



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

9220 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, Virginia 22066
www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org

The Weekly Franciscan

Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King Sunday & Pledge Sunday Sunday, November 24th, 2024

You are welcome to the

8:00 a.m. Service of Holy Eucharist Rite I with
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher
and

10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant and Preacher,
with the St. Francis Choir

Children's Chapel is offered during the Sermon

Coffee Hour Follows Each Service in Millen Hall

[The 10:00 a.m. Service is also live-streamed on YouTube](#)

[View this Sunday's Worship Bulletin](#)

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading | [2 Samuel 23:1-7](#)

The Response | [Psalm 132:1-13 \(14-19\)](#)

The Second Reading | [Revelation 1:4b-8](#)

The Gospel Reading | [John 18:33-37](#)

Parish Prayer List

We pray especially for Eileen, Nora Lee & Richard, Cathy, Lawrence, Ginger & Ed, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Barbara, Steve, Dave, and Catherine; Lynda, Melissa, Paula, Trevor, Clara Sue, Grace, Jeanne, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nancy, Nick & Hilary, Linn, and Dut.

Altar Flowers

Sunday's Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Leslie Siegmund in loving memory of her parents, Paul and June.

Worship Minister Training

LEM, Acolyte, and Chalice Bearer Training for Adults

On **SUN-24-NOV**, at both **9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.**, training for these worship ministry roles will be offered for adults, in the Sanctuary.

Youth Training for Worship Ministry service

On **SUN-1-DEC at 11:15 a.m.**, training for Youth interested in serving as an Acolyte, Chalice Bearer and/or Gospel Book Bearer will be offered in the Sanctuary. Open to all High School, Middle School and 5th/6th Grade students.

What are these Worship Ministry Roles?

LEM = Lay Eucharist Minister who serves both as a Reader and as a Chalice Bearer.

Acolyte = Person who assists the clergy during a worship service or procession. At St. Francis this includes crucifers (cross bearers), Gospel bearers, torch bearers and, on occasion, a children's cross crucifer.

Chalice Bearer = Person who, at Communion, offers one of the two chalices.



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Help to Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!

Pledge Sunday is this Sunday – November 24

Add your pledge to the collection

Stewardship is a spiritual discernment process for everyone:

- > Consider new perspectives
- > Seek God's signs in Scripture, nature, people and events
- > Turn to God in prayer

Strive to live a life that honors God and serves others.

To date we have gratefully received pledges from 56 families and individuals. Pledges total \$413,210 -- 69% of our goal!

These Franciscans & Friends have pledged:

Anonymous (12)

Terri Adams

Nathan Ambler & Paul Herman

Jackie Amthor

Kathy & Dana Anderson

Clara Sue Ashley

Dut & Carolyn Brown

Sharon Callaway

Anne Carson

Carmela & Charles Condro

Lynda Davis

Mimi & Brice Eldridge

Sarah & Rick Entsminger

Brenda & Chris Giragosian

Val & Bruce Goddard

Ginger & Edward Gotliffe

Lisa & Joe Hawke

Carrie & Ian Holman

Mary & Charlie Jackson

Elaine Jeffrey

Elizabeth & Joshua Kim

Jan & Bill Lane

Rick Larson

Loriana & Weston Mathews

Jessica & Kevin Maxson

Beth & Walt Meyer

Jennifer & Ray Murphy

Wendy & Gary Pan

Linn Perkins

Larry & Reyna Pratt

Jane & Bill Rachal

Tamber & Mike Ray

Molly & Joe Reynolds
Ginger Roll
Jack & Lori Shafran
Michael Shuler
Leslie Siegmund & Jack Mathias
Judy Stocks
Jeanne & Larry Vote
Sandy & John Walker
Pat & Paul Ward
Tom & Joy Wood
Kristi & Dave Yarnall
Nan & Allen Young

2024 YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of October 31, 2024

Budgeted Revenue - \$593,960

Actual Revenue - \$560,445*

Budgeted Expenses - \$642,271

Actual Expenses - \$527,250

*Includes \$52,400 in prepaid pledges received in 2023 which is not reflected in the budgeted revenue.

