

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

November 18 - November 24

Monday, 11/18	9:00 a.m.	Louise Francesco
Tuesday, 11/19	9:00 a.m.	Kathleen Hall
Wednesday, 11/20	9:00 a.m.	Reverend Henry Januszkiewicz
	7:30 p.m.	Mildred Sterba
Thursday, 11/21	9:00 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Lloyd Family
Friday, 11/22	9:00 a.m.	Mary Lott (L)
Saturday, 11/23	9:00 a.m.	Cecilia De Jesus
	5:00 p.m.	Gesele Munier
Sunday, 11/24	8:00 a.m.	Grace Hartswick
	9:30 a.m.	Janusz Sieradzinski
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Laura Olsen

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Charles Riley, brother of Betsy Davis.

Please pray for the sick... Lourdes, Almeda, Joseph Polosky, Flordeliza Celebrado, Carole Carter, William Komlo, Margaret Weiss, Joseph Michael Gardner, Tom Breece, Sandra Kimball, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoefter, 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 November 17, 2019

Sunday:	Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 [cf. 9]/ 2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19
Monday:	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 155, 158 [cf. 88]/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday:	2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [6b]/ Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15 [15b]/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday:	1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [23b]/ Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd [13b]/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19 [cf. 16a]/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 [cf. 1]/ Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On Sunday, October 13, 2019, the Holy Father celebrated Mass and presided at the Rite of Canonization of five Blesseds: John Henry Newman (1801-90), Cardinal of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, Founder of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in England; Josephine Vannini (1859-1911), Foundress of the Daughters of Saint Camillus; Mariam Theresia Chiramel Mankidiyan (1876-1926), Foundress of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family; Dulce Lopes Pontes (1914-92), professed religious of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of God; Marguerite Bays (1815-1879), lay woman and Secular Franciscan. I intend to spend the next several weeks presenting a brief biography of each of them so we can get to know these newly canonized saints. The source of the material will be the English weekly edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*. Today let's look at the life of Saints Josephine Vannini and Dulce Lopes Pontes.

Josephine Vannini, foundress of the Congregation of the Daughters of Saint Camillus, was born in Rome on July 7, 1859. She was baptized Giuditta Adeladie Agata the following day in the Church of Sant'Andrea delle Fratte. An orphan by the age of seven, Giuditta found a home with the Daughters of Charity. Attracted by the voice of God, which she experienced on the day of her First Communion, she desired to consecrate her life to him, but was unable to enter the convent owing to poor health.

A providential meeting with Camillian Father Luigi Tezza (now Blessed) opened the way for Giuditta to abandon herself completely to the Lord. On December 17, 1891, she confided to her retreat master her distress at her vocational failure. Father Tezza suggested that she establish a religious institute dedicated to the service of the sick. After two days of prayer, Giuditta agreed, adding that she was capable of nothing but wanting to abandon herself with filial confidence to Divine Providence.

On February 2, 1892, in the chapel and chambers where Saint Camillus had died, the congregation of the Daughters of Saint Camillus was born. Giuditta received the name Sister Josephine and three years later, on December 8, 1895, she professed her perpetual vows and was elected Superior General of the new institute.

Mother Josephine Vannini died in Rome on February 23, 1911, and was proclaimed Blessed by Saint Paul II on October 16, 1994. The holy life of Saint Josephine teaches us, even now, through the institute that she founded, to bear witness in a simple and concrete way to the Lord's love and compassion for the poor, the sick, and the suffering, in the certitude that "as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

Maria Rita Lopes Pontes was born on May 26, 1914 in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, to a well-off family with strong Christian convictions and dedicated to charitable works. From childhood she was known for her great sensitivity for the poor and the needy.

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

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do I continue to meet my responsibilities even during difficult times? How can I bring myself to hope for healing justice in the midst of terrible events?

