

Newsletter for January 2, 2025



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Weekly Franciscan

The Second Sunday after Christmas Sunday, January 5th, 2025

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 | [Jeremiah 31:7-14](#)

The Response | [Psalm 84:1-8](#)

The Second Reading | [Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Parish Prayer List

We pray especially for Barbara & Bill, Josie, Terri, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Nora Lee & Richard, Cathy, Lawrence, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Trevor, Clara Sue, Grace, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nick & Hilary, and Dut.

**SAMARITAN
MINISTRY**
of Greater Washington



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Thank You Note for A Joyful Open House on December 19th

The Christmas open house for [Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington](#) was hosted by St. Francis Church on Thursday, December

19th was a successful and joyful event for Franciscans and guests.

Our guests at the open house are participants in Samaritan Ministry's [Next Step Program](#) and are people facing the many challenges of homelessness and returning to society after incarceration. In the Next Step Program they identify goals and take steps such as securing an ID, becoming eligible for food stamps, and going through the process of getting a job. Thanks to the generosity of many Franciscans, participants received Target gift cards in addition to the food we served.

Doris McRoy, Lead Caseworker, for the Samaritan Ministry DC Anacostia office on U Street sent us an appreciative thank you:

"On behalf of Samaritan Ministry Anacostia office, I want to thank you, thank you, thank you so much on the wonderful event for the U Street office participants. Nothing but accolades on the food, hospitality and love that was shared!!! We thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. The food was a hit, and the gift cards were such a blessing. You were able to serve 120 people from U Street and the community. Those from the community were an unexpected surprise but they were able to benefit from your generosity.

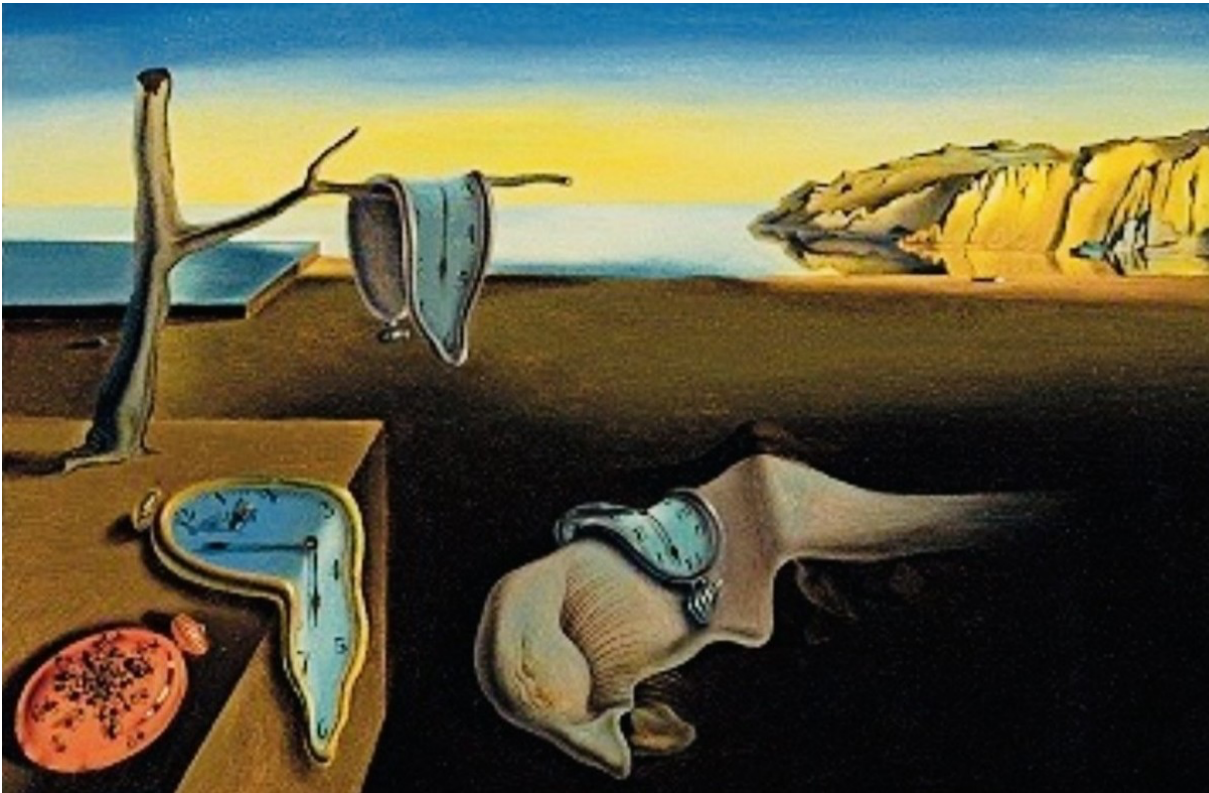
We so appreciate you and the team; give our thanks to everyone."



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Let's Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!

Salvador Dali's melting clocks remind us ~~
NOW IS THE TIME TO SEND IN YOUR 2025 PLEDGE



to Molly Reynolds treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org or drop it in the offering basket.

We have received 86 Pledges for a total of \$544,470.