Since we have received only 77% of 2024 pledges, it is certainly hoped that more will come soon. Past experience tells me that many parishioners wait until the end of the year to fulfill their pledged amount. No need to wait, just send it in now! Hopefully all will come before December 31 as that is important for your tax reporting.

All pledge contributions and other donations to St. Francis must be processed within required deadlines at the end of the year. Cash/check contributions must be physically received in the

church office or postmarked by December 31, 2024. Stock contributions must be in St. Francis's investment account by December 31, and therefore should be initiated at least two weeks before the month's end to ensure timely processing.

A very successful Marketplace event took place on October 19. Many people donated their time and some of their treasures to make it happen. Income was well above the budgeted amount. Donations freely given at the Chili Cookoff along with some other contributions allowed us to send \$2,720 to Tracey Kelly's Church of the Holy Family in Mills River, North Carolina for their recovery efforts. The Outreach Committee authorized payment of several donations that were included in their budget including \$2,000 to Bishop Isaac in Ezo.

Do you wish to know where you stand on your pledge giving so that it is complete before the end of the year? Just send me an email and I'll be happy to send you an updated giving statement.

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

Molly Reynolds

Treasurer

treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org



Many Thanks!!

Thank you for your generous donations to the Thanksgiving Food Drive for [Second Story](#). From Christine Bartell at Second Story on receiving our Thanksgiving donations, "This is wonderful! You all are such a blessing to us!"

**Thanksgiving Day service, 11/28 at 10:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, spoken service**

**Advent & Christmas at St.
Francis**

**DEC 1, 8, 15 (Sundays) Advent
Contemplative Worship at 5:00
p.m.** Prepare for the return of Love at
Christmas in these candlelit services of
prayer, silence, soft piano, song, and poetry.



**DEC 7 (SAT) Breakfast With Santa,
8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** All are welcome!

Come take your family photo with St. Nick and join in the Christmas fun with food, crafts, and music. In support of [Second Story](#), we are accepting unwrapped children's gifts.

**DEC 7 (SAT) "Wake, Awake!" Advent Hymns & Poems Concert, 3:00
p.m.** Beautiful voices and instruments with hymn sing and poetry.

DEC 14 (SAT) St. Francis Women's Casual Christmas Coffee, 9:30 a.m. At the home
of Kathy Anderson (read more, below)

DEC 15 (SUN) Greening of the Church, 11:30 a.m. Join us in readying the church for
Christmas, with evergreens, flowers, and light.

DEC 18 (WED) Creche Christmas Pageant, 1:00 p.m. Adorable! Followed by A Cookie
Reception in Millen Hall.

DEC 18 (WED) Blue Christmas Service, 7:00 p.m. A service of remembrance and hope for those who are stressed, lonely, or grieving during the holidays.

DEC 24 (TUE) Christmas Eve services, 5:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. with beautiful liturgy and music to celebrate the Eve of the Nativity

DEC 25 (WED) Christmas Day service, 11:00 a.m. Come to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ



Donations for Christmas Music and Altar Flowers

Each year St. Francis is beautifully decorated for Christmas with poinsettias and greens. We also have special music during for Christmas services. It is the custom at St. Francis for parishioners to make Christmas donations to the Altar Guild and to the Music Program to support these groups' efforts at Christmas and during the year. Donations may be given in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for someone or something special.

If you would like to give to either or both of these funds, please fill out the envelope enclosed in your Sunday bulletin and put it in the plate or send a donation directly to the church office (9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066.) To have your memorials or thanksgivings listed in the Christmas service bulletins, we need to receive your donation **by the third Sunday in Advent, December 15, 2023.**

To contribute electronically, you may click on the “Donate” button on the website www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org or [Click here](#).

At the drop-down, you may choose to direct your gift to Music or the Altar Guild. (If you wish to split your contribution, you will need to complete one contribution transaction and click on the URL again to designate to the second ministry recipient.)

