St. Francis Episcopal Church
Potomac Parish

SOUNDS OF ST. FRANCIS

April 2018

Christ Is Risen

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WWW.STFRANCISPOTOMAC.ORG • 10033 RIVER RD POTOMAC MD 20854 • 301-365-2055

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Parish News

Thanks, Lenten Appeal Update, Roy Day's New Book

Sunday School

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Month-At-A-Glance

Sunday Service Times: 8:00am, 9:15am, and 11:30am. Coffee & doughnuts after the 9:15 service. Sunday School and Adult Forums begin at 10:30.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 14: Evening of the Arts Fundraiser
April 17: Vestry Meeting
April 19: Savvy Seniors Luncheon
April 28 & 29: Loaves and Fishes
April 29: Car Wash Fundraiser for Mission Trip
April 29: Museum of the Bible Trip
May 1: Women of St. Francis Book Club
May 5: Jewelry Thrift Sale
May 6: WSF Paint In Party

Weekly Events

Sundays at 8am, 9:15am, 11:30am: services
Sundays at 10:30am: Christian Education
Sundays at 6:00pm: Youth Group
Tuesdays at 9:30am: Morning Prayer
Tuesdays at 5pm: Evening Prayer
Wednesdays at 10am: Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays at 11am: Bible Study
Thursdays at 7am: Mens' Bible Study
Thursdays at 10am: Morning Prayer
Thursdays at 5pm: Evening Prayer
Thursdays at 7:30pm: Adult Choir Rehearsal
Fridays at 9:30am: Morning Prayer
Fridays at 5pm: Evening Prayer

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

May 13: Mother's Day
May 19: EDOW Planned Giving Seminar
May 19: MSF Fishing Trip
May 20: Evensong for the Feast of Pentecost
May 25: Ball Game & Potluck Picnic
June 3: Youth Sunday & Annual Parish Picnic
June 11 - 15: Vacation Bible School
June 17 - 23: Youth Group Mission Trip

Alleluia

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Sunday 8am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Holy Eucharist 10:30am - Sunday School @ 11:30am - Holy Eucharist @ St	2 Easter Monday	3 11:30am - WSF Book Club 5pm - Evening Prayer	4 10am - Holy Eucharist @ Chapel 11am - Rector's Bible Study @ 8pm - AA @ Youth Room	5 7am - Men's Bible Study 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Adult Choir	6 5pm - Evening Prayer	7
8 8am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Holy Eucharist 10:30am - Sunday School @ 11:30am - Holy Eucharist @ St 6pm - Youth Alpha @ Church	9	10 9:30am - Morning Prayer @ 5pm - Evening Prayer	11 10am - Holy Eucharist @ Chapel 11am - Rector's Bible Study @ 8pm - AA @ Youth Room	12 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Morning Prayer @ Chapel 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Adult Choir	13 5pm - Evening Prayer	14 9:30am - Garden clean up 6pm - Evening of the Arts
15 8am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Holy Eucharist 10:30am - Sunday School @ 11:30am - Holy Eucharist @ St 6pm - Youth Alpha @ Church	16	17 9:30am - Morning Prayer @ 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Vestry Meeting @	18 10am - Holy Eucharist @ Chapel 11am - Rector's Bible Study @ 8pm - AA @ Youth Room	19 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Morning Prayer @ Chapel 11am - Savvy Seniors - Cruise 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Adult Choir	20 9:30am - Morning Prayer 5pm - Evening Prayer	21 12:30pm - Altar Guild Luncheon
22 8am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Holy Eucharist 10:30am - Sunday School @ 11:30am - Holy Eucharist @ St 6pm - Youth Alpha @ Church	23	24 9:30am - Morning Prayer @ 5pm - Evening Prayer	25 Feast of Saint Mark the 10am - Holy Eucharist @ Chapel 11am - Rector's Bible Study @ 8pm - AA @ Youth Room	26 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Morning Prayer @ Chapel 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Adult Choir	27 9:30am - Morning Prayer 5pm - Evening Prayer	28
29 8am - Holy Eucharist 9:15am - Holy Eucharist 10:30am - Car Wash Fundraiser 10:30am - Sunday School @ 11:30am - Holy Eucharist @ St 1pm - Museum of the Bible Trip 6pm - Youth Alpha @ Church	30	1 9:30am - Morning Prayer @ 11:30am - WSF Book Club 5pm - Evening Prayer	2 10am - Holy Eucharist @ Chapel 11am - Rector's Bible Study @ 8pm - AA @ Youth Room	3 7am - Men's Bible Study 10am - Morning Prayer @ Chapel 5pm - Evening Prayer 7:30pm - Adult Choir	4 9:30am - Morning Prayer 11am - WSF Set-up KL for Mini 5pm - Evening Prayer	5 10am - WSF Mini Jewelry Thrift

FROM THE RECTOR

RECTOR'S thoughts

"to number our days, that we may apply ourselves unto wisdom"
Psalm 90

The little pink frog pings my phone at random, five times a day. "Don't forget," my notifications log tells me, "you're going to die." I signed up for the WeCroak app (the pink frog-get it!) a few weeks ago, after reading an article about it in the Atlantic. I open it up to view a quotation that almost invariably brings up one of the few subjects no longer acceptable in polite company, the inevitability of death.

The sources for the quotes and their particular themes vary widely. Paul Tsongas, the former politician, reminds me one morning, "No one on his deathbed ever said, 'I wish I had spent more time on my business.'" The Merck Manual vividly details the physical changes that accompany death. An ancient Buddhist philosopher speaks of the fleeting nature of all things.

The app was launched last summer by two young software developers, one of whom had discovered a Bhutanese saying, "to be truly happy, one must contemplate death five times daily." The Bhutanese regularly rank among the world's happiest people. Knowing that the average American checks his smartphone 76 times a day, the developers thought the moment could be right to infuse some deeper wisdom into our most habit-forming practice.

The app is simple--a short quote presented just five times a day, without context or interpretive help. Proper meditation, the app designers understand, must be subjective in its slant, especially when the topic is the intensely personal matter of one's own demise.

