

WOLF WATCH

— WEEKLY E-NEWS —

News for the Week of August 14

All School

Welcome to the New School Year!

Welcome to the start of the 2022–23 school year at St. Francis Episcopal School! The faculty and staff have spent the last two weeks together in meetings—division, department, all-school. We have focused on school mission and values, curriculum, safety protocols, school schedules, and a host of other less consequential but still important matters. We received words of welcome and encouragement from the SFES Board of Trustees. We heard from two Upper School students who spoke eloquently and from the heart about what St. Francis Episcopal School has meant to them. We have received blessings from Father Bates and Father Wismer. And now we are ready to greet our students next week!

There is a buzz around the School now. Upper School students are on campus building sets for the fall musical. Our athletes have been practicing in preparation for their fall season. Students on campus have stopped outside the renovated Dining Hall on the Piney Point Campus and expressed delight at the new design.

We feel the wind in our sails, and we are ready to launch. I am excited about what the coming school year will bring to our students, to their families, and to the School, and I look forward to welcoming students back to our campuses.

With this note I send my best wishes to you and your family for a great 2022–23 school year.

Sincerely,

Don North
Interim Head of School

Important Note About Carpool on Piney Point Campus

Carpool information and maps have been uploaded to the Parent Portal under “Division

Resources.” Please note that, due to church construction and in order to minimize congestion on Piney Point Road, all vehicles exiting Piney Point Campus during morning and afternoon carpool MUST TURN RIGHT and travel southbound to Memorial Drive. Please help us be good neighbors and refrain from using side streets to reverse direction. Thank you for your support during this construction phase!

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- Questions? Contact [Ali Williams](#).

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- Questions? Contact [Jennifer Gerry](#).

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- Shoppers have two options for receiving purchases:
 - Delivery to school to your student's homeroom teacher/advisor
 - Shipping to your address
- Delivery time for both options is approximately ten to fourteen business days.
- There are no returns or exchanges, so be sure to check out the size charts to order the correct size. Please email [Christie Crummel](mailto:Christie.Crummel) to coordinate access to samples.

Please Rate Our New Menu Items!

We are so excited to welcome students to our renovated Dining Hall! Expect an amazing menu with new items and stations, including a rotating Seasonings bar with something new every day, and new flavored lemonades and caffeine-free iced teas.

- Your feedback on St. Francis's menu items helps us know what students enjoy most, so please be sure to rate them using the Touch of SAGE Mobile App. [Click here](#) for information on how to download and use the app.
- Please note that SAGE Dining has an Instagram page ([@sage_stfrancis](#)) where you can see daily meals, meet the SAGE team, and learn more about exciting lunchtime events.

Save the Dates: Exciting Events Throughout the School Year

There are several big events to look forward to throughout the school year. Mark your calendars for the following:

- **Wednesday, September 14, 2022:** Ladies' Clinic (*A casual event prior to the annual Sporting Clays Classic—for ladies only!*)
- **Friday, October 21, 2022:** Sporting Clays Classic (*The event website is live, [here!](#)*)
- **Wednesday, November 16–Friday, November 18, 2022:** Grandparents Day for Lower School and Middle School
- **Thursday, February 9–Friday, February 10, 2023:** Grandparents Day for Primary School and Upper School
- **Tuesday, March 7, 2023:** Woolrich Luncheon
- **Sunday, April 23, 2023:** St. Francis Festival Day

Learn more about special events [here](#).

Friends of Fine Arts: How You Can Help Support the Arts at St. Francis

The Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA) are thrilled to welcome our artists and actors back to the stage!

We are an inclusive group of parents who support all aspects of the school's arts programming. We sincerely hope you will join us to volunteer at student productions, art exhibits, and musical performances this year!

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO PURCHASE YOUR HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS!

One way to support our arts is to purchase beautiful red poinsettias grown by The Brookwood Community! These festive plants not only decorate your home for the holidays, but also make great gifts for friends, family members, and clients. Please share this opportunity, as all sales benefit the St. Francis Parents Organization Friends of Fine Arts. Each poinsettia is \$16, about sixteen inches in height, grown in a six-inch pot, and has five to seven blooms. They come with foil pot covers and are wrapped in brown paper sleeves for easy transportation and protection.

Click here to buy your poinsettias today! Poinsettias will be available for pickup **Thursday, December 1, on the Couper Campus.** Please contact **Melissa Reeves** with questions.

