



## Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

# Forum

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 3, 2023

### *Lift up your hearts!*

At the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer we are told, “Lift up your hearts,” to which we respond, “We lift them up to the Lord.” In doing this we become a part of the heavenly choir of angels and saints who never cease praising God.

This is the heart of music ministry: to assist everyone in lifting up their hearts to the Lord. We do this by encouraging everyone to sing, by clothing with music the words of Scripture and the other prayers of the Mass, and by otherwise adding beauty to our celebration of the Liturgy.

As members of the heavenly choir, each one of you is a part of this mission. How? First, by your prayers. Music without prayer is like a body without a soul. Second, by your participation in the different parts of the Mass, whether spoken or sung. Not only will this benefit you individually, you will be encouraging those around you. How much easier it is to sing with confidence when you can hear others singing with you!

Third, by serving in a more formal way by joining one of our choirs or ensembles, or by auditioning to be one of our instrumentalists or cantors. We have opportunities for every sort of commitment level, from drop-in choirs to ensembles that have a separate weekly rehearsal. Don’t think of yourself as a singer nor play an instrument? Consider trying out handbells!

One of the easiest ways to get involved is by joining our Resurrection Choir, which sings for parish funerals. Members get notification for upcoming funerals, and come when they are able. Some people come to almost all of them and others only on rare occasions.

Maybe you’re interested, but you’re not sure who to talk to, or how to get started. Or maybe you’re not sure if it’s the right thing for you. If that’s you—or even if you’re just curious about the organ or a hymn that we sang—I invite you to come up after any Mass and introduce yourself to any of the musicians. We’d love to meet you! Or send me a note or give me a call.

Finally, to return to where we began: Lift up your heart to the Lord! As Bishop Boyea wrote in a recent Friday memo, “What is happening is not just that the angels are present with us as we worship, but we are actually lifted to the heavenly realm to join with the angels as they continually worship God. This is really a meeting of heaven and earth here each Sunday around our parish altars.”

In Christ,  
Jonathan Hasey  
Director of Music and Liturgy  
jhasey@stfrancisa2.org  
(734) 821-2124

### *Mission Statement*

*We, the people of God of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit are called to continue the mission of Jesus Christ.*

*We dedicate ourselves to the fulfillment of this mission by proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom of God, by living in love and fellowship, by seeking nourishment in God’s Word and in worship and prayer, and by dedicating ourselves to the service of others.*

*Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, we pledge ourselves to be living witnesses of God’s presence to the world.*

## WELCOME!

Whether you come to us from across the street or from across the country, we are honored that you have chosen to spend part of your Sunday with us.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

The following masses are  
livestreamed at this time:  
10:30am on Sunday  
9:15 on Thursday

The Church is open for public prayer  
from 10am to 8pm on Saturdays  
and 8am to 2pm on Sundays  
8am to 6pm on Weekdays

**Weekend Mass:**

Saturday 5:00pm and 7:00pm. *en español*;  
Sundays 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 5pm

**Weekday Masses:**

In Church on Monday-Friday at 9:15am.

**Holy Hour:**

Live streamed Thursdays after 9:15am Mass.

**Daily Rosary:**

M—W, F at 8:45am  
Thursday as part of Holy Hour

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturdays from 3:30pm to 4:30pm

**Byzantine Vespers**

1st Sunday at 7pm

**Baptism:** A pre-baptism class is required  
before the baptism. For details and to  
register, contact Fr. Seamus at 821-2100  
or see the *Baptism* link at our website.

**Marriage Preparation:** Please call the  
Pastor to begin marriage preparation at  
least nine months before the proposed  
wedding date.

**Spiritual Direction:** Would you like to  
speak with a Spiritual Director? We have  
several commissioned in our parish. To  
contact one, please call Janene Ternes at  
734-436-1351.

**Letters of Good Standing:** To receive a  
letter of good standing from the parish to  
be a Baptism Godparent, Confirmation  
sponsor, or marriage preparation mentor/  
sponsor you must be registered,  
participating, and contributing to St.  
Francis Parish for at least 6 months prior  
to the request. *Requests must be made  
online at stfrancisa2.com/letters.*

**Are You Experiencing a Life-Changing  
Event & Need Temporary Assistance?**  
**Call the Parish Office** if experiencing  
difficult situations like serious illness, new  
baby, miscarriage, hospital recovery, etc.  
For help in the form of a compassionate  
ear, prayers, meals, laundry help,  
transportation, etc.

**2150 Frieze Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Phone: 734-821-2100 or Fax: 734-821-2102

**Office Hours**

Monday—Friday 8:30am-5:00pm, or by appointment.  
Please call the office for appointments.

**Parish Registration**

Register online on the parish website [www.stfrancisa2.com/im-new](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/im-new)

