

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

July 8 - July 14

Monday, 7/8	900 a.m.	Al Alfano
Tuesday, 7/9	9:00 a.m.	George W. Berard, Sr.
Wednesday, 7/10	9:00 a.m.	Mariam Korean
	7:30 p.m.	Arthur Singh
Thursday, 7/11	9:00 a.m.	Lynn Krafchik
Friday, 7/12	9:00 a.m.	Thomas J. & Agnes B. McCann
Saturday, 7/13	9:00 a.m.	Lydia Meanings
	5:00 p.m.	Pat Hunt
Sunday, 7/14	8:00 a.m.	Joyce Hayes Curter
	9:30 a.m.	Don Smith
	11:15 a.m.	Tom Krafchik
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Elizabeth A. Manyin, mother of Peter Manyin, Gene Ball, father of David Ball.

Please pray for the sick...John Treacy, Christine Rogewitz, Ljubov Suvorova, Carol Carter, 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 July 7, 2019

Sunday:	Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/ Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12, 17-20
Monday:	Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab [cf. 2b]/ Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday:	Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 [15a]/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday:	Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 [22]/Mt 10:1-7
Thursday:	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 10:7-15
Friday:	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39- 40 [39a]/Mt 10:16-23
Saturday:	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 [cf. Ps 69:33]/Mt 10:24-33
Next Sunday:	Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 [cf. 33]/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

In my five years as Pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Hyattsville (2008-13) I was moved by the stories of many parishioners from El Salvador who had fled the gang violence so prevalent there. Some fled because they were the victims of extortion and were warned that if they did not pay protection money, family members would be killed—starting with the children in the family. I can well understand the desperation of people trying to escape from the lawlessness and gratuitous violence that so marks El Salvador and other Central American countries. Recently we had the heart breaking story and photograph of a young father and his baby daughter from El Salvador who drowned in the Rio Grande while attempting to cross into the U.S. from Mexico on Sunday, June 23, 2019. Both Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez, Bishop of Austin and Chair of the USCCB Committee on Migration, issued a joint statement in which they called on the federal government to hear the cry of the poor and vulnerable. I am transcribing their statement here. It can be found online at <http://www.usccb.org/news/2019/19-125.cfm>.

“We join with Our Holy Father Pope Francis in immense sadness, having seen the horrific images of Oscar Martinez and his daughter Angie Valeria who drowned in the Rio Grande Valley while attempting to flee persecution and enter the United States. This image cries to heaven for justice. This image silences politics. Who can look on this picture and not see the results of the failures of all of us to find a humane and just solution to the immigration crisis? Sadly, this picture shows the daily plight of our brothers and sisters. Not only does their cry reach heaven. It reaches us. And it must now reach our federal government.

All people, regardless of their country of origin or legal status, are made in the image of God and should be treated with dignity and respect. Recent reports of overcrowded and unsanitary conditions are appalling and unacceptable for any person in U.S. custody, but particularly for children, who are uniquely vulnerable. Such conditions cannot be used as tools for deterrence. We can and must remain a country that provides refuge for children and families fleeing violence, persecution, and acute poverty.

Congress has a duty to provide additional funding to address the needs of children in federal custody. Their supplemental appropriations bill should also increase protections for immigrant children, including heightened standards and oversight for border facilities. It is possible and necessary to care for the safety of migrant children and the security of our citizens. By putting aside partisan interests, a nation as great as ours is able to do both.”

Let me close my column today with a prayer that a parishioner sent me recently after reading some of these news reports about how migrant children in federal custody were been treated:

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

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I share Christ's peace with others? How can I respond when it is not reciprocated?

MATTIE STEPANEK REMEMBERED & HONORED

St. Francis of Assisi Parish recently hosted the 15th anniversary Mass of Mattie Stepanek's death and transition to a new life. Nearly 100 people gathered at St. Francis for the memorial Mass and reception on Saturday, June 22. Mattie lived a rich life and died in 2004 after a life-long challenge and struggle caused by a genetic-based illness. The celebration was hosted by the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Guild, which is promoting Mattie's cause for sainthood.

Msgr. Charles Pope, the homilist, spoke of how Mattie's life is testimony to the beauty of life that is possible through faith in God and acceptance of suffering that brings wisdom, which is so apparent in Mattie's many writings.

As Msgr. Pope said, Mattie stands as an example for us, especially young people, of what can happen "when we take the life God gives us on God's terms. We become free." He also said that "We have important things to learn from the suffering." This message is particularly important for us at this time when people are promoting assisted suicide as a solution to suffering. Mattie's life points to a better way. For more information on Mattie and his cause for sainthood, visit <http://mattiematters.org/>

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

*"Loving God,
Remembering that the Holy Family fled violence and lived for a time as refugees,
We ask that you protect all refugee families fleeing persecution.
Provide them with a place of safety and comfort.
Forgive us for neglecting their needs.*

*For children,
Who are making perilous journeys often alone and without the protection of loved ones,
We ask that you reunite them with their families.
Protect them from violence and fear on the journey.*

*For all migrants,
That they not feel compelled to leave their homeland.
Grant them opportunity to thrive and live fully human lives.*

Open our hearts so that we may provide hospitality for those who come in search of refuge.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen."

