




BAA Status	2025	2024
Goal:	\$522,280	\$473,612
Pledge Total:	\$246,237 47.1%	\$209,494 44.2%
Received Total:	\$188,431 36.1%	\$175,212 37.0%
Participating Families:	581 10.8%	504 9.3%
Total Families:	5,500	5,400



Baptisms on February 23 with Fr. James
 Congratulations to all the newly baptized and their families!



Abbie is congratulated at her baptism Sunday by Abby.

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](#)
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The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi - 11401 Leesville Rd - NC 27613 - Tel: 919-847-8205



Fr. Chris Koehn,
 Pastor



Fr. James Singarayar, HGN
 Parochial Vicar



Fr. Jim Sabak, O.F.M.
 In Residence



Fr. Joseph Ita-Sam, CM
 Parochial Vicar



Stephen Andrews
 Deacon In Residence



Click here to visit the parish website for all Lent activities

<https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/lent-2025/>

March 1-2 Curbside Care Ministry Care Packages

Our Curbside Care Ministry provides care packages you can keep in your car to hand out when needed. Pickup from the Welcome Center the first full weekend each month. Donate supplies or volunteer with this ministry at St. Francis Serves. Contact Alyson Zwerneman, alysonzwerneman@gmail.com.

March 5 - Lenten Guided Reflection

Join peers in their 20s-30s for fellowship and a guided reflection on the Lenten season. We will gather on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month in the Cupertino Room from 6-7pm. Our first session on Ash Wednesday will be in the Old Library. [Register here](#). Contact Michelle Kaiser, mmk4894@yahoo.com.

March 7 - Lenten Potluck Dinner - Following Stations of the Cross

6:30-8:00pm. Join us on Friday, March 7th for a powerful Family Stations of the Cross at 6pm with a Lenten Potluck Dinner to follow at 6:30 PM in Fellowship. Please bring a meatless soup, chowder, or chili to share, preferably in a crockpot to keep it warm. [Register in Realm](#) Contact Stacey Shine stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org.

March 8 - Corral Riding Academy Saturday on the Farm

1:00-3:30pm. CORRAL Riding Academy is a faith-motivated nonprofit serving adolescent girls in high-risk situations through a holistic program of equine therapy and education. Join us for hands-on projects to support the NEUSE RIVER (Raleigh) campus and learn more about CORRAL's mission and programs! Families welcome! [Event Registration and information](#). Contact Donna Schwede, donna.schwede@gmail.com.

March 8-9 Migrant Ministry Clothing and Toiletry Drive

Our Migrant Ministry is collecting toiletries and clean men's clothing including long sleeve shirts, pants, hats, belts, men's boots and shoes sizes 8-11. Toiletries include toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, laundry detergent, bar soap, clean towels and wash-cloths. To learn more, contact Tom Carlson, tcarlson28@gmail.com.

March 9 - Always God's Children 3:00-4:30pm. A confidential setting for those who identify as LGBTQ+, along with family and friends - a safe place to pray together, share our experiences, and talk over our concerns. This meeting will be virtual. Contact Stacey Shine, stacey.shine@stfrancisraleigh.org for information on the Zoom link.

March 9 - Book Study: No Greater Love 4:00-5:00pm. Join us for a virtual book study of No Greater Love by Edward Sri. This biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love as you draw closer to Jesus than you ever have before. [Register here](#). Contact Anna Fowler, annafowler@nc.rr.com.

March 9 - Solidarity Sunday

10:15am in Clare Fellowship Hall. See page 4.

March 16, March 23, April 6, April 13 - Co-Ed Spring Youth Basketball Skills Clinic

This clinic is designed for players to work on dribbling, passing, rebounding, shooting and defensive drills with Triple Threat Triumph 1st Grade-4th Grade 1:15-2:15pm / 5th-8th Grade: 2:30-3:30pm Each Session is \$20 or \$75.00 for all 4 sessions. [Info/Register Here](#). Contact Mary Arleth, mary.arleth@stfrancisraleigh.org.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE



Wednesday, March 5, 2025 - Distribution of Ashes at ALL Services

7:00am Liturgy of the Word (No Communion) 5:30pm Liturgy of the Word (No Communion)
9:00am School Mass 7:00pm Mass
11:45am Mass

Dates for Lent Dinners, Stations and Evening Prayer.

