

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

January 28 - February 3

Monday, 1/28	900 a.m. Alexander O'Connor
Tuesday, 1/29	9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Hurley
Wednesday, 1/30	9:00 a.m. Amelia Dudenhoeffer 7:30 p.m. Henrietta Domanski
Thursday, 1/31	9:00 a.m. Joseph Hornyak
Friday, 2/1	9:00 a.m. Barbara Lynn Beall 7:30 p.m. Edward A. Speakman
Saturday, 2/2	9:00 a.m. John Coady Dillon, Jr. 5:00 p.m. James J. Keenan
Sunday, 2/3	8:00 a.m. Joseph T. Stehle, Sr. 9:30 a.m. Laurin & Robert Balkam 11:15 a.m. Joseph M. Heller 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Pat Hunt, Lucy Alick Coelho, mother of Reverend Brian Coelho, Saint Mary Star of the Sea Parish, Chris Vadala, Julius Coleman.

Please pray for the sick... Helene Oliver, Dominic Marcuccilli, Kaycee Mentus, Stan Hummer, Fred Theurer, Trenton Faulkner, Donna Marchick, 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 January 27, 2019

Sunday:	Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/1 Cor 12:12-30 /Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Monday:	Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday:	Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11 [8a and 9a]/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday:	Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday:	Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Mk 4:21-25
Friday:	Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40 [39a]/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 19 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40
Next Sunday:	Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 /Lk 4:21-30

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Our U.S. Bishops encourage us to take up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor! There have been reflections each day of the month of January. I am going to put below reflections for the remaining days of January below for your prayerful consideration.

Sunday, January 27. "Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor" (*Evangelii Gaudium* no. 187). Pray for the grace to understand how God is calling you to be an instrument for the common good. Here is a suggestion regarding how to pray in this instance. Look through a print or online newspaper to find a news article that affects your community or your world. Cut out (or print out) the article and bring it with you to a quiet place where you can pray. Think about how much human dignity is affected by the issue or situation. Pray for God's healing and transformation for all God's people impacted, lawmakers, and others. Ask God how he is asking you to respond on this issue.

Monday, January 28. Many face barriers to breaking the cycle of poverty due to discrimination or racism. Read and reflect on *Open Wide Our Hearts*, the bishops' new pastoral letter against racism. How is this letter calling you to conversion? Here is one way to consider. Racism can be individual, when persons fail to recognize certain groups are created in the image of God and equal in dignity. It can also be systemic, where practices or policies are upheld that treat certain groups of people unjustly. These systems are often perpetuated due to the silence or unawareness of many. Commit to learning more about racism and employment, housing, wealth, education, criminal justice, and voting—and then get involved in diocesan, parish, or community efforts to pray and work for conversion of both hearts and systems.

Tuesday, January 29. When someone experiences poverty their basic rights to clean water, food, housing, employment, and vital health care are violated. With rights come the duty to protect them. We all have a right to life. From this comes a right to food, water, clothing, shelter, decent health care. We also have a right to a decent livelihood and the responsibility to contribute to society and the common good. We have a right to have a search for God and freedom of religion and the right to participate in society. But our rights and responsibilities are reciprocal. We have a responsibility to build up the common good. We have a responsibility to shape and order society and when necessary advocate for the common good. If you want to learn more about rights and responsibilities as they are expressed in Catholic Social Teaching you can watch this brief video on YouTube featuring Seán Cardinal O'Malley (Archbishop of Boston), Professor Helen Alvaré (Professor, George Mason University) and Bill O'Keefe (Vice-President for Government and Advocacy, Catholic Relief Services). Here is the link for this presentation: <https://tinyurl.com/y7ktz7gw>.

Column is continued to the right.....

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Am I conscious of Jesus' presence in our midst? How do I show others that I am part of the Body of Christ?

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

All are welcome! Join the Ministry of Eucharistic Adoration and assist with adoration in the following manner:

- *Become a regular attendee at adoration in the Parish.*
- *Pray that Eucharistic Adoration will increase.*
- *Foster Eucharistic Adoration in our parish by evangelizing His Eucharistic Presence.*
- *Deepen your personal relationship with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE

First Friday Adoration (February 1) will begin at 3:00 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m. First Friday Adoration is now held in the St. Clare Chapel in the Rectory.