There is undoubtedly a slant in the contents, presented though--or at least there is one significant theme missing. In a nod to the app's Bhutanese pretensions, Eastern philosophy, which stresses death's annihilation of all human presumption is in the forefront. There's also a good dose of behavioral psychology and wryly humorous takes on the subject by actors and novelists. But aside from a bit of advice about contemplation yesterday from a Presbyterian spiritual writer, Christians haven't been given a voice. That's probably because we have something distinctive to say.

"Yet even at the grave we make our song, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!," sings the classical Orthodox hymn included in the Book of Common Prayer's service for the Burial of the Dead. The Christian vision of death is brightened by the light that streams from Christ's empty tomb. When He returned from death at Easter, Christ's body was infused with the glory of the world to come. He assured us that death's power has been broken.

Christ's resurrection has freed us, the author of Hebrews writes, from "slavery to the fear of death (Heb. 2:15)." The grave, as another prayer from the Burial service notes, is also for us a gate, a passageway through which "we pass with him to our joyful resurrection." To depart this life, St. Paul assures us, is "to go and be with Christ" (Phil. 1:23). We can face death with a confidence and hope unknown to those who have not received and believed the Gospel's promises.

Athanasius, the great church father (whose name means "the immortal one"), wrote of this difference: "Before the divine sojourn of the Saviour, even the holiest of men were afraid of death, and mourned the dead as those who perish. But now that the Saviour has raised His body, death is no longer terrible, but all those who believe in Christ tread it underfoot as nothing, and prefer to die rather than to deny their faith in Christ, knowing full well that when they die they do not perish, but live indeed, and become incorruptible through the resurrection" (On the Incarnation V).

While I have my doubts that WeCroak will be quoting Athanasius anytime soon, a great deal of common ground still remains. We Christians can certainly agree with the Buddhist or the psychologist that it is wise to be humble in awareness of death's certainty. Death's crushing defeat of all human pretension is an important theme in the Bible's wisdom literature, especially the Book of Ecclesiastes. Knowing that life is limited enables us, Psalm 90 assures, "to number our days, that we may apply ourselves unto wisdom."

FROM THE RECTOR

Part of that wisdom framed by the certainty of death is the power and fruitfulness of certain virtues, moral habits through which we serve God and others, making wise use of our time and resources. Death's approach can help us recognize and express our gratitude for the gifts we have received from others. It can reveal a loving communion formed through suffering, as we share in each other's sorrows and offer comfort. It can stir up in us courage and more certain faith, and stimulate true hope, a desire for that joyful life with God promised to us by the Risen Christ.

These are not just virtues helpful to those who expect to die soon, or to those directly caring for the dying. They are among the essential habits of discipleship. The wisdom they embody brings fruitfulness and meaning, an enduring wisdom, to all of life. And the time will come for each of us. As Terence Nichols writes, "If we want to die well, to die unto God, we need to start working on our relationship with God (and with others) while we are young and healthy, rather than waiting until death is knocking at the door" (Death and Afterlife, 13).

Father Mac and I will be leading you in an exploration of these virtues throughout this Easter season, in which we celebrate Christ's victory over death during our 10:30 Sunday morning adult forums. Our Planned Giving Committee will also make a presentation about its work on April 15, and the series will close with a talk by Jim Murphy of Episcopal Church Foundation on May 20 about the way that robust planned giving programs are helping Episcopal churches engage in more active ministry across the nation.

Our Planned Giving Committee has been working closely with the vestry over the last several months to develop a special Legacy Fund. They have also prepared materials about different kinds of planned gifts that they hope to use to start conversations with some of you about making a single large gift to St. Francis during your lifetime or as a bequest to be paid after your death.

The Committee realizes that planned giving is different from a decision to contribute to our annual stewardship drive or a capital campaign. Planned gifts are about leaving a legacy to support vibrant ministry at Saint Francis for generations to come. They can be a tangible expression of those virtues in which we hope God will help us all to grow. They can express a courageous honesty about the limits of our own lives, and a prudent desire to use our resources to support work that is truly meaningful. They express our gratitude for the way God has blessed us through the ministry of St. Francis. They are a gift of love to future generations and show a trust in God's power to make His work here flourish.

Easter hymns may be better than smartphone apps for coming to terms with death's approach. But there is wisdom to be gleaned from what is certain for all of humanity and what is steadfastly promised for those who trust in Christ's resurrection. Learn, grow, and flourish as those who "dying, yet live." (II Cor. 6:9).

-Father Mark Michael

Our annual Lenten Appeal is the primary source of outreach funding for the parish. Over two dozen ministries locally and world-wide benefit directly from the proceeds of this Appeal. This year, our Lenten Appeal raised $33,415! The outreach committee will allocate these funds to organizations that help those in need in our area and beyond. Thank you to all who gave to this important ministry.

What a way to get pumped and spend Saturday morning! The wind died down, Laurel Bahar and Carol Jarvis brought pastries. Mr. Thai made coffee. Almost everybody's electricity was back on, and the attendance shot past expectations to over 60 Parishioners packaging food for overseas shipment through Rise Against Hunger!

Joe arrived with the RAH truck and four carts of dry food, scales, plastic bags and sealers which the advance team quickly got into place for the main event. Father Mark asked the Lord's blessing. Joe gave us our instructions and we were soon weighing, bagging, sealing and boxing and having a great time to accompanying upbeat music! A cymbal crashed to announce each time we reached another milestone - a thousand bags of food packaged. In total, more than ten thousand bags were packaged with each bag being good for 6 meals of nourishment. Soon we will hear back from RAH with an update on where the meals we packaged are sent. We should all feel very good about our time together Saturday reaching out and helping others!

We were efficient and finished early. Even clean-up went quickly and soon we were leaving a bit before 11:30am with the chairs in place for Sunday Adult Forum - out to enjoy the sunny breezy Saturday! Thanks to the many helpers and supporters of this outreach event. We couldn't have done it without you. Great team effort!

Susan and Bill Weinig, Co-Chairs

Reaching Out
St. Francis in the community

Please Join Us For The Evening Of The Arts on April 14

"It is in this way Jesus Christ comes to them as good news to the poor."

So The Rt. Rev. Dr. Given Gaula, Bishop of Kondoa in Tanzania, succinctly and tellingly sums up the stunning efficacy of his Women's Empowerment program in the diocese of Kondoa. On Saturday April 14 from 6 pm to 8 pm, the Sunday School will present its fourth annual "Evening of the Arts" to raise funds for this life-changing program and the young people thousands of miles away who benefit from its training. All are invited to enjoy fellowship, dinner and the artistic creations of our students - many of which are for sale!

