

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

May 6 - May 11

Monday, 5/6	900 a.m. Elise Reising
Tuesday, 5/7	9:00 a.m. Karen Alloway Yanovitch (L)
Wednesday, 5/8	9:00 a.m. Alexander O'Connor 7:30 p.m. Virginia Haley
Thursday, 5/9	9:00 a.m. Joyce Hayes Curtner
Friday, 5/10	9:00 a.m. Christy & Millie Zezzo
Saturday, 5/11	9:00 a.m. Winnie Gardner 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>
Sunday, 5/12	8:00 a.m. For All Mothers 9:30 a.m. For All Mothers 11:15 a.m. For All Mothers 5:00 p.m. For all Mothers

Please pray for the sick... Rosa Jimenez, Helen Hapeman, Eddie Lutheran, Sandra Kimball, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoefter, Jackie Roebuck King, Jeni Stepanek. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

Readings for the Week of May 5, 2019

Sunday:	Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14
Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51--8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116: 12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69
Next Sunday:	Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 [3c]/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Hundreds of worshipers at three Christian churches in Sri Lanka were killed on Easter Sunday in a coordinated series of bombings. Three luxury hotels packed with tourists were also targeted by suicide bombers. The government of Sri Lanka has blamed the local Islamist terrorist group National Thowheed Jamath (NTJ) for the suicide bombings. In addition, the Islamist State group on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, claimed responsibility for the attacks through its Aamaq news agency but offered no evidence for their claim. Two of the places of worship that were targeted by the suicide bombers were Catholic Churches: St. Anthony's Shrine in Colombo and St. Sebastian's Church in Negombo. Another blast at the Evangelical Zion Church in the eastern coastal town of Batticaloa also claimed many lives. As of April 23, 2019, the death toll rose to 321, with 500 people wounded in the worst violence Sri Lanka has experienced since the end of its civil war in 2009.

Bishop Winston Fernando of Badulla, the President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Sri Lanka said that Catholics have responded to the appeal of the local bishops and maintained calm despite the pain and suffering. Bishop Fernando mentioned that the passion of Christ is helping them at this "trying moment." But despite their strong faith, Bishop Fernando said, some people are "upset and angry" but the priests, religious and good faithful lay people have been able to motivate them and accept things calmly. Bishop Fernando went on to mention that he was disappointed with the government of Sri Lanka in dealing with the crisis. In his opinion, despite warning about the impending talks, the country's intelligence failed. He also commented that the need of the hour is for "good leadership," and it was "not right and proper to take political advantage at this moment."

Cardinal Malcom Ranjith, Archbishop of Colombo, expressed concern that authorities had not acted immediately after receiving prior information of possible terrorist attacks. He also urged citizens not take the law into their own hands and refrain from harming persons of other faiths. The National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka called on the Christian community to remain calm and avoid being misled by rumors during this time of crisis. All Catholic-run schools in Sri Lanka have been closed until April 29 owing to the security crisis.

On Easter Sunday morning after learning about the bombings, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued the following statement:

Continued in the column to the right.....

Third Sunday of Easter

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Have I failed to recognize Jesus standing on the shore in the light of dawn, encouraging me to try it a different way? How do I respond to a kind and empathetic suggestion to change the way that I am doing things?



MOTHER'S DAY MASS CARDS

Cards will be available this weekend in the Gathering Space. This is a wonderful way to remember your Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandmother, Aunt or anyone special at all the Masses on Mother's Day. Please return your spiritual bouquet envelope to the parish office on or before Wednesday, May 8.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

It's not too late to buy some plants at the 2nd Annual St. Francis of Assisi Plant Sale! Step up to the church entrance from 8 am-6 pm Saturday, May 4, and Sunday, May 5, to buy vinca, marigolds, potted plants, herbs and a host of other flowering plants. All proceeds from the event will benefit our parish. For more information, please contact Special Events Ministry Chair Sylvia Jones at decaffqueen@gmail.com.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

"This morning in Sri Lanka a coordinated series of bombings killed hundreds of worshipers in Catholic Churches and others of all faiths in nearby hotels. The Churches were St. Sebastian's Church in Negombo, St. Anthony's Shrine in Colombo and Zion Church in the eastern city of Batticaloa. This great evil targeted these churches as they were packed full of worshipers who were celebrating Easter, the day in which Christians around the world celebrate the rising of the King of Peace from the dead. We offer our prayers for the victims and their families. And we join with all people of good will in condemning these acts of terrorism. This evil cannot overcome the hope found in our Savior's Resurrection. May the God of hope who has raised his Son, fill all hearts with the desire for peace."

