

# Mass Intentions

## January 6 - January 12

<b>Monday, 1/6</b>	9:00 a.m.	Thomas J. & Agnes B. McCann
<b>Tuesday, 1/7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Felix Hmung
<b>Wednesday, 1/8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Joe Bernardo
	7:30 p.m.	Deacon John B. Shewmaker
<b>Thursday, 1/9</b>	9:00 a.m.	Rosemary Dosch
<b>Friday, 1/10</b>	9:00 a.m.	Antonio Pantoja
<b>Saturday, 1/11</b>	9:00 a.m.	Edward Miller
	5:00 p.m.	Joan Raffa
<b>Sunday, 1/12</b>	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Rosemary Rippel
	11:15 a.m.	Barbara Cox
	5:00 p.m.	Bob Krul

### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Gemma Efres.

*Please pray for the sick...* Alli Campagna, Marge Locke, Maria M. Faria Meade, Bob Jones, 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 Office.)

### Readings for the Week of January 5, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
<b>Monday:</b>	1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/ Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/ Mk 6:34-44
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Mk 6:45-52
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/ Lk 5:12-16
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/ Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17



People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered; Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway. If you are successful you will win some false friends and true enemies; Succeed anyway. If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway. What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway. If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; Be happy anyway. The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway. Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got anyway. You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; It was never between you and them anyway

.....Saint Teresa of Kolkata

**Fr. John was away at the time of this bulletin.**

## **The Epiphany of the Lord**

### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

*Has an encounter with the Lord led me in a new way?*

### **LAST WEEKEND TO RETURN COMMITMENT CARD FOR THE OFFERTORY STEWARDSHIP APPEAL PROGRAM**

This is the last weekend to submit your Commitment Card for the Offertory Stewardship Appeal program, "Responding to God's Call to Love and to Serve." So far, just over one-fifth of our total registered parishioners have responded to establish or renew their offertory commitment to our church. Even if you cannot offer or alter your offertory commitment in the coming year, please return your Commitment Card so your response can be reflected in our annual Summary Report; extra Commitment Cards can be found at the Information Desk in the Gathering Space and can be dropped in the offertory baskets. Let's aim for a 100 percent return rate! Make your giving easy by signing up for our online giving service, Faith Direct, at [www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org) and clicking on 'Give' and 'Online Giving.' For those registered parishioners not currently supporting the church with regular offertory gifts, please consider a monthly gift to support the needs of our parish. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407. Thank you!

### **COME SUPPORT RCIA CANDIDATE MARK CRIMANS,**

#### **JANUARY 5, AS HE ENTERS THE CHURCH**

On Sunday, January 5, St. Francis of Assisi Parish will formally welcome RCIA candidate Mark Crimans into the church, as he receives the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation at the 11:15 am Mass. Please join us in supporting Mark and his family, as he makes this important step in his Catholic faith journey. For more information, please contact RCIA Coordinator Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### **ARCHBISHOP GREGORY TO CELEBRATE MASS AT ST. FRANCIS ON FEBRUARY 23, 2020**

Have you gotten a chance to meet Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory? On Sunday, February 23, Washington's new Archbishop will celebrate the 11:15 am Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Please mark your calendar for this special event and plan to join us to celebrate Mass with Archbishop Gregory. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

### **MOVING/CHANGE OF ADDRESS, E-MAIL OR PHONE NUMBER**

Please notify our Parish Office, 301-840-1407, of any changes in address, e-mail or phone numbers. Please help us to keep our parishioner database up to date. Thank you!

### **JOIN US THIS WEEKEND AT THE MASS FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN!**

All St. Francis parishioners – but especially those individuals with physical, intellectual or developmental differences, their family members and friends -- are invited to join us at the Mass for All God's Children at 5 pm Sunday, January 5, in the church. In its eighth year, the Mass for All God's children celebrates the contributions of each one of us. The Mass will be interpreted in American Sign Language and most lay roles, including lectors, ushers, altar servers and gift bearers, will be filled by people with physical, intellectual and developmental differences. Please join us for a reception in the Gathering Space immediately following the Mass. For more information, please contact Special Needs Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones at [decaffqueen@gmail.com](mailto:decaffqueen@gmail.com).

