

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

#### October 26 - November 1

<b>Monday, 10/26</b>	9:00 a.m.	Marilyn McKay
<b>Tuesday, 10/27</b>	9:00 a.m.	John William Whitty
<b>Wednesday, 10/28</b>	9:00 a.m.	Jay Ruffin (L)
	7:30 p.m.	Almario Vergara
<b>Thursday, 10/29</b>	9:00 a.m.	Lillian Gordon
<b>Friday, 10/30</b>	9:00 a.m.	Hugo Huaman
<b>Saturday, 10/31</b>	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
<b>Sunday, 11/1</b>	8:00 a.m.	Ann Marie McCarthy
	9:30 a.m.	Jane & Rodger F. Ruiz (L)
	11:15 a.m.	Jed Vargo
	5:00 p.m.	Aleyamma Julian

**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 Hilda Dacey, aunt of Donna Zezzo, Deacon Joseph Testudine, Sr.

**Please pray for the sick...** Carol Harmon, Jackie Komlo, 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 Stanek. (Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)

#### Readings for the Week of October 25, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40
<b>Monday:</b>	Eph 4:32—5:8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Eph 5:1]/Lk 13:10-17
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Eph 5:21-33/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [1a]/Lk 13:18-21
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Lk 6:12-16
<b>Thursday:</b>	Eph 6:10-20/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 13:31-35
<b>Friday:</b>	Phil 1:1-11/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 14:1-6
<b>Saturday:</b>	Phil 1:18b-26/Ps 42:2, 3 5cdef/Lk 14:1, 7-11
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

#### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

If he were alive right now, Blessed Carlo Acutis would be twenty-nine years old. But Carlo died when he was just fifteen years old. Carlo was the oldest son of Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, who were not particularly religious. Although born in London, his family moved to Milan when he was about four months old. He was a normal boy who was a natural jokester who enjoyed making his classmates and teachers laugh. At the same time he defended disabled peers at school when bullies mocked them. Outside of school he did voluntary work with the homeless and destitute.

His parents and others around him noticed his skill and passion with computers and the internet. Carlo developed a website that catalogued all of the reported Eucharistic miracles in the world. He began to work on the catalog when he was eleven and completed it in just three years. Carlo admired the initiatives of Blessed James Alberione to use the media to evangelize and to proclaim the Gospel. He wanted to do the same thing with the website that he had created. He also liked films and comic editing and used a PlayStation. On his website he wrote: *“the more Eucharist we receive, the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of heaven.”*

He also loved playing soccer and video games. He also had a sweet tooth. He found it difficult to say no to ice cream and Nutella. When he started to put on some weight, he stood that he needed to practice self-control and temperance. He learned to do this by starting with the simple things. On one occasion he remarked, “What’s the use of winning 1,000 battles if you can’t beat your own passions.” When he was given a diary, he used it to track his progress. He gave himself “good marks” if he behaved well and “bad marks” if he did not meet his expectations. In his diary he wrote down the following: *“Sadness is looking at oneself, happiness is looking at God. Conversion is nothing but a movement of the eyes.”*

At the beginning of the school year in 2006, Carlo did not feel well. It seemed like a normal flu, but when he didn’t get better, his parents took him to a hospital. Shortly afterward he was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia—one of the worst types that you could get. When Carlo heard the diagnosis, he offered his suffering both for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Universal Church. Or as he put it, “I offer to the Lord the sufferings I will have to undergo for the Pope and for the Church, so as not to have to be in Purgatory and to be able to go directly to heaven.” The doctors treating him toward the end of his life asked him if he was in great pain. He responded that there were people who were suffering a lot more than he was. He died on October 12, 2006. He was buried in Assisi in accordance with his wishes. Carlo’s funeral was packed with many poor residents that he had helped.

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

## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*In what ways am I a model for other believers, as the Thessalonians were? What can I do to model the greatest commandments to others?*

### 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](http://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.

**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!!**

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday confessions are heard 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. on the front porch of the Rectory. Please keep in mind safe distancing while waiting your turn to talk to the priest.

