

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

October 28 - November 3

Monday, 10/28	9:00 a.m.	Joan Raffa
Tuesday, 10/29	9:00 a.m.	Lillian Gordon
Wednesday, 10/30	9:00 a.m.	Hugo Huaman
	7:30 p.m.	Guy Beaven
Thursday, 10/31	9:00 a.m.	Deacon John B. Shewmaker
Friday, 11/1	9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
Holy Day	12:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	7:30 p.m.	Jane & Rodger F. Ruiz (L)
Saturday, 11/2	9:00 a.m.	All Souls
	5:00 p.m.	Rolando Sabalbaro
Sunday, 11/3	8:00 a.m.	James & Michael Bates
	9:30 a.m.	Alipui Family (L)
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Deceased Members of the Jane Ruiz Family

Please pray for the sick... Carole Carter, Sid Tracy, Helen Hillstrom, Barbara Latta, Adele Rita Powers, Zenaida Sierda Sarte, William Komlo, 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 Of-*

Readings for the Week of October 27, 2019

Sunday:	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 [7a]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14
Monday:	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Lk 6:12-16
Tuesday:	Rom 8:18-25/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3a]/Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday:	Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6 [6a]/Lk 13:22-30
Thursday:	Rom 8:31b-39/Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31 [26b]/Lk 13:31-35
Friday:	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Saturday:	Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Rom 5:5-11/Jn 6:37-40
Next Sunday:	Wis 11:22—12:2/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14 [cf. 1]/2 Thes 1:11—2:2/Lk 19:1-10

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I was looking forward to the presentation by our former parochial vicar, Fr. Robert Boxie, on racism. Unfortunately, Fr. Boxie was not able to deliver his talk yesterday owing to a conflict that had developed in his schedule. We are hoping to reschedule his talk soon. He had planned to offer some more reflections on a recently issued pastoral letter by our bishops on racism.

Last November the US Bishops issued this pastoral letter against racism entitled *Open Wide Your Hearts*. Racism consists in judging other persons to be inferior owing to race or ethnicity. At the beginning of *Open Wide Your Hearts*, the bishops teach that racist actions arising from feelings of superiority violate justice. It is also a failure to love our neighbor and a denial of the fundamental truth that all persons are “all equally made in the image of God.” Our Bishops draw attention to forms of racism that still plague society in the U.S.A., notably racism toward Native Americans, African Americans, and Hispanics/Latinos.

In the document the Bishops provide a sketch of the history of racism experienced by Native Americans, African Americans, and Hispanics/Latinos. The Bishops show how the “lust to dominate” others led to a systematic theft of the land and the forced resettlement of the Native American population. Not only were African peoples brutally enslaved, they were also consistently barred from social advancement through unjust laws. They were labeled as “inferior” by many in society and to their way of thinking did not fully bear God’s image. Hispanics or Latinos have constantly borne the brunt of “discrimination of housing, employment, health care, and education.”

Our Bishops propose three actions encouraged in the Old Testament Prophet Micah (6:8) as a remedy for this situation: doing justice, loving goodness, and walking humbly with God. “Justice” would require an honest assessment of the reality and the “restoring of relationships.” Love for our neighbor is the key to “loving goodness.” This requires that we “make room for others in our hearts” and that we remember that when one member of the Body of Christ suffers, all suffer. Lastly, rebuilding the relationships broken through racism is how we can “walk humbly with God.” Even the Catholic Church needs to admit its own complicity in “the evil of racism,” in the past and present. The Bishops mention that we can learn from the example of other countries, such as South Africa, Germany, and Rwanda, and from certain institutions that have recognized past wrongs and have come to understand the truth of their history.

We at St. Francis will take up their challenge to understand how we may knowingly or unknowingly contribute to this tragic violation of the plan of God for His children. Both the Archdiocese of Baltimore and the Diocese of Richmond are conducting similar sessions on the topic of racism.

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What can I sacrifice to provide something for others?

