



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Weekly Franciscan

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 26th, 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 | [Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10](#)

The Response | [Psalm 19:7-14](#)

The Second Reading | [1 Corinthians 12:12-31a](#)

The Gospel Reading | [Luke 4:14-21](#)

Parish Prayer List

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

**Newcomers' Brunch:
Sunday, January 26th**

The Invite, Welcome, Connect (IWC) Committee is hosting a brunch in the parish hall for newcomers **THIS Sunday, January 26, after the 10 am service.**

The brunch is open to all members of the church, but the program will be oriented toward our newer individuals and families. The IWC Committee would love to see a mix of newcomers and longstanding parishioners! If you plan to attend, please also let us know, so that we can plan accordingly.



Also, the IWC Committee could use some help with food, so let us know if you are able to bring something. You can respond with your attendance (and food contributions) to Leslie Siegmund. Thank you!

WORDS & MUSIC

Words&Music Concert Postponed

The January 26 Words&Music Concert at St. Francis is being rescheduled due to a conflict with the NFL playoff game. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 17**, for this special program. We hope you will join us then. Details will be made available when they are finalized.

**Congratulations to our New Vestry Members Elected at the Annual Meeting
and**

Thank you to our current members and those whose terms have now ended

Thank you to ALL candidates who ran for election this past Sunday.

New Vestry members Chris Giragosian, Jessica Maxson, Steve Riihimaki and Pepin Tuma have already begun their first week serving on our St. Francis Vestry, alongside **current Vestry members** Lynda Davis, Cathryn Lee, Larry Pratt, Kathy Anderson, and Elizabeth Kim. We thank **those members who have rotated off of the Vestry**, for their valued service: Rick Larson, Mike Semko, Olivia Grady and Sandy Walker.



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Help Make the Future of St. Francis Bright!

Pledge Matching Challenge Update

We have received new and increased pledges for more than half the Challenge amount!

Rick Larson's Total Challenge Amount = \$20,000

Challenge amounts received = \$10,960

Let's go all the way! Send in your new or increased pledge to Molly Reynolds at treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org or drop it in the offering basket.

Thank you to those Franciscans & Friends who have pledged.



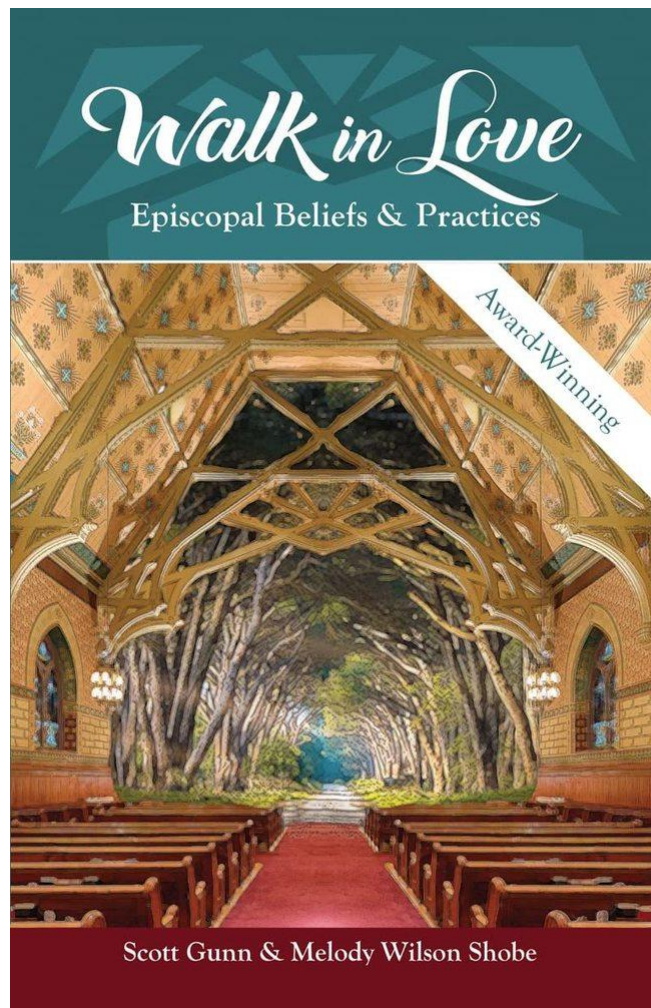
Black Tie Dinner & Auction Volunteers Needed

Volunteers needed! For those interested, a volunteer meeting will be held at **Millen Hall Annex on Friday, January 24th from 10:30am until Noon**. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided. Contact Jennifer Murphy with any questions.

St. Francis Women's Group

The Women's Group Friday morning coffee at Starbucks on **January 24th** has been cancelled in order to allow members to attend the Black Tie Dinner & Auction volunteer meeting at Millen Hall Annex starting at **10:30 a.m.** Questions? Email Jennifer Murphy

Otherwise, the Women's Group continues to meet at Starbucks on Friday mornings from 10:30 a.m. until Noon, but we are flexible. Show up when you can and stay for as long or as little as you'd like. If you arrive at 10:30 and no one is there, please wait to allow others the time to arrive. Questions? Contact Annette Bellino or Ginger Roll



The Inquirer's Class:

All who seek are welcome

Come to the Inquirer's Class with your questions about the Episcopal Church, the Anglican tradition, and what it means to follow the Way of Jesus.

**Spring 2025 Class: Wednesday evenings, February 5 - March 12,
6:30 - 8:00 p.m., taught by the Rev. Weston Mathews.**

This class is designed for anyone interested in learning about the Episcopal Church and its Anglican heritage, as well as for anyone who wants to delve more

deeply into the Christian way of life generally. Although we will cover several topics and conclude the series with an Instructed Eucharist, this class is also grounded in seeking; therefore, significant time will be spent during each session on your questions.

Any adult or teenager who might wish to be confirmed or formally received into the Episcopal Church should attend these classes, but many long-time Franciscans and newcomers may wish to participate as a kind of refresher, or as a way to sort through some of the questions of faith that are common to many of us.

In this class our text will be *Walk In Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. [You may purchase the book through Amazon, here.](#) A limited number of books will be available in the office to borrow if you are unable to purchase one.

Sign up in any of the following ways:

- o Email Priest-in-Charge Weston Mathews rector@stfrancisgreatfalls.org
- o Use the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table at the entrance of the church
- o Call or visit the parish office 703.759.2082 x101



SAVE THE DATES:

Second Sunday Contemplative Worship Series begins

Sunday, February 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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 also be offered by a member of St. Francis.

This worship series will be held on the second Sunday night of each month (except for August.) If you are looking for a new or different 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.



**Scout Sunday is Coming
to the February 9th 10:00 a.m. Service**

Please be sure to welcome a number of St. Francis Scouts and their families for this special service that features boys and girls helping to lead worship. Some St. Francis Scout alumni will be present and are encouraged to attend.



*You are cordially invited to join your fellow Franciscans
at a Black Tie Dinner and Auction*

**Saturday March first
Two Thousand Twenty-Five
At six o'clock in the evening**

St. Francis Millen Hall Ballroom

Tickets: \$95 per person

[Please click here to purchase dinner tickets](#)

(Select *Black Tie Dinner* in the drop-down menu)

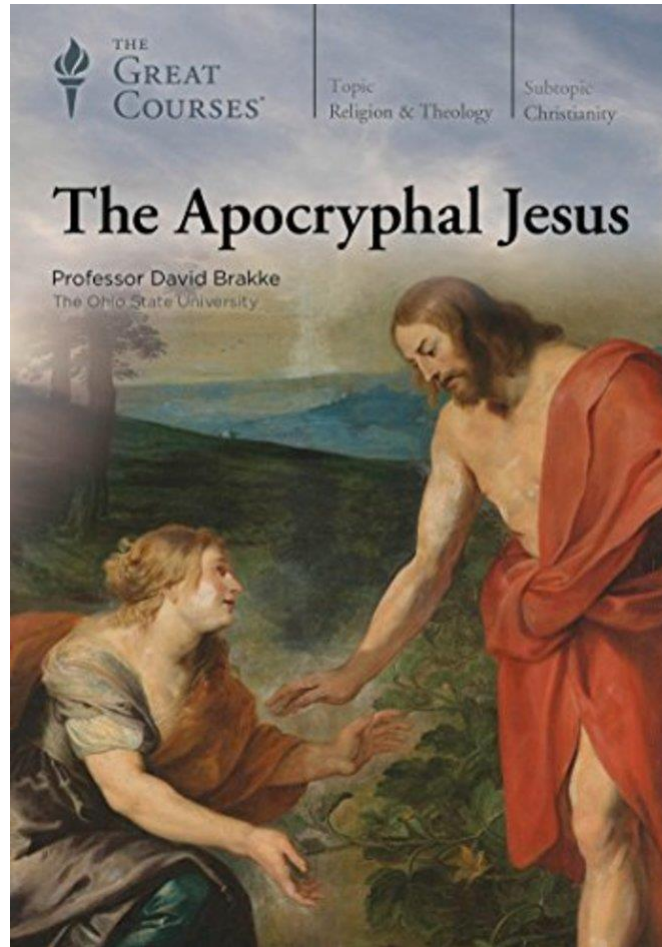
OR

Mail payment for dinner tickets to

St. Francis Episcopal Church

9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066

Tickets must be purchased by Friday, February 21, 2025.



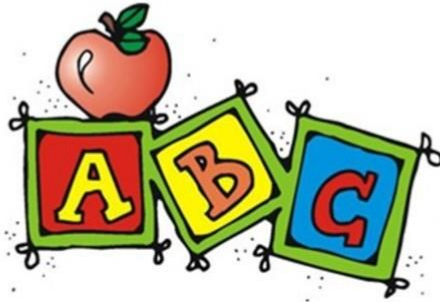
SAVE THE DATES: Sunday Evening Lenten Series on "The Apocryphal Jesus"
March 16, 23, 30, & April 6, Fellowship and Simple Supper begins at 6:00 p.m.; 30-minute Great Courses film begins at 6:30 p.m.

Gain a new perspective on early Christian life and history through non-canonical Christian literature, led by Dr. David Brakke of The Ohio State University. Sessions will include these topics:

- Jesus and Mary in the Proto-Gospel of James,
- Young Jesus and the Infancy Gospel of Thomas,
- Sayings of Jesus from the Gospel of Thomas, and
- The Gospel of Judas's Gnostic Vision

The Creche Preschool

**Enrolling Now
for Fall 2025!**



- For children ages 2 to 5 years old
- 2,3,4 and 5-day classes
- Extended Care
- Outdoor Classroom
- After School Enrichment Program
- Summer Camps

Contact us:

Phone: (703) 759-2522

Email: creche@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

Website: www.stfranciscreche.org



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. She will enter your name on the chart.



Nursery Attendant Assistant Needed

St. Francis currently has a wonderful nursery staffed by Rita Arteaga, a paid attendant with loads of childcare experience, and one volunteer. But we're running short of volunteers, and we'd like to find a second paid attendant to be in the Sunday nursery every week from about 9:45 to 11:30. If you know of someone, especially a nanny or someone else with childcare experience, who would be willing to work on Sunday mornings, please contact the church office admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org. Anyone who is hired will need to complete 2 hours of online training (required by the Diocese) and will be paid for the training time.



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

For ages 16+: Contains adult language, existential crises, and dark humor.

To purchase tickets, please visit the Dark Horse Theatre box

office: www.darkhorseva.com More information to come, tomorrow.

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.

Reading and Discussing CS Lewis's "Mere Christianity", beginning this WED and the first assignment is the Preface, Ch 1 and Ch 2. Join us every WED morning: All are welcome.

Questions? Contact Stu Edwards 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 via Zoom on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join and participate in interesting discussions. Current study: "Blessed are you: The beatitudes of Jesus in scripture and in life"

<https://kerygma.com/collections/kerygma-resources/products/blessed-are-you>

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 if you would like to volunteer for this ministry or if you have any questions.

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

through our new
website stfrancisgreatfalls.org:



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

- 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

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

2025 Vestry Members

Lynda Davis, Senior Warden

(Junior Warden TBD)

Cathryn Lee, Register

Kathy Anderson

Chris Giragosian

Elizabeth Kim

Jessica Maxson

Larry Pratt

Steve Riihimaki

Pepin Tuma

Molly Reynolds, serving Treasurer

treasurer@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager

facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org