

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

February 18 - February 24

Monday, 2/18	900 a.m. Alice Guild
Tuesday, 2/19	9:00 a.m. Lois Daly
Wednesday, 2/20	9:00 a.m. Cardinal Carlo Coffara 7:30 p.m. Reverend Arnold De Porter
Thursday, 2/21	9:00 a.m. Janet Ann Murphy
Friday, 2/22	9:00 a.m. Virginia Lapp
Saturday, 2/23	9:00 a.m. Guy Beaven 5:00 p.m. Dennis Hagen
Sunday, 2/24	8:00 a.m. Kevin Brady 9:30 a.m. Julia Erecitano 11:15 a.m. Ray Spieler 5:00 p.m. Richard Hunt

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Donna Lee Marchik, wife of Robert Marchik, Laura Williams, mother of Adrian Williams. Ted Knestout, brother of Father Mark Knestout, Vita Federico, aunt of Guy Federico and Kristin Mitas.

Please pray for the sick... Teresa Maguire, Eddie Lutheran, Rick Kreter, Jeff Smith, Jean Lea, Mary Lott, JoAnne Kirby, Helene Oliver, Dominic Marcuccilli, 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 February 17, 2019

Sunday:	Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 4, 6 [40:5a]/ 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26
Monday:	Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1& 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a & 2, 3ac-4, 3b & 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [17a]/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 & 22-23 [20b]/Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 [cf. 1]/ Mk 9:2-13
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

During February we celebrate Black History month in the United States. In honor of this month-long celebration, I thought that I would make use of a 2017 publication from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops who developed some resources for responding to the Sin of Racism. Specifically I want to talk about three U.S. Catholics who responded to Racism with Holiness. Here are three examples.

Julia Greeley, Servant of God

Julia was born a slave in Missouri, sometime between 1833 and 1848. As a child, a slave master, when beating her mother, caught Julia's right eye with his whip which caused her to lose it. Once she was freed, Julia settled eventually in Denver, Colorado. Despite all that she had suffered, her forgiveness opened her heart to others. While supporting herself through work, she would spend her earnings helping poor families, many of whom were white. Realizing the shame people felt in being poor, Julia left her donations for them at night. She became a Catholic in 1880, and later joined the Secular Franciscans. When she died, hundreds of people came to pay their respects. Her limitless charity, selflessness, and devotion to Christ made Julia a model of mercy, so much so that her cause for canonization was opened in 2016. For more information about the cause of canonization, go to juliagreeley.org.

Msgr. Bernard Quinn, Servant of God

Bernard Quinn was born in 1888. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1912 for the Diocese of Brooklyn. In 1922 he volunteered to minister to the black Catholic community. In 1927, he was appointed pastor of St. Peter Claver Church. The next year he founded an orphanage for homeless black children. The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) twice burned down the orphanage. Monsignor Quinn defied the KKK and rebuilt it each time. In a letter to his parishioners, he wrote: "I love you. I am proud of every one of you, and I would willingly shed the last drop my life's blood for the least among you." A tireless advocate for the equality of all people, Monsignor Quinn's cause for canonization opened in 2008. For more information about the cause of canonization for Monsignor Bernard Quinn, go to fatherquinn.org.

Rev. Augustus Tolton, Servant of God

Father Augustus Tolton was the first recognized black Catholic priest in the U.S. A former slave, he was baptized and raised Catholic. He studied for the priesthood in Rome, since no American seminary would admit him owing to his skin color. As a priest, he ministered to the black Catholic community in Quincy, Illinois. Known for his eloquent sermons, generosity, and piety, attracted both black and white Catholics to his parish. Later driven out of Quincy, he was welcomed by the Archdiocese of Chicago. He died in 1897. Despite his experiences, Father Tolton remained steadfast: "The Catholic Church deplora a double slavery—that of the mind and that of the body. She endeavors to free us of both. I was a poor slave boy but the priests of the Church did not disdain me." Father Tolton's cause of canonization was opened in 2015. For more information about the cause of Father Augustus Tolton, go to www.toltoncanonization.org. We shall continue our explorations of other leaders of African descent who are on their way to sainthood.

Until next week,
Fr. John Dillon

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I change the way I live my life in accordance with the Beatitudes? What can I do to receive the blessing of God and to help others to receive those blessings as well?



