

**2022 GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY** 

# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

8151 Chimneyrock Blvd ~ Cordova, Tennessee 38016 (901) 756-1213 ~ Fax: (901) 755-2168 E-mail: office@stfrancismemphis.org Web Site: www.stfrancismemphis.org

Schedule of Masses						
Sunday Vigil Saturday, 5:00 p.m.						
Sunday						
2:30 p.m. Spanish Mass						
Weekdays8:15 a.m. Monday-Saturday; 12:00 Noon Monday-Friday						
Holy DaysAs Announced						
Sacrament of Reconciliation						
Saturday3:30 p.m4:30 p.m. or by appointment						
Office Hours						
Monday-Friday8:30 a.m4:30 p.m.						
Parish Staff						
Rev. Carl Jude Hood						
Rev. Carlos Donato						
Rev. Joseph Hastings						
Rev. James Clark						
Norman AlexanderDeacon						
Bill DavisDeacon						
Mick HovanecDeacon						
Tony RudolphDeacon						
Betty Siano Director of Religious Education						
Maria GonzalezPRE Administrative Assistant						
Chelsea Negray Music Director & Traditional Choir Director						
Tina SosnowskiBusiness Manager						
Barbara KingParish Admin						
Shirley Hollahan						
Barb Cobb						
Donna Waggener Bulletin/Website Editor						
Laura WolterdingReceptionist						
Phillip & Julia Norton						
Chris BernardiniFacilities Manager						
Mark Morra Maintenance						

# St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

2100 Germantown Parkway ~ Cordova, TN 38016 (901) 388-7321 ~ Fax: (901) 388-8201 www.sfawolves.org Mrs. Alicia Brown, Principal

Mrs. Antonia Corzine, Asst. Principal

# About Our Parish

#### **History**

The 11-acre site of St. Francis of Assisi was purchased by the Diocese of Memphis in December, 1979. At that time, it was considered "out in the country" but population in the area increased rapidly and in 1985, the parish was officially established. Rev. William Kantner was named first pastor and he began celebrating Mass in the gymnasium of Auburndale School, later St. Benedict at Auburndale, and now St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School across the street.

In 1988, Rev. James Pugh was named pastor and planning began for the building of a church. Ground was broken in 1989 and construction began on the 20,000 square foot church and 60-foot bell tower. The design blends traditional with modern. The single level, Mediterranean style building is salmon pink brick with occasional horizontal stripes of wine and pale gray. The east entrance leads to a courtyard with a circular fountain.

The Church was formally dedicated in December, 1990. In July of 1995, Msgr. Peter P. Buchignani was appointed pastor of St. Francis. At the same time, the Cordova area began to experience major growth. In 1995, the parish had slightly over 900 families. Over the next ten years, the number of registered families grew to over 2000. In early 1996, Msgr. Buchignani and the parish leadership developed a master plan that included three major components. In 1998, with the dedication of the Parish Life Center, the first of these components was accomplished. The second part, expansion of the church from 600 to approximately 940 seats, was completed in 2001. The final component of the master plan, the opening of a parish school, was achieved when St. Francis parish assumed operations of Grades K-8 of St. Benedict at Auburndale School in 2004. The parish purchased SBA's existing campus, and the High School - which remained a diocesan school - moved to its new adjacent structure. A new building was added to the former SBA and renovations of the existing facilities were also undertaken.

Rev. Robert Marshall became the fourth pastor of the parish in June 2012. Being a strong proponent of continuing faith education, Fr. Marshall expanded the learning and enrichment opportunities at St. Francis, offering a number of Lifelong Faith Formation programs - for children, youth and adults, and sponsors opportunities for parishioners to meet and support one another in prayer and fellowship.

Rev. Carl Jude Hood became parochial administrator in July 2017, and was installed as pastor on December 3, 2017. Under his direction, the parish offices received a much-needed expansion and update.

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Call the Church Office to make arrangements for the baptism of children under 7 years old. Baptism of school age children is coordinated by the Director of Religious Education. Catholic parents who wish to have a child (6 and under) baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to setting a date. Dates and times of classes will be noted in the bulletin. Godparents must meet the requirements of canon law. Baptism of adults is coordinated through participation in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program.

