

SOUNDS OF ST. FRANCIS

FALL 2024



ST. FRANCIS
POTOMAC



In This Issue ...

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Current Schedule | 3 |
| Vestry. | 4 |
| Summer Picnic. | 5 |
| Sunday School and Nursery..... | 6 |
| Music Notes | 7 |
| Parish Life | 8 |
| Vacation Bible School.. | 9 |
| Mission Trip..... | 11 |
| Mercy Youth..... | 13 |
| Grounds Updates..... | 14 |
| Past Events..... | 15 |
| Upcoming Events..... | 16 |

Rector
Fr. Mark Michael
mmichael@stfrancispotomac.org

Pastor for Adult and Youth Formation
Rev. Dr. Allison Michael
amichael@stfrancispotomac.org

Organist and Choirmaster
John Widmann
music@stfrancispotomac.org

Property Manager
Shanti Nanan
snanan@stfrancispotomac.org

Parish Life, Sunday School & Outreach
Coordinator Kathy Herrmann
kherrmann@stfrancispotomac.org

AV and Livestream Technician
Sean Smith
livestream@stfrancispotomac.org

Sounds of St. Francis Submissions
sounds@stfrancispotomac.org

General Information
info@stfrancispotomac.org

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 8th



SUNDAYS

8:00am Morning Prayer
9:00 am Sunday School
9:15am Holy Eucharist
*Coffee and Doughnuts after
the service*

TUESDAYS

10:15 Holy Eucharist
11am Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS

8:30am Morning Prayer
11am Book Club(2nd Wednesdays)
6:30pm Talk of the Town (2nd
Wednesdays
5pm Evening Prayer

THURSDAYS

Noon Savvy Seniors Luncheon (3rd
Thursday)- Confirm with office.

FRIDAYS

8:30 am Morning Prayer
5:00 pm Evening Prayer

Welcome to Saint Francis Episcopal Church in Potomac, Maryland! Whether you have been a member of Saint Francis for decades or are new to our community, you will find here rich opportunities to worship the risen Lord, a warm welcome, and many opportunities to grow in faith and love.

Wherever you are in your own walk of faith, we would love to have you with us, not because we want something from you, but because we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good at Saint Francis, and we want to share that with you.

2024 VESTRY

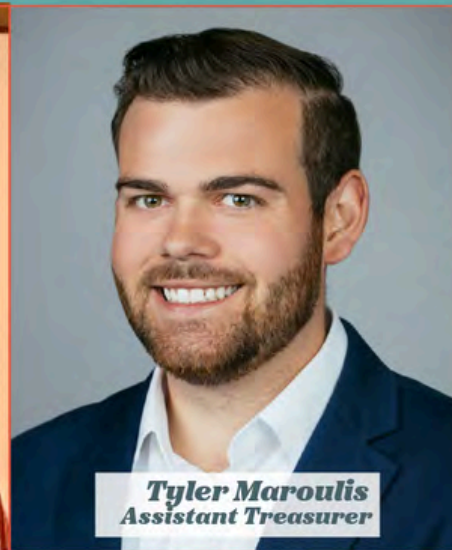
ST. FRANCIS



Sue Tendall
Senior Warden



Prentiss Feagles
Junior Warden



Tyler Maroulis
Assistant Treasurer



David Ruff
Finance



Debra Byam
Grounds



Kenneth Tester
Treasurer



Ann Warren
Newcomers



Gaines Hurdle
Fellowship



Matthew Hunter
Stewardship



Fan Oleson
Outreach



Tom Whitlock
Building Projects



Adam Schneider
Children & Youth



Pat McNeilly
Diocesan Delegate



Erica McNeilly
Diocesan Delegate



Clay Hough
Legal Counsel



Les Smith
Clerk

Summer Picnic Fun



Sunday School Teachers Wanted!

Spend some time with some of the youngest of our congregation. Refresh your memory while teaching the kids about The New testament, the Apostles, miracles and saints! We need help with all ages and you can volunteer for one turn or more.

Contact

Kherrmann@saintfrancispotomac.org





Music Notes

A Letter from Our Organist and Choir Director John Widmann

Internationally known Carillonneur

Choir will start to meet again on Thursdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5th, and will sing for services again starting Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 a.m.

Our choir welcomes volunteers, and we would love to have you sing with us! We sing each Sunday at 9:15, and about once a month we do a special service with more music, which can be either at the 9:15 service (Choral Morning Prayer), or in a separate evening service (Evensong, or another celebration). We also sing for special feast days like Christmas Eve, Ascension, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Our quartet is made up of our professional singers. Melodia "Mimi" Rinaldi is our Soprano, and Chris Fotis is our Bass. We currently have openings for our professional Tenor and Alto positions. We have two High School Choral Scholars currently, our Soprano, Elvira Martinez and our Tenor, Phillip Michael. We hope to add an Alto Choral Scholar this year. For this, we need to expand our budget. Donations would be welcome. Each Choral Scholar costs about \$2,100.00 annually. Our special services this year will be:

Sunday, September 29, 5:00 p.m: Evensong

Saturday, November 2, 5:00 p.m: All Souls Day Requiem (Fauré)

Sunday, November 17, 9:15 a.m: Choral Morning Prayer, featuring the Maryland State Boys' Choir under the direction of Stephen Holmes.