OLD PALMS – We will be collecting old palms through Sunday, March 3. Please place your palms in the Palm Collection Box in the Gathering Space.

MEET JESUS THROUGH A LENTEN SMALL GROUP

This weekend, all St. Francis parishioners are invited to sign up for a Lenten Small Group, which will focus on the book, *Why I Am Catholic (And You Should Be Too)*, by best-selling Millennial author Brandon Vogt. The content director for Auxiliary Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, Vogt converted to Catholicism during his senior year at Florida State University. In his new book, he offers a needed dosage of confidence to practicing Catholics needing affirmation for our beliefs during a time of crisis and skepticism and gives a passionate argument for the truth and beauty of Catholicism as the one, true faith.

Sign up for Lenten Small Groups in the Gathering Space and throughout the month of February. Online signups will also be sent out via Flocknote using the SignUp Genius app. The small groups will be offered every day of the week at times that accommodate students, young adults, working and stay-at-home parents and retirees, with groups slated to begin meeting the first week of March. **Please consider this seven-week-long opportunity to meet Jesus through a Small Group of St. Francis parishioners, and make friends in the process.** It's a Lenten opportunity that will uplift your mind and pay back your spirit, many times over. For more information about Lenten Small Groups, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfdw.org.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

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

- 1) Go to sfdw.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.

MUSIC NOTES - FEBRUARY 17

The Communion hymn "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" was written not too long after the Second Vatican Council. The text was written by Omer Westendorf, a church musician from Cincinnati, Ohio. The tune was written by Robert Kreutz, a church musician from Lakewood, Colorado, who published some 300 liturgical works for chorus or instruments. This hymn was written for the 41st International Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia in 1976. The text was chosen as the best hymn text, beating out over 200 other entries. This hymn has appeared in over thirty hymnals of various Christian denominations.

ANNUAL APPEAL KICKS OFF THIS WEEKEND

The weekend of February 16/17 kicks off the Annual Appeal (formerly, the Cardinal's Appeal) to raise funds for various archdiocesan programs and outreach initiatives impacting the poor and vulnerable; Catholic Charities, the Saint John Paul II Seminary, and the office serving people with special needs and their families. One hundred percent of parishioners' contributions go to charities and programs that support the appeal; all administrative costs associated with the appeal are paid for by separate archdiocesan funding sources. Interested persons may give by check, credit card or automatic debit of a credit card or checking/savings account. New this year is an option to donate by phone: text the word GIVE to (301) 231-1816. The archdiocese will also gratefully accept gifts of stock or direct transfer gifts from a traditional IRA to the archdiocese for individuals who are 70 ½ or older. For more information about the Annual Appeal, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

**Parish offices will be closed
Monday, February 18
In observance of Presidents' Day....**

FRIENDLY REMINDERS FROM NANCY, OUR SUNDAY CROSSING GUARD

Just a reminder that when entering & exiting
the church parking lot:

- 1) Please use your turn signals coming in and going out.
- 2) Please use the correct lane in exiting the church.
- 3) **Most important!** Please pay attention to the Crossing Guard

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, February 19, 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 the Prison Ministry Outreach Program. *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

LAST CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN CATHOLICS IN ANNAPOLIS

Catholics in Annapolis is nearly upon us! On February 21, Catholics from all over the state will convene in Annapolis to share with our Maryland state legislators the Church's position on important issues. Your help is needed this year to stop a proposed pro-abortion constitutional amendment, secure scholarships for low-income students, halt the legalization of assisted suicide and help protect human rights. The agenda for Catholics in Annapolis, to be held at the Miller Senate Office Building in Annapolis is as follows: 3 pm: Rosary /3:30 pm: Speakers /4:30 pm: Legislator meetings /6 pm: Reception. Catholics in Annapolis is free, but registration is required at www.catholicsinannapolis.org. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org or by calling him at (301) 840-1407. **Need a ride to Catholics in Annapolis?** Be sure to sign up for the bus nearest you. Buses will depart from regions across the state. Visit www.catholicsinannapolis.org/buses for more information or to reserve your seat on a bus.

