

News for the Week of February 9

All School

This Week's Bible Verse

A well-traveled person knows many things, and an experienced person speaks with insight. —Sirach 34:9

Prayer and Other Support

Use **this Care and Compassion Support Request form** to submit confidential prayer requests directly to the chaplains. There is also a section on the form to request specific tangible support for yourself or others, beyond prayer, if needed.

Online Re-enrollment Closes on Monday

Online re-enrollment at St. Francis closes this Monday, February 10.

- To ensure that your child has a place in next year's class, the re-enrollment process must be completed by 4:00 p.m. Access to Online Re-enrollment via the Parent Portal will be closed after that time.
- Should you need to discuss your child's re-enrollment, please don't hesitate to reach out to Jennifer Glover, Head of Admissions and Enrollment Management, at 713.458.6112.

We sincerely hope you will stay in the St. Francis family!

Dads' Club Meeting on Wednesday, February 12

Morning meeting Wednesday, February 12 in the Hogan Board Room on the Piney Point Campus. Doors open at 7:45 a.m. Grab a breakfast taco, coffee, and juice. Chat with other dads and school faculty and staff. At 8:15 a.m. Assistant Head of School Justin Doran will provide a summary of the Strategic Plan process and answer questions. Feel free to come and go as your schedule allows. See you there!

FoFA News: Meeting Friday + Valentine's Volunteers Needed

Please join Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA) this Thursday, February 13, at 8:30 a.m. in the Admin Conference Room on Piney Point Campus.

- All are welcome to attend and learn about the amazing support FoFA provides St. Francis's students, faculty, and staff.
- FoFA is an inclusive group of parents who support all aspects of the school's fine arts programming.

FoFA needs your help this week! Let's make Valentine's Day extra special for our students. Please follow **this link** to sign up for any open volunteer spots.

Summer on the Point 2025: Registration Opens February 20

Mark your calendar! Registration for Summer on the Point 2025 opens Thursday, February 20. The Explore and Extend team is looking forward to a fun-filled summer with a variety of specialty camp offerings. Be on the lookout for more information on camps and how to register. For questions, please **email us**.

Buy Tickets: *High School Musical* Is February 20–22

Don't miss the Upper School's performances of Disney's family-friendly ***High School Musical***, February 20–22. Enjoy the upbeat numbers while watching The Jocks, Brainiacs, Thespians, and Skater Dudes navigate change as Troy and Gabriella find a way to help everyone shine!

All performances begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on Piney Point Campus. **Buy your tickets now!**

Get Your Game Face On: Par-Tee Time for Golfers and Fun-Lovers Alike

Whether your swing is smooth as butter or you're just here for a good laugh, we've got something for everyone at our Sunday Funday Par-Tee! Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 23, and join us for an afternoon packed with good times, great prizes, and unforgettable community fun!

Here's what you can look forward to:

- **Win Big:** Fabulous prizes are up for grabs, including:
  - A Wine Wagon loaded with premier wines
  - Your very own mahjong set for the ultimate girls' night
  - A luxurious night's stay at Hotel ZaZa
- **Eat, Drink, and Mingle:** Sip, savor, and socialize with our amazing community while playing games and enjoying lively entertainment.

This isn't just an event—it's a celebration. So grab your crew, bring your sense of fun, and let's Par-Tee!

Don't miss out on the good times. **Purchase tickets here.**

Swing Into Fun at the SFE Golf Tournament

Calling all golf enthusiasts (and those just looking for a great time)! Whether you're a scratch golfer or only swing for fun, you won't want to miss our inaugural SFE Golf Tournament on Monday, February 24.

Why join the fun?

- **Epic Prizes:** Sink a hole in one and WIN FREE TUITION!
- **Food and Drinks:** Enjoy delicious bites, cold drinks, and refreshing pit stops.
- **Good Times:** Friendly competition, great fun, and unforgettable surprises.

Grab your clubs (and your crew) for an unforgettable day on the course. Get your ticket today and let's tee up some fun! **Purchase tickets here.**

March 2: Middle School Choir Will Lead Choral Evensong, Honoring Rick Keith

Join us on Sunday, March 2, at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Francis Episcopal Church for a service of Choral Evensong (sung evening prayer) led by the Middle School Choir. This service will be given in honor of Rick Keith, who devoted his time, treasure, and talent to the SFE community for so many years.

