

# WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

## News for the Week of May 9

### All School

#### **From the Head of School**

Last week, we welcomed a photography team to our campuses to help capture the true St. Francis experience. What a tall order! How do you capture a school where faith is foundational, academics connect to real-world experiences, and kids are encouraged to step forward—as innovators, artists, athletes, and *people for others*?

In our case, we simply went about our day and let the cameras do the rest. From Chapel with our youngest learners to inspiration in the classroom and beyond, we saw joy, learning, and laughter, and we were reminded once again of what truly matters—our students, families, faith, and connections.

Before signing off, I want to wish all of our mothers a very happy Mother's Day. While one day isn't enough to celebrate everything you do, we are so grateful for all the ways you enrich our St. Francis families!

In partnership,

Steve Lovejoy, MEd  
Head of School

#### **Announcing the St. Francis Parents Organization**

We are pleased to announce our brand-new volunteer group, the **St. Francis Parents Organization (SFPO)**.

- Over the last several months, we have been busy behind the scenes reimagining our parent groups (Booster Club, Dads' Club, Friends of Fine Arts, Parents Association) with the goals of unifying our volunteer efforts, streamlining

communication and manpower across all four divisions (PS, LS, MS, US), and ultimately making it easier for YOU to get involved.

- We are in debt to our wonderful friend, Marcela Vij, who was instrumental in the creation of this new volunteer organization, and we hope to honor her by continuing her legacy as a dedicated parent volunteer and person for others.
- For additional information about the SFPO, including details on how to participate, please [click here](#).

## Watch the Replay of Wednesday's Session on Cybersafety

A big thank-you to everyone who tuned in to Wednesday's St. Francis Connections event with Sydney Zuiker, manager of the Safe Community Program with Crime Stoppers of Houston, along with Head of School Steve Lovejoy and Head of Academic Technology Donna Piga. The online session included information on **how students and parents can navigate technology and social platforms safely**. If you missed it—or just want to revisit the provided information—you can [watch the replay here](#). You may also access the Crime Stoppers Cyber Safety Resource Guide [here](#).

## Place Spirit Store Orders by Wednesday

The St. Francis Episcopal School Spirit Store will close this Wednesday, May 12, at midnight to ensure product delivery before the last day of school. The store will reopen in early August 2021.

- **Link:** [https://stores.inksoft.com/STFRANCIS\\_HTX\\_SPIRITSTORE/shop/home](https://stores.inksoft.com/STFRANCIS_HTX_SPIRITSTORE/shop/home)
- **Password:** wolves

## Library Book Roundup: Return Books by Friday

It's that time of year! Please return any overdue books to the library by this Friday, May 14. Mark your calendars and start your roundup!

## This Week: School-wide People for Others Ingathering

The newly formed and highly engaged Upper School People for Others Council is pleased to announce a school-wide People for Others Ingathering, to take place tomorrow through Friday. Watch the Council's informational video [here](#), and view the flyer [here](#).

- The council will be collecting **gently used books** to benefit Books for Development, a Houston organization that builds libraries all over the world. Please purge your bookshelves and bring in your donations this week. For a full list of needed books, visit [this link](#).

- On the Piney Point Campus, donation boxes will be in the People Place, while donation boxes on the Couper Campus will be in each Primary School pod and by the back entrance to the Crum Gym.

Let's follow the lead of our Upper School students and spread literacy around the world!

### **Summer on the Point: Updated COVID Protocols**

We are excited to welcome campers to Summer on the Point next month! With COVID cases greatly reduced on campus and in our St. Francis community, we have made adjustments to our protocols. Please [visit our web page](#) to see updated protocols, which will be in effect starting June 7, 2021.

You may contact [Margaret Newsom](#), director of Explore and Extend, with questions.

### **Parents Association Reimbursements: Submit Requests by June 1**

Please be sure to turn in all check requests for any reimbursement related to the Parents Association no later than Tuesday, June 1. You may complete and e-mail [this form](#) and receipts to the [PA treasurer](#); then, please mail a hard copy with original receipts to:

Karen Rash  
5481 Lynbrook Dr.  
Houston, TX 77056

Thanks to all the parents for helping the PA plan and provide programs to our school community!