Sunday, December 8, 5:00 p.m: Festive Advent Service of Lessons and Carols

Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 p.m: Christmas Eve Family Service (quartet)

10:00 p.m: Christmas Eve Festive Service - Full Choir

Wednesday, December 25, 10:00 a.m: Christmas Day Service - quartet

Thursday, December 26 - choir off for Boxing Day. No rehearsal.

Sunday, January 26, 2025, 9:15 a.m: Choral Morning Prayer

Sunday, March 23, 2025, 5:00 p.m: Lenten Evensong

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 7:30 p.m: Maundy Thursday Service (followed by choir rehearsal, 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.)

Friday, April 18, 2025: Noon: Good Friday Service (quartet)

Saturday, April 19, 2025, 10:00 a.m. - Noon : Special Easter rehearsal with Brass

Sunday, April 20, 2025, 9:15 a.m. - Festive Easter Service - full choir

1:00 p.m. - Festive Easter Service - quartet

Sunday, May 18, 2025, 9:15 a.m: Choral Morning Prayer

Thursday, May 29, 2025: 7:30 p.m: Ascension Day Service (followed by choir rehearsal, 8:30 - 10:00 p.m.)



John Widmann

PARISH LIFE

We have been busy with a wide variety activities here at St. Francis. We work hard to have activities that appeal to a wide range of ages and interests, and we hope you have enjoyed some of the recent things we have done together. Mark your calendars now for upcoming events, so you don't miss out on any of the fun.

At the end-of year picnic, we bid Godspeed to Liz and Don Harrison as they readied for their move!



Sorrenti Baptism: Anthony, Evelyn, and Nathan, we welcome you into the household of God!



Praise music and worship night!





Children from the community recently attended Vacation Bible School with a theme centered around shining God's great light.





Appalachia Service Project Mission Trip



Student Reflection:

Audrey O'Beirne

At first, the prospect of going on a mission trip, five hours from home, for a whole week seemed extremely daunting. But as our group settled into the Appalachian environment, we began to feel more comfortable. I was assigned to the group “Smoothe” (yes the word is spelled wrong, but you’d have to ask the ASP members why), tasked with removing 30 year-old carpeting and even older trim and laying down vinyl flooring. We served a family of an older mother, Debra, and her 30 year old daughter, Robin. The mother was about to undergo surgery, and the heavy, plush, carpet had to be removed so that she could move around the home in a wheelchair/walker after the operation.

Overall, the mission helped to strengthen my faith in both God, and those who go out of their way to serve Him. At the mission trip, I met all types of people from different backgrounds, but the one thing they all had in common was the selflessness and their desire to serve and represent God in one of the most devoted ways possible; construction. When answering the question on where I saw God at work, I tried searching for something outside those in the ASP camp, but I realized the strongest “God sightings” were the men, women, boys, and girls that packed up their trucks each morning at seven and headed out into the West Virginia heat, preparing for an 8 hour workday of intense labor, unexpected problems, and, most of all, fellowship. God is served through ASP volunteers, and I urge anyone reading this to consider serving God like those ASP volunteers: to serve those who need it most.

Student Reflection:

Henry O'Beirne

On June 16, 2024, we left for West Virginia to serve ASP, the Appalachian Service Project. When we arrived, we set our stuff up and got ready for the next day. All of us were split into groups. My group included Pastor Allison, Ms. Lehning, Julia, Philip, and Anthony. We worked for a couple named Mr. Heart and Mrs. Heart. We had been sent to help him since his basement had been flooding due to rain pouring down a hill and into his basement. Our task was to dig a 60 foot long ditch that was 8 inches deep and 12 inches wide. After we finished that, we had to fill it all up with gravel. This was very hard work. It was extremely hot outside, and we were working there for almost seven hours a day. What made the work worthwhile was how much it affected our homeowner. After we had finished the ditch, he made it known to us how much he appreciated our work. One could tell how proud of us he was, and he each shook our hands after we had finished our work. Seeing him so happy and proud of us made me want to do more for him, and I knew that ASP would help him more after we left.

