

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

#### February 10 - February 16

<b>Monday, 2/10</b>	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Connors
<b>Tuesday, 2/11</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mary Margaret Vorsteg
<b>Wednesday, 2/12</b>	9:00 a.m.	Joye Rigo Rigi
	7:30 p.m.	Guy Beaven
<b>Thursday, 2/13</b>	9:00 a.m.	Luis Gonzalez
<b>Friday, 2/14</b>	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
<b>Saturday, 2/15</b>	9:00 a.m.	Peggy McCormack
	5:00 p.m.	J. Harold Davis
<b>Sunday, 2/16</b>	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Michael Norfolk
	11:15 a.m.	Donald Bumbernick
	5:00 p.m.	Kathy Caponiti (L)

#### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Christine Rutkowski, wife of Michael Rutkowski, Adolfo Arias, father of Victor and Cesar Arias.

*Please pray for the sick...* Amalia Torrez, Teresa Maguire, Tony Chite, Gus Tseronis, Brenda Dunphy, Frank Knorr, Tyler Joseph Grondalski, Christine Grondalski, Diane Comly, 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 9, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16
<b>Monday:</b>	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/Mk 6:53-56
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 [1b]/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37

#### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On February 1, 2020, we had our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. I want to thank Sylvia Jones and her team for putting together a great night for all who were able to attend. The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner provides me with an opportunity to say thank you to so many who work to make our parish the great place that it is!

As we are now one month into a new decade, I thought that I would devote the next several columns to the topic of parish etiquette at Mass. Barbara Budde, Director of Social Concerns for the Diocese of Austin, Texas, wrote a pamphlet on this topic for the National Pastoral Life Center several years ago. When the National Pastoral Life Center closed in 2009, I contacted Ms Budde to ask if I could use material that she had written in that pamphlet on occasions such as this. With her blessing I am sharing some of her thoughts on the topic of parish etiquette. Today I shall spend the rest of this column talking about some general remarks about cultivating good parish etiquette.

#### Etiquette Concerns Habits

A former missionary priest once told this story of his work among a people whose lives were not ruled by chronological time. A baptism had been scheduled in a particular village. The hour came, and the priest, ready and waiting, invited those present to gather for the ceremony. Someone told him that it was not yet time. He consulted his watch and pointed out that it was the agreed upon hour, but the villagers would not let him begin. He discovered that among this people it was appropriate to begin only when everyone from the surrounding villages had arrived. He had to learn a new etiquette.

Decades ago, it was considered a good habit for a woman to carry a chapel veil in her purse to avoid the embarrassment of needing to pin a tissue to her hair. No longer. Today's world demands a new set of habits. The suggestions offered here [over the next few weeks] are simple reminders, intended to help all parishioners develop the habits that make our common worship full, rich, and prayerful.

Naturally there may be times when we arrive late, are unprepared, are dressed inappropriately, or forget to silence some electronic device that we've brought. Sometimes our children will be too noisy or fidgety. And accidents happen. How we act on such occasions is part of etiquette. But for the most part main etiquette concerns habits, not the rare slip or unavoidable occurrence.

Everyone who worships wholeheartedly and without needless distraction will appreciate the cultivation of good parish etiquette. All it takes is charity and practice.

Until next week,

**Fr. John**

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What darkness can I fill with the light of Christ that was entrusted to me at baptism? How can my light overcome these examples of darkness?

### BUY TICKETS FOR HAITI THIS WEEKEND!

Are you ready to help students in our sister parish of Haiti to start "Walking on Sunshine"? The annual fundraiser co-sponsored by the High School Youth Ministry and Haiti Committee has a goal to improve infrastructure this year at the Bon Pasteur School. Recently, an organization offered Conversion of St. Paul's Parish several laptop computers with educational software, but the school needs a stand-alone power source to use them. While the parish and medical clinic use solar power for their utility needs, the school lacks a source. Proceeds from Hoops for Haiti will help build a small power extension to the existing school and provide for the installation of solar panels on the school.

So, how can you help support Hoops for Haiti on Saturday, March 14?

- Buy tickets this weekend to the event, which will gain you admission to the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, a performance by the award-winning Catholic singer Gretchen Harris and the main basketball event between the St. Francis Ol' Saints (adults) and the St. Francis Swole Saints (youth and young adults).
- Sign up to form a team for the 3-on-3 basketball tournament, which starts at 3:15 pm in the gymnasium.

For more information, please contact Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile at [dancardlie@yahoo.com](mailto:dancardlie@yahoo.com) or parishioner Wendel Hall at [wendel@halllawoffice.net](mailto:wendel@halllawoffice.net).

