

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

### February 3 - February 9

<b>Monday, 2/3</b>	9:00 a.m.	Helen Mooney
<b>Tuesday, 2/4</b>	9:00 a.m.	Robert Goldstein
<b>Wednesday, 2/5</b>	9:00 a.m.	Les & Pat Capetta
	7:30 p.m.	Felicidad DeJesus Santos
<b>Thursday, 2/6</b>	9:00 a.m.	Donna Marchick
<b>Friday, 2/7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
	7:30 p.m.	Roderick O'Connor
<b>Saturday, 2/8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Diane Kipp Huston
	5:00 p.m.	James Galvin
<b>Sunday, 2/9</b>	8:00 a.m.	Dolly, Edward & Mida de Freitas
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Samuel Wooters
	5:00 p.m.	Wilma Diamola

### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Elvie Cabling, Deacon John A. Briscoe, Archdiocese of Washington.

**Please pray for the sick...** Tony Chite, Gus Tseronis, Brenda Dunphy, Frank Knorr, Tyler Joseph Grondalski, Christine Grondalski, Diane Comly, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, 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 February 2, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb 2:14-18/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
<b>Monday:</b>	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Mk 5:1-20
<b>Tuesday:</b>	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1- 2, 3-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 5:21-43
<b>Wednesday:</b>	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [cf. 5c]/ Mk 6:1-6
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd [12b]/Mk 6:7-13
<b>Friday:</b>	Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51 [cf. 47b]/ Mk 6:14-29
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 [12b]/ Mk 6:30-34
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 2:1- 5/Mt 5:13-16

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I have been both disturbed and saddened by the rise of anti-Semitic incidents in our country. I was appalled to read about a machete attack at a rabbi's house during Hanukkah celebrations. While I was visiting family in Las Vegas, I read the statement issued by Archbishop Gregory on December 30, 2019, on the "barbaric resurgence" of anti-Semitism. Here is the Archbishop's statement in case you missed it when it first appeared in print:

The rise of anti-Semitic incidents in our nation, including the recent horrifying attack in Monsey, New York, against Jews who were celebrating Hanukkah, is deeply disturbing. This hateful action and others like it have created tremendous fear among our Jewish brothers and sisters. I pray for the swift recovery of the victims and all affected by this terrible tragedy.

The Catholic Church has condemned anti-Semitism and any form of discrimination or hatred against Jews in the strongest possible terms, and we continue to do so today. Along with the Catholics of the Archdiocese of Washington, I stand in support of and solidarity with all members of the Jewish community in these difficult moments. We must work together with all people of good will to eradicate all attitudes of hatred and bigotry that lead to such actions, and seek to build bridges of trust, mutual respect, and dialogue among members of all faith communities.

I invite Catholics of the archdiocese to accompany and support our Jewish neighbors in these tragic times. In walking together, we can give an effective witness against anti-Semitism and work to protect the rights of every religious tradition to practice their beliefs openly and without fear.

On January 20, 2020, Pope Francis addressed a delegation from the Simon Wiesenthal Center in the Vatican. Established in 1977 by Rabbi Marvin Hier, the center is a global human rights organization researching the Holocaust and hate in a historic and contemporary context. Pope Francis told them "I will never grow tired of condemning every form of anti-Semitism." The Holy Father also told them that he believed this resurgence of anti-Semitism needs to be viewed in the wider "troubling" context where "in many parts of the world, an increase in selfishness and indifference, lack of concern for others and the attitude that says life is good as long as it is good for me, and when things go wrong, anger and malice are unleashed."

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

## The Presentation of the Lord

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Whom do I ignore without even considering that they may be speaking the truth? How can I be more open and attentive to other people's voices?

### THE LUNCH BUNCH IS BACK!



**FEBRUARY 2020 LUNCH** – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, February 5 at 12:00 Noon at Outta the Way Café, 17503 Redland Road, 301-963-6895. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

All are welcome! Join the Ministry of Eucharistic Adoration and assist with adoration in the following manner:

- *Become a regular attendee at adoration in the Parish.*
- *Pray that Eucharistic Adoration will increase.*
- *Foster Eucharistic Adoration in our parish by evangelizing His Eucharistic Presence.*
- *Deepen your personal relationship with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

**First Friday Adoration (February 7) will begin in the Church following the 7:30 p.m. Mass until 9:00 p.m.**

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Pope Francis noted that the Simon Wiesenthal Center “seeks to combat all forms of anti-Semitism, racism, and hatred toward minorities” and for a number of decades now has had contacts with the Holy See in a shared desire “to make the world a better place in respect for human dignity, which is due to every person in equal measure, regardless of his or her ethnic origin, religion, or social status,” adding that “it is essential to teach tolerance, mutual understanding and freedom of religion and the promotion of peace within society.”

