

FRANCISCAN - APRIL 2019

“A Publication of St. Francis Episcopal Church—“Proclaiming the Good News in word and deed.”

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Church,

We are fools for Christ, but you are so wise in Christ! 1 Corinthians 4:10

Although April Fools' Day has been celebrated for centuries, its exact origin remains a mystery. According to Andrea Livesey, a historian from the University of Bristol, UK, not everyone agrees where the tradition of the day came from.

“Some have argued that a story told by early English poet Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century – where a fox plays a prank on a rooster – is the first reference to pranks taking place on the first of April.” The poet doesn't directly refer to 1 April. Instead, Chaucer says 32 days “syn March began”, which people have taken to mean “32 days since March began” which would be April 1st.

Others believe that the Fools Day tradition started because of events in the calendar, particularly one called the Renewal Festival which dates back to Roman times. A celebration that occurred at the start of a new year or season (spring), the event often turned things on their head or “topsy turvy”, with servants controlling their masters or children controlling their parents. Oh, wouldn't that turn be a hoot today? Unfortunately, because of the tension today between the powerful (the fox) and the powerless (the rooster), that idea likely would fly like a lead balloon.

I lean toward the thought that April Fools Days is a fun-loving celebration at the start of spring harkening back to the ancient Roman Renewal Festival. Spring is making her appearance: the days are growing longer, the new greens have start sprouting; and, frankly, today I feel the new warmth and am enjoying the earlier light of day. Universally, this is when a wonderful delight, fun-loving, celebratory craziness begins to rise. In spring time lovers act like fools, yes? Why not everyone!?

The Apostle Paul would say that every day is a fool's day, for “we are fools for Christ.” Why not? Christ loves us. We love Christ! Of course, Paul preaching against the way the world is blind to and misunderstands the “fools” who believe and follow Jesus Christ. What fools these Christians are who seem to have nothing but give all they can to everyone! What the world is missing is the fact we are “so wise in Christ.” Christians became wise when they no longer needed an answer.

Christians are wise because they have accepted a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. I may be seen as a foolish Christian but I am wise because I have accepted the grace and new life offered by the Resurrection. I am wise because I give thanks everyday for the spiritual rewards that I have received directly from trying to live by the example set by Christ. I am wise because I strive to do and say everything based on the wisdom that is to love God with all that I am and to love my neighbors as I love myself.

I understand God's grace and the miracle of redemption that God is with us from the first breath we take. Wisdom tells me that I was never lost to God but that I found God. Christ teaches us, let us all be taught, that there is only one kind of judgment that matters. We are saved not because of who we are or what we have done or did not do, but simply because you and I have accepted the infinite grace that is always offered to you and to me without end.

Rejoice! Be a Fool for Christ, *Fr Frank*

APRIL CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Office Closed Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	2 Office Closed Jazzercise 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	3 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	4 Jazzercise 5:30 pm Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	5 Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	6 Jazzercise 7:00 am & 9:15 am
	7 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Troop 50 3:00 pm	8 Office Closed Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	9 Office Closed Jazzercise 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm	10 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	11 Jazzercise 5:30 pm Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	12 Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm
14 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	15 Office Closed Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	16 Office Closed Jazzercise 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	17 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	18 Jazzercise 5:30 pm Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	19 Good Friday: Veneration of the Cross 7:00 pm 	20 Jazzercise 7:00 am & 9:15 am
21 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Easter Day Festival Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt	22 Office Closed Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	23 Office Closed Jazzercise 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm	24 Bible Study 10:30 am Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	25 Jazzercise 5:30 pm Barbershop Singers 7:00 pm Alanon 7:30 pm	26 Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	27 Jazzercise 7:00 am & 9:15 am
28 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am	29 Office Closed Jazzercise 4:00 pm & 5:30 pm	30 Office Closed Jazzercise 5:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm & 7:00 pm				

St. Francis News



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Patricia Prendergast	4/2
Joshua Hamilton	4/15
Robert Marshall	4/19
Ebelechukwa Oduah	4/25
Mary Harris	4/27
Brittany Spangler	4/29



APRIL ANNIVERSARY

Joe and Lisa Spangler	4/30
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If your name does not appear on our birthday or anniversary list, please contact the church office.

Easter Season



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

April 14 at 10:30 am

The Liturgy of the Palms will begin outdoors, with a process to the Foyer and celebration of Holy Eucharist, Rite II.



Good Friday

April 19 at 7:00 pm

Traditional Good Friday Liturgy



The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

April 21 at 10:30 am

Easter Day Festival,
Holy Eucharist Rite, II

Please come and join us for these holy and festive days!