### **SUPPORT THE HAITI MEDICAL MISSION BY ATTENDING BENEFIT CONCERT**

Are you looking to have a swinging time during the mid-winter doldrums of January? Join us at the Haiti Benefit Concert at 7:30 pm Saturday, January 18, in the church for a performance by the Olney Big Band. This traditional jazz big band specializes in classic swing, jazz and dance music from the Big Band Era of the 30s and 40s and arrangements from the 50s to present day. Bring your whole family and introduce an upbeat genre of music to your children and grandchildren. The concert is free, but any donations will benefit the Haiti Medical Mission in St. Francis of Assisi's sister parish in Léon, Haiti. Please plan to stay for a post-concert reception, featuring light hors d'oeuvres and desserts, in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Director of Music Ministry Janet Pate at [sfadwmusic@gmail.com](mailto:sfadwmusic@gmail.com).



### **PLEASE SAVE YOUR COATS FOR THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES COAT DRIVE**

If you received a new coat this past Christmas, then please save your old one for the annual Catholic Charities Coat Drive on January 18 and 19 in the Gathering Space. We will be collecting new and gently used coats, scarves, hats, mittens and gloves for the archdiocesan coat drive. Volunteers are also needed to help sort the coats and outerwear the week of January 19. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

**January 5, 2020**

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, January 7, 7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory. For details, please call Pat 301) 963-9196.

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

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

### **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

### **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).

### **SAVE THE DATE**



### **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DANCE**

St. Francis volunteers, save the date for the Volunteer Appreciation Dance to be held Saturday, February 1, in the Parish Center. For more information, please contact Special Events Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones at [decaffqueen@gmail.com](mailto:decaffqueen@gmail.com).

### **MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE PREVIEW ON ISSUES OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS**

In advance of the Maryland General Assembly legislative session opening on Wednesday, January 8, the Maryland Catholic Conference has forecast that bills on the following issues of Catholic social justice will be introduced during the 441<sup>st</sup> General Assembly session:

- Legalizing physician-assisted suicide
- Proposing a constitutional amendment on abortion to allow abortions to occur anytime between conception to the date a child is born
- Securing funding for the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) scholarship program, which allows low-income students to attend Catholic and other non-public schools
- Protecting immigrant communities, so that productive relationships are built between immigrants and local law enforcement officials

For more information, please read the Maryland Catholic Conference's 2020 legislative session preview at <https://www.mdccatholic.org/2020sessionpreview> or e-mail Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### **TRIENNIAL NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA**

This week our parish will take a collection to benefit the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, a triennial collection approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to this special collection to support active-duty military men and women, and their families - including those from our own parish.

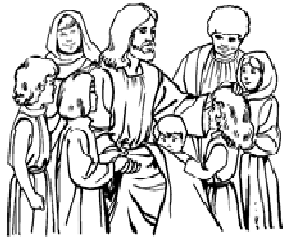
### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY CONVOCATION ON ENGAGEMENT ACROSS GENERATIONS**

Please join us for an intergenerational convocation at the Montgomery County Executive Office Building Auditorium, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 from 8:15 am - 1:00 pm. All parishioners are invited as the Justice and Advocacy Commission and Catholic Charities welcome you to a discussion of how we can better address the needs of all members of the county, particularly through our parishes, schools, and senior living facilities to inform parishes about the benefits of engagement across generations. For more information or to RSVP, contact [leah@empoweringtheages.org](mailto:leah@empoweringtheages.org) or call (301) 476-0186.

### **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](http://catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



### RE CLASS SCHEDULE

Religious Education classes resume this week:  
January 5, 6 and 7.

### CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our parish offers monthly catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our next session will be on Sunday, January 12 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.

### 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.

### SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY

If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed, and if schools are dismissed early, Religious Education classes, including FRED, are also cancelled. This applies to Sunday classes as well if Montgomery County Public Schools announces cancellation of weekend school activities. Cancellation announcements will be recorded on the Religious Education Office phone (301-258-9193) and posted on the St. Francis Parish website and Facebook page ("St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church"). Whenever in doubt, please use your own judgment about local weather and driving conditions, and err on the side of safety when making decisions about bringing your child to class.

### 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](mailto:lkcarrier196@gmail.com).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### HIGH SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH, JOIN THE MARCH FOR LIFE ON JANUARY 24!

All high school-aged youth are invited to attend the National March for Life to be held from 12:00 Noon to 4 pm Friday, January 24, in Washington DC with the St. Francis of Assisi Youth Group. The theme for this year's rally is "Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman." For more information, please contact St. Francis Youth Minister Sarah Seyed-Ali at [sfavouth@sfadw.org](mailto:sfavouth@sfadw.org).