Pope Francis also drew attention to the fact that January 27, 2020, will be the seventy-fifth anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau. The Holy Father recalled that he went to that infamous site in 2016 “to reflect and pray in silence.” He concluded his talk with these remarks, “Let us, too, remember that the past and have compassion on those who suffer and in this way till the soil of fraternity.” He ended with a prayer: “May the Almighty help us to respect one another and to love one another more and to make the earth a better place by sowing seeds of peace. Shalom!”

Until next week,

**Fr. John**

### LENTEN SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Live Lent! Lenten Small Groups**

*Meet weekly on different days for approximately 90 minutes to two hours.* These Small Groups will gather in members' homes or at church to reflect on the Sunday readings each week during Lent. Guided by the *Live Lent!* study guide, published by RE-NEW International, the Small Groups will engage in prayer, reflection, meditation and discussion to understand the deeper meanings of the Gospel readings. The study guides also contain daily meditations that participants can reflect on each day throughout the Lenten season. Sign up for a Small Group in the Gathering Space or contact Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

#### **Lenten Devotional Small Group**

*Meet from 8:15-8:45 am Saturdays, February 29 through April 4, in the Gathering Space.* This Small Group will be provided with the daily devotional, *Practicing Courage with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*, and will come together weekly for prayer, sharing and fellowship. Additional copies of the devotional can be downloaded as a free PDF file in English and Spanish at [livingcompass.org/lent](http://livingcompass.org/lent). For more information, contact Health Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz at [bbaklarz@yahoo.com](mailto:bbaklarz@yahoo.com).

#### **Theology of the Body for Young Adults**

Young adults, are you interested in taking part in a mind-opening weekly discussion centered on St. John Paul II's teachings on human love? If so, then join members of 270Catholic, as they gather for a weekly Small Group on Theology of the Body, based on author Christopher West's "Gift Series." The Small Group discussion will kick off at 7 pm Tuesday, February 4, at St. John the Evangelist Historic Church and Our Lady Queen of Poland Parish, 9700 Rosensteel Ave., Silver Spring, MD. Follow 270Catholic on Facebook and Instagram or find more information at [@270Catholic](https://www.instagram.com/270Catholic).

### BEWARE OF PHONE AND E-MAIL SCAMS

The St. Francis of Assisi Parish staff would like to inform all parishioners of the marked increase in e-mail and phone scams directed at people living in the United States. In general, any e-mail or phone call not initiated by you and requesting money, gift cards, currency of any kind, or personal information should immediately be considered suspect and is most likely a scam. Always independently verify e-mail and phone calls from persons or institutions requesting suspect information and never give out personal information via e-mail or over the phone. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, February 4, 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, (240) 751-7259 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 Palmer (301-948-6494 or email [gtdbpalmer@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:wagarcia@comcast.net) or Lourdes Garcia at [legarcia@comcast.net](mailto:legarcia@comcast.net).

### REBUILDING TOGETHER COORDINATOR NEEDED

Are you organized, adept at fixing things and passionate about serving others? If so, then please pray over serving as our parish's Rebuilding Together coordinator, who organizes volunteers to help repair and provide light renovations of a home owned by persons of need in Montgomery County. Parishioners Mike Rogewitz and John Vilgos have given years of service as coordinator but can no longer serve in that capacity. Can you? The actual RT day is April 25, and the coordinator must be onsite for that. But there is also pre-planning and organization that occurs as the day approaches. The qualified coordinator would have engineering and/or building knowledge, patience and can go with the flow. Rebuilding Together provides training. If we are unable to identify a volunteer coordinator, then St. Francis will have to forgo the offsite home project but will coordinate a workday on the parish grounds. For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL DISCUSSES POSSIBILITY OF MASS IN SPANISH

At the Parish Pastoral Council meeting on January 16, Fr. John Dillon expressed his desire to appoint an ad-hoc committee to study the issue of whether St. Francis of Assisi Parish should establish a Mass in Spanish or in other languages. Among those factors to be weighed are how many people would attend Mass celebrated in another language and whether a need exists. In other business, the council also:

- Heard a Social Concerns Ministry report, announcing that the talk by Fr. Robert Boxie III is in the process of getting rescheduled and that Susan Timoney has agreed to lead the Ministry Leadership Retreat this spring but is confirming the date.
- Heard Fr. John's decision to mark the parish's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the 2022 calendar year.
- Learned Fr. William Brailsford moved into the St. Francis of Assisi Rectory on January 13 and would like to eventually help celebrate Mass.
- Learned Msgr. Robert Amey will make his Triennial visit to St. Francis of Assisi Parish on January 30. He will visit with parish staff, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Finance Council and Fr. John.