Throughout our work, I was reminded of how God worked through people. My homeowner was taking care of his granddaughter, since the parents were having another baby that was required to have open-heart surgery as soon as it was born. This made me and the group feel very touched, since he and his wife went out of their way to raise their grandchild, since they cared so much for their family. This is but one of the many “God sightings,” that I encountered. Another day, while my group and I were working on scooping gravel into the ditch, a cool breeze went right through us, which was a very quick but special feeling to have while working in the very hot sun. Ultimately, while working for Mr. Heart, I was faced by God wherever I went, and wherever I worked.



MERCYouth FALL 2024

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Philippians 4:8



SEPT 14

DC Central Kitchen Food Prep

Prepare food for the homeless and support one of the great DC nonprofits. 9am-noon at 2121 1st St. SE. Carpools will depart around 8. Waivers and sign ups must be completed in advance, and close toed shoes worn. SSL eligible.



SEPT 22
Cookout & Teen Speaker

Join us for hot dogs, burgers, and outdoor games on the Saint Francis Lawn 6:30-8:00 pm



OCT 5
Tree Planting Project

9 am @ St. James. SSL Eligible

OCT 20

Pumpkin Decorating Party!

Join us for Halloween treats and a chance to hang out and celebrate! Christ Episcopal Church. 6:30-7:30pm. SSL Eligible.

OCT 26

- Morning of Service for Veterans- 9am-noon @ Saint Francis (SSL eligible)
- Trunk or Treat & Manna Food Drive @ St. James 4:00-6:00pm (SSL eligible)

NOV 17

Laser Tag

Meet at Shadowlands in Gaithersburg at 4pm. 624 Quince Orchard Rd.

DEC 1

Middle School/High School Dinners

Middle School-- California Tortilla, High School--Shake Shack at Cabin John Plaza. Bring money for dinner! 6:30-7:30pm .

DEC 22

Christmas Caroling at Retirement Homes

Schedule TBD, but will include visits to 2-3 communities, 2-4pm. SSL Eligible

MERCY is a joint ministry of Christ Episcopal Church (Rockville), Saint James Episcopal Church (Potomac), and Saint Francis Episcopal Church (Potomac). Contact Pastor Allison Michael or Maddie Weber for info about these or other upcoming events. amichael@stfrancispotomac.org or maddie@stjamespotomac.org
Stay tuned for spring events including preparing food for the IFW women's shelter (at Christ Episcopal Church), Line Dancing (at St. Francis), and Peeps Dioramas (at St. James)!

Building and Grounds Updates

The HVAC Project: (from Tom Whitlock)

The first phase of a multi-phased HVAC project is complete! As of 14 July 2023 the new air-handlers, One, Two and Three along with the new rooftop chiller have been commissioned by the contractor and officially approved by Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services. This new equipment serves St. Francis Hall, Administrative Offices, the Cribbery and common hallway areas.

Phase two is currently under design development and is expected to begin 3rd quarter of 2024. Current scope pertains to boiler replacements and infrastructure HVAC piping and valves.

Other property News

For our upcoming yearly inspection:

We replaced a nonworking phone in the elevator which is now being monitored by Splaine Security.

Annual inspection of the elevator, fire panel, and sprinklers is scheduled on Tuesday, September 3rd. There is still some work to be done such as replacing a few sprinkler heads in a few classrooms which will be paid for by GHES along with a few valves.

We have been busy with repairing and painting, cleaning up the grounds and planting some more flowering plants around our campus. Soon we will begin to work on the flagstone repairs, powerwashing and additional repairs in both buildings.

*Sincerely,
Shanti A. Nanan*



POOL PARTY!

A pool party was held on August 3rd at the Herrmann's to say goodbye to summer and enjoy some church family fellowship!



Talk of the town

*Featuring Lynn speaking about her **life-changing** work in the Middle East.*



Family-Friendly Fun

Fall 2024

25
AUG

BACKPACK BLESSINGS

Bring your backpack or briefcase to church at 9:15 for a special blessing during church!

08
SEPT

BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Ice cream, brunch foods, games, bounce house after 9:15 worship (about 10:30am).

06
OCT

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Bring your furry friends (or a picture of your furry friends) for a blessing in the columbarium courtyard. 5pm

26
OCT

DAY OF SERVICE FOR VETERANS

Inter-generational service projects to honor and serve troops and veterans! Service hours eligible for MCPS teens. 9am-noon.

27
OCT

APOSTLES AND SAINTS PARADE AND PICNIC

Come dressed as your favorite Saint or character from the Bible and we'll have a parade and saintly foods after 9:15 worship!

02
NOV

ALL SOULS STORIES AND SOUL CAKES

Join us for our All Soul's Requiem, a special musical offering, followed by stories, songs, soul cakes, and a camp fire in the columbarium courtyard! 5-7:30pm.

08
DEC

ST. NICHOLAS PARTY

Much beloved lessons and carols service, followed by a visit from Saint Nicholas (the saint, not his friend Santa Claus) and some holiday St. Nick treats!