**St. Francis of Assisi Directory**

<b><u>Parish Team</u></b>	<b><u>Phone</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Email Address</u></b>
<b><i>Council, Commission &amp; Ministry Chairpersons</i></b>			
<b>Pastor</b>	821-2100 .....	Fr. James Conlon .....	frjames@stfrancisa2.org
		<i>Pastoral Council, Mary Jane Tramontin .....</i>	<i>mjtram46@gmail.com</i>
		<i>Finance Council, John Dunlap.....</i>	<i>jhunlap123@yahoo.com</i>
		<i>Knights of Columbus, Wallerend Ezin, Grand Knight.....</i>	<i>GK8989@MiKofC.org</i>
		<i>Educational Trust Fund, Jeff Higgins .....</i>	<i>jchiggins27@gmail.com</i>
		<i>Assisi Center Construction, Dcn Tom Arehart.....</i>	<i>tarehart@stfrancisa2.org</i>
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	821-2100 .....	Fr. Seamus Kettner .....	frseamus@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Deacon</b>	821-2100 .....	Dcn Rich Badics .....	rbadics@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Deacon</b>	734-930-4536	Dcn Gene Leger .....	gleger@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Parish Office Admin. Assist.</b>	821-2100 .....	Julie Kanitz.....	parishoffice@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Parish Office Admin. Assist.</b>	821-2100 .....	Mark Kempton.....	parishoffice@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Parish Business Manager</b>	821-2111 .....	Robert Kehn, CMA .....	rkehr@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Bookkeeper (church)</b>	821-2112 .....	LaQuanda Marshall .....	lmarshall@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Bookkeeper (school)</b>	821-2113 .....	Jackie Pearson .....	jpearson@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Outreach, Service &amp; Justice</b>	821-2121 .....	Scott Wright .....	swright@stfrancisa2.org
		<i>St. Vincent Service Ministry, Thomas Mussio</i>	
		<i>Life, Peace &amp; Justice Ministry, Kelly Gauthier &amp; Dick Brown</i>	
		<i>Senior Citizen Committee, Sharon Wright</i>	
<b>Music &amp; Liturgy Ministry</b>	821-2124.....	Jonathan Hasey.....	jhasey@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	821-2123 .....	Susan Wawrzaszek .....	liturgy@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Adult Faith Groups &amp; Adult RCIA Ministry</b>	821-2122 .....	Kelly Hernandez.....	khernandez@stfrancisa2.org
<b>Religious Ed Director</b>	821-2132 .....	Ellen Ward .....	ward@stfrancisa2.org
		<i>Rel. Ed. Secretary 821-2130..Helena Bichakjian (habla español) ...</i>	<i>stfreled@stfrancisa2.org</i>
<b>School Principal</b>	821-2200 .....	Julie Pritzel .....	jpritzel@stfrancisaa.org
<b>Pre-K/ESP Director</b>	821-2290 .....	Christina Busse .....	cbusse@stfrancisaa.org
<b>School Secretary</b>	821-2200 .....	Aarika Stovcsik .....	school@stfrancisaa.org
<b>School Secretary</b>	821-2200 .....	Lou-Ann Morrill .....	school@stfrancisaa.org
		<i>School Improvement, Merrit Gilliland</i>	
		<i>ESP Committee, Jackie Lapinski</i>	
<b>Maintenance Supervisor</b>	821-2152 .....	Reynaldo Romero.....	rromero@stfrancisa2.org

**La Misa y Confesiones**

La Misa en español se celebra todos los sábados a las 7pm. Las confesiones están disponibles a solicitud antes de la Misa y la seguiremos transmitiendo en vivo: [stfrancisa2.com/misa](http://stfrancisa2.com/misa). Te gustaría pedir intenciones para algún ser querido durante la Misa, favor de traerla a la oficina parroquial. De lunes a viernes de 8:30 a 5pm.

**Clase de Preparación para Bautizo**

Si deseas bautizar a tu hijo, la clase de preparación para bautizo es necesaria. Por favor, contacte a Fr. Seamus Kettner [frseamus@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:frseamus@stfrancisa2.org).

**Sacramentos para Adultos (Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos)**

Esta preparación es para adultos que les falten los sacramentos como: Bautizo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación. Mayores informes, contacta a Kelly Hernandez: [khernandez@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:khernandez@stfrancisa2.org) (español) ó 734-821-212 (español)

**Acerca del Matrimonio**

Quieres prepararte para poder casarte por la Iglesia y ya estás casado por lo civil, pero quieres que esta unión sea bendecida en la Iglesia, contacte a: [parishoffice@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:parishoffice@stfrancisa2.org)

**Quinceañera**

Las fechas disponibles para las ceremonias de Quinceañera son el segundo sábado de cada mes a la 1pm. Se necesita preparación con anticipación asistiendo a clase o taller. Para más información, contacte a Sue Wawrzaszek: [liturgy@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:liturgy@stfrancisa2.org) (español o inglés) o 734-821-2123 (inglés)

**Preescolar y Escuela St. Francis**

Dales a tus hijos la oportunidad de estudiar en nuestra escuela católica. Más información: [www.stfrancisa2.com/school](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/school) Tenemos ayuda financiera para los que cumplan ciertos requisitos.

**Clases de la Fe o Catecismo para Niños de distintas edades (preK-8)**

Tenemos clases para niños en grados PreK-8 de la Fe católica y sacramentos como Primera Comunión (Eucaristía) y Confirmación. Este año estamos ofreciendo clases bilingües (Español e Inglés) los días Sábado de 5:30 a 6:45 pm con Misa en Español a las 7:00pm.

También tenemos clases disponibles los domingos para grados 1-8 de 9am a 10 am a la vez que para los grados de Preschool y Kindergarten de 10:30 a 11:45am mientras los padres asisten a misa. Otra opción de clases de Educación Religiosa, es los días miércoles de 6:30 a 7:30 pm. La forma de registro está aquí y en línea, la puedes encontrar en: [stfrancisa2.wufoo.com/forms/20212022-prek8th-religious-education/](http://stfrancisa2.wufoo.com/forms/20212022-prek8th-religious-education/)

Es muy importante atender la misa regularmente. La misa se celebra todos los sábados a las 7pm en Español y en Inglés los sábados a las 5pm y domingos a las 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm y 5pm.

Buscamos maestros para compartir la fe: si puedes enseñar, por favor contacte a Ellen Ward a [ward@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:ward@stfrancisa2.org) (inglés o español). Para más información, contáctenos (Helena o Ellen a [stfreled@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:stfreled@stfrancisa2.org) o 734-821-2130 (lunes a viernes 10am-4pm en español)

**En esta sección nos enfocamos en eventos de interés para personas que hablan español. Sin embargo, nuestra parroquia cuenta con varias actividades para incrementar nuestra fe. ¡Participa en la vida de nuestra parroquia!**

**¡Jesús te llama!**

**New Handbells and High School Ensemble Choir Director!**

Our long time director, Ginny Birchler, retired this summer after many years of faithful service to the parish. Thanks be to God--we found a wonderful person to take on those positions! We are very pleased to introduce our new handbells and High School Ensemble choir director, **Jennifer Orkisz**. She comes to us after many years of teaching middle school and high school vocal and bell choirs, and she is looking forward to using her skills and experience to serve in ministry. If you'd like to send her a welcome message, or find out more about either handbells or our high school music ministry, her email is [jorkisz@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:jorkisz@stfrancisa2.org).

