

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 23, 2023

Workcamp 2023!!



## Parish Staff

Reverend James Gould, Pastor  
Reverend John Heisler, Parochial Vicar  
Mr. Larry Hammel, Deacon  
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager  
Mrs. Leslie Sheldon, Office Manager  
Mrs. Diane Taylor, DRE - Director of Religious Ed  
Mrs. Janice Rees, CRE, Sunday Bulletin, Website  
Mrs. Lindsay Glass, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music  
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Sacristan  
Mr. Tim McGinn, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian  
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Custodian

## Contact Info

Parish Office - 540-338-6381  
office email - [l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org)  
Religious Education Office - 540-338-4497  
RE email - [RE@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:RE@saintfrancisparish.org)  
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440  
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132  
[www.SaintFrancisParish.org](http://www.SaintFrancisParish.org)

## Welcome!

Please register and become part of our parish community. You may fill out a registration form in the parish office during business hours.

## Office Hours - M-F 8:30am-4pm

(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

**Moving?** If you are leaving the parish, please let us know by calling or dropping a note.

## Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil - 5pm  
Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:15pm,  
5:30pm (Mass with contemporary music)

## Daily Mass

Monday through Thursday - 6:30am and 8:30am  
Friday - 6:30am and 12noon  
Saturday - 9am

## Benediction/Adoration

Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12noon Mass through the evening and overnight until Saturday morning before the 9am Mass  
Wednesday Holy Hour at 7pm

## Sacraments

### Confessions:

Friday 11am  
Saturday 8am and 3:30pm; Wednesday 8pm;  
One-half hour before Mass on Sunday.  
Anytime by appointment. Confessions are held in the Church.

Matrimony: Parish couples planning to be married must make arrangements with the Office at least six months prior to the intended date of marriage.

Baptism: Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the Friday before the 3rd Sunday of the month 7pm. Call the office for details.

Anointing of the Sick: We are privileged to bring Holy Communion and administer the Holy Anointing to the sick and homebound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

## 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 23, 2023

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." Mt 13:43

### Summer Talk Series

**Come meet and talk with our seminarian, John Fimmuchime MONDAYS from 7-8 pm**

Room 107 in the Religious Education Building

July 24 - **The Acts of the Apostles - The Church and Sacraments**

July 31- **The Acts of the Apostles - Christianity Today**

**Please join us on the patio this summer from 7-9 pm for talks with Father John Heisler - BRING A CHAIR FOR THE PATIO!**

(Knights Hall in event of rain)

July 25 – **The fruits of Lectio Divina Prayer**

August 1 – **"A cup of understanding, a barrel of love, and an ocean of patience"** Teachings of St. Francis de Sales

August 8 – **St Elizabeth of the Trinity** – lessons from a new saint

August 15 – Location TBD - **"Our Life, Our Sweetness, and Our Hope"** Relationship with the Blessed Mother

**Gift shop is open on Sunday, July 23 after the 8:30, 10:30, and 12:15 masses.  
Come shop with us!**

### This Week

Sun., July 23	<u>Men's Basketball</u> 8:30, OLVH
Mon., July 24	<u>Seminarian Talk</u> 7pm, Room 107
	<u>KofC Officers Meeting</u> 7:30pm, Knights Hall
Tue., July 25	<u>Men's Basketball</u> 8:30, OLVH
	<u>Fr. Heisler Talk</u> 7pm, patio
Wed., July 26	<u>Holy Hour for Miraculous Medal</u> 7pm, Church
Fri., July 28	<u>Women's Prayer Group</u> 7am, Chapel
Sat., July 29	<u>Compassionate Heart of Mary</u> 10am, Library

## Masses for the Week

+ deceased

Sat., July 22

9:00 am

Sat., July 22

5:00 pm

Sun., July 23

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:30 pm

Mon., July 24

6:30 am

8:30 am

Tue., July 25

6:30 am

8:30 am

Wed., July 26

6:30 am

8:30 am

Thu., July 27

6:30 am

8:30 am

Fri., July 28

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Sat., July 29

9:00 am

Sat., July 29

5:00 pm

Sun., July 30

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:30 pm

**Saint Mary Magdalene**

+ John Bischoff, Jr.

