

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

### February 17 - February 23

|                        |            |                         |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Monday, 2/17</b>    | 9:00 a.m.  | John Bonebrake          |
| <b>Tuesday, 2/18</b>   | 9:00 a.m.  | Elizabeth Vermont       |
| <b>Wednesday, 2/19</b> | 9:00 a.m.  | Alexander O'Connor      |
|                        | 7:30 p.m.  | Deacon Ronald J. Meyer  |
| <b>Thursday, 2/20</b>  | 9:00 a.m.  | Alfredo Pereria         |
| <b>Friday, 2/21</b>    | 9:00 a.m.  | Joseph & Mary Polosky   |
| <b>Saturday, 2/22</b>  | 9:00 a.m.  | Patsy & Stella Battista |
|                        | 5:00 p.m.  | Joanne Howard           |
| <b>Sunday, 2/23</b>    | 8:00 a.m.  | Josephine Brown         |
|                        | 9:30 a.m.  | <i>Pro populo</i>       |
|                        | 11:15 a.m. | Honorato Rivera         |
|                        | 5:00 p.m.  | Adolfo Arias, Jr.       |

### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Reverend Francis Bober and Reverend Louis Tou, both from the Archdiocese of Washington.

*Please pray for the sick...* Ceil Noga, Amalia Torrez, Teresa Maguire, Tony Chite, Gus Tseronis, Brenda Dunphy, Frank Knorr, 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 February 16, 2020

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday:</b>      | Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34<br>[1b]/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37, 27-28, 33-34a, 37 |
| <b>Monday:</b>      | Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 [77a]/<br>Mk 8:11-13                                 |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>     | Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/<br>Mk 8:14-21                                   |
| <b>Wednesday:</b>   | Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [1b]/<br>Mk 8:22-26  |
| <b>Thursday:</b>    | Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [7a]/Mk 8:27-33   |
| <b>Friday:</b>      | Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 1b]/<br>Mk 8:34—9:1                                 |
| <b>Saturday:</b>    | 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19  |
| <b>Next Sunday:</b> | Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13<br>[8a]/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48               |

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I am continuing my series on Parish Etiquette in this week's column. These reflections were first presented by Barbara Budde in a pamphlet (which is no longer in print) for the National Pastoral Life Center. Let me mention some things that we could do to prepare well for the Sunday liturgy.

#### PREPARING FOR LITURGY

Preparing for liturgy—mentally, spiritually, and physically—speaks of its importance and value to us. When people come to worship completely unprepared and seemingly not at home, we welcome them in charity as newcomers or as seekers who have joined the assembly at the urging of the Spirit. As a rule of thumb, though, good preparation for worship makes every experience richer and more rewarding.

- Schedule liturgy into the family or household week-end activities.
- Plan ahead as you would for any important occasion.
- Prepare for Mass in your household as part of your observance of the Lord's Day.
- Allow enough time to account for any transportation problems (traffic or parking) that might arise.

#### Dressing Appropriately

As "business casual" has become the dress code in some workplaces, it is becoming more difficult to know whether dressing up for Sunday Mass is necessary. Liturgy is the Lord's inclusive banquet, but it is neither a state dinner nor a beach picnic. So what is the dress code? The answer isn't always clear since customs differ. What is appropriate at a parish located at a beach resort may be much more informal than what is appropriate at the downtown cathedral. Thought, charity, and flexibility are required by all parishioners, lest looking at what people wear become the near occasion of sin called "judging."

- Choose clothing that will not be distracting to you or to others.
- Notice regional and ethnic expectations regarding Sunday dress.
- Err on the side of dressing up, not down; presume that most people will wear their best, most appropriate clothing, and do likewise.

Next week I shall talk about arriving and leaving, particularly I want to make some suggestions about what to do if Mass has already begun or if you need to leave early.

Until next week,  
**Fr. John Dillon**  
Pastor

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*With whom do I need to reconcile? How can the Holy Spirit guide me in doing the right thing?*

**Parish offices will be closed  
Monday, February 17  
In Observance of Presidents' Day**

### ARCHBISHOP WILTON D. GREGORY TO CELEBRATE THE 11:15 A.M. MASS ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

On Sunday, February 23, Archbishop of Washington Wilton D. Gregory will celebrate the 11:15 am Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church. All are welcome to meet our new archdiocesan shepherd! For more information, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

### SMALL GROUP CONVENING SOON TO DISCUSS THE CLERICAL ABUSE CRISIS AND ITS IMPACT ON CATHOLICS

Do you wish to be heard and experience some healing in the wake of the clerical abuse crisis? Fr. John Dillon will be convening a Small Group this winter and spring, inviting parishioners to discuss their feelings and thoughts regarding the latest clerical abuse crisis that has afflicted the Catholic Church. The group will use a resource published by RENEW International and plans to meet on the evenings of February 27, March 12, March 26, April 23, May 14, and May 28 in the Priests' Residence of the Rectory. For more information or to register for the Small Group, please email [dzezzo@sfadw.org](mailto:dzezzo@sfadw.org) by **February 23**.