- Sunday, January 05, 2020 Youth Group Meeting 6:15-8PM (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Monday, January 06, 2020 Faith in Action 4:30-6:30PM (Meet in the Gathering Space)
- Monday, January 06, 2020 Faith & Finances for Teens 4:30-6:30PM (Meet in the Gathering Space)

*Happy New Year!*

*God bless you,  
Sarah Seyed-Ali*

### 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.

### FAITH FOUNDATIONS SACRED SCRIPTURE

St. Rose of Lima, 11701 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg

Thursday Evenings

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

January 9, 16, 23, 30 & February 6, 13

Registration Required

[www.strose-parish.org/adult-faith-formation](http://www.strose-parish.org/adult-faith-formation)

General Cost - \$29 )\$20 for Catechists)

Checks collected at the first class.

Instructor: Edward Kent

Questions: Susan Joseph [SJoseph@StRose.com](mailto:SJoseph@StRose.com)

Christine Jeffrey [CJeffrey@StRose.com](mailto:CJeffrey@StRose.com)

All are invited to explore the Sacred Scriptures to deepen our relationship with God in His revealed Word.



**Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School**  
*We are...St. Jude*  
[www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org)

**ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION**

Join us January 31, 2020 as we celebrate the rich culture and worldwide traditions that make St. Jude such a special place. We need you to help make this event a success! We are asking volunteers to set up booths that represent the country you come from with food and items from that country. Contact Ms. Balog at [Katharine.Balog@StJudeRockville.org](mailto:Katharine.Balog@StJudeRockville.org) to help.

**PLEASE JOIN US MARCH 21, 2020 AT 6:00 PM**

All proceeds support our goal for an  
**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY LAB**

*Silent Auction \* Raffles \* Live Auction  
Buffet Dinner \* Online and Mobile Bidding \* Dancing  
Featuring Live Band: DOCTORS ORDERS*

Casual Dress

(Come wearing your favorite denim and diamonds!)

**Buy Your Jeep Renegade Raffle Ticket online TODAY!**

**\$50 per ticket and only 500 tickets will be sold**

[https://sosj.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/DenimandDiamonds/  
tabid/1098759/Default.aspx](https://sosj.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/DenimandDiamonds/tabid/1098759/Default.aspx)

**CHESS CLUB Winter 2020**

**Register Now! Grades K and up**

Club meets Mondays, 1/13 to 3/16, 3:15 to 4:15 PM

Club does not meet on 1/20 and 2/17.

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. Silver Knights will supply all the equipment during chess club. Students will have the opportunity to play in tournaments. \$116 (financial aid available) Register at <https://skenrichment.com/clubs/montgomery/product/st-jude-regional-catholic-school-chess-club-winter-2020.html> or <https://www.stjuderockville.org/>

**ROBOTICS CLUB Winter 2020**

**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-winter-2020.html](https://skenrichment.com/clubs/montgomery/product/st-jude-regional-catholic-school-robotics-club-winter-2020.html)

\$176 (financial aid available)

Club meets Tuesdays, 1/14 to 3/3, 3:15 to 4:15 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!

**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](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace).

**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!

**PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE MEN/WOMEN**

Please continue to pray for all those parishioners, family members and friends who are serving in the military services in Iraq, Afghanistan and other dangerous areas. We have a prayer list posted in the Gathering Space for those who are serving in these areas. Please help us to keep it current by letting us know of any parishioner who is currently deployed so we can add them, and also those who have returned so that we can remove their names. Please continue to keep all of our military personnel in your prayers.

**MOTHER TERESA VOCATION SOCIETY  
ANNUAL DAY OF RECOLLECTION**

- Saturday, January 18, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Annunciation Catholic Church (3810 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.).
- Rev. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, will lead a Day of Reflection and Susan Conroy will be the keynote speaker. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confessions, a reflection by Fr. Ivany, and presentation by Susan Conroy. Lunch will be served and donations are welcome. It is not required to be an MTVS member to attend this event!
- For more information, please visit [www.dcpriest.org](http://www.dcpriest.org), or contact Maris Moriarty at [moriartym@adw.org](mailto:moriartym@adw.org) or 202-636-9020.

**4 STAGES OF MARRIAGE**

The 4 stages of marriage are: (1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening. Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment or Misery please contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i). Our next weekend is 24-26 January 2020. All calls and inquiries are confidential. To register or obtain more information visit our website at: [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org), call (443) 400-7017, or email: [3015@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3015@retrouvaille.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? Please contact Province Director Cindy Perry at [cindy.perry@hotmail.com](mailto:cindy.perry@hotmail.com).