



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Weekly Franciscan

Thursday, April 3, 2025

The Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 6, 2025

You are welcome to the

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

10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Eucharist Rite II with
the Rev. E. Weston Mathews, Celebrant & 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 | [Isaiah 43:16-21](#)

The Response | [Psalm 126](#)

The Second Reading | [Philippians 3:4b-14](#)

The Gospel Reading | [John 12:1-8](#)

Parish Prayer List

We pray especially for James, Holly, Nan, Marlene, Betty, Dana, Luke, David, Barbara & Bill, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Lawrence, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Clara Sue, Grace, Debra, Taylor, and Dut.

We pray for Mel Diaz & Lillian Moring as they prepare for Holy Matrimony.

We pray also for Franciscans who are currently preparing for Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reception into The Episcopal Church, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE



St. Francis
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

April 13: Palm Sunday

- **8:00 a.m.** Rite I (traditional language) Holy Eucharist
- **10:00 a.m.** Rite II (contemporary language) Holy Eucharist with the St. Francis Choir
- **5:00 p.m.** Contemplative Worship (from the Iona Celtic tradition) with reflector Lynda Davis

April 16: Memorial Service for long-time Franciscan, Nick Haight

- **11 a.m.** Memorial Service in the sanctuary followed by a reception in Millen Hall. All are welcome to show up and surround the Haight family with love as we remember Nick's life and resurrection.

April 17: Maundy Thursday

- **7:00 p.m.** Maundy Thursday with the St. Francis Choir & the St. Francis Altar Guild

April 18: Good Friday

- **Noon** Good Friday spoken service
- **Noon to 3:00 p.m.** Great Falls Area Ministries (GFAM) *Seven Last Words* service at [Dranesville Church of the Brethren](#)
- **7:00 p.m.** Tenebrae service with the combined St. Francis & St. John's Choirs; held at [St. John's, McLean](#)

April 20: Easter Sunday

- **7:30 a.m.** Rite I (traditional language) Holy Eucharist
- **8:50 a.m.** Prelude* / **9:00 a.m.** Rite II (contemporary language) Holy Eucharist with Choir & Festal Brass
- **10:00 a.m.** Children's Easter Egg Hunt in church backyard & Potluck Brunch in Millen Hall
- **10:50 a.m.** Prelude* / **11:00 a.m.** Rite II (contemporary language) Holy Eucharist with Choir & Festal Brass

*Prelude Music: Selections from Handel's Messiah





Stephanie Flack



Sasha Beresovsky



Diana LeGrand

Sasha Beresovsky & the Paragon Philharmonia Dvorak Piano Quintet

Saturday, April 5th, 7:00 p.m.

at St. Francis Church

Paragon Philharmonia Piano Quintet

Diana LeGrand and Stephanie Flack, violins

Matthew Maffett, viola

Rachel Sexton, cello

Sasha Beresovsky, piano

Pedro Giraudo - A Octavio Brunetti

Dvorak - Piano Quintet in A Major

Latin GRAMMY Award winner bassist and composer Pedro Giraudo is among the most compelling tango artists today. *A Octavio Brunetti*, originally written for violin, bandoneón, piano & bass, is a song of friendship dedicated to pianist Octavio Brunetti (1975 – 2014). Both Brunetti and Giraudo were beer enthusiasts, and during one of their manu tours of Japan, they came up with a ditty with the Japanese lyrics: Biru No-mou-ze,” which means “let’s have a beer!” They would play or whistle the motive after a long day of rehearsals. When Giraudo embarked upon writing a piece for his dear friend Brunetti, he remembered the motive, and

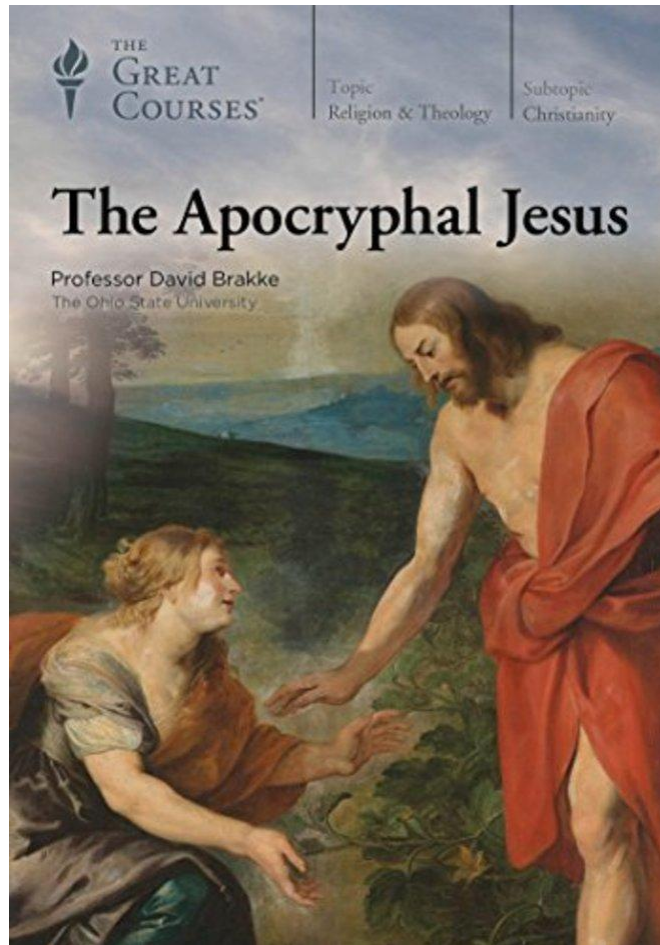
constructed a full tango borne of levity but bedazzled with bleaker harmonies. The whole piece is based on that theme and idea.