**High School Ensemble starts 9/10**

After taking a break for the summer, the High School Ensemble will start serving again at the 12:30pm Sunday Mass on 9/10. If you're interested in being a part of this group, please contact HSE director Jennifer Orkisz or call the parish office for more information.



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**2023 Educational Trust Fund Benefit**  
**The Mustang Gala**

**MUSIC, MEMORIES & MILESTONES**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A SPECTACULAR EVENING!

**Saturday, October 7, 2023**  
**at 6 pm**  
**The Venue**

*Let's celebrate a milestone -20 years of the Benefit!*  
**THE EVENT FEATURES SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS, STROLLING DINNER, COCKTAILS, DUELING PIANOS AND MORE!**

**WWW.STFRANCISA2.COM/SCHOOL/GIVING/ETF-BENEFIT/**  
**TICKETS: \$200 EACH (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION AMOUNT IS \$100)**

**EMAIL : [ETFBENEFIT@SAINTFRANCISAA.ORG](mailto:ETFBENEFIT@SAINTFRANCISAA.ORG)**

## This Week at St. Francis

### Monday September 4:

- 9:15 AM **Mass:** Living and Deceased members of the Beh Family—Pauline Beh  
 7:00 PM Boy Scouts—PAC  
 7:00 PM Divorced/Separated—S. Library, Zoom  
 7:00 PM Christian Meditation—Zoom

### Tuesday September 5:

- 8:45 AM Rosary  
 9:15 AM **Mass:** +Patricia Ann Hayes—The Tom Cowhy Family

### Wednesday September 6:

- 8:45 AM Rosary  
 9:15 AM **Mass:** Living and Deceased members of the Beh Family—Pauline Beh  
 10:00 AM Gospel Group—Church Library

### Thursday September 7:

- 8:00 AM Women's Faith Sharing—Youth Room  
 9:15 AM **Mass:** +Anne Stemmerich—Family

### Friday September 8: Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8:45 AM Rosary  
 9:15 AM **Mass:** +Herman and Julia Bertl—Ruthann Distler

### Saturday September 9: Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest

- 7:00 AM That Man is You—PAC  
 3:30 PM Confessions  
 5:00 PM **Mass:** Intentions of Katie Lucas—Marty Lucas  
 7:00 PM **Misa en español:** +Dean Mualim—Yohanna Mualim

### Sunday September 10: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 AM **Mass:** +Joann Kirby—Cheryl Genord  
 10:30 AM **Mass:** St. Francis Parish Family  
 12:30 PM **Mass:** +Theresa Ohno—Rosa Ohno  
 5:00 PM **Mass:** Thanksgiving for our blessings—Anthony John and Family

For Daily Readings, see the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website at: [usccb.org/bible/readings](https://www.usccb.org/bible/readings)

## Allergies & Communion

Are you gluten intolerant and therefore cannot receive Communion? If so, we have a special low gluten host that you can receive at Communion time. For more information, please call Sue Wawrzaszek: 734-821-2123.

## Pray for the Sick

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

Alice Rolph, Alex Bobowski, Paul McGrath, Wanita Shummer, Susanna Romero Ronquillo, Cecelia Schmidt, Victoria Wozny, Noel D'Cruz, Nathan DeJohn, Juan Rodriguez, Joe Leger, Bonnie Floreske, Lindy Campbell, Phyllis Conlon, Larry Yonovitz, John Summers, Judy Stingo, Nunu Lysloff, Jennifer Bachman, Jackie Beaulieu, Antonia Cordina, Rose Marie Winslow, Paul Pilon, Harris Dufek Holland, Barbara Kramer, Ralph Zircher, Elizabeth Walkowiak, Roger Schneggenburger, Rob Iocca, Raul Cainghug, Nancy Schenk, Shaq Kalaj, Michael Griffin, Theresa Roth, Dale Buckland, Leonard Sanchez, Stella Wiktorski, Chan Han, Kim Pavicich, Mary Himlin, Nancy Rolph,  
 Fr Chan, David Hasey, Bob Toth, Ken Echternach, Jim Conlon, Marian Bessy, Kristie Harbaugh, Kathy King, Andrea Jackman, Cristina Pereira, Lois Russell, Michelle Smith, Don Emerson, Ellsworth Stout, Ernest Toth, Don Mierzwa, Rita Vorek, Tina Kuehnle, Guadalupe Morales, Sarah Huige Uytngco, Geraldo Uytngco, Helen Ybarra, Edgar Celestino, Mark Nakashima, Michael Fleszar, Ines Morales, Gerald Montry, Helen Rysse, Kathy Miller, Mary Stoddard, Patricia Broecker, Jesenia Salazar-Godinez, Rosalie Ventimiglia, Shari McArthur, Autumn Osborn



*Please call the parish office to add a name to our prayer list. Help us to keep our list current by letting us know when we may remove a name.*

### Died in Christ:

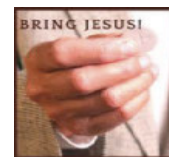
Joseph Cornicelli, husband of Ann Cornicelli  
 Tom Kullgren, father of Jeff Kullgren  
 Fr. Pat Egan

### Prayer Lamp (9/2-9/8):

+Lois and Robert Burke—Antosiak Family

## BRING JESUS!

Homebound Eucharistic Ministry Team Building Events for all ministers in the Ann Arbor area. Learn more here:



[www.stfrancisa2.com/homebound-ministry](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/homebound-ministry)

Questions? Scott Wright 734-821-2121

## Need Help? There's HOPE...

Do you or someone you know need help? The Hope Clinic offers free food and basic needs, medical care, dental care, and behavioral health care.

Go to [thehopeclinic.org](https://thehopeclinic.org) or call 734-484-2989 for info.