To read past minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council meetings, please see <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>. For ask any questions about the Parish Pastoral Council, please e-mail [asktheppc@gmail.com](mailto:asktheppc@gmail.com).

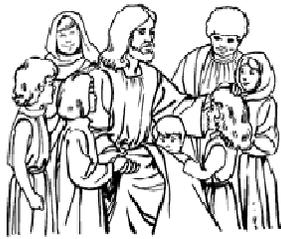
### HEAR THE VOCAL STYLINGS OF GRETCHEN HARRIS AT HOOPS FOR HAITI

Have you ever wanted to attend the Hoops for Haiti basketball fundraiser, but never gotten the chance to go? Make 2020 your year, as award-winning Catholic singer Gretchen Harris performs just before the St. Francis Ol' Saints (adults) and the St. Francis Swole Saint (teenagers and young adults) take the court for the main basketball event March 14 at the Our Lady of Good Counsel High School Gymnasium. Gretchen Harris is a Catholic singer and songwriter, having released seven CDs featuring contemporary Christian music, Christmas songs and well-known Mass hymns. She was named United Catholic Music and Video Association's 'Female Vocalist of the Year' and can be heard on Christian radio stations in the United States and around the world. Come experience Gretchen's performance, which will take place at 5:15 pm between the 3-on-3 basketball tournament and the main event at 7 pm. Tickets to Hoops for Haiti will be sold after all Masses on February 8 and 9. For more information, contact Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile at [dancardile@yahoo.com](mailto:dancardile@yahoo.com) or parishioner Wendel Hall at [wendel@halllawoffice.net](mailto:wendel@halllawoffice.net).



**OLD PALMS** – We will begin collecting old palms next weekend through Sunday, February 23. Please place your palms in the Palm Collection Box in the Gathering Space.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



### FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: there will be a First Eucharist Parent Meeting this Wednesday, February 5 from 7:30-8:45 pm in the Parish Center. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

### 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 class meets next Sunday, February 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.

### SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in June 2020 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 22-26 from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm. Look for camper registration information, as well as information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, in the Spring!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 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.

### SUMMER CAMP EXPO DAY GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 12:30-3:30 pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School offers more than 25 fun-filled summer camps in Athletics, Science & Technology, and The Arts. Bring the family to check out all of the camp offerings, meet camp directors and participate in demos. Our Lady of Good Counsel is located at 17301 Old Vic Boulevard, Olney MD. For additional information on the summer camps please contact Lauren Costello, 240-283-3218 or e-mail [lcostello@olgchs.org](mailto:lcostello@olgchs.org).

## YOUTH GROUP EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Teens,

In January, we began offering a few additional programs for youth in grades nine through 12. Teens are welcome to sit in on any of these monthly or weekly events! All events meet in the Gathering Space unless otherwise noted.

- Weekly Youth Group Meeting- Sundays at 6:15 pm.
- Weekly Faith in Action (Helping with a Religious Education class)- Mondays at 4:30 pm.
- Weekly Personal Finance Group- Mondays at 6:45 pm.

### *Please save the date for the following special events:*

- February 1-2: Souper Bowl of Caring fundraiser after all Masses.
- Friday, February 7-Sunday, February 9: 2020 MOUNT 2000- Meet in the St. John Neumann parking lot at 5 pm.
- Saturday, February 15: Dave and Buster's St. Valentine's Day Party-Pick up a form at Youth Group on Sunday night.
- Monday, February 17: Bowling with Vocations at Bowl America in Gaithersburg- Meet for Mass at 9 am at St. John Neumann Parish in Gaithersburg.

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

### NEW CATHOLIC IMPACT TOOL BUILDS AWARENESS OF CATHOLIC RESOURCES IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Have you ever wondered what Catholic resources are available right in your local community? The Maryland Catholic Conference has developed a Catholic Impact online tool allowing Maryland residents to see what Catholic resources are available in their state legislative district. The tool allows users to look up their legislative district and then view what senior services, community resources and healthcare and related services are located there. It's a terrific tool to build awareness of services but also to let politicians and policymakers know the breadth of services provided by the Catholic Church.