ALL SOULS MASS

During the month of November we will remember those who have died. All Souls envelopes will be placed on the altar for the month of November. The envelopes can be found at the doors to the Church. Also, on Monday, November 4, 7:30 p.m. there will be an All Souls Mass for those parishioners who have died within the past year. This Mass is also open to the parish.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2019 OFFERTORY STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming "Responding to God's Call to Love and to Serve" offertory stewardship appeal program at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. This effort is important as we move forward with the mission and vision of our church. We, as a parish family, have changed many lives in the community, and this is only possible through your generous offertory contributions each week. In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do and the role we all play in supporting it.

We look forward to seeing all of our parishioners at Mass, especially during our special Commitment Weekend on November 23/24. If you have any questions regarding the "*Responding to God's Call to Love and to Serve*" offertory stewardship appeal program, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE

Please note that there will be no Daily Mass at St. Francis on Wednesday, November 6 and Thursday, November 7. Fr. John will be attending the Archdiocese of Washington Convocation for Priests. Also, Wednesday Adoration in the St. Clare Chapel is cancelled for Wednesday, November 6.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

We are developing a series of education sessions based on the programs developed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to include expert talks as well as talks by individuals sharing their experiences of racism in their lives. Fr. Boxie's presentation is to be the first in this series.

We are looking for parishioners who have experienced racism due to their race or ethnicity, either overtly or subtly, and are willing to share their experiences in a future session so that we may all learn from their experiences. If you are interested in sharing in a future session, please contact our Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation, Tony Bosnick, at abosnick@sfadw.org.

Until next week,
Fr. John

RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION

The second collection for next weekend, November 2 and 3, is for the Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Washington. Archdiocese of Washington's priests have selflessly served the faithful and the community to continue Christ's mission for decades. Let's join together to help to provide care and housing for our retired priests so they can live in dignity. Please use the envelopes that have been mailed to your homes or the special collection envelopes that will be placed in the pews for next weekend. You can also support the Retired Priests Collection online at www.adw.org/rpc. You can also give through your smart phone by texting "Priest" to 301-231-1816. A text with a link to a secure form will be sent back to you to complete your generous gift for this important collection.

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times

Friday, November 1

9:00 a.m. 12:00 Noon 7:30 p.m.

No First Friday Adoration
on this Holy Day

PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

CHANGE FOR LIFE

Did you bring home a baby bottle from Mass recently to donate to Change for Life in support of the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center? You can fill it with change or dollars, please give what you can. Every little bit counts to help the needy Moms and babies served by the pregnancy center. You can return your bottle to the Social Concerns table in the Gathering Space or the Parish Office. Bottles should be returned by next weekend, November 2/3. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 3
2:00 A.M.**



October 27, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, October 29 in the St. Clare Chapel. For details, please call Pat, (301) 963-9196.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next weekend will go to Gaithersburg Help. *Thank you for your generosity.*

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory, a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 2:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are looking for new, transferring or readmitted members to share in their Charity, Fraternity, Unity and Patriotism activities. Council 2323 supports many St. Francis activities and has many social events. The KofC offers life and long term care insurance opportunities as well as annuities. A new opportunity: join as an Online Member for \$30 per year; go to www.kofc.org and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301-948-6494 or email gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

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.

"THE PRIESTS WE NEED TO SAVE THE CHURCH"

Author Kevin Wells will be speaking at St. Patrick's Church, on Thursday., November 7th (7-8:30pm) In his newly-released book, *The Priests We Need to Save the Church*, former sports writer and local author Kevin Wells lays out a blueprint of priestly heroism reflecting the example of St. John Vianney, *Patron of Parish Priests*, as well as that of other good and holy priests—including his beloved uncle Monsignor Thomas Wells.—who walked a path of self-denial on behalf of their flock. Location: St. Patrick's Parish Center, 4101 Norbeck Rd., Rockville 20853. For Additional information: (301) 924-2285 x315



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.