This Is Us Cultural Festival: Submit Artwork for T-shirt Contest by Tuesday

Our second This Is Us Cutural Festival will be on Sunday, March 23, from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

T-SHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION: SUBMIT ARTWORK BY TUESDAY

Join us in creating the official T-shirt design for the *This Is Us* Cultural Festival 2025. Artwork must be submitted no later than Tuesday, February 11. **View the guidelines here.**

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES/HERITAGES

- Will your country/heritage be represented? **Check out the list of countries/heritages** that have signed up.
- If you would like to join one, please contact the point person. If your country/heritage is not registered, you may **sign up here**.

Primary School

Loris Malaguzzi Open Library Is February 24

In celebration of Loris Malaguzzi's birthday, please join us for Open Library at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24. Loris Malaguzzi is known as the father of the Reggio Emilia philosophy. Join all three St. Francis librarians—Ms. Bush, Ms. Stubbs, and Ms. Masini—for storytelling fun and an interactive book reading. You and your child may also check out a book to take home. See you there!

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 10

- *Open Library*

Tuesday, February 11

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents are invited to attend

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Wednesday, February 12

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents are invited to attend

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Friday, February 14

- *No School for Students:* Faculty professional development day

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Monday, February 17

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 18

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II parents are invited to attend

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Wednesday, February 19

- *Reggio Parent Group Coffee Chat—Reggio at Home:* 8:30 a.m. in the Primary School Library
- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents are invited to attend

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Friday, February 21

- *Darla McNay Rodeo Day:* Student-only event; students may dress in Western wear (no guns or spurs, please)

Lower School

PSA: Please Label Your Child's Belongings

Please label all items—including accessories, school materials, athletic gear, and (especially!) water bottles—with your student's full name.

- When a lost item is labeled clearly, it can be delivered to a student's advisory or pod.
- Unlabeled items will remain in the Lost and Found Closet, located under the stairs next to Crum Library, for one month before being donated to Uniform Resale or given to charity. Items from the locker rooms will be brought to this location regularly, and students and parents are both welcome to check the closet for lost items.
- The Lost and Found Committee recommends Name Bubbles clothing labels. (Search for "St. Francis Episcopal School" on the **Partner Search** page to support the St. Francis Parents Organization.) Avery No-Iron Fabric Labels paired with Sharpie Rub-a-Dub Laundry Markers are also reliable in a pinch.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 10

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.

Tuesday, February 11

- *Valentine's Parties for Second and Third Grades:* 12:15–2:15 p.m.; students only

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Wednesday, February 12

- *First-Grade Field Trip to Museum of Fine Arts, Houston:* 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
- *Valentine's Party for Fourth Grade:* 1:00–2:15 p.m.; students only

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Thursday, February 13

- *LS Love Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
- *Valentine's Parties for Kindergarten and First Grade:* 12:00–2:15 p.m.; students only

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Friday, February 14

- *No School for Students:* Faculty professional development day

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Monday, February 17

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Wednesday, February 19

- *Second-Grade Field Trip to Museum of Fine Arts, Houston:* 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 20

- *LS Eucharist Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.

Friday, February 21

- *LS Trimester 2 Ends*

Middle School

Parent Presentation on February 25: 'Protecting Children From Online Solicitation'

On Tuesday, February 25, at 8:30 a.m., Crime Stoppers of Houston will present "Protecting Children From Online Solicitation."

- This session will reveal popular platforms used for exploitation, common predator tactics, and critical warning signs for parents.
- Parents will learn actionable steps to create a safer online environment and protect their children from potential threats.
- Please register for this event via **this form**.

PSA: Please Label Your Child's Belongings

Please label all items—including accessories, school materials, athletic gear, and (especially!) water bottles—with your student's full name.

- When a lost item is labeled clearly, it can be delivered to a student's advisory or pod.
- Unlabeled items will remain in the Lost and Found Closet, located under the stairs next to Crum Library, for one month before being donated to Uniform Resale or given to charity. Items from the locker rooms will be brought to this location regularly, and students and parents are both welcome to check the closet for lost items.
- The Lost and Found Committee recommends Name Bubbles clothing labels. (Search for "St. Francis Episcopal School" on the **Partner Search** page to support the St. Francis Parents Organization.) Avery No-Iron Fabric Labels paired with Sharpie Rub-a-Dub Laundry Markers are also reliable in a pinch.