# Honoring our Parish Patron-Oct. 3-8, 2023



**Pilgrimage: Solanus Casey Center Detroit**  
Thursday, October 5th, 2023 9:15 - 5:00

In honor of our parish patron, join **Fr. James Conlon** along with special guest, **Dr. Bill Cook**, Distinguished Teaching Professor and expert on the life of St. Francis of Assisi. Our day starts with Mass at Saint Francis, travel by bus to Detroit, catered lunch and a talk by Dr. Cook, on Franciscan art and the sacred art pieces at the Casey Center. There will be tour time and priests available for confession before returning to Ann Arbor by 5:00.

Our all-included price is **\$65/person**. Payment can be made by credit card at the time of registration, which is **due by Sept 18th**. Checks can also be dropped off at the Parish Office.

COME AND JOIN THE CELEBRATION

## FRANCIS FEST

**SUNDAY, OCT. 8**  
FOLLOWING THE 12:30 PM MASS

A fun day for our parish family to celebrate our patron, St. Francis of Assisi and gather as a community for food, fellowship, and fun!



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN PLANNING,  
EMAIL KELLY HERNANDEZ @  
KHERNANDEZ@STFRANCISA2.ORG

# CELEBRATING OUR PATRON

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**WITH SPECIAL GUEST, BILL COOK**  
**Oct. 3-6, 2023**



**TUESDAY, OCT. 3RD 7 PM (IN CHURCH)**  
THE TRANSITUS WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATION  
As part of the Transitus, Bill will speak for 15 minutes on St. Francis and his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4TH**  
**7 PM (IN CHURCH)**  
MASS ON THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**8PM (IN THE ASSISI CENTER)**  
HORS D'OEUVRE AND TALK BY BILL COOK  
Bill will speak on the life of St. Francis and Francis' message for our modern world.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 5TH 9:15 AM (IN CHURCH)**  
MASS AND HOLY HOUR, FOLLOWED BY A PILGRIMAGE TO SOLANUS CASEY CENTER WITH SPECIAL GUEST, BILL COOK  
As part of the pilgrimage, Bill will speak on Franciscan sacred art. **RSVP required**

**FRIDAY, OCT. 6TH 9:15 AM (IN CHURCH)**  
MASS FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK AND TALK BY BILL COOK  
Bill will speak about his Foundation and its Franciscan roots. Learn more about his foundation below.

### THE MISSION OF THE BILL COOK FOUNDATION

The Bill Cook Foundation helps some of the poorest children in the world gain access to the best education possible. By providing grants that support education, we help break the cycle of poverty for children, their families and communities. Learn more at: <https://www.billcookfoundation.org/>

### YOUR SPONSORSHIP AND SUPPORT NEEDED

In the Franciscan spirit, Bill does not request any specific speaker fees, but rather asks our parish for a generous donation to his foundation to help advance his ministry of providing an education to the poorest around the world. We hope that you will partner with us in providing a generous donation as a gift with his time with us.

**ONLINE DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT:**  
<https://stfrancisa2.wufoo.com/forms/bill-cook-foundation-online-donation-form/>  
OR VIA THE QR CODE



**IN-PERSON DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT:**  
The parish office, 2150 Frieze Ave.  
Or, drop into the Sunday Collection basket.  
Memo: Bill Cook Foundation Sponsor

**Outreach Ministry**

Scott Wright (swright@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2121)



On the weekend of **September 23/24**, before and after all Masses we will show a **video on Stephen Ministry**. You are invited to stay and learn more! **Plus, many of our ministers will be available in person for you to meet at the church doors and answer questions.**

**Jesus is in JAIL! Will you pray with Him?**

"Be Not Afraid!" Jesus was incarcerated during his life, and he can still be found in the jail. **Come and see for yourself.**

Join a ministry team! Volunteer Ministers: Have a Charisma for Christ, and, an ability to share faith in Jesus. Consider assisting with Catholic Services at the Jail for both women and men. Learn more: [www.signupgenius.com/go/catholic-jail-schedule](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/catholic-jail-schedule).

**St. Francis Parish - Phone Calling Ministry**

The phone calling ministry at St. Francis Parish has grown over the years into a flexible, exciting outreach opportunity for parishioners to get to know each other, pray with each other, connect, share faith and celebrate the lives and relationships in our faith community. We personally call to ask how parishioners are doing, if they would like to pray and/or if they have any special needs, plus, by calling on their birthday, we wish them a happy birthday.

"I have received two calls so far. It is nice to have the human contact during this time."  
Donna Johnston

"Everyone so far has been so pleased that St Francis is doing this. I'm proud of my church."  
Jane Dorr

*Each year St. Francis parishioners volunteer to coordinate and participate in **hosting three weeks worth of shelter**. (Two of those weeks - one in **May** and one in **September** - are for homeless families with children staying at the Alpha House Shelter. And, one of those three weeks is in **March** for homeless men staying at St. Francis Parish.)*

*Volunteers are the heart and hands of Alpha House. Volunteers from over **40** local congregations and community groups provide meals and supplies for the shelter and the families, engage with the children, and perform building maintenance.*



**Alpha House Family Shelter**

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)

Join our St. Francis Parish Outreach Team the week of **Sept 18-24**, 2023, serving several homeless families MEALS each day of the week at Alpha House (4290 Jackson Rd., Ann Arbor, between Zeeb and Wagner). **We need your help!** Dinners may be prepared and simply dropped-off, or you may stay to assist. We need your help to **Purchase, cook and deliver meals** (about 15-20 people mostly children). 1.) Main Dish, 2.) Vegetable & 3.) Dessert.

**Deliver it** between 3pm-5pm. In addition to being a Meal Provider you may also want to stay and serve dinner.

**Sign-up** at: [www.signupgenius.com/go/shelter](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/shelter) or [www.stfrancisa2.com/shelter-programs](http://www.stfrancisa2.com/shelter-programs)

**Got Runners?**

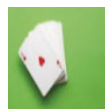
**International Samaritan has a 5K run!**

Do we have some interest at St Francis Parish for a group of us to participate in this run? It can be done any time between October 13 - November 6, 2023. <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/YourCity/IntSamGlobal>

**Game Night - Thursday, September 14**

**6pm to 8pm in PAC**

A night of fun is planned for the adults and seniors of St. Francis Bring your favorite board or card game: your choice!



