

Summer 2015

# THE *Spirit* OF ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church | San Antonio, Texas



## Feels Like Family

Parishioner Larry Perry on His New Role  
as Director of Faith Formation Ministries





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#### ON THE COVER

Larry Perry, wife Edna, and children Laura and Marcos on a family vacation in Ireland in 2014.

## The *Spirit* of St. Francis

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## BUILDING on our *Strengths*

### New Directions in Faith Formation

By Rev. Larry Christian, Pastor

I take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Larry Perry, of our parish, as the new Director for Faith Formation Ministries in our parish community. Larry is known to many of our parishioners for his involvement in ACTS retreats, youth ministry, RCIA, adult education, and many other facets of our parish life. Miriam Flores will continue to coordinate our Elementary level formation, including First Communion preparation, and Monica Harness will continue to work with our Middle Schoolers and Teens. Both of them will report to Larry, and he will directly coordinate our Adult Faith Formation.

But this is not simply a shift in some of our personnel for formation in our faith. This is also a particular emphasis on building a small community approach to how we teach our faith and in how we live it. Many of our Catholic churches have become de-facto mega-churches! That is, as in the case of St. Francis, we have become a community of several thousands of households! It's easy for things to get lost in the shuffle of a large institution. So, how do we foster discipleship with Jesus, a knowledge of the teachings of our faith, and a sense of being part of a community? By developing smaller communities of faith within our larger community.

This will be the added emphasis in our religious formation as this year unfolds. We want to foster a deeper sense

of community among our children, our teens, and our adults! We hope for our people to learn their faith, and even more, to live it! This can only happen when we establish relationships founded on faith and learn the meaning of being Christ's Church. So, religious formation is about the knowledge and experience of our faith. When Jesus' first followers wanted to know more about what Jesus was teaching his response to them was, "Come, follow me." We, too, must learn how to follow the Lord.

We are building on our strengths! I am so grateful to the many who generously offer their time and service as catechists and volunteers. Without them we would have no platform on which to build. I am grateful to all who participate, or have participated in Small Church Communities in our greater parish community. The experience of sharing faith, prayer, and the struggles of life together is an inspiration. I am grateful for the volunteers who help with our teens, who teach, cook, go on retreats, transport the baggage, and all the little things it takes to help our youth. I am grateful to those who come to Theology Cafe, or Sunday morning faith formation. You get to benefit directly from all we try to offer in deepening our understanding of the faith. Let us follow our Lord in discipleship together, and let's build on our strengths! ■

# a new Sunday afternoon

Elementary Faith Formation  
Introduces New Class Time  
Sundays at 3:45 pm

By Charles T. Ramirez

"When I heard about the new Sunday afternoon class for my children," said Claudia Harrison, "I felt like my prayers were answered."

Like many families, Claudia, her husband Marc, and their three children Maxwell, Dominic, and Audrey have busy schedules, striving each week to balance work, school, and faith formation. Claudia recalls her excitement when she heard St. Francis of Assisi would offer a Sunday afternoon elementary faith formation class in the fall.

"In the past, we have always signed up for the Sunday morning class," said Claudia, "but Marc often works weekends so the afternoon class is much more convenient for us."

Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator Miriam Flores knows the importance of balancing family life with faith formation. As a wife and mother of four, she relates to parents' need for more convenient class times, a conversation she started years ago.

"Since beginning Sunday morning classes two years ago, Sunday has been our most popular day," said Miriam. "We decided to add the afternoon class as another option for families to enroll their children in faith formation on our most popular day."

The afternoon class was designed to better facilitate Sunday as a day for family and faith. The class time meets the needs of parents with children in all grade levels.

"The 3:45 pm afternoon class offers faith formation for kindergarten through 8th grade," said Miriam, "and it's scheduled to end just before the 5:00 pm Mass so that families can attend Mass together. Then, after Mass, high school students can attend Life Teen."