Until next week,
Fr. John

GOOD BYE FROM FR. JACK

Dear St. Francis Parishioners,

Today is my last day serving as Parochial Vicar here at St. Francis. It has been a blessed two years here serving you as a priest and as the youth minister. This parish will always hold a special place in my heart as it was the place where I experienced many "firsts" as a priest, including my first priest funeral (Fr. Ralph), First Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter in a parish as a priest, being a part of First Communion and two Confirmations, and many other amazing experiences. I will be able to look fondly back on the many memories I have made here with all of you.

I am very grateful to God for having placed me here as my first assignment after studies. I want to express my thanks to Fr. John for being such a wonderful pastor to me during my time here. I also want to thank the Deacons who have faithfully served this parish, Jim Datovech, Dan Finn, Will Garcia, and James McCann. I especially want to thank the entire staff for their great friendship and dedication, each one of them works extremely hard to assist the running of the parish. There are too many volunteers and wonderful parishioners to count, let alone to name them all here, but please know that I am honored to know you and work with you.

Please know that as I continue my priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Washington that I will carry you all in prayer with me. This month has been a challenge, both because I have had to say good bye to St. Francis, but also because my next assignment has changed several times. My next assignment will now be as the Parochial Vicar at Annunciation Parish in Northwest Washington. If you would like to remain in contact my email is berardj@adw.org and my mailing address is

Annunciation Catholic Church
3125 39th Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20016

May God continue to bless each one of you,

Fr. Jack

July 7, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, July 9, 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 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).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DONATE \$2,000 FROM FISH FRY PROCEEDS

After the Knights of Columbus Council 2323 paid expenses from the three Lenten Fish Dinners held at the Father Cuddy Hall on March 22, April 5 and April 22, the Knights donated \$1,000 to the *Little Sisters of the Poor* and \$1,000 to the *Shady Grove Pregnancy Center* from the proceeds of the dinners. Thank you to all those parishioners who attended the dinners and helped support the charitable causes supported by the Knights of Columbus Council 2323. The Knights of Columbus look forward to the 2020 Lenten Fish Dinners! If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus Council 2323, please contact Gary Palmer, Membership Chairman at gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

FATHER RALPH'S TREE

Thank you to everyone who donated to Father Ralph's tree. The tree people have suggested that we plant it in the Fall - not during these hot summer days. We will plant the tree after Labor Day but definitely before his second anniversary, October 12.

JULY CALENDAR @ ST. FRANCIS

7	Farewell Reception-Fr. Jack after 11:15 am Mass	
7-12	Encounter Work Camp (Mon thru Fri)	
8	Pax Christi Meeting (YR)	7:30 pm
10	Martha & Mary Women's Group (YR)	7:30 pm
11	St. Vincent de Paul Mtg (AR)	7:00 pm
	Alanon (Lib)	7:00 pm
	CL (SC)	8:00 pm
13	Men's Group (YR)	9:00 am
15	Youth Appreciation Day	
18	Gaithersburg Soup Kitchen	3:30 pm
	Alanon (Lib)	7:00 pm
	CL (SC)	8:00 pm
20	Men's Group (YR)	9:00 am
20-21	Summer in the City Food Bag Distribution (GS)	
21	Youth Movie Night (YR)	6:00 pm
24	Martha & Mary Women's Group (YR)	7:30 pm
25	St. Vincent de Paul Mtg (AR)	7:00 pm
	Alanon (Lib)	7:00 pm
	CL (SC)	8:00 pm
27	Men's Group (YR)	9:00 am
27-28	Summer in the City Food Bag Returns (GS)	

PARISH GROUNDS BEAUTIFIED

Take a look around the parish grounds and enjoy the beauty created through Zack Potter's Eagle Scout project. Last December, Zack and his crew rebuilt three of the landscaping boxes in the parking lot near the rectory. This spring, our parish Gardening Ministry benefitted from the funds Zack raised for his project. Members filled the new decorative pots at the entrances of the church and planted more than 35 perennials -- aromatic asters, butterfly weed, anise hyssop, bee balm, and orange, purple, and yellow coneflowers, all of which attract butterflies and pollinators. They also planted native ferns, grasses and annuals. Thank you, Zack, for contributing to your parish and helping to make this possible. And congratulations on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout!

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

REGISTER NOW FOR 2019-2020 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Return your completed form by August 1 to receive \$25 discount off total registration.

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 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.

Registration forms are 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 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.

As we prepare for 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.

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.

Look for Ways to Serve in the Column to the Right.....

HOUSING NEEDED

Pax Christi is currently looking for safe, inexpensive housing for a single parent and her three children. We are reaching out to parishioners to inquire about rooms or studio apartments available for rent in the Olney, Rockville, Derwood, or Aspen Hill areas. If you can help, please contact Mary Kate Ryner, rynoslp@msn.com or Bob Cook, cookerh1951@gmail.com. God bless.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH APPRECIATION DAY
Monday, July 15
Watch Your Mailbox for an Invitation

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Integra & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

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.

CENTRO TEPEYAC JOB OPENINGS

Centro Tepeyac, a pro-life women's center in Silver Spring, MD, has the following two part-time openings: **1) Executive Director (ED):** and **2) Clinic Manager (CM).** Please go to <http://friendsofcentrotepeyac.org/join-our-team/> for the job descriptions. The ED is responsible for organizational leadership, operations, financial management, and related duties. Email danieljsmyth@gmail.com with any questions. The CM is responsible for nurse and clinical operations and standards of care. Pay dependent on experience. Call 301-587-9516 or email Metrostorkmobilemedicalunit@gmail.com for more information.

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.

RIGHT TO LIFE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

This year, Right to Life of Montgomery County will again have a pro-life booth at the Montgomery County Fair, August 9-17. If you are interested in helping out at the booth please call Tharpa Roberts, (301) 962-5611 or rtl-mc@verizon.net. If you volunteered last year, Tharpa will be calling you to see if you can help again this year. Your help is greatly appreciated.

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.

SUMMER VACATION MASS TIMES

While traveling this summer, don't forget to visit www.masstimes.org for Mass times and locations across the country.

ALL ARE WELCOME How to Be a Church of Open Doors

What do I do to make the Church a community where everyone feels welcomed and understood, everyone feels the mercy and the love of God who renews life?

Pope Francis, General Audience,
May 29, 2013

Each of us can make our parish a more welcoming place to newcomers, persons with disabilities, and persons with special needs. Here are a few ideas:

- If you see a parent struggling with a child's behavior, offer a friendly smile, a sympathetic nod, or a helping hand.
- If you see a person physically struggling to get in, hold open a door, scoot down in the pew, or offer to carry something.
- If you see a person exhibiting unusual behavior, understand that it might be a sign of a disability. Embrace the person as a child of God and understand that each of us has different ways of receiving and communicating God's love.
- If you see someone who is disshelved or out of sorts, consider that he or she might be in direct straits. Act with compassion.
- Some people may struggle to get to or sit through the Mass. Offer a ride, open a door, or simply acceptance and understanding.
- A warm smile, a nod, or a small kindness can make all the difference.

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"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

~ Matthew 25:40

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!

HIGH SCHOOL-AGED YOUNG MEN COME TO THE QUO VADIS CAMP

The Office of Priest Vocations annual Quo Vadis Camp for high school-aged young men will be held at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary on July 28-31. For four days, young men who desire to grow in holiness will have an opportunity to attend Mass, pray, and participate in Eucharistic Adoration, as well as have time for fraternity, sports and reflection. Bus transportation is available. For more information or to register for the camp, visit www.DCpriest.org. Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations at vocations@adw.org or at (202)-636-9020 with any questions.

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON DIVISION

Rosary and Mass celebrated by Msgr. Balbago in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in honor of Our Lady of Fatima's 3rd apparition to the children, Saturday, July 13 at 1:00p m, 400 Michigan Ave, NE, DC. 33 day Consecration to Jesus through Mary starting July 13 and completing August 15. Consecration lead by Fr. Thomas Morrow will occur after 7:00 pm Mass at St. Raphael Church, 12551 Falls Rd., Rockville. You do not have to attend the Mass at St. Raphael to complete the consecration. For more information about 33 day consecration literature contact Monica at 301-949-5710.

SAINT PATRICK WOMEN'S 3 DAY SILENT RETREAT

Would you like some time to get away and recharge? Do you need space to process a decision or experience? Would you like an opportunity to deepen your relationship with God? This retreat might be just the answer.

When: August 9-11
Who: The Ladies of the Parish
Where: The Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center
Retreat Leader: Sr. Mariam Annai D'Souza, SSVM
Cost: \$275 (includes private room, all meals and speaker stipend)

To Register: Please mail a \$50 deposit made payable to "St. Patrick's Catholic Church," with the envelope addressed to Adult Faith Formation and "3-Day women's retreat" written in the memo line. Mailing Address: 4101 Norbeck Road, Rockville MD 20853.

More Information: Melanie Baker, Director of Adult Faith Formation at St. Patrick Catholic Church, spatrickadultfaithformation@gmail.com/301-924-2285x317