Antonin Dvorak's second piano quintet is considered one of the most iconic works in the repertoire, with soaring lyricism and scintillating virtuosity. In his own musical language, Dvorak incorporates aspects of Czech folk music, including the dance forms of the Dumka and Furiant interpreted in a romantic style.

[PURCHASE TICKETS HERE](#) **Tickets may also be purchased at the door.**

Tickets may also be purchased with check. Please include title of concert in the memo line. Mail to:

Paragon Philharmonia
c/o Stephanie Black
3437 Austin Ct.
Alexandria, VA 22310



**Sunday Lenten Series on
"The Apocryphal Jesus"**

**April 6, Fellowship and Potluck Brunch begins at 11:30 a.m.;
30-minute Great Courses film begins at 6:30 p.m.**

The Gospel of Judas's Gnostic Vision

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.

**From Our Music Director, Larry Vote:
Lent & Holy Week Music Notes**

As we move through Lent toward the Feast of the Resurrection, I take this opportunity to offer a few comments on the music we have presented and will present through Easter Sunday. First, thanks to all who attended our performance of *Via Crucis* by Franz Liszt on March 22. This emotional and moving composition featured pianist Sasha Beresovsky and the St. Francis Choir in music that interpreted the fourteen Stations of the Cross through music and slides depicting the passion of Christ. The concert was well attended by both parishioners and community members.

We continue to prepare special music for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. On Palm Sunday, April 13, we will all sing the beautiful hymns "All Glory Laud and Honor," "O sacred head sore wounded," and "Ah holy Jesus." The Choir will perform a poignant motet by the Baroque composer, Heinrich Schutz. On Maundy Thursday, April 17, we will sing "The Church's one foundation" and "Sing my tongue the savior's glory" and the Choir will present *If ye Love Me* by Thomas Tallis. Following the stripping of the Altar we will all sing a Taize setting of "Stay with me" as the Eucharist is carried to an altar of repose.

All are encouraged to attend a joint service of *Tenebrae* on April 18, Good Friday, at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's, McLean. Our Choir will join the St. John's Choir in the singing of psalms and canticles of this beautiful service.

Finally on Easter Sunday, April 20, at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, the choir will be joined with trumpets and will present two choruses from Handel's *Messiah*. The first will be the dramatic conclusion of the oratorio, *Worthy is the Lamb*, that will be sung as a prelude to the service beginning approximately at 8:50 am and 10:50 am respectively. Plan to come to church early on this day to hear this monumental music. Of course, we will sing many joyful Easter hymns as well. It is a day that we look forward to after the forty days of Lenten introspection.

I thank you all for your support of music at St. Francis. We are growing in so many exciting ways, be it at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Eucharist, the monthly contemplative service or the non-liturgical concerts such as *Via Crucis* or presentations by Amadeus, The Paragon Orchestra, and Words&Music. These concerts allow you to have an intimate musical and spiritual experience, close to the performers, and in an exceptional acoustic. It is a wonderful ministry for our parish and community.



DONATIONS FOR EASTER MUSIC & ALTAR FLOWERS

On Easter, St. Francis is beautifully decorated with hydrangeas, and we also have special music during Lent and Easter. Franciscans make special Easter donations to the Altar Guild and the Music program to support these efforts. 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 it directly to the church office at 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. To have your memorials or thanksgivings listed in the Easter bulletins, your donation needs to be received by **Palm Sunday, April 13** OR if you prefer to contribute electronically,

1. From the website www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org, click on the DONATE button.
2. At the drop-down, choose to direct your gift to Music or Altar Guild. *(If you wish to split your contributions, please submit two transactions.)*
3. Email the parish administrator admin@stfrancisgreatfalls.org to communicate your dedication for your gift. Thank you.



Easter Potluck Brunch!