Sign up [stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms](http://stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms)

Looking forward to meeting you and having some fun!

## Outreach Ministry

Scott Wright (swright@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2121)



**You're invited to *Coffee & Conversations!***  
Benefits of Preplanning Your Funeral  
**Saturday, September 16th 9am-11am**

We invite you to learn how planning for your final wishes may shield your family from unnecessary emotional and financial burden.

Join us in the PAC to learn more about pre-arrangements, traditional funerals, veterans benefits, cremation, burials, and more. Nie Family Funeral Home will be making a presentation along with Fr. James.

**Please RSVP at 734-971-2345.**

### Seniors' "Out to Lunch Bunch"

Join your fellow senior parishioners from St. Thomas and St. Francis for lunch on the 3rd Thursdays...**SEPT 21st is next!**

**Arrive at 11:30am at NEW MEETING LOCATION!** at

**Metzger's Restaurant** (305 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor). (Pay-on-your-own.) Help us plan enough food & seats reserved, please sign-up online to RSVP **one week ahead no later than the Sunday before** at:



<https://tinyurl.com/StThomasOutToLunch>

or

[www.signupgenius.com/go/Out-to-Eat](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/Out-to-Eat)

### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program

Resources to grandparents and other family members aged 55+ who care for related children. Support groups and educational information is offered and other resources like clothing, school supplies, etc. can be accessed. These support groups are popular as caregivers discuss their joys, struggles, and helpful ideas with each other, knowing they are not alone. **Contact Jeannette Matthews 734-971-9781 x 511**

### Calling All Seniors and Those Who Care For Seniors!

Mark your calendar for an informative, educational and enjoyable seminar: **Thursday, September 14th from 5:30-6:30pm in St. Francis School Library.**

**Barbara Zinser**, Local Realtor And Senior Real Estate Specialist will discuss topics such as:

- Is Your Home An Asset Or An Anchor?
- Is It Near Your Favorite Leisure Activities And People?
- Will It Meet Your Future Health And Mobility Needs?

**Aubree Shemwell & Bob Yopko** of First Equity Residential Mortgage, Inc will enlighten you about reverse mortgages and provide information to determine if this option is right for you. Come and get your questions answered.

**Julie L. Dunbar**, Pllc an Elder Law Attorney loves to speak on the topic "Leave A Legacy". This incorporates issues of incapacity & disability as well as estate preservation to avoid problems during estate administration.

Kindly visit the parish website and use the sign up forms tab to register!

## Altar Server Training for Current 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders

*"...serve Him faithfully with all your heart."*  
(1 Samuel 12:24)

All baptized Catholic children & young adults currently in grades 4-12 are invited to become Altar Servers for our weekend and/or school Masses. This is a special privilege and responsibility that is entrusted to our older students, and it is a wonderful way for 7<sup>th</sup> graders to earn Confirmation service hours. *"The closer you are to the altar, the more you will remember to speak with Jesus in daily prayer"* (Pope Francis). Training sessions will be held in Church on:

**Saturday, Sept. 23, 9:00-11:00am**  
**Sunday, Sept. 24, 1:30-3:30pm**

**We are asking that all current Altar Servers attend for a "refresher" training and that all those who would like to join this ministry for the first time also attend. A parent must accompany each child.** If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, please contact Fr. Seamus at the Parish Office to schedule an alternate time for training:

**734-821-2100 or frseamus@stfrancisa2.org**

### Adult Faith Formation

Kelly Hernandez (khernandez@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2122)



Want to know God?

He is speaking to us through the Bible – God's Living Word. It contains the story of the people of God, God's endless forgiveness and mercy, and the promise of eternity with Him!

Have you read it?

We encourage everyone to join a Bible Study this year!

**Freisy Bobadilla**  
Predicador Católico

Martes Estudio Bíblico (7 -8 pm)  
En Español, comienza Sept. 26  
Estudio: Evangelio de Marcos

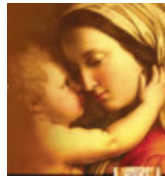
**Bio:** Freisy Bobadilla es un formador, predicador y escritor Dominicano. Formado en Sagrada Escritura en República Dominicana y ha impartido clases de Biblia en República Dominicana y Florida, además de manera virtual, donde asisten a sus clases personas de Bolivia, Colombia, Panamá, México, Puerto Rico y Estados Unidos. Es escritor de dos libros: Formando Líderes Conforme a Cristo e Intercesión Instrumento de la gracia, ambos traducidos también al inglés y publicados en Amazon. Su labor predicadora lo ha llevado alrededor de muchas comunidades, a lo largo de Estados Unidos, impartiendo retiros y enseñando a otros el amor por la palabra de Dios.

#### Monday Evening (6:30 – 8:30 pm) Bible Study

*“The Better We Know Mary, the Better We Will Know Her Son”*

Meets weekly, Oct. 16 – Dec. 11

Facilitator: Wanita Forgacs



*Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother* is an extraordinary pilgrimage that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land

#### Tuesday Bi-Weekly (10 – 11:30 am) Bible Study

Sept. 5 – Apr. 2; Facilitator: Bill Forgacs



The Gospel of Luke, Jesus the Compassionate Savior – Stephen Binz  
Threshold Series

*Luke wrote his gospel for all Gentiles seeking to understand God's universal plan of salvation in Jesus, the Savior of all people. Today, the gospel becomes truly good news for the lives of people in every nation, of every race, language, and culture.*

Part 1 (Fall) & Part 2 (Winter)

#### Join the Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings



10-11 am: Small Group Discussion  
11-11:30 am: Large group viewing of Video (can also be viewed at home)

September 12th – November 28th (no sessions on 10/24 or 11/21)

*“What do you seek?” “Jesus said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw...and they stayed with Him...” (John 1:38-39)*

We invite you to learn the story of Christ with us through the Gospel of John,

**“Follow Me, Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John”** this Fall. – 8 lessons

**Winter study (beginning mid-January) will be “James, Pearl For Wise Living”**

Interested & want to learn more please call Susan at (734) 649-1595 or Kimm at (734) 355-2668