A bit of background: Bishop Gaula (then Rev. Gaula) was at St. Francis from 2004-2006 while working on his Master's degree at Virginia Theological Seminary; his wife, Lilian, studied for ordination concurrently at Trinity Divinity school in Ambridge, PA. While here, Reverend Gaula preached, celebrated the Eucharist and taught Sunday School, and many remember his warm presence among us. (The name "Given"? From his mother, because her child had been "given" by God). Subsequently Fr. Given received a PhD in Theology from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and was set to assume the Chair of the School of Theology at St. John's University in Tanzania when he was called to serve as Bishop of the Diocese of Kondoa in 2012.

In Kondoa – one of the most rural, underdeveloped and poor regions in Tanzania – Bishop Gaula and the Rev. Dr. Lilian Gaula have started a kindergarten, a seminary for training priests and lay church leaders, and a program for empowering women (and interested men) by teaching reading, writing and vocational skills. St. Francis' relationship with the Gaulas has continued, and its programs have received financial assistance from WSF, the Parish Outreach Committee and most recently from the Sunday School through its "Evening of the Arts." All proceeds from the "Evening" will benefit Kondoa, particularly its Women's Empowerment Program.

In Bishop Gaula's words, the Program "transforms the lives of young people" who enroll for six month courses in literacy skills, sewing, gardening and business skills to encourage entrepreneurship and achieve self-sufficiency. 159 young people, 85% of them women, have completed the courses in the last five years; with our assistance, Bishop Gaula hopes to increase that number to 200 by 2019. Students are admitted without religious discrimination: 45 of the women currently enrolled are Muslim, making this program a significant bridge between faith communities in predominantly Islamic Kondoa.

Your support of the "Evening of the Arts" will underwrite tuition for students otherwise unable to enroll. Our Sunday School students have been saving their own money and earning throughout the year in their own neighborhoods for this fundraiser, and recently gave precious Saturday time at a crafts workshop to produce an array of wares to sell. The Evening will be the culmination of their efforts, showcasing dramatic skits and musical performances along with handicrafts to purchase. Plants and herbs, handcrafted cards and gift tags, painted bags and artwork will be available from some of your favorite artists! Admission is modest by American standards, at $25 per individual and $50 per family, yet those dollars will go immodestly far in Kondoa.

Masai people being congratulated by their parish for attending courses

"Thank you so much for St. Francis' commitment to share good news of Jesus Christ," the Bishop writes. "For about five years now you (St. Francis) have been sharing good news to our young people by helping them come to the program and learn." Do plan to be there at our program on April 14, to show your support for our wonderfully generous Sunday School children and help them share the good news. And by all means invite their friends, or yours!

Susan Dolan
Parish Outreach Committee

Green thumb or not, please join the Grounds Committee as we tackle a very important project: the Columbarium garden.

Come join us

Saturday, April 14
9:30am-12:30pm

for fellowship and gardening as we weed, trim and prune overgrown plant material, especially fall asters. Bring your garden gloves, pruners, rakes and shovels as we tidy up our Columbarium. Any level of expertise or interest is welcome. We will have an 'expert' or two on hand to help identify plants and guide with the pruning.

If you have an interest in taking home fall asters for your yard, please bring a box or container.

Please contact Don Harrison with questions or interest: 301-424-0229 donh811@verizon.net.

Loaves and Fishes

Many of you may know that St. Francis has a commitment to St. Stephen's Loaves and Fishes ministry for the months that have a 5th Sunday.

The Loaves and Fishes mission and goals are two-fold: to feed the hungry in our community and to educate volunteers and community members about hunger and homelessness.

Please look at your calendar and mark these dates so you can be part of this very important ministry. Saturday involves food preparation from at 8:00 AM until 9:30 AM and Sunday involves food service starting at 10:00 AM until 1:00PM:

April 28 & 29, 2018
July 28 & 29, 2018
September 29 & 30, 2018
December 29 & 30, 2018

For information and volunteer opportunities, please contact Laurel Bahar at laurelbahar@gmail.com or 301-318-4260.

FROM THE SAVVY SENIORS COMMITTEE

The Savvy Seniors' next meeting will be April 19th at 12pm in St. Francis Hall. "Reporting on Watergate" is the program for this month's meeting. Joe Volz, an award-winning investigative reporter, was working for the Washington Star during the historic events in the 1970's. He will tell his story and answer questions.

All are welcome and we'd love to see you there! Please bring a sandwich - we will provide drinks and dessert. A donation of $5 is requested to cover costs of drinks and desserts. RSVP through Realm by Tuesday, April 17.

If you have suggestions for future topics or speakers, please contact Don Harrison at donh811@verizon.net.

Women of St. Francis

Carol Jarvis, president

The Women of St. Francis sponsor fellowship, fundraising, and fun events throughout the year.

The Women of St. Francis are sponsoring a **Second Hand Bling Jewelry Sale on May 5th from 10-3 pm** in the church library. Please donate jewelry that you no longer wear so we have a great selection. You may drop it off in the church office.

We need help pricing jewelry for the sale. Volunteers are invited to 'pricing parties' on Monday April 9th, Tuesday April 17th, and Thursday April 26th from 9:30am to 11:30am each day. We will set up for the sale on Friday May 4th. Please let Carol Jarvis know if you can help during the sale on Saturday. We'll have a morning shift and an afternoon shift.

Mark your calendars for the May 6th Painting Party - we'll have a ball painting with direction from art teacher Carol Jarvis. Sign up in Realm.

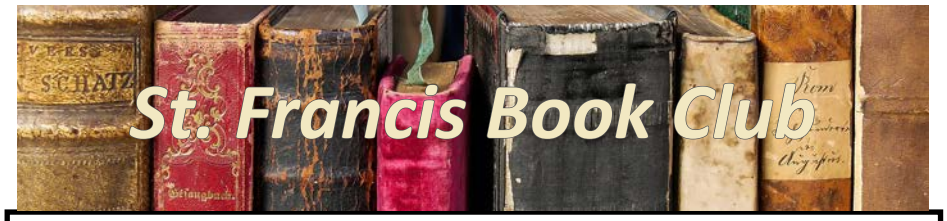
The summer pot luck dinners are back by popular demand. Please let Jane Kirkhoff know if you are willing to host. Last year, the dinners were themed - picnic style, formal, etc - but you can choose the format for your dinner. These dinners offer a great opportunity for the St. Francis community to cultivate our fellowship.