SFPO Annual Luncheon Is November 3

The St. Francis Parents Organization invites you to attend its annual luncheon on Thursday, November 3, at the Houston Country Club. This year's featured speaker is Karen Mills. Ms. Mills has a straightforward approach to the realities of life. Her smart, funny, keen observations will keep you laughing at yourself as you relate to her experiences.

Ticket sales will begin in September.

Memory Books Now Available

Primary and Lower School Memory Books for last school year are now available for purchase. These beautiful Shutterfly keepsakes are grade-specific and capture class parties; seasonal events; and special days like Grandparents' Day, Splash Day, and more! Remember to order for your child's grade **last year**.

- **Click here** to buy your memory books today.
- With questions, email **Annie Hartigan**.

Please Label All Clothing and Personal Items

We strongly encourage families to clearly label all clothing and personal items that your students may bring to school. **Labeling items with both first and last name is the best way to ensure that lost items will be reunited with their owners.**

If you're looking for a recommendation on where to buy labels, **Name Bubbles** offers durable labels that are small, easy to read, and come in a variety of eye-catching styles. As an added bonus, St. Francis will also receive 20 percent back on each purchase using **this special link**.

Primary School

From the Division Head

Greetings! I hope this message finds your family well-rested and preparing for an exciting school year. Although I missed our families and teachers during summer break, it was a time for restoration and reflection, both of which are vital for growth and renewal.

As I paused to think about the past year, I became overwhelmed with gratitude and joy for the opportunity to work with you and your curious, creative, and capable children. The Primary School is buzzing with anticipation of their arrival.

Speaking of arrivals, I hope you'll join me in welcoming these fantastic new faculty members to the Primary School:

- **Cassi Agee** has joined St. Francis as a **Primary I Teacher**. She has more than 10 years of experience in early childhood education, teaching internationally in South Korea, Kuwait, Hong Kong and, most recently, Oman. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in early childhood education from Bemidji State University in Minnesota and is working toward earning her master's in early childhood education from Portland State University next year.
- **Sarah Carson** has joined us as a **Primary I Teacher Assistant** after serving as a substitute teacher, summer camp instructor, and Explore and Extend employee at St. Francis since 2019. She is currently enrolled in an Associate of Arts program at the University of Texas at Dallas.
- **Kelsey Coster** is joining us as a **Primary School Teaching Fellow**. She was a teaching fellow at Houston Classical Charter School last year. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Tech University, and is in the process of completing an alternative teaching certification from Teachers of Tomorrow.
- **Floy Griffith** has joined us as a **Pre-Primary Teaching Fellow**. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in child development and family living from Stephen F. Austin State University. She has worked with preschool children for five years, most recently serving as a preschool teacher at Grace School.
- **Emily Husain** joins St. Francis as a **Pre-Primary Teacher**. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Louisiana State University and a Master of Arts degree in early childhood education from Sonoma State University. She has ten years of early childhood teaching experience.
- **Kristal Polk** joins us as a **Pre-Primary Teaching Fellow**. She has been teaching for twelve years, and began substituting at St. Francis last school year. She has also been an assistant volleyball coach in our Upper School since 2019. Ms. Polk is a graduate of University of Texas Permian Basin.
- **Ryan Roussett** is a new **Primary II Teaching Assistant**, but has been with St. Francis since August 2020 as a substitute PE teacher, linebacker coach, and assistant baseball coach. He is a graduate of the University of Houston, where he served as a student equipment manager for the football team. He has also worked for Rice University and the XFL Houston Roughnecks.

- **Farrah Shahhosseini** joins us as a **Pre-Primary Teaching Fellow**. For the past six months, she has been a substitute teacher here at St. Francis. Ms. Shahhosseini is a recent graduate of Texas A&M University, and she discovered her love of working with children when she volunteered at a Yorkshire Academy summer camp.

We look forward to seeing your family soon at Meet the Teacher and Welcome to the Den conferences. You'll also be able to learn important information and details about upcoming events in *Wolf Watch*, so please be sure to check this newsletter weekly.

Thank you to our new and returning families for choosing St. Francis. It is going to be a fantastic year of impactful experiences and dynamic development!

With appreciation,

Kenyetta K. Wynn, EdD
Head of Primary School

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Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, September 20

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents may attend
-

Wednesday, September 21

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents may attend

Lower School

From the Division Head

I hope this finds you enjoying the final few days of your summer break with your Lower School child. There are many wonderful things to look forward to this year, including learning together, attending Chapel together, being people for others, and enjoying the many experiences and events that come with being in the Lower School.