Uniform Reminders

The Dress Uniform should be worn on most Mondays and on every Eucharist day. Students should wear a blue blazer and button-down blue dress shirt with pants or uniform skirt on these days.

For all school days:

- Boys are asked to wear belts when wearing shorts or pants with belt loops.
- Girls' skirts should be fingertip length. Please check the length of all skirts, as many students have grown!
- All students should keep shirts tucked in throughout the school day.
- Only St. Francis sweatshirts may be worn inside the building.

Canstruction: Can Collection Continues Through February 18

Students will continue collecting canned goods for Canstruction through Tuesday, February 18. Canstruction, the annual Middle School Ingathering, will be returning to St. Francis on Wednesday, February 19.

- Please make sure that all cans have a label, are not expired, and are not dented.
- Items will be used to build structures during Canstruction, and then will be donated to a local food bank.
- This year's theme for the building event is, "What We Love About St. Francis."
- Last year, we collected just over 3,800 cans. Let's see if we can top that this year!

A Note About Community Service Hours

St. Francis Episcopal School recognizes and celebrates students who involve themselves in helping others. During the 2024–25 school year, students in each grade level are required to participate in completing a minimum number of service hours, as follows:

- **Fifth Grade:** 10 hours
- **Sixth Grade:** 10 hours
- **Seventh Grade:** 15 hours
- **Eighth Grade:** 20 hours

To submit your service hours, complete the **Community Service Hours Request Form** and drop it off in the Middle School Office or email a PDF to **Sarah Flores**. The deadline to submit volunteer hours for the 2024–25 school year is Friday, May 2.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 10

- *"A" Day*
- ***Dress Uniform***
- *Regular Schedule*
- *MS Chapel:* 9:55–10:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

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Tuesday, February 11

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*

Wednesday, February 12

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*

Thursday, February 13

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*
- *MS Chapel:* 9:55–10:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

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Friday, February 14

- *No School for Students:* Faculty professional development day

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Monday, February 17

- *Presidents’ Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 18

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*

Wednesday, February 19

- *"B" Day With Special Schedule*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Canstruction Build:* 9:40–10:25 a.m. in the Fine Arts Center

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Thursday, February 20

- *"A" Day With Special Schedule*
- ***Dress Uniform***
- *MS Eucharist:* 9:40–10:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

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Friday, February 21

- *"B" Day With Special Schedule*
- *MS Preview of US Musical:* 1:30–2:30 p.m.
- *St. Francis Spirit Wear:* St. Francis Spirit tops with full-length blue jeans or uniform bottoms

Upper School

Parent Presentation on February 25: 'Protecting Children From Online Solicitation'

On Tuesday, February 25, at 8:30 a.m., Crime Stoppers of Houston will present "Protecting Children From Online Solicitation."

- This session will reveal popular platforms used for exploitation, common predator tactics, and critical warning signs for parents.
- Parents will learn actionable steps to create a safer online environment and protect their children from potential threats.
- Please register for this event via **this form**.

Freshmen Parent Meeting Is February 19: 'College Road Map'

Parents of freshmen are invited to join us on Wednesday, February 19, at 8:00 a.m. for "Coffee Talk: College Road Map." We will explore college-admissions factors and trends, with a focus on understanding how course grades, GPA, and curriculum all lay an important foundation for college and for future success.

Sophomore Parent Meeting Is February 20: 'All About College'

Parents of sophomores, please join us on Thursday, February 20, at 8:00 a.m. for "Coffee Talk: All About College." We will discuss current college-admissions trends, ACT/SAT testing, and precollege summer programs, and answer questions from parents.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 10

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

Tuesday, February 11

- *"A" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *US Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym
- *US Spring Sports Media Day (Grades 9–12):* 3:00–4:30 p.m. at Crum Gym/Turf Field

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Wednesday, February 12

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

Thursday, February 13

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

Friday, February 14

- *No School for Students:* Faculty professional development day

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Monday, February 17

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 18–Friday, February 21

- *Immersions and Explorations Week*
- *No Chapel or Eucharist This Week*

Church

Join Us Each Sunday for Worship and Family-Focused Events

- **Sunday Family Worship Service:** 9:00 a.m. in the church
- **Let It Shine Children's Bible Lesson:** On Sundays during the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service, join Mrs. Devlin to learn about the Bible as we act out Scripture with costumes and props and pray together.
- **Coffee and Donuts:** Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. Family Worship Service), get a cup of coffee and enjoy a time of fellowship.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II Traditional Service With Choral Music:** 11:00 a.m.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite I Service:** 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the St. Clare Chapel

This Tuesday: Men's Breakfast and Study

The next Men's Study, Fellowship, and Breakfast is this Tuesday, February 11. The group meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Breakfast is provided. Please contact **Fr. Stuart Bates** for additional information.

