WOLF WATCH

WEEKLY E-NEWS

News for the Week of February 8

All School

This Week's Bible Verse

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." —Psalm 122:1

Prayer and Other Support

Use the **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.

Reminder: All School Late Start Tomorrow!

Tomorrow—Monday, February 9—is a Late Start day for all faculty, staff, and students. Classes in all divisions will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will be no early childcare. Carpool for all divisions will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Re-enrollment Is Now Open

We are excited to welcome all of our Wolves back to the pack for the 2026–27 school year!

- To re-enroll for next year, log in to the Parent Portal and click on the blue re-enrollment button.
- Follow the steps from top to bottom: update family information; select a payment plan in the contract; confirm and sign the contract; and pay the deposit.
- Re-enrollment closes at the end of business on Tuesday, February 10.

Questions about re-enrollment? **Contact Jennifer Glover**, Head of Admissions and Enrollment Management.

Announcing the 2026–27 Art á la Carte Board

Congratulations to the members of Art á la Carte's 2026–27 Board:

- **Chair:** Amanda Ollison
- **Vice Chair:** Lynsey Ward
- **Training Chair:** Shana Johnson
- **Training Co-Chair:** Corina Guerrero
- **Finance Chair:** Malori Callahan
- **Technology Chair:** Barbara Prior
- **Resource Chair:** Camille Stuckey
- **Lower School Field Trips Chair:** Tiffany Galloway
- **Middle School Field Trips Chair:** Alex Tuohy

Help Us Welcome Our Grandparents and Grandfriends!

Grandparents & Grandfriends Day is a favorite tradition, and we'd love your help! If you're available to assist with greeting guests as they arrive for Primary School or Upper School Grandparents & Grandfriends Day, please **sign up here**. Thank you for helping make these days so special.

FoFA Is Seeking Board Members

Friends of Fine Arts (FoFA) is a parent volunteer organization that supports music, visual arts, theater/drama, and dance in all four St. Francis divisions. Getting involved is a great way to support these programs, but also a great way to make new friends and meet parents from different divisions. **We are specifically looking for people to support Lower School Visual Arts, Joyful Sounds, and Lower School Drama, as well as for a FoFA Treasurer (no accounting/finance experience needed).** If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to **FoFA Chair Meredith Philipp** or **FoFA Chair Elect Annie Hartigan**.

This Is Us Cultural Festival: Sign Up to Participate + Submit a T-shirt Design

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE

We are excited to be hosting our annual *This Is Us* Cultural Festival on Sunday, March 22, from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. **Click here** for event details and to sign up to represent your country. We had over 30 countries represented last year and are looking forward to even more this year!

T-SHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION 2026

Join us in creating the official T-shirt design for the St. Francis *This is Us* Cultural Festival 2026! We're looking for artwork that celebrates our diverse school community and brings cultures together through creative expression. Our goal is to have a T-shirt design that represents the spirit of international unity and cultural celebration. Your

artwork should capture the joy of different cultures coming together as one school community.

This competition is open to all divisions. **Get detailed information on the "Global Unity Through Art" T-shirt design competition.**

From the Nurses' Desk: Tips for Staying Healthy When the Flu Is Spreading
During flu and cold season, the nurses want to do everything possible to keep our St. Francis students healthy. Please **click here** to learn more about the flu and ways to help prevent it from spreading. Also, please make sure your child is fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. If you have any questions, please contact the nurse on your child's campus.

Primary School

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 9

- *Late Start (No Early Birds):* Carpool runs from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, February 10

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

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Wednesday, February 11

- *Chapel:* 9:30 a.m.; Primary I parents are invited to attend
- *Valentine's Parties for 3-Day Classes:* Students only; Valentine's attire or regular uniform

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Thursday, February 12

- *Valentine's Parties for 5-Day Classes:* Students only; Valentine's attire or regular uniform

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Friday, February 13

- *Student Holiday:* No school

Monday, February 16

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 17

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

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Wednesday, February 18

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

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Friday, February 20

- *Primary School Darla McNay Rodeo Day:* Students only; students may dress in Western attire (no guns or spurs, please) or Spirit Wear

Lower School

St. Francis Sports Association: Register Now for Spring Sports
Registration is now open for St. Francis Sports Association spring T-ball, softball, and volleyball.