We are excited to welcome the following new faculty members to the Lower School team:

- **Lauren Wells** is our new fifth **kindergarten** classroom teacher. She was our long-term sub for Emily Senchuk while she was on maternity leave last year. Ms. Wells easily and quickly acclimated to the Lower School, making positive connections with students, teachers, and parents. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in early childhood education from the University of South Carolina, and brings twelve years of teaching experience to this role.
- **Courtney Jackson** will be the long-term sub in **kindergarten** for Sarah Carl, who is out on maternity leave. Ms. Jackson holds a Texas teaching certification in early childhood through sixth grade and has been a classroom teacher in Dallas. In addition, she has experience as a campus resource teacher. She is an SFES alumna and is excited to work within the Lower School. Ms. Jackson earned her Bachelor of Science degree in family and consumer sciences from Baylor University.
- **Stephanie Hitchcock** is joining our **first-grade** team. She has taught kindergarten at Polly Ann McRoberts Elementary and James Williams Elementary, both in Katy, and she has been honored as a Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Hitchcock holds her Bachelor of Science in early childhood development from Texas A&M University.
- **Caren Hayden** is joining our **fourth-grade** team, teaching **humanities**. Ms. Hayden has more than twenty years of experience teaching English as a second language and has worked overseas in Germany and Japan. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in German and international studies from Trinity University and her Master of Arts degree in English as a second language from The University of Texas at San Antonio.

- **Hope Hooper** is our new **Lower School Religion Teacher**. She has four years of experience working in children’s ministry and is dedicated to helping children grow their understanding of and love for God. Mrs. Hooper earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in government from Houston Baptist University and is pursuing her Master of Divinity degree from Southern Methodist University.
- **Charlotte Morales** is joining our **third-grade** team as a **humanities teacher**. She brings years of experience teaching kindergarten through fifth grade in San Antonio, and is returning to the classroom after being a studio manager and instructor at Orangetheory and The Union Yoga and Strength. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in humanities and her Master of Arts degree in teaching from Trinity University.

When you see our new faculty members, I encourage you to join me in extending a warm St. Francis welcome to them.

Everyone in the Lower School looks forward to seeing you and your child on campus this week!

Kindly,

Clifton Walker, MEd
Head of the Lower School

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Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 15

- *K–4 Meet the Teacher / Welcome to the Den (By Appointment): 8:00 a.m.–Noon*
 - *Kindergarten Parent Orientation: 1:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center*
-

Tuesday, August 16

- *K–4 Meet the Teacher / Welcome to the Den (By Appointment): 1:00–5:00 p.m.*
-

Wednesday, August 17

- *First Day of School*
-

Thursday, August 18

- *Lower School Chapel: 8:20 a.m.*
-

Friday, August 19

- *First Friday: Spirit shirt and special student lunch*

Wednesday, August 31

- *LS Parent Information Night*
 - Last names A–M will meet in the Fine Arts Center at 5:00 p.m.
 - Last names N–Z will meet in the Fine Arts Center at 6:30 p.m.
 - Please note: This is a parent-only event.

Middle School

From the Division Head

This Tuesday, August 16, sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students and their families can stop by the campus between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to meet their teachers and get set up for the new school year. Middle School faculty members will greet them in the People Place just outside of the newly renovated Dining Hall to give them hard copies of their schedule and to direct them to lockers and their advisor's room.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16: SCHEDULE FOR GRADE 5

- **Meet the Teacher and Locker Setup:** 12:00–1:00 p.m. in Middle School classrooms
- **Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) Orientation:** 1:00–3:30 p.m. in Piney Point Gym
 - All fifth-grade students (new and returning) are expected to attend this orientation.
 - Fifth-grade parents, plan to pick up your students in the carpool line just outside of the Dining Hall.
 - Students will receive their laptops in this session.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16: SCHEDULE FOR GRADES 6–8

- **Meet the Teacher and Locker Setup:** 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in Middle School classrooms
- **New Student Orientation:** 2:00–3:30 p.m. in Crum Library
 - All new students in grades 6-8 should attend.
 - Students will receive their laptops in this session.

OPENING WEEK OVERVIEW (AUGUST 17–19)

- **Wednesday, August 17**
 - *Regular St. Francis Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
- **Thursday, August 18**
 - *Regular St. Francis Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
 - *First Middle School Chapel*
- **Friday, August 19**

- *First Friday*: First Friday shirts or St. Francis Spirit tops with full-length blue jeans or St. Francis uniform bottoms
- *Regular Class Schedule*

NEW FACULTY INTRODUCTIONS

The Middle School would like to welcome several new members to our teaching team. When you see them this week, greet them and give them a warm St. Francis welcome! They are an accomplished, talented, and experienced cohort.