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! *Please drop off your Theme Basket no later than Thursday, November 7th.*

FLEA MARKET

Starting Monday, November 4th you can start dropping off your *Flea Market & Shabby Chic* items in the Youth Room located in the Rectory. You can drop off your items until 7:00 p.m. each evening. ***THERE WILL BE NO DROP OFFS TAKEN ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH.*** We are looking for household items, toys, pictures, seasonal decorations, CD's, DVD's. **No clothing, shoes, luggage, videotapes or furniture please.** If you have items that you feel belong in Shabby Chic, please indicate so on what you drop off.

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Space starting next weekend, **October 26/27** and the weekend of **November 2/3**. Any amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated!

MILLIE'S BAKE SHOP

We are asking parishioners to sign-up to bake for Millie's Bake Shop. Please stop by the Volunteer Table to sign up to bake starting next weekend **October 26/27** and the weekend of **November 2/3**. If you forget to sign-up just bring a baked goodie the Friday before the Bazaar starts. Store bought goodies are also welcome.



NOVEMBER 2019 LUNCH – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, November 6 at 12:00 Noon at the Barronessa Italian Restaurant, 1302 East Guide Drive, Rockville 20850, 301-838-9050. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



NET RETREAT FOR GRADES 6, 7 & 8 OCTOBER 28

Students in 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Religious Education classes will participate in the NET Retreat on Monday, October 28, from 5:00-8:00 pm in the Parish Center. The NET Retreat takes the place of RE classes on October 28 and 29 for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students (i.e., there are no Tuesday 6:45 RE classes on October 29. These students, and all students who attend the 6:45 Monday classes, are expected to attend the NET Retreat instead.) If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

CATECHIST MEETING: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

There will be a Catechist Meeting for all RE catechists on Sunday, November 3 from 1:00-2:30 pm in Room 6 of the Parish Center. Please join us as we share ideas for enriching our faith formation classes!

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, November 3 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.

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

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Looking for an outstanding education in a Catholic Christian community? Visit our Open House on November 13th from 9-11:30 am to see our outstanding school in action.

SJRCS RE-ENROLLMENT The re-enrollment period is upon us! As of November 1st, you have the opportunity to register for the 2020-2021 school year. School families can enroll now through December 31. On January 1st the admissions window will open for everyone.

Enrollment: [TADS: Online Registration and Enrollment](#)

Tuition Incentive Program: [Receive \\$750 off your tuition bill for every family you refer \(and enrolls\) at SJRCS!](#)

2020-2021 ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS NOW OPEN. ADW has opened the Tuition Assistance Program for the 2020-2021 school year. When you apply for tuition assistance through the ADW you automatically enroll in our tuition aid program. The window will close on December 6th. Please take a moment and apply as soon as possible. You can access the link through the school website. ADW Tuition Assistance: <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/>

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH GROUP

The High School Youth Group meets on selected Sunday nights from 6:15-8 pm, convening in the Gathering Space. 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 more are invited to attend a mini course on the Gospel of Mark, which began last Tuesday. Please see below for the dates for this as well as for the following upcoming events:

- 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- SSL Opportunity
- November 22-24: Fall Retreat - Location to be announced.

Finally, our service to the wider community during Respect Life Month is to collect donations of baby diapers! If you would like to participate, please start shopping. Thank you for your support of the High School Youth Group! I am looking forward to serving you this fall!

May God bless you,

Youth Minister Sarah Seyed-Ali

SHARE YOUR FAITH WITH PEOPLE SEEKING TO BECOME CATHOLIC

Please pray for the nine people inquiring about our Catholic faith through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Over the past five weeks, these nine adults have discussed the Catholic faith with RCIA Coordinator Tony Bosnick and heard from parishioners on topics, such as "Living the Catholic Life," "The Apostle's Creed" and "The Saints." In December, several people in this group will go before the Church during the Rite of Acceptance, during which they will formally commit to entering the Church. During the Rite of Election, which occurs at the beginning of Lent, these individuals will focus on how they can live according to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The RCIA Team continues to need faithful Catholics who want to witness their faith as ministry team members or sponsors. Please contact Tony at abosnick@sfadw.org if you feel called to witness your faith in this manner to other people seeking knowledge about Catholicism.