**Vigil: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Kevin and Kelly Sweeney

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Rika Stanek

People of the Parish

+ Patrick Manno

Maralan O'Neil

Chris Goodwin

**Weekday**

Rev. Tony Bennett

Dan and Stacey Tuman

**Saint James**

+ Jim Kenkel

+ James Beatty

**Saints Joachim and Anne**

Anne Marie Toseland

Ilana Doroteo

**Weekday**

Sophia Puglise

Martha Hamerman

**Weekday**

Abigail Magin

Abby Magin

**Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus**

+ Tim McKinney

**Vigil: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

+ Floyd Scott Wooddell

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Kathleen Norconk

Andrew and Colleen Heironimus

People of the Parish

+ Warren Hamerman

Karen Santorum

## Readings for the Week

Sun:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a)/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Mon:	Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42
Tue:	2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/ Mt 20:20-28
Wed:	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9
Thu:	Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17
Fri:	Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 13:18-23
Sat:	Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19- 27 or Lk 10:38-42



Dear Folks,

As mentioned in my recent homilies I am very much interested in reactivating the parish Legion of Mary for several reasons. Parishes promoting the Marian devotions enjoy many graces in vocations, as well as health and sacramental longevity. There is nothing new in that. The Blessed Mother at Fatima in 1917, called us to be attentive to the coming of a great Apostasy to the Church (Third Secret of Fatima) and to secure ourselves from that inevitability we need to promote a devotion to Christ in the Eucharist, Christ in His sacraments (notably, Penance), and a devotion Mary and all the Saints.



As a parish we are doing a great job, and are improving in many ways thru the first two admonishments but we are lagging in the third, with our devotion to Mary and the Saints. So, we seek to reestablish our apostolate to Mary in the Legion.

Starting next Sunday, a table will be set out for a rosary donation/exchange. If you have rosaries sitting unused in drawers or on bookshelves, baskets, or cupboards please bring them in that someone else might use them. If you need a rosary, please take one for yourself and one for each of the members of the family who would like one. Please give a rosary to your collegians. Like all sacramentals, the rosary fosters hope in our daily life. If you have broken rosaries that are beyond hope than leave them with me and I will bury them on Sacred Ground.

That said, I encourage all couples and families of St. Francis De Sales to initiate a nightly rosary... or decade of the rosary for the graces of God to safeguard their homes and our parish. Simplicity, Simplicity, Simplicity needs to be our mantra. The second mantra, more and admonishment, is: "If you are good to people in need people will be good to you when you are in need."

In closing, we don't expect to reactivate the Legion of Mary until around the coming October, the Month dedicated to the Rosary. Please stay tuned.

Let all have a great Summer. And, please bring me some of the parish bulletins you might pick up when you are away. We are not afraid to steal a few good ideas. They are the spice of life. God bless one and all.

Let us pray for each other.

**JOIN FR. GOULD ON A PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**  
**Sunday, November 26 - Tuesday, December 5**  
**Details coming!!**  
**[JMJTours.com](http://JMJTours.com)**

## LIVE ROSARY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

Join Fr. Gould each night at 9pm as he leads the rosary and pray for peace in Ukraine. You can participate in person or on video - go to [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org) and click on Live Video Streams.

Welcome to the Family!  
The following new  
parishioners were baptized  
during the month of June



**Kayce Forman**  
son of Jonathan and Riley Bingham

**Erick North**  
son of Eric and Whitney Anderson

**John Whittaker**  
son of John and Katherine Beatty

**Zachary Joseph**  
son of Ryan and Tehan Siemers



*May the souls of the faithful  
departed, through the  
mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**Betsyanne Black**  
d. July 1, 2023