Email the parish administrator at admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org to let her know in whose memory or for what thanksgiving you have made your gift.

Advent Contemplative Worship

**5:00 p.m. Sundays,
December 1st, 8th,
and 15th at St. Francis**

This year St. Francis is offering a contemplative worship series on Sunday evenings during Advent, the season of stillness and preparation for the birth of the Christ child at Christmas.



Contemplative spiritual practices vary and emerge from diverse traditions. As disciplines of body and mind, they share a number of features:

- cultivation of self-awareness
- focused, non-evaluative attention

- development of mental and physical steadiness and balance
- fostering greater attunement, compassion, and creativity

Through candlelit prayer, contemplative silence, poetry, beautiful music, and Holy Communion from the Iona Celtic tradition, this service is different from what we offer on Sunday morning. A brief reflection on spiritual journey will be offered by a member of St. Francis and St. Francis' own Jamie Kim will offer soft piano music. Larry Vote will be the soloist and lead us in singing.

If you are looking for a new way to worship and a space to find your sacred center in the midst of a busy, distracted life- this may be the service for you.

Breakfast with *Santa!*

Avoid the Malls. **Come & Get Your Picture Taken With Santa!**

Supporting
Second Story



Sponsored by
St Francis Episcopal
Church

WHEN: Saturday, December 7th, 8:30-10:30am

WHERE: St Francis Episcopal Church
9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA

The event is **FREE** and open to all children in the community.

Hot Chocolate + Doughnuts + Bagels

Carols + Crafts + **HOLIDAY FUN!!**

**We encourage each family to
donate a new, unwrapped toy.**



Toys for boys and girls: Infant through 12 years. Toy suggestions: Puzzles, Games, Cars,
Dolls (African-American Dolls are preferred)

Questions about Breakfast With Santa?
Contact Sandy Walker swalker1303@gmail.com or
Carrie Holman carrie.anne.holman@gmail.com



Wake, Awake!

Advent Music & Poetry
Cantata 140 by J. S. Bach


St. Francis Episcopal Church Choir
Soloists: Amie Flowers Shakespeare
James Rogers

Chamber Orchestra
Larry Vote, Director

Saturday, December 7, 3:00 p.m.

Admission Free

St. Francis Episcopal Church
9220 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA



Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle . . .

Join the women of St. Francis for a Casual Christmas Coffee!

Saturday, December 14, 9:30 to 11:30 am


At the home of Kathy Anderson

1812 Cranberry Lane, Reston

You don't need to bring a thing!

Hosts: Kathy Anderson and Leslie Siegmund

*R.s.v.p. to kquinnanderson@gmail.com or
lesiegmund@aol.com (Space is a bit limited!)*



Christmas Drive for the Homeless

We are doing something different this Christmas Season for [Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington](#), which focuses on the homeless (unhoused) and returning citizens. These are people who are participating in Samaritan Ministry's Next Steps Program and are committed to making progress toward self-sufficiency. Please consider donating so that each participant can receive a \$25 Target gift card, which will be given to them at an open house in Anacostia hosted by St. Francis Church. You can participate by:

Sending or bringing a check or \$25 Target gift card(s) to the church. Please write "Christmas Drive" on your check.

Using [PayPal Donate Now](#) to donate. Select Outreach from the optional drop-down list and put "Christmas Drive" in the memo line.

The drive ends Sunday, December 15.

Questions? Contact Ginger Roll at rollginger@icloud.com

Save the Date!!

Yes, Our Beloved Event Returns!



BLACK TIE
Dinner & Auction

MARCH 1, 2025

St. Francis Episcopal Church

Seeking Volunteers

If you would like to help with **Dinner** (decorations, coordinating appetizers, coordinating teen servers, event setup, event cleanup and more), contact Jennifer

Murphy jenniferomurphy@gmail.com

If you would like to help with the **Auction** (soliciting donations, creating displays & setup, live auction spotter, checkout/closeout), contact Kathy Ditmore kathy.ditmore@gmail.com

Ongoing Weekly Activities

Morning Prayer offered MON-FRI, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.

