

THE *Spirit* OF ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church



Fall 2018



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Cover Photo: Children process to the Day Chapel for Children's Liturgy of the Word during a Sunday Mass.
Photo by Kenneth Caruthers

The *Spirit* of St. Francis

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Comments? Questions? Creative ideas? Awesome! Talk to Kenneth. Email him at kcaruthers@sfasat.org.



Creating Greater Engagement as a Vibrant Parish

By Kenneth Caruthers

At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, our focus is always on our mission in everything that we do. Rather than taking a maintenance or self-preservation approach, our mission directs our efforts to be a vibrant parish.

One definition of the word “vibrant” is full of energy and enthusiasm. We certainly believe that describes our parish community! According to LPi, there are four quadrants that make up a vibrant parish.

The first quadrant is discipleship. We know that in giving, we receive. Sacrificial giving rejoices in the abundance of God's providential care for us. Our parishioners' generosity in living a stewardship way of life helps us to serve the widest possible community with the best possible expression of God's love and grace. Our Pastoral and Finance Councils ensure a commitment to a healthy organization and work diligently to be good stewards of all our resources.

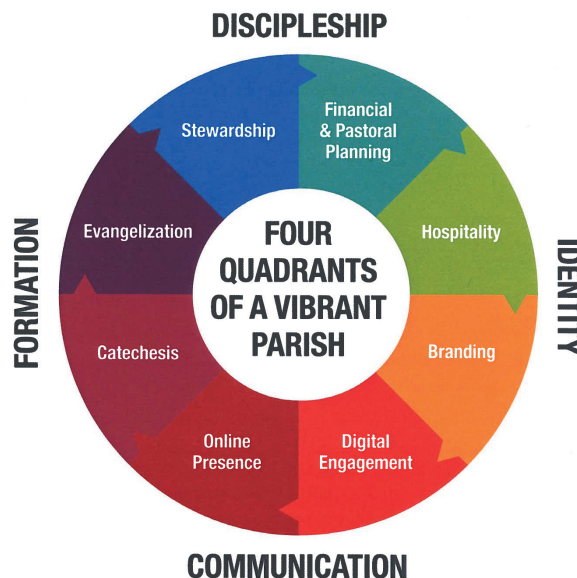
The second quadrant is identity. Our hospitality and welcoming nature are staples of our parish, and our consistent branding in accordance with our style guide helps foster recognition and belonging.

The third quadrant is communication. We have an expansive online presence

with our website, social media sites, and email pushes, and we're always exploring new avenues of digital engagement. In September, we launched our new parish app. With its wealth of resources and ability to instantly communicate with parishioners, our app is one way we continue to push forward with our digital engagement. (See page 10 to read more about our app!)

The fourth quadrant is formation. According to LPi, “Vibrant parishes embrace the opportunity to evangelize, educate, and empower their parishioners in their faith development.” We know that we, as the parish, are the primary source of Catholic formation for many families. We offer faith formation classes at every level, from pre-school through adult. Our Advent and Lent parish missions, ACTS retreats, Bible studies, parish pilgrimages, Small Church Communities, Vacation Bible School, and other ministries deepen our formation throughout the year. Our various outreach ministries allow us to put our faith into action through evangelization.

As a vibrant parish, St. Francis continues to create greater engagement for our parishioners as we seek to better know, love, and serve Christ as one Body in Him.



Four Quadrants of a Vibrant Parish graphic courtesy of LPi.



A Letter from the Pastor

Reflecting on over Two Years at St. Francis of Assisi

By Rev. Tony Vilano with Sr. Rose Kruppa, CDP

My brothers and sisters,

As I reflect on the two years I have ministered as your pastor, I am continuously grateful for all the ways that God has blessed this community. You live community in every sense of the word: you love and serve each other with generosity and grace, you accompany each other in joy and sorrow, and your love for God and neighbor is evident. You live your faith!

Being your pastor is life-giving and I thank God for the privilege and honor of serving here, in this place, in this community. I encounter people at their most important seasons of life and celebrating those moments helps me to realize that God is truly at work within your lives.

One of my greatest sources of pride for me is the many ministries that reach out to others, especially those who are suffering. Many of the leaders of the organizations are looking for opportunities to collaborate on projects that serve the entire parish community. I thank you for your leadership and for your participation in all of these efforts.