- **Aida Barclay** has joined St. Francis as a **Middle School Spanish Teacher**. Aida has more than 20 years of teaching experience, most recently as a Spanish teacher and advisor at Holy Spirit Episcopal School. She has studied and taught internationally in countries such as Venezuela, Norway, and England.
- **Tracy Burgason** joins St. Francis as a full time **Middle School Science Teacher** after serving as a long-term substitute last year. Prior to St. Francis, Mrs. Burgason taught grades 5–8 at Holy Spirit Episcopal school for six years. She holds a master’s degree in instructional technology from the University of Houston–Clear Lake.
- **Joe DeMonico** has joined us as our **Technical Theater Director**. Joe is a professional theater, film, and television actor, as well as a film producer. He has served as Performing Arts Chair and Theater Director at The John Cooper School and The Village School. Joe holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Charleston and a Master of Fine Arts degree from UCLA.
- **Scott Gibbs** has joined us as a **Middle School Fine Arts Drama Teacher**. Scott graduated from Centenary College of Louisiana with a degree in theater arts and since then has had a robust twenty-year career in theater, film, commercials, and voice-overs. He has been featured in nearly 100 professional on-screen productions across national commercials, short films, and animations found on Netflix, Hulu, and HBO. Most recently, Mr. Gibbs served as the Master Teaching Artist at the Alley Theatre.
- **Monica Gutierrez** has joined us as a **Middle School Technology Teacher**. She comes to us with 25 years of experience in education in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, and she holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Woman’s University.
- **Laura Louis** is the newest member of our **Middle School Math Faculty**. She spent the past six years with Houston ISD’s Pershing Middle School, before which she taught at The Oaks at Briargrove. She holds a bachelor’s degree from the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin and spent the first few years of her career as an estimator and project engineer. She has also been a group fitness instructor for seventeen years.
- **Kelly Murray** has joined St. Francis as the **Middle School Office Manager**. For the past twenty years, Ms. Murray has lent her organizational and creative talents to various roles, starting as a student assistant in the sports department of her alma mater, University of Houston. She also worked with the Houston Aeros and the Washington Capitals, and was Executive Assistant to the Upper School Deans at The Kinkaid School.
- **Matt Rovegno** joins St. Francis as a full-time **Middle School History Teacher** after serving as a long-term substitute last year. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University and has six years of experience teaching in independent and public schools. He has also coached several sports, including football, baseball, and track.

- **Shannon Shrader** will join the St. Francis **Middle School History Faculty**. She comes to this role with sixteen years of experience in education, including as a teacher, management trainer, curriculum writer, and researcher. Most recently, she was a Middle School Social Studies Teacher at Holy Spirit Episcopal School. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC.

I look forward to welcoming you to campus this week, and to a wonderful 2022–23 school year!

Warmly,

Byron Williams, EdD
Head of Middle School

Tie Ceremony Rescheduled on September 22

The annual Eighth-Grade Tie Ceremony has been moved to **Thursday, September 22**, and will take place at **9:30 a.m.** in the **Fine Arts Center**. Eighth-grade families, please save the new date.

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- The **online spirit store will open tomorrow, August 15**, and the link will be open and active through May.
 - **Link:** https://stores.inksoft.com/STFRANCIS_HTX_SPIRITSTORE/shop/home
 - **Password:** wolves
- You can always access the store using the above link, as well as via links on the school website and on the parent, student, and faculty portals.
- Shoppers have two options for receiving purchases:
 - Delivery to school to your student's homeroom teacher/advisor
 - Shipping to your address
- Delivery time for both options is approximately ten to fourteen business days.
- There are no returns or exchanges, so be sure to check out the size charts to order the correct size. Please email [Christie Crummel](#) to coordinate access to samples.

Fifth Graders: Fourth-Grade Memory Books Now Available

If your child was in fourth grade last year, please note that Memory Books for last school year are now available for purchase. These beautiful Shutterfly keepsakes are grade-specific and capture class parties; seasonal events; and special days like Grandparents' Day, Splash Day, and more! Remember to order for your child's grade **last year**.

- [Click here](#) to buy your memory books today.
- With questions, email [Annie Hartigan](#).