BOOKENDS TO OUR UPCOMING LENTEN SEASON

As we look forward to the season of Lent, St. Francis of Assisi Parish will offer an abundance of events and activities to help parishioners deepen our relationship with Jesus as we contemplate His sacrifice, death and resurrection. Two bookends to this solemn season will be a talk by a Franciscan priest on Friday, March 8, and a Lenten Day of Reflection on Saturday, April 13.

Friday, March 8: Talk by Fr. Greg Friedman, OFM, on "Walk with Jesus during Lent" at 7:45 pm in the church. Fr. Friedman will discuss the Lenten season, the Good Friday Collection and a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan from June 3-13. The Franciscan Monastery to the Holy Land of DC is sponsoring the pilgrimage, which is the Franciscan brothers' most popular tour and trip.

Saturday, April 13: Lenten Day of Reflection at 1 pm in the church. With a theme of "Rejoice and Be Glad: Our Call to Holiness and Happiness," the second annual Lenten Day of Reflection will focus on the Beatitudes. Join us for Praise and Worship, singing, Eucharistic Adoration, learning from short talks, listening to personal witness and individual reflection time. Fr. John Dillon and Fr. Jack Berard will both speak, and young adults from St. Francis and Singles for Christ will witness their faith. The day's two-and-a-half hour program will be followed by Confession from 3:30-4:30 and the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 pm. Please look out for other Lenten events and activities on the parish web site, www.sfadw.org, and engage in prayer, penance and almsgiving this Lenten season.

MISSED FLOCKNOTE SIGN-UP SUNDAY? NO PROBLEM

If you missed out on last weekend's Flocknote Sign-up Sunday, then it's not too late to sign up for this texting and e-mail application the parish uses to communicate with parishioners. To receive a weekly message from Fr. John Dillon and communications updating you on various ministry happenings, Flocknote provides an easy way to receive e-mails, texts and invitations to parish events you want to know about. Signing up for Flocknote is easy and it offers you the opportunity to receive targeted information on ministry groups, such as:

- Young Adults
- Families with School-Aged Children
- Youth Ministry
- Social Concerns Ministries
- Funeral Notices
- And many more!

Sign up by either texting the keyword SFADerwood to 84576 or by going to our web site, www.sfadw.org, and registering on our homepage. That's it – it's easy! For additional information about Flocknote, please contact Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan at Melissa.egan74@verizon.net.

SAVE THE DATE PANCAKE SUPPER Tuesday, March 5 Parish Center

See today's bulletin insert for details!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2019 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 24-28 from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm. Look for camper registration information, as well as information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, in the Spring!

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 next Sunday, February 24 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.

NO RE CLASSES THIS WEEK

In observance of the Presidents' Day holiday, there are NO Religious Education classes on Sunday, February 17, Monday, February 18, and Tuesday, February 19.

CATECHIST MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

There will be a Catechist Meeting for all RE catechists on Monday, February 18, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Assisi Room (lower level of the Rectory). Please join us as we share ideas for enriching our faith formation classes!

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SESSION: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Confirmation candidates will meet on Tuesday, February 19, for Confirmation class from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

24 Youth Group

MARCH

2 ADW High School Youth Rally @ CUA

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

Congratulations to our principal, Dr. Glenn Benjamin who received his PhD in education! His dedication, enthusiasm and insight are inspiring!

Thank you to all of the families who participated in our annual International Day! This was our best international Day yet! It was amazing to see the children share their culture and traditions with the school and parish. We are truly blessed to have families from all over the world in our school community.

GIRLS ON THE RUN AND HEART & SOLE ARE BACK FOR THE SPRING SESSION!

These programs inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Join the Fun! Girls in 3rd through 5th grade are invited for GOTR and girls in 6th through 8th grade for Heart & Sole. You don't even have to love running. Learn about yourself! Explore who you are and build your confidence. Hang out with friends! Dance!

WHEN: Practices will on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm from March 12th until May 23rd.

COST: The regular fee for the program is \$175, but financial scholarships are granted based on financial need.

HOW: Please visit <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/> Register-Now to register.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 22 3rd Grade Presidents Presentation
March 7 Faculty & Parent/ Student Basketball game
March 18-22 Book Fair
March 19 6-7:30 Family Reading Night

CALLING ON KIDS & GRANDKIDS FOR A PARISH CREATION PLAY!