### REBUILDING TOGETHER CO-CAPTAIN NEEDED

**Good News!** John Vilgos will co-captain the SFA Rebuilding Together effort in April. We need someone to step forward to serve as the other co-captain. Please consider. Is there a Millennial or a Gen Xer out there who can serve with John?!? Please call or e-mail your "YES" to Tony Bosnick, 301-840-1407; or [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### *WELCOME to the Family of Christ!*

The following individuals and their families recently joined our St. Francis faith community during the month of January:

Margaret Burns  
Louise Dufresne  
Guy-Francis Kono

The following children were baptized during the month of January:

Sean Daniel Harkins

### ASH WEDNESDAY

#### Mass Schedule – February 26

9:00 a.m. 12:00 Noon 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

#### LENTEN SCHEDULE

**Daily Mass:** Mon thru Sat 9:00 a.m.  
Wed 7:30 p.m.  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena follows  
Wednesday Evening Mass

**Lenten Evening Prayer** Friday Evenings 6:45 p.m.  
**Stations of the Cross** Friday Evenings 7:00 p.m.

**Confession:** In addition to Saturday afternoon, Confessions will be heard each Wednesday evening during Lent before Mass 5:30 –7:00 p.m. **(The Light is ON for you.)**

Confession is also heard 30 minutes before Daily Mass and Sunday Masses during Lent.

#### LENTEN REGULATIONS

**Fasting:** Ages 18-59 fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, limiting themselves to one full meal.

**Abstinence:** Catholics age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent

### 2020 ANNUAL APPEAL KICKS OFF NEXT WEEKEND

On February 15/16, Fr. John Dillon will ask you to consider your gift to the 2020 Annual Appeal. This weekend, brochures and Frequently Asked Questions about the Annual Appeal are available in the pews and at the Information Desk to help inform your giving. You may also visit the Annual Appeal website at [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org). The Annual Appeal supports more than 60 ministries that benefit many women, men, children and families in the Church of Washington, including within our own parish. As in every year, 100 percent of your contribution to the Annual Appeal will be designated to the ministries and programs supported by the Appeal. For more information, please call 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 11, 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 Upper Montgomery Assistance Network (UMAN). *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)).



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

### ALL SPANISH SPEAKERS ARE INVITED TO PRAY THE ROSARY AT 6:30 PM ON TUESDAYS

All Spanish speakers and those interested in learning Spanish are invited to pray the Rosary en español at 6:30 pm every Tuesday in the church. The Spanish Ministry, led by Deacon Will Garcia and his wife, Lourdes, faithfully leads this universal prayer of our church each week and welcomes anyone who would like to practice or learn the Rosary in Spanish. For more information, please contact Deacon Will Garcia at [wagarcia@comcast.net](mailto:wagarcia@comcast.net) or Lourdes at [legarcia@comcast.net](mailto:legarcia@comcast.net).

### ST. FRANCIS PAX CHRISTI MEETING CHANGE

The meeting time for Pax Christi at St. Francis has changed to the 2nd Tuesday of every month, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Location is still in the basement of the rectory in the Youth Room. *All are welcome!*

### NEWS FROM THE PARISH SECURITY COMMITTEE

The Parish Security Committee was formed as part of an archdiocesan effort to help pastors address safety and security issues and concerns. It is staffed with members of various parish ministries and parishioners with law enforcement/first responder experience. If you are interested in serving on the committee, or have any questions, please contact [stfrancisderwoodpsc@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisderwoodpsc@gmail.com).

### WHERE TO GO TO ACCESS FIRST AID KITS AT CHURCH

If a need arises for you to access a first aid kit while you are at church, then please ask an usher or the ministry leader responsible for your presence on the church grounds for help. They can help you locate the closest first aid kit and get the supplies you need. If you need emergency medical assistance, then please call 911 or ask a responsible person to call emergency personnel for you. For more information about medical and emergency protocols at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, please contact the Parish Security Committee at [stfrancisderwoodpsc@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisderwoodpsc@gmail.com). Parishioner Josh Vincent serves as the vice chair of that committee and is a good first point of contact.

### SIGNUP FOR LENTEN SMALL GROUPS COMING TO AN END

Are you planning on signing up for a Lenten Small Group? Feb. 8/9 will be the final weekend to sign up to study the Gospel readings during Lent with a small group of parishioners interested in delving into Scripture and seeing how it applies to life. Do something different this Lent and join a Small Group, which can help you get to know your fellow parishioners better and gain a deeper understanding of God's Word. There are more than eight options for Lenten Small Groups, which meet at people's homes or at church and are often facilitated by experienced parish lay leaders. Sign up in the Gathering Space this weekend! For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

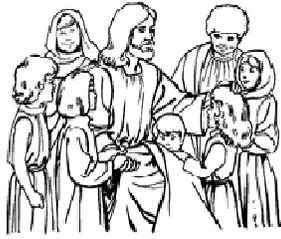
### ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED

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 McKee, 301-330-2787.

