

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

August 10-16

Monday, 8/10	9:00 a.m.	Mary Fleury
Tuesday, 8/11	9:00 a.m.	James Doubek
Wednesday, 8/12	9:00 a.m.	Fidela Loberiza
	7:30 p.m.	Nancy & Arthur Bischoff
Thursday, 8/13	9:00 a.m.	William Vermont
Friday, 8/14	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
Saturday, 8/15	9:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Yeast
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
Sunday, 8/16	8:00 a.m.	Catherine Xavier
	9:30 a.m.	Benicio Huaman
	11:15 a.m.	Jack Ryan
	5:00 p.m.	Lois Gallahan

Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John if not prayed for in a public Mass.

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Ernest Janssen, step-father of Barbara Seubert.

Please pray for the sick... Tony Montalgre, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Joseph Michael Gardner, 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 August 16, 2020

Sunday:	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33
Monday:	2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 [5]/ Jn 12:24-26
Tuesday:	Ez 2:8—3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday:	Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [4b]/ Mt 18:15-20
Thursday:	Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62 [cf. 7b]/ Mt 18:21—19:1
Friday:	Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [1c]/Mt 19:3-12
Saturday:	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-5
Next Sunday:	Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I continue the presentation of excerpts from the historic address of Pope Francis to the United States Congress on September 24, 2015. In today's excerpt the Holy Father will discuss Dorothy Day. In his April 13, 2016 column in *Crux*, John L. Allen, Jr. mentioned that one thing that fundamentally links Dorothy Day and Pope Francis is an expansive view of what counts as a "pro-life" cause, reaching out to include not only the unborn but also migrants and refugees, exploited workers, death row inmates, even the planet itself. Life itself must be protected at all stages, and against whatever threatens it.

We are picking up a section where Pope Francis had said that we must respond in a way that is always humane, just, and fraternal. He also was reminding us that we need to avoid the common temptation to discard whatever proves trouble. We need, then, to recall the Golden Rule: ***"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"*** (Matthew 7:12). Let's listen to Pope as he talks about the Golden Rule:

This Rule points us in a clear direction. Let us treat others with the same passion and compassion with which we want to be treated. Let us seek for others the same possibilities which we seek for ourselves. Let us help others to grow, as we would like to be helped ourselves. In a word, if we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities. The yardstick we use for others will be the yardstick which time will use for us. The Golden Rule also reminds us of our responsibility to protect and defend human life at every stage of its development.

This conviction has led me, from the beginning of my ministry, to advocate at different levels for the global abolition of the death penalty. I am convinced that this way is the best, since every life is sacred, every human person is endowed with an inalienable dignity, and society can only benefit from the rehabilitation of those convicted of crimes. Recently my brother bishops here in the United States renewed their call for the abolition of the death penalty. Not only do I support them, but I also offer encouragement to all those who are convinced that a just and necessary punishment must never exclude the dimension of hope and the goal of rehabilitation.

In these times when social concerns are so important, I cannot fail to mention the Servant of God Dorothy Day, who founded the Catholic Worker Movement. Her social activism, her passion for justice and for the cause of the oppressed, were inspired by the Gospel, her faith, and the example of the saints.

How much progress has been made in this area in so many parts of the world! How much has been done in these first years of the third millennium to raise people out of extreme poverty! I know that you share my conviction that much more still needs to be done, and that in times of crisis and economic hardship a spirit of global solidarity must not be lost. At the same time I would encourage you to keep in mind all those people around us who are trapped in a cycle of poverty. They too need to be given hope. The fight against poverty and hunger must be fought constantly and on many fronts, especially in its causes. I know that many Americans today, as in the past, are working to deal with this problem.

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I overcome the fears and doubts that I have in life? How can I support others striving to overcome their own fears and doubts?

SUNDAY MASS VIA YOU TUBE

Fr. John or Fr. Patrick will say 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 Praying the Rosary and Wednesday Evening Mass can also be found on our website.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

It goes without saying that part of this great effort is the creation and distribution of wealth. The right use of natural resources, the proper application of technology and the harnessing of the spirit of enterprise are essential elements of an economy which seeks to be modern, inclusive and sustainable. "Business is a noble vocation, directed to producing wealth and improving the world. It can be a fruitful source of prosperity for the area in which it operates, especially if it sees the creation of jobs as an essential part of its service to the common good" (*Laudato Si'*, 129). This common good also includes the earth, a central theme of the encyclical which I recently wrote in order to "enter into dialogue with all people about our common home" (*ibid.*, 3). "We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all" (*ibid.*, 14).

In *Laudato Si'*, I call for a courageous and responsible effort to "redirect our steps" (*ibid.*, 61), and to avert the most serious effects of the environmental deterioration caused by human activity. I am convinced that we can make a difference and I have no doubt that the United States – and this Congress – have an important role to play. Now is the time for courageous actions and strategies, aimed at implementing a "culture of care" (*ibid.*, 231) and "an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature" (*ibid.*, 139). "We have the freedom needed to limit and direct technology" (*ibid.*, 112); "to devise intelligent ways of... developing and limiting our power" (*ibid.*, 78); and to put technology "at the service of another type of progress, one which is healthier, more human, more social, more integral" (*ibid.*, 112). In this regard, I am confident that America's outstanding academic and research institutions can make a vital contribution in the years ahead.

We will continue next week this series of presentations of what Pope Francis said to Congress in September 2015.