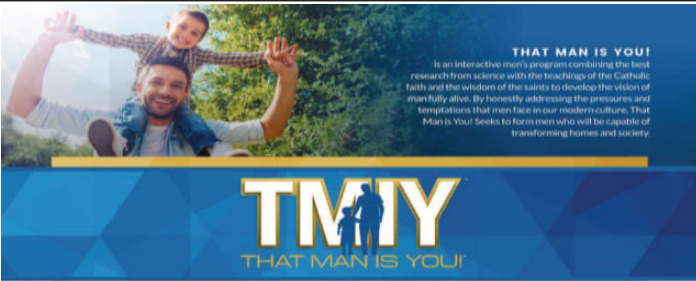
DETAILS AND SIGN-UP @  
[stfrancisa2.com/adult-faith-formation/bible-study](http://stfrancisa2.com/adult-faith-formation/bible-study)  
or via the QR code →





### Adult Faith Formation

Kelly Hernandez (khernandez@stfrancisa2.org or 734-821-2122)



## “All Things New”

New Creation Story, New Spiritual Life, New Adam, New Eve, New Fruitfulness, New Tree of Life, New Fruit from the New Tree of Life

Runs 13 weeks beginning Saturday, Sept. 9th

#### Saturday morning schedule:

- 7:00 - 7:30 am- Light breakfast and fellowship.
- 7:30 - 8:00 am- Video from TMIY program
- 8:00 - 8:30 am- Small group sharing.

**LOCATION:** Parish Activities Center (P.A.C.)

Start your day off right and be home in time to make breakfast for the family!

#### Contact John Walsh for more info:

michaeljohn32@yahoo.com

For more info about the “That Man is You” program, visit: [paradisusdei.org/that-man-is-you/](http://paradisusdei.org/that-man-is-you/)

ST. FRANCIS MEN'S MINISTRY

# Beer and Brats

JOIN FR. JAMES, FR. SEAMUS, DCN. GENE AND DCN. RICH FOR OUR ANNUAL BEER & BRATS WITH THE PADRES

**THURSDAY, SEPT 21**  
 6:30 PM (IN CHURCH) EVENING PRAYER  
 7 PM (IN ASSISI CENTER) BEER & BRATS & FELLOWSHIP

**RSVP STFRANCISA2.COM/SIGN-UP-FORMS**

## MOMMY & ME PLAYGROUP

Fridays 10-11:30 am  
 meets weekly in the preschool room  
 located in the lower-level of the church

**Begins Sept. 8**

MOMMY AND ME PLAYGROUP IS A COMMUNITY OF MOMS WHO SHARE THE JOYS AND CHALLENGES OF MOTHERHOOD, AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER THROUGH FRIENDSHIP, ADVICE, AND ENCOURAGEMENT. ♥ ALL WHILE OUR CHILDREN GET TO MEET AND PLAY WITH OTHER CHILDREN IN A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

YOU'LL ALSO GET TO MEET OTHER MOMS FROM YOUR AREA, AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR CHILD, WHETHER YOU HAVE A NEWBORN, A TODDLER, OR A PRESCHOOLER.

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE BEST PLAYGROUP IN TOWN! WE CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOU AND YOUR CHILD(REN)! ♥

Contact parishioner and mom, Deirdre Alsaidy at [lothrde@gmail.com](mailto:lothrde@gmail.com) for more info or to volunteer to help with set up & cleanup

## Engaged & Married Couples

Join us for a fun evening of wine, dinner, and talk by Debbie and Peter Herbeck

### Lessons from the School of Love: Cultivating a Christ-Centered Marriage

Friday, Oct. 27th 6:30pm in the PAC

Debbie and Peter Herbeck, Catholic speakers, authors, and happily married couple for over 35 years, will join us to share their insights on married life.

They recently co-authored a book entitled, "Lessons from the School of Love: Cultivating a Christ-Centered Marriage" in which they discuss how to strengthen the bond of marriage through the limitless grace offered to all by Christ.

**RSVP: [stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms](http://stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms)**  
 \$40 suggested donation per couple

## Caring for Our Common Home Protecting God's Creation

Fourth article of a Series

*"God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed – the sixth day." Genesis 1:31*

*"...like St. Francis of Assisi, all of us, as Christians, are called to watch over and protect the fragile world in which we live..." Pope Francis*

*"That beautiful, warm living object – our Earth – looked so fragile, so delicate..." James Irwin - NASA astronaut*

In 2015 Pope Francis released his Encyclical "Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home" which described our responsibilities to the Earth and to our sisters and brothers living today as well as our responsibility to those generations yet unborn. As our world continues to warm to levels unseen in the past 125,000 years, **It is essential**, (in view of the chaotic events such as erratic rainfall, severe droughts, dying coral reefs, more frequent flooding and wildfires, and melting glaciers that are occurring), **that we address what we must do Now while there is still time to make a difference.**

(Attached here is a small segment of *Laudato Si'* to give a feel of the document.)

*"The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all. At the global level, it is a complex system linked to many of the essential conditions for human life. A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system. In recent decades this warming has been accompanied by a constant rise in sea level and, it would appear by an increase in extreme weather events... Humanity is called to recognize the need for changes in lifestyle, production, and consumption, in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it."*

**"Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us. The issue is one that dramatically affects us, for it has to do with the ultimate meaning of our earthly sojourn."** Pope Francis

St. Francis of Assisi Parish  
Peace and Justice Committee

## Parish Stewardship Report

Month	PSG	cash/check	Grand Total
July	\$ 81,637	\$ 82,545	\$ 164,182
August	\$ 70,779	\$ 57,864	\$ 128,643
September			\$ -
October			\$ -
November			\$ -
December			\$ -
January			\$ -
February			\$ -
March			\$ -
April			\$ -
May			\$ -
June			\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 152,417</b>	<b>\$ 140,409</b>	<b>\$ 292,825</b>
	52%	48%	82%
	% PSG	% cash/check	% of budget

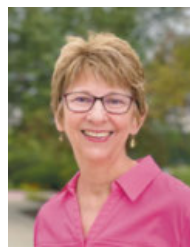
### RED MASS 2023

The Diocese of Lansing Annual Red Mass will be held at St. Mary Cathedral, Tuesday, October 3 at 5:15pm. A dinner reception will immediately follow. All Judges, Lawyers, Law Students and interested persons are invited.