Let me conclude this week's column with this prayer: For all those killed by the bombings in Sri Lanka, may they see the face the living God and rest in eternal peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Until next week,
Fr. John

LENTEN DAY OF REFLECTION PREPARED PARISHIONERS FOR HOLY WEEK

On April 13, nearly 50 St. Francis of Assisi parishioners and other attendees participated in the Lenten Day of Reflection, which kicked off Holy Week, in the church. The event centered on a reflection on the Beatitudes, in which participants heard a short recorded talk by Bishop Robert Barron, listened to a testimony given by young adults in the St. Francis of Assisi parish community and engaged in a self-reflection on each Beatitude. Fr. John and Fr. Jack each spoke about the seventh and eighth Beatitudes, focusing their talk on the lives of saints and how they embodied the spiritual sayings. The day of reflection then ended with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, with attendees welcome to attend the 5 pm Vigil Mass. The event was coordinated by Singles for Christ. For more information on the Lenten Day of Reflection, please contact St. Francis parishioner Medy DeAusen at medy-deausen@comcast.net.

INSTALLATION MASS FOR ARCHBISHOP GREGORY SET ON TUESDAY, MAY 21

On Tuesday, May 21, Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory will be installed as the seventh Archbishop of Washington during an Installation Mass held at 2 pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. The Liturgical Procession will begin at 1:30 pm.

There will be sections of the Basilica open to be the public, but these will fill up quickly. Live video of the Installation Mass will also be made available to the parishes, and access to that video link will be disseminated through Facebook and Flocknote. For more information on Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, please see <https://adw.org/about-us/who-we-are/archbishop-gregory/>.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Please stop by the St. Clare Room after Mass next weekend to have your blood pressure checked. (Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m. Masses)

May 5, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING The Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, May 7. For additional information, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next week-end will go to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. *Thank you for your generosity.*

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory, a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 2:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are looking for new, transferring or readmitted members to share in their Charity, Fraternity, Unity and Patriotism activities. Council 2323 supports many St. Francis activities and has many social events. The KofC offers life and long term care insurance opportunities as well as annuities. A new opportunity: join as an Online Member for \$30 per year; go to www.kofc.org and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301-948-6494 or email gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

YOUR OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTION

Just a reminder that we do not record loose checks from the weekly collection. In order for us to track your contribution and send you a statement at the end of the year, it is suggested that you sign up for envelopes or Faith Direct. To sign up for envelopes you can call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407. To sign up for electronic contributions visit www.faihdirect.net. The code for St. Francis is MD110. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.



BREW CREW SCHEDULE

No coffee and donuts for the month of May (Confirmation Day - May 19). The crew will return on June 16th for the last coffee and donuts until September. They will be taking the summer off for a well-deserved rest.

ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE IN THE PARISH CENTER

Saturday, May 11
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Please sign-up *this weekend* to help with the Annual Yard Sale. We need lots of volunteers. You can also sign up by calling the Parish Office (301) 840-1407. This is a good fundraiser for the parish and a great chance to meet fellow parishioners. *Also, time to spring clean - we welcome your stuff you want to get rid of!*

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

Come for the whole time or just a few hours. Whatever time you can work will be appreciated!

Wednesday, May 8	2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 10	2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 11	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE PARISH CENTER

Wednesday, May 8	2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 9	9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 10	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

JOIN US FOR THE UCR 5K WALK & ROLL-A-THON SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Are you ready to challenge St. Patrick's Catholic Church for a little inter-parish rivalry? If so, then come join "Team St. Francis" during the Upcounty Community Resources 5K Walk and Roll-a-thon at 4 pm Saturday, June 22, at Bohrer Park in Gaithersburg. Join fellow parishioners Deacon Dan and Georgana Finn, Sylvia and Megan Jones, Maureen and Brent Hanson, Melissa Egan and family, and others in walking and having a great time for a wonderful cause.

Founded by parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Church and St. Patrick's Catholic Church, UCR is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the full inclusion of persons with developmental and intellectual differences into every aspect of community life. As the major fundraiser for UCR, the 5K Walk and Roll-a-thon supports the many social, therapeutic, exercise, skills development and respite programs that serve adults primarily in upper Montgomery

If your firm or practice would like to donate to this worthy cause, please consider it. You can register for the walk or make a donation at <https://www.ucresources.org/5k-walk--roll-a-thon.html>; be sure to indicate you are from St. Francis.

Carol Maloney of MASN Sports will be the guest starter. Food trucks, such as Mayorga Coffee, Corn Beef King, and Rita's Ice, will be onsite, as well as chances for a 50/50 raffle. Music will be provided by HOT 99.5. For more information, please contact Deacon Dan Finn at deacondanfinn@gmail.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



This week (Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, May 5, 6 and 7) is the final week for Religious Education classes for PreK-Grade 8 for this school year. Thank you to our catechists and volunteers who have helped to make this a successful year for our Religious Education Program. This parish is blessed to have so many wonderful catechists who volunteer their time each week to teach and share the faith. We pray that God will continue to bless each of them with his gifts of joy and peace!