## **Sacrament of Matrimony**

In accordance with the policies of the Diocese of Memphis, couples planning to marry must contact the parish office at least nine (9) months prior to setting date. If either party (even one not Catholic) has a previous marriage, a date cannot be set until the freedom to marry has been established by the Diocesan Tribunal.

## First Eucharist, Penance, Confirmation

Attendance at Religious Education Classes (Catholic school or PRE) is required. Parents must also attend the parent sessions. Call the Religious Education Office for information.

## **Religious Education Classes for Children**

The Parish Religious Education Program (PRE) has classes in the Catholic faith for those children from 4 years old through eighth grade who are not enrolled in a Catholic school. The classes meet from September through May on Sunday mornings. A more detailed description can be found in the Faith Formation section on the church website.

#### **Bulletin Deadline**

Information for the bulletin must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. Tuesdays. Bulletins are also available on the church website. Email: bulletin@stfrancismemphis.org.

### Nursery

A nursery is provided for children under age 4 during some of the weekend Masses. Check with church office for availability.

# **Parish Registration**

Any Catholic wishing to register with St. Francis of Assisi should complete the online registration form on our website or fill out the registration card and stewardship forms found in the literature rack in the narthex and return them either to the Church office during the week or by mail. Non-Catholics are welcomed into the Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

# Programs/Activities/Ministries

The Ministry Directory can be found in the small red folders titled, "St. Francis of Assisi Welcomes You," found in the literature rack in the narthex, or in the church office. Additional information is always available on the church website.

#### **Envelopes**

Following registration, new parishioners who do not choose Online Giving will typically receive envelopes within a few weeks. Envelopes are provided through an outside firm and are mailed every two months. In the interim, parishioners may use a standard envelope, or a welcome envelope found in the narthex, to make their weekly contributions. Donations made online or by check will be included in giving records and tax statements. Cash contributions placed in the offertory collection cannot be recorded unless they are in an envelope with your name and address noted.

#### **Online Giving**

Take advantage of the convenience of our VANCO online giving platform, eliminating the need for envelopes and paper checks. Online donations may be started or stopped as needed, and both the frequency and amount of contributions, including second collections, may be set or changed at any time. You may also schedule one-time-only or recurring donations for parish groups such as St. Vincent de Paul or make a donation for an honorarium or a memorial. To donate online visit www.stfrancismemphis.org. Please call the parish office at 756-1213 with questions.

#### Parish School

At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, each child flourishes in their unique ability to reach their full potential and excel academically now and into the future. Our passionate and dedicated staff, alongside your family, set the foundation for your child to succeed while living gospel values. With Project Lead the Way and dedicated STEM labs, our students develop the confidence and passion for learning to become critical thinkers, problem solvers and effective communicators for a complex and challenging world.

Integrated into our curriculum is the Catholic virtue of serving others with students volunteering to serve in our community and church. Students are encouraged to explore their artistic, spiritual, and physical talents and interests through our many clubs, art and music programs and athletics. We are a co-educational, U.S. Department of Education 2010 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence serving elementary and middle school, ages 2 through 8th grade.

Our Student Support Services Program meets the academic and social emotional needs of students with diagnosed learning differences in a traditional classroom setting from Kindergarten through 8th grade. It is also designed to offer enhanced learning experiences for our 1st through 8th grade students that are performing at an advanced level, by challenging their learning, and expanding lessons and activities.

For more information about the school, please call the School Office at 388-7321.

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For information call **901-388-7321** or visit **www.sfawolves.org**.







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# Parish Organizations & Ministries

Please note that due to the pandemic, some ministries listed below may not currently be active. Be sure to check the weekly bulletin, church website, or call the church office for the current status of any particular ministry or organization.