Laurel Bahar is organizing a Spring trip to the the Lorton Art Center, which is sure to be a good time. Stay tuned for details.

We also plan to have a lecture in early June with Rev. Ruth Everhart, minister of the Hermon Presbyterian Church in Carderock and author of '*Ruined*' and '*Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land.*' We'll provide more details soon.

- Carol Jarvis

Join us for a Trip to DC's New **Museum of the Bible on Sunday, April 29.** We will departing from St. Francis at 1:00pm. We will have a one-hour "Bible in the Arts" tour, including highlights of the permanent collection, as well as time to explore an impressive array of multimedia displays and visiting exhibits. Many displays are specially designed for children. Cost for the tour and museum admission is $20 per person. Those who wish may continue to the National Gallery to view a special exhibit on Baroque depictions of the stigmatization of St. Francis. Sign up on the Communication Card or through Realm and let Father Mark know if you are willing to drive. **The deadline for reserving a spot on the trip is Thursday April 19th.**



Here are the dates and selections for the upcoming 2018 Women of St. Francis Book Club meetings, which are open to all. We generally meet at 11:30am on the first Tuesday of the month, with a few exceptions.

May 1: "*Pachinko*" by Min Jin Lee, 2017. Discussion led by Kathleen Alexander. [Beginning in 1910 during the time of Japanese colonialization and ending many decades later in 1989, Pachinko is the epic saga of a Korean family told over four generations. The family's story starts with Hoonie, a young Korean man born with physical deformities, whose destiny comes from his inner strength and kindness. Hoonie's daughter, rather than bring shame on her family, leaves their homeland for Japan, where her children and grandchildren will be born and raised; yet prejudice against their Korean heritage prevent them from ever feeling at home. Lee's exceptional story of one family is the story of many of the world's people. They ask only for the chance to belong somewhere—and to be judged by their hearts and actions rather than by ideas of blood traits and bad seeds. --Seira Wilson, The Amazon Book Review]

PLEASE NOTE that the June meeting is cancelled due to scheduled absences of several members. The July meeting will be July 10th, which is the second Tuesday of the month.

July 10: "*Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*" by David Grann, 2017. Discussion led by Nancy Hoke. [In the 1920s, the Osage found themselves in a unique position among Native Americans tribes. As other tribal lands were parceled out...by the government to encourage dissolution and assimilation of both lands and culture, the Osage negotiated to maintain the mineral rights for their corner of Oklahoma, creating a kind of "underground reservation." It proved a savvy move; soon countless oil rigs punctured the dusty landscape, making the Osage very rich. And that's when they started dying. With obsessive attention to fact, the book reads like narrative-nonfiction: smart, taut, and pacey. Most sobering, though, is how the tale is at once unsurprising and unbelievable, full of the arrogance, audacity, and inhumanity that continues to reverberate through today's headlines. --Jon Foro, The Amazon Book Review]

We're happy to hear your suggestions for book selections, so please bring your ideas to the meeting or email Mary Blehar at blehar.mary@gmail.com.

Children Happy with the Knowledge of God

Our annual Evening of the Arts program will be April 14th at 6pm. Please join us for dinner, entertainment and art provided by the St. Francis Sunday School Children.

Enjoy musical performances, poetry readings, an art gallery, and maybe even baked goods that showcase the talents of the children in our Sunday School. There will be a silent auction for the art pieces produced by the children.

Many of you know this already, but for those of you who haven't yet been to an Evening of the Arts, you will be inspired by the wonderful talents of the children of St. Francis.

Please join us to support their efforts, and to help them to support the people of the Diocese of Kondoa in Tanzania. The children are very excited to do their part to help the people of the Diocese of Kondoa, and hope you will support their special program.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

VOICE of the Vestry

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

Among the items discussed at its March 27th meeting, those of immediate concern to the parish are summarized below.

Sacristy Renovation
As part of the Capital Campaign, Fred Meloan was tasked with designing a renovation of the Sacristy. An architect working pro bono, in consultation with Mr. Meloan, designed plans that include new cabinetry, countertops, floors, sink, water heater, lighting, and door locksets. The Vestry is generally supportive of the plans, but Mr. Harrison will ask Mr. Meloan to provide several options of varying cost for replacing the cabinetry, the highest cost portion of the renovation.

Cleaning Contract
Fr. Mark stated that among the companies invited to bid, only Miracle Maid completed a full bid for cleaning that portion of the church premises used exclusively by St. Francis at a cost of $1390 per month. The cleaning will take place on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. We received two strong recommendations for Miracle Maid, which also cleaned up after the renovation of our nave. The Vestry voted unanimously to hire Miracle Maid, beginning April 1, 2018.

Outdoor Sign Discussion
Clergy, Wardens and Karen Schneider, the Communications Director, have been exploring the possibility of a new, electronic sign to replace the current sign in front of the church. Ms. Schneider and Mr. Tozer prepared suggested drawings for consideration by the Vestry. The suggested plan included two electronic sections, each five feet by seven feet, oriented in a v-shape and raised one foot off the ground, on a wooden or brick platform. It would be located in the same general area as the current temporary v-shaped sign in front of the church. Montgomery County electronic sign rules (which do not apply to fire stations and schools) allow the signs to change only once every 24 hours, and prohibit flashing or moving images. Fr. Mark and others previously met with a very knowledgeable representative from Watchfire Signs who estimates that the digital portions of the sign will cost $12,000-$15,000. The Vestry will be studying this matter further.

Election of New Treasurer
The Vestry voted unanimously to appoint Kathy Cuddapah as the new Treasurer of the Vestry. Ms. Cuddapah replaces Gary Bachman, who has served with great diligence and faithfulness for many years. She is a CPA, with a professional specialty in nonprofit accounting, especially churches. We will honor Mr. Bachman's service at a coffee hour in April.

Kitchen Exterior Door Replacement
The Vestry voted unanimously to proceed with the replacement of the door at a cost not to exceed $6,000.