Lenten Potluck Dinners - Fellowship Hall - 6:30pm - Friday nights
March 7 - 6:30pm after stations [Register Here](#)
April 11 - 6:30pm after stations

Stations of the Cross - Church 6:00pm - Friday nights
March 7 - Family Focused
March 14
March 21
March 28
April 4
April 11

Evening Prayer - Church - 6:30pm Wednesday nights
March 12
March 19
March 26
April 2
April 9

Greener Lent



Are you looking for a meaningful Lenten experience?

Join Greener Lent
Sign up at
www.greenerlent.org

Raleigh Deanery 2025 Lenten Penance Services

Tues. March 11	11:00am – 12:30pm	St. Bernadette Catholic Parish
Wed. March 12	6:30 – 8:30pm	Our Lady of the Rosary
Thur. March 13	11:00am – 12:30pm 7:00 – 9:00pm	St. Luke The Evangelist St. Andrew & St. Mary Magdalene (At St. Mary Magdalene)
Wed. March 19	7:00– 9:00pm	St. Francis Catholic Church
Thur. March 20	7:00– 9:00pm	St. Bernadette Catholic Parish
Mon. March 24	7:00– 9:00pm	St. Eugene
Wed. March 26	11:00am – 12:00pm 7:00– 9:00pm	St. Catherine of Siena St. Michael the Archangel and Mother Teresa (At St. Michael)
Thur., March 27	11:00am – 12:30pm 6:30– 8:30pm	St. Mary Magdalene Our Lady of La Vang
Tue. April 1	11:00am – 12:00pm 7:00– 9:00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes St. Catherine of Siena
Wed. April 2	7:00– 9:00pm	St. Raphael the Archangel
Fri. April 4	10:00– 11:30am	St. Michael the Archangel
Tue. April 8	7:00 – 9:00pm	Holy Name of Jesus, St. Joe, St. Mary and NC State (At HNOJ Cathedral)

March 16 - Come and See: An Invitation to Spiritual Direction

1:00-2:00pm. Every spiritual journey is sacred and unique. At times, we may seek a companion to help us listen more deeply to God's presence in our lives. Spiritual Direction is an ancient Christian tradition of holy listening, where a trained director journeys with you as you reflect on your faith, vocation, and relationships. Join us for a Come and See session to learn more about this meaningful practice and how it might support your spiritual growth. All are welcome! Contact Nancy Jones, prayerful-heart3@gmail.com.

March 23 - Solidarity Sunday: Sole Hope 10:10-11:30pm.

Together we will trace, cut and organize denim kits to be made into shoes for our brothers and sisters in Christ being treated for jiggers, a debilitating parasite. Sole Hope's mission is "equipping the vulnerable to walk in freedom from life-threatening diseases and exploitation; through education, empowerment, and medical relief." [Information and Registration](#). Contact Casey Slock casey.slock@stfrancisraleigh.org.

April 1 - June 15 - Recovering Our Soul Connections: A Retreat for Women Who Have Been Sexually Abused

Begins online April 1, 2025, and culminates in an in-person retreat June 12-15, 2025 at St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, Stoneville, NC. Applications accepted until March 1. Email soulconnection366@gmail.com. [Click here for the flyer](#).

Camp Francis - Registration is Open via Realm

June 16-20, June 23-27, July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25
Our popular summer camp, has lots of cool opportunities in athletics, science, arts and various enrichment areas! Camps are half-day or full-day based on age for the 2025-2026 school year. (Rising K-Rising 6th grade) Registration Link: <https://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/camp-francis/>



Dust to Dust: What about Ash Wednesday?