- **Click here to register for T-ball and softball.**
- **Click here to register for volleyball.**
- Please **email the St. Francis Sports Association** if you have any questions or concerns.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 9

- *Late Start:* No early drop-off for students

Tuesday, February 10

- *Valentine's Day Parties for Kindergarten and Grade 1:* 11:15 a.m.–1:30 p.m. in classrooms; students only

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Wednesday, February 11

- *Valentine's Day Parties for Grades 2 and 3:* 12:45–2:15 p.m. in classrooms; students only

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Thursday, February 12

- *LS Chapel:* 8:20–8:50 a.m.
- *Valentine's Day Parties for Grade 4:* 1:15–2:30 p.m. in classrooms; students only

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Friday, February 13

- *Student Holiday:* No school

Monday, February 16

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Wednesday, February 18

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

- *Art à la Carte Field Trip for Grade 2:* 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.; to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

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Friday, February 20

- *Car Door Dads:* 7:30–8:00 a.m.

Middle School

Thanks to All Who Helped Make the Houston Food Bank Trips a Success

The Houston Food Bank trips were a huge success! Thank you for completing registrations and adjusting your families' schedules to arrive early so our students could serve the community. Most importantly, thank you to the students and teachers for their efforts on those days. Our students worked hard, sorting over 60,000 pounds of food! We appreciate Rev. Katie Mitchell for organizing this magnificent service event. As a reminder, students should log 3.5 hours of service in MobileServe.

This Week in Middle School Chapel

Click here for a devotional to use at home that connects to this week's Agape Chapel on Thursday, February 12. **(Please note: There is no Chapel tomorrow—Monday, February 9—as it is a Late Start day.)**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 (AGAPE CHAPEL)*

- **Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 3:18; 1 John 4:9-19; Romans 12:9-18; and John 13:34-35
- **Singers:** Belle Gao, Leonie Makol, Tina Le, Sofia Pace
- **Ushers:** Luca Chapa, Tiffany Defenbaugh, Taj Ducic, Belle Givens
- **Acolytes:** Charles Sheedy, Isla Vondra
- **Crucifers:** Hamilton May, Campbell Newell
- **Readers:** Margaret McDonald, Brooks McReaken
- **Homilist:** Various faculty/staff

**Servers for this special service will vest and report to the Fine Arts Center for Chapel.*

Lent Is Approaching! Ash Wednesday Is February 18

As we approach this holy season, you are invited to consider committing to a spiritual devotion that suits you and your family. (Rev. Mitchell will be reading and praying through *A Different Kind of Fast: Feeding Our True Hungers in Lent* by Christine Valters Paintner.) **Share what your Lenten practices are here** to contribute to a fun snapshot

of what our community is doing this Lent!

Canstruction: Bring Canned Goods to Advisory Classrooms

Can collection has begun! Students are encouraged to bring donations of canned goods to their advisory classrooms. They will work in advisories to design a sculpture that they will build on Wednesday, February 25. This year's theme is the Winter Olympics.

Please make sure that all cans have a label, are not expired, and are not dented. Cans will be donated to a local food bank immediately following the event, making our Canstruction Food Drive a fitting follow-up to our Houston Food Bank service trips. Last year, we collected just over 3,500 cans. Let's see if we can top that this year!

Phone Policy Reminder

If a student has a communication device, **the device (both phones and watches) must be turned in during advisory every day.** Students are not allowed to keep phones in their backpacks throughout the day, nor use personal devices "car door to car door." Devices that are discovered with students during the school day are kept in the Middle School Office. Parents may be required to collect the phone from the office if students continue to keep their devices with them in violation of the policy.