### **Summer Camp Notes From the Chaplains**

Fr. Wismer and Rev. Heinemann would love to send a note to your child this summer, whether he or she is attending an overnight summer camp or enjoying a stay-cation. Please use [this form](#) to submit a request. You must complete a separate form for each child.

### **Virtue of the Month: Attentiveness**

During the month of May, the St. Francis community is focusing on attentiveness. We all need to stay focused during this last month of school, because the countdown to summer is on! Our virtue verse is Proverbs 3:4-5: *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.”* Try to memorize it as a family.

**Table Talk:** Virtue sightings—where do you see examples of attentiveness in books, film, and life?

## **Primary School**

### **A Note About Summer Activities From Primary II**

Now is the time of year when everyone starts making summer plans. Parents often have questions about how to prepare their child for the upcoming school year. In keeping with developmentally appropriate practices, **the two most important things you can do for your child to ensure school readiness are: 1) read with your child daily, and 2) give your child interesting and meaningful experiences.** The best way to do this is to provide your child with opportunities to play.

We understand that summer days are long. Luckily, we live in one of the largest and most diverse cities in the country. We have compiled a fantastic list of educational experiences that will make Houston a learning lab for your family this summer. Put your flashcards and worksheets away, and hop into the car for an amazing adventure!

## **EXPERIENCES FOR CHILDREN IN HOUSTON**

### **Parks**

- Levy Park
- Donovan Park
- Buffalo Bayou Park
- Discovery Green
- Smither Park
- The Orange Show
- Japanese Garden at Hermann Park

### **Nature Areas**

- Nature Discovery Center
- Houston Arboretum and Nature Center
- Edith Moore Sanctuary

### **Story Times**

- Preschool story time at your local library
- Brazos Bookstore
- Blue Willow Bookshop
- Rienzi (MFAH house museum)

## Performances

- Miller Outdoor Theatre
- Main Street Theatre
- MATCH—Midtown Arts & Theater Center

## Toy Stores (with interactive settings)

- FUNdamentally Toys
- Tomfoolery Toys
- Lakeshore Learning

## Museums

- Houston Museum of Natural Science
- The Health Museum
- Children’s Museum Houston
- The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- The Menil Collection
- The Lone Star Flight Museum
- Twilight Epiphany Skyscape at Rice University
- Galveston Railroad Museum
- Houston Zoo

Have fun!

Michelle Staller, PII Lead Teacher  
Margaret Dexter, PII Teaching Fellow

## Mark Your Calendar

### Wednesday, May 12

- *Primary School Splash Day*
    - **Wiener**
    - **Ferguson**
    - **Hughes**
    - **Burrow**
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
-

## Thursday, May 13

- *Primary School Splash Day*
    - **Meriwether 2-Day**
    - **Zuniga**
    - **Oteiza**
    - **Dominick**
    - **Staller**
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

## Friday, May 14

- *Primary School Splash Day*
    - **Scriber**
    - **Capasso**
    - **Meriwether 3-Day**
    - **Britton**
    - **Owens**
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

## Monday, May 24

- *Primary I End-of-Year Party*
  - *Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party*
    - **Britton**
    - **Meriwether 3-Day**
- 

## Tuesday, May 25

- *Pre-Primary End-of-Year Party*
    - **Oteiza**
    - **Zuniga**
    - **Meriwether 2-Day**
- 

## Friday, May 28

- *Primary II End-of-Year Party*
- *Last Day of School*

- *Early Dismissal:* 11:00 a.m.

## **Lower School**

### **From the Division Head**

I hope you had a nice week! Please mark your calendars for two parent meetings next week, where we will share ways to support your child's learning over the summer. Parents often ask us how they can continue to build on language, literacy, and math skills in a fun way and also how they can slow what is commonly known as "the summer slide." We will tackle these topics at our meetings, which we've designed specifically for different developmental stages.

