

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

August 26 - September 1

Monday, 8/26	900 a.m.	Anna M. Rynn
Tuesday, 8/27	9:00 a.m.	Fr. Don Worch
Wednesday, 8/28	9:00 a.m.	Rian Bachman
	7:30 p.m.	Peter E. Platt
Thursday, 8/29	9:00 a.m.	Peter Joseph Konieczny
Friday, 8/30	9:00 a.m.	Gilbert Reising
Saturday, 8/31	9:00 a.m.	Ruth Van Buren
	5:00 p.m.	Margaret Pinchock
Sunday, 9/1	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Erlinda Quemuel
	11:15 a.m.	In Thanksgiving - The De Castro Family
	5:00 p.m.	Norma Gomez

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Jorge Da Silva Goncalves, brother of Irene Goncalves Felix.

Please pray for the sick... Leeann Parnell, William Komlo, Lynn Gardner, Gus & Lisa Tseronis, Tom Breece, Sandra Kimball, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoeffer, 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 August 25, 2019

Sunday:	Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2, [Mk 16:15]/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Monday:	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 [1]/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mk 6:17-29
Friday:	1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11 [cf. 11b]/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On August 13, 2019 bishops from two committees at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) expressed their strong opposition to a final rule on public charge put forth by the Department of Homeland Security. A rule on public charge would deny green cards to immigrants who receive public assistance, including food stamps, Medicaid, and housing vouchers. The rule was published on August 12, 2019 and would take effect sixty days after publication. Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration, and Bishop Frank J. Dewane, Bishop of Venice, FL, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development made the following statement:

“This rule will undermine family unity and lead many lawful immigrants to forgo vital assistance, including nutrition, housing, and medical programs. Families already in the U.S. will be faced with deciding whether to access critical assistance programs for which they qualify, knowing that in doing so they could jeopardize their ability to stay here with their loved ones. And, it will reduce the ability of many to reunify with family in the U.S. We have already seen the culture of fear that the anticipation of this rule has created in our communities. Ultimately, we believe that this rule is in tension with the dignity of the person and the common good that all of us are called to support.”

The concerns about this rule on public charge go back several months. On December 3, 2018, Anthony R. Picarello, Jr., Associate General Secretary and General Counsel of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Brian Corbin, Executive Vice-President, Member Services, Catholic Charities USA, wrote to the Department of Homeland Security. In their joint letter they listed four significant public policy concerns as reasons why this proposed rule should be withdrawn. These are those significant public policy concerns:

- The Proposed Rule Negatively Impacts Family Unity and Stability
- The Proposed Rule Harms Low-Income and Working-Class Migrants
- The Proposed Rule Will Increase Costs and Complexity for Social Service Charitable Organizations
- The Proposed Rule Presents Life and Public Health Concerns

Anthony Picarello and Brian Corbin conclude their letter to the Department of Homeland Security by recalling that the centuries-long history of our nation has been characterized by families who have come here from distant lands and, through generations of hard work and prayer, have built up the richest bounty in the world. This proposed rule signals a watershed change of course from the best moments of our heritage, to favor only the wealthy, and to turn away the families who come mostly with dreams and hope for their children. As a nation, we are called to a better path, one that respects the life and dignity of all persons.

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What do I need to look at differently in light of today's Gospel? How will I strengthen myself so that I can open the narrow gate?



BREW CREW

The Café Assisi Brew Crew is still on vacation for the month of August. Look for them to return on September 22. If you are interested in joining the Brew Crew, please contact Sylvia Jones, 301-762-6564 for additional details on how you can help at either the 9:30 or 11:15 a.m. Masses.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RCIA?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is for:

- Those desiring to become Catholic
- Catholics seeking Confirmation

Non-Catholics wanting information about the Catholic faith
On Wednesday, Sept. 11, the RCIA program for those interested in becoming Catholic or completing their Sacraments of Initiation will begin. All of us are called to be looking for people who could be open to receiving an invitation. Many have said, "I would have done it much sooner, but no one ever invited me." If someone you know is receptive, please contact Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org or call him at (301) 840-1407. Please leave your name, address, and phone number.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

For centuries the experience of the Church in the United States through her charitable works and institutions has emphasized care for the stranger and care for the poor as essential ways of knowing God and living a good and holy life. Pope Francis reminded us about this in his address to the U.S. Congress nearly four years ago:

In recent centuries, millions of people came to this land to pursue their dream of building a future in freedom. We, the people of this continent, are not fearful of immigrants, knowing that so many of you are also descended from Immigrants...when the stranger in our midst appeals to us, we must not repeat the sins and the errors of the past. We must resolve now to live as nobly as justly as possible, as we educate new generations not to turn their back on our 'neighbors' and everything around us.

Until next week,
Fr. John

SAVE THE DATE!