*Our thoughts and  
prayers are with ...*



**Our Military Members:** SGT Peter Audi, PFC Stephen G. Beard, 2nd LT Aleksandr Bissell (USMC), MAJ Andrew Cahan, USAF Mary Elizabeth Castaneda, SGT Ernesto G. Castro, LCpl Paul Cotter, LT Scott Cypher, CPT Ryan Patrick Godfrey, 2LT Alexandra Goodnow (Army), Captain Ryan Patrick Grady, 2LT Patrick Gutierrez, PO2 Robin Hunt (Navy), Christopher Largent (Army), CPT Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, SSG Joshua Jovene, PFC Joseph Jovene, CPT Vincent Jovene, USAF Mary Catherine Kuegler, CPT Rachel (Jovene) Malletts, MAJ Chuck Marshall, SSG Tim Marshall, Blaise Mason (Army), Sam A. Mason (Army), 1st LT Caleb Magowan (Army), PFC Brian McWilliams (Army), SPC Kenneth Kyle McWilliams (Army Reserve National Guard), CPT Ross Mentzer, Kyle Minogue (Air Force), Marine Nate Nelms, Kristin Ober (Air Force), Marine Anthony Oliverio, 2LT Jonathan Owen (Air Force), Lcpl John Owen Patterson, PFC Jorge Pedroza, Gy Sgt Jose O. Ruiz Pedroza, Army John Pileulsley, CPT Brendan Printup (Army), Joe Pultrio, CWO Jason Runner (Navy), 1LT Matthew Ryan, LT Michael Tappe, LCpl Frankie Thyson, Shahin Uddin (Army), SSgt Marnie Wickman (Air Force), A1C Joshua Wilk, 1LT Jared Willard, Col. Theodore White (Army), Andrew Yevoli (Air Force)

**The Sick:** Dominic Corcoran, Mike O'Brien, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller; Joanne Harrington, Charles Williams, Patricia Naomi Alvarenga, Joe Graber, Christina Huth, Candace Daly, Melissa Jewel, Peggy Johnson, Frederick Campos, Grace Costello, Daniel Ramirez, Cynthia Ramirez, Silvia Vizcarra, Olga Howard, Diane Shirley, Brooke Cheney. Richard King, Patrick Whipp, Barney Smith, Corinne McHugh  
**The Deceased:** Jean Pelkey, Jeanne Sweet, Judith Miller, Jean Young, Colette Baine, Ellen Sullivan, Nicholas Misisi, Timothea Rainey, Mary Kay Madigan Ledue, Joan Jasinski, Heather Miles, Salome Torrijos, Jack Burden, James Lippert, Jack Spisak, Rose Lippert. Rodney Huth, Elaine Marshall, William Stark, Kevin Malone

Diane Taylor, DRE  
[d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org)



St. Francis de Sales Religious Education

**THANK YOU** to our VBS campers and parents who participated in the mission this year with Mobile Hope. Campers donated items for children who are precariously housed throughout Loudoun County. Hundreds and hundreds of items from toothpaste and coloring books to blankets and water bottles were organized into "comfort bags" by our God Squad youth team and will be presented to Mobile Hope.

Summer Office Hours - M-TH 11am-3:30pm

**We need YOU!**  
**Catechists, Classroom Assistants, Hall Monitors, and Substitutes, for the 2023-'24 school year.**

Catechists are needed in K, 3, 4, and 8th grade. Please prayerfully consider joining our religious education team. Student classroom assistants are also needed.

**NOW OPEN!**  
**Registration for Religious Education**

**Sunday, 9 to 10:15 am**  
Preschool through 8th grade

**11am-12:15pm RCIT**  
**4 to 5pm** High school classes:  
Fr. Gould-Theology of the Body  
Fr. Heisler- Philosophy

**Monday, 5 to 6:15 pm**  
Kindergarten through 8th, RCIC  
Adult class with Fr. Heisler-Catholicism 101

**Wednesday, 3:30 to 4:45pm**  
Preschool through 5th grade  
5 to 6:15 pm  
Grades 6-8 (pending enrollment)

**Saturday, 10am-12pm**  
SPRED (ages 6-12) - 13 sessions

Remember that every year of religious education is important! Please make sure to register early. All children are expected to successfully complete their current grade-level curriculum before registering for the upcoming school year.

Sacrament preparation is a two-year process. All children preparing for sacraments: Communion 1 & 2 (1st and 2nd grade), Confirmation 1 & 2 (7th and 8th grade), RCIC and RCIT are asked to attend classes in person. The homeschooling option is only available under extreme circumstances, with the approval of the Director of Religious Education and Father Gould.