Thank you to these Franciscans & Friends who have pledged:

Anonymous (21)
Terri Adams
Nathan Ambler & Paul Herman
Jackie Amthor
Kathy & Dana Anderson
Clara Sue Ashley
David & Olyia Black
Mattie & Duncan Bowden
Dut & Carolyn Brown
Nora Lee & Richard Brown
Nancy Burkley
Sharon Callaway
Ellen Calvin
Anne Carson
Carmela & Charles Condro
Lynda Davis
Janet Durfee
Mimi & Brice Eldridge
Sarah & Rick Entsminger
Nilda Ferrari
Mary & Tom Gillespie
Brenda & Chris Giragosian
Val & Bruce Goddard
Ginger & Edward Gotliffe
Barbara & Mike Hattwick
Lisa & Joe Hawke
Kathryn Hinton
Carrie & Ian Holman
Mary & Charlie Jackson
Elaine Jeffrey
Susan Kawmy
Jane Keihn
Jon Lynn Kerchner

Elizabeth & Joshua Kim
Jan & Bill Lane
Dick & Celia Larkin
Rick Larson
Amelia & Will Logan
Chris & Bob MacKichan
Loriana & Weston Mathews
Jessica & Kevin Maxson
Beth & Walt Meyer
Jennifer & Ray Murphy
Paul Mutino & Karen Levy
Wendy & Gary Pan
Linn Perkins
Larry & Reyna Pratt
Jane & Bill Rachal
Tamber & Mike Ray
Molly & Joe Reynolds
Cate & Steve Riihimaki
Ginger Roll
Chris & Ray Rollins
Jennifer & Mike Semko
Jack & Lori Shafran
Michael Shuler
Leslie Siegmund & Jack Mathi
Judy Stocks
Pepin Tuma
Jeanne & Larry Vote
Sandy & John Walker
Pat & Paul Ward
Lois & Darren Willcox
Tom & Joy Wood
Kristi & Dave Yarnall
Nan & Allen Young

Giving Envelopes

If you wish to receive Giving Envelopes for 2025, please send an email to me at treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org. Even if you have received envelopes in the past, please let me know that you wish to have them again for 2025. The envelopes will be available in the alcove inside the front door after January 1.



**Dark Horse Theatre presents "Art" by
Yasmina Reza @ St. Francis in Millen Hall**

SAT-4-JAN at 7:30 p.m.

SUN-5-JAN at 6:00 p.m.

SAT-1-FEB at 7:30 p.m.

Synopsis: Three Friends. €400,000. One White(?) Painting.

Cast: Tice Rust, Jack Reda, Scott D. Pafumi

Stage Manager: Katelyn Burton

Director: Natasha Parnian

Notes: 1998 Tony Winner for Best Play and 1996 Olivier Award for Best
Comedy

To purchase tickets, please visit the Dark Horse Theatre box
office: www.darkhorseva.com

More information to come, tomorrow.

**ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS for
2025**

The Flower Sponsor sign up chart for 2025 is now in the Narthex. Sponsoring flowers is a lovely way to give thanks for something or to remember someone or some event. Each Sunday has two slots (for two arrangements.) We ask for a donation of \$75 per arrangement. To pay, you can use a donation envelope available in the Narthex racks or you can click here to pay on-line. (Please select "Altar Fund" in



the drop-down menu.) If you pay online, please send Lynn Fallon an email (admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org) with the sentiment you wish to have printed in the Sunday Bulletin.

... And if you are unable to get to church, you may choose a Sunday by emailing Jennifer Murphy at jenniferomurphy@gmail.com. She will enter your name on the chart.



**Please mark your calendar for
‘De-Greening St. Francis’ on January 12th, 2025
after the 10:00 a.m. service.**



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, January 19, 2025 for
the St. Francis Annual
Congregational Meeting and
Election of New Vestry Members**

This meeting will commence after the 10:00 a.m. service this day, in the Sanctuary. In the meantime, we are **seeking candidates to fill 4 Vestry member vacancies**: three of these are 3-year terms and one is a 1-year term. If interested in "throwing your hat into the ring" as a candidate to serve on your vestry, please contact the parish administrator admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org by *no later than FRI-3-JAN 2025*.

Also, we are calling for **Annual Reports** from "the usual suspects" to be delivered to the parish administrator admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org by *no later than SUN-12-JAN 2025*.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions regarding Vestry service, please contact either Senior Warden, Rick Larson eylarson@aol.com or Junior Warden, Lynda Davis lynda@seecaredo.org.

WORDS & MUSIC

Save the Date!

The St. Francis Vestry Invites You to a Special Concert on Sunday, January 26, 2025

Words&Music will return to **Millen Hall** and entertain us with their program **“Let’s Dance” on Sunday, January 26 at 4:00 p.m.** Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of passion, melody, and movement. Revel in a delightful selection of love songs that will sweep you off your feet--blending classical, modern, and popular tunes for toe-tapping enjoyment. Presented by the St. Francis Vestry and free for everyone – bring your friends for this memorable event!

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.

[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.

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.

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.



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Learn more about our life at St. Francis

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@stfranciscgreatfalls.org

Clergy and Staff

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

Elizabeth Kim Larry Pratt

Mike Semko Sandra Walker

Molly Reynolds, serving Treasurer

treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager

facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org