# Contact Persons

Wo	orship Ministries					
	Altar Server (Grade 4 and up)	Parish	Office	756-1	213	
	Extraordinary Minister of					
	Holy Communion	Parish	Office	756-1	213	
	Lector					
	Minister of Hospitality (Usher)	Parish	Office	756-1	213	
	Sacristans					
	Music Ministries					
	St. Francis Traditional					
	Choir/Cantor/Musicians	Parish	Office	. 756-1	213	
	Hispanic Choir	Parish	Office	756-1	213	
	Bells of St. Francis (Handbells)					
	Funeral Choir					
Ministries of Outreach & Social Concerns						
1411	English as a Second Language (ESL).		Office	756-1	213	
	Kitchen Angels					
	Ministry to the Homeless Michelle Ri					
	Ministry to the Sick/Homebound/Eld					
	Prison Ministry					
	Room in the Inn					
	St. Vincent de Paul Society					
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Parish Organizations & Family Life Ministries						
	Garden Club					
	Good Friends (Senior Adults)			. 867-4	072	
	Knights of Columbus					
		p	d2525@be	llsouth	.net	
	Prayer Shawl Ministry					
	Rosary Makers Guild					
	St. Francis Festival					
	St. Joseph Men's Club	. David Fink	elstein	. 751-2	063	





## Michele Agnew, Agent

6600 Stage Road Bartlett, TN 38134 Bus: 901-372-3792 michele@agnewins.com

State Farm, Bloomington, IL 2001738







# **Scouts & Youth**

Scouts Chartered Organization Re	ep David Finkelstein 756-1213				
Cub Scouts	Thomasina Perdue				
	thomasinaperdue@hotmail.com				
Boy Scouts	Jose Ortiz 493-1412				
	Kareen Baird 388-7321				
Youth Groups	Julia & Phillip Norton 756-1213				
Faith Formation					
Adult Faith Formation	Parish Office 756-1213				
Baptism Preparation Classes	Parish Office 756-1213				
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Marilyn Piccatto 266-4180				
Ladies Bible Study Group (Mon e	vening)Patsy Barrow753-7470				
Monday Night Bible StudyKare	en Busler/Parish Office 756-1213				
P.R.E. (Parish Religious Education	)				
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of	f Adults) Parish Office 756-1213				

# Directory of

# Parish Ministries & Organizations Worship Ministries

#### Altar Server

Boys and girls from Grade 4 and up assist the celebrant at weekend Masses and other liturgical services. St. Francis has an active program for high school servers as well as those in lower grades. This ministry requires that you have received your First Holy Communion and be trained in the parish.

# **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**

Men and women distribute the Body and Blood of Christ to the faithful during weekend Eucharist and other liturgical services. This ministry requires that you be Catholic, receive Diocesan training, and approval of the pastor.

#### Lector

Men and women proclaim the readings from the Word of God during our worship services. This ministry requires that you be Catholic, receive Diocesan training, and approval of the pastor.

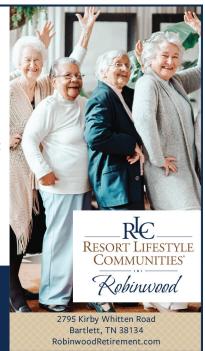
# **Minister of Hospitality (Usher)**

Men and women greet parishioners and guests participating in the Mass and other liturgical services, help with seating, provide directions or assistance, distribute the offertory baskets, pass out bulletins after Mass and see that the church is tidied up after each celebration. Training provided.

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#### Sacristans

Women and men who care for the Sanctuary, including the sacred vessels, altar linens and other articles used in our Eucharistic and other liturgical celebrations. They also assist with our decorations for the liturgical seasons. Additional volunteers are always welcome. Training provided.

# Music Ministries

#### Traditional Choir/Cantors/Musicians

The St. Francis Traditional Choir sings weekly during the 10:30 a.m. Mass (September-May) as well as other liturgical celebrations and special concerts. Rehearsal is on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Room 109 of the Parish Life Center. Cantors lead the worshipping congregation at each Mass. Those with vocal and musical talents are encouraged to share them with our parish family.

# **Hispanic Choir**

The Hispanic Choir sings during the 2:30 p.m. Spanish Mass on Sundays. They practice on Friday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Parish Office at 901-756-1213 if you are interested in this choir.

#### "Bells of St. Francis" Handbell Choir

The Bells of St. Francis are always looking for new handbell ringers. The ability to read music is very important.