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, August 16

- *Grade 5*
 - **Meet the Teacher and Locker Setup:** 12:00–1:00 p.m. in Middle School classrooms
 - **Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) Orientation:** 1:00–3:30 p.m. in Piney Point Gym
 - All fifth-grade students (new and returning) are expected to attend this orientation.
 - Fifth-grade parents, plan to pick up your students in the carpool line just outside of the Dining Hall.
 - Students will receive their laptops in this session.
 - *Grades 6–8*
 - **Meet the Teacher and Locker Setup:** 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in Middle School classrooms
 - **New Student Orientation:** 2:00–3:30 p.m. in Crum Library
 - All new students in grades 6-8 should attend.
 - Students will receive their laptops in this session.
-

Wednesday, August 17

- *Regular St. Francis Uniform*
 - *Regular Class Schedule*
-

Thursday, August 18

- *Regular St. Francis Uniform*
- *Regular Class Schedule*
- *First Middle School Chapel*

Friday, August 19

- *First Friday:* First Friday shirts or St. Francis Spirit tops with full-length blue jeans or St. Francis uniform bottoms
- *Regular Class Schedule*

Upper School

From the Division Head

There is nothing like the first day of school. For new students, there is the mix of anxiety and excitement; for returning students, the anticipation of seeing their friends and being in a new grade; for teachers, the joy of seeing the hallways full of students again.

Life on the Couper Campus has been anything but boring this summer. The Student Life Building, which was just a skeleton when our students were last on campus, has now taken shape. Curbs and landscaping will soon ring the building. The inside finishing has begun, and three gleaming flagpoles stand ready to be adorned.



Though our classrooms have been empty, we can't really say that it's been quiet on campus. Already our sports teams have been practicing in the mornings, rehearsals for the musical have begun, student council has had a retreat, the cheer squad has been preparing for its first pep rally, and much more. We have also been visited by some of our recent graduates, who have given a fond farewell before they leave Houston for their next adventures.

As we begin school this week, I'd like to make you aware of a few changes to how we will begin and to the layout of our campus.

ORIENTATION

In former years, orientation events were just for new students. This year, orientation serves our entire Upper School and culminates in a pep rally. All new students in grades 9–12 will attend the morning orientation, where they will receive laptops and an introduction to life at St. Francis. In the afternoon, all students will return to gather in advisories, receive schedules, play games together, and raise a ruckus in our pep rally.

ATTENDANCE AND PARKING

Remember to inform our Office Manager, [Lydia Urbanek](#), of any anticipated absences. All students arriving late need to check into our administration office before going to class. Since our offices have moved to the Richmond House, we will be in the gym every morning from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. to accommodate tardy students. We will give more information on parking to students at orientation and in our first assembly. For the first few days, students will be asked to park in last year's student parking area, taking their first left as they enter campus (seniors park closest to the road; juniors and sophomores park along the fence line).

2022–23 NEW EMPLOYEES (HIRED SPRING 2022 AND AFTER)

We are excited to welcome the following new faculty and staff members to the Upper School:

- **Tracey Addington** has joined our Upper School as the Director of Post-Secondary Success. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgetown and a Master of Education degree from Boston College, and has completed additional graduate work at Harvard and at Providence College. She also brings more than 25 years of experience in education as a teacher, advisor, and school counselor.
- **Kathy Clarke** returned to St. Francis as the **Upper School Music Coordinator** after a brief “retirement.” She has taught music for twenty years in schools and theater programs across Kansas and Texas, including at The Kinkaid School and Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS). She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in music education from Fort Hays State University.
- **Joe DeMonico** has joined us as our **Technical Theater Director**. A professional theater, film, and television actor, as well as a film producer, he has served as Performing Arts Chair and Theater Director at The John Cooper School and The Village School. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Charleston and a Master of Fine Arts degree from UCLA.
- **Mary Gleason** has joined us as **Women’s Basketball Program Head Coach and Physical Education Teacher**. A standout point guard for Southern Methodist University who helped lead the team to its first-ever NCAA tournament appearance, she also played for the European Professional Basketball League for three years. She has over twenty years of Division I collegiate coaching experience at institutions like NYU, Princeton, Dartmouth, Houston Baptist, Valparaiso, and William & Mary, in addition to high school coaching experience.
- **Tim Holm** joins St. Francis as an **Upper School Religion Teacher**. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in Russian at Texas A&M University, he interned at Christian Camping International—a global outreach program—in St. Petersburg, Russia. While pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke University, he assisted RAs as a graduate resident and worked at St. Philip’s Episcopal Church. Most recently, he was a member of the faculty

at Chinquapin Preparatory School, a private boarding school for underprivileged children in Highlands, TX.