COMMITMENT WEEKEND IS NOVEMBER 23 & 24

This week, you will receive a brochure detailing the “Responding to God’s Call to Love and to Serve” Increased Offertory Program our parish will be participating in over the next few weeks. This informative brochure is intended to communicate how we, as a parish, want to advance our mission and how we are serving God’s people in our community. Commitment Sunday for this program is Saturday, November 23, and Sunday, November 24. We encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on how you are able to help us. We look forward to seeing all of our parishioners at Mass next weekend for this very important Commitment Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the Increased Offertory Program, please feel free to contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Maria Rita Lopes Pontes (continued) After completing her studies, she embraced religious life with the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of God. Upon receiving the religious habit of the institute she was given the name Sister Dulce (in memory of her mother who had died when she was six years old). She worked at times as a teacher and at other times as a nurse, depending upon the assignment that she was given by her Superiors. Inspired by a deep missionary vocation, Sister Dulce was dedicated to teaching manual laborers but above all to assisting and caring for the suffering and those who were most in need.

Sister Dulce solidified her charitable works by founding a social work cooperative and with the construction of a welcome center, “Albergue Santo Antônio.” Her charity was tender and maternal. Her devotion to the poor was rooted in the supernatural, and she drew energy and resources from on High in order to carry out her service to the least.

In the final months of her life, she was afflicted by illness, which she confronted with calm and complete abandonment into the arms of the Lord. On March 13, 1992, Sister Dulce passed away in São Salvador de Bahia, well known for her holiness. On April 3, 2009 Pope Benedict XVI recognized her heroic virtue and her Beatification was celebrated on May 22, 2011.

Until next week,

Fr. John

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE ON NOVEMBER 24 RECOGNIZES OUR COMMONALITIES AS CHRISTIANS

On Sunday, November 24, St. Francis of Assisi Parish will be hosting the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service to be held at 7 pm in the church. This gathering brings together our neighboring faith communities – Redland Baptist Church, St. Luke Lutheran Church, and Mill Creek Parish United Methodist Church – to recognize our commonalities as Christians and give communal thanks for our blessings. Please come help represent St. Francis of Assisi Parish and welcome our fellow Christians in the Derwood community!

The service will include an appeal for donations to benefit the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center and will be followed by a reception in the Gathering Space. For more information about the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

COME JOIN US FOR A VIDEO ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW!

Are there any lovers of the Gospel of Matthew out there? On Saturday, November 23, all parishioners – but especially those who are participating in the Gospel of Matthew Small Groups – are invited to watch a video on this book of scripture following the 5 pm Vigil Mass in the Gathering Space. The video will help enhance the understanding of this Gospel narrative, as well as deepen the discussions Small Groups have been having on this book since mid-October. Come join us for light refreshments, fellowship and the video! For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

SPIRIT TREE INVITES PARISHIONERS TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER TO AN ADULT OR CHILD IN NEED

Beginning this weekend, we kick off one of St. Francis’ most beloved Christmas traditions – the Spirit Tree is now up! In a partnership with the Assumption Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Washington DC, the Spirit Tree enables St. Francis parishioners and their families to purchase Christmas gifts for families in need. Starting November 16/17, parishioners are invited to choose a name off the Spirit Tree, purchase a gift for the adult or child listed, wrap it, affix the sticker on the gift and return it to the Gathering Space no later than Sunday, December 8. Thanks for participating in this special Christmas tradition at St. Francis.

November 17, 2019

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Lamb of God Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday, November 19 at 7:30 p.m. 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).

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.

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.

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.

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!