### YARD SALE MEETING

There will be a meeting to talk about our upcoming May 9th Yard Sale on Wednesday, February 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the Assisi Room. If you have previously worked at the Yard Sale you are encouraged to come. Also, we are looking for new volunteers to come and bring new thoughts and ideas. Questions, please call the Parish Office, 301-840-1407.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



### 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 today, Sunday, February 9 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Parish Center. 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.

**NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NEXT WEEK**  
In observance of the Presidents' Day holiday, there are NO Religious Education classes on Sunday, February 16; Monday, February 17; and Tuesday, February 18.

### CATECHIST MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

There will be a Catechist Meeting for all RE catechists on Monday, February 17, from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Assisi Room (lower level of the Rectory). Please join us as we share ideas for enriching our faith formation classes!

### CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SESSION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Confirmation candidates will meet on Tuesday, February 18, for Confirmation class from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

**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.

## YOUTH GROUP EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

Dear Parents, Guardians and Teens,

Happy February! Last month, 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:*

- Friday, February 7-Sunday, February 9: 2020 MOUNT 2000- Meet in 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.
- Sunday, February 16: St. Valentine's Day Caroling & Games at Alfred House- Meet at 1:45 pm in the St. Francis of Assisi parking lot.
- Monday, February 17: Bowling with Vocations at Bowl America in Gaithersburg- Meet for Mass at 9 am at St. John Neumann Parish in Gaithersburg.
- Saturday, March 14: Hoops for Haiti - Meet at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in Olney.
- Friday, March 20 - Saturday, March 21: Catholic Relief Services' 24-Hour Food Fast - Meet at 7:30 pm, location TBD.

*God bless you,  
Sarah Seyed-Ali*

### 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). Also, if you would like to volunteer for the St. Francis Parish Library Ministry, please contact the Parish Office, 301-840-1407.

### 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.

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

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GEOGRAPHY BEE**

Congratulations to all of the GeoBee contestants, especially to runner-up Andrew Watson and Sophia Campbell our school champion! The National Geographic GeoBee is an annual competition designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. Students in grades 5 through 8 took an online test and the top 15 students competed in the SJRCS GeoBee. After winning the school GeoBee Sophia took a proctored online test and is waiting to see if she qualifies as one of the top-100-ranked students in MD.

**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

**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.

**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!

**LEARN MORE ABOUT ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE ON FEBRUARY 18**

On Tuesday, February 18, officials from the Archdiocese of Washington and the Maryland Catholic Conference will be leading a workshop on how Catholic lay people can speak with their Maryland state legislators about physician-assisted suicide legislation which has been filed with the Maryland General Assembly. The presentation on physician-assisted suicide will be held at 7 pm at St. John Neumann Parish. All those interested in learning more about this issue impacting the dignity of life are invited to attend. For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

**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.

**ST. ANDREW APOSTLE MATTHEW 25 WALK**

You are invited to join parishioners of St. Andrew Apostle Catholic Church in Silver Spring, for a 5K charity walk benefiting our neighbors in need on Saturday morning February 15, 2020. Money raised will support three local nonprofit organizations who are living out the values outlined by Christ in Matthew 25: providing food for people who are hungry, drink for people who are thirsty, clothing for people who need clothes, and welcoming strangers.

- The Food Pantry at Silver Spring Christian Reformed Church
- The Northwest Center in NW DC
- Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring.

For more information or to register to walk, please visit <https://standrewapostle.org/matthew-25-walk/>.

**BINGO & DINNER - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21  
Seminarian Support Knights of Columbus #11024**

Germantown's Mother Seton Parish Center doors open 5:00 pm for Dinner, Bingo starts at 7:00 pm. Over \$1000 in cash prizes! Admission is \$25/player with free Bingo dauber if paid by February 14; \$30/player after February 14 (if not sold out). Admission includes door prize raffle, regular bingo games, snacks, dinner, dessert, water/soft drinks *and fun*. Must be 18 or older to attend and no alcohol is allowed. For more info and to register, including seating requests for up to 8, please e-mail [wpfreetoroam@gmail.com](mailto:wpfreetoroam@gmail.com). *Proceeds will support Mount St. Mary's Seminarians.*