If your student is entering kindergarten or first grade, please join us on Tuesday, May 11. If your child is entering grades 2–4, please join us on Thursday, May 13. **Times and Zoom links are listed below in the Mark Your Calendar section.**

I also wanted to provide you with a faculty update for Lower School for the 2021–22 school year. Every year, we have to say goodbye to dear friends and colleagues, as people's lives change and career aspirations come to fruition. We will miss Mary Kate Springmann dearly as she takes on a new role as an instructional specialist next year. Kelly Gartner is also looking forward to exploring new adventures at the end of this school year.

Holly Plost, our math and technology specialist, will be retiring at the end of this semester. She has tried to retire for several years, but her dedication and commitment to St. Francis have always won out, and she has stayed with us for "one more year" for the past few years! So, while we are sad to see her retire, it is well deserved after forty years in education and ten years at St. Francis. The best news is that she has been a private math trainer/consultant while working part-time with St. Francis, so Holly will continue to serve our school in a consultant capacity. Thank you, Holly, for your dedication and service to our students and teachers!

As bittersweet as departures are, change is inevitable, and we always find highly qualified and dedicated faculty to fill in the gaps. Mrs. Hardee will be moving to fourth-grade humanities, creating a first-grade teaching opening. We are pleased to announce that Courtney Breeding will be joining our faculty to fill this position. She comes to us from Humble ISD, where she taught kindergarten and first grade for 15 years. She worked at the same school as Mrs. Gonzales and Mrs. Wagner prior to their arrival here at St. Francis, and they sing her praises! She and her family recently moved to the area, and they were looking for a school home not only for Courtney, but also for their darling son. He will be joining our second-grade class. I know you will welcome Mrs. Breeding and her family to SFES!

Alison Johnston is also making a shift and moving to third-grade humanities from kindergarten. She has taught older students previously, and she is very excited for a new challenge in her career. It is always exciting when teachers change grade levels and expand their expertise and craft.

In addition, we are capping our kindergarten enrollment this year and will run four sections, with fifteen to sixteen students in each class. Our amazing kinder team is excited to welcome a new class of Lower School students in 2021–22, mostly from our wonderful Primary School.

I hope you have a great week!

Carol Christ, MEd  
Head of Lower School

### **Join Us for Lower School Chapel**

It has been wonderful welcoming parents back to Chapel in a safe way.

**Parents of the grade-level students attending Chapel on a given day are invited to come and worship with us.** The children are already sitting six feet apart, so if you can come, you will join your child in the pew in which they are sitting.

We do have to limit the number of guests to one per child, as there is limited space in the church. The church continues to limit attendance for Sunday services, so we must accommodate those policies, as well. Thankfully, every grade level will have two or three opportunities for visitors, so mom and dad can both come! Parents will be screened and must be wearing masks. **Doors will open for parents at 8:00 a.m., and students will arrive at 8:15 a.m. to join their parent.**

Please remember that this is a time for worship. We look forward to seeing you!

The grade level schedule is as follows:

- **Monday, May 10:** Fourth grade
- **Wednesday, May 12:** Third grade
- **Monday, May 17:** Second grade
- **Wednesday, May 19:** First grade
- **Monday, May 24:** Kindergarten
- **Wednesday, May 26:** Fourth grade

## Mark Your Calendar

### Monday, May 10

- *People for Others Council Book Drive*
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### Tuesday, May 11

- *Meeting for Parents of Incoming Kindergarteners and First Graders: “How to Help Your Child Over the Summer”*; 9:00–10:00 a.m. via Zoom
    - **Join the Zoom**  
**Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85808204193?pwd=S252SkxzaUs1YSsxYjd5Lzl6eGRmdz09>
    - **Meeting ID:** 858 0820 4193
    - **Passcode:** sfes
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### Wednesday, May 12

- *Fourth-Grade Learning Celebration: In the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
    - **Rossy:** 9:30–10:15 a.m.
    - **Springmann:** 1:45–2:30 p.m.
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
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### Thursday, May 13