After two years in ministry here, I am also becoming aware of the ways in which our parish continues to grow. Each month we welcome many new parishioners who choose to make themselves known in our community through formal registration. Many of these are young and single; others

have young families. These new members have shared their gifts, especially in the Young Adult Ministry, the Moms Ministry, ACTS retreats, and as liturgical ministers. I see you actively engaged and I see you responding to God's call to serve.

As I look to the future at St. Francis, I hope that we continue to build upon the love that exists in our parish. It is obvious to me that we not only worship at St. Francis, but we also are part of a deanery in our archdiocese. We reach out to those in need when disasters strike. We build affordable housing in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity in the U.S. as well as in other countries, and access to clean water is made possible in Central America through our work with Living Water International.

We also continue to open our hearts to the growing Spanish-speaking community in our midst. Our relationships with our brothers and sisters at St. Timothy's and Immaculate Conception can become even stronger as we continue to get to know each other and the needs of our communities. Many opportunities to know, love and serve God await our YES! Let God's word take root within your life! I pray that you continue to respond to God's call to you to grow in holiness and that you enjoy the rewards of serving God with your whole being!



Meet our 2018 family! Pray Meh is a single mom who is raising four children (Bae Reh, 18; Oo Reh, 16; Bu Reh, 14; Maw Julie Meh, 7). She is super excited to be a part of Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio's home buying program and the opportunity not only to help build her four-bedroom affordable home but to also learn all about homeownership in the Homeownership Readiness Classes.

"I am a single parent raising four children. All I want is to be able to provide a better home for them, and with the help of Habitat I will be able to do that. They are all so happy that they will have their own rooms. Thank you, Habitat, for giving us this opportunity!"

Since 1999, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church has teamed with Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio, Inc. (HFHSA) to build an affordable home every fall here in San Antonio. This year, our build ended on November 3, with the dedication ceremony to take place on November 17. All are invited to join us to hear from the new homeowners and tour the newly constructed homes. There will be music and plenty of delicious food.

Please visit www.sfasat.org/habitat to find more information about Habitat for Humanity with St. Francis or contact Rich Osgood at osgood@sbcglobal.net.

Top Photo: Fr. Tony Vilano greets parishioners after celebrating a Sunday morning Mass (Photo by Kenneth Caruthers).



Creating Greater Engagment among Young Adults

Young Adult Ministry Continues to Grow in Numbers and Enthusiastic Service

By Kenneth Caruthers

Welcoming, encouraging, inspiring, and reinvigorating. These are four words that a parishioner used to describe St. Francis of Assisi's Young Adult Ministry.

Since its inception at St. Francis in 2016, the Young Adult Ministry has continued to flourish and has given adults in their twenties and thirties a way to come together to participate and serve in the life and ministry of the parish community as well as our greater San Antonio community.

Leslie Hernandez, who moved to San Antonio from Reno, Nevada, credits the Young Adult Ministry with engaging her in parish life at St. Francis.

"I think the Young Adult Ministry is a great way to learn more about how to get involved in the parish if one isn't exactly sure where to start," Leslie said. "Through our group meetings, I was introduced to the Mobile Loaves & Fishes ministry and adult faith formation. I have also seen group members encouraging each other to attend ACTS retreats. I myself became involved in ACTS and am now a member of a couple of Small Church Communities. Without this fellowship, I'm not sure I would have had the same exposure to all that St. Francis has to offer."

Andreina Calzada listed an active young adult group as an essential feature of a new church community when she moved to San Antonio. She also became involved in other parish ministries through the Young Adult Ministry; this year she is assisting with the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children.

"When I attended St. Francis, it just felt like home from the first time I stepped inside the church, and I was super excited when I found out there was an active young adult group," Andreina said. "Our Young Adult Ministry brings together individuals who are striving to grow in their faith and seeking community. The

friendships I've created through this ministry are very dear to my heart."

The Young Adult Ministry gathers on the first and third Wednesday of each month for its meetings. Originally, the young adults met in the Martha Room, but they have since moved to the library for the much-needed extra space to accommodate the increased attendance they have been experiencing. Another move may be in store soon as numbers continue to grow.

Each meeting starts at 6:30 pm with time for socializing and prayer. One or two young adults lead the discussion on a topic they have prepared using video resources or scriptural reflections. Past topics have included Catholic social teaching, responsible use of social media, building habits for a solid and consistent prayer life, and finding God in everyday life. The young adults finish the meeting with announcements and intercessory prayer.