All are invited to immerse themselves in this supportive offering from St. Francis Church where we regularly pray for one another and our mission in the world.

[Click here to connect to Morning Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 968 1679 4908; Passcode: church

Contemplative Prayer: Mondays at 7:30-8:30 p.m.

We hope you can join us via Zoom videoconference.

For more information and any questions, please contact the coordinator for the program: Kathy Anderson, 703-476-9065 or kquinnanderson@gmail.com. Our group has been traveling and very busy, so we decided that we would NOT hold prayer meetings in December and encourage everyone to help and attend the Advent Contemplative services on Sunday, DEC 1, 8 and 15 at 5:00 p.m.

[Click here to connect to Contemplative Prayer via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 998 1159 6134; Passcode: church

Men's Group: Wednesdays 8:35 a.m.

Discussing: a six-week course on the book of Genesis entitled: *The Genesis Story: Reading Biblical Narratives*. Join us every Wednesday morning via Zoom. Questions? Contact Stu Edwards at elchivogoat@cs.com

[Click here to connect to the Men's Group via Zoom.](#)

Zoom ID: 922 8116 0056; Passcode: church

St. Francis Social Hour meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for casual conversation. Grab your favorite beverage and let's reconnect!

[Click here to connect to the St. Francis Social Hour.](#)

Zoom ID: 935 2210 0835; Passcode: church

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study at 5:00 p.m.

Meetings take place Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join and participate in interesting discussions. The Kerygma Study selected for Advent: "The Light Will Shine."

This study consists of five lessons and we would like to finish by December 12 before the Holidays. On the 12th, we will conclude with an in person meeting at Katie's Coffeehouse in Great Falls at 9:00 a.m.

For further information contact Amelia Logan at ameliavinteriors@gmail.com

[Click here to connect to the Thursday Afternoon Bible Study.](#)

Zoom ID: 836 1505 5434; Passcode: TABS24

Women's Group Coffee on Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to NOON at Starbucks in Great Falls

The St. Francis Women's Group has an open invitation to meet at the Starbucks in Great Falls every Friday morning. Please join us. **NOTE: the Women's Group will not meet on Friday, November 29th, the day after Thanksgiving Day.**

Second Story Dinners: Sundays at 5:15 p.m.

Needed: Volunteers to prepare and deliver Sunday dinners to the Second Story Teen Crisis Center on Gallows Road. Volunteers work solo or in pairs, according to their wishes.

Dinners are made on the first, third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of the month. The count for a meal typically ranges from five to eight persons. It has been as many as twelve. Volunteers receive reminders when their Sundays are coming up.

Please contact Jennifer Murphy at jenniferomurphy@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer for this ministry or if you have any questions.

**Learn more
about our life at
St. Francis**



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

through our new

website stfrancisgreatfalls.org:

- worship services including daily Morning Prayer
- community concerts
- pastoral care
- Creche preschool ministries
- local and international outreach events

- fellowship opportunities
- Bible studies and small group opportunities including Contemplative Prayer

Emergency Pastoral Number: 703.759.2082 x 102

Do you have a news item you would like to share through the Weekly Franciscan? Or do you have a photo from life at St. Francis you would like to submit? We welcome and rely on your participation.

admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Priest-in-Charge

Mr. Larry Vote, Music Director

Mr. Sasha Beresovsky, Organist

Ms. Cristi Leslie, Creche Preschool Director

Mr. Dominic Pelegrin, Sexton

Ms. Rita Arteaga, Nursery Attendant

Ms. Lynn Fallon, Parish Administrator

2024 Vestry Members

Rick Larson, Senior Warden

Lynda Davis, Junior Warden

Cathryn Lee, Register

Kathy Anderson

Olivia Grady

Elizabeth Kim

Larry Pratt

Mike Semko

Sandra Walker

Molly Reynolds, serving Treasurer

treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager

facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org