

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

May 11 - 17

Monday, 5/11	9:00 a.m.	Winnie Gardner
Tuesday, 5/12	9:00 a.m.	Mary Markey
Wednesday, 5/13	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
	7:30 p.m.	Christos Nicholson
Thursday, 5/14	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
Friday, 5/15	9:00 a.m.	Jerry & Virginia Haley
Saturday, 5/16	9:00 a.m.	Lawrence Lee
	5:00 p.m.	Richard & Pat Hunt
	8:00 a.m.	Christine Rutkowski
Sunday, 5/17	9:30 a.m.	Quintin Manlapaz
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Dr. Gerard Arcilla

Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John.

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Reverend Charles Green, Archdiocese of Washington, Ed Komlo, brother of Bill Komlo.

Please pray for the sick... Mary McGrath, James Charbonneau, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, 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 May 10, 2020

Sunday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/ 1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12
Monday:	Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/ Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/ Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/ Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a]/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday:	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On Sunday May 3, 2020, Pope Francis made some noteworthy comments after he prayed the Regina Caeli. First of all he noted that this day brings to mind what Jesus said, namely that the field of the Kingdom of God requires much work, and we must pray to the Father to send laborers to work in His field. He also remarked that “Christian existence is always a response to God’s call, in any state of life.” He went on to say that “priesthood and the consecrated life require courage and perseverance and without prayer one cannot continue along this path.” The Holy Father invited everyone to “ask the Lord for the gift of good laborers for His Kingdom, with hearts and hands open to His love.”

The Pope also expressed his closeness those who are suffering from Covid-19, and to those caring for people stricken by the virus at this time. He offered his support for an international collaboration that is taking place to respond adequately and effectively to this serious crisis. It is important, he said, “to bring together scientific capacities, in a transparent and impartial way, to find vaccines and treatments and to guarantee universal access to essential technologies that will enable every infected person, in every part of the world, to receive the necessary health care.”

Underlining the importance of prayer at this challenging time, the Pope said that he had accepted a proposal of the Higher Commission for Human Fraternity that on this Thursday, May 14, “believers of all religions should unite spiritually for a day of prayer and fasting, to implore God to help humanity to overcome the coronavirus pandemic.”

Today I also want to conclude the brief history of the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) as it changed with the times to become the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The 1960’s were a time of ferment in the Catholic Church. The Second Vatican Council began in 1962. Pope Saint John XXIII wanted to convene the Council in order to renew the Church and provide for the necessary modernization that would both make it easier to accomplish its mission in the modern world and to foster the unity of all Christians. This decade also saw a deeper involvement of the Church in the Civil Rights Movement, peace initiatives, and the rights of organized labor and migrant workers.

One of the documents from Vatican Council II the “Decree on the Bishops’ Pastoral Office in the Church” (*Christus Dominus*) wanted bishops of each country to organize themselves into a national assembly of bishops as the American bishops had done in 1917. In many ways the American Catholic Church served as a model for what was then being requested of bishops all over the world.

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I serve the Church more fully? What can I do to contribute to the mission of Jesus?

SUNDAY MASS VIA YOU TUBE

Fr. John says Mass every Sunday at 10 a.m. from the St. Clare Chapel. Please visit our website www.sfadw.org for more information and also the link to the Mass on Sunday. Details for other virtual services such as Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Praying the Rosary and Wednesday Evening Mass can also be found on our website.

FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING

I want to invite you in joining me and many others at St. Francis of Assisi in setting up recurring eGiving through Faith Direct. Thanks to eGiving, your weekly offertory will be automatically taken care of, which saves you time and saves our parish money by eliminating all those unused offertory envelopes. To sign up for electronic contributions visit www.faithdirect.net. The code for St. Francis is MD110 or text the word ENROLL to 301-804-2584. I want to thank you for your continued support of our parish family especially during these trying times. God Bless You, *Fr. John*

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

In time the Bishops grew dissatisfied with having two separate organizations. By 1991 an ad hoc committee on Mission and Structure was formed to examine the theological status of the USCC/NCCB and to review the mission and the goals of both entities. The primary focus in this work was to encourage greater participation by the bishops and give a sense of greater unity. With that push for unity there came a proposed consolidation of the NCCB and USCC into a single conference. It took nearly a decade before there was consensus on how the final reorganization should look. The reorganized conference was called the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)—the entity that we have today. Since 2001, the USCCB functions as an assembly of the hierarchy of the United States and Virgin Islands who jointly exercise certain pastoral functions on behalf of the Christian faithful in the United States.

Until next week,
Fr. John

Happy Mother's Day to all Mothers!
Thank you for all you do!



PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

THANK YOU TO THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO!!