"Our meetings are always full of faith, fellowship, and friendship! It's inspiring to get to know one another through our discussions, and I enjoy seeing everyone at our meetings," Andreina said.

Many of the young adults say these meetings give them the opportunity to dive deeper into their faith, and they often learn something new from the discussion or a question someone asked.

"It's always encouraging to be surrounded by people who share your faith and your values. For me, spending time with our Young Adult Ministry helps to reinvigorate my faith on a regular basis and inspires me to learn more and grow as a Catholic," Leslie said.

Beyond regular meetings, the Young Adult Ministry also takes time for social outings and volunteer service. Recent events have included hiking and stargazing at Enchanted Rock, Topgolf, and a movie night. Events like these allow the young adults to grow in fellowship with one another.

In addition to their monthly meal prep and delivery with Mobile Loaves & Fishes, the young adults packed toys, sunscreen, and other goodies they purchased into treat bags to distribute to children on their MLF delivery run in May to help the kids celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer (Photo by Larry Perry).

On the third Saturday of every month, the Young Adult Ministry volunteers with St. Francis' Mobile Loaves & Fishes ministry. Heather Maiuri, one of the original members of the Young Adult Ministry, began the partnership with MLF, and Chelsea Betancourt now serves as the young adults' liaison with MLF. The young adults do meal prep and deliver to Cielo Hills Apartments and St. Francis Cabrini.

In addition to this monthly meal prep and delivery, the young adults volunteered for the parish's annual Habitat for Humanity build as well as the Parish Festival.

"I'm personally very proud of how welcoming and inclusive our group is. It can be very hard for someone to feel welcome somewhere they are brand new. However, as someone who has been on the receiving end of our group's hospitality, I can honestly say that from day one I have always felt welcome, and I have seen this same acceptance extended to others as our group has expanded," Leslie said.

Andreina agrees, attributing close fellowship and a willingness to serve with building up this community of young adults.

"When I went to a meeting for the first time, everyone was so welcoming and sweet," Andreina said. "That is always the case when we have any new people come!"

The Young Adult Ministry realizes how important it is for young people to be actively engaged in the Church.

"The youth of the Church are the future leaders of the Church, which is not a light responsibility. As faith becomes less common amongst our peers, being involved in the Church is vital to ensure that our beliefs and our traditions live on. Not only that, but staying active sets an example for those who may be looking for a parish to call home or for those who need a little encouragement on their faith journey," Leslie said.

Members of the Young Adult Ministry take this responsibility to heart. Tom Bitsis, for instance, was a leader on the 2018 Casino Night planning committee, served on the last men's ACTS retreat team, and is currently the Assistant Director of Technology for Young Catholic Professionals San Antonio. While secular concerns like building careers take up a lot of time and energy for young adults, they know that spiritual development is just as important during this phase of their lives.

"We are called to be saints, and our young adult years are ones that truly shape us into who we were created to be," Andreina said.

Young adults interested in joining the Young Adult Ministry are invited to come to any of the group's meetings. They can also find the group on Facebook at www.fb.com/groups/sfayoungadult, send an email to sfa.youngadultgrp@gmail.com, join the group in the parish app, or contact Kenneth Caruthers or Larry Perry in the parish office.



Top circular photo: The Young Adult Ministry hosted Young Catholic Professionals' Executive Speaker Series in Henke Hall on March 6, 2018 (Photo by Kenneth Caruthers). Bottom photos: The Young Adult Ministry plans at least one social event a month. Past socials have included Catholic Night at the Rampage game, Fiesta events, a movie night, a trip to an art museum, solving an escape room, and Topgolf. The young adults meet twice a month and volunteer with MLF once a month (Photos courtesy of the Young Adult Ministry).



Creating Greater Engagement through Leadership Opportunities

New Leaders Gain Valuable Experience by Working alongside Those with Years of Service

By Kenneth Caruthers



Greater engagement starts with strong leadership, and St. Francis of Assisi is blessed to have several dedicated parishioners leading our organizations and ministries.

Our 13th annual Casino Night in June 2018 was made possible by a healthy mix of experienced and new leaders on the planning committee. Tom Bitsis, who headed the gaming portion of the event, was one of these new leaders on the committee. He saw Casino

Night as a great opportunity to get involved in the parish as a follow up to the St. Francis men's ACTS retreat he made in January 2018.