### THE 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT HOOPS FOR HAITI NEEDS SOME TEAMS TO PLAY

Hoops for Haiti is just around the corner – have you signed up yet for your 3-on-3 Basketball Team? Join this popular pre-event at Hoops for Haiti, which brings together multiple teams of three to five people to compete in a single elimination tournament before the main basketball event on March 14 at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. Parishioner Mike Mikula played on a team last year with his son, Jack, and a childhood friend, saying the highlight was shooting hoops with his son. Are there any other parent/child combinations who would like to play hoops on the half-court at Hoops for Haiti?

Registration for a 3-on-3 team is \$30 and pays for admission to all Hoops for Haiti events, including the performance by Catholic singer Gretchen Harris and main game between the Ol' Saints and Swole Saints. To register, please 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).

### 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

### PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION THIS WEEKEND TO THE ANNUAL APPEAL

This weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Annual Appeal. You can find commitment envelopes in the pew pockets – please be generous in making your pledge. Your gift will support more than 60 ministries and programs benefitting women, men, children and families in the Church of Washington, including within our parish and local community. As in every year, 100 percent of your contribution to the Annual Appeal will be designated to ministries and programs supported by the Appeal. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, February 18, 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 Prison Ministry Outreach Program. *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).



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

### 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.

### SIGN UP FOR A LENTEN SMALL GROUP THROUGH ASH WEDNESDAY

The Adult Faith Formation Committee has extended signups for Lenten Small Groups through Ash Wednesday on February 26. If you need a reason to sign up for a Lenten Small Group, then here are five:

1. Encountering Jesus Christ in the Word and in community with others.
2. Having a designated time each week to focus on Scripture and discern its lessons for today.
3. Learning the background and context in which Scripture was written.
4. Hearing the observations and insights your fellow parishioners have in unpacking Gospel readings.
5. Getting to know fellow parishioners in a fun and comfortable environment.

Join a Lenten Small Group and discover how Scripture comes alive in discussing it and applying it to our daily lives as Catholic Christians. Sign up for a Lenten Small Group in the Gathering Space. For more information, e-mail Director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### “THE DIFFERENCE OF HOPE: A PRESENTATION ON THE REALITY OF PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE AND HOW YOU CAN HELP DEFEND LIFE”

Join us at 7 pm Tuesday, February 18, for “The Difference of Hope: A presentation on the reality of physician-assisted suicide and how you can help defend life.” The evening will be valuable for all those interested in learning more about physician-assisted suicide, its impact on the dignity of life, and how Catholics can help defend Maryland against this dangerous practice. The presentation on physician-assisted suicide will be held at 7 pm at St. John Neumann Parish located at 9000 Warfield Road, Gaithersburg. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

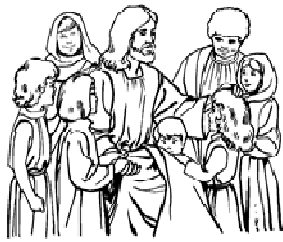
### ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED

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.

### 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.faihdirect.net](http://www.faihdirect.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.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



### NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NEXT WEEK

In observance of the Presidents' Day holiday, there are **NO** Religious Education classes this Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, February 16, 17, and 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.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOTES FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Elementary and Middle School Religious Education classes will meet as scheduled on February 23, 24, and 25. However, in order that all can be present as we welcome Archbishop Gregory at the 11:15 am Mass on Sunday, February 23, the Sunday PreK and Kindergarten Classes which usually meet from 11:10-12:15 will be canceled, as will the Special Needs Catechesis class originally scheduled to meet from 3:30-4:30 pm. Please join us at the 11:15 Mass!