Easter Flowers

If you would like to memorialize a loved one or friend, or express thanksgiving for God's many blessings through your donation of Easter Flowers, please fill in the needed information and place this form with your check in the offering plate.

Please make your check payable to **Saint Francis** and mark the memo notate "Easter Flowers".

Thank you.



Your name

(as you wish it listed in the bulletin)

Please list name(s) as you wish it (them) printed in the bulletin and circle the appropriate designation.

In Honor	In Memory	In Thanksgiving
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In Honor	In Memory	In Thanksgiving
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In Honor	In Memory	In Thanksgiving
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Easter Flowers

If you would like to memorialize a loved one, or express thanksgiving for God's many blessings through your donation of Easter flowers, please fill out the needed information on the form found in the Narthex on the table and in this Franciscan Newsletter.

Make your checks payable to St. Francis and mark the memo "Easter Flowers".



The Passion Of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Palm Sunday

St. Francis is in need of Readers for The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ on Palm Sunday. If you are interested, please see the sign up sheet on the table in the Foyer to choose who you want to be. Thank you!



The annual Easter Egg Hunt at St. Francis will take place immediately following the service on Easter Sunday, April 21. All children are invited!

While the adults enjoy an Easter coffee hour, the children will be searching for candy filled eggs.

Donations of plastic eggs and/or candy would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please see Jenny Catalan (513) 777-4525 or Lisa Spangler (513) 932-9338.



Come and join us for fun and fellowship!

Outreach Ministry Jars

Please look for jars around the church to throw your loose change in. They will be located on the table in the foyer, near the coffee pots in the kitchen, and on the table during coffee hour. The donations for April will benefit the soldiers on our prayer list. St. Francis will be sending them Easter packages this year. You can also find a list of most needed military items on the bulletin board and a container in the Narthex for donations. Please provide the addresses for those on the military prayer list if you know them.

We Need Your Help! St. Francis still hasn't met our goal for the Easter Care Packages for our soldiers. We are in need of some special items to complete our care packages: hard candy, jerky, razors and anything else you think we may need. If you are unsure about what to give, please contact Barb Roy (937) 859-3501. All monies and donations must be in by April 7. Thank you in advance for making this a successful project for all the soldiers on our prayer list who are serving our country.



SPECIAL PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for Molly Bailey (Father David Bailey's wife) who is having issues with a bone marrow disease called Aplastic Anemia/Myelodysplastic Syndrome - AA/MDS for short. This disease is a life-threatening condition. Molly had a port implanted in her chest wall this week which will greatly simplify both blood draws, platelet and blood transfusions. Please keep the Bailey family in your prayers. If you would like to send them a card, the address is: 9097 Cascara Drive, West Chester, Ohio 45069.

PRAYERS IN LENT

“Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*”

The Book of Common Prayer, Collect, page 220

“Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*”

The Book of Common Prayer, #6, page 252

“Jesus said, “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” Mark 8:34

The Book of Common Prayer, page 38

Mary Martin, Parish Health Ministry

PRECAUTIONS DURING COLD AND FLU SEASON

from

CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Sore throat and runny nose are usually the first signs of a cold, followed by coughing and sneezing. You can help reduce your risk of getting a cold: wash your hands often, avoid close contact with sick people, and don't touch your face with unwashed hands.

Common colds are the main reason that children miss school and adults miss work. Each year in the United States, there are millions of cases of the common cold. Adults have an average of 2-3 colds per year, and children have even more.

Most people get colds in the winter and spring, but it is possible to get a cold any time of the year. Symptoms usually include: sore throat, runny nose, coughing, sneezing, headaches, and body aches. While most people recover within about 7-10 days, people with weakened immune systems, asthma, or respiratory conditions may develop serious illness, such as bronchitis or pneumonia.

There is no cure for a cold. To feel better, you should get lots of rest and drink plenty of fluids. Over-the-counter medicines may help ease symptoms but will not make your cold go away any faster. Always read the label and use medications as directed. Talk to your doctor before giving your child nonprescription cold medicines, since some medicines contain ingredients that are not recommended for children. Learn more about symptom relief of upper respiratory infections, including colds.

Antibiotics will not help you recover from a cold caused by a respiratory virus. They do not work against viruses, and they may make it harder for your body to fight future bacterial infections if you take them unnecessarily.

Take care, Teena Baldrige, Parish Health Committee

Saint Francis Episcopal Church
The Episcopal Church in Springboro
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Springboro, OH 45066
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The Franciscan

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www.saintfran.org

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Holy Eucharist, Rite II10:30 am
Sunday School 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Bible Study.....10:30 am