COME SIGN-UP TO WORK OUR CHRISTMAS TREE SALE LOT & DECORATE CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Sign-ups for our annual Christmas Tree Sale and Christmas wreath decoration continue through next weekend in the Gathering Space! Come help staff this seasonal fundraiser by offloading and staking trees; sawing off tree trunks and lopping off branches; and helping clean up the Christmas tree lot. Many hands are needed for a successful Tree Sale. Teens are also welcome to work for Student Service Learning hours. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brian-pettit@pettitcompanies.com.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION IN 2019

This year, the Second Sunday of Advent falls on December 8, 2019. Because the Second Sunday of Advent takes precedence over the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Solemnity is transferred to Monday, December 9. Because of this, the Solemnity is NOT a holy day of obligation this year.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



CHRISTMAS STOCKING HELP LINE

Religious Education families are invited to participate in the *Christmas Stocking Help Line*, an Advent project to benefit children and families served by Catholic Charities here in Montgomery County. Items needed will be listed on “stockings” hung in the Parish Center during RE class times beginning November 17. Families may choose to take one or more stockings, purchase the items listed, and return them to RE classes by December 15. Letters with more information about this project will be given to students in RE 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 will meet on Sunday, November 24 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

RE CLASS SCHEDULE & THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

There are no Religious Education classes on Monday, November 25, Tuesday, November 26, and Sunday, December 1. (Please note that classes will meet on Sunday, November 24, and Monday and Tuesday, December 2 and 3.)

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SESSION: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Confirmation candidates will meet next Monday, November 25, for Confirmation class from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

CATECHISTS AND AIDES NEEDED

Additional volunteers are needed for our Monday afternoon Elementary program and for our Sunday Special Needs Catechesis class. Please consider whether you can serve as a catechist or classroom aide for our children and young people. To learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

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.

RETREAT FOR ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI TEENS KICKS OFF NOVEMBER 22

Dear Teens and Parents,

Our Fall Retreat is coming up this weekend, November 22-24 at The Claggett Center, Adamstown, MD. This year, the retreat will be in partnership with St. John Neuman and St. Peter's Catholic Churches and the theme is on hearing God's voice. If you would like to attend, parents, please send an e-mail to sfayouth@sfadw.org. We will be departing from the parking lot of St. Peter's Catholic Church at 6 pm Friday, November 22 and will be returning at 3 pm Sunday, November 24.

*May God bless you,
Youth Minister Sarah Seyed-Ali*

P.S. This retreat is for any high school student that wants to get away to enjoy a weekend with other teens. If your teen wants to bring a friend from school, they may do so! We will have a time for common meals, Sunday Mass, outdoor activities, Eucharistic Adoration, talks, Confession and more.

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

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

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. The window will close on December 6th. Please take a moment and apply as soon as possible. You can access the link through the SJRCS website or ADW Tuition Assistance: <https://adwcatholicsschools.org/tuition-assistance/>.

BACTERIA! ELECTRICITY! CHEMICAL REACTIONS!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR Our 6th through 8th grade students will participate in the Middle School Science Fair. The Science Fair projects demonstrate their skills in observation, experimental design and analysis. Please join us to celebrate the achievements of our students. Science Fair Family Night is November 21st from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Thaddeus Room. Hope to see you there!

COME SUPPORT OUR GIRLS ON THE RUN IN

THEIR FALL 5K November 24th, 2019
8:00am (arrival time) / 9:00am (5k start time)
Westfield Montgomery (Sears parking lot)

GAITHERSBURG MEALS ON WHEELS

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED:

Gaithersburg Meals On Wheels has an urgent need for drivers to deliver hot and cold meals at lunchtime to the elderly and shut-ins in the Gaithersburg area. Meals are prepared at Asbury Methodist Village, 333 Russell Ave., and picked up by drivers between 10:30 and 11:15 a.m. Monday-Friday. Containers are provided for carrying the meals, and delivery takes about one hour, with eight to 12 clients on each route. Volunteers are asked to drive either once a week, or once every other week. Children are welcome to accompany parents. Training is provided. Please call 301-216-4200, or contact Lisa Koenig at either 301-869-0190 or lisamkoenig1@gmail.com.