## **Funeral Choir**

This choir has the uplifting function of providing music for funerals. Their voices give comfort to the families of the bereaved and adds a positive note to an otherwise solemn service. Previous vocal experience is not necessary, nor is an audition required in order to participate.

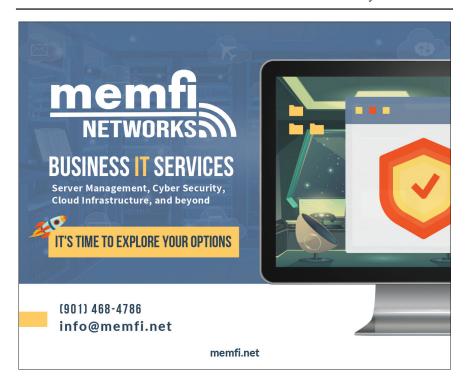
# Ministries of Outreach and Social Concerns

# English as a Second Language (ESL)

An English as a Second Language (ESL) program will be reintroduced, post pandemic, in 2022. Please contact the Parish Office at 756-1213 for more information.

# **Kitchen Angels**

Members of Kitchen Angels provide meals and assistance as needed to parishioners during illnesses or when a loved one dies. For information about this ministry, please contact the Parish Office at 756-1213.



David H. Crowder, D.D.S.



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#### Ministry to the Homeless

St. Francis parishioners, organized into two groups, prepare and serve monthly dinners to the women and children at the North Memphis shelter operated by Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. Meals are delivered and served on the first Thursday and the fourth Tuesday of each month, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. For information about this ministry, please contact Michelle Ripberger (1st Thursday) at 218-5593, or Irene Sabelhaus (4th Tuesday) at 388-4252.

# Ministry to the Sick/Homebound/Elderly

Ministers visit and often take the Eucharist to parishioners who are homebound or in hospitals, as well as to those in the four nursing homes within our parish boundaries. They try to be helpful and to perform tasks which will make life easier. Most importantly, they offer fellowship and caring to those they visit. Volunteers participate in a diocesan training session and are certified by the parish. Those who take the Eucharist to the sick also participate in the training required to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. For information about this ministry, please contact Pat Crowe at 372-1437.

### **Prison Ministry**

Volunteers visit and attend Mass with the men and women in various local jails or prisons, as well as meet occasional special needs. A training program is provided for interested persons. For information, please contact Bill Payne at (901) 494-1513.

#### Room in the Inn

The "Inn Crowd" serves those experiencing homelessness by offering shelter from the cold every Thursday night from November through March (and varied Summer dates) at the Ozanam Center (St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen), 1306 Monroe Ave. There are a number of volunteer opportunities available from setting up sleeping quarters and dining tables; picking up our guests from downtown and then returning them in the morning; preparing and serving dinner; serving as an overnight steward; helping as a Laundry Angel; and most importantly, offering hospitality and fellowship. Donations and supplies are always welcome. For more information, or to become part of the St. Francis "Inn" crowd, please the Parish Office at 756-1213.

# St. Vincent de Paul Society

As the charitable arm of the church, the St. Vincent de Paul Society responds to those in need, particularly within parish boundaries, without regard to race, color or creed. It endeavors to meet whatever short term needs exist, such as food, clothing, shelter, medical care, assistance with utilities or other bills, etc. The Society also sponsors a soup kitchen and a holiday Angel Tree. Financial assistance and volunteers are always welcome. For information, please contact Judy Cupp at 385-9474.

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# Parish Organizations & Family Life Ministries

#### **Garden Club**

The club installs and maintains decorative gardens on the grounds of St. Francis of Assisi Church, especially the courtyard, Parish Life Center and rectories. Our goals are to beautify the church in order to give glory to God, and to honor St. Francis, our patron and the patron saint of ecology. For information, please contact David Finkelstein at 751-2063.