As we look ahead to next year's Religious Education program, please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

REMINDERS FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Our Confirmation program continues as follows:

- Confirmation Candidate Session: Mon., May 13, 6:45-8:30 pm
- Rehearsal with Sponsor: Fri., May 17, 6:45-8:30 pm
- Confirmation: Sun., May 19, 1:30 pm

CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our parish offers monthly catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our next session is today, Sunday, May 5 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2019-2020

Register now for next year's Religious Education Program! Our program offerings for children and youth include:

- Pre-school and Kindergarten classes on Sunday mornings, 11:10-12:15 pm (*Preschool classes are for children age 3 or 4 by September 1*)
- Grade 1-5 classes offered at two session times:
Sunday mornings, 9:20-10:35 am
Monday afternoons, 4:45-6:00 pm
- Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes offered at two session times:
Monday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
- Grades 9-12 (Youth Group) meet Sunday evenings 6:00-8:00 pm (following the 5 pm Youth Mass)

Since the curriculum of the Religious Education Program is designed to be taught in sequence and each year builds on the content presented in previous years, families should plan for their children to participate in Religious Education classes each year.

Continued in the column to the right.....

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

- 5 Youth Group
- 12 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 19 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 26 NO YOUTH GROUP

JUNE

- 2 **END OF YEAR ALOHA PARTY FOR ALL TEENS**

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

MEN'S DISCERNMENT DINNER

Sunday, May 19, 2019

5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

All single men, college age and up, who are practicing Catholics are invited to attend a Men's Discernment Dinner held at Saint John Paul II Seminary. The evening will include Mass, dinner, and a chance to discuss the priesthood with priests, seminarians, and other young men from the Washington D.C. area. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations, at 202-636-9020 or vocations@adw.org. Register online at www.DCpriest.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (*continued*)

Registration forms were mailed home to families with children currently attending RE classes. For those new to our program, and if additional forms are needed, blank forms will be available on the parish web site (www.sfadw.org), in the Gathering Space of the Church, and in the Parish Offices. Completed forms can be returned to RE classes this week, sent in by mail, or dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm). Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please complete and return the registration forms as soon as possible!

Registering for Sacramental Preparation Sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist, Confirmation, and Christian Initiation for Children/Teens (CIC/CIT) is not grade specific and involves preparation in addition to grade level Religious Education classes. At minimum, children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament. *Please note: students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend their grade-level Religious Education classes as well as monthly Confirmation sessions.*

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to mark their registration form accordingly so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs. More details will be provided at the parent meetings next year. If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

**Register NOW for
Vacation Bible Camp 2019 —
ROAR! Life is wild * God is good.**

Who: Children age 4 by 6/23/2019 through those who are completing 5th grade June 2019

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Center

When: June 24 – 28, 2019 from 9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Cost: \$50 per child

How: Complete the Registration Form found in the Church Gathering Space and on our parish website (sfadw.org/vbc). Return by mail or in person to the Parish Office during business hours (Mon-Fri; 8am – 4pm) with the Registration Fee via Check (or Faith Direct, contact the Parish Office, 301-840-1407 for details.)

Spaces fill quickly so be sure to return your registration form and payment as soon as possible.

Please share information about VBC with friends and neighbors.

All are welcome!

Volunteers Needed — Adults and Teens

(Grades 6-12 as of June 2019)!

See VBC Registration Form for details and application.

Teen spots fill quickly!

A REMINDER FROM FR. JOHN ... If anyone is living in a marriage that has not been recognized by the Catholic Church, it would be wise to consult with a priest to see whether that situation might be rectified. It could be as simple as repeating your marriage vows quietly in front of a priest and receiving the Church's blessing. In that way, one would become eligible to receive the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist.

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FORMED is available 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

**AMAZONSMILE ENABLES ST. FRANCIS
TO INCREASE FUNDRAISING
THROUGH ONLINE SHOPPING**

St. Francis parishioners can support our church whenever they're shopping online at Amazon.com. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church recently became a recipient of AmazonSmile, which enables the church to receive 0.5 percent of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases you make. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7174107> and start shopping! For more information, please contact Fr. Jack Berard, jberard@sfadw.org.

**Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School
We are...St. Jude
www.StJudeRockville.org**

SJRCS JUNIOR SCIENCE FAIR – May 9 Please come and explore the exciting world of science as budding scientists from Pre-K through 5th grades display their science projects. The Jr. Science Fair will be held May 9th from 9:00 am to 2:15 pm and 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm (Family Night) in the Thaddeus Room.

WASHINGTON NATIONALS Join us at the Nationals game on Friday, May 17th as the Nationals take on the Chicago Cubs! Tickets must be purchased by May 6th to ensure seating with our group. Cost is \$28 per ticket which includes an \$8 concession credit and a \$5 donation to our school. Purchase tickets at <https://www.groupmatics.events/event/Stjude2019>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 13	7:00pm Spring Arts and Music Show
June 6	4:00pm 8 th Grade Graduation (New Date)



PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE MEN/WOMEN

Please continue to pray for all those parishioners, family members and friends who are serving in the military services in Iraq, Afghanistan and other dangerous areas. We have a prayer list posted in the Gathering Space for those who are serving in these areas. Please help us to keep it current by letting us know of any parishioner who is currently deployed so we can add them, and also those who have returned so that we can remove their names. Please continue to keep all of our military personnel in your prayers.

YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior by one adult over another in an intimate relationship. It can consist of repeated severe beatings or subtle forms of abuse, including threats and control. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence, please visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace.