

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

### October 7 - October 13

<b>Monday, 10/7</b>	90:0 a.m.	Noah Christian Cardoso
<b>Tuesday, 10/8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Warren Webb, Jr.
<b>Wednesday, 10/9</b>	9:00 a.m.	John Coady Dillon, Jr.
	7:30 p.m.	Janusz Sieradzinski
<b>Thursday, 10/10</b>	9:00 a.m.	Joan Raffa
<b>Friday, 10/11</b>	9:00 a.m.	John Dzimianski
<b>Saturday, 10/12</b>	9:00 a.m.	Monsignor Ralph Kuehner
	5:00 p.m.	Bess Mitchell
<b>Sunday, 10/13</b>	8:00 a.m.	Monsignor Ralph Kuehner
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	11:15 a.m.	John Loh
	5:00 p.m.	Margaret Pinchock

**Please pray for the sick...**Zenaida Sierda Sarte, Mary Bowen, Joseph Tychinski, Joan Lutz-Maltz, William Komlo, Eddie Lutheran, Patrick Ledger, Joseph Arbaizo, Margaret Weiss, Joseph Michael Gardner, 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 October 6, 2019

<b>Sunday:</b>	Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/ 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10
<b>Monday:</b>	Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/ Lk 10:38-42
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/Lk 11:1-4
<b>Thursday:</b>	Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/ Lk 11:5-13
<b>Friday:</b>	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/ Lk 11:15-26
<b>Saturday:</b>	Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/ Lk 11:27-28
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/ 2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

October is a special time for us to pray for life. A few weeks ago now Archbishop Gregory wrote to the priests of the Archdiocese about Respect Life Sunday, which Catholic Churches in the United States are observing today. Let me quote two paragraphs from his letter for you now:

As you know, Catholics around the world celebrate Respect Life Month during the month of October. This year, the USCCB has chosen the theme *Christ our Hope in Every Season of Life* to guide our efforts to promote the dignity of every person during Respect Life Month. This theme is especially fitting here in the Archdiocese of Washington where we face attacks on the sanctity of the human person at various stages of life. Within the Archdiocese of Washington's bounds, abortion is legal through nine months of pregnancy. Three years ago, the District of Columbia legalized physician-assisted suicide, which targets the elderly and people with disabilities, and this year, we expect another attempt to legalize physician-assisted suicide in Maryland. The culture of death surrounds us, but Christ is our hope!

In the Gospel, Jesus tells us, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea' and it would obey you." I pray that we may have faith the size of the mustard seed and work together to protect the most vulnerable among us. Thank you for your tireless efforts in defense of all life.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have prepared a sheet with some guidance how to pray for life during this Respect Life Month. Let me present the reflection that our Bishops offer us in this regard:

From the time we are knit together in our mothers' wombs until we take our final breaths, each moment of our lives is a gift from God. While every season of life brings its own challenges and trials, each season also gives us opportunities to grow in relationship with Him. As new attacks on human life continue to emerge, we might be tempted to despair, but Christ instead offers us unfailing hope. Christ's promise of salvation does not mean that we will be spared from suffering, but rather that even in the darkest moments of our lives, we will be given the strength to persevere. For this reason, a woman experiencing a difficult pregnancy can find the strength to welcome her precious child into the world. A man facing a terminal diagnosis can see that the end of his earthly life is the beginning of eternal life with Christ. When the seas of life swell and we are battered by the waves, hope allows us to remain anchored in the heart of God. May we hold fast to Christ, our hope, from the beginning of life to its very end.