During the children's Easter Egg Hunt (around 10 am on Easter Sunday), it is a St. Francis tradition to have a casual brunch. It's a wonderful way to welcome newcomers, visitors, and the many people we don't see very often. But we need help! Please consider bringing a breakfast dish to share--savory or sweet. You don't need to sign up anywhere; just bring a favorite dish to the church kitchen before 10 am. The warming trays will be on, and there will be people to help. Thank you!!

Questions? Contact Leslie Siegmund at lesiegmund@aol.com



**DONATIONS OF SMALL WRAPPED CANDY,
STICKERS or TOYS**

are requested to help make the **Annual
Easter Egg Hunt** on **Sunday, April 20th at
10:00 a.m.**; a very special occasion for the
youngest among us!

Please drop your “stuffable-into-eggshell”
donations at the Parish Office by Sunday,
April 13th. Thank you.



**LIVING WITH GRIEF: Next Meeting is Tuesday, April 8th at 10:30 a.m.
in the St. Francis Sanctuary.**

Living with Grief



Living with Grief is a professionally-led bereavement group open to adults suffering the loss of a loved one(s).

2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month
10:30am - 12pm
starting March 25, 2025

St. Francis Episcopal Church
9220 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066
(Group will meet in the sanctuary)

ALL community members are welcome.
Free of charge.

For More Information
or to Register:

Contact Cate Riihimaki, LPC at
cate@graymattersva.com





Photo by Lynda Davis

Second Sunday Contemplative Worship Series continues on Sunday, April 13th, at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Reflector: Lynda Davis, Senior Warden

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.



Creche Happenings

This week at the Creche was extra special! We had a visit from the Petting Zoo, and the children were thrilled! Lots of giggles, squeals and laughter!



THE COMMUNITY & ST. FRANCIS

Would you be interested in working with a team of Franciscans and local gallery owner, Sylvanna VanderPark to plan a special community arts weekend at St. Francis in 2026? If intrigued and interested, please contact your St. Francis Arts & Music Vestry liaison, Jessica Maxson jessica.c.maxson@gmail.com or Sylvanna VanderPark syl@wolfgangandluke.com. Besides being the Wolfgang & Luke Art Studio owner, Sylvanna is also a co-chair of the Great Falls Art Studio Tour.



Peabody Premieres



Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Saint Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066

Professor Michael Kannen highlights up-and-coming musicians from the storied Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. This Amadeus Emerging Artists program brings new talent and fresh perspectives to your ears. Beethoven's Sonata No. 4 for cello and piano and his Piano Trio No. 1 headline the repertoire.

Tickets \$50; Young Adults between 19 and 29 can purchase tickets for \$25;
Students 18 and younger and active-duty military admitted free of charge.

[Buy tickets online](#) or at the door



Amadeus Concerts programming is supported, in part, by ArtsFairfax, and by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Amadeus Concerts thanks our 2024-2025 Season Corporate Sponsors: Dominion Law Group, McLean Racquet & Health Club, and The Virginian.

Amadeus Concerts • PO Box 543 • Great Falls, VA 22066

703.759.5334 • www.amadeusconcerts.com

A. Scott Wood, Artistic & Executive Director

Give the Gift of Life This Lent:**Lilly Joy Kishore Memorial Blood Drive**

This Lent, let us embody Christ's selfless love by participating in a special memorial blood drive in honor of Lilly Joy Kishore who passed away in June 2021. Lilly was a lifelong resident of Great Falls who sought ways to help those in need and give back to the community. Lent is a time of sacrifice and reflection, a time to draw closer to God by giving of ourselves. What greater gift can we offer than the gift of life? By donating blood, we can help save lives in our community and honor Lilly's memory in a truly meaningful way.

Details:

* **Date:** Sunday, April 13

* **Time:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

* **Location:** Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department, 9916 Georgetown Pike

* **To Sign Up:** <https://bit.ly/GFVFD0413> -or- call 1.866.256.6372, use code 7376

* **Walk-ins welcome!**

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT ST. FRANCIS

Morning Prayer offered MON-FRI, at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom and , Lenten Evening Prayer offered MON-FRI, at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

Zoom ID: 955 4706 9137; 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 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**

through our
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@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

Ms. Shannon Kegley, Bookkeeper

Mr. Dominic Pelegrin, Sexton

Ms. Rita Arteaga, Nursery Attendant

Ms. Lynn Fallon, Parish Administrator

2025 Vestry Members

Lynda Davis, Senior Warden

Pepin Tuma, Junior Warden, Christian Formation

Cathryn Lee, Register, Christian Fellowship

Molly Reynolds, Treasurer

Kathy Anderson, Worship & Spiritual Care

Chris Giragosian, Mission & Mission Partnerships

Elizabeth Kim, Evangelism & Communications

Jessica Maxson, St. Francis Music & Arts

Larry Pratt, Stewardship & Fundraising

Steve Riihimaki, Family Ministries & Creche Board

Brice Eldridge, Facilities Manager & Creche Board Chair

facilities@stfrancisgreatfalls.org

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