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
- 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.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO HELP AT PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

St. Francis parishioners, get your chain saws revved up! The annual Christmas Tree Sale is just around the corner and we will need lots of volunteers to ensure a successful sale this year.

Volunteers are needed to help:

- Facilitate customers buying their trees
- Tie trees onto vehicles with twine and transport any purchased items
- Give fresh cuts to trees and lop off any branches buyers don't want (requires previous experience with a chainsaw)
- Keep the tree lot clean of branches and string and perform general trash removal (Children or teens can do)
- Stake trees on the posts after each sale
- Offload trees on delivery day by size and color tag

Please look for sign-up sheets for the Christmas Tree Sale in November. For more information, please contact Ministry Coordina-

YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. You can't believe everything you read and hear about domestic violence. Here are some common "myths" about domestic violence, **which are not true.**

Myth: Domestic violence is only physical abuse.

Physical violence is only part of a larger *pattern* of abuse, which also includes psychological, emotional, sexual and/or economic abuse. Sometimes there is no physical abuse, but the abuser will use the other forms of abuse to exert power and control over a spouse/partner.

Myth: Domestic abuse is just a momentary loss of temper.

Domestic abuse is just the opposite of a "momentary loss of temper." The abuser decides to abuse. It is an *ongoing* technique to enforce control through the use of fear, and it is a part of a *pattern of abuse*.

Violence at home hurts! You are not alone. Now is the time to protect yourself and those who count on you for safety. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline (800) 799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence visit: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace. Parishioners can also call the Parish Office to confidentially speak with Fr. John or one of the deacons at (301) 840-1407.

A REMINDER FROM FR. JOHN ... If anyone is living in a marriage that has not been recognized by the Catholic Church, it would be wise to consult with a priest to see whether that situation might be rectified. It could be as simple as repeating your marriage vows quietly in front of a priest and receiving the Church's blessing. In that way, one would become eligible to receive the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist.

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS

On October 30th, St. Bartholomew Parish, 6900 River Road, Bethesda, will host Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga, a survivor of the Rwandan Genocide and author of "Forgiveness Makes You Free" as he celebrates a Mass with Healing Prayers at 7:00 pm. During the 1994 genocide, Fr. Ubald lost over 80 members of his family and over 45,000 of his parishioners were exterminated. He escaped through the Congo on foot in the middle of the night. When he left Rwanda at that time he made a promise to his Bishop that he would return to bring healing to his people. He is the Author of Forgiveness Makes You, Founder of The Center for the Secret of Peace and a Friend of Immaculee Ilibagiza. You may learn more about Fr. Ubald and his work by visiting www.frubald.com, or by going to his documentary at www.secretofpeace.com. Please come, bring a friend, and tell others to join us for this special Mass of healing. Fr. Ubald also encourages you to come and pray for others who cannot attend. Jesus is not limited to time and

INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING

The 27th International Week of Prayer and Fasting coalition, in collaboration with the Marian Fathers, Legion of Mary, Priests for Life and others are asking for individuals, families, prayer groups and parishes to unite for nine days of prayer and fasting from November 2-10, 2019. The Opening International Day of Prayer will be held on Saturday November 2nd, from 8:30am to 4:30pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The day will include speakers, all-day Eucharistic Adoration, Mass at noon, and the three mysteries of the Rosary. Confirmed speakers include Abby Johnson, former director of Planned Parenthood; Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga, Rwandan healing priest; Fr. Chris Alar, M.I.C., Director of the Association of Marian Helpers and author of the new book, *After Suicide: There's Hope for Them and You*; Kristan Hawkins, President of Students for Life of America. Our main celebrant and homilist is Monsignor Charles Pope, pastor, blogger and author. For more information, please go to www.iwopf.org or call 888-478-PRAY.

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!

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 or text the word ENROLL to 301-804-2584. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.