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

## Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*Which seeds have I nourished? Which seeds will I make the effort to nurture now?*

### THE RCIA NEEDS YOUR HELP

**“Make Jesus smile! Join the RCIA team. Before long, you will be smiling too!”** Please pray for our Inquirers, an earnest group of people seeking to discern whether they want to join the Catholic Church. If you are interested in sharing about your faith and helping the RCIA team, we could use your help! Over the past two weeks, Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan has shared on living the Catholic life and Youth Minister Sarah Seyed-Ali has reflected on the Apostle’s Creed. Please join us! For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### PARISH PICNIC

**OCTOBER 6**

**12:30-3:30 PM**

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS @ 3:00 PM**



### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Our Bishops have made several suggestions about acts of reparation that we could do during Respect Life Month. I would suggest that you look these over and select one to do in October:

- Choose one Friday this month to fast and pray for a greater respect of human life.
- Pray a decade of the Rosary for this month’s intention: May we hold fast to Christ, our hope, in every season of life.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do, for this month’s intention: May we hold fast to Christ, our hope, in every season of life.

A final thought: October is Respect Life Month! Please visit [respectlife.org/respect-life-month](http://respectlife.org/respect-life-month) for simple ways to get involved.

Until next week,

**Fr. John**

### LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN RUNNING FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Are you interested in serving your parish and having input into facilities growth, strategic planning and the direction of our parish? If so, then consider submitting your name for consideration to run for the Parish Pastoral Council. There are five vacancies on the Parish Pastoral Council for the terms that begin Jan. 1, 2020. If you are a registered parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi who is 16 years or older, can commit to attend eight to 10 monthly meetings, and are committed to making decisions for the good of the parish, then you are qualified to be a candidate. People in their 20s and 30s are especially encouraged to come forward as candidates to represent the perspectives of young adults and young families on the consultative body to the pastor. The deadline to express interest in running for the Pastoral Council is October 15, 2019. If you are interested in submitting your name as a candidate, please contact Pastoral Council Co-Chairman Alicia Church at [alicia.church@collaborationcouncil.org](mailto:alicia.church@collaborationcouncil.org) or [churcham@hotmail.com](mailto:churcham@hotmail.com). Interested persons can also call Parish Secretary Donna Zezzo at (301) 840-1407. Elections will take place in November 2019 if we have enough interested candidates.

### SIGN-UP FOR A GOSPEL OF MATTHEW SMALL GROUP THIS FALL

This weekend is the final weekend to sign up for a Small Group in the Gathering Space. Sign up for one of the Gospel of Matthew Small Groups through the Signup Genius link at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A49AFAD2AA4FE3-gospel> or in the Gathering Space. Sign-ups for our regularly meeting, established Small Groups – the Saturday Morning Spiritual Reading Group, the Men of Emmaus and the Martha/Mary Group – are also available at the sign-up table. For more information about St. Francis Small Groups, please contact Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### ROSARY CRUSADE

Join your fellow parishioners in praying the rosary **Saturday, October 12th** - we are joining American Catholics across the country as part of the America Needs Fatima campaign ([www.anf.org](http://www.anf.org)). We will start at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering space. **Hope to see you there!**

**October 6, 2019**

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, October 8 in the St. Clare Chapel. For details, please call Pat, (301) 963-9196.

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

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN** If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or [mariannebu@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net)).

### **TEXT TO GIVE THROUGH FAITH DIRECT**

Make giving easier and bless your church! Simply text "ENROLL" to (301) 804-2584 and follow the link to sign up for recurring giving to St. Francis of Assisi. No more dealing with envelopes or writing checks and a consistent money flow helping to further the ministry of our church. It's a win-win!"



### **SOCK-TOBER**

So Others Might Eat (SOME) needs adult socks (new or gently used)!! Please place your donations in the "Sock" Box in the Gathering Space during the month of October.

### **PARISH COUNCIL UPDATED ON STATUS OF FACILITIES ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

On September 19, the Parish Pastoral Council received an update on the Archdiocese of Washington approving contracts for the parish to pursue a project manager and architect to begin design of its long-planned facilities enhancements projects.

The approval from the archdiocese clears a big hurdle in the parish's plans to refurbish the church's interior and exterior, build a new room off the Gathering Space and install an elevator connecting the church with the Gathering Space. Fr. John said an upcoming step will involve scheduling a town hall meeting so that details of the project can be communicated in more detail to parishioners.