St. Francis Sports Association: Register Now for Spring Sports

Registration is now open for St. Francis Sports Association spring sports, including volleyball.

- **Click here to register for volleyball.**
- Please **email the St. Francis Sports Association** if you have any questions or concerns.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 9

- *Late Start (No Early Drop-off):* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
- *"B" Day/Special Schedule*
- *Regular Uniform*

Tuesday, February 10

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

Wednesday, February 11

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*

Thursday, February 12

- *“A” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *Chapel:* 9:50–10:20 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

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Friday, February 13

- *Student Holiday:* No school

Monday, February 16

- *Presidents’ Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 17

- *“B” Day*
- *Regular Uniform*

Wednesday, February 18

- *“A” Day/Special Schedule*
- ***Dress Uniform***
- *Ash Wednesday Chapel:* 9:40–10:40 a.m. in the St. Francis Episcopal Church Sanctuary

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Thursday, February 19

- *"B" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *No Chapel*

Friday, February 20

- *"A" Day*
- *Regular Uniform or St. Francis Spirit Shirt and Jeans/Uniform Bottoms*

Upper School

Pay Advanced Placement Exam Fees by March 15

A friendly reminder that Advanced Placement exam fees are due by Sunday, March 15. Check your email for payment instructions and the link to pay. Questions? Please **email Claudia Mejia**, Director of College Counseling.

Prayers and Anointing With Mtr. Hylden

Do you have a test you're nervous about? Are you recovering from an injury? Feeling stressed out about life? Swing by Mtr. Hylden's office between 7:45 and 8:15 a.m. on Mondays for prayers. Open to staff and faculty, too!

Digital Wellness With Dr. Crystal Collier: Unveiling the Impact of Technology on Child Development

Join Dr. Crystal Collier, PhD, on Thursday, February 19, at 8:30 a.m. to learn about one of the most important topics for parents this century—how technology use impacts academic, emotional, and relational functioning in adolescents. We'll meet in the Black Box Theatre on Couper Campus.

Dr. Collier is a therapist, prevention researcher, and 2019 Counselor of the Year (Houston Association of Counselors). She specializes in empowering parents to protect children's developing brains.

Click here to reserve your seat.

Summer Pre-College Programs: Start Planning Now!

With many summer-program deadlines in January through April, now is the time to explore options! Whether your student wants to dive into an academic interest, gain

work experience, or try something new, summer offers valuable opportunities for growth and discovery.

- **View summer planning resources.**
- Questions? Please **contact Claudia Mejia, Director of College Counseling**.

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 9

- *Late Start (No Early Drop-off):* Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
- *"B" Day/Special Schedule*
- *Regular Uniform*

Tuesday, February 10

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

Wednesday, February 11

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

Thursday, February 12

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

Friday, February 13

- *Faculty Professional Day:* No school for students

Monday, February 16

- *Presidents' Day Holiday:* No school

Tuesday, February 17

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

Wednesday, February 18

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

Thursday, February 19

- *"B" Day*
- *Regular Uniform*
- *US Parents Digital Wellness Presentation With Dr. Collier:* 8:30–9:30 a.m. in the Black Box Theatre

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Friday, February 20

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

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.
- **Lighthouse Children's Art:** 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall
- **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

Men's Fellowship Group Meets Thursdays

Held Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room (CH115), the weekly Men's Fellowship Group centers around the study of the Gospels and Epistles, with an emphasis on lived faith and practical application for husbands, fathers, and men at every stage of life. Through thoughtful, interactive discussion, we explore how Scripture speaks to everyday realities—faith and vocation, marriage and parenting, work and finances, prayer and worship, humility, forgiveness, joy, trust, and inner peace. We will begin with the Epistle of James, one of the most direct and practical books of the New Testament. For more information, **email Jason Martinez**.

Note About Holy Baptism

If you or your child would like to be baptized, please **contact Sally Jo Flores** in the church office for more information.