FEBRUARY 2018 LUNCH – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, February 6 at 12:00 Noon at Mamma Lucia's Restaurant (next to Krispy Kreme Donut Shop-Fallsgrove Shopping center), 14921 Shady Grove Road, 301-762-8805. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Wednesday, January 30. We are called to listen to the needs of victims and uphold the dignity of offenders through practicing restorative justice and opposing the death penalty. People ought to be held accountable for their actions but justice and restoration must be the object of punishment which must have a reformatory purpose. In the thirteenth century, Saint Thomas Aquinas wrote, "In this life, however, penalties are not sought for their own sake, because this is not the era of retribution; rather, they are meant to be corrective by being conducive either to the reform of the sinner or the good of society, which becomes more peaceful through the punishment of sinners" (*Summa Theologica*, II-II, Q. 68 A.1.) Here is a question to consider today: How can you show God's love and mercy to those in need of healing and hope.

Thursday, January 31. Keep the conversation about poverty going with your family, in your parish, and in your neighborhood by signing up to receive the newsletter Notes for Neighbors and other communications from the Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Until next week,
Fr. John

LAST CHANCE TO RSVP FOR THE VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DANCE ON FEBRUARY 2!

If you are interested in attending the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Dance on Saturday, February 2, then please don't forget to RSVP by January 28. The planning committee needs to get an accurate count in order to plan for food, so please RSVP in one of the following three ways:

- Fill out a form in the Gathering Space and leave it in the basket on the designated table.
- Respond 'yes' to the Flocknote sent to St. Francis subscribers on January 16 and include in Comments how many people plan to attend.
- Call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

Hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council, the event will be from 6:30-10 pm on February 2, and will include hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dessert and dancing. We hope to see you there! If it snows on February 2, then the snow date will be Saturday, Feb. 9.

BROWN BAG CONVERSATION ON "YOUR CALL TO GREATNESS" CONTINUES ON FEBRUARY 3

On Sunday, February 3, the Brown Bag Conversation on "Your Call to Greatness," a DVD teaching by author Christopher West, will continue at 1 pm in the Rectory's Assisi Room. Come enjoy lunch and fellowship at 12:45 pm and stay to discuss some of life's most fundamental questions, such as: ***What is my call to greatness and what is the key to unlocking it?*** Join fellow faith seekers in deepening your Catholic faith! For more information, please contact Medy DeAussen, member of the Adult Faith Formation Team, at medydeausen@comcast.net.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES COAT DRIVE COLLECTS WINTER OUTERWEAR FOR THOSE IN NEED

Thank you to all who contributed to the Catholic Charities Coat Drive on the weekends of January 5/6 and January 12/13. We collected 17 large plastic bags of coats, hats, gloves and scarves for men, women, girls and boys. We also extend special thanks to the Religious Education students who helped sort the donations before their Tuesday evening classes and to the parishioners who stayed after Mass on Wednesday, January 16, to help pack the donated items. The Coat Drive once again demonstrated the generous spirit of St. Francis of Assisi parishioners. ~ **Fr. John**

January 27, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, January 29, 7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next weekend will go 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).

JOIN MONTGOMERY COUNCIL 2323 FOR A SPAGHETTI DINNER

Spaghetti and meatballs! No better way to enjoy food and fellowship than with family and friends. On Sunday, February 10th, the Knights of Columbus' chefs will be serving a fresh garden salad, Spaghetti & Meatballs, garlic bread, wine, beer and soft drinks. Dinner will be served from 3:00 to 7:00 pm at the Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road in Derwood. Tickets are available after all Masses today at \$10 for adults (ages 14 & above); \$7 for children (ages 7 to 13); free for children 6 & under; or, \$35 for a family; or by contacting Mike Thomas in advance at (301) 330-5970 or cinnabarmike@verizon.net. *Proceeds will support St. Francis' Medical Mission to Haiti.*

CATHOLICS IN ANNAPOLIS CONVENE FEBRUARY 21 TO TAKE STANDS ON LIFE ISSUES, SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

Join Catholics from across Maryland at Catholics in Annapolis on Thursday, February 21, to stand up for life, justice and human rights. Catholics in Annapolis is your chance to get inspired and meet face-to-face with members of your county delegation in the Maryland General Assembly to share with them the Church's position on important issues.

Your help is needed this year to stop a proposed pro-abortion constitutional amendment, to help secure scholarships for low-income students, to stop the legalization of assisted suicide and to protect human rights. We need your voice in 2019!

The evening will kick off with Maryland bishops leading the Rosary for elected officials. After that, you will hear from inspiring speakers on key issues before meeting with legislators. The evening will end with a reception catered by Light House Bistro Catering – a social enterprise of the Light House Homeless Prevent Support Center, an Annapolis nonprofit serving people experiencing homelessness.

Attending Catholics in Annapolis is free, but registration is required. Visit www.catholicsinannapolis.org to register or call the Maryland Catholic Conference at (410) 269-1155 for more information.

St. Francis of Assisi parishioners interested in attending will also meet before February 21 to determine who will speak on various issues. If you're not comfortable speaking, please consider just coming to show your support. For more information on joining the St. Francis delegation, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level competition for the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The competition will be held on February 9, 2019 from 11:30am to 1:30 pm at Mother of God School gym in Gaithersburg. Registration closes at 12:30 pm. This is a free event and all contestants are recognized for their participation. For entry forms or additional information contact Terry Waters at 301-216-1941 or terry.waters@ccbcc.com.

JOIN THE MARY/MARTHA STUDY GROUP TO MAKE FRIENDS, GROW IN SPIRITUALITY

Women seeking to build their spirituality are invited to join the Mary/Martha Study Group that meets every other Wednesday in the Rectory's Youth Room. The small group is a great opportunity for women to make new friends, while delving into studies that build and enrich us spiritually. The next meeting will be at 7:30 pm Wednesday, February 6 in the Youth Room. For more information, contact members Carolyn Brauer at Carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or Marie Yeast at mffy13@aol.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



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 will be this Sunday, January 27 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.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: there will be a First Eucharist Parent Meeting next Wednesday, January 30 from 7:30-8:45 pm in the Parish Center. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY

If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed, and if schools are dismissed early, Religious Education classes, including Youth Group are also cancelled. This applies to Sunday classes as well if Montgomery County Public Schools announces cancellation of weekend school activities. Cancellation announcements will be recorded on the Religious Education Office phone (301-258-9193) and posted on the St. Francis Parish website and Facebook page ("St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church"). Whenever in doubt, please use your own judgment about local weather and driving conditions, and err on the side of safety when making decisions about bringing your child to class.

ST. FRANCIS PARISHIONERS INVITED TO GO ON HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Have you ever wanted to walk in the footsteps of Jesus? The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land of Washington DC is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan from June 3-13, 2019. Franciscan priests will lead the tour, along with local guides from the Holy Land. This tour is their most popular and will feature stops at holy sites central to the life of Jesus and Moses. The trip to Petra in Jordan will also include a stop at one of the wonders of the ancient world. For details about the trip, visit the following web site: <https://holylandpilgrimages.org/holy-land-and-jordan-june-3-13-2019/>. You may also contact St. Francis Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY

27 Youth Group

FEBRUARY

3 Youth Group

9-10 Bake Sale

10 Youth Group

15 Family Bingo

24 Youth Group

MARCH

2 ADW High School Youth Rally @ CUA

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

YOUTH GROUP LOOKING FOR YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEERS

The Youth Group is looking for a few new volunteers to assist at the Sunday Gatherings. We are looking for either young adults or young couples who would like to help mentor the teens through difficult years and situations. The time commitment is flexible, but we meet on Sunday evenings from 6 until 8 p.m. and plan on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. If you are interested in helping out please email Fr. Jack at sfayouth@sfadw.org or call the parish office 301-840-1407.

SERVICE TRIP MARCH 16-23 SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP BUILD HOUSING FOR LAKOTA SIOUX NATION

If you've ever wanted to join a church service trip for teens and adults, then consider joining the St Francis Builds Trip, affiliated with St. Camilus Catholic Church in Silver Spring. The St. Francis Builds team is looking for individuals ages 14 and up to help build homes and engage in cultural exchange with the Lakota Sioux Nation on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. From March 16-23, the trip will involve 20 volunteers who will spend the week working with the Tipi Raisers project, a group that works with the Lakota Sioux to improve housing conditions on the reservation. Participants will also experience Lakota Sioux culture, including their music, dance, religion and interaction with nature. Read more at <https://www.thetipiraisers.org/the-organization.html> Volunteers ages 14 and up with any skill levels are welcome, although anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Training will be provided onsite. To volunteer or to learn more about the trip to Pine Ridge, contact Vince Ventimiglia at ventimiglia7@gmail.com. To learn more about St. Camilus Church-St. Francis Builds, contact Beth Hood at Bhood134@gmail.com.

REMEMBER THE FOOD PANTRY WHEN OUT GROCERY SHOPPING!

St. Francis parishioners are encouraged to pick up a few non-perishable food items at the grocery store to help replenish food supplies for the St. Martin's Food Pantry. Suggested items include canned goods, boxes of pasta, packets of juice and packaged fruit cups. Packaged diapers are also needed and welcome. Please drop off food and diaper donations in the Food Pantry bin located underneath the Information Monitor in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Food Pantry Ministry Co-Coordinator Carolyn Brauer at Carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or Christine Young at youngbodywork@hotmail.com.

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.

PARISH IMMIGRATION FORUM ON FEBRUARY 9 FOR PEOPLE INTERESTED IN HELPING THE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY

Are you interested in learning how to help the immigrant community through direct or legal services or local advocacy actions? Then come attend Catholic Charities' Parish Immigration Information Forum: What's Going On? How Can You Help? from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Saturday, February 9 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Gaithersburg. The goal of the event is to offer a workshop where local Catholics can learn more about the reality of immigration issues in the United States, the Catholic Church's position on immigration and specific steps that can be taken locally to help immigrants and/or Catholic Charities' efforts to help. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

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.faithdirect.net. The code for St. Francis is MD110. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

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.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School www.StJudeRockville.org

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK (CSW): LEARN. SERVE. LEAD. SUCCEED.

CSW is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. SJRCS will observe CSW week with Masses, open house and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, we focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to Church, local communities and the nation.

Catholic Schools Week Schedule*

- January 27 9:30am –Opening Mass at St. Francis of Assisi
- January 28 8:30am - Volunteer coffee
- January 29 Service day
- January 30 Open house 9-11:30am /6-8pm
- January 31 Family lunch
- February 1 9:00am closing Mass/International Day/12:00 dismissal-teacher appreciation day

OPEN HOUSE

We would love to share the story of our school with you. Attend St. Jude Regional Catholic School Open House to see our wonderful teachers in action and experience our welcoming community first-hand. SJRCS will be hosting an Open House on: Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 9:00-11:30am and 6:00-8:00pm. Applications for enrollment for the 2019 school year are being accepted. Do not delay as we already have waiting lists in several classes. Visit www.stjuderockville.org. Go to Admission, then Apply Online, then Enrollment: [TADS: Online Registration and Enrollment](#).

4th ANNUAL SJRCS INTERNATIONAL DAY!

We invite you to travel...All Over the World!

Friday, February 1st at 10:00 am

Please meet us in the Thaddeus Room to learn about our school's diversity!

You will get to visit different country booths, learn about their culture, and taste the food from that country.

International artwork created by our students will be on display in the hallways!

There will be multicultural performances!

BINIGO & DINNER - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 Seminarian Support Knights of Columbus #11024

Germantown's Mother Seton Parish Center doors open 5:00 pm for Dinner, Bingo starts at 7:00 pm. Over \$1000 in cash prizes! Admission is \$25/player with free Bingo dauber if paid by February 3; \$30/player after February 3 (if not sold out). Admission includes door prize raffle, regular bingo games, snacks, dinner, dessert, water/soft drinks *and fun*. Must be 18 or older to attend and no alcohol is allowed. For more info and to register, including seating requests for up to 8, wpfreetoroam@gmail.com. **Proceeds will support Mount St. Mary's Seminarians.**

TELEPHONE ROSARY FOR HEALING - The Washington Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (WACCW) is hosting a telephone Rosary call from now until September 4, with the special intention of healing for all hurt by individuals within the Church. All are welcome to join the call at 8pm EST, Mondays-Saturdays, at 605-468-8016, code 357090#. For more information, contact Sharon O'Brien, WACCW President, at ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com, and follow on Facebook at [Facebook.com/WashACCW](https://www.facebook.com/WashACCW).