"My favorite part was being able to mingle with fellow parishioners and help out our sister parishes. It was very rewarding to be able to give back such a large amount to them," Tom said.

Tom pointed out how important it is for younger parishioners to put themselves in leadership roles as the future of our parish and the Church.

"Not only do we gain valuable experience, but it is also a good opportunity to learn from others in leadership roles who have been involved for quite some time," Tom said.

Through committed leadership and great engagement from the parish, the Men's Club raised a record \$51,000.00 at this year's Casino Night, a 70 percent increase from the previous Casino Night!

This year Marcelo Gamez was elected Grand Knight of Knights of Columbus Council 15240. He and his wife, Clara, have continued the work of Jaime and Janet Piedra, who preceded them as leaders of the Knights and Ladies Auxiliary, in supporting organizations and ministries inside and outside the parish through collaboration, fundraising, and service. Recruitment numbers increased after they stressed that women do not have to be married or related to a Knight to join the Ladies Auxiliary. Both the Knights and the Ladies Auxiliary exhibit leadership in creating greater engagement through their willingness to serve with a tremendous spirit of hospitality at a moment's notice, whether it be for a funeral reception or a big event like the Parish Festival.

The Silver Stars create greater engagement for parishioners 50 years of age and older by meeting regularly to socialize and support each other through prayer and friendship. The Silver Stars leadership board for this year consists of Bob Bonner, Andy Parsons, Juan Cruz, and Judy Nicastro. Andy was happy to step into a leadership role for the Silver Stars because he enjoys representing such a vibrant, dedicated group.

"The Silver Stars leadership has so many interesting events planned this year, including our upcoming Christmas event at Maggiano's on December 3. We also like being able to support other ministries when we can by collecting items for those in need. For example, we collected diapers and baby wipes for children at St. PJ's Children's Home at our Labor Day Potluck and Bingo," Andy said. "I invite those interested in learning more about the Silver Stars to visit www.sfasat.org/silverstars."

Jessica Kozak is creating greater engagement for married couples in the parish through a new monthly marriage ministry called Fourth Friday for Us. This ministry strengthens sacramental marriages by fostering a community of mutual support through date nights that affirm spousal love, provide continual learning, and encourage spiritual growth.

"God kept putting something in my heart to find a way to connect others through inspirational talks that bring couples together on a regular basis, so that's how Fourth Friday for Us became a reality," Jessica said.

As the name of the ministry indicates, each date takes place on the fourth Friday of the month, excluding November and December. The date starts at 6:30 pm at St. Francis with social gathering time, followed by a 20-minute talk before couples depart for an offsite date, equipped with reflection questions about the talk for discussion during their offsite date. Topics include forgiveness, managing finances, and family of origin. Those interested in Fourth Friday for Us can learn more and register at <http://sfasat.org/4thfriday4us>. Childcare is provided during Fourth Friday for Us with advanced notice.



Top: The Knights of Columbus hosted our Fish Fry every Friday during Lent, serving with a spirit of hospitality (Photo by Jose Gallardo). Middle: The Men's Club organized our annual Casino Night with a mix of new and experienced leaders on the committee (Photo by Andy Parsons). The Ladies Auxiliary welcomed new members with a Meet and Greet (Photo courtesy of Ladies Auxiliary).

Creating Greater Engagement through Outreach and Social Action

Living Out Catholic Social Teaching through Our Ministries

By Sr. Rose Kruppa, CDP

What is Catholic Social Teaching and where does it come from? Along with the commandments to love God and neighbor, the Catholic Church—that is the popes, councils, and bishops—in their wisdom and teaching responsibility have identified seven key themes at the heart of Catholic social tradition. These seven priorities consist of the following:

- Life and dignity of the human person
- Solidarity
- Care for God's creation
- Call to family, community, and participation
- Option for the poor and vulnerable
- Rights and responsibilities
- Dignity of work and rights of workers

At St. Francis, we often invite parishioners to participate in outreach ministries to people in need, perhaps not realizing how we are living out the Catholic social justice tradition. Perhaps it's only a matter of making the connections to these teachings.