This year's Thomas More Award recipient is John J. Bursch. He is the founder of Bursch Law and senior counsel and vice president of the Alliance Defending Freedom. His accomplishments are legion, having established himself as one of the preeminent appellate attorneys in Michigan and served the public as Michigan Solicitor General.

Contact Diane Arzberger [517-402-1562](tel:517-402-1562) or [lclguild@gmail.com](mailto:lclguild@gmail.com) to reserve a spot. RSVP deadline is September 22.

### Find new life in your relationship with God



We are continually being called into closer relationship with God, but often we are too distracted or too busy to notice. When we do notice and respond to God's invitation, our lives have more purpose, more joy, and more peace. Monthly spiritual direction is one way to realize God's presence in our lives and to receive these gifts.

Call **Janene Ternes at 734-436-1351** for more information or to arrange an exploratory, confidential visit, in person or virtually, with one of our experienced Spiritual Directors.



## 70 Years of Scouting at St. Francis

Our Boy Scout Troop 27 and Cub Scout Pack 27 both just celebrated 70 years of Scouting at St. Francis. Troop 27 held a special program after its annual Eagle award ceremony on Sunday August 13, 2023. Troop 27 and Pack 27 would like to thank the St. Francis Parish for its generous support along with the many adults volunteering their time and resources over the years.

The Eagle award ceremony was held for Joseph Coleman, the Troop's 97<sup>th</sup> Eagle Scout and 80<sup>th</sup> Eagle since 2000. The Eagle rank is the highest rank in Scouting. Nationally, only about 4% of Scouts attain this rank. The number of Eagle Scouts in the Troop over the past twenty-five years would not have been possible without the significant support of the Parish.

Last summer Joseph was also awarded the Ad Altare Dei - *To the Altar of God* – Catholic religious emblem along with three other Scouts in the Troop (Ben Worden, Clayton Carney and Shane Pitcher). The Ad Altare Dei program is an extensive, year-long program for Catholic Scouts to apply the principals of Scouting in a tangible way to their faith.

Scouting gives youths the opportunity to grow in virtue while learning a wide variety of skills and leadership for the service of others. The basic principles are Duty to God, Duty to Others and Duty to Self (to be a responsible and contributing member of society). These duties have their foundation in the Two Great Commandments of Christ to love God and love your neighbor as your self.

Anyone interested in learning more about Boy Scouts at St. Francis may contact Scoutmaster Grant Gatchel at [aatroop27sm@gmail.com](mailto:aatroop27sm@gmail.com) or visit the Troop website <https://www.aatroop27.com/>. Anyone interested in learning more about Cub Scouts at St. Francis may contact Committee Chair Chris Kempton at [chris@kempton.com](mailto:chris@kempton.com), or visit the Pack website <https://www.aapack27.com/>

## Spires to Heaven: A Spiritually Enriching Pilgrimage on Tuesday, October 17

with Fr. James Conlon

Embark on an unforgettable one-day pilgrimage with Fr. James Conlon, delving into the enchanting Land of the cross-tipped "spires to heaven" in Maria Stein, Ohio, where you'll find an awe-inspiring collection of relics.

Experience a day filled with spiritual nourishment as we begin with Mass, followed by an enlightening tour and serene visits to the grounds. After a delightful lunch, we'll embark on a scenic journey along the spires to heaven, making stops at captivating churches and sites.

In mid-October, witness the mesmerizing beauty of Ohio's Fall foliage, providing a breathtaking backdrop for our pilgrimage. The day will conclude with a shared dinner, evening prayer, and return home by 9:30 pm.



Secure your spot for this remarkable journey on Tuesday, October 17, departing at 7:15 am from St. Francis. For just \$130/person, you'll enjoy comfortable transportation by coach, delectable meals, and all-inclusive tour fees, tips, and stipends.

Don't miss this life-enriching experience! **Sign up now through our website: <https://www.stfrancisa2.com/>**

For additional details or any questions, reach out to:

Scott Wright at [swright@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:swright@stfrancisa2.org) (734-821-2121)

or

Ellen Ward at [ward@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:ward@stfrancisa2.org) (734-476-5640).

## Support for Divorced & Separated Meets Mondays 7-9 p.m. in the School Library (Zoom option also available)



Are you divorced or separated? Would you like support? We invite you to join us each Monday evening at 7pm. Find comfort, counsel and healing with others on the same journey. Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, this group offers valuable insights for everyone. For questions, contact Jeff at [734-678-0995](tel:734-678-0995).

# Veneration of the Relics

OCT 11: ST. JUDE, THE APOSTLE - OCT 12: BL. CARLO ACUTIS - OCT. 17: PILGRIMAGE TO RELIQUARY

We are delighted to invite you to a special opportunity that will take place at our parish this October 2023. We will venerate some of the most precious relics of our faith, which have been generously loaned to us by various institutions and individuals.



**On Oct. 11,** we will have the opportunity to venerate the relic of the Apostle, St. Jude, which has been generously loaned to us by the Vatican. This is a rare and sacred opportunity that will bless our community. We will celebrate morning Mass at 9:15 am followed by all day veneration of St. Jude's relic. In the evening, we will celebrate a bilingual Mass at 7pm followed by a reception.



**On Oct. 12,** we will have the opportunity to venerate the relic of Bl. Carlo Acutis, which was given to Fr. James directly from Carlo's own mother while on pilgrimage to Italy. Beginning with the 9:15 am Mass followed by a holy hour and all-day eucharistic adoration and veneration of Bl. Carlo's relic. We will end with Evening Prayer and benediction at 6:30pm.



