



To Everything There Is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose Under Heaven. (Eccl. 3:1)

On June 25, I will begin the next chapter of life as a priest as I officially step down from being your pastor and move into the role of caretaker for my mother and officially retire from full-time ministry. While this was not my plan when I came to St. Francis in 2020, Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds me that God’s plan for all of us is always for a season and for a time.

As I reflect on God’s purpose for me to be your pastor over these past four years, several things stand out but one was first and foremost: to guide you through the transition from the Franciscan friars to diocesan priests without losing our unique Franciscan vision. I am so pleased with all we have accomplished in this vein. Here are the main ones: 1) the San Damiano processional crucifix, a visual reminder of the One who spoke to Francis and invited him **and now us** to rebuild the Church; 2) the Franciscan Garden, a place of rest and reflection but also a place to learn more about the Franciscans whose names adorn our buildings; 3) the annual Franciscan Convocation in the fall with a featured address about a topic that resonates with the Franciscan tradition; 4) the annual Franciscan Day of Reflection in February that invites us to ponder how we embrace Franciscan values in our spiritual and temporal lives; and 5) the introduction of Catholic Social Teaching into the ordinary curriculum of TFS and soon, for the entire parish, when the new 5-Year Pastoral Plan begins implementation in 2025.

As I reflect on what God’s new purpose for me might be as a quasi-retired priest, I know I will remain active as a priest to the extent my responsibilities for my mother allow. I have a contract to complete a book that I will now have some time to finish and am exploring some possibilities to develop resources to help deacons and priests improve or refine their preaching skills, something I had the privilege to teach for the eight years while a professor at Catholic University of America prior to my arrival to St. Francis.

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June 15-16 - LGBTQ+ Ministry 25th Anniversary

The LGBTQ+ Ministry of St Francis is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Members of the ministry will be in the Welcome Center after Mass on June 15-16. Please stop by to learn about the impact the ministry has had on members of our parish and the wider Raleigh community. Contact stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

June 19 - Juneteenth

(In honor of this holiday, parish offices are closed.)



On June 19th, we commemorate the end of slavery in the United States, and we honor all those who work to spread the light of hope for freedom and racial healing. Contact casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org.

2023-2024 Fiscal Year Offertory Status			
	May Total	Year to Date	Budget Goal
	\$308,521.30	\$3,835,556.20	\$4,196,509.05
Growth %		2.2%	4.0%
Current estimated 6/30/24 Offertory budget deficit:			\$69,769.43
Total # of Parish Households:			5,399
Participating in Offertory donations:			49.8%

Financial Factoid: A generous family has established the “June Offertory Challenge”, where they will match additional Offertory donations, dollar for dollar, up to \$35,000. Please help meet the challenge by following the instructions.



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](#).

JUNE OFFERTORY

CHALLENGE

Donor will match up to \$35K

One of our generous families has stepped forward to offer the following challenge to the Parish. During the month of June, they will match any additional Offertory Donations, dollar for dollar, up to \$35K. Eligible donations may be made thru Faith Direct using the “June Offertory Challenge” appeal option or by writing a check with “June Offertory Challenge” on the memo line.

Thank you for your donation!

STACEY.SHINE@STFRANCISRALEIGH.ORG

SCAN TO GIVE

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](#)



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 18 - Laudato Si in a Year 7-8pm, 3rd Tuesday every month. 'Laudato Si' Encyclical in a Year' is for those who have not read the encyclical or who desire a better understanding in anticipation of its Jubilee Year and the 800th Anniversary of the 'Canticle of the Creatures'. Meet by Zoom on the 3rd Tuesday of the month 7-8 pm ET. To join or for further information email: socialconcern@hnojnc. Contact Monica Kleimeyer, Mitzkleimeyer@gmail.com.

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

June 25 - Mystical Hope Book Study 7:00-8:30pm. Beginning 6/25, engage in contemplative dialogue on Mystical Hope: Trusting in the Mercy of God by Cynthia Bourgeault, a book for people yearning for good news. Find our way to hope that does not disappoint or fail. [Click here to register in Realm](#) for virtual study on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm. Contact Lori Zagiba, lorizagiba@gmail.com.

June 25-Aug 15 - Tutors Needed -The Education Committee of St. Francis of Assisi

(programs operated by Wake Together). You can start working this summer as a volunteer for 2nd through 5th grade students. For more information contact k.llewellyn@helpingeducation.org or via phone at 1-833-726-8855x714. The time commitment includes 4 hours of online training at your convenience and one hour a week meeting virtually with students from June 25-Aug. 15.

Support our Local Parishioner-Owned Businesses

Parishioner Owned Businesses Ad Page

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

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.

July 13 - Women's Ministry Yoga and Breakfast

9:00-11:00am. Join the Women's Ministry for a morning of yoga, breakfast and community! We will be meeting in Fellowship Hall for a 45 minute beginner yoga class followed by a prayerful meditation, food and fellowship! Please bring your water bottle, yoga mat and your own coffee/tea cups. Contact sfawomensministry@gmail.com with questions. [Register here](#).