Habitat for Humanity International and Living Water International provide



housing and water resources to the most vulnerable in the world while forming community between us and the recipients of our ministry. Those served also learn how to care for God's new creation among them. Our Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Loaves & Fishes address the needs of our local brothers and sisters for food, rent, and utilities. Our teens annually refurbish buildings and the faith of the youth in Eagle Pass, Texas.

During this past Lent, 22 of us made a pilgrimage of solidarity to one of our Sister Parishes, St. Timothy's. We prayed the Stations of the Cross by reflecting on the realities of suffering people of the West Side. Our prayer culminated with celebrating Resurrection—the 30 year history of improvements made to alleviate suffering through the organizing efforts of COPS/Metro. Many of the sufferings involve predatory pay-day lending, violence, lack of affordable housing, healthcare, and education.

If you'd like to learn more, the depth and richness of this Catholic tradition is best understood by reading the documents of the Catholic Church.

International Parishioner Outreach

Tess and Rufino Navalta (left) departed for the Philippines in July for mission work. The Navaltas have made several trips to the Philippines for mission-related work, and their compassionate service has touched many lives.

Ginny Scherer (right) began a two-year assignment in Belize City with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in July. Ginny is living in community with other Jesuit volunteers and is working for Hand in Hand Ministries.



Top: Our Living Water International missionaries drilled a well in El Salvador in July to provide clean water to the community (Photo courtesy of John Trusela). Middle: St. Francis parishioners made a pilgrimage to one of our Sister Parishes, St. Timothy's, during Lent (Photo by Andy Parsons). Bottom: Students from Antonian volunteer with Mobile Loaves & Fishes (Photo by Gerry Caron).

Engaging the Whole Parish Community in RCIA

The Parish Community as the Curriculum for RCIA

By Sr. Rose Kruppa, CDP

The ministry of RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is to make disciples. To whom does that ministry belong? The answer is EVERYONE!

The St. Francis of Assisi parish community has bragging rights to the successful engagement of the entire community in RCIA. Newcomers to our parish and to Catholicism experience sustained, dynamic welcome. Seekers and explorers of the faith are formally welcomed at the Rite of Welcome, a beautiful ritual of acceptance and blessing for the journey. The naming of a sponsor from the parish provides the accompaniment, the consistent presence and encouragement to the candidate.

The parish community is the setting as well as the curriculum for RCIA. Those who are being initiated as adults observe and learn from all of their experiences of parish life. They learn how to know, love and serve God from the parishioners who are models for them. They come to recognize and experience Catholicism as a lifestyle. To be a disciple means to follow Jesus.

Many of us learned what it means to be Catholic through formal classes where we learned Catholic doctrine and practices through a catechism and instruction delivered by catechists. But for many in this country, that doctrinal teaching did not get integrated into a lifestyle. People got educated in the faith but are not living the

faith. They have come to be known as the “Sunday only” and “Christmas and Easter only” Catholics.

Today we learn to be Catholic through a process of conversion of hearts. We still learn the teachings of the church. We also learn to practice the commands of Jesus, to love God, our neighbor and ourselves. Many of us can identify specific times in our lives when we experienced conversion, a call to real change in our lives. We identify these as powerful, irresistible experiences of God in our lives. Perhaps an ACTS retreat, preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, the birth of a child, the death of a loved one, or a new awareness of what is most important in our lives invite us to make changes that witness to what is most important in life.

The continuous call to conversion means all of us embrace every opportunity available to us to learn more, to love more, and to practice what it means to be Catholic. The reception of sacraments is not a one-time event. Frequent reception sustains our faith, helps us to grow in compassion and mercy, and helps all of us to be mission-minded in our practice of our faith.

Our candidates learn from us. They depend on us for accompaniment and our prayers. We are the models of discipleship, of community, and of service.

If you would like to be a sponsor for RCIA, please contact Sr. Rose in the office.



RCIA formally begins with the Rite of Welcome and concludes after the Easter Vigil with a period known as mystagogy (Photos by Eric Bowden, Kenneth Caruthers, and Eileen Kleffner).



The Archdiocesan Capital Campaign is still underway. Our parish target is \$2,424,000.00, of which we will receive back 30 percent or \$727,200.00. If we go over our target, our parish will receive 65 percent of every dollar raised up to 150 percent of the target, and 100 percent of every dollar raised beyond that!

As of October 2018, we have 410 donors with \$1,906,987.00 pledged and \$912,013.71 collected. We thank everyone who has already donated or made a pledge to the campaign for their participation, and we ask those who have not yet donated to prayerfully consider contributing. Even the smallest gift brings us closer to our target and contributes to greater engagement!