### 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

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

The call for Carlo to be beatified began not long after his death. On November 14, 2019, the Vatican's Medical Council of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints expressed a positive opinion about a miracle in Brazil attributed to Carlo's intercession. A Brazilian mother had taken her son who was born with a pancreatic problem that made eating difficult to a prayer service. Beforehand the mother had prayed a novena asking Carlo's intercession for her son. During the service her son simply asked that he should not "throw up as much." Immediately after the service the son told his mother that he felt healed. He asked for solid food when he came home. To that point in time her son could only tolerate an all-liquid diet. After a detailed investigation, Pope Francis confirmed the authenticity of the miracle in February 2020, which led to his beatification.

*Blessed Carlo Acutis, pray for us!*

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*

### 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](http://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*



### PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE SALE KICKS OFF NOVEMBER 28

The St. Francis Christmas Tree Ministry is gearing up for Christmas Tree sales in just over a month! While we will have a smaller inventory than in past years, we hope you will buy your Christmas tree with us and support this annual Advent fundraiser from November 28 to December 13, which benefits our parish community.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the tree lot, offload and stake trees, sell trees and break down the lot. Please sign up to volunteer on Flocknote at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/21902>. Volunteers are strongly encouraged to wear personal protective equipment while taking part. The shifts will be as follows:

- \* Monday through Friday: 3-6 pm and 6 pm to close.
- \* Saturday and Sunday: 9 am-12 pm, 12-3 pm, 3-6 pm and 6 pm to close.

For more information, please contact Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at [brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com](mailto:brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com).

### SOCK-TOBER

So Others Might Eat (SOME) needs new adult socks for the homeless. Please place your donations in the "Sock" Box on the front porch of the rectory during the month of October.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

### ONLINE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

#### ALL SAINTS DAY FAMILY EVENT:

11 AM ON SUNDAY,

#### NOVEMBER 1 AND OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

- On Sunday, November 1, all religious education students and parents are invited to share in our interactive prayer celebration honoring All Saints Day. The link to join will be shared with registered families by Flocknote, and a resource packet for this event will also be sent by U.S. Mail.
- As noted on the Unit 1 checklist found in the folder included in your child's At-Home Catechesis Kit, students are scheduled to complete lessons in their textbooks as follows:
  - week of October 18: Session 1
  - week of October 25: Session 2
  - week of November 1: All Saints Day lesson
  - week of November 8: Session 3
  - week of November 15: Session 4
- Our next online parent meeting introducing the themes of Unit 2 will be held at 11 am on Sunday, November 22. The link for this Zoom meeting will be sent to registered families, and a recorded version will also be made available. Families will also be receiving Unit 2 materials around this time.

Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email [sfareligioused@sfadw.org](mailto:sfareligioused@sfadw.org).

### 2020 ANNUAL APPEAL

*I thank our parishioners who have donated to the 2020 Annual Appeal. Our parish currently stands at 54.5% of our 2020 goal of \$190,100.*

*The Annual Appeal amplifies the impact our parish can make for people in need especially during this pandemic across Washington, D.C. and Maryland including:*

- *Chaplains heroically serving the sick and dying in hospitals*
- *Catholic Charities providing food and other assistance to thousands*
- *St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families continuing to offer temporary housing, counseling and child-care services to single mothers*

*These needs, and many others benefited by the Annual Appeal, depend on our financial support.*

*If you have not yet made your gift to the 2020 Annual Appeal, it is not too late. Visit [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org) to make your gift today. I thank you again for your support of the Annual Appeal. Fr. John*

**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.

## 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.

## NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

1 out of 4 women, 1 out of 7 men have suffered severe physical violence in the hands of their beloved spouse. The Priest Domestic Violence Advisory Committee at Catholic Charities invites parishioners to learn more about how to help families and friends suffering domestic abuse. Help is available at: 800 - 799 - 7233 (24 hours); 800 - 787 - 3224 (TTY). For Catholic Charities resources, videos how to develop a domestic violence ministry at your parish see [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace](http://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](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).

**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.