Claudia agrees that the new afternoon class is planned perfectly for her family.

With two children in elementary school and one in middle school, she could not have imagined a more convenient schedule.

"The afternoon class is so much better for us because we can all go to faith formation and then go to Mass," said Claudia. "Our son in middle school will benefit from experiencing the 5:00 pm Mass as he prepares to start Life Teen in 2016."

Miriam emphasizes the irreplaceable role that parents play in their children's faith. One-hour weekly classes serve only to compliment children's faith formation at home.

"Parents are the primary catechists of their children," said Miriam. "What we do in the classroom is just support. We rely on parents to play an active role in

forming their children in their faith by teaching them about their faith at home, bringing them to class, and, most importantly, modeling how to live that faith."

Claudia registered her children for the upcoming school year during early registration in May, saying that the online registration made it easy to complete.

"I was very glad that we got to sign up our children before the summer started," said Claudia, "They are really excited for a new Sunday afternoon." ■

## Save your seat!



Classes begin Sept. 13. Register at [www.sfasat.org/FaithFormation](http://www.sfasat.org/FaithFormation) or scan this QR Code.



From Left to Right: Dominic, Marc, Maxwell, Claudia, and Audrey Harrison.



FR. SERVANDO CELEBRATES

# One-Year

IN OUR COMMUNITY

Story and Photography by Charles T. Ramirez

“I’m amazed at how much love parishioners have for the Lord and for each other,” said Fr. Servando. “The Lord has opened my eyes to a wider experience of what His kingdom looks like.”

Fr. Servando Guerrero serves as the parochial vicar of St. Francis of Assisi, assisting the pastor in ministerial responsibilities. In May of this year, he celebrated one year as a priest and, in July, he celebrates one year at the parish. He says he still feels like he was just ordained yesterday, waking up daily in awe at what God has called him to do.

“I enjoy being in a sense of discernment every day,” said Fr. Servando, “I

discern what I have been called to be and how I exist in the world as a servant, a person of faith who experiences joy as I give my life away in ministry.”

Upon ordination in May 2014, Fr. Servando says he remembers initially feeling astonished and afraid. But after the Archbishop assigned him to St. Francis, he could not believe he would start his priesthood with the person who was pivotal in his seminary formation, Fr. Larry Christian.

*“Parishioners embrace everyone on a **human level**. I love to see a church where love is **tangible**.”*

His wisdom has taught me how to balance every area of my ministry.”

After arriving at the parish, Fr. Servando says the community further rekindled his spirit and reinvigorated his convictions.

“My spiritual life has been grounded in the encounter with God in the joy of this great community,” said Fr. Servando. “St. Francis parishioners embrace everyone on a human level and I love to see a church where love is tangible. This community made me feel at home from the beginning.”

## Selfies in the Heart

Fr. Servando begins each day with Mass either at the parish, at a local hospital or nursing home, or at another church in need of a priest. Father might continue with anointing the sick at care facilities before lunch and return to the office to counsel individuals in the afternoon. He also attends various meetings throughout the week as an apprentice to the pastor in administrative leadership.

Fr. Servando says that providing sacraments to the elderly is one of the priceless blessings that he treasures. His ministry brings him laughter while keeping him focused on his vocation.

“In one of the care facilities, there is a lady in her 90s who says that I look too young to be a *real* priest,” said Fr. Servando, laughing. “Another lady that I visit tells me that I could be her great-grandson.”

While many people post ‘selfies’ on social media, Fr. Servando says that moments like these are “like selfies in my heart, priceless moments that cannot be seen by the world but exist in the simplicity of my ministry.”

Other encounters in ministry keep him humble and focused.

“I also often visit people in the memory care unit,” said Fr. Servando, “but they do not always remember me. This has taught me that ministry is not





about me; it's not about titles or accomplishments. It's about emptying my life for others."