In other business, the council also:

- Learned parishioner Miguel Welanetz was appointed by Fr. John to the council to serve out the term vacated by former council member David Theis.
- Reviewed participant feedback from the 2019 Ministry Fair on June 8/9.
- Heard updates on the new Families with Young Children Ministry and the model 270Catholic is using to connect young adults to their local parishes.
- Discussed the upcoming election of the Parish Pastoral Council to fill five vacancies.
- Discussed the Parish Security Committee, which met Sept. 11
- Heard reports from the St. Jude Regional School and the Communications Ministry
- Reviewed notes from the brainstorming sessions on the parish's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2022.
- Learned Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory will celebrate Mass at St. Francis of Assisi on Feb. 23, 2020.

Parishioners may review past minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council at <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>. For more information, please contact Executive Committee Co-Chair Alicia Church at [asktheppc@gmail.com](mailto:asktheppc@gmail.com).

### **NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCES GOD'S WAY SMALL GROUPS TO BEGIN MEETING IN NOVEMBER**

Do you want to learn how to increase your savings and reduce personal debt? Are you looking to grow closer to God and strengthen your personal relationships? The *Navigating Your Finances God's Way* Bible study offers a nine-week course during which participants will meet in small groups and discuss the topic of personal finance in the context of what belongs to God and man. Two courses will be offered in English and Spanish, beginning in November and ending in January. Look out for sign-ups in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Deacon Dan Finn at [deacondanfinn@gmail.com](mailto:deacondanfinn@gmail.com).

### **ROSARY PRAYED IN SPANISH IN THE CHURCH**

The Spanish Ministry prays the Rosary in Spanish at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays in the church. Please join us. For more information about the Spanish Ministry, please contact Will Garcia at [wagarcia@comcast.net](mailto:wagarcia@comcast.net) or Lourdes Garcia at [legarcia@comcast.net](mailto:legarcia@comcast.net)

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS**

Religious Education classes have started and we are looking forward to a wonderful year! Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space, the Parish Offices, and also on the parish website. Please call the Religious Education Office if need more information: 301-258-9193. **Children must be registered before they can begin classes.**

**Registering for Sacramental Preparation:** Sacramental preparation for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> 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. If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

### **NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES OCTOBER 6, 7 & 8**

There will be no Religious Education classes on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, October 6, 7 and 8. In lieu of class, we hope that all RE families will plan to attend the Parish Picnic on Sunday, October 6.

### **CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE & PARENT MEETING: OCTOBER 9**

A reminder to those who have registered for this year's Confirmation Program: There will be a meeting for students and parents on Wednesday, October 9, from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center. Letters with additional information are being mailed to families with children registered for Confirmation this year. If you have any questions about this meeting or our Confirmation program, please call Susan Anderson at 301-258-9193.

### **CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our class meets next Sunday, October 13 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Church Gathering Space. 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 RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING**

There will be a First Reconciliation Parent Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, at 7:30 pm in the Parish Center for those who have registered their children for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist preparation this year. Parents will be receiving a letter in the mail with additional information. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

## **SCOOP ON THE ST. FRANCIS YOUTH GROUP**

The St. Francis Youth Group meets on selected Sunday nights from 6:15-8 pm. We will be starting our meeting in the Gathering Space at 6:15 pm. Please join us this fall as we learn from Mary, the Mother of God, how to live the Christian life. All teens who want to delve deeper in these teachings are invited to attend a mini course on the Gospel of Mark. Please see all important upcoming dates below:

- Sunday Oct. 6, from 12:30-4:30 pm: Parish Picnic (NO Youth Group)
- Saturday and Sunday Oct. 12-13: Our Lady of the Rosary Fundraiser Sale (Gathering Space)
- Sunday, Oct. 13, 6:15-8 pm: Youth Group Meeting (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Tuesday, Oct. 15, 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark begins (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Sunday Oct. 20, 11 am-6 pm: National Evangelization Team Retreat (NO Youth Group)
- Tuesday Oct. 22, 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Sunday Oct. 27, 6:15-8 pm: Youth Group Meeting (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Tuesday, Oct. 29, 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark (Meet in the Gathering Space)

Finally, our service to the wider community this month is to collect donations of baby diapers! If you would like to participate in that please start shopping.

