

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

October 14 - October 20

Monday, 10/14	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
Tuesday, 10/15	9:00 a.m.	Connie Broadbelt
Wednesday, 10/16	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
	7:30 p.m.	Elizabeth Dillon Billmeier
Thursday, 10/17	9:00 a.m.	Rosalina F. Ruiz
Friday, 10/18	9:00 a.m.	Monsignor Maurice O'Connell
Saturday, 10/19	9:00 a.m.	Peter Konieczny
	5:00 p.m.	Eva Breeden
	8:00 a.m.	Jimmy Gierula
	9:30 a.m.	Rodger F. Ruiz (L)
Sunday, 10/20	11:15 a.m.	Peggy Layer
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Fred Theurer, husband of Marge Theurer.

Please pray for the sick... Helen Hillstrom, Barbara Latta, Adele Rita Powers, Zenaida Sierda Sarte, Mary Bowen, Joseph Tychinski, Joan Lutz-Maltz, William Komlo, Eddie Lutheran, 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 13, 2019

Sunday:	2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/ 2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19
Monday:	Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/ Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [2a]/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9 [13b]/ Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab [7]/ Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Lk 10:1-9
Saturday:	Rom 4:13, 16-18/Ps 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43 [8a]/ Lk 12:8-12
Next Sunday:	Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 2]/2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

This month, during Respect Life month, the Church remembers in a particular way victims of domestic violence. I thought that it would be useful to include in today's column some pastoral guidelines in response to abusers.

First, let's start with some goals for interventions:

- SAFETY for survivor & children
- ACCOUNTABILITY for the abuser
- RESTORATION of individuals and, WHEN APPROPRIATE, relationships OR
- MOURNING loss of the relationships

Next, let's talk about some Do's and Don'ts for working with survivors of domestic violence:

- DO reassure her that this is not her fault, she doesn't deserve this treatment, and it is not God's will for her.
- DO give her referral information; primary resources are battered women's services or shelters and National Hotline. 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) / 1-800-787-3224 (TTY).
- DO support and respect her choices. Even if she is aware of the risks and chooses initially to return to the abuser, it is her choice. She has the most information about how to survive.
- DO encourage her to think about a safety plan. This might include setting aside some money, copies of important papers for her and her children, a change of clothes hidden or in care of friends. It could also include a plan about how to exit the house the next time the abuser is violent, as well as considerations of what to do about the children if they are at school, if they are asleep, etc. Safety planning is an ongoing process that offers practical assistance and also helps her stay in touch with the reality of the abuser's violence. Battered women's advocates (the hotlines and support groups, both free services) are trained in safety planning—encourage her to use them!
- DO protect her confidentiality. DO NOT give information about her or her whereabouts to the abuser or to others who might pass information on to the abuser. Do not discuss with the parish council/session/elders who might inadvertently pass information on to the abuser. Do not add her name to a prayer chain for any reason.
- DO help her with any religious concerns. If she is Christian, give her a copy of Keeping the Faith: Guidance for Christian Women Facing Abuse. Refer to www.faithtrustinstitute.org for copies of this book and other helpful information.
- DO assure her of God's love and presence, of your commitment to walk with her through this valley of the shadow of death.
- DO help her see that her partner's violence has broken the marriage covenant and that God does not want her to remain in a situation where her life and the lives of her children are in danger.
- If she decides to separate and divorce, DO support her and help her to mourn the loss to herself and her children.

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

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do I receive the Lord in gratitude, here at Mass and at other times in my life? How can I change my attitude, to see what I have as blessings from God?

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

- DO pray with her. Ask God to give her the strength and courage she needs.
- DON'T minimize the danger to her. You can be a reality check. "From what you have told me, I am very much concerned for your safety . . ."
- DON'T tell her what to do. Give information and support.
- DON'T react with disbelief, disgust, or anger at what she tells you. But don't react passively, either. Let her know that you are concerned and that what the abuser has done to her is wrong and is not deserved by her.
- DON'T blame her for his violence. If she is blaming herself, try to reframe: "I don't care if you did have supper late or forgot to water the lawn; that is no reason for him to be violent with you. This is his problem."
- DON'T recommend couples' counseling or approach her husband and ask for "his side of the story." These actions will endanger her.
- DON'T recommend "marriage enrichment," "mediation," or a "communications workshop." None of these will address the goals listed above.
- DON'T send her home with just a prayer and directive to submit to her husband, bring him to church, or be a better Christian wife.
- DON'T encourage her to forgive him and take him back.
- DO NOT encourage her dependence on you or become emotionally or sexually involved with her.
- DON'T do nothing.
- DO familiarize yourself with your local resources so that you have specific referrals to give to congregants. Meet with their representatives and know what services they are able to provide. Chief of these is the battered women's hotline and shelter or safe home network. Often the state domestic violence coalition is a best rest contact for you.
- DO consult with colleagues in the wider community who may have expertise and be able to assist you in your response. Refer to www.faithtrustinstitute.org for resources.