15
DEC

PAGEANT WITH LIVE NATIVITY

Rehearsals start during Sunday School on December 1 and 8. We'd love to have friends participate or just to come watch and visit the miniature barn animals! At the end of the 9:15 service!

St. Francis Parish

Renewal Sunday Potluck Brunch

Mix and mingle with
fellow church pals
and get cozy with
the fall events
calendar.

Sunday, September 8th
Following the 9:30
service

Talk of the Town



September 11th, 6:30pm

Dinner 5:30pm

Meet Cherisse Crawford and learn about her quest to reclaim and restore this 150 year old black cemetery

Saint Francis Episcopal Church



*Kickball, Croquet,
and Lawn Games*

September 15th

Right after worship.

Have fun with our church family!

turbance, labor, or affectation; easily.
quiet; repose; facility: *v.t.* to free
from pain, anxiety, or trouble: give financial comfort. [Colloq.]

Join us
for

BOOK CLUB

SECOND
WEDNESDAY OF
THE MONTH
@ 11 AM

Next Book for Sept 11th:
The True Believer
by Eric Hoffer





St. Francis
Episcopal Church

BIBLE

Study

11 AM-12PM

Tuesdays

The Book of
John

Kincaid Library or Zoom

Courtyard Cocktail Party

September 22
6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. Francis Episcopal Church

Hosted by Sue Tendall
(We've asked Kathy's Scottish dog to bring the whiskey)





Saint Francis Day Blessing of the Animals

Bring your beloved pet or a
picture or just come for the fun!

October 6 @ 5pm - Courtyard





★ Talk of the Town ★

Fisher House: Serving Patients and Families at Walter Reed

October 9th @ 6:30pm
Saint Francis Library

The background of the entire poster is a close-up, textured image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a slightly draped or folded manner.

DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

★ ★ ★ *Supporting* ★ ★ ★

VETERANS &

— *THOSE WHO* —

SERVE

9am-Noon, October 26 2024
Saint Francis Episcopal Church
10033 River Rd. Potomac MD



Faure's Requiem

followed by

**AN ALL SOUL'S DAY PARTY
FOR ALL AGES IN THE
COLUMBARIUM COURTYARD**

Soul Cakes, Saintly Foods, and (not too) Scary
Stories around the campfire! Childcare provided
during the presentation of the Requiem

November 2, 5pm



All Saints' Parade & PARTY

9:15am
OCTOBER 24th
NOVEMBER 3rd

**We'll help the kids find a
costume for a bible character or
a Saint!**

*Practice on October 24th; Crafts,
saintly-themed coffee hour, after church on
All Saint's Day, November 3rd.*

**SAINT FRANCIS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
10033 River Rd.**

15 Nov
\$20

Bling Preview Sale

6-8 pm

St. Francis Parish Hall Potomac



SECOND-HAND BLING SALE

Purses, Jewelry, and Other small, high-quality Items for Sale to raise money for Projects to Combat Hunger and Homelessness!





November 16, 10am-2pm
To donate, contact
kherrmann@stfrancispotomac.org




Saint Francis Lobsterfest



Join us on November 16th at 6pm for a night of fellowship and fantastic cuisine. Dinner is \$42 per person and includes lobster, potato, coleslaw, drinks, and dessert. Reservations are required by November 9th. You can register in Realm or by calling the front office.



Maryland Boychoir

Sunday, Nov 17

Join us for Choral Morning Prayer @ 9:15 am, followed by a brief concert



Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop

*Join florist Lisa Ruf to design a
one-of-a-kind arrangement for your
Thanksgiving Table. Pricing TBD.*

November 26, 2024

6:30-8:00pm



Do you love to chat with fellow parishioners? Then we'd love to have your smiling face greeting our church family and visitors after Sunday services. It's an easy and fun way to get involved here at church, and requires a very small time commitment. You will assist with doughnuts and coffee set up followed by a quick clean up themselves. Contact Kathy Herrmann with questions.

**See you,
Sunday!**



SIGN UP FOR TEXTS

Do you overlook emails and prefer to get important information via text? If so, we're setting up texting for weekly notifications, weather-closures, etc. We will not be able to add your numbers to the list from our end. Sunday bulletins will include information about how to sign up once we get approval from Constant Contact.

AND EMAIL TOO!

Each Friday, we send out an email with announcements and information about upcoming services and events. We also send this newsletter and periodic important announcements such as inclement weather updates, upcoming event information, and other notices. If you would like to receive these digital announcements, please contact the parish office or Gaines Hurdle ghurdle@stfrancispotomac.org. We will make sure you are added to the distribution list! If you haven't been seeing our emails, make sure they aren't going into your spam or promotions folders, and change the settings so they show up in your inbox!