WOLF WATCH

WEEKLY E-NEWS

News for the Week of March 23

All School

This Week's Bible Verse

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength: They will soar on wings like eagles. —Isaiah 40:31

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.

Health and Safety Update

On Friday evening we were notified of a spreading illness. We sent a **Health and Safety update yesterday via email**. We will follow up with an update later this afternoon. **School will remain open tomorrow, Monday, March 24.**

Repairs to Couper Campus Entrance

There was a single vehicle accident on S. Piney Point early Sunday morning. A car, driven by individuals not affiliated with our school, collided with the brick entrance wall at Couper Campus. No serious injuries were reported, but the wall was damaged. The SFE facilities team has secured the area, and repairs will be ongoing this week. Please stay clear of the roped-off area during this time, and we appreciate your patience as we complete the repairs.

Help Us Welcome Our New Wolves: Pickup Parade Is April 6

All St. Francis families are invited to help welcome our newly enrolled families on Sunday, April 6, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Please come dressed in your favorite St. Francis Spirit Wear or colors, and bring your cowbells, pom-poms, and homemade signs with special messages such as “Welcome New Wolves,” “Congratulations,” “Welcome to the Pack,” or whatever else you can think of!

St. Francis families will line the circle drive around the Student Life Center. New families will drive through campus to pick up their swag bags and yard signs, and when they do, we will all be there showing our welcoming spirit and love to our new families.

Hope to see you there!

Art à la Carte Docent Applications for 2025–26

Interested in becoming an Art à la Carte (AALC) Docent for the 2025–26 school year? The application link will be emailed to all current and new St. Francis parents, and the application will go live this Friday, March 28, at 8:00 a.m.

- AALC Docents are a group of volunteers who present an established art curriculum in the classroom and on field trips. All parents of rising kindergarteners through eighth graders may apply.
- We welcome the parents of new students to submit an application, too. AALC is a great way to get involved at St. Francis!
- Limited spots are available, and submitted applications will be time stamped.
- If you are interested and want more information, **email Reid Nelson**, incoming 2025–26 AALC Chair.

March 30: An Opportunity to Be People for Others

Sunday, March 30, is Outreach Sunday at St. Francis Episcopal Church. Come join us for worship at 9:00 a.m., then gather at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall to make sandwiches and snack bags for **Lord of the Streets (LOTS)**. All the food we make will be taken downtown to LOTS that morning and distributed to the unhoused in our city.

Pack the Park Is Back on April 4

Mark your calendars for **Pack the Park** on **Friday, April 4,** at Houston Christian University (formerly Houston Baptist University) as our Varsity baseball team takes on First Baptist Pasadena. Before the game, we’ll celebrate our senior athletes from baseball, golf, tennis, and track.

- **5:00 p.m.:** Gates open
- **5:30 p.m.:** Senior recognition for baseball, golf, tennis, and track
- **6:00 p.m.:** First pitch

Enjoy food, sweet treats, and classic ballpark fun, plus special surprises throughout the evening for our Primary and Lower School fans. Don't miss this night of Wolf Pack spirit—bring the whole family, and let's PACK THE PARK!

Click here for details.

Sarah W. Woolrich Fund for Faculty Annual Luncheon: Celebrating 20 Years

Join us Friday, April 4, at 11:30 a.m. for the Sarah W. Woolrich Fund for Faculty Annual Luncheon.

Our theme this year, "20 Years of Inspired Teaching," highlights the incredible projects and visionary ideas that have shaped our community. Come see how small seeds of inspired teaching have grown into lasting programs that continue to transform lives at St. Francis.

Tickets are selling fast—don't miss out! **Click here to reserve your tickets today.**

Primary School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, March 24

- *Open Library*

Tuesday, March 25

- *PS Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II and Pre-Primary (Griffith, Oteiza, and Polk) parents are invited to attend

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Wednesday, March 26

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and Pre-Primary (Keyes and Labarthe) parents are invited to attend
- *Primary II Fathers and Friends Picnic:* 11:00 a.m.

Monday, March 31

- *Open Library*

Tuesday, April 1

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary II and Pre-Primary (Griffith, Oteiza, and Polk) parents are invited to attend

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Wednesday, April 2

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I and Pre-Primary (Keyes and Labarthe) parents are invited to attend
- *Primary I Fathers and Friends Picnic:* 11:00 a.m.