This taken from a handbook provided by Catholic Charities DC as part of the Domestic Violence Outreach.

Until next week,
Fr. John

RCIA NEEDS TEAM MEMBERS AND SPONSORS

Have you experienced the gift of life and faith, a gift we are called to give to others? If you have, consider sharing it as an RCIA team member/Sponsor. Perhaps God is calling you to serve Him in this way. We are still waiting for some St. Francis parishioners to answer the call. For more information, contact Tony Bosnick (301) 840-1407 or abosnick@sfadw.org.

TALK ON RACISM TAKES PLACE ON OCTOBER 26 IN THE PARISH CENTER

Former St. Francis of Assisi Parochial Vicar Fr. Robert Boxie III will return to St. Francis from 9:45 am-12:30 pm Saturday, October 26, to discuss the topic of racism. Please come hear Fr. Boxie speak about how we, as a parish community, can look inward to embrace our fellow men and women and recognize them as our neighbors God calls us to love. As part of Fr. Boxie's talk, he will address the pastoral letter, "Open Wide Our Hearts," which can be read at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/index.cfm>. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

KINDLY RETURN BOOKS CHECKED OUT TO THE PARISH LENDING LIBRARY

The movable parish Lending Library in our Gathering Space offers many books that can be checked out. So that all may share in this wonderful ministry, please return any books you check out by their due date. You may return books to the wire basket on the lower shelf of the Lending Library. If you would like to donate books, please leave them on the bottom shelf so that they can be properly prepared for lending. Thank you for supporting our SFA Parish Library Ministry! For more information, please contact Ministry Coordinator Linne Carrier at lkcarrier196@gmail.com.

LAST CHANCE TO THROW YOUR HAT IN THE RING FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

October 15 is the last day to submit your name for consideration to run for the Parish Pastoral Council. This consultative body advises the pastor and works on strategic initiatives for the parish, including facilities and parish growth. If you are a registered member of the parish at least 16 years of age, can commit to attending eight to 10 meetings per year and are interested in making decisions for the good of the parish, then you are qualified to serve on the Parish Council. To express your interest to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council, please contact Executive Committee Chairman Alicia Church at churcham@hotmail.com or call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

FR. RALPH'S TREE

Fr. Ralph's tree has been planted on the side of the church across from the Rectory. It is a Deodar Cedar Tree - also known as a "Living Christmas Tree" which we thought very appropriate given Fr. Ralph's love of Christmas. Thank you to everyone who donated to the tree.

October 13, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, October 15 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 UMAN (Upper Montgomery Assistance Network). *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).

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.

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 or Lourdes Garcia at legarcia@comcast.net.

TWO SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE

In addition to the Gospel of Matthew Small Groups that are beginning this week, there are two other Small Group opportunities coming up for parishioners:

- On October 19, the Saturday Morning Spiritual Reading Group will begin reading *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen. According to the book jacket, the book "speaks to all who search for the Spirit of God in the (secular) world." Join this diverse group of parishioners of all ages and life experiences for coffee, tea, fellowship and good discussions at 8 am Saturdays in the Assisi Room of the Rectory. For more information, please e-mail Ministry Coordinator Trish Olin at mpolin@comcast.net.
- The Navigating Your Finances God's Way Small Groups will begin in November with a nine-week Bible study that teaches God's perspective about money and possessions. The group study consists of reading and answering questions about Bible verses and discussing how these relate to money management in our lives. Participants also do personal financial exercises, which helps them implement Biblical principles in their daily lives. For more information or to sign up, please contact Deacon Dan Finn at deacondanfinn@gmail.com.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY/ PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH:

Reminding us of Our Lord's commission to spread the Gospel to all nations, this second collection supports Church missions in more than 1,150 dioceses throughout Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. Your generosity makes it possible for local priests and religious in desperate need, to bring the light of Christ to families and children living in the darkest of circumstances. This national collection will be taken this weekend. Please be generous according to your means.



SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER BABY BOTTLE

CAMPAIGN There is still time to participate in our Annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Pick up a bottle from the table in the Gathering Space, drop your spare change in it and return it to the Social Concerns Table by the first weekend in November. Thanks for your generosity!

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

FREE Life in the Spirit seminar Sundays, October 20 – November 24, 6 to 8 pm, Mother of God Community, 20501 Goshen Rd, Gaithersburg. Experience the Holy Spirit in a more intimate and powerful way: deeper intimacy with God; new power to change; greater desire for the sacraments; new joy and hope. Adults 18+ are welcome.

Please register at <https://lifeinthepirit2019.eventbrite.com>, visit www.motherofgod.org or call 301-990-2081. We hope to see you there!

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 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. If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office 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 today, 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.