#### **Good Friends (Senior Adults)**

Good Friends is a social organization of parishioners and their friends age 50 or over (approximately). The purpose of Good Friends is to get to know each other better and have fun doing so. Activities have included local excursions, dinners, weekend bus trips, an Alaskan cruise, C.P.R. and safe driving classes, and service projects. Good Friends meet on the fourth Sunday of each month at 6:30 p.m. - usually for a catered dinner. For information, please call Ben Meisler at (901) 867-4072.

## **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus is a worldwide Catholic men's group promoting church, family and community through a variety of programs and activities. The Timothy J. Coyle Council 9317 meets at St. Francis on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For information about how you can become a knight, please contact Joe Pede at Pede2525@bellsouth.net or ask any Knight.

# **Library Volunteers**

The Parish Library is looking for dedicated volunteers to help keep our beautiful library organized and up to date. Library experience is helpful, but not necessary. The Parish Library is open Sundays after morning Masses and Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For information on how you can help, please contact the Parish Office at 756-1213.

# **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This is a group who gathers to pray, knit and share stories while making prayer shawls to be delivered to those facing surgery and or those with chronic illnesses as an expression of God's loving care. Meetings are Wednesdays in Room 111 at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. For information, please contact Marilyn Piccatto at 266-4180.

# **Rosary Makers Guild**

The Rosary Makers Guild makes rosaries for the parish, the community, domestic and foreign missions and for our armed forces. New members are welcome at the Parish Life Center on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in Room 111. For information, please contact Sam Kok at (901) 753-7293.

#### St. Francis Festival

This annual parish festival features great food, fun, and special events. Usually held in the summer or early fall, the festival provides an opportunity for greater fellowship within our parish and the community. Among featured activities are craft sales, live music, dancing and a variety of games and contests for children and adults. The St. Francis Festival is an entirely volunteer effort, so whatever your time, talents or interest, there is a place for you! For information, please visit www.facebook.com/sfafestival/ or contact the Church Office at 756-1213.

#### St. Joseph Men's Club

This is a group of Catholic men who gather for prayer and fellowship and who are committed to supporting one another in a deeper life of holiness. They are striving to make a difference in their homes, parishes, workplaces and communities. The St. Francis group meets on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m. in Room 111 of the Parish Life Center. For information, please contact David Finkelstein at 751-2063.

# Scouts and Youth

## **Scouting - Cub Scouts**

St. Francis is the chartering organization for Cub Scout Pack 457. There are Dens for boys in Grades 1-5. The Cub Scout program emphasizes God, family, and country. Various related activities as well as those involving nature and the environment are planned on a regular basis. There are weekly Den meetings and monthly Pack meetings. For information, please contact Thomasina Perdue at thomasinaperdue@hotmail.com.

# **Scouting - Boy Scouts**

Boy Scout Troop 457, chartered by St. Francis, strives to get boys (Grades 6 and up) outdoors at least once a month for activities such as camping, canoeing and hiking, and have them be able to take care of themselves indoors and out. A variety of projects and activities are planned monthly. Weekly meetings are held on Monday evenings in the cafeteria of St. Francis School. For information, please contact Jose Ortiz at (901) 493-1412. Visit their website at sites.google.com/site/boyscoutstroop457/.

# **Youth Athletic Programs**

St. Francis sponsors numerous sports programs throughout the year. Youth programs include basketball, tee-ball, softball, baseball, cheerleading, soccer, football, cross country and volleyball and are divided into two divisions: Noncompetitive for children ages 4, 5 & 6 and structured league play (Parochial Athletic Association) for children in grades 1-8. Participants must be enrolled in either St. Francis School or in the PRE Program of St. Francis. Information and registration for all sports programs is announced in the Sunday bulletin. For information, please contact the Athletic Director, Mrs. Kareen Baird, at 388-7321 or email kareen.baird@sfawolves.org.

#### **Youth Ministry**

The St. Francis Youth Groups meet most Sunday evenings during the school year for talks, games, skits, videos, small group discussions, and dinner when noted. We offer many field trips for fellowship, outreach, and service. Our format focuses on the spiritual, emotional, and social needs of youth. Meetings are held in the Parish Life Center. Outings and retreats are announced on social media and in the parish bulletin. For more information, contact the Youth Co-Directors, Julia and Phillip Norton, at (901) 756-1213, ext. 124.