Dexter Ewel,
Senior Warden

BREAKDOWN OF CAPITAL CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES FOR THE PARISH

Here is a breakdown of Capital Campaign pledges and expenditures for the parish as of March 31, 2018:

Pledge Monies Received	$1,436,295	
Interest	$2,963	
Net Income		**$1,439,258**
Gross Expenditures	$1,270,221	
Insurance proceeds (storm damage to roof)	-$41,701	
Net Expenditures (see below for breakdown)		**$1,228,520**
Capital Campaign Balance		**$210,738**
Net Expenditures Breakdown		
CC Consultants	$99,000	7.7%
Church Windows	$134,223	10.9%
Exterior Trim Painting	$54,947	4.5%
Hall & School upgrades, office paintng	$40,909	3.3%
Paving	$31,961	2.6%
Roof	$133,707	10.9%
Nave	$608,623	49.6%
Church HVAC	$63,060	5.1%
Rectory	$58,592	4.8%
Sacristy (*includes $5,000 designated gift)	$314	0.03%
Pew Racks (* 50% down payment)	$588	0.05%
Miscellaneous	$6,597	0.5%

- Kathleen Alexander, Capital Campaign Chair

"There are stars among us"

Parishioner Profile

"Everyone has a story to tell if you simply listen"

After a courageous fight against cancer, Anne Deruyttere passed away on April 2, 2018 at her home in Bethesda, Maryland.

An anthropologist and an economist, Anne was widely known for her work with indigenous peoples' rights. In 1994, she was named the first Chief of the Indigenous Peoples and Community Development Unit at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C.; she held this position for 14 years. But her work for social justice began far earlier. Her first professional position was with the Commission for Justice and Peace, where she once escorted future Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu around Leuven, Belgium (they would meet again some 20 years later when Ms. Menchu came to Washington).

Although Anne interacted with foreign ministers and leaders of all stripes, she enjoyed most talking with the working class people: the maids, the farmers, the bellhops. An avid learner, she loved to ask people about their heritage, their jobs, their working conditions, their outlook on life. She always felt that her "competitive advantage," as she called it, was her ease of learning languages; she was fluent in five (Flemish, French, English, Spanish, and Portuguese), and dabbled in German.

In 1980, Anne received her Masters of Science in Social Anthropology from the University of Edinburgh, matching her Masters of Arts in Economics from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium in 1978. Anne received many awards throughout her academic and professional career, including the Orden del Quinto Sol from President Alejandro Toledo of Peru, 2003; The Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Leadership in the Promotion of Equity in International Development, Inter-American Development Bank Diversity Group, 2003; and Laureate of the 1978 Award of the Belgian Minister of Foreign Trade. She authored many reports and publications, including Pueblos Indigenas y Desarrollo Sostenible: el Programma del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo en Pueblas Indigenas y Cooperacion Internacional en America Latina (2000) and Indigenous Peoples: Equal Rights, Equal Respect (1999).

She was a highly sought-after speaker, panelist, and conference organizer among institutions around the world, including Duke University, Harvard University, the United Nations, Carlos III University (Madrid), Laval University (Quebec City), Georgetown University, Oxford University, the Organization of American States, and the World Bank.

She is survived by her husband of 29 years, Christopher Michael Rigaux; her three children, Valerie, Steven, and Erik; her sister, Klara Deruyttere; her brother, Jan Deruyttere; and numerous relatives living predominantly in Belgium. Anne was born on December 1, 1956, in Leuven, Belgium. Although she lived in the United States for 35 years, she never became an American citizen. She loved St. Francis Episcopal Church in Potomac, Maryland, where her ashes will be interred.

Anne was such an extraordinary woman, who led a beautiful life and touched so many people's lives in so many ways. Her bright eyes and broad smile were full of joy and genuine caring for others. We are ever so grateful for the time she spent with us.

As a humanist and an environmentalist, Anne would much prefer that in lieu of flowers, you donate to one of her favorite charities: Doctors Without Borders; Amnesty International; Women to Women International; Cultural Survival; and St. Francis Episcopal Church.

A memorial service to celebrate Anne's life was held Saturday, April 7, 2018, at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 10033 River Road, Potomac, MD.

Easter Memorials

Thank you to the following parishioners for their generous donations to the flowers that so beautifully adorned the sanctuary on Easter Day:

IN CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, AND HIS RESURRECTION

To the Glory of God, by Chuck and Helen Wilson; Kathy and Norm Barker; Jean, Cross & Constantine Ibe-Bobo; Rosemary MacDonald; Helen Stupar; Gail & Preston Feagles; the Tull Family; Kathy & Norm Barker and Nancy & John Mion.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Their son, Chris, by Jules & Patricia Bernard; Allan Lock, Albert Lock, Bill & Clara Yamomoto, and May Lee by Kathy Lock; Mary Day, by Leroy E. Day; Keith White, Leo & Bessie Byam, loving parents of Debra & Gerard Byam by Debra & Gerard Byam; Charles, Betty & Lily Maude De Priest, Norma Stephenson & Ralph Seward, by Tim & Diane Seward; Julius & Marty Curtis, parents of Mary Blehar; Harry L. Smith, Ann W. Baldwin & Regnal W. Baldwin, by Cherry Smith; George Joseph Schnabel II & George William Schnabel by Kaaren Agnez Morgan & Mark Morgan; their parents by Jon & Emilee Reynolds; Little Charlie by Laurence C. Nolan; Louis & Maurille Weinig by William & Susan Weinig; their parents Katherine & Hugh Peck and Laura and John Schaefgen, Sr., by Katherine & John Schaefgen and Cynthia & James Alexander; Bill & Marion Jordan, and Gene & Bernice Jasin by Andy Jordan and John Jasin; her husband, George A. Courie, by Diana Courie; Duncan Farrell, by June Farrell; Wayne Jarvis and Marie Houck, by Carol Jarvis; Michael Doran, by Kathy Lavinder and Sam & Emma Doran; family & friends, by Carol Thedford; and Chris, Leslie & Andrea, by Nancy & John Mion.

IN THANKSGIVING FOR

For Gary's beautiful music, by Lynne Astrich; for their grandsons, Kem & Cairo, by Debra & Gerard Byam; for all God's blessings, by Barbara & Jim Moore; their loving family & friends, by Russ & Sally Schofield; family, past and present, by Nancy Hoke.