Lindsay Glass  
Director of Youth Ministry  
540-338-6381 or  
[l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org)

## High School

### SUNDAY YOUTH NIGHT

ALL high schoolers are invited to Youth Nights most Sundays from 6:30-8:00pm in room 213. Deepen your relationship with God, learn more about Jesus, and grow your desire for life-long discipleship with Him. Newcomers and friends are always welcome! There is no Youth Night July 23rd. Our next Youth Night is Sunday, July 30th.



**WE ARE IN NEED OF ANOTHER ADULT DRIVER!** All high schoolers and families in the Diocese are invited to Diocesan Kings Dominion Day on Wednesday, July 26th! Tickets are at a reduced rate of \$38 and

include entrance into Soak City Waterpark! If you would like to caravan or need a ride, meet at SFDS at 8:30am. Contact Carie Losinski [skigators@icloud.com](mailto:skigators@icloud.com) if you would like to reserve tickets, arrange for a ride, or are an adult who can drive a few extra teens. Payments may be made by cash or check (to SFDS Church) and turned in to the Youth or Parish Office by July 25th. Teens under 18 and unaccompanied by a parent must include a Permission Form (on our webpage) with payment.



is a year-round HS Youth Service Group that helps parishioners with small projects in and around the home. Our dedicated team of adults guides teens through jobs like yard work, cleaning, moving, organizing, painting, and small construction projects. Please reach out to Lindsay Glass so God Squad can help you out! [l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org)

## Middle School

**RIISING 6th-8th GRADERS!** 3-9pm each day. Sign-up forms are at [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org) under Youth Ministry. Return Registration form, Permission form, and payment to the Youth or Parish Office ASAP



Be sure to check out "This week on FORMED" for the latest content and video series. Our parish has a FORMED subscription. [watch.formed.org](http://watch.formed.org).

## St. Francis Council 11136 News



**JULY OFFICERS PLANNING MEETING.** The next council Officers Planning Meeting will be on Monday 24 July in the Knights Hall at 7:30 pm. All members of the council are welcome to attend.

**ROSARY PROGRAM.** Come join the Knights in praying the Rosary in the small chapel on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7 pm. Next Rosary will be Monday, 24 July.

**PARKING AT LOUDOUN COUNTY FAIR.** We are supporting the Loudoun County Fair again this year with the Parking Detail on Friday 28 July and Saturday 29 July. The sign-up genius link is [www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4BA4A92FA6FA7-loudoun1](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4BA4A92FA6FA7-loudoun1). This is a significant fund raiser for our council; fundraising events like this provide the resources needed for the council's many activities supporting charitable causes, Faith building activities, and community events. Please come sign up for a shift; family members are welcome to support as well. Br Kenny Jenkins is our lead, please contact him with any questions ([kenny.jenkins@onedayfarm.com](mailto:kenny.jenkins@onedayfarm.com)). Thank you for your thoughtful consideration to support this fundraising opportunity.

**Did You Know?** When the United States entered World War I, Supreme Knight Flaherty wrote President Woodrow Wilson telling him that the Order plans to establish centers to provide for the troops' "recreational and spiritual comfort." The Knights' services, the Supreme Knight said, will be offered "regardless of creed." The Order provided rest and recreational facilities and social services to Allied servicemen of all faiths. KofC Huts throughout the United States and Europe provided religious services, supplies, and recreation under the motto, "Everybody Welcome, Everything Free."

Everybody meant everybody. Whatever your race or creed, you were welcome at K of C facilities. In fact, the Order was praised by a contemporary African American historian of World War I, because "unlike the other social welfare organizations operating in the war, it never drew the color line."

As a result of the Order's wartime work, the Order earned high praise from Pope Benedict XV.

**Interested in becoming a Knight?** All Catholic men 18 years of age or older are eligible to become a Knight, and it is easier than ever to submit an application for membership - go to <https://kofc.org/join> and with just a few entries you will be a member of the Knights of Columbus!

Richard Vale, Grand Knight  
St. Francis Council #11136. [Knights11136@gmail.com](mailto:Knights11136@gmail.com);  
[www.kofc11136.org](http://www.kofc11136.org)

## Looking for a way to help support Women who Choose Life?

Birthright of Loudoun, a crisis pregnancy center in Leesburg, maintains an Amazon Gift Registry with a wish list of reasonably priced items most wanted by new moms in need. Access the registry at [www.amazon.com/registries/custom/JJJ2X48CEMTI/guest-view](http://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/JJJ2X48CEMTI/guest-view) or by going to Amazon.com, "Find a Gift", "Custom Gift List" and entering "Birthright of Loudoun".