### 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 Valentine's Day weekend! We continue to offer some 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:*

- St. Valentine's Day Caroling and Games from 1:45-5 pm Sunday, February \ 16 (Meet at the St. Francis of Assisi parking lot)
- Bowling with Vocations on Monday, February 17 (Meet at St. John Neumann Parish for 9 am Mass)
- Middle School Event from 6:45-8 pm Monday, February 24 (Meet in the Gathering Space of St. Francis of Assisi)
- Catholic Relief Services 24 Hour Food Fast from Friday, March 6- Saturday, March 7 (Meet at the Neumann House at St. John Neumann Parish)
- Hoops for Haiti Saturday, March 14 (Meet at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School)

*God bless you,  
Sarah Seyed-Ali  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Youth Minister*

## DONATIONS TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHT GENEROSITY OF ST. FRANCIS PARISHIONERS

Officials with Catholic Charities recently expressed their appreciation for the St. Francis Religious Education Ministry's participation in the Christmas Stocking Help Line, a program that enabled RE families to purchase gifts for 41 area children in need over the Christmas holidays. The children are members of 12 families, who receive services from Catholic Charities of Montgomery County. "You all at St. Francis extended yourselves and your hearts and really went out of your way to provide gifts to our families, thus creating a wonderful Christmas experience for them," wrote Faye Frempong, senior program manager of the Families Centers for Catholic Charities. The parish also recently supported Catholic Charities' annual Coat Drive the weekend of January 18/19, donating a large pile of coats and outerwear to the archdiocesan charity. Fr. John would like to thank Mass goers at the daily Mass for sorting and loading the donations on January 24, and especially, parishioner Tom Reese for transporting the coats to St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

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

**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>

**GIRLS ON THE RUN AND HEART & SOLE  
ARE BACK FOR THE SPRING SESSION!**

These programs inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Join the Fun! Girls in 3rd through 5th grade are invited for GOTR and girls in 6th through 8th grade for Heart & Sole. You don't even have to love running. Learn about yourself! Explore who you are and build your confidence. Hang out with friends! Dance! Practices will on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm beginning March 9<sup>th</sup>. The regular fee for the program is \$175, but financial scholarships are granted based on financial need. Please visit <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/Register-Now> to register.

**SJRCS March Madness** It's time again for the annual 8th grade vs. Faculty and Parents basketball game. Game is set for Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at St. Patrick's Catholic School. Doors open at 6:00 pm. All are invited!

**The 7th Annual ESPA  
JOB FAIR**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020  
9:00AM – 12:00PM**

**Our Lady of Good Counsel  
17301 Old Vic Boulevard  
Olney, MD 20832**

**DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE!**

Teachers, teaching assistants, counselors, office staff, and nurses bring resumes and meet with representatives from elementary schools throughout the Archdiocese of Washington.

**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!

**PRE-LENTEN RETREAT  
FOR PASTORAL MUSICIANS**

Musicians, choir members, music leaders, instrumentalists and congregational singers are invited to "The Franciscan Lenten Path of Transformation into Beauty," a morning of reflection at St. Camillus Knights Hall on Saturday, February 22, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Br. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM will lead the retreat. Information and registration at [www.npmdc.org/events-1/pre-lenten-retreat](http://www.npmdc.org/events-1/pre-lenten-retreat).

**LENTEN MISSION**

Two Keys to Conversion: The Eucharist and Mary" with Fr. Matthew Allman, a Redemptorist, at St. John Neumann Church, Gaithersburg, MD, March 2-3, 2020 at 7:30 PM preceded by the Holy Rosary at 7 PM. March 2 talk will be on the Eucharist and March 3 on Mary and the Image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Information: [www.saintjohnneumann.org](http://www.saintjohnneumann.org)

**LENTEN VIDEO SERIES**

St. Patrick's Leisure Club and Our Lady of Grace Church will show an inspirational video series during Lent: *Catholicism*, narrated by Bishop Barron. It will be shown every Wednesday during Lent at Our Lady of Grace Church after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. It will be repeated every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. as well. The start date is Ash Wednesday, February 26. All are welcome. No registration is necessary.

**MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS  
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

All families are welcome as we celebrate a teaching Mass with Healing Prayers for Children and Families at St. Andrew Apostle in Silver Spring on Friday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. Following a teaching mass for children, families will be invited forward to kneel together before Our Lord in adoration, and the children will receive healing prayers through the priesthood. Confession will also be available throughout the evening. Please visit <https://standrewapostle.org/worship/masses-with-healing-prayers/> for more information.

**PARISH IMMIGRATION INFORMATION FORUM  
WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW CAN WE HELP?**

Saturday, Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Christ the King Catholic Church, 2301 Colston Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Catholic Charities will present an overview of the difficult immigration issues facing immigrants and what steps parishes can take to be supportive. Catholic Charities and parishes around the country are organizing to help create more supportive communities for immigrants, to advocate for fair reforms, to accompany undocumented families and unaccompanied children as they seek to legalize their status. This educational workshop will provide testimonies of immigrants' journeys and suggestions how parishes can assist. This Forum is geared towards people who would like to learn how they can support and advocate for immigrants in our area. No legal services will be provided. Come learn how you can help! Please RSVP to [ParishEvents@cc-DC.org](mailto:ParishEvents@cc-DC.org)