- **Wendy Laughton** joins St. Francis as an **Upper School English Teacher**, bringing with her a wealth of experience. In addition to teaching English at The Awty International School and at Young Women's College Preparatory Academy here in Houston, she has taught English as an additional language in Japan, Norway, and France. She received her bachelor's from The University of Austin at Texas and her master's from Virginia Tech.
- **Roger Seward** is our new **Upper School Computer Science and STEAM Teacher**. He joins us from YES Prep Public Schools, where he taught both Middle and Upper School students. A graduate of the University of Houston, he is also an accomplished artist and illustrator who has done work with The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; McClain Gallery; and Blaffer Art Museum.
- **Kristal St. Clair** returns to St. Francis as our **Fine Arts and Athletics Office Manager**. Previously, she served as the Lower School Office Manager at St. Francis from 2014–21. She went to Oral Roberts University on a full singing scholarship and has shared her lovely voice in Chapel.
- **Ytri Tonthat** joins St. Francis as an **Upper School Math Teacher**. He has taught high school math and physics for ten years, starting his career at Houston ISD before teaching at The Village School. Most recently, he has been a math tutor at Lone Star College–Cypress. He holds a bachelor's degree in material science and engineering from Institut National des Sciences Appliquées in Lyon, France, and a master's in metallurgical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

We are so excited about the start of school, and look forward to the new chapters that will be written this year for the St. Francis Upper School!

Warmly,

Marc Addington, MA
Head of Upper School

Upper School Start and End Times for 2022–23

Please note that Upper School classes will start and end as follows:

- Start Time: 8:30 a.m.
- End Time: 3:50 p.m.

Please Label All Clothing and Personal Items

We strongly encourage families to clearly label all clothing and personal items that your students may bring to school. **Labeling items with both first and last name is the best way to ensure that lost items will be reunited with their owners.**

If you're looking for a recommendation on where to buy labels, [Name Bubbles](#) offers durable labels that are small, easy to read, and come in a variety of eye-catching styles. As an added

bonus, St. Francis will also receive 20 percent back on each purchase using [this special link](#).

Information About Volunteering at St. Francis

Click [here](#) to access everything you need to know about volunteering at St. Francis.

Volunteer Opportunity Tomorrow and Tuesday: Uniform Resale and Spirit Wear Sale

We need you! We are looking for adult and student volunteers (Middle/Upper School) tomorrow—**Monday, August 15**—and this **Tuesday, August 16**, to set up and work both the In-Person Spirit Store and the Uniform Resale. Additional details are below. As an added bonus, those who volunteer to set up will receive first dibs on merchandise, and student volunteers will receive service hours for their time. Click [here](#) to sign up.

Purchase Gently Used Uniforms Tomorrow and Tuesday

There will be an in-person resale of gently used uniforms and Spirit Wear items in the **Gay Foyer** on Piney Point Campus tomorrow—**Monday, August 15**—from **8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** and this **Tuesday, August 16**, from **8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

- Items are at discounted cost. **Supplies are limited and will be first come, first served.** **Pro Tip: Plan to shop on Monday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**
- Cash or check is preferred; we will accept credit cards for purchases over \$50.
- Questions? Contact [Ali Williams](#).

Purchase Spirit Store Items Starting Tomorrow

Spirit items will be available for purchase both in-person and online. *In-person sales will focus on limited-edition items, while the website will carry the classic SFE offerings (T-shirts, outerwear, shorts, etc.).*

IN-PERSON STORE

- The in-person store will be open in the **People Place** on Piney Point Campus tomorrow—**Monday, August 15**—from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and this **Tuesday, August 16**, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **Supplies are limited and will be first come, first served. Pro Tip: Plan to shop on Monday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.**
- Future in-person sales will be in November, February, and May. Look for details in *Wolf Watch*.
- Questions? Contact [Jennifer Gerry](#).