If you prefer, cash donations can be sent to: Birthright of Loudoun, 16 Royal St, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175

## Upcoming Retreats At San Damiano Spiritual Life Center In Whitepost, VA St. Catherine of Siena Women's Silent Retreat

Join Fr. James Hudgins, Pastor at St. Theresa Catholic Church, to read and rest, think and pray with Jesus and Catherine from **Friday-Sunday, August 11-13**. Saint Catherine is one of the four women who are identified as a Doctor of the Church. A mystic and crusader, she composed over 400 letters, her Dialog, and prayers. Retreat cost is \$285 and financial assistance may be available.

For further info or to register for this retreat, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at [mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org).

**After Abortion Retreats: A Day of Prayer & Healing** for women who have experienced abortion will be on Saturday, July 29. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and in Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats in 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

### Military Tribute and Prayers



Please help us expand our Saint Francis de Sales parish tribute to our military by sending us your prayer requests for active military members - send in name and branch of service.

In addition, we are so blessed with many military veterans at SFDS and we want to honor them as well - send us your name and branch to Team McRoberts at [BMcRoberts13@gmail.com](mailto:BMcRoberts13@gmail.com) or text to 703.727.9613.

Project Rachel Post Abortion  
Healing Ministry:  
888-456-HOPE or visit:  
[www.helpafterabortion.org](http://www.helpafterabortion.org).

Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:  
866-444-3553 or  
[info@helpforpregnantwomen.org](mailto:info@helpforpregnantwomen.org)



## Homeless Ministry

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,\* and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."* Matthew 11:28-30



### • Missionary Sisters of Charity in Anacostia – Serve between 60 and 100 meals.

o We prepare and serve meals every 2nd Saturday of the month. All donated items are due to Knights Hall the preceding Thursday by 2pm.

- Items due August 10th;  
meal delivered and served August 12th.

### • Loudoun Homeless Shelter – Serve between 40 and 80 meals.

o We prepare and serve meals every 4th Thursday of the month. All items are due to the Knights Hall the preceding Wednesday by 5pm.

- Items due July 26th;  
meal delivered and served July 27th.

*"Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family."* – Mother Teresa

Join us in works of charity by signing up to purchase items, prepare the main dish, bake cookies and cakes, or to transport meals and supplies.

Contact one of us, and we will direct you to the Signup Genius lists:

- Fran Beebe [franbeebe7@gmail.com](mailto:franbeebe7@gmail.com)
- Carie Losinski: [skigators@me.com](mailto:skigators@me.com)
- Suzanne Robinson [suzannedrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:suzannedrobinson@gmail.com)



## Compassionate Heart of Mary

Bereavement Support Group  
Saturday, July 29  
@ 10am in the Library

If you are grieving a spouse, family member, or friend, whether recently or some time ago, or you know someone who is grieving, please call us for more info, Laura Burgess at 703-727-7117.

## Holy Father Prayer Intentions for July

### For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

## Women's Council Corner

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." 2 Corinthians 3:17



### Funeral Reception Coordinator Wanted

We have a tremendous team to handle this very special task on short notice, but we need a team leader. If you could help we would be very appreciative! If interested, please email [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com) so we can add you to our team!



### Next Social Event - Escape Room Adventure

Monday, August 7th, 7pm  
Escape Room Loco, Leesburg, VA  
Feeling trapped? Try your hand at an escape room with us! Work as a team with the ladies of St. Francis to escape a room by solving a series of realistic brainteasers in 60 mins or less. Check our website for more information. RSVP details coming soon.

### Next Planning Meeting - Monday, August 21st

6:30pm Rosary in the Chapel | 7pm Meeting in the Library  
All women are invited to our business meeting where we plan our spectacular socials & special events and discuss current news. We welcome your ideas.

Please check our website for more details on each event.

[saintfrancisparrish.org/womens-council](http://saintfrancisparrish.org/womens-council)

New to the parish or not getting our emails?