Thank you for your support of the Youth Group -- I am looking forward to serving you this fall!

*May God bless you,  
Sarah Seyed-Ali*

## **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.

## ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR & FLEA MARKET

**Saturday, November 9**

### JEWELRY DONATIONS

Please drop the jewelry off at the parish office or leave your treasured items in the mailbox on the Rectory porch if the office is closed.

### 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). For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

### BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We have started making crafts for the 2019 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesdays 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.

### FLEA MARKET

Please start saving your "stuff" and watch the bulletin for drop off days in November and the items we will be accepting.

### HELP WITH SEWING PROJECT NEEDED

Do you like to sew? We are in need of someone to sew a one-time project for the Bazaar. We have all the material, etc., we just need someone who can sew. This project can be taken home and brought back before the Bazaar, November 9th. If you are interested in helping, please call Anne Culver, 301-774-6426 or email [gaculverfam@msn.com](mailto:gaculverfam@msn.com).

### Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School *We are...St. Jude*

[www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org)

<http://www.facebook.com/stjuderockville>

**CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL** - Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-1:00pm in the Thaddeus Room. All children ages 2 - 7 are welcome to join us with their parents for free games, activities, prizes and food.

### OKTOBERFEST - OCTOBER 12, 6:30 PM

Mark your calendars now and plan to be at St. Jude's for a fun-filled autumn party! Food! Drinks! Games! Football! Remember, Oktoberfest is for adults only, so start lining up your sitter. <http://www.stjuderockville.org/Giving/Oktoberfest>

**7TH ANNUAL BULLDOG BOLT** Join us November 9th for our 7th annual Bulldog Bolt--a 5K race or 1K fun run!

Registration is now open and sponsorships are available at <https://www.stjuderockville.org/giving/bulldog-bolt-5k-race-fun-run>  
Registration fee: 5K \$35 before 10/12, \$40 after 10/12, \$45 onsite  
1K Fun Run \$25 before 10/12, \$30 after 10/12, \$35 onsite

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Archdiocese of Washington is hiring! We are seeking those who are experienced in accounting, bookkeeping, payroll and human resources to work in Parish offices throughout the Archdiocese. The work is interesting and the hours are flexible if needed. What a beautiful way to serve our Lord through your talents. Kindly send your resume to [russl@adw.org](mailto:russl@adw.org) or if you have any questions.

### 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](http://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.

### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's mission in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

### 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!

### WALKING WITH PURPOSE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Are you stretched and would like a way to refuel and be refreshed while making authentic connections with others? Would you like to have a better understanding of your faith and learn more about God? The nationally recognized Walking with Purpose women's Bible study is coming to St. Patrick's Church this fall! We will meet weekly on Wednesdays from 10:15-11:45am in the Parish Center on October 9. Childcare will be provided. For more information please email Gina Swanda and Stephanie Schneider at [stpatrickWWP@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickWWP@gmail.com).

### THANK YOU ST. FRANCIS!

I would like to thank the parishioners of St. Francis and Father John. I apologize for not thanking you all sooner. It was truly hard for me to leave and some of you made it even harder. I miss not seeing so many of your waves, smiles and head out the window (you know who you are) to either say hello or good bye. On Sundays sometimes I find myself wondering what am I going to do today, since I have been working at St. Francis for about 18 years. You may see me, who knows, substituting. Thank you again for all your kindness and appreciation. So many times it's a thankless job, but the parishioners at St. Francis didn't make me feel that way.

*Thank you again,  
Nancy Horrigan  
Retired Crossing Guard*