Friday, April 4

- *Pre-Primary Fathers and Friends:* 8:15 a.m.

Lower School

For Rising Fifth Graders: Register for Advanced Academic Placement Testing by Friday

As a reminder, your rising fifth grader (current fourth grader) has the option to apply for Advanced Academic courses next school year.

- The advanced courses will be offered for grades 5–8 in both math and English.
- **Click here to register** by this Friday, March 28.
- Students who choose to apply for Advanced Academic courses will take a placement test on Wednesday, April 2, which is a Late-Start Day. Those students should arrive at the regular school start time to complete their testing before classes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, March 24

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.

Thursday, March 27

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
- *Second-Grade Biome Bonanza:* In classrooms
  - 10:15–11:00 a.m. (Carl/Shindler)
  - 12:45–1:30 p.m. (Graves/Wagner)

Monday, March 31

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.

Wednesday, April 2

- *Late-Start Day:* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, April 3

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.

Middle School

This Wednesday: Eighth-Grade Art á la Carte Field Trip

This Wednesday, March 26, eighth-grade students will be visiting The Menil Collection for their Art á la Carte field trip. Students should wear their regular school uniform, with comfortable walking shoes.

Seventh-Grade Medieval Faire Day Is Friday: Costume Guidelines + Volunteers Needed

St. Francis's Medieval Faire Day, an annual tradition for St. Francis seventh graders since 1987, returns this Friday, March 28.

ABOUT MEDIEVAL FAIRE DAY

During Medieval Faire Day, students immerse themselves in different cultures by

participating in interactive and hands-on activities that highlight art, music, food, clothing, weaponry, and daily life in Medieval Europe, Far East Asia, and the Middle East. This event aligns with the seventh-grade World History curriculum students have been studying this year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON MARCH 27 AND 28
While this event is only for St. Francis seventh graders, parent volunteers are needed on both Thursday, March 27, and Friday, March 28, to make the event a success. Please **sign up to volunteer here**.

COSTUME GUIDELINES
Students are welcome to dress in any clothing from a medieval culture from any of the three regions (Far East Asia, Europe, and Middle East). School dress code must be followed, and costumes should align with our standard dress code expectations.

- Please do not wear costumes that have a bare midriff or spaghetti straps/tank tops.
- Weapons of any kind are not permitted.
- Athletic shoes should be worn.
- Students need to be able to do physical activities outside and indoors.

QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions, please **contact Rita Pace via email** or at 832.382.4683.

Thank you in advance for your time and support as we continue this special tradition for our seventh graders! Huzzah! —The Medieval Faire Day Chairs

Advanced Academic Placement Testing: Register by Friday

As we begin creating students' schedules for 2025–26, we wanted to remind you that your child has the option to apply for Advanced Academic courses next school year.

- The advanced courses will be offered for grades 5–8 in both math and English.
- **Click here to register** by this Friday, March 28.
- Students who choose to apply for Advanced Academic courses will take a placement test on Wednesday, April 2, which is a Late-Start Day. Those students should arrive at the regular school start time to complete their testing before classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
- ***Students currently enrolled in Advanced Math and/or Advanced English do not need to reapply to continue in these courses next year.***

Middle School Invited to 'Paint the Psalms' During the Season of Lent

During the season of Lent, our Middle School chaplain would like to offer ways in which all students, faculty, and staff of the Middle School can make this a holy time in their own lives.

- It is common for many to think of things to abstain from in this season. This year, you are also invited to discover ways to make more time to commune with God by adding a creative spiritual practice.
- Inspired by another local Episcopal church's **Sacred Space for Painting**, one of the religion classrooms has been transformed into a sacred space for creativity with the divine as we "Paint the Psalms."
- From now through Easter Sunday (April 20), this space will be available in the mornings from 7:30 to 7:55 a.m., during lunch and recess, and from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

The Big Questions: Junior High Retreat Is April 25–27

Students in grades 6–8 are invited to register for The Big Questions: Jr. High Retreat, a Formation Project of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, which will take place Friday, April 25, through Sunday, April 27. Participants will enjoy a weekend of fun, games, and hanging out with friends, old and new, while they discover what it means to find a community where they can be truly accepted for who they are. **Click here for additional details and to register now!**