IN CELEBRATION OF

Emily Weinig on her birthday, by William & Susan Weinig.

Many thanks to all the parishioners who helped with the fellowship activities throughout the Lenten season.

Thank you to all who helped support the Simple Soup Suppers and the Quiet Saturday Lunch by making the soups, serving, and then cleaning up: Laurel Bahar, Dexter Ewel, Carol Jarvis, Terri VandeSande, Norma & Jeff Young, Karen Brinkmann & Fred Johnsen, and Susan Dolan.

Thank you from the many who enjoyed the Maundy Thursday Lamb Stew Dinner, which was orchestrated by Laurel Bahar, Gail Feagles, Barbara Moore, Terri VandeSande, Emilee Reynolds, Susan Dolan, and Carol Jarvis. Their efforts in shopping, preparing, serving, and cleaning up the dinner were greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Carol Jarvis, Libby Rubin, and Anne Baker for all their efforts in making the Easter Egg Hunt such a joyful experience for our parish children, families, and their friends.

Thank you to Carol Hansen and Missy Beall for their thoughtfulness in organizing the making of Easter Baskets by our parish Sunday School children for the children at Montgomery County shelters.

Thank you to the Flower Guild who so beautifully decorated St. Francis for Easter - Sandy Gaddy, Lisa Gaddy, Laurel Bahar, Sue Tendall, Carol Jarvis, Coreta Osborne, Debra Byam, Kissie Martin, and Helen Stupar.

A special "thank you" to Father Mark, Father Mac, and Gary Davison for the wonderfully meaningful Vesper services, thought-provoking Holy Week services, and the glorious Easter Day services.

And lastly, thank you to the thoughtful team of Petal Pushers - Susan Dolan, Karen Meyers, Norma Young, and Liz Harrison - who made time on Easter afternoon to deliver twelve bouquets to St. Francis parishioners who are on our prayer list.

Many of our parishioners enjoyed these wonderful fellowship events throughout the Lenten season at St. Francis.

Thanks be to God!

- Kathy Barker
Vestry, Fellowship

Parents of High School Seniors:

We plan to feature seniors in our June Parishioner Profile section. We need your help with the profiles, so please reach out to Karen for more information.

AUTHORS' CORNER

My latest book is titled "God Will Do The Deciding." It is a true story of the love and support provided to the author and his wife during a long period of illness of his wife until her death. The primary support came from the members and clergy of St. Francis Church. The book describes the care of an individual who chose to remain in her home instead of an institution for the final years of her life. The story is a testament of the love of a group of people for one of their own. A copy of the book is on the "Author's Shelf" in the Library. Book price is $15 plus $3 postage.

- Roy Day

Are you new to St. Francis?

We're very glad you are here! We look forward to getting to know you better, and we hope you will join us at our upcoming services and other parish activities. Most of our services and activities are listed here in this newsletter, but please visit our website to learn more about our church.

Please share your contact information with us so we can give you a proper welcome and include you in our weekly and monthly communications. You can fill out the communication card in the pew or in your church bulletin, or you may call the office at 301-365-2055. Father Mark Michael, our newcomers committee and our entire church family welcome you with open arms.

Adult Education Programs

There are two Adult Forum series beginning in April. They will run concurrently during the Sunday School hour begining at 10:30am. One is targeted for those who care for young children and the other for those approaching and in retirement.

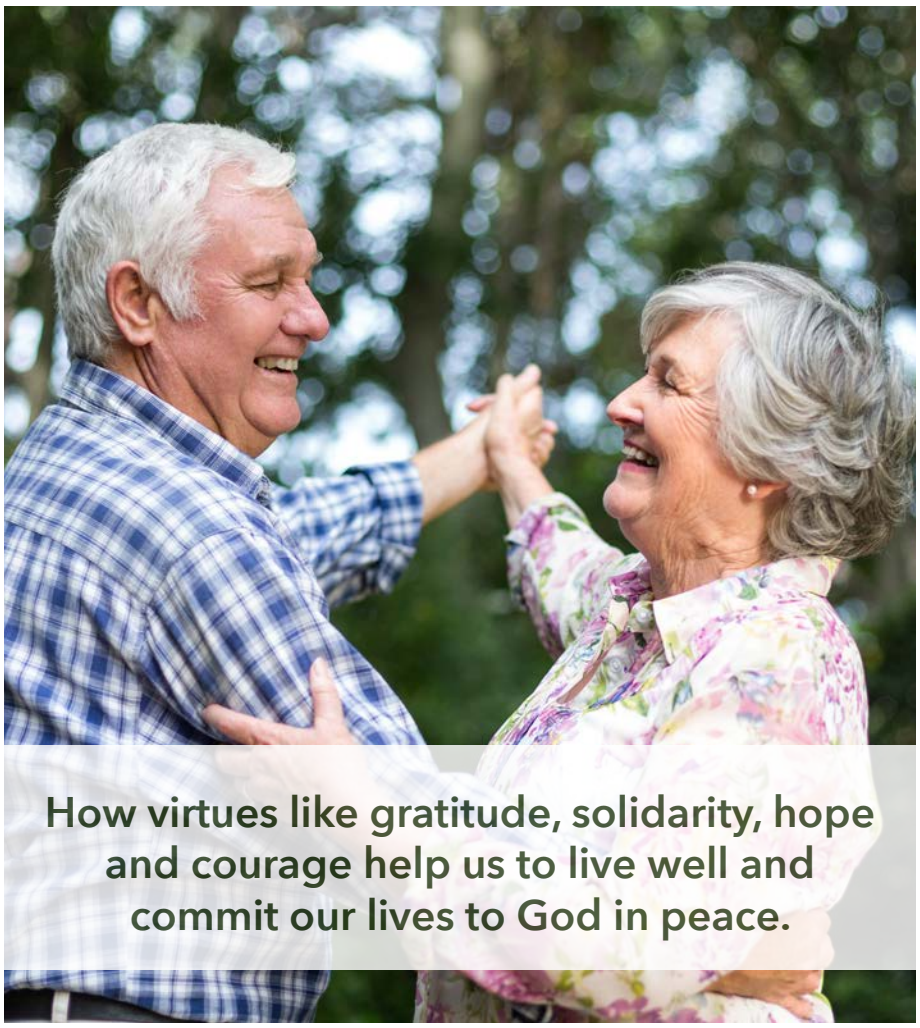
Christian Hope and Virtues at the End of Life is the theme of the Adult Forum series which begins on April 15 at 10:30am. The first session will include a presentation about St. Francis' new planned giving program, and an introduction to the series. Later sessions led by Father Mark and Father Mac will focus on virtues like gratitude, solidarity, hope and courage that help us to live well and to commit our lives to God in peace.

