click to view - 1 min.

We Need You

There are a number of ways to become involved and help support our celebration of the Mass.

As liturgy is the "work of the people," we are in need of liturgical ministers in all areas.

[Click here for the Interest Form](#) or scan the QR Code



Lector Training

Sunday, June 2nd 10:15am - 12:15pm in Founders
Wednesday, June 5th 6:30pm - 8:30pm in Fellowship

Please fill out the Interest Form before attending the training. Thank you!

WEDDING
COORDINATOR

CROSS BEARER
(AGES 14+ YEARS)

EUCHARIST
MINISTER

HOSPITALITY
MINISTER
(GREAT FAMILY OPTION)

ADULT AND
YOUTH LECTOR
(AGES 13+ YEARS)

MASS
COORDINATOR

TECHNICAL
MINISTER



JOURNEY WITH JESUS IN MARK
 You are the beloved of God!
 Join us to encounter Jesus in Mark,
 experience his love, and grow
 in the discipleship habit of reading
 & praying with Scripture.

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites you to
 journey with Jesus in Mark through
 Scripture, prayer, video and discussion.
 Come when you can!

Bring friends and Bibles! Register in Realm:
Morning Session or Evening Session
 Questions? Reach out to Jay Landry:
 jay.landry@stfrancisraleigh.org
 (919)847-8205 x239

Tuesdays
 May 28
 through
 July 23

Morning
Sessions
 10-11:30am
 - or -
Evening
Sessions
 7:00-8:30pm

Location:
 Anthony Hall,
 Founders Room or
 Conference Room



St. Vincent dePaul helps people in need. Hear about how volunteers prevent the loss of Section 8 vouchers that enable the working poor to afford their rent in these challenging times. <https://youtu.be/HylogrIk5o>

[Click here to learn about SVdP.](#)
 Visit the SVdP [Facebook page](#).
 Visit the [SVdP website](#).
 Contact Cathy Smith, smithtcr@gmail.com.

Funerals at St. Francis

Would you like to be notified in advance of upcoming funerals at St. Francis? If so, please contact Joan Port, joankport@gmail.com and include "Funeral Notices" in the subject line.

[Click here for Mass Intentions](#)

Explore all the Volunteer Opportunities at St. Francis through St. Francis Serves

[Click here for volunteer ministry and service, St. Francis Serves.](#)
 Contact Dina DaRe at dina.dare@stfrancisraleigh.org.
[Need help getting started? Click here.](#)