- *Meeting for Parents of Incoming Second, Third, and Fourth Graders: “Avoiding the Summer Slide”*; 9:00–10:00 a.m. via Zoom
    - **Join the Zoom**  
**Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82993087814?pwd=RIFGOHdSTIhHUy8xd2gwYnBsZGE0QT09>
    - **Meeting ID:** 829 9308 7814
    - **Passcode:** sfes
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
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## Friday, May 14

- *Fourth-Grade Instrument Group "PULSE" Rehearsal: 7:15–7:45 a.m.* in the Crum Library
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

## Monday, May 17

- *Fourth-Grade Learning Celebration: In the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
    - **Nelson:** 9:30–10:15 a.m.
    - **Nguyen:** 1:45–2:30 p.m.
- 

## Thursday, May 20

- *Third-Grade Mini-Metric Olympics Learning Celebration: In the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
    - **Joyce:** 9:00–10:30 a.m.
    - **Gonzales:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.
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## Friday, May 21

- *Fourth-Grade Instrument Group "PULSE" Rehearsal: 7:15–7:45 a.m.* in the Crum Library
  - *Third-Grade Mini-Metric Olympics Learning Celebration: In the Wheatcroft Parish Hall*
    - **Womack:** 9:00–10:30 a.m.
    - **Gartner:** 1:30–3:00 p.m.
- 

## Thursday, May 27

- *End-of-Year Parties:* Led by teachers in the classroom
- 

## Friday, May 28

- *Fourth-Grade Completion Ceremony: 10:00 a.m.* in the FAC

- *Early Dismissal:* Kindergarten and Grade 1 at 11:00 a.m.; Grades 2–4 at 11:15 a.m.

## **Middle School**

### **From the Division Head**

St. Francis Fine Arts faculty members Julia Oppenheim, Matt Jones, and Krissy Richmond have worked tremendously hard to produce, direct, and put on this weekend's performance of *Matilda Jr.* Their commitment to both our students and the St. Francis Fine Arts program are commendable, and I am happy to have them share a few thoughts and thank-you's related to this year's show.

Thank you all!

Chris Bertha, MA  
Head of Middle School

### **From Ms. Oppenheim, Ms. Richmond, and Dr. Jones**

On behalf of the show directors and managers, we want to extend an enormous thank-you to everyone who made the first St. Francis Middle School musical a resounding success!

We were thrilled to be able to bring a live musical to the stage for two performances, at a time when professional, community, and school ensembles around the nation have not yet returned to in-person performances. This was a rare opportunity in this COVID year, and the cast and crew did a marvelous job!

We would like to offer our sincere gratitude to several key community members who worked together to make this show happen:

- The amazing St. Francis students in the cast and crew, who ushered in a new tradition—the Middle School musical!
- Our wonderful behind-the-scenes crew, who created sets, lights, sound, costumes, and makeup.
- The fabulous musicians—including St. Francis's very own Richard Keith—who played in the pit.
- The faculty, staff, and administrators who volunteered during our show to help with logistics and came to support the performing arts at St. Francis.
- The parents and families who shuttled kids between rehearsals and a million other commitments to make this show possible. We couldn't have done this without you!

## **Dr. Crystal Collier to Address Eighth-Grade Students This Wednesday**

This Wednesday, May 12, our eighth-grade students will be participating in a presentation by Dr. Crystal Collier on the effects of engaging in high-risk behaviors—particularly vaping and the use of alcohol. As our students look forward to high school, Dr. Collier will be reviewing the research associated with addictive substances such as alcohol and nicotine to highlight their effect on adolescent brain development.

- Dr. Collier, herself in long-term recovery, is a therapist, an educator, and the director of BrainAbouts. She has been working with adolescents and adults suffering from mental illness, behavioral problems, and substance-use disorders since 1991. Her areas of expertise include adolescent brain development, prevention programming, parent coaching, addiction, family-of-origin work, and training new clinicians. She possesses a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in clinical psychology, and a doctorate in counselor education.
- Dr. Collier will be sharing a parent preview video of the presentation prior to her talk.

