



We all need ways to cope and deal with the pressures and stresses of life. Being in the midst of a pandemic, when things are so uncertain and challenging on many levels, just underscores the need for support, strength, and faith in God.

As Catholic preschool educators, we help parents teach the message of God's love from the minute that their child steps into the classroom. Our preschool days are punctuated with opportunities and purposeful moments when we can teach our students about prayer, thankfulness, forgiveness, and belief in God's all-encompassing love. Of course, we spend extra time and attention on the high points of our faith such as Christmas, Lent, and Easter, but we also understand the importance of teaching children in the moment. Young children learn best through play and activities that are relevant and naturally occurring throughout their day. Capturing moments when one child helps another clean up toys, allows a peer to go ahead of

him/her down the slide, or asks if a friend is OK when he/she falls down are just some examples when we can emphasize with our children that God is everywhere. Our kind actions and words demonstrate God working through us to offer another member of His family our support. In turn, it helps children recognize that God is also always there for them during similar times.

May the Lord continue to guide us as we teach and share the message of His strength, constant presence, and never-ending love with the youngest members of our faith community.

To learn more about the wonderful opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at [www.preschoolatstfrancis.com](http://www.preschoolatstfrancis.com) or contact Shelley Freeman at: [shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org](mailto:shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org).

With Joy,

Heidi Hobler, Director

St. Francis of Assisi Preschool