You can learn more about the campaign and how it will address the needs of our community at www.sfasat.org/archsacapitalcampaign.



St. Francis of Assisi has met our 2018 parish goal of \$148,558.29 in cash received for the annual Archbishop's Appeal! This will help fund efforts to feed the hungry, protect the vulnerable, educate our children, grow vocations, and support over 40 ministries across the archdiocese.

If you would still like to make a gift to the Archbishop's Appeal, please visit www.archsa.org/archbishops-appeal or call 210-734-1604.

Creating Greater Engagement Among Our Youngest

Our Children Inspire Us on Our Own Walk of Faith

By Sr. Rose Kruppa, CDP

Visitors to St. Francis often comment on the presence and active participation of children in parish liturgies and other activities. This observation is followed by the question, "How do you get the kids to come to church and do that?"

Parents and other family members are the first to form their children in the faith. Praying simple prayers, recalling that God is always with us, planning and celebrating rituals with the family at home especially during Advent and Lent, conversations about Jesus, reflections on Scripture readings for children, and church attendance are some of the primary ways used to intentionally and consistently keep the Catholic faith alive in our families.

Jesus often used children as his focus. He reminded his apostles to "let the children" come to him. As they come to know, love and serve God, children often beckon and urge us to go deeper in our own spiritual lives.

One of the most familiar ways our St. Francis community engages children in church is through the Children's Liturgy of the Word. Seeing the children eagerly

approach the center of the sanctuary to be blessed and sent on their way to learn about Jesus puts a smile on my face every time. Our volunteer catechists lead them in understanding Scripture and applying what they hear to their personal and family lives.

A second inspiration comes to us from seeing our youngest members serving in liturgical ministries as greeters, altar servers and choir members. We witness the loving guidance of a mother or father as they accompany their children in these ministries.

Additional opportunities to learn how to love each other and work together are provided by faith formation classes at all levels, sacramental preparation, Small Church Communities (SCCs), Kids Day Out (KDO), and Mobile Loaves & Fishes where whole families can make meals for the homeless. The Boy Scouts assist with bussing tables at parish events, children often serve donuts at Social Sunday, and CYO athletes are coached and mentored by parent volunteers. A new addition at our parish is American Heritage Girls.

The youngest among us are some of our greatest disciples of Jesus!

Left: Lisa Keckler and her daughter Margaret altar serve at Mass. Center: A middle schooler sorts clothing for MLF during Vacation Bible School. Right: John Rodriguez and his son Ramiro serve together at Mass. (Photos by Kenneth Caruthers)

Vida Católica Cada Día Catholic Life Every Day

— St. Francis of Assisi App —

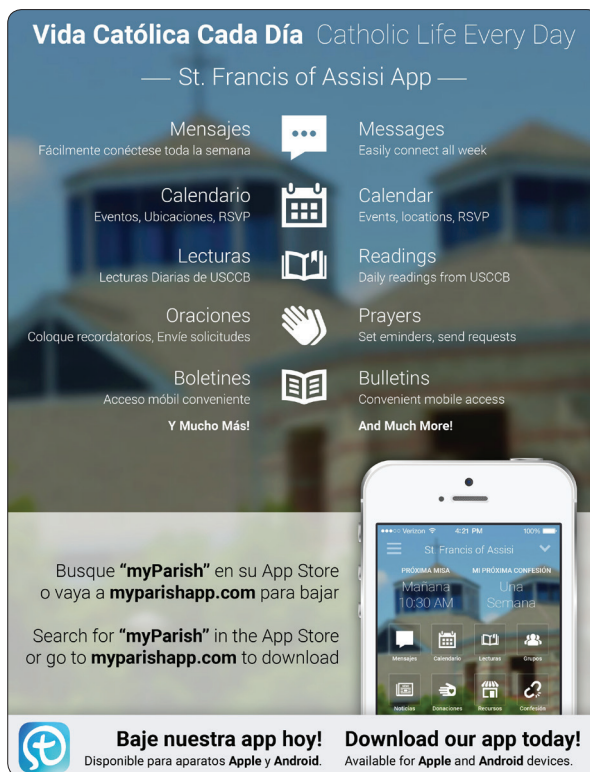
By Kenneth Caruthers

Our new St. Francis of Assisi app is now available to download for Apple and Android smartphones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications, quick access to online giving, Mass and Reconciliation reminders, access to prayers, daily readings, rosary recitations for each set of mysteries, and much more.