Wednesday Poetry Night: Open Mic on February 11

Join us on Wednesday, February 11, for 6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, dinner prepared by our wonderful Chef Alfredo ($15/person), and original poetry from Fr. Dub Brooks, Mr. Bob Forker, Dr. Byron Williams, and others from the St. Francis Episcopal Church community. We hope you'll join us!

February 18: Ash Wednesday Services

Begin your Lenten journey that leads to the cross and the joy of the resurrection with the imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist on Ash Wednesday, February 18. The first day of Lent is a special day of Holy Obligation. Services will be held at 7:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Bishop Monterroso to Visit February 22

On Sunday, February 22, Bishop Hector Monterroso will be visiting St. Francis at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. He will confirm our most recent Confirmation classes at the 9:00 a.m. service, and he will preach at both services.

Lenten Study Begins February 22

For five Sundays in Lent—February 22 and March 1, 8, 15, and 22—Mark Clark will lead a study on the Four Models of Christian Spirituality as outlined in the book *Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*. The study will meet from 10:10 to 10:50 a.m. in the Parish Office Conference Room (CH115). Mr. Clark is a Lay Eucharistic Minister and Reader, and a recent vestry member and Sr. Warden.

March 1: Lenten Choral Evensong

On Sunday, March 1, at 5:00 p.m., join us for a choral evensong for the second Sunday of Lent in place of our regular 5:00 p.m. Eucharist, performed jointly by the choirs of St. Francis Episcopal Church and St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Under the direction of Keith Lathrom, director of music at St. Martin's, and organist Matthew Dion, the choir will offer beautiful selections of psalms, canticles, hymns, and anthems of our church, including Howells's *Collegium Regale* and Vierne's "Kyrie" from *Messe Solennelle*. Due to the Lenten observance, there will be no organ recital preceding the service.

March 21: Join Us for a Lenten Quiet Morning

On Saturday, March 21, in this quiet morning of devotion, exploration, and conversation, we will consider our friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We'll think on Jesus' gifts offered day to day, and blessing beyond imagining for eternity. We'll explore the story from John 11:1–45 about Mary, Martha, and Lazarus—Jesus's friends from Bethany—from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the St. Clare Chapel and CH115.

Grief Group Meets on Sunday Afternoons

A Grief Group meets weekly on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. in the Bride's Room. Grief takes many forms. It may follow the death of a loved one, but it can also arise from illness, major life changes, broken relationships, or other profound losses. For more information, **contact Fr. David Price**.

Women's Bible Study Meets Wednesdays

Women of all ages and life stages are welcome to join us for Bible study, which meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Each meeting begins with time for fellowship and a short lecture. In our small groups, we will read and discuss the book of James. For more information, **email Allison Devlin**.

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** needs **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.

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 using the "Prayer Requests" link on the **St. Francis Episcopal Church home page**.

Bible Studies at St. Francis

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

- Tuesdays at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
  - **Study:** 1 Thessalonians
  - **Location:** La Madeleine (Except on second Tuesday of each month, when group meets in St. Francis Episcopal Church Parish Hall)
  - **Contact: Fr. David Price**
- Men's Fellowship Breakfast and Study: Second Tuesday of Each Month at 8:00–9:30 a.m.

    - **Study:** Hebrews
    - **Location:** St. Francis Episcopal Church Parish Hall
    - **Contact:** **Sally Jo Flores**
- Thursday Men's Fellowship: Every Thursday at 7:00–8:00 a.m.
    - **Study:** The Epistle of James
    - **Location:** St. Francis Episcopal Church Parish Office Conference Room (CH115)
    - **Contact:** **Jason Martinez**

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

- Wednesdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m.
    - **Study:** Epistle of James
    - **Location:** St. Francis Episcopal Church Parish Hall
    - **Contact:** **Allison Devlin**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

- Sundays at 10:00–11:00 a.m.
    - **Study:** Isaiah
    - **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.