Until then,
Fr. John

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

COMMUNION SERVICE SUNDAYS - 3:00-3:30 PM

Fr. John and Fr. Patrick will offer Holy Communion from 3-3:30 pm in front of the church to parishioners who are unable to receive the Eucharist during in-person Mass. Attendees should park their cars, put on a face mask and line up, maintaining six feet of distance between households or unrelated parties; please note that there may be two lines of people receiving Holy Communion.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Please see the last page for information on our new program format - an at-home model of catechesis instead of our usual in-person classes. Also, please share this information with others, especially those who will be new to our program.



The Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County needs assistance especially in this challenging time of COVID-19. We assist women in crisis pregnancies in Montgomery County. Women volunteers (especially bilingual Spanish-speaking women) are needed to stay in touch with client mothers. Assistance is provided while following safety precautions recommended by health authorities. We collect new and gently used clothing throughout the year to provide wardrobes, baby items, small toys, and books for newborns through teen size 14/16. We especially need girls' size 5 clothing (fall and summer), newborn (0-3) girls' and boys' clothing, newborn socks, boys' size 2 and 3 summer clothing, boys' size 12-month summer and winter clothing. We are also in need of receiving blankets, newborn caps, diaper bags, and baby soap, lotion, and diaper cream. Please contact us at www.gpmoco.org or e-mail Diane at Isabelle49@aol.com.

Congratulations to the seven parishioners who have been in the RCIA process this past year. On Wednesday, July 29 **Joel Carrier, Linne Carrier, and Hary Rakotondrazaka** were received into the Catholic Church, confirmed, and received the Holy Eucharist for the first time as Catholics. On the same evening **Jose Sanchez** was confirmed and received the Holy Eucharist for the first time. On Saturday, August 1 **John Paul Lane, Regina Quintero, and Madelyn Antoine Zoghby** received the Sacrament of Confirmation. May God bless you as you continue on your faith journey with us at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

—Fr. John

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Pre-Register by August 12 for this year's

Religious Education Program

For the 2020-21 program year, we will be supporting families with an at-home model of catechesis instead of our usual in-person classes. We are also planning a variety of ways to connect families with catechists and others in the parish community through outreach, online gatherings, and, as conditions allow, the possibility of in-person gatherings, all in support of your efforts to teach the faith at home.

Our program offerings for Kindergarten-Grade 8 will include the following:

1) An At-Home Catechesis Kit with the following resources:

- *Finding God* 2021 grade-level textbook for each child (K-8)
- 60-page (print out or digital access) of *Finding God* At-Home Edition parent lesson plans for each grade
- Access to online resources, including Interactive Session Reviews and Learning Games
- A Bible appropriate to your child's grade level

2) Religious Education Program Events facilitated by parish staff and volunteer catechists, including:

- 7 online sessions for parents using *Finding God* Family Catechesis program, offered in live and recorded formats
- Catechist outreach/Family Small Groups (parents choose one); 7 or more throughout the year
- Online Religious Education Program events for all; 7 throughout the year (any of these could be offered in-person as safety allows)
- Online class meetings with catechists for students in Grades 6-8; to be scheduled every 3 weeks; families choose Monday or Tuesday evening sessions

The registration fee for this year's program is \$100 per child. However, those who pre-register by August 12, 2020 will receive a \$25 discount on each child's registration fee (i.e., discounted registration fee is \$75 per child).

To pre-register, please complete the form found at this link:
<https://forms.gle/UnhwSYvUZyPDNfdH7>.

Payment is not required at this time. All who pre-register will receive a registration packet, payment information, and additional details about this year's program by the end of August. (Please note: We never want finances to be a deterrent to faith formation. Please contact us if you have a situation that requires assistance.)

Information Regarding Sacramental Preparation for 2020-21
Sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, and full initiation in the adapted RCIA for children and teens seeking Baptism will also be offered in a blended program including online and at-home formats. Since preparing for a sacrament involves formation in addition to grade-level catechesis, sacramental preparation at St. Francis is not grade specific and children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament. Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to indicate this on the pre-registration form so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs.

Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email sfareligoused@sfadw.org.

WHEN WE GATHER FOR MASS PLEASE OBSERVE OUR GUIDELINES

WEAR MASKS

Face coverings are to be worn in and around the church for anyone over 2 years of age.

STAY 6 FEET APART

Physical distancing is practiced in the church and on the church property.

HOLY WATER

Fonts will be empty.

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be distributed only in the hand.

OFFERTORY

Baskets will be placed by the church doors for you to place your envelopes or donations.

HYMNALS & BULLETINS

All hymnals, prayer cards and other papers are not available. The bulletin will only be available online at our website.

SEATING

Seating by direction of an usher only. Please do not enter a pew until directed to do so.

RECRUITING SENIOR PARISHIONERS

The IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS (IVC) is a lay organization in the Jesuit tradition that provides meaningful service opportunities and spiritual formation based on the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola to those in their retirement years. As our communities reopen, many of our partner agencies have an increased need for the expertise and professional skills that our Service Corps Members provide. We are currently making ten-month placements for the service year that begins in the Fall, and it is possible to serve remotely in some circumstances. For an IVC application and more information on how you can make a profound difference to our community and Church, contact DC/Metro Maryland Director (and St. Francis parishioner) Mike Goggin at 202-277-4447 (cell) or mgoggin@ivcusa.org (e-mail)."

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St. Francis parishioners can support our church whenever they're shopping online at Amazon.com. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church is 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, Give, Give Now** and start shopping!

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!!