ONLINE STORE

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- You can always access the store using the above link, as well as via links on the school website and on the parent, student, and faculty portals.
- Shoppers have two options for receiving purchases:
 - Delivery to school to your student's homeroom teacher/advisor
 - Shipping to your address
- Delivery time for both options is approximately ten to fourteen business days.
- There are no returns or exchanges, so be sure to check out the size charts to order the correct size. Please email [Christie Crummel](mailto:Christie.Crummel) to coordinate access to samples.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, August 15

- *New Student Orientation:* 9:30 a.m.–3:50 p.m. in Crum Gym
 - *Returning Student Orientation:* 12:45–3:50 p.m. in Crum Gym
 - *Laptops Will Be Distributed During Orientation*
 - *Spirit Wear:* Shorts and a T-shirt are appropriate
 - *Trimester 1 Fall Sports Pep Rally:* 3:00–3:45 p.m. in Crum Gym
-

Tuesday, August 16

- *Seniors Paint Parking Spots and Senior Parking Lot Area:* 8:30 a.m.
-

Wednesday, August 17

- *First Day of School*
 - *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
 - *Back to School Assembly:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. at Crum Gym
-

Thursday, August 18

- *"B" Day*
 - *Spirit Wear*
 - *Advisory:* 10:00–10:30 a.m.
-

Friday, August 19

- *"A" Day*
 - *Spirit Wear*
-

Monday, August 22

- *"B" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Tuesday, August 23

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Wednesday, August 24

- *"B" Day*
 - *Dress Uniform*
 - *Upper School Eucharist: 10:00–10:45 a.m.*
 - *Senior Parent Preview and College Counseling Night: 6:00–7:30 p.m. in Crum Loft*
-

Thursday, August 25

- *"A" Day*
 - *Regular Uniform*
-

Friday, August 26

- *"B" Day*
- *Spirit Wear*
- *Upper School Chapel: 10:00–10:30 a.m.*

Church

Weekly Worship Schedule

The Holy Eucharist is offered at 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. Beginning on September 7, we will 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.

Be Still Yoga Starts September 8

Beginning on Thursday, September 8, join other women for an hour of yoga and meditative prayer. In stillness, God speaks to our hearts and fills us with the refreshing presence of His Spirit.

- Bring a yoga mat if you have one!
- Refreshments to follow.
- The group will meet at 11:30 a.m. every other Thursday in CE212.
- For more information or to RSVP, please contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Moms' Bible Study Resumes September 13

This fall, the **SFES Moms' Bible Study** will meet weekly at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in CE212.

- The first meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 13**.
- The study will be on the book "**Never Alone: Parenting in the Power of the Holy Spirit**" by Jeannie Cunnion.
- In this seven-session study, **discover how the Holy Spirit's presence and power transform how you lead and love your kids**. You'll be invited to wrestle through the question, "Do I really know how to parent in the power of the Holy Spirit, or have I settled for parenting in my power?" Good news, Mom! The Holy Spirit is championing you in the holy work of motherhood. Where you can't, He can! He is faithfully at work. You are never alone in your pursuit to point your kids to the love of Jesus.
- This study is led by **Allison Devlin**, director of family ministry. Please contact Allison via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725 for more meeting details.

Fall First Communion Classes Start September 18

Designed to prepare second-grade students to receive the Holy Eucharist, First Communion Classes will take place on four Sundays, beginning September 18. The classes will be held after the 9:00 a.m. service in CE207.

- We will have a parent coffee on September 18 at 10:00 a.m. in CE212.

- The classes will end with a Saturday family session, held in the church at 2:30 p.m. on November 5.
- First Communion Sunday is November 6 during the 9:00 a.m. service.
- Contact [Allison Devlin](#) to sign up.

AGAPE: Sunday Night Fellowship, Dinner, and Fun

Join us on **Sunday, September 18, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center** for prayers and music led by our children and youth, followed by dinner and bingo. Children and teens will have the opportunity to say prayers, read Scripture, act out skits, play musical instruments, and sing. Your kids will love having an important role in this service. Ask how your family can be a part of AGAPE! For more information or to volunteer, contact [Allison Devlin](#).

New Member Orientation Is September 25

If you are a new member at St. Francis, we invite you to attend our New Member Orientation Class! Join Fr. Bates to learn about St. Francis, our mission, and how membership in Christ's body at St. Francis can help you deepen your relationship with God.

- The orientation will be held **Sunday, September 25, from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Hogan Board Room.**
- Lunch and childcare will be provided.
- For more information or to RSVP, please contact [Julie Lowery](#) or call the church office at 713.782.1270.

Middle School G.L.O.W. and High School Revival

Join middle school or high school students each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. family worship service for fellowship, learning, and a question of the day. Come to the People Place for donuts, discussion, and discipleship. For additional information, please contact Allison Devlin via [email](#) or at 713.882.0725.

Woodview Elementary Reading Buddies Program Returns

The Reading Buddies program is returning to Woodview Elementary for the 2022–23 school year.