Please note the following two important events coming up in our parish! For more information on either event, please contact Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

- **Ministry Retreat, September 28, 9:30 am-12:45 pm in the church**

Led by Dr. Susan Timoney, the retreat will focus on the characteristics needed by pastoral leaders to grow as missionary disciples. It will be both a pastoral and practical day for all ministry leaders and volunteers. The discussion will be guided by the teaching of the U.S. Bishops, "Living as Missionary Disciples"; if you'd like to download the 35-page document or purchase a copy, go to <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/living-disciples/index.cfm>.

- **Talk by Fr. Robert Boxie, October 26, 9:45 am-12:45 pm in the Parish Center**

Fr. Robert Boxie, a former parochial vicar at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, will address the topic of racism, following up on an inaugural talk he gave in November 2018 at St. Francis of Assisi Church. All are welcome to attend this talk. Invitations to members of St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Rockville and St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Gaithersburg have also been extended.

ROSARY IN SPANISH TO BE PRAYED NOW EVERY TUESDAY AT 6:30 PM

The Spanish Ministry is happy to announce that they will now pray the Rosary in Spanish every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the church. All are welcome to join the ministry in practicing your Spanish or learning this universal prayer of church in Spanish. For more information, please contact ministry coordinators Deacon Will Garcia at wagarcia@comcast.net or Lourdes Garcia at legarcia@comcast.net.

August 25, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, August 27 in the St. Clare Chapel. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next weekend will go to Gaithersburg Help. *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).



ST. FRANCIS PARISH PICNIC
BLESSING OF ANIMALS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Mark your calendar and
watch the bulletin for additional details.

WANT TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP THIS FALL? THERE'S LOTS TO CHOOSE FROM!

St. Francis of Assisi Small Groups are getting ready to reconvene! The parish hopes to build on robust involvement in the Lenten Small Groups to encourage participation in Small Groups this fall. Come find a community of like-minded people from our parish, who are meeting around Scripture studies, books of interest, healing in the wake of the clerical sexual abuse crisis and food. Please see some of the topics to be tackled by St. Francis Small Groups this fall:

- **Healing Our Church:** Join Fr. John Dillon in discussing healing in the wake of the clerical sexual abuse crisis. Participants will frame their discussions around *Healing Our Church*, a book published by RENEW International, which contains survivors' stories, reflections, prayers and discussion. The Small Group will begin meeting at 7:30 pm Thursday, September 5, in the Assisi Room and will continue over six weeks through October 24. Participants are asked to offer \$7.50 toward the cost of the book, which retails at \$15 each. For more information, contact Fr. John at jdillon@sfadw.org by August 27 or soon thereafter.
- **Mary/Martha:** On Wednesday, September 11, the Mary/Martha Small Group will begin reading and discussing the book, *Saint Mary Magdalene, Prophetess of Eucharistic Love*, by Fr. Sean Davidson. This group of women faithfully meets every other Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Rectory's Youth Room for light refreshments and social conversation; the opening prayer and Bible study then begin at 8 pm. The book examines the life of the woman who was the first to announce Jesus Christ's Resurrection. The group will also discuss her identity, which has stumped even biblical scholars. For more information, please contact Mary/Martha member Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com.
- **Men of Emmaus:** At 9 am on Saturdays, the Men of Emmaus continue to read and discuss *Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit* by Kevin Vost. The book presents in a readable format the seven gifts and how Catholics can submit their will to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit. For more information, contact Men of Emmaus Small Group Coordinator Wendel Hall at wendel@halllawoffice.net.
- **Gospel of Matthew:** Beginning October 12/13, participants will kick off the Gospel of Matthew Small Groups with a video to be shown after the 5 pm Youth Mass. The nine-week session will then begin meeting, with five gatherings to take place before Christmas and four meetings to be held before Lent. For more information, contact Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

The Dining Disciples Small Group and the *Acts of Apostles Small Group* plan to reconvene this fall. Deacon Dan Finn also plans to offer another session of *Managing Your Finances God's Way*. More information to come. In addition, Small Group facilitators are sought to lead Small Groups, so the parish can offer different dates and times that are conducive to participants' schedules. No requirements are necessary, other than a willingness to organize an agenda, pose questions and gently guide the discussion. If you are interested in serving as a facilitator, please contact Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

REGISTER NOW FOR 2019-2020 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Religious Education staff will be in the Gathering Space after Masses today, Sunday, August 25, to assist with registration and answer questions about classes and opportunities to volunteer. Please stop by!

Return registration forms by September 1 so that we can be ready to welcome your child to class on the first day! Registration fees can be paid at a later date. Even if you're still working out details of your family's schedule, please return a registration form now, marking your best guess for session time with a note that this is subject to change.