The app is an addition to our communication channels. We are still producing the weekly bulletin and email push. In fact, the parish app allows for quick, easy access to the bulletin and Sr. Rose's weekly email reflection, along with several additional features that you can't find in the bulletin or email push.

Some of those additional features include audio recordings of homilies from our parish as well as from Bishop Robert Barron and Fr. Mike Schmitz, updated obituaries for our parish, Franciscan Media's Saint of the Day, a video recording of daily Mass from CatholicTV, 3 Minute Theology from the

Diocese of Nashville, reflections from Scott Hahn, and so much more!



One of the most valuable features of the app is push notification messages.

This allows the parish office to instantly communicate with parishioners. This is especially useful in many situations. For example, if we ever have to close the parish office or cancel an event due to extreme weather, parishioners with the app will be the first to know and won't have to wait to receive an email or constantly check social media.

The app also offers a groups feature. Through this feature, parish ministries and organizations can communicate directly to specific groups of people. For instance, the Young Adult Ministry has been using the groups feature in the app to send reminders about upcoming meetings, to brainstorm potential discussion topics, and to highlight possible volunteer opportunities.

Help foster an even stronger parish life at St. Francis and better engage the New Evangelization by downloading our app! You can download our app today at www.myparishapp.com, text App to 88202, or search your phone's app store for myParish.

Join Us for Our Upcoming ACTS Retreats



An ACTS retreat weekend places great emphasis on community within our parish. Participants experience God's love and joy throughout the weekend and return to their faith community with a deeper love for each other and an increased desire to become more involved in their parish community. Learn more about St. Francis ACTS retreats at www.sfasat.org/acts. Registration for the men will open soon. Please contact Larry Perry in the parish office for more information about ACTS.

Men's ACTS	January 24-27	Omega Retreat Center, Boerne
Women's ACTS	April 25-28	Omega Retreat Center, Boerne

The St. Francis of Assisi November 2018 women's ACTS team meets for one of the weekly formation meetings leading up to the retreat (Photo by Eric Bowden).

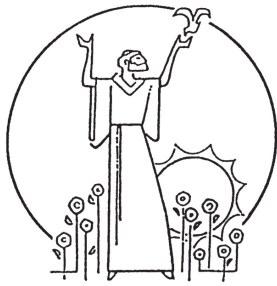


OUR PARISH FamilyTRADITION

Celebrating Our 38th Anniversary Festival



A great time was had by all at our Parish Festival on Sunday, October 7, 2018 (Photos by Eric Bowden, Kenneth Caruthers, John Halloran, and Monica Harness).



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

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Mass Celebrations

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am | 11:15 am | 1:30 pm (Spanish) | 5:00 pm

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday | 8:30 am

Thursday | 6:00 pm (Spanish)

Friday | 6:30 am | 12:00 pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday | 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Saturday | 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Liturgy of the Word & Communion Service

Monday - Thursday | 6:30 am



ON the WAY ¡ÁNDALE!

A CAMPAIGN OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

The Archdiocesan Capital Campaign
continues. Learn more about the campaign
at www.sfasat.org/archsacapitalcampaign.

Opportunities for Engagement

November

- 17 | Habitat Dedication Ceremony
- 17 | Life Teen Inspiration
- 18 | RCIA Rite of Welcome
- 22 | Thanksgiving Day
- 25 | Thanksgiving Food Drive Ends
- 26-28 | Parish Mission
- 28 | Parish Reconciliation Service

December

- 3 | Silver Stars Christmas Party
- 6-9 | Teen ACTS Retreat
- 7 | Immaculate Conception Vigil
- 8 | Immaculate Conception
- 9 | Social Sunday
- 12 | Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 14 | Advent/Christmas Concert
- 16 | La Gran Posada
- 24 | Christmas Eve
- 25 | Christmas Day
- 31 | New Year's Eve

Christmas Masses

December 24

4:00 pm (Church)

4:00 pm (Henke Hall)

6:00 pm

10:00 pm Caroling

11:00 pm

December 25

10:00 am (English)

11:30 am (Spanish)

*Please arrive early and make
room for others in the pew.*