**On Oct. 17,** we invite you to join us for a one-day pilgrimage to Maria Stein, Ohio, known for its cross-tipped "spires to heaven" and one of the largest collections of relics. Experience Mass, a guided tour of the chapel and grounds, followed by a scenic journey to prominent churches and sites. Enjoy the vibrant Fall foliage as the backdrop for this spiritual journey. The price of \$130/person covers transportation, lunch, dinner, and all tour fees. **Secure your spot at [stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms](https://stfrancisa2.com/sign-up-forms).**

## Register for Religious Education Classes Classes begin in mid-September!



Secure your family's spot now for an enriching journey of faith with our Religious Education program. Designed for children from PreK-8, our classes offer preparation for the sacraments and a deepening of their understanding of the Faith. Emphasizing the importance of regular Mass attendance, we foster a strong connection with God and with the Church.

Classes begin in mid-September and are offered on

- Sunday mornings (9:30am-10:30am),
- Wednesday evenings (6:30pm-7:30pm), and
- Saturdays (bilingual in Spanish and English) from 5pm-6:45pm followed by the 7pm Mass in Spanish.

Sign up at: <https://stfrancisa2.wufoo.com/20232024-prek8th-religious-education/>

For questions, please contact us, Ellen at 821-2132 or Helena (Spanish) at 734-821-2130 or [stfreled@stfrancisa2.org](mailto:stfreled@stfrancisa2.org)



Join Ann Arbor 40 Days for Life 365's prayer vigil outside Planned Parenthood. Consider making a once a month commitment. Offering Prayer, Outreach, Help and Hope at:

3100 Professional Dr, Ann Arbor  
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 2 PM  
Extended hours on Thursday until 4 PM

To take a committed one hour time slot, go to [40daysforlife.com/annarbor](https://40daysforlife.com/annarbor) on the 365 calendar. Drop-ins are always welcome anytime!

For more info or any scheduling help, contact Sandie at 734-657-1936 or [plan2pray@gmail.com](mailto:plan2pray@gmail.com).

## The Beauty of Life

### Leave Abortion out of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

**Please comment before October 10!**

A federal regulation aims to include abortion accommodations within a law intended to support pregnant workers' fair working conditions. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops endorsed the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, focusing on helping working mothers while safeguarding their health and that of their unborn children. However, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission introduced proposed rules that encompass "having or choosing not to have an abortion" as a "related medical condition" covered by the law.

This proposed addition distorts the law's purpose. This occurrence echoes previous wrong attempts to equate abortion with childbirth in terms of benefits for pregnant women. The proposed federal regulation will be open for public comments for 60 days, ending October 10, 2023

**Action Needed:** please comment on the added wording, asking that "having an abortion" not be included in the Fairness Act. Include your reasons, including the inappropriate addition of abortion, the taking the life of the growing baby, the attempt to highjack legislation designed to aid pregnant women to further an agenda of abortion, the lack of protections for religious liberty, essentially forcing employers to provide for abortion which most people find abhorrent, for lack of protections for you to practice freely your Faith (Core Catholic teaching protects Life, including the developing unborn child).

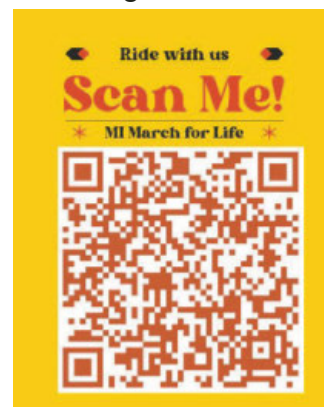
The regulation language is lengthy, and the unfortunate addition is under 1636.3(b) Pregnancy, Childbirth, or Related Medical Conditions: *"The list in the proposed regulation for the definition of "pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions" includes current pregnancy, past pregnancy, potential pregnancy, lactation (including breastfeeding and pumping), use of birth control, menstruation, infertility and fertility treatments, endometriosis, miscarriage, stillbirth, or having or choosing not to have an abortion, among other conditions. The Commission emphasizes that the list in the regulation is non-exhaustive, and to receive an accommodation an employee or applicant does not have to specify a condition on this list or use medical terms to describe a condition."*

Please comment and ask that the addition under 1636.3 (b) be removed. Your comments make a difference and can be done online:  
<https://www.regulations.gov/document/EEOC-2023-0004-0001>

### Join us for the Michigan March for Life in Lansing on November 8th!

Mark your calendar for November 8, invite your pro-life family and friends, and plan to take off work or school on November 8. St. Francis of Assisi Parish in collaboration with the Michigan Catholic Conference, Michigan March for Life, and Right to Life of Michigan and each of the Catholic dioceses in Michigan is promoting the Michigan March for Life in Lansing. The March for Life is an opportunity for all the faithful to be the voice for the defenseless. Join us as we peacefully advocate for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death. A strong showing of support makes a difference in our standing for Life, cherishing both mom and her unborn child.

Register for the event now at the Michigan March for Life site at: <https://p2a.co/9sD90j6> Whether you decide now or later regarding going to the event, registering will give you information and updates.



### Interested in going by coach with other St. Francis parishioners?

Secure your place on the bus at: <https://stfrancisa2.wufoo.com/forms/sfa-bus-for-march-for-life-nov-8/>

We leave from St. Francis Parish, 2250 E. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor at 8:30am and return at 4:30pm. The March will take place outside the State Capitol building at 100 N. Capitol Ave. in Lansing. The cost of \$35/adult includes transportation by coach, lunch, and tips. Call us for family rates. Questions?

Contact: Scott Wright [swright@stfrancisa2.org] (734-821-2121) and Ellen Ward [ward@stfrancisa2.org] (cell:734-476-5640).



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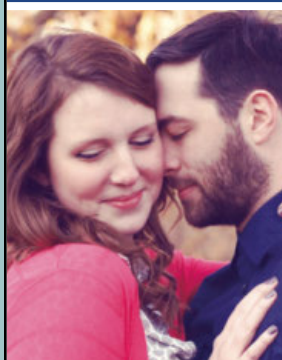


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