YARD SALE 2020 CANCELLED

Our Annual Yard Sale which was scheduled for Saturday, May 9th is cancelled for this year.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- 1) Go to sfadw.formed.org
- 2) Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3) You're all ready to access the inspiring and Engaging content on FORMED!
- 4) Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

FORMED is available 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

FORMED is also offering many resources for parishioners to use for meditation and prayer during this difficult time.

A MILLION ROSARIES

Every prayer counts! Please join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the Coronavirus pandemic. Sign up for the one million Rosary campaign at <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.

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.

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 K of C offers life and long term care insurance opportunities as well as annuities. A new opportunity: join as an Online Member for \$30 per year; go to www.kofc.org and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301) 948-6494 or email gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (240) 751-7259 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

INVITATION TO PRAY

Please remember we have the outdoor Stations of the Cross which you are welcome to visit and pray the Stations. Also, we have our Mary Garden and the Peace Pole where you can also pray. *Please remember to keep social distancing when visiting any of these locations.*

ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR?

The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, **June 28, 2020** at 2:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. *At this time it is anticipated that this celebration will take place.* Please email the parish office to register dzezzo@sfiadw.org. Please include the following information in your email:

- Name of the couple (as you want it printed on the certificate)
- Mailing Address
- Telephone Number or email
- Number of years married
- Will you attend the Mass if it is held

Names of Jubilarians need to be turned into the parish office on or before **Monday, May 18**. Please **do not call the parish office** as it is closed at this time. You can also mail in the above information to the Parish Office, ATT: Donna Zezzo.

WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL ENCORE?

If you are transitioning to full or part-time retirement and are thinking about all that follows a long and successful career, consider meaningful service with the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC), a program established by the Jesuits to give seasoned women and men ages 50 and better an opportunity to share their experience and wisdom with those in our community in greatest need while also participating in a formation program rooted in Ignatian Spirituality. The commitment is part-time and there are a number of rewarding service opportunities in Montgomery County and D.C. For more information on IVC, please contact local director (and St. Francis parishioner) Mike Goggin at 202-277-4447 or mgoggin@ivcusa.org.

THIS WEEK AT HOME

(Bulletin Insert)

Monday, May 11 - The Best of Intentions

The people who worship Paul and Barnabas recognize that something wonderful has happened, but their faith is misdirected. They need instruction on how to interpret and respond to the healing they witnessed. They need the Advocate, who will teach and guide them. This Advocate, the Holy Spirit, continues to guide the Church to this day. Ask God for the Spirit's help in discerning where and how God is acting and how you can best respond.

Tuesday, May 12 - Eternal Peace

Jesus offers a peace that no suffering or hardship can take away from us. His peace rises from God's salvation: we who believe in our Lord's triumph over sin and death no longer have anything to fear. St. Paul demonstrated confidence in this gift of peace when he resumes his mission right after nearly being killed for preaching the Gospel. Pray that whatever happens in your life, your faith in God's gift of peace may remain unassailable.

Wednesday, May 13 - Bearing Fruit

The first serious challenge to the unity of the Church was the question of whether Gentile converts had to obey the Jewish law. Since Jesus was Jewish, some people thought that those who believed in him must also become Jewish. Although the Church concluded that Christians did not also have to become Jews, we follow laws, such as the Ten Commandments that were given to the Jews. By obeying such laws we bear fruit, which Jesus, our true vine, commands us to do. What can you do to show you are bearing fruit?

Thursday, May 14 - St. Matthias, Apostle

Jesus reminds his disciples that he chose them; they did not choose him. This remains true when the disciples choose an Apostle to replace Judas. After narrowing the list of candidates, the disciples cast lots as a way of inviting God to choose between the two men. Do we readily invite God into our decision-making? Do we pray with the Scriptures and consult people who are faithful and wise? Do we open our hearts to God for a clear look at our motivations?

Friday, May 15 - Love One Another

Jesus tells us to "love one another," but how exactly do we do that? One example is the way the Church dealt with the question of whether Gentile converts to Christianity had to become Jews. The Apostles wanted to ensure that both groups could come together for ritual meals in which they worshipped Christ. By resolving the dispute in a way that acknowledged the concerns of both parties, the Apostles brought more people into the peace and friendship of Christ. In what specific way can you fulfill Christ's commandment to love?

Saturday, May 16 - Respect

It seems hypocritical for Paul to have Timothy circumcised when he previously said that Gentiles did not need to be. What Paul understands, however, is that Timothy, whose mother is Jewish, must honor his Jewish heritage. By upholding Jewish practices, Paul and Timothy also show their fellow Jews the continuity between Judaism and faith in Christ. Try to learn something more about Judaism today.