- The program is expected to start in September and will include a brief one-hour training session for all volunteers. St. Francis volunteers will be partnered with second-grade students who are on the "brink of success," where SBISD has found that reading intervention can significantly improve outcomes in later years.
- Volunteers will be expected to read with their assigned student for 30 minutes each week; last year's time slots were generally either first thing in the morning at 8:00 a.m. or midday at 12:45 p.m.
- For more details or to volunteer, please contact Tim Blaine via [email](#) or at 832.247.8667.

MAM's 2022 Back-to-School Campaign

The Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) Back-to-School Campaign began July 17 and continues through September 2022.

- Every year, MAM assists over 6,000 at-risk SBISD elementary school children. The funds raised from the community assist these students in preparing for their first day of school.
- The funds raised by St. Francis parishioners are specifically designated for the uniform requests of students who attend Woodview Elementary, our adopted school.
- A **\$50 donation provides new school clothes for a child**. Donations should be made payable to St. Francis Episcopal Church with "MAM Back-to-School" on the memo line and should be placed in the collection plate on Sunday or mailed to the church. You may also scan [this QR code](#), choose "MAM" under the fund choices, and indicate "Back-to-School" in the Memo field.
- Contact [Heather Burkhardt](#) for additional information.

Join Mrs. Devlin for In-Person Let It Shine!

Join Mrs. Devlin each Sunday for Let It Shine! Children's Bible Breakout. All children from Pre-K to middle school are invited to participate in Let It Shine! during the adult sermon.

LIGHTHOUSE EXPRESSIONS IN ART

Each Sunday after the 9:00 a.m. worship service, children are invited to join other children in the People Place (across from the Dining Hall) to create an art project based on that day's Let It Shine! lesson.

Help Meet MAM's Updated Supply Needs

Memorial Assistance Ministries has an urgent plea from the pantry team. Demand for pantry products has again peaked, and they are running very low on several items. Here is their latest list of needs:

- **Meals to Go**
 - Individually wrapped cheese/peanut butter crackers
 - Fruit strips
 - Trail mix
 - Vienna sausage
- **Hygiene Items**
 - Size 6 diapers
 - Baby wipes
 - Tissues
 - House cleaner
 - Deodorant for men and women
 - Lotion
 - Shaving cream

Many families continue to need help with the basics. Please keep the pantry in mind if any of your classes, youth groups, or other groups are looking for a project.

For additional information, contact our church liaison, Andrea Eubanks, [via email](#) or at 713.859.1448.

Fair Haven Food Pantry Needs Volunteers/Donations

The Fair Haven Food Pantry has been providing food to help people in the Spring Branch/Memorial area since 1975.

- Now operating under a client-choice model, **the pantry needs friendly volunteers** to help clients shop for their families, restock shelves, and assist with registration. Feeding the needy is part of serving one another, and as we serve others, we are serving Christ.
- **August Food Collection Items: Canned Fruit** (Thank you for not donating any glass containers or expired items.)
- For additional information, email [Jessica Antel](#).

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 Bible Studies at St. Francis

St. Francis is hosting the following Bible studies, either in-person, via Zoom, or both. To join a Zoom call, use the event link listed below. Regarding those Bible studies that are on summer break, forward your contact information to the meeting leader to be informed when the next session begins or to get additional information as it becomes available.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays at 9:00–10:00 a.m. (Begins in September)
 - **Study:** To be determined
 - **Contact:** [Louise Richman](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:**
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/651248716>
 - *To participate, email Louise Richman.*

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m. (**Resumes September 13**)
 - **Contact:** [Martin O'Malley](#)
 - **Location:** CE207

- Second Tuesday of each month at 8:00–9:30 a.m. (**Resumes September 13**)
 - **Meeting:** The Men of St. Francis Breakfast and Bible Study
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
- Thursdays at 6:30–8:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** Romans
 - **Contact:** [The Rev. Stuart Bates](#)
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84213782442>
 - **Meeting ID:** 842 1378 2442
 - **Passcode:** 1c6HEL

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
 - **Study:** The Gospel of Luke and Paul's Letter to the Romans
 - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
 - **Contact:** [George Hippard](#)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AND PRAYER

- Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 05741
- Thursdays at 7:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Christian Meditation
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room
 - **Zoom Meeting Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/203726298>
 - **Meeting ID:** 203 726 298
 - **Passcode:** 057417
- Thursdays at 6:15–6:45 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
- Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.
 - **Meeting:** Spiritual Enrichment
 - **Contact:** [Fr. David Price](#)
 - **Location:** The Bride's Room

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.
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](#).