Email us at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com) to be added to our directory.



The Mother Teresa's Garden is seeking volunteers to help us with donating, volunteering & building a new garden fence. Do you have access to fence posts, wire or the ability to install it? Or are you able to help us financially with a donation to get these items? We need you!

Do you have extra produce from your garden? Bring it to mass! We are collecting fresh produce in a marked cooler in the Knights Hall on Sunday's only. We accept fruits and veggies that do not need to be immediately put in the fridge (no lettuce.)

More information: [saintfrancisparrish.org/ministry/mother-teresas-garden/](http://saintfrancisparrish.org/ministry/mother-teresas-garden/)

*Make us worthy, Lord, to serve those people throughout the world who live & die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands, this day, their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give them peace and joy. Amen. ~Mother Teresa*



## OCIA—Invite your non-Catholic friends!

Dear parishioners, do you know someone who is not Catholic, but might have a heart open to the Gospel? Encourage them to come to RCIA this September! Whether they are a nonbeliever seeking the truth, or a Protestant wondering whether something is missing, YOUR INVITATION may be all they need to begin a journey into the fulness of the Catholic faith! There will be no pressure—only answers to the greatest questions of life. We will meet at 7 p.m. in the Religious Education building room 206 every Monday beginning September 11. Please email Vladimir Rudenko at [vladimirudenko@gmail.com](mailto:vladimirudenko@gmail.com) for more information.

## Parish Giving is our online giving solution.

### SIMPLICITY

Go to our parish website and click on the Parish Giving logo to register or log in. In addition to recurring contributions, donations can be made as a one-time or an unplanned gift.

### SECURITY

Security is our top priority - sensitive account information is not stored and is never shared with a third party.

### CONVENIENCE

Online giving provides the account holder the ability to have Sunday be about our faith. If sickness, travel or weather prevents attendance, your contributions will continue uninterrupted from your bank account or credit/debit card.

### PARISH BENEFITS

Our parish will see a substantial increase in stewardship while reducing administrative costs. In addition to regular online giving contributions, you can also donate by any amount at any time by any means.

### EASY RECORD KEEPING

24/7 account access to view and print your online giving contributions.



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WEB: [www.paritygiving.org](http://www.paritygiving.org)

## Special Religious Development (SPRED)

A program designed to support and serve children with developmental disabilities and will be offered this fall at St. Francis de Sales Parish for the '23-'24 RE year.

The SPRED program invites those with disabilities to come together in a small faith community to discover God's presence in their lives and to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, based on individual levels of readiness. Children with Down Syndrome, Autism, and Learning Disabilities are welcome to join this group!

The program meets for 12 sessions on Saturday mornings (10 AM- 12 PM) throughout the year from September – April. During each session, the children, along with adult volunteers, participate in catechesis and joyful activities that include crafts, music, and spiritual lessons with connections to the Mass, scripture, and daily life. The ability to read is not a requirement as all projects and activities are designed to meet the needs of children at various levels of achievement.

The Religious Education Department is currently seeking volunteers to be Catechists (lead catechist, music catechist, arts and crafts catechist, meal/snack catechist), for SPRED. If you are over 18 years of age and interested in working with people with disabilities, please consider volunteering with the SPRED Program. You will receive far more than you can ever give! VIRTUS training is available this summer for anyone not yet trained.

Enrollment begins in July for elementary and middle school children, ages 6-12. For more information, please contact Diane Taylor, DRE, at (540)338-6381 or email at [d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org).

## THE MINISTRY OF PRAISE

St. Francis de Sales' group of dedicated people of prayer, is on its third decade of service. The Ministry of Praise is a Spiritual Ministry in which prayer, joys and suffering are offered to God for the salvation of souls. Membership includes the sick, the handicapped, the homebound and senior citizens. We are currently inviting anyone interested in joining our team of pray-ers to contact Leslie Sheldon at the parish office [l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org) (please designate Ministry of Praise on e-mail). Those who wish to have concerns prayed for may write their prayers and slip them into the Ministry of Praise box attached to the wall in the Narthex. You can also send the request on-line. Visit our webpage at [www.saintfrancisparish.org/prayer-requests/](http://www.saintfrancisparish.org/prayer-requests/) to fill out the form



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