July 19-21 - Ayuda Matrimonial - Retrouvaille (pronunciado retro-vi) ha ayudado a decenas de miles de parejas en todas las etapas de desilusión o miseria en su matrimonio. Este programa también puede ayudarte a ti. Para obtener información confidencial o inscribirse en el programa de verano en español que comienza con un fin de semana del 19 al 21 de julio, llame al 305-915-4607 (español e inglés) o envíe un correo electrónico a: retrovaillealeigh@gmail.com o visite el sitio web en HelpOurMarriage.com.

August 13 - September 7 - Farm to Church CSA Sign Up (Summer Veggie Box)

9:00-10:00am. [Sign up here](#). The Community Supported Agriculture Program invites you to purchase a summer subscription! This Farm to Church program supports local BIPOC farmers and sustainable farming methods. Purchase a full or half share of items such as cucumbers, zucchini, squash, beans, corn, kale, lettuce, onions, watermelon, cantaloupe, okra, peppers and tomatoes. [Link to website page](#). Contact Elizabeth Kearse, eskearse@gmail.com.

Catholic Charities - Home Repair Program

Volunteers are needed for multi-day trips (3-7 days) to build a tiny home in the Cape Fear Region for a Hurricane Florence survivor. Volunteer housing, tools/equipment, and supportive instructions for all experience levels will be provided! [Learn more about this build here!](#) Please reach out to CC directly with questions. Contact Daniel Altenau, Daniel.Altenu@cccharitiesdor.org.

[Click here for Mass Intentions](#)

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.

Employment Opportunities:

[Preschool Teacher Assistant \(Part-time\) – two-year old classrooms.](#)
[Preschool Before and After school program workers.](#) [Coordinator or Cross Step Program.](#) [Preschool 3 year old TA.](#) [Middle School Formation Coordinator](#) See our website: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/jobs/>
Contact Trish Adamkowski, trish.adamkowski@stfrancisraleigh.org

If you can't access information through the hyperlink because you do not use the internet, please call the office to get information. (919) 847-8205



Happy Anniversary Father Jim

Everyone knows Father Jim. If they don't, he will leave an impression soon after the first time they meet him or see him say mass. As those who work closely with him say, "Father Jim's compassion, humility, authenticity, inclusivity, sense of humor, spiritual guidance, and accessibility contribute to his popularity at St. Francis of Assisi, endearing him to parishioners and making him a beloved figure within the community." But as we celebrate his 25th anniversary as a priest, we discover.... [More](#)

[Volunteer Spotlight: Jim Sutton](#)

Highlights of Fr. Jim's 25th Anniversary Celebration





Attention All Happily Married Couples!

We are in great need of mentor couples to meet with newly engaged couples as part of their marriage prep!

What: Mentor couples meet with newly engaged couples to walk with them to help nurture a deep and lasting marriage, foster their relationship with Christ and provide a sense of belonging in our SFA community.

Who: Mentor couples are couples with a perfect marriage-Just Kidding! Mentor couples are living out the vocation of marriage as best as they can. Mentor couples can be interfaith but must have been married in the church.

When: Mentor couples meet with each couple 2-3 times in the months before their wedding to facilitate deeper communication between the couple around the results of a marriage prep survey.

How: Two training sessions will be offered with ongoing support for all mentor couples

Training Sessions:

Wednesday, July 10th, 6:30pm-9:30pm or Sunday, July 14th at 1pm-4pm in the Anthony Conference Room.

Please email kathy.sales@stfrancisraleigh.org for more information



I will not be a stranger to a community I have come to know and love during my four years. You will see me from time to time on our campus.

My St. Francis email address will remain active and will be the best way to reach me: Michael.Clay@stfrancisraleigh.org

My address in New Bern is: **3201 Cannon Ln., New Bern, NC 28562-1215.**

This information will be posted on our parish website (click "About" and then "Meet the Clergy") and available anytime by calling the office effective June 26. Thanks for being a blessing in my life as I sense I have been for many of you. Be assured of my daily prayers for you and yours.

-Fr. Michael

'Laudato Si Encyclical in a Year'

Every 3rd Tuesday of the month starting May 21 by Zoom 7-8pm ET

OR through Flocknote text/email



From NC Catholics Caring for our Common Home and HNOJ Laudato Si' Circle

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.



St. Vincent dePaul helps people in need. <https://youtu.be/4qHxd8qG8aU>

Click here to learn about SVdP. Visit the SVdP Facebook page. Visit the SVdP website. Contact Cathy Smith, smithcr@gmail.com.

A CONTEMPLATIVE CONVERSATION

Click here to register in Realm ON Contact lorzagiba@gmail.com.

MYSTICAL HOPE BY CYNTHIA BOURGEAULT

Online Meetings begin in June 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 7 to 8:30 pm



Bishop's Annual Appeal

The following are the BAA totals for our Parish as reported by the Diocese

	2024 Campaign (5/30/24)		2023 Campaign (6/1/23)	
Goal:	\$473,612		\$473,565	
Pledge Total:	\$448,703	94.7%	\$440,547	93.0%
Received Total:	\$411,619	86.9%	\$399,743	84.4%
Participating Families:	1000	18.5%	1083	19.7%
Total Families:	5,400		5,500	
To-Go:	\$24,909	TYT we are ahead on giving but falling behind on participation.		



Go to givetobaa.org and follow the prompts to make a one-time donation, set up a pledge or become a SUSTAINER with a recurring gift. Make sure to select Saint Francis of Assisi as your parish affiliation. Click here to give. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.