

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

March 8 - March 14

Monday, 3/8	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Parnell
Tuesday, 3/9	9:00 a.m.	Sadie A. Parrish
Wednesday, 3/10	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
Virtual	7:00 p.m.	Tom Krafchik
Thursday, 3/11	9:00 a.m.	J. Michael Divney, Jr.
Friday, 3/12	9:00 a.m.	Sue Yesko
Saturday, 3/13	5:00 p.m.	Dennis Parnell
Sunday, 3/14	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
	12:00 p.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 Sally Kent, Susan Romano wife of Leonard Romano.

Please pray for the sick... Barbara Schmidt, Linda Ryan-Connors, Betsy Nicholson, Patricia Perryman, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, Jackie Komlo, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Sandra Kimball, 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 March 7, 2021

Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



SUNDAY MARCH 14

SET YOUR CLOCKS ONE HOUR AHEAD

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

As the coronavirus pandemic continues, people have reached out to me because they are feeling anxious, frightened, depressed, but don't understand why. For that reason I thought that I would write today to present some of the warning signs and symptoms of mental illness, according to the National Alliance for Mental Illness. First let's review some common signs of mental illness in adults and adolescents:

- Excessive worrying or fear
- Feeling excessively sad or low
- Confused thinking or problems concentrating and learning
- Extreme mood changes, including uncontrollable "highs" or feelings of euphoria
- Prolonged or strong feelings of irritability or anger
- Avoiding friends and social activities
- Difficulties understanding or relating to other people
- Difficulty perceiving reality (delusions or