See the tool at [https://www.mdccatholic.org/impact?utm\\_campaign=catholicimpacts&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=mdccatholic](https://www.mdccatholic.org/impact?utm_campaign=catholicimpacts&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mdccatholic). For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED

The St. Francis Altar Guild is looking for volunteers to help prepare the Church/Altar for the weekend Masses. We meet after the 9 a.m. Mass on Saturday mornings. There are several teams on a rotating schedule, so it is not every weekend. If you would like more information about the Altar Guild, please contact Kathy McGee, 301-330-2787.

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

**Congratulations to the 2019 Middle School  
 Science Fair Winners!**

GRADE	STUDENT	PROJECT
6	Lucas Liotta	<i>It's Electricity! The Voltage and pH in Fruits</i>
6	Olivia Solano	<i>Which Treatment Causes Fruit Not to Turn Brown?</i>
6	Haset Melaku	<i>Can Cutting Alka-Seltzer Into Different Sizes Affect How Long it Takes it To Dissolve?</i>
7	Santiago Tellez-Leon	<i>How To Get the Most of Your Wi-Fi?</i>
7	Gavin Bragg	<i>How Long Will the Batteries Last?</i>
7	Clare Rowedder	<i>Does Fruit Affect Breads' Life Span?</i>
8	Christian Patiag	<i>Double-Slit Experiment</i>
8	Naomi Barish	<i>Disinfecting is the Spice of Life</i>
8	Christina Argyros	<i>Multi-species Association with SNPs</i>
8	Esha Tamang	<i>Which Solution Will Remove Permanent Marker Stains Faster?</i>

**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 \$50 per ticket and only 500 tickets will be sold. Get your tickets today!** <https://sosj.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/DenimandDiamonds/tabid/1098759/Default.aspx>

**READ TO SURVIVE BOOK FAIR & FAMILY READING NIGHT ARE COMING TO SJRCS**

The Scholastic Book Fair will bring to St. Jude's the books kids want to read! We will have a great selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please join us! All proceeds go to purchase books for our school library.

Book Fair dates: March 17-19

Shopping hours: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Family Reading Night – March 17 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

**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.

**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!

**COUPLES NIGHT OF REFLECTION**

St. Martin of Tours in Gaithersburg (celebrating their Centennial Year) invites you to a Couples Night of Reflection "It Takes Three" on Saturday, February 15, beginning with Mass at 5:30 pm. \$50 per couple. Join us for a special night for you and your Valentine. The evening includes a Wine and Cheese Social, Table for Two, Dinner (Chicken Monticello with Pasta, Salad, Dessert and Drink), and a Reflection Talk by Deacon Bill Vita. Free Child Care is available. Pre-registration is required. Connect Barbara Kuhn at [barbara@stmartinsweb.org](mailto:barbara@stmartinsweb.org) to register for this unique evening.

**SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER EMPLOYMENT**

Do you have a heart for women and babies? Do you have experience in fundraising and outreach? Would you like to use your talents to forward the pro-life mission? The Shady Grove Pregnancy Center I seeking a part-time Community Outreach Coordinator. This paid position will focus on developing and implementing the Center's overall fundraising and outreach to churches, organizations, foundations and other donors. Interested candidates, please send your resume to [execdirector@pregnancy-options.org](mailto:execdirector@pregnancy-options.org).

**MASS TO REMEMBER SURVIVORS & VICTIMS  
 OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING/  
 FEAST DAY OF ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA**

Remember those enslaved in modern-day slavery and become inspired to act. Observe the World Day of Prayer Reflection & Action Against Human Trafficking and the Feast Day of St. Josephine Bakhita with a special intercultural Mass celebrated by Bishop Dorsonville on Saturday February 8 at 4:30 pm at St. Camillus Catholic Church. (1600 St. Camillus Drive, Silver Spring) The Mass and reception that follows are sponsored by the Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration and Refugee Services. RSVP to [MRSTraff@uscpcb.org](mailto:MRSTraff@uscpcb.org). St. Bakhita (born in the Darfur region of Sudan in 1869) was enslaved as a child and trafficked to Italy. She won her freedom with the help of the Canossian Sisters, became a Canossian Sister, and went on to share her story of freedom and dignity.

**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).