HELP THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS AT SOME'S 18TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY TROT FOR HUNGER

SOME (So Others Might Eat) invites you to join us Thursday, November 28 for our 18th Annual Thanksgiving Day Trot for Hunger. As the only Turkey Trot in the District, this is a tradition for thousands of area residents and a meaningful way to remember people in need on Thanksgiving Day. Proceeds from the 5K benefit thousands of homeless families and single adults experiencing poverty, hunger and homelessness. The One Mile Little Turkey Fun Run begins at 8:30am; the *timed* 5K Run begins at 9:00am; and the 5K *untimed* Run/Walk begins at 9:15am at Freedom Plaza (corner of 13th Street, NW and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW). Please visit www.some.org to register and learn more, or contact our Trot for Hunger office at trotforhunger@some.org 202-753-4960 for additional information. Thank you for your support of our community's most vulnerable men, women and children.

RESPECT LIFE TALKS AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18 (7-9 PM)

Come hear two powerful testimonies about the secrets of the abortion industry and its impact on racial minorities. **Joyce Tabb**, Regional Director of *Silent No More* opens up about her own abortion, path to healing, and work with other women devastated about their abortions. **Dr. Natasha Wilson**, Archdiocese of Baltimore Office of Respect Life, shares her journey from pro-choice to pro-life and why it makes a difference. Location: St. Patrick's Parish Center, 4101 Norbeck Rd., Rockville 20853. For additional information: (301) 924-2285 x315.

ST. BART'S CHURCH CHOIR CONCERT

St. Bart's Choir Concert to benefit Little Sisters of the Poor on Saturday, December 7, @ 7:30 p.m. Come hear the Saint- Saëns Christmas Oratorio and selections from the Vivaldi Gloria presented by choir with soloists Jeanne Hisle, Julia Constable-Allen, Margaret Black, Carol Rollie Flynn, Joanna Delaney, Vin Kelly, John Martino & Daniel Villar, plus strings, harp, oboe, organ and trumpet! The concert is free but an offering will be taken to benefit Little Sisters of the Poor. It's beautiful music for a great cause! Don't miss it. St. Bartholomew Church is located at 6900 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

MORNING RETREAT

The Annual Morning Retreat of the DC chapter of the Catholic Medical Association (Giuseppe Moscati Guild) will be held on Saturday, November 23rd at Our Lady of Lourdes, 7500 Pearl St, Bethesda, MD 20814. Start the day at 8:00 AM with Mass in the Church, or join us in the School Library at 8:30 AM for breakfast, fellowship, and a presentation by Dr. G. Kevin Donovan, Director of the Center for Clinical Bioethics and Professor of Pediatrics at Georgetown University. The retreat will conclude with a rosary in the Grotto at 11 AM. We welcome physicians, medical students, residents, as well as nurses, pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals. Please RSVP by emailing Dr Philip Sheridan. dc.cma.guild@gmail.com.

THE ART OF PRAYER

Taking place on Sunday evenings from 6-7 pm at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC (3900 Harewood Rd., NE), *The Art of Prayer* includes a presentation on interior prayer, time for silent meditation, and a sung Sunday Vespers service. For more information, visit jp2shrine.org or email pastoral.programs@jp2shrine.org.

NATIONAL TELEPHONE ROSARY

A National Telephone Rosary in recognition of Fatima is held on the 13th of each month at 8pm by the National Council of Catholic Women. Call 515-739-1261 and insert code 703993#. Questions? Contact Province Director Cindy Perry at cindy.perry@hotmail.com.

GIVE THE GIFT OF SERVICE

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer.

RENTING IN MARYLAND? YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A STATE TAX CREDIT

The state of Maryland has a program that helps low-income renters struggling with rising rent payments, particularly those who are over 60 years old, permanently disabled, or have a dependent under age 18. To learn if you qualify for up to \$1,000 in financial assistance, contact the Housing Partnership Initiative (hiphomes.org) at 301-916-5946 or ccastro@hiphomes.org. Or visit MarylandTaxCredit.com.

YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior by one adult over another in an intimate relationship. It can consist of repeated severe beatings or subtle forms of abuse, including threats and control. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence, please visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace.