

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

October 5 - October 11

Monday, 10/5	9:00 a.m.	Fred Theurer
Tuesday, 10/6	9:00 a.m.	Sharon Bernard
Wednesday, 10/7	9:00 a.m.	Kay Arnaud
	7:30 p.m.	Mitchell Cochran
Thursday, 10/8	9:00 a.m.	Thresiamna Kurian
Friday, 10/9	9:00 a.m.	John Coady Dillon, Jr.
Saturday, 10/10	9:00 a.m.	Tom Mason
	5:00 p.m.	Guiseppe Valentino
Sunday, 10/11	8:00 a.m.	Jimmy Gierula
	9:30 a.m.	Bess Mitchell
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>

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 souls of Fred Biasini, brother of Patrice Datovech, Raymond Dundon, father of Beth Houston, Millie Cosman.

Please pray for the sick... Jackie Komlo, Mary Cutting, Jay Ruffin, Kathleen Caponiti, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Joseph Michael Gardner, 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*

Readings for the Week of October 4, 2020

Sunday:	Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 [Is 5:7a]/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43
Monday:	Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c [5]/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15 [24b]/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 [68]/Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [5]/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday:	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Sunday, September 27, 2020, marks the 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Pope Francis delivered a message for this occasion which was dated May 13, 2020. I want to present some points from his message for our consideration today and next week.

Pope Francis decided to devote this message to the drama of internally displaced persons, an often unseen tragedy that the global crisis caused by COVID-19 pandemic has only made much worse. In fact, owing to its virulence, severity, and geographical extent, this crisis has had a big impact on many other humanitarian emergencies that affect millions of people. This is not a time of forgetfulness, the Holy Father continues, and this crisis should not make us forget the many other crises that bring suffering to so many people.

In his Message for this Day in 2018, Pope Francis said that we are called to respond to this pastoral challenge with four verbs: *welcome, protect, promote, and integrate*. To these words Pope Francis would like to add another six pairs of verbs that deal with very practical actions and are linked together in a relationship of cause and effect. Here are the six pairs of verbs:

- To know in order to understand
- To be close in order to serve
- To listen in order to be reconciled
- To share in order to grow
- To be involved in order to promote
- To cooperate in order to build

I want to present now what the Holy Father said about the first three pairs of verbs:

You have to *know* in order to *understand*. Knowledge is a necessary step towards understanding others. Jesus himself tells us this in the account of the disciples on the road to Emmaus: “While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him” (Lk 24:15-16). When we talk about migrants and displaced persons, all too often we stop at statistics, it is about real people! If we encounter them, we will get to know more about them. And knowing their stories, we will be able to understand them. We will be able to understand, for example, that the precariousness that we have come to experience as result of this pandemic is a constant in the lives of displaced people.

It is necessary to *be close* in order to *serve*. It may seem obvious, yet often it is the contrary. “But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where the man was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him” (Lk 10:33-34). Fears and prejudices—all too many prejudices—keep us distant from others and often prevent us from “becoming neighbors” to them and serving them with love. Drawing close to others often means being willing to take risks, as so many doctors and nurses have taught us in recent months.

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

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What one specific thing can I do with my time and talents to produce fruit in the vineyard that I call home?

SUNDAY MASS VIA YOU TUBE

Fr. John is saying 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.

ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY

October 4, 2020

**Animal Blessing at 3:00 p.m. in front of the church.
Please stay in your car and drive by Fr. John.
He will bless you, your pet and your car.**

We are sorry to say there is no parish picnic this year to celebrate our feast day.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

This readiness to draw near and serve goes beyond a mere sense of duty. Jesus gave us the greatest example of this when he washed the feet of his disciples: he took off his cloak, knelt down and dirtied his hands (cf. *Jn* 13:1-15).

In order *to be reconciled*, we need *to listen*. God himself taught us this by sending his Son into the world. He wanted to listen to the plea of suffering humanity with human ears: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son...that the world might be saved through him" (*Jn* 3:16-17). A love that reconciles and saves begins with listening. In today's world, messages multiply but the practice of listening is being lost. Yet it is only through humble and attentive listening that we can truly be reconciled. In 2020, silence has reigned for weeks in our streets. A dramatic and troubling silence, but one that has given us the opportunity to listen to the plea of the vulnerable, the displaced and our seriously ill planet. Listening gives us an opportunity to be reconciled with our neighbor, with all those who have been "discarded," with ourselves and with God, who never tires of offering his mercy.

I do want to wish everyone a Blessed Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi!

Until next week,
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

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!!

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**

RELIGIOUS ED ONLINE FAMILY EVENT

All religious education families are encouraged to join us for this year's first online Family Event at 11 am on Sunday, October 4, to celebrate our parish feast day and kick-off our religious education program. More information and the link to join this interactive prayer celebration was sent to families through Flocknote. Please contact the religious education office if you have any questions about the start of this year's program.

SAVE THE DATE

**Ministry Retreat by Zoom!
Saturday, October 10
10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.**

Dr. Susan Timoney is again our presenter. Those who heard Dr. Timoney in May know she is an engaging speaker and retreat leader. She will go deeper into the characteristics needed by pastoral leaders to grow as missionary disciples. The retreat will be pastoral and practical and a valuable time for ministry leaders. Invitations were sent our via Flock Note. If you didn't receive one, please contact Tony Bosnick, abosnick@sfadw.org or 301-840-1407, Ext. 11.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM START

There's Still Time to Sign-up 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.

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 sign-up 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 sfareligious@sfadw.org. Please share this information with others, especially those who will be new to our program!

ST. ELIZABETH BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry will offer a support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, or significant other. On Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 7:30 PM beginning October 7 - November 18, 2020. Sessions will be held in St. E's Commons observing social distancing with mask requirements. If the pandemic worsens sessions will move to a ZOOM format. Because of the social distancing requirement, participation will be limited to only six individuals plus facilitators. All interested parties are encouraged to register early to secure a spot. Registration is required. To register contact Deacon Kevin Byrne (301-279-5962) or Claudia McAuliffe (301-881-1457).

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.

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.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR CANCELLED

We are sad to report that we will not be having our Annual Holiday Bazaar this year. Due to the pandemic and ongoing construction in the parish center it isn't possible this year. We do hope to see everyone next year though!

PLEASE NOTE - TIME CHANGE COMMUNION SERVICE SUNDAYS - 1:30-2:00 PM

Fr. John will offer Holy Communion from 1:30-2:00 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

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

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 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!

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.