## **Submit Community Service Hours by Tomorrow**

Tomorrow—Monday, May 10—is the due date to turn in community service hours, so that students may be recognized for their service during the scheduled grade-level Chapels at the end of the year.

- If you still need to submit service hours, you may do so via [this link](#) or on the Parent Portal under Division Resources.
- Students who complete 25 or 50 hours of service during this school year will receive a certificate of recognition. In addition, one graduating eighth-grade student will be recognized for exemplifying and modeling a life of service and for being a “person for others.”
- If you have any questions regarding service hours, please e-mail [Leigh Williams](#) or call the Middle School Office at 713.458.6140.

## **Athletics Physicals: Return Completed Forms by Tomorrow**

St. Francis will be providing on-campus athletics physicals for returning students this Wednesday, May 12. An information packet was sent home with your child this past Friday. Please have your child return the completed forms to his or her advisory by tomorrow—Monday, May 10. If you have any questions, please contact [Jamie Platt](#).

## **Eighth-Grade Graduation Is May 27**

We will be hosting Eighth-Grade Graduation on Thursday, May 27, in the Piney Point Gym. Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. for optional family photos, and the ceremony starts

at 6:00 p.m. Immediately following the ceremony, we will be showing the Eighth-Grade Video in the Fine Arts Center. You should have received your e-mailed invitation last weekend. We look forward to celebrating with you!

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **Monday, May 10**

- *"E" Day*
  - ***Community Service Hours Due (Date Change)***
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### **Tuesday, May 11**

- *"A" Day*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### **Wednesday, May 12**

- *Modified "B" Day*
  - *Middle School Physicals: 12:15–4:00 p.m. in the Piney Point Gym*
  - *Eighth-Grade Art à la Carte Project*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### **Thursday, May 13**

- *"C" Day*
  - *Seventh-Grade Service Hours Awards: 9:25–9:50 a.m. in the Chapel; students only*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
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### **Friday, May 14**

- *"D" Day*
- *People for Others Council Book Drive*

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**Monday, May 17**

- *"E" Day*
  - *Sixth-Grade Service Awards: 9:25–9:50 a.m. in the Chapel; students only*
  - *Sixth-Grade Student Awards: 1:15–1:50 p.m. in the Chapel; students only*
- 

**Tuesday, May 18**

- *"A" Day*
  - *Eighth-Grade Student Awards: 11:05 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in the Chapel; students only*
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**Wednesday, May 19**

- *"B" Day*
  - *Fifth-Grade Student Awards: 1:15–1:50 p.m. in the Chapel; students only*
- 

**Thursday, May 20**

- *"C" Day*
  - *Fifth-Grade Service Awards: 9:25–9:50 a.m. in the Chapel; students only*
  - *Seventh-Grade Student Awards: 1:15–1:50 p.m. in the Chapel; students only*
- 

**Monday, May 24**

- *"D" Day*
  - *Eighth-Grade Service Awards: 9:25–9:50 a.m. in the Chapel; students only*
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**Tuesday, May 25**

- *"E" Day*
- *Eighth-Grade Off-Campus Event*

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## Wednesday, May 26

- "A" Day
- *Last Day of School for Middle School*

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## Thursday, May 27

- *Eighth-Grade Graduation*: In the Piney Point Gym; arrival and photos at 5:30 p.m.; ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m.

## Upper School

### **From the Division Head**

When your children were toddlers, you knew that they learned the most by doing things on their own. The familiar, "I do it myself," was a call for independence. Their attempts to "help" by sweeping, measuring flour, and washing dishes resulted in extra cleanup on your part. And their demands to dress themselves meant waiting patiently on the day you were already late for work.

Last weekend, the fruits of your parenting labors were realized. Fifty-three Upper School students presented us with *The Crucible*—following months of rehearsals, including nights and long weekends; the demanding technical work required to stage an outdoor, evening performance in the woods; and torrential rain and rising water last week that amplified the challenges inherent in building a stage located across the bayou.

A dress rehearsal on the outdoor stage Thursday night was followed by completely relocating the production to the gym for a Saturday night performance. All day Saturday, cast members and volunteers covered the muddy surfaces with hay, built platforms as a base for audience seating, and spread mulch along pathways so that a Sunday night performance could return to the outdoor stage.

Each performance, the culmination of students' rehearsals and preparation, was impressive. But what I am left with is the vision of months of work leading up to a very full weekend of challenges and solutions. The most growth has taken place in the lessons learned along the way. We call this "process versus product." Perseverance, resilience, creativity, and collaboration were visible in our students' work.

Our approach to learning in the Upper School honors the process—the journey—of learning. Real-world problems were present last weekend, and our students helped solve them. Congratulations to all of our cast members, plus to Justin Doran, Torsten

Louis, Krissy Richmond, and Caroline Doyle for your leadership and commitment to our students. Bravo!

With gratitude,

Amy Whitley, MA  
Assistant Head of School/Interim Head of Upper School

### **Update on Faculty Transitions**

At the close of this school year, we will say farewell to Dr. Julianna Leachman. Dr. Leachman will return to Houston Baptist University to teach, while also having flexibility to be more involved in her husband's ministry. We wish her the very best!

### **First Dance Showcase Is May 13**

Our first dance showcase will be held on May 13. Please join us at 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the Piney Point Campus for the performance.

COVID restrictions allow only a certain number in attendance. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail [Krissy Richmond](#). Your name will be on a list at the front desk, where your temperature will be taken.

### **Athletics Physicals: Return Completed Forms by Tomorrow**

St. Francis will be providing on-campus athletics physicals for returning students this Wednesday, May 12. An information packet was sent home with your student this past Friday. Please have your child return the completed forms to his or her advisory by tomorrow—Monday, May 10. If you have any questions, please contact [Jamie Platt](#).

### **This Week: Donate Your New or Gently Used Books**

The People for Others Council is happy to announce its first ever Annual Book Drive! Any student from Primary to Upper School can participate this week (Monday, May 10, through Friday, May 14). To donate, **bring your new or gently used books**—ranging from children's books to young adult novels—and deposit them in the boxes located around the school. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to make a difference!

### **Mark Your Calendar**

#### **Monday, May 10**

- *Even Day*

- *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
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### **Tuesday, May 11**

- *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### **Wednesday, May 12**

- *Even Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
  - *Athletics Physicals: 4:00–5:15 p.m. in Crum Gym*
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### **Thursday, May 13**

- *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
  - *Upper School Dance Showcase: 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
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### **Friday, May 14**

- *Even Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
  - *People for Others Council Book Drive*
- 

### **Monday, May 17**

- *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
-

## **Tuesday, May 18**

- *Even Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
- 

## **Wednesday, May 19**

- *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
- 

## **Thursday, May 20**

- *Even Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
- 

## **Friday, May 21**

- ***Dress Uniform Day***
  - *Rising Senior Chapel and Reception*
  - *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
- 

## **Monday, May 24**

- *Even Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
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## **Tuesday, May 25**

- *Odd Day*
  - *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*
-

## Wednesday, May 26

- *Last Day of School for US/MS*
- *Even Day*
- *On-Campus and Remote-Learning Schedule*

## Church

### **Pentecost Pageant Is May 23**

In celebration of Pentecost, we will have a Pentecost Pageant at the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service on May 23. God has given us the gift of His Holy Spirit as a sign that He is always present in our lives, helping us to know right from wrong and enabling us to tell others the good news of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is an amazing gift from God!

### **Get Baptized on Pentecost Sunday**

The Day of Pentecost on May 23 is a Principal Feast Day that celebrates the birth of the church and is especially appropriate for the Sacrament of Baptism. Please contact [Sally Jo Flores](#) or call the church office at 713.782.1270 to schedule a baptism on Pentecost Sunday.