Join Fr. Price in February for Sunday Morning Book Study

Join Fr. David Price on Sunday mornings in February for a book study exploring elements from Mel Robbin's bestseller *The "Let Them" Theory*. The study meets from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. in the Office Conference Room, CH-115.

- Is this theory rooted in common sense, in Stoicism and other philosophies, in early Christian thought, or in Twelve-Step practice? The answer is: all of the above. Wisdom from many traditions are distilled in a fresh way for our modern experience.
- Explore this tool to avoid misdirecting thoughts, draining energy, and wasting time on things outside your control. Stick to things worth your efforts. Discover a helpful, generous, and efficient way. Leave the matters of others to them: simply "let them."

- For more information, **email Fr. Price**.

March 2: Choral Evensong in Honor of Rick Keith

Come enjoy a beautiful Choral Evensong in honor of Rick Keith on Sunday, March 2, at 5:00 p.m., in the church. A wine and cheese reception will follow in the Parish Hall. The Choral Evensong will be led by Eric Murillo and our Middle School students. The Evensong will serve as our 5:00 p.m. worship on March 2, and no Eucharist will be held in the chapel that evening.

12-Step Recovery Program at St. Francis

If you, a family member, or a friend have a problem with alcohol, help is available. Please come join one of the 12-step recovery programs being offered at St. Francis on Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

- Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held weekly in Room CH207, upstairs in the Parish Hall building. For more information, please **email Joanie McLeod**.
- The Al-Anon Family Group meets weekly in Room CH211, upstairs in the Parish Hall.

All meeting rooms are ADA-accessible. Park in the north parking lot and come in through the Parish Hall doors.

Outreach Ministries: Opportunities to Serve

For additional information about any of the following outreach opportunities, **visit the St. Francis Episcopal Church Outreach page** or contact the church's Director of Outreach **Heather Burkhart**.

- **Memorial Assistance Ministries** has an urgent plea from the pantry team for **baby wipes, tissues, size 6 diapers, dish soap,** and **spray cleaner**.
- **Lord of the Streets** needs weekday volunteers between 8:00 a.m. and noon to serve our homeless neighbors. Over 300 hot meals are served daily. St. Francis also collects men’s clothes on an ongoing basis—men’s shoes are always needed.
- The **Fair Haven Food Pantry** needs volunteers and donations of non-perishable food.

Now on Spotify: Sermons From St. Francis

Sermons From St. Francis are now on Spotify. You can listen on an Apple or Android device, on your desktop computer, or on your tablet. The Sunday sermons are available anytime you want to be inspired while on the go. No Spotify account is necessary. **Click here** to start listening today!

Healing Prayers and Anointings Available

Healing prayers and anointings are always available after Sunday Eucharist services, or you may schedule an appointment with a priest. For more information or to schedule an appointment, **email Sally Jo Flores** or call 832.325.2983.

Share Your Prayer Requests Online

Share your prayer requests with us on the **St. Francis Episcopal Church home page** by clicking on "Prayer & Worship" at the top left of the website, then clicking on the “Prayer Requests” link in the dropdown menu.

Bible Studies at St. Francis

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Gospel of John
  - **Contact: Fr. David Price**
  - **Location:** La Madeleine (Except on second Tuesday of each month, when group meets in St. Francis Church Parish Hall)
- Men’s Fellowship Breakfast and Study: Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m.
  - **Study:** The Book of Genesis (Life of Joseph)
  - **Location:** St. Francis Church Parish Hall
  - **Contact: Sally Jo Flores**

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDIES

- Wednesdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** Gospel of John: Chapter 13
  - **Location**: St. Francis Church Parish Hall
  - **Contact**: **Allison Devlin**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** *The Great Divorce* by C. S. Lewis
  - **Location:** Hogan Board Room
  - **Contact: George Hippard**

How to Watch Sunday Service Via Livestream

To join St. Francis Episcopal Church’s 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. Sunday service via livestream, open an Internet browser on your computer, laptop, or phone. Type in the

St. Francis website—**sfch.org**. Scroll down to the “Watch Our Live Stream” section. Either the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. service will be available.