The EDGE Middle School Youth Group is for 6th-8th graders and meets most Sunday evenings during the school year at 4:30 p.m.; dinner when noted.

**The LIFE TEEN High School Youth Group is for 9th-12th graders** and meets most Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m. dinner when noted.

# Faith Formation

### **Baptism Preparation Classes**

Baptism of adults is scheduled through participation in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program described below. Catholic parents who wish to have a child (6 and under) baptized are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to setting a date for the baptism. Classes are generally held on the third Thursday of each month. See the bulletin for specific dates, times and location of the classes. Godparents must meet the requirements of canon law. For information about the classes or about the sacrament of baptism, please contact the parish office at 756-1213.

# Children's Liturgy of the Word

In order to enhance our children's understanding and appreciation of the Word of God, one Sunday each month we invite children ages 6 to 12 to move to the Chapel for the Liturgy of the Word for a separate celebration and explanation of the Scriptures by trained catechists. Children's Liturgy of the Word is generally offered on the third weekend of the month at the Saturday 5:00 p.m., and the Sunday 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:15 p.m. Masses. We welcome catechists or assistants to help us. For information, please contact Marilyn Piccatto at 266-4180.

# Ladies' Bible Study Group

The women's study group meets weekly throughout the school year to provide an opportunity for women to further their understanding of the Bible and God's work in their lives as well as enjoy fellowship and support. The group meets on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. For information, please contact Patsy Barrow at 753-7470.

#### **Monday Night Bible Study**

Women and meet one or two quarters per year to study a dynamic and thought provoking series. Please contact the Parish office at 756-1213.

## Parish Religious Education - P.R.E.

Religious education classes for children ages 4 years through grade 8 are taught by volunteer catechists and provide age-appropriate instruction in the Catholic faith. All Catholic children between 1st grade and 8th grade should be receiving religious education every year - either in a Catholic school or in our PRE program. Classes are held from September through May and meet on Sunday mornings. Registration is available online on our parish website or by visiting the parish office. We also have classes for students who have missed receiving their sacraments at the traditional time. Please contact us for more information.

Generally, First Reconciliation is celebrated in the fall and First Eucharist is celebrated in the spring when the child is in the second grade. Confirmation is celebrated in the Easter season with those in the eighth grade or older. Diocesan requirements state that a child must be enrolled in religious education classes for at least one year prior to sacrament preparation. Children preparing for the sacraments at a Catholic school must also be registered at St. Francis in August if they plan to receive the Sacraments with St. Francis Parish.

# Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - R.C.I.A. (Becoming Catholic)

Comprehensive instruction in the Catholic faith is offered for those interested in or considering becoming Catholic. A team of dedicated parishioners will accompany participants on this journey of faith. RCIA sessions are held on Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m., September through the Easter season. This program is also open to those adults who were baptized Catholic but who, for whatever reason, did not complete their Christian initiation with the sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist. Arrangements are also made for children or teens seeking to enter the Catholic Church or complete their sacraments of initiation - either through a Catholic school or the PRE program. For information, please visit the parish website under Becoming Catholic, call the parish office at 756-1213, or email office@stfrancismemphis.org.

#### St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School

Our parish school offers an excellent academic education steeped in the Catholic tradition. The school serves students from 3-year old Pre-K through 8th grade. In addition, the school operates a state-certified part-time preschool for ages 2, 3 & 4. For information about attending St. Francis School, please contact Susan Fetz, Director of Admissions at 388-2548.

#### **Sunday Bible Study Group**

This group is open to all adults: young or old, single or married. Various organized studies of scripture are undertaken. The group usually meets on Sundays following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. For information, please contact David Crowder at 757-5880.

#### **Vacation Bible School**

Children (grades 5K-5) learn how God has worked in the lives of His people by experiencing a week of activities, drama, music, dance, snacks, etc. Youth and adult volunteers are actively sought as the program is organized and conducted entirely by them. The program is usually scheduled for mid-June on dates and times announced in the bulletin. For information, please contact the religious education office at 756-1213.

## Evangelización Clases

Contactar Silvia Gonzlez, 901-553-4199.