## Always Learning

Fr. Servando holds a B.S. in Computer Science Designs, a B.A. in Philosophy, and a M.Div. in Theology. He says that learning, however, is a life-long process that never really ends.

"There is a reason why we go to school, but there are many things in ministry that are beyond books and dissertations," said Fr. Servando. "I try to always be aware and open to the Lord's will, knowing that everything I do and experience as parochial vicar will be crucial for my ministry in the years to come."

Fr. Servando says that one of his biggest insights comes from witnessing the entire cycle of life, sometimes on a daily basis.

"It's both a blessing and a challenge," said Fr. Servando, "to accompany a person's journey of life and faith, to rejoice with families at times of birth, to mourn with families at times of death. My experience at St. Francis has enriched everything I learned throughout my years of seminary formation."

Additionally, parish youth give him hope for the future of the church and the world.

"I have been enlightened by children I see weekly who are eager to learn and the teens that bring other teens into faith," said Fr. Servando. "When I see them, I see hopeful leaders in the Church and society in the years to come."

Fr. Servando says that he continues to learn a great deal about himself, citing parish social events as a major factor that helps him develop as a person.

"Last year at Karaoke Night, a parishioner invited me to sing a duet by Enrique Iglesias ironically titled, 'To All the Girls I Loved Before,'" said Fr. Servando, laughing. "That night, I learned to laugh at myself and be okay with it. At St. Francis, I have learned to become more human."



## Future Roads

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, Archbishop of San Antonio, reassigned Fr. Servando to St. Francis of Assisi for another one-year term. Fr. Servando says that he is excited for the future of his ministry at the parish.

"I am part of a great team of staff who works in coordination with multiple councils and parish leaders," said Fr. Servando, "I know that my function for this second year will include more active participation in some ministries and organizations as well as in the administrative aspects of leadership."

Fr. Servando says that everyday is a beautiful journey. He welcomes the gift of his vocation and sees opportunity in every moment.

"I embrace and love all the amazing opportunities the Lord places on my path," said Fr. Servando. "My hope is that my presence at St. Francis adds exactly what I received upon my arrival: peace, love, and friendship." ■

**Opposite Page:** Fr. Servando sings at Karaoke Night 2014.

**From Top to Bottom:**

- » Fr. Servando surprised middle schoolers when he arrived unexpectedly at Vacation Bible School and participated in outdoor games. He greeted them with high-fives.
- » He spoke to children about the Holy Eucharist at the Moms Ministry event, The Last Supper for Children.
- » Fr. Servando washed the feet of several parishioners during the Holy Thursday washing of the feet tradition, including families and children who call him their friend.
- » Here, he poses after Mass at one of the local senior care and assisted living facilities that he visits.
- » He celebrates Mass on Pentecost Sunday.
- » He shares a laugh at Karoke Night 2015.





# Making History

## Two-Steps at a Time

By Charles T. Ramirez



“It became the responsibility of the laity to build the church community,” said Celina Rios-Mullan, speaking on the early days of the parish, “and that responsibility remained strong because we were so small at the time. Our members created the St. Francis of Assisi culture that makes us so different from other parishes today.”

Since a small group of faithful families founded St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in 1980, parish membership continues to skyrocket, currently gaining approximately 25 new families each month. Such an exponential growth illustrates the welcoming, animate spirit of the community. Building a resilient, expanding community, however, doesn't happen overnight.

Father Greg Nevlud, pastor from 1988-1990, led the charge for planning and implementing community social events that we still have today, including the summer family ice cream social and the back-to-school country dance.

“Fr. Greg started social events that really brought our community together,” said Celina. “He had a gift. He was only here for two years but he did so many things to create a deeper sense of community.”

The dances, in particular, allowed parishioners to let loose and enjoy a good time together beyond the liturgy and outside of organization affiliations. As sponsored by the parish, these dances remained free, encouraging wide attendance by parish families and extended members.

“I love parish dances,” said Celina. “We always had one around January and one in the summer and they were always free. Paying for a dance is so contrary to our dance history. It's nice that the current summer dance remains free.”

Parishioner Andy Parsons and his wife, Ann, attended last year's dance for the first time and were happily surprised.

“I'm not much of a country-western guy,” said Andy, “but we really enjoyed it. We had a lot of fun last year and we really look forward to this year's dance.” ■





## DanceDetails

August 1, 2015

Henke Hall

Free Admission & BYOB

6:30 pm Dance Lessons

7:00 pm Dance



# Building Community Through Music

## Cactus Country Leader Discusses Vocation

By Charles T. Ramirez

Cactus Country lead vocalist and co-founder Brenda Dlugosh loves performing for crowds. Playing for sold-out venues around the state, including the State Fair of Texas, she says that music is her vocation, one that she shares with band co-founder and husband, Tony Franckowiak. Excited to perform at the Family Summer Dance on August 1st and at the Parish Festival in October, she recalls that the band's relationship with the parish was a seed planted long ago.

Attending grade school together at St. Benedict Catholic School in San Antonio, Brenda and Tony first connected through their love for music. Wanting to give back to their home parish, they started playing at the folk life Mass on Sundays in 1973 at the request of then pastor, Fr. Jim Henke, who would eventually become pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in 1991.

"Tony and I had started playing at folk Masses at St. Benedict's," said Brenda, "that's the parish we grew up in and Fr. Jim eventually married us."

Brenda and Tony's love for music led them to gather a few more talented musicians and play at St. Benedict's parish festival in 1975.

"After a couple of years," said Brenda, "we played for the parish festival and put together some country songs. That's the first big event we played as Cactus Country."

From there, the band grew to fame. However, even with much success, Brenda says she and Tony always put their faith first, knowing that their careers started at a small Catholic church.

When Fr. Jim Henke became pastor of St. Francis of Assisi, he invited Cactus Country to perform at a few dances, a tradition that continues today. Though Cactus Country performs around the state, Brenda says they particularly love playing at Catholic events.

"You always have families here," said Brenda, "and the community always enjoys each other's company. We have a great time performing when the band sees that the crowd is having a good time and sees all the smiling families out there dancing with their kids."

Brenda says that music is her vocation in life. She knows that the power of music builds community and loves that she can take part in this holy mission.

"Tony and I are currently also music ministers at Holy Trinity," said Brenda. "Music is my vocation, I know that I am meant to do this. It's the same for all the members of the band. We feel this is our calling. You just know it inside. We love what we do." ■

**Above:** Brenda sings at the keyboard while husband Tony (seated) plays the pedal steel guitar.

**Right:** Brenda leads line dancing at the 2014 summer dance.





# Family Man of Faith

## Introducing the New Director of Faith Formation Ministries

By Charles T. Ramirez

“Serving in various forms of ministry has always been a part of my call in life,” said Larry Perry. “It feeds me and nourishes me, helping me to be a better person, a better husband, and a better father in my own family.”

This July, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church welcomes long-time parishioner Larry Perry as the new Director of Faith Formation Ministries. Larry’s experience, background, and education compliment his active discipleship in several ministries and organizations.

As a parishioner for over 26 years, many parishioners call Larry their friend. He has seen St. Francis of Assisi blossom into a beautiful, vibrant community of disciples. He has experienced the growth, the change, and the blessings that compose this parish’s great history. His seasoned experience in parish ministry gives Larry a keen understanding of

faith formation, suiting him for the new position unlike any other.

I had the opportunity to talk with Larry about the new journey on which he is about to embark. He shared his history with St. Francis of Assisi, thoughts on faith formation, and future goals as he steps into this new role. We also discussed family life, hobbies, and favorite reads.

*CR: We are so excited to have you on staff, Larry. You are definitely no stranger to our community. In fact, you have been a parishioner at St. Francis longer than any staff member has been on staff.*

LP: That’s right. My wife Edna and I have been very proud members of the St. Francis of Assisi parish community for more than 26 years. With our children Laura and Marcos, St. Francis has been our home and has nourished us and supported us as a family. It’s hard to imagine not being a part of St. Francis. It is a great pleasure to look across the altar on Sunday and see so many wonderful faces of friends whom I have come to know over the years. This community has truly become the Body of Christ for me. I look forward to getting to know so many more new faces that have been added as members of our community.

*CR: Many people know you through your involvement in various ministries and organizations. Talk a little about your participation in parish life.*

LP: I have been part of the RCIA formation team for 25 years. I have served on numerous Men’s ACTS retreat teams as well as Teen ACTS teams. Edna and I are part of a small church community group that is celebrating our 20th year together. I have been part of the Men’s Spirituality group, served in the Mobile Loaves and Fishes ministry, and continue to help the Men’s Club with their quarterly chicken barbecue. I have participated in the Confirmation program as a member of the formation team and have sponsored some of our young adults. I also had the great pleasure of traveling to Notre Dame with a group of our teens for the Life Teen Leadership conference.

From Left to Right: Marcos, Edna, Laura, and Larry Perry.





*CR: Your experience in the community has given you a keen, unique perspective as a parishioner. Now, as a staff member, you will be on the other side of that fence. How do you feel as you begin your new position as Director of Faith Formation Ministries?*

LP: I feel blessed to be offered, at this stage in my life, an opportunity to serve full-time in our community as the Director of Faith Formation Ministries. Serving in various forms of ministry has always been a part of my vocational call in life. I have felt drawn to be involved in ministry, formation, and spirituality. It feeds me and nourishes me, helping me to be a better person, a better husband, and a better father in my own family.

I believe that faith formation lies at the very heart of who we are as a community and a parish family. To draw closer to God, to know God's presence in our lives, to listen closely to God's call and discern where this call is leading us is why we exist as a parish and sacramental presence in this world. It is a great pleasure and privilege to be involved in such a great work.

*CR: You have had a lot of ministry experience and hold a Master of Divinity degree from Oblate School of Theology. What is your vision of faith formation?*

LP: During my years of service in RCIA and ACTS retreats, I have come to believe that, while information and education is important and necessary, the real goal of all that we do is essentially connected to formation. It is not so much about what we know but rather who we become. While it is important to be knowledgeable in our faith, the purpose that is served in that knowledge is that we should become more closely formed in the image and likeness of God.

It is about forming our minds, but even more importantly it is about forming our hearts. This is the goal of formation. It is not just an understanding of

what these might be. But rather, formation is about changing our hearts and minds, our bodies, our souls and our lives into the body of Christ. Continuing to do what we are already doing so well and looking for other ways in which we can further the cultivation of this rich harvest in our community and our individual lives – this is the hope and goal of all that I could wish to be a part of accomplishing in faith formation ministry.

***"It is about forming our minds, but even more importantly, it is about forming our hearts."***

*CR: Your strong sense of spiritual development has also radiated into other parts of the city. Tell me about your involvement in the ACTS Spiritual Companion formation program at Oblate School of Theology.*

LP: Along with Sr. Frances Briseño (former Pastoral Associate), I helped to put together and teach the very first ACTS Spiritual Companion Formation program in which approximately 20 members of our parish participated. This program, I am proud to say, through the hard work of others such as Rose Mary Lopez and Sr. Frances, has now been adopted by ACTS Missions and is being offered at Oblate School of Theology as a formation program for those who wish to serve their parishes in this ministry. I continue to work with them by facilitating and teaching with them at Oblate School of Theology.

*CR: Your family has been a huge support for you, walking together on the journey of faith. Talk a little about them.*

LP: My wife is Edna Torres-Perry. She has dedicated herself to a long career in education and, after more than 30 years in public education, she is now teaching at Providence High School. More importantly, she has taught me about generosity and what it means to love.

Our children are Laura and Marcos. Laura recently graduated from The University of Texas in Austin School of Com-

munication with a degree in public relations and business. She is now working in Austin. Marcos is a senior at Texas State University School of Business and is scheduled to graduate in May 2016. I

am very proud of them and blessed by their love. They have been deeply involved in St. Francis of Assisi in the Teen ACTS retreats and in LifeTeen.

*CR: What do you like to do to relax outside of ministry?*

LP: I really like to spend time at home with my family, although I also love when we are able to travel together. My favorite hobby is golf but it seems that there is rarely time to do very much of that. And where would I be without the gifts of friends and family? Wonderful friendships, many of which have formed at St. Francis of Assisi, are a rich source of life for me as well.

*CR: What is your hope for this next stage in your journey?*

LP: I hope to serve our community and to continue to develop all those areas where our parishioners are served and are serving. Those who have gone before me have done so much great work and I hope that I can continue to build on what they have already accomplished. I also pray that, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can work together, to accomplish what the Spirit calls us to now. ■



Larry stands with his wife, Edna Torres-Perry.

## More Online



Check out a full list of Larry's favorite books and see more photos at [www.sfasat.org/perry](http://www.sfasat.org/perry) or scan this QR Code.



# GIVING *Hope* TO THE Future



## Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry Inspires Discipleship

By Charles T. Ramirez

“The mission of Mobile Loaves & Fishes is to provide food, clothing, and dignity to those in need,” said president Julie Mellin, “and we do that weekly with 450 volunteers and one delivery truck distributing over 100 meals at lunch and dinner to 24 different locations in San Antonio, totaling over 1400 meals a week.”

Since its inception at St. Francis of Assisi in 2007, the Mobile Loaves & Fishes ministry has provided over 300,000 meals to the hungry across the city. Julie says that Mobile Loaves & Fishes gives parishioners a concrete opportunity to practice and spread discipleship because volunteers give immediate support to people in need.

“If a person in need knows they can count on us for that one meal, then that’s one more meal that they don’t have to worry about,” said Julie. “And the meal bags are full, designed theoretically to provide a meal now and something to eat later.”

### Partnering to Serve Hope

When Haven for Hope opened in downtown San Antonio in 2010, it changed where and how Mobile Loaves & Fishes served the people in need. The city placed an ordinance that prohibited food distribution to anyone downtown in order to encourage those individuals in need to take advantage of Haven for Hope.

Though this ordinance changed the landscape of Mobile Loaves & Fishes,

Julie says it has turned into a beautiful partnership with Haven for Hope.

“We provide 1,400 meals per month to Haven for Hope downtown that go to individuals in need there,” said Julie. “There are many homeless people who, through various circumstances, may have a job but may not make enough money to afford an apartment or house rent. Our meal may be the lunch that they take to go to work that day.”

Julie says that the delivery truck stops are now routed strategically to help those most in need in San Antonio, targeting

working-poor neighborhoods with many children and elderly.

“Our food truck serves in working-poor neighborhoods where many families are food insecure, meaning that they may have a job and a secure source of income but they are not sure if their money will stretch for enough food for the week,” said Julie. “On Fridays and Saturdays, we try to visit those communities that we know have lots of kids because usually they are in school receiving free lunch and possibly breakfast. But then they hit the weekend and the food supply might turn unstable.”

### IN EACH BAG

Turkey & Cheese Sandwich  
Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich  
Piece of Fruit  
Bag of Chips  
Hard-Boiled Egg  
Box of Raisins  
Bag of Carrots  
Cookies  
Granola bar  
Peanut Butter Crackers



### Inspiring New Generations

When third-generation parishioner Andrew Allen needed an idea for his Eagle Scout project, he immediately thought about Mobile Loaves and Fishes. He called president Julie Mellin with the desire to help the outreach organization in a lasting way.

Julie mentioned to Andrew that the storage warehouse housing clothing and food donations needed some reorganizing. But Andrew wanted to do more than that. He decided to increase the space for



donations by revamping the entire storage shelving.

"He basically analyzed the back of the warehouse," said Julie, "did research on shelving, and went to the people who do shelving for HEB. They not only helped with the design but donated some funds for the project."

With a few supportive volunteers, Andrew spent the two weekends before and after his 2015 spring break remodeling the Mobile Loaves & Fishes Warehouse.

"Andrew not only got the funds donated," said Julie, "he also got the labor from the Boy Scouts, the Men's Club, and Mobile Loaves and Fishes. He got all three organizations working together."

The new storage space amazes Julie each time she sees it, knowing that it allows the ministry to store more donations that will help people in need. She says that it's incredible how a small idea from a young parishioner can positively affect an entire community.

"It's a fantastic, huge benefit for us," said Julie. "We probably almost doubled our storage space."

The parish community thanks Andrew Allen for his vision, his work, and his inspiring example of discipleship. ■

**Photo Opposite Page:** A boy stands with an apple from his lunch meal behind the delivery truck on a meal route.  
**Below Clockwise:** Andrew Allen stands in between Nicholas Trujillo (left) and Bryce Harris (right); the storage facility after project; the facility before.  
**Photos provided by Mobile Loaves & Fishes.**

## GET INVOLVED

### Volunteer

Mobile Loaves & Fishes offers several ways to volunteer:

- Make sandwiches
- Boil eggs
- Pack lunches
- Deliver meals
- Sort clothing donations
- Pick up food from food bank
- Keep dry food items stocked

### Donate

If you missed the July 18-19 collection, the upcoming 2nd Collection for Mobile Loaves & Fishes will be on October 24-25. You can also donate securely online anytime by visiting [sfasat.org/MLF](http://sfasat.org/MLF) or scanning this QR code.



### Connect

See more photos at [sfasat.org/MLF/brothers](http://sfasat.org/MLF/brothers)  
For more information, contact Julie Mellin at 210. 416. 4536 or [MLF@sfasat.org](mailto:MLF@sfasat.org).



## Summer Snapshot: Mission Work

Each summer, St. Francis of Assisi celebrates two annual traditions in missionary work. First, our teens travel to Eagle Pass, Texas to repair homes of impoverished families while teaching children scripture with daily bible studies. Second, our Living Water Mission group travels to impoverished countries (this year, Haiti) to drill a well to provide clean, running water for the local community. Check out a snapshot of our community's mission work.



Learn more & see more photos.  
Visit [www.sfasat.com/snapshot](http://www.sfasat.com/snapshot)



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# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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## *Pray Together*

### Mass Celebrations

Sat 5:00 pm  
Sun 8:30 am | 11:15 am | 5:00 pm  
Mon, Tue, & Thur | 8:30 am  
Wed | 6:00 pm  
Fri | 6:30 am

### Reconciliation

Saturday | 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### Liturgy of the Word & Communion Service

Monday - Thursday | 6:30 am

### Faith Formation

We offer programs for elementary, middle, and high school levels, including preparation for baptism, first communion, and confirmation.

### Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Visit Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
Mon - Sat from 7:00 am - 9:00 pm.

Photo: St. Francis of Assisi Music Ministry leads the National Anthem at the San Antonio Missions baseball game on June 20, 2015.

## *Save the Date*

### August

- 1 | Cactus Country Summer Dance
- 9 | Social Sunday
- 16 | Spaghetti Luncheon
- 30 | Pancake Breakfast

### September

- 13 | Faith Formation Classes Begin
- 13 | Social Sunday
- 17 | Women's ACTS Retreat Begins
- 27 | Pancake Breakfast

### October

- 4 | Parish Festival
- 25 | Mobile Loaves & Fishes  
(2nd Collection)