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

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

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, on how to live the Christian life. All teens who want to deepen their faith even more are invited to attend a mini course on the Gospel of Mark. Please see below for the dates for this as well as for the following upcoming events:

- Saturday, Oct. 12, and Sunday, Oct. 13: Our Lady of the Rosary Fundraiser Sale (Gathering Space).
- Sunday, Oct. 13 from 6:15-8 pm: Youth Group Meeting (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark begins (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Sunday, Oct. 20 from 11 am-6 pm: National Evangelization Team Retreat (No Youth Group)
- Tuesday, Oct. 22 from 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Sunday, Oct. 27 from 6:15-8 pm: Youth Group Meeting (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 6:45-8 pm: Mini Course on the Gospel of Mark (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Saturday, Nov. 9: St. Francis of Assisi Fall Bazaar- Student Service Learning opportunity

Finally, our service to the wider community this month is to collect donations of baby diapers, as we celebrate Respect Life Month! If you would like to participate in that, then 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*

SOLEMN NOVENA IN HONOR OF ST. JUDE THADDEUS

Novena begins Sunday, October 20 at 8:00 pm and concludes with Mass at 8:00 pm on Monday, October 28. The Novena Master will be Fr. Simon Kim, PhD. Shrine of St. Jude is located at 12701 Veirs Mill Road, Rockville.

Mornings: Novena Prayer (Various Prayers to St. Jude, p. 17) is recited after 9:00 am Mass Monday-Friday and at the end of 8:30 am Mass on Saturday. There is usually (if possible) a short instruction given by the Novena Master after the Novena Prayer.

Evenings: Novena service begins at 8:00 pm and consists of an Opening Hymn, recitation of Novena Prayers (pp. 15-21), Presentation, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and Veneration of the Relic of St. Jude. Priests will be available to hear confessions throughout the Novena.

Closing of the Novena: The Novena will close at the 8:00 pm Mass on Monday, October 28th. Novena Prayers will be recited, the Novena Master will deliver the homily, and Veneration of the Relics will commence after Mass.

Novena Intentions: Those attending the Novena may write their intentions on paper and place them in the Novena Intentions box at the main entrance of the church. They are gathered up ever few days and placed at the St. Jude shrine in the church.

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.

THEME BASKETS FOR SILENT AUCTION

If you would like to make up a theme basket for the Silent Auction, please call the Parish Office to let us know you are donating a special basket. Theme Baskets are always a big hit!

FLEA MARKET

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

GIFT CARDS OR GIFT CERTIFICATES

If you have unused gift cards or gift certificates that you received but know you'll never use, please consider donating them to the Silent Auction. You can drop them off at the Parish Office or put them in the collection basket in an envelope.

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!

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 1 (800) 799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence visit: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace

PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, OCTOBER 14 IN OBSERVANCE OF COLUMBUS DAY

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL - Saturday, October 19th 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.

CHESS CLUB FALL 2019 - Register Now! Grades K and up
Club meets Mondays, 10/7 to 12/16, 3:30 to 4:30 PM

Learn chess from a Silver Knights Chess coach! Class time is split between lesson and play. Lessons range from learning the rules to advanced tournament strategies, depending on the children. Play time is structured to pair each student against an opponent of similar skill. All grades and skill levels are welcome. Register at <https://skenrichment.com/clubs/montgomery/product/st-jude-regional-catholic-school-chess-club-fall-2019.html> or <https://www.stjuderockville.org/>

ROBOTICS CLUB FALL 2019 - Register Now! Grades 1 and up
<https://www.stjuderockville.org/> or at <https://skenrichment.com/clubs/montgomery/product/st-jude-regional-catholic-school-robotics-club-fall-2019.html>

Club meets Tuesdays, 10/8 to 11/26, 3:30 to 4:30 PM

Make LEGO® WeDo 2.0 SpaceBots in this session of Robotics Club! Each week, students build and code a different space-themed robot using LEGO® gears, pulleys, axles, motors and sensors. This is the droid you're looking for!

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 on-site 1K Fun Run \$25 before 10/12, \$30 after 10/12, \$35 onsite

SILENT RETREAT

The Community of Saint Thérèse Third Order Carmelites is sponsoring a silent retreat, a pre-Advent preparation for our Lord's Birthday, on November 15-17, 2019 at the Washington Retreat House. Fr. Terrence Cyr, O. Carm. is the retreat speaker. For further information, please contact Sara Hoffman, T.O.C. at 1-240-460-5095 or email sara@hoffman.org.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT YOUR PRO-LIFE BELIEFS INTO ACTION?

The Gabriel Project assists needy women and women in crisis pregnancies in Montgomery County. Women volunteers (especially bilingual Spanish speaking women) are needed to stay in touch with client mothers. This includes keeping in touch with them via phone or email during their pregnancy, bringing them needed items such as diapers, baby clothes, etc. that are provided by the Gabriel Project, and praying for them. The average time commitment would be approximately 1 - 4 hours per month (or less). Men are also needed to set up cribs or to pick up donations once or twice per month. Daily prayer supporters are also needed. **Donations of boy's size T-5 clothes and crib sheets are urgently needed.** For more information, please call Diane Reinke at 301-946-4815, or e-mail Carmen Rojas at gccthompson@juno.com.