Faith Conversations with Kids in a Scary World is a new five-session adult forum series aimed at equipping parents and others who care for children to talk about difficult topics like death, violence, family tension and mental illness. Pastor Allison and Father Mark will lead the discussion-based class, which meets in Kincaid Library at 10:30 on Sundays, beginning on April 22.

We hope you will join us for one of this timely and relevant discussions. They are sure to help you in your daily interactions with family friends. Coffee and donuts will be available in St. Francis Hall at the beginning of the Adult Forum hour.

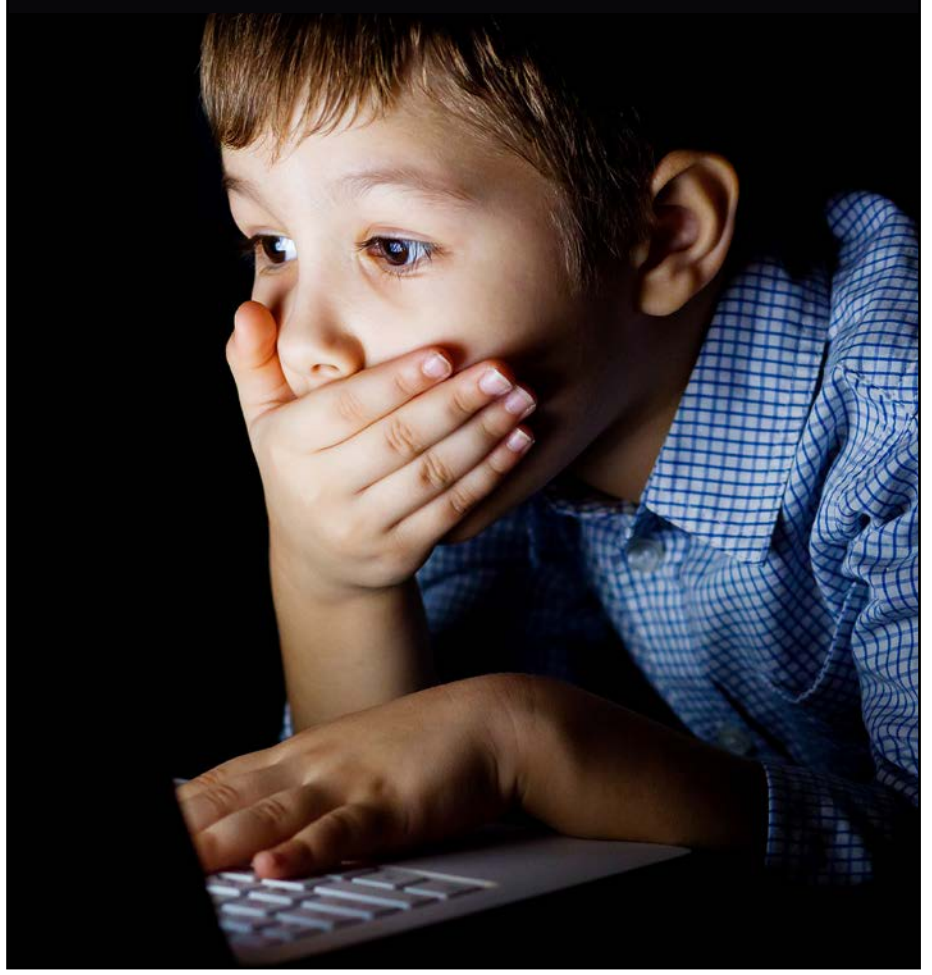
Adult Forum Series
Sundays at 10:30 beginning April 15

Christian Hope & Virtues at the End of Life



Faith Conversations **with Kids** in Today's Scary World

Adult Forum
Sundays at 10:30 April 22 - May 20



YOUTH GROUP

MEETINGS: SUNDAYS AT 6:00 PM IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT.

ALL 7TH - 12TH GRADERS ARE WELCOME!!

A very warm and happy Easter to all from the Youth Group! Our Youth Alpha program continues to provide an engaging source of reflection for our weekly Sunday evening meetings, and thanks to the ongoing generosity of the Women of St. Francis these times of reflection and conversation are always preceded by our sharing in a wonderful meal together. Some of the topics we've discussed in recent weeks include practical guidance on incorporating prayer more deeply into life, the role of the Holy Spirit in leading us into deeper communion with Jesus, and how to serve and trust God in the midst of all the pressures we feel to fit in and excel in life. In coming weeks we will talk, among other things, about how to face the evil in the world – an especially relevant topic for students right now in light of the devastating events in schools around the country in recent weeks and months.

We are also looking ahead, now that summer is just around the corner, to our Mission Trip, June 17-23, to Cedar Grove, WV. It is not too late to join the trip! We had a wonderful bake sale on Palm Sunday as an important fundraiser, and many of our youth worked very hard to prepare for it. Many thanks to all those who baked items for the sale, and especially to the team of bakers who enjoyed a very fun evening in the kitchen at Glenolden House making all kinds of brownies, cookies, and cakes. Thanks to their efforts, we raised over $800 for the Mission Trip! Thanks also to Erin Buckingham who put together some wonderful Easter baskets for sale on Palm Sunday and Easter as another booster for the fundraising efforts. Our next fundraiser will be a car wash after the 9:15am service on April 29th. Be sure to stick around after church or stop by after the adult forum to get your car washed.

Blessings in Christ,
Fr. Mac Stewart

It Takes A Village.
Are You In?