Does your mini budding thespian want to take part in a Creation Play right here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish? On Sunday, May 5, the St. Francis Music Ministry will stage a play, *New Creation*, in the church and we need children in grades one through seven to participate! Participants will have opportunities for solo speaking, solo singing and chorus singing parts. Rehearsals for the play will be on Tuesdays from 5:15-6 pm, beginning on Tuesday, March 12. There will also be a dress rehearsal at 11 am Saturday, May 4. The play will take place at 1:30 pm Sunday, May 5. For more information, please contact Music Ministry Director Janet Pate at sfadwmusic@gmail.com or call her at (443) 812-5585.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL DEVELOPS GOALS FOR PRIORITY AREAS IDENTIFIED IN THE INDICATORS OF VITALITY SURVEY

On January 30, the Parish Pastoral Council met to further drill down four key priority areas – stewardship, increasing engagement, drawing people into the church, and engaging young adults and families -- identified in the Indicators of Vitality Survey that St. Francis parishioners took last April.

Their work took the next step in the process started by the parish last spring, when Mass goers responded to an extensive survey that measured how the parish is doing in five key areas: liturgy and worship; education formation; community; service and administration. The desired outcomes for the parish will be increasing the evangelization capacity of parishes; examining where parish life and ministries are strongest; finding the opportunity for new growth and evangelization effect; flexibility to meet the needs of individual parishioners; and providing for parishioners' voices to be heard in a non-threatening fashion.

Pastoral Council members worked in the Parish Center in groups of three to develop four overall goals for the four key priority areas. They are:

- *Stewardship*: Creating a measurable increase of income for the parish.
- *Increasing engagement*: Increasing people ages 18-40 who are actively involved in a ministry.
- *Drawing people into the church*: Drawing families with young children to a deeper relationship with God through worship and enticing them to come back every week.
- *Engaging young adults and families*: Making the parish a place where young adults and families can experience a sense of community through leadership, opportunities, programs and activities.

The council groups then developed benchmarks for three-month, six-month and nine-month intervals and actions steps for each benchmark.

Under other business, Fr. John discussed his desire for some Pastoral Council members to attend "Engaging the Mission," an event for parish church leaders and staff, to be sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington on March 16 at Catholic University in Washington DC. He also asked council members to take part in Catholics in Annapolis, the annual advocacy and lobbying event on February 21, which brings together Catholics statewide to stand up for issues of life and social justice before their legislators in the Maryland General Assembly. Council members Alicia Church and Anna Breece also respectively discussed the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Dance held February 2 and the report from St. Jude Regional School concerning activities.

To read past Parish Pastoral Council minutes, please see the web site at <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>. For questions to the Parish Pastoral Council, e-mail ask-theppc@gmail.com.

WINTER BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Have you lost a parent, child, spouse, or close friend and think you might benefit from group support as you grieve? St. Patrick's Parish, Rockville, will offer a winter grief support group. The group will be small in size and will provide a safe, compassionate and prayerful environment for you to discuss your loss with others who share your experiences. The group will meet for 7 weeks starting Thursday, February 21, 2019, from 10:00 am - 11:30 am in the Parish Center. There is no fee, but registration is required. For more information and to register, please call Diane Salem at 301-924-4958.

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.

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

All families are welcome to celebrate a teaching Mass with Healing Prayers for Children and Families at St. Andrew Apostle, 11600 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902 on Friday, February 22, at 6:30 pm. Following a teaching mass for children, families will be invited forward to kneel together before Our Lord in adoration, and the children will receive healing prayers through the priesthood. Confession will also be available throughout the evening. Please visit <https://standrewapostle.org/worship/masses-with-healing-prayers/> for more information

ST. PATRICK'S 2019 WOMAN'S DAY RETREAT

Theme: "Called! Following in the Footsteps of St. Mary Magdalene"

Location: Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City

Date: Saturday, March 2nd, from 8:30 am – 4 pm

Speaker: Jennifer Ristine, CWRC

Cost: \$45 (includes continental breakfast, sandwich lunch, use of entire Shrine and speaker stipend). Please make check payable to St. Patrick's, write "Woman's Day Retreat" on memo line, and mail to the attention of Melanie Baker.

Registration Deadline: *February 21st* – please call or email Melanie to register: 301-924-2285 x317 or stpatrickadultfaithformation@gmail.com.

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