### **Donate to LOTS Outreach Project**

My name is Heather Boyer, and I am a lifetime parishioner at St. Francis. I am a Special Olympics athlete and a member of the Athlete Leadership Program. Years ago, you helped me collect large bags full of men's beanies, scarves, and gloves for Lord of the Streets (LOTS). This year for my outreach project, I would like to collect **men's undershirts, socks, and underwear**. Thank you for helping me help others. **There will be a basket in the Narthex for the collection through Sunday, May 23.**

### **Join Ms. Devlin for In-Person Let It Shine!**

Join Ms. Devlin for in-person Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. All children from Pre-K to middle school are invited to participate.

### **Middle School Bible Study: New Series Begins May 16**

We invite your children to think through some of the most common challenges to the Christian faith:

- Do science and Scripture conflict?
- Are miracles really possible?
- Why does God allow suffering and evil?

These are just a few of the twelve most common intellectual challenges to faith that we will discuss as we read *Know Why You Believe* by Paul E. Little.

- **Who:** Middle School students
- **What:** Bible study and fellowship
- **When:** **New series begins May 16**; meets every Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service
- **Where:** CE212 (GLOW room, upstairs above church office)
- **Why:** So that your children, as believers in Christ, will be prepared to answer others out of the wellspring of their own certainty about what and why they believe.

This study is awesome, and we hope you decide that your children will participate. Please [let Allison Devlin know](#) so she can order them a book. If your children would prefer to attend virtually, there will be a Zoom option available.

### **High School Bible Study: New Series Begins May 16**

The high school Bible study continues in person once a month (May 19, June 16, and July 28) at the Houston Racquet Club. We meet (safely distanced) at 6:30 p.m. to have dinner and Bible study. High school students will study the book *Know Why You Believe* by Paul E. Little.

They will discuss concepts such as:

- Do science and Scripture conflict?
- Are miracles possible?
- Is Christian experience real?
- Why does God allow suffering and evil?

By thinking through the most common challenges to Christian faith, believers will be prepared to answer others out of the wellspring of their own certainty. For additional information, contact Allison Devlin [via e-mail](#) or at 713.882.0725.

### **Donate Home-Care Supplies to MAM**

Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) has a high need for home-care product donations, as the organization currently has less than one week's worth of supplies for its Home Care Packs.

- The packs contain dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper rolls, laundry detergent, antibacterial soap, household cleaner, trash bags, and tissues.
- **MAM has a particular need for dish soap, laundry detergent, and household cleaner.**

- The maximum product size for the packs is 32 oz. The best products to donate are in the 20–32 oz. range.
- For additional information, contact our church liaison, Andrea Eubanks, [via e-mail](#) or at 713.859.1448.

## **MAM Volunteer Opportunities**

Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) needs volunteers for its ReSale Store and Warehouse at 1625 Blalock Road and is hoping for help from families and friends of our congregation and school.

- MAM is following all safety protocols—masks and sanitizer are provided; social distancing is practiced; and the shift size is limited to six people.
- If your child or group needs service hours, this is a great opportunity to fulfill the requirement.
- Please check the dates available in this [SignUpGenius link](#) and sign up to help—either on your own or in a group.
- For additional information, contact our church liaison, Andrea Eubanks, [via e-mail](#) or 713.859.1448.

## **In-Person Worship**

The Holy Eucharist is offered at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. We also offer an evening Eucharist on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing all those who are ready to return. For those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship, we will continue to livestream our worship service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Access the livestream via our church [website](#), [YouTube channel](#), or [Facebook page](#). Instructions for livestreaming are included at the bottom of this section.

- In-person worship guidelines are available [here](#).
- Only a limited number of participants can be safely seated according to social-distancing guidelines. Please sign up for each service you wish to attend. To do so, go to the St. Francis Episcopal Church [website](#) and choose your preferred date. This will take you to a SignUpGenius page, where you can register to attend Holy Week services.