Car Wash fundraiser

APRIL 19TH STARTING AT 10:30AM
GLENOLDEN HOUSE DRIVEWAY

DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARD
MISSION TRIP COSTS

Kids' Corner

Did you know that April 14th is the evening of the arts? It will include dinner, and we would love for you to come. Last year, many of the Sunday School kids participated in the event with Mrs. Beall. Some of the kids made artwork like painting, little clay figures, jewelry, drawing, and even greeting cards. Some kids also performed their instruments like cello, flute, piano, and guitar. It was so much fun and we raised a lot of money to help Bishop Gaula in Tanzania. Did you know that Tanzania is a country in the middle of Africa on the East coast? Bishop Gaula was one of the preists that served at our church for a litte while while he was studying for his Masters degree nearby. Now he supervises over 200 churches in Tanzania! When people come to the evening of the arts, they kindly donate money to help Bishop Gaula's church and the school in his community. Many of the adults and kids in that school do not have access to water, good food, jobs, or even a good school like you do, so they can't learn how to paint, make art, play an instrument, or have a job like you have the opportunity to do.

So, what can you do to help these kids have the opportunity to learn and do fun things like you get to do? Well, you can help with the evening of the arts. Just like the kids last year, you can use your talents to create whatever you want and sell it at the event. If you have a song that you have been working on with your instrument, you can play that too! You can even read a poem or sing. I'm going to play my cello and bake something yummy.

When you take your time to practice your song or make your art, you are helping raise money for the kids at Bishop Gaula's school. If we raise enough money, the kids in Tanzania will be able to go to school and learn new things just like you learn in your school. They might even learn how to make some art or learn how to make music. This means that by using your talents, you are helping other kids just like you. So, if you have any talents that you would like to show at the evening of the arts, talk to Mrs. Beall or Caroline Schneider because you could make a difference in someone's life.

Don't forget to tell your parents to come to the evening of the arts! Check out pages 7 and 10 for more information about it.

- Caroline Schneider

Faces of St. Francis

Men of St. Francis St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Men of St. Francis St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Thanks to the Flower Guild for the beautiful flowers adorning the church at Easter

Celebrations & Achievements

Please congratulate these members of our church family as we celebrate with them

Happy Birthday

Congratulations

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Cynthia Alexander
Monique Anderson
Tad Asbury
Alice Blair
Faye Bonner
Judy Brown
Devar Burbage
Miriam Calhoun
Betsy Carmelite
Robert Cressy
Elena Detwiler
Richard Drummond
Lee Elliott
Cynthia Ewel
Dexter Ewel
Prentiss Feagles
Nikki Fraser
Gregory Haymon
Mary Hulen
Mac Jacoby
Catherine Johnston
Jane Kneessi
Katelynn Leemhuis
Chris Lynch
Sally Schofield
Daylin Short
Martha Spak
Helen Stupar
Carly Thayer
Emma Thayer
Kelly Thompson
Caroline Vincent
Lauren Walker
Ashley Weaver
Brittany Weaver
Emily Weinig
John Whatley
Kyle Wilson
William C. Wyatt

CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to Roy Day on the publication of his new book, *"God Will Do The Deciding"* which highlights Christianity in action within the St. Francis church family.

Please share your celebrations, achievements and successes so we can include them here and celebrate with you.

Happy Anniversary

Celebrations

Community Bulletin Board

Safeguarding God's Children training provides participants with the information they need to protect the children they know and care for in their personal lives and the ministries in which they serve. This training is required for anyone interacting with children through the church. Registration is now open for our spring sessions.

April 14 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene
April 21 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity
April 26 from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at St. Columba's

Tell us about your group's upcoming events, and we'll include them here!

BBQ Fundraiser for Stepping Stones Shelter
April 29, 2018, 2-6 pm

St. Francis has supported Stepping Stones Shelter for a number of years, both with funds and in-kind contributions. They are holding their main fundraiser, a BBQ on **April 29 from 2-6 pm at Smokey Glen Farm**, 16407 Riffleford Road, Gaithersburg, MD. Tickets ahead of time are $40 for adults, $20 for children (5-11), and children under 4 free; at the door they are $50 and $25; all you can eat BBQ plus beverage, kids games, silent auction, and deejay. For more information and tickets, or to make a donation to Stepping Stones, visit www.stepppingstonesshelter.org or call (301) 251-0567. So have a fun day and support one of the key agencies in Montgomery County that helps families move from crisis to a stable home environment by providing temporary shelter and support services.

Trinity Chamber Orchestra

THE TRINITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF WASHINGTON

SUNDAY, APRIL 22D AT 4:00 P.M.

Borodin: Overture to Prince Igor
Mozart: Symphony No. 31 *(Paris)*
Puccini: Intermezzo from Manon Lescaut
Popular Selections from stage and screen by: Tina Boosahda, soprano; Christina Massimei, soprano; Michael Maele, tenor; and Joseph Baker, bass
With The Stone Ridge Junior Chorus
Our Lady of Lourdes
7500 Pearl St., Bethesda MD 20814
www.trinitychamberorchestra.org

parishioner Karen Schneider is a cellist in this orchestra

TICKET DONATION: $20 IN ADVANCE; $25 AT DOOR
STUDENTS: $10 IN ADVANCE; $15 AT DOOR

CALL (301) 926-0936

Our Lady of Lourdes is located two blocks east of the Bethesda metro.
Ample parking is available in church parking lot.

HANDEL
LAUDATE PUERI DOMINUM

FINZI
MAGNIFICAT

BARTOLDUS
MAGNIFICAT
SELECTIONS
WORLD PREMIERE

CHARPENTIER
TE DEUM

Sunday, April 22, 2018, 4:30 p.m.
National Presbyterian Church

Robert Shafer, Conductor
The City Choir of Washington

THE CITY CHOIR OF WASHINGTON
Robert Shafer
Artistic Director

ST. FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
10033 RIVER ROAD POTOMAC, MD 20854
301-365-2055

We are here for you!

Please stop by or reach out by phone or email. We're happy to help!

10033 RIVER RD
POTOMAC, MD
20854

Weekly Services

Holy Eucharist:
Sundays: 8am, 9:15am, 11:30am
Wednesdays at 10am
Morning Prayer:
Tu, Fri at 9:30 & Th at 10:00am
Evening Prayer:
Tu, Th, Fri at 5pm

301-365-2055

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 9am - 4pm

EMAIL US!

Rector: Mark Michael
mmichael@stfrancispotomac.or

Associate Rector: Mac Stewart
mstewart@stfrancispotomac.org

www.stfrancispotomac.org

Organist,: Gary Davison
gapada@aol.com

Christian Education: Missy Beall
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