As the Church prepares to enter Lent, Ash Wednesday arrives in Western Christian Churches this week. Some of us start a little earlier by celebrating Mardi Gras to have that "last blowout" before the repentance and reflection of the weeks before Good Friday and Easter. But what does Ash Wednesday mean, and how do ashes link us to the Lenten Season and the forgiveness of our sins through Jesus's sacrifice on the Cross? [More](#)



Community Center

Many people know the excellent facilities we have at St. Francis Parish. Outside of Sundays in the Church and when the schools are in session, the Community Center is the focus of the community here. Through the various programs under Ashley Watson, the Coordinator of Community Life, the Parish draws in people daily. Father Mark Reamer, pastor during the construction of the Community Center and The Siena Center for Lifelong Learning, called the Church the front door of the parish and the Community Center the back door. He envisioned [More](#)



Are you New to St. Francis? We warmly welcome you to our community! If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about how to get involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to [Stacey Shine](#). We look forward to connecting with you and helping you feel right at home."

SOLIDARITY SUNDAY

CHURCHES FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE
 Are you conflicted about the violence in Israel and Palestine? How can we pursue peace while also advocating for justice? **Reg. In Realm**

MARCH 9 2025

10:15 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL


LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER



Family Fun

FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH | 6:30PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL | REGISTER IN REALM
 BRING A MEATLESS SOUP, CHILI, OR CHOWDER TO SHARE.



St. Vincent dePaul [helps people in need.](#)
 A woman with disabilities in her late 80's called SVdP after she was evicted, and the sheriff had already padlocked her apartment. [More...](#)
 Visit the [SVdP website.](#)
 Contact Cathy Smith, smithtcr@gmail.com.

The St. Francis Prison Pen Pal Ministry has a long legacy of writing, sharing and praying with the men on NC's Death Row and practicing this important corporal act of mercy. The friendships that have resulted are spiritually enriching and life changing, but we still have several inmate requests for pen pals unfilled. If interested, please email Catherine at sfapenpal@gmail.com and [click here to read our story.](#)

Calling all cooks!



The Feed the Need ministry of St. Francis provides temporary meal assistance to members of our community who are facing life transitions including job loss, new baby, grief, hospitalizations, illness etc.

Thank you so much to those of you who responded to our call in the fall. We are once again in need of additional volunteers to provide meals for our community members. Families are identified by a number on the calendar and include the number of people and dietary preferences, restrictions, and allergies. [Click here](#) to see immediate opportunities to help.

Not able to provide a full meal? You can still help! Our Caring Cuisine refrigerator is nearly empty and desperately in need of side dishes, (rice, potato, vegetable) and main dishes (meatloaf, soups, pastas) gluten free options are particularly needed. [Click here](#) for more information and recipe ideas.

If you (or someone you know) would benefit from meals made with love during a life transition email feedtheneedsfa@gmail.com and a ministry member will be in touch.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know someone who needs a Prayer Shawl or Lap Robe? These are made with love, prayed over, cross sewn on, blessed by the group and wrapped with a note inserted, A child's blanket is also available. They are available for hospital, serious illness, etc. If they do not have one already, contact Cindy Cardello at 929-846-8825 or Diane Rotunno at 919-844-7153.



PLANT A TREE! AIM TO SHADE EAST/WEST HOME WINDOWS

CARE FOR CREATION CORNER

YTD WE'VE DONATED **2806** LBS OF FOOD

Immigration Assistance Available

If you know families in eastern North Carolina—from Alamance County to the Outer Banks—who need support with immigration matters, Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services is here to help. They provide guidance and assistance with completing and submitting various immigration-related processes. For more information or assistance, please encourage them to reach out to Catholic Charities. [Click here for more information: https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/immigration/](https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/immigration/)

Please sign up to be part of the prayer chain

All we need is your first name. Prayers 3/5-3/8 for the 42 residents - email mike@mcgrailgroup.com to have your name added to the prayer chain.



Raleigh's Kairos Prison Ministry International 40-man Christian volunteer team at Central Prison will present a 4-day Cursillo-like retreat to 42 residents from 3/5 to 3/8. We need your prayers and we need to let the residents know you are praying for them to receive the Love of Christ. If you would like to participate in this important prayer effort, send your first name to Mike McGrail, mike@mcgrailgroup.com. Your first name will be added to a prayer link, like the ones in the photo above as a visible sign of those who are joining together in prayer during the four days.

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[Click here for ad rates and to advertise in the parish bulletin.](#)

Questions, contact Diogenes Ruiz, diogenes.ruiz@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Take advantage of this opportunity to showcase your business in front of our many parishioners and thank you for helping to support our parish through the bulletin ad program.