## **Join Fr. Wismer for *The Goodnight Show* on Tuesdays**

Join Fr. Wismer for ***The Goodnight Show*** on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 7:15 p.m. on the [St. Francis Facebook page](#). Preschoolers, younger school children, and the young at heart can enjoy music, stories, and prayers . . . and you can send in requests! It is the perfect way to relax and get ready for bed.

[Click here to watch on the St. Francis Episcopal Facebook page.](#)

## **Moms, Join Us for Bible Study**

The **SFES Moms' Bible Study** will continue through the summer, meeting on **Fridays at 11:00 a.m.** and led by **Allison Devlin**, director of family ministry. Please contact Allison via [e-mail](#) or at 713.882.0725 for more meeting details.

## **Share Your Prayer Requests Online**

Share your prayer requests with us using the “Prayer Requests” link on the [St. Francis Episcopal Church home page](#). Please feel free to submit prayer requests for yourself or for someone you know. All prayer requests are confidential and will not be added to the spoken prayer list, but will be prayed for by our staff and Pastoral Care Council over two months.

## **Upcoming Events at St. Francis**

St. Francis is hosting the following events regularly via Zoom. To join an event listed below, please click the provided link or copy and paste it into your web browser's address bar. Then, enter the meeting ID and passcode when prompted.

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES**

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** The Prophet Isaiah
  - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/651248716>
  - *Passcode required to join; e-mail Louise Richman to participate.*
- Fridays at 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
  - **Study:** End Times—Practical Heavenly Mindedness
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
  - *E-mail Allison Devlin for meeting location*

### **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
  - **Contact:** [Lew Arend](#)
- The Men of St. Francis (TMOSF)
  - Monthly on the second Tuesday at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (Next meeting is May 11)
  - **Study:** The Gospel of Mark
  - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Philippians
  - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86423240761>

- **Meeting ID:** 864 2324 0761
- **Passcode:** sW9R20

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
  - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81068388948>
  - **Meeting ID:** 810 6838 8948
  - **Passcode:** 767200

### **CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS—BIBLE STUDIES AND MEETINGS**

- Sundays at 10:15–10:45 a.m. (*No GLOW meeting on Mother's Day*)
  - **Meeting:** GLOW Middle School
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
- Tuesdays at 7:00–7:15 p.m.
  - **Meeting:** The Goodnight Show
  - **Contact:** [Fr. Bob Wismer](#)
  - [Facebook Livestream](#)
- Wednesdays at 6:30–8:00 p.m. (Monthly, May–July)
  - **Meeting:** High School Dinner and Bible Study
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
  - **Location:** Houston Racquet Club

### **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND PRAYER**

- Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
  - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
  - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
  - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
  - **Passcode:** 05741
- Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
  - **Meeting:** Prayer Training
  - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74432391081>
  - **Meeting ID:** 744 3239 1081
  - **Passcode:** 043097
- Thursdays at 8:00 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
  - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
  - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
  - **Passcode:** 057417
- Thursdays at 8:15–8:45 a.m.

- **Meeting:** Prayer Session (We read Scripture and go through a prayer cycle of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and intercession.)
- **Contact:** [Heather Burkhart](#)
- **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79725936159>
- **Meeting ID:** 797 2593 6159
- **Passcode:** 678123
- Thursdays after carpool drop-off
  - **Meeting:** Prayer Session
  - **Contact:** [Allison Devlin](#)
  - *E-mail Allison Devlin to get the meeting location*
- Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
  - **Meeting:** Prayer Training
  - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
  - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74432391081>
  - **Meeting ID:** 744 3239 1081
  - **Passcode:** 043097

## How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

If you would like to join St. Francis Episcopal Church's 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, here's how to watch:

1. Open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the St. Francis website—[sfch.org](http://sfch.org).
2. Click on the "Watch Live Stream Worship Services" button. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available. If you prefer to watch from Facebook or YouTube, click on the links to go to those streaming servers.

Prelude music will begin on the livestream 10 minutes before the service to allow time for your connection and your inspiration. If you miss the live video, a recording of the service will also be available on [St. Francis's YouTube channel](#).