Find registration forms on the parish web site (www.sfadw.org), in the Church Gathering Space, and in the Parish Office. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed forms can be mailed, or dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm).

Classes begin September 15, 16 and 17. Calendars are posted to the parish website, and will be mailed in early September to all who have registered.

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

Since our curriculum 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.

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.

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

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Watch for Upcoming Youth Events

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

CATCH OUR SPIRIT! REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2019!

Spaces are filling up quickly so register now! Applications for fall enrollment are being accepted on a first come basis for our 3 year old Pre-K Program to 7th grade (limited spaces are available). For information on the curriculum, admissions policies and registration, contact Ellen Donnelly in the school office at 301-946-7888 or register your student online at www.StJudeRockville.org and click on Online Student Registration. If you wish to visit us during the summer, our hours are 9-1 Monday through Thursday.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- 1) Go to sfadw.formed.org
- 2) Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3) You're all ready to access the inspiring and Engaging content on FORMED!
- 4) Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

Ways to Serve

The entire parish community shares responsibility for faith formation and the support of many volunteers makes our programs successful. There are a variety of ways to serve, including weekly, monthly, and "as needed" commitments:

- Catechist
- Classroom Aide
- Art Team Catechist
- Substitute
- Support for Service Projects
- Help with Sacramental Celebrations & Special Events

Please consider supporting our Religious Education program as a volunteer! To learn more about this important ministry, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

AUGUST @ ST. FRANCIS

25	RE Registration after Morning Masses	
26	Liturgy Meeting (AR)	7:00 pm
28	Martha & Mary (YR)	7:30 pm
29	Alanon (Lib)	7:00 pm
	CL (SC)	8:00 pm
31	Men's Group (YR)	9:00 am

SEPTEMBER @ ST. FRANCIS

2	Labor Day - Parish Offices Closed	
3	Contemporary Choir (CH)	7:00 pm
4	Baptism Prep Class (AR)	7:30 pm
	Bazaar Crafts (PC)	7:00 pm
5	New Catechist Orientation (YR)	7:00 pm
	Choir (CH)	7:00 pm
	Alanon (Lib)	7:00 pm
	CL (SC)	8:00 pm
6	First Friday Mass followed by Adoration In the Church until 9:00 pm	7:30 pm
7	Men's Group (YR)	9:00 am
	Catechist Breakfast Mtg (PC)	9:30 am
	Haiti Coffee Sales	
8	Catechist Meetings during Class times Haiti Coffee Sales	

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 our Home Page to start shopping!

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED

Mother of God School, a vibrant private Catholic school located in Gaithersburg, MD, is in need of substitute teachers for grades PreK – 8. For further information, please contact Alice Garvey at agarvey@mogschool.com or call 301-990-2088 ext. 11.

GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer.

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.

SAVE THE DATE

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR & FLEA MARKET Saturday, November 9

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We will begin making crafts for the 2017 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesday September 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you enjoy being creative and socializing with fellow parishioners, please plan on attending. Also, projects can be taken home to work on. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

VENDORS NEEDED

We are looking for vendors to sell their goods at the Bazaar. If you are interested in having a booth at the bazaar, please contact the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are looking for silent auction items such as Time Shares, Sports Tickets, Theater Passes, etc. for our Fall Bazaar (November 9). Items donated are a tax write-off! For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

DONATE YOUR USED CLOTHING If you are sorting through gently used clothing to give away, remember that there is a St. Vincent de Paul clothing collection bin in the lower parking lot. Donations of clean clothing in good repair is greatly appreciated. Please put clothing in a plastic bag and deposit in the slot at the top of the bin. Collections are made weekly and will be a great blessing to those in need in the region.

STRONGER MEN'S RETREAT

All men are welcome and encouraged to come to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine for a retreat on Saturday, September 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Stronger is a men's retreat inspired by Saint John Paul II that features rotating topics focused on masculine spirituality. Explore how God calls you to lead as a man of faith, husband, son, and father. Lunch is included with registration. RSVP at strongerretreat.eventbrite.com.

TELEPHONE ROSARY FOR HEALING

The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) hosts a telephone Rosary call each night with the special intention of healing for all hurt by individuals within the Church. All are welcome to join the call at 8 p.m. EST, Mondays-Saturdays, at 605-468-8016, code 357090#. For more information, contact Carol Ann Parker, ACCW President, at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com, and follow on Facebook

FAITH DAY AT NATIONALS PARK

Come out on Saturday, September 28. Watch the Washington Nationals play the Cleveland Indians, and enjoy a postgame celebration of faith. For every ticket sold, \$5 will be donated to benefit The House DC. To purchase tickets and learn more, please visit www.Nationals.com/Faith. To purchase tickets for a group of 13 or more, please contact Chris Murphy at 202.640.7687 or chris.murphy@nationals.com.