

Announcing the Rev. Joy Y. Warburton as St. Francis's Associate for Family Ministries

April 19, 2025

We are excited to announce that the Rev. Joy Y. Warburton, currently a Senior at Virginia Theological Seminary, has accepted a call from the Vestry to serve as our Associate for Family Ministries. She will begin her tenure at St. Francis on August 1, 2025.

From Priest-in-Charge, Weston Mathews:

"The addition of a full-time Associate for Family Ministries in the Rev. Joy Warburton is a tremendous gift not only to the children, youth, and parents of St. Francis and the St. Francis Crèche School, it is also a gift to our whole parish. Every parent, grandparent, child, teenager, college student, Scout, Young Men's Service League of Great Falls member, and Crèche family is part of one body in Christ at St. Francis. I am grateful to work alongside the Rev. Joy, to support her many gifts for ministry, and to see her grow as a clergy leader here."

From Search Committee leader, Nate Ambler:

"Our search committee was united in sensing that the Rev. Joy's warmth, wisdom, and experience made her a wonderful fit for St. Francis. We are excited to welcome her into our parish family and look forward to all the ways she will enrich our community, especially with our children and families."

From St. Francis Crèche preschool Director, Cristi Leslie:

"After meeting Joy and experiencing her genuine warmth and kindness, as well as her love for children, I am thrilled that she will be coming to St. Francis. I am excited to work together with her to support the children and families of St. Francis and the Crèche!"

From Treasurer, Molly Reynolds:

"Having known and worked with the Rev. Joy years ago when she was Administrative Assistant at St. Francis, I was delighted to hear that she had

applied for the position of Associate for Family Ministries. Now she has accepted the call to that position, and I am thrilled and excited to have her among us. We are blessed that the Rev. Joy will be joining us as we continue to grow and strengthen the St. Francis community.”

From the Rev. Joy Y. Warburton:

Dear Members of St. Francis,

It is with great joy and anticipation that I introduce myself as your new Associate Rector for Family Ministries.

I am honored to join this welcoming and faithful community, dedicated to growing in and sharing God’s love. I currently reside in Woodbridge, Virginia, and will be graduating this May from Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS)—a joyful milestone that marks the end of a rich season of formation and the beginning of this new chapter in ordained ministry with you.

My husband, Edmund, and I are proud parents of two adult children, Elaine and Cameron, and my own experience of family life continues to shape and inspire my vocation. I am deeply committed to supporting families in all their forms as they seek to grow in faith, deepen their spiritual lives, and participate fully in the life of the Church. I look forward to walking with you in this next season—praying, learning, and growing together as we seek to follow Christ in our shared life and ministry.

With gratitude and anticipation,

Joy Y. Warburton