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, March 24

- *"B" 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, March 25

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

Wednesday, March 26

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*
- *Eighth-Grade Art á la Carte Field Trip to The Menil Collection*

Thursday, March 27

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

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Friday, March 28

- *“B” Day*
- *St. Francis Spirit Wear:* St. Francis Spirit Wear tops with full-length blue jeans or uniform bottoms
- *Seventh-Grade Medieval Faire Day:* Students only, with parent volunteers; see note above for more information

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Monday, March 31

- *“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, April 1

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

Wednesday, April 2

- *Late-Start Day:* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Advanced Academic Testing:* 7:30–9:30 a.m.; see information above for registration details

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Thursday, April 3

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Regular Schedule*
- *MS Chapel:* 9:55–10:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary
- *Fifth-Grade Art á la Carte Field Trip*

Friday, April 4

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Schedule*
- *St. Francis Spirit Wear:* St. Francis Spirit Wear tops with full-length blue jeans or uniform bottoms

Upper School

Coming Soon: Course-Selection Information for 2025–26
Advisors have been meeting individually with students to discuss 2025–26 course options, using teacher and college-counseling recommendations to align with student interests and abilities. This week, students will bring home a course-selection sheet for parents to review and bring to spring conferences this Thursday, March 27, for further discussion.

If you have any questions, please **contact Dr. Jared Staller**, academic dean.

National Honor Society: Applications Will Be Reviewed Soon

This month, students have been invited to apply for membership in the National Honor Society. Qualified students have at least sophomore status, have spent two or more semesters at St. Francis, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above.

- **Applications Reviewed Soon:** Soon, students who are interested in applying for membership will turn in their completed forms, which will be reviewed by the Faculty Council. Our five-member Faculty Council will examine each application to determine whether the student meets the standards of the National Honor Society: outstanding community service, leadership, and character (exemplary disciplinary record). We will then communicate to our students and their families whether they have been accepted into our chapter.
- **Recognition Ceremony in May:** All inductees will be officially recognized at a ceremony in May.
- **Questions?** For questions about the selection process, **email Lorien Cuneo**, chapter advisor.

RSVP + Purchase Guest Tickets for the US Athletic Awards Banquet by Friday

Parents and student-athletes, RSVP now for the first Athletic Awards Banquet on Tuesday, May 13, at 6:00 p.m.

- This will be a seated, special event with dinner, celebrating the achievements of all Upper School teams and athletes throughout the year.
- Student-athletes attend for free, and guest tickets are $30/person.
- **Click here to RSVP and to purchase guest tickets** by this Friday, March 28.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, March 24

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

Tuesday, March 25

- *"B" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *US Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym

Wednesday, March 26

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

Thursday, March 27

- *US Parent Conferences:* Student holiday

Friday, March 28

- *"B" Day*
- *SFES Spirit Dress:* Wear a St. Francis Spirit Wear shirt with full-length jeans or uniform bottoms
- *US Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym

Monday, March 31

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

Tuesday, April 1

- *"B" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *US Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym

Wednesday, April 2

- *"A" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Late-Start Day:* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, April 3

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

Friday, April 4

- *"A" Day*
- *US Chapel:* 10:00–10:30 a.m. in Crum Gym
- *Field Day:* 1:00–3:30 p.m.

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

Join Fr. Price on Wednesdays During Lent

Wednesdays during Lent, Fr. David Price will lead the series The Passion of Christ—New Testament Study, following Jesus in the final week of his earthly ministry. Come at 6:00 p.m. for Holy Eucharist, then stay for dinner prepared by Chef Alfredo ($15/person), followed by this year's Lenten program.

Outreach Sunday Is March 30

Our Spring Outreach Sunday will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 30, in the St. Francis Parish Hall. Come lend a hand to make sandwiches and snack bags for Lord of the Streets to distribute.

High School Speaker Series Continues on March 30

On Sunday, March 30, at 10:00 a.m., all high school students are invited to come hear Annie Valicek speak of her life journey. Meet in the St. Francis Parish Hall, upstairs in room 209.

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 Acts of the Apostles
  - **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
  - **Location**: St. Francis Church Parish Hall
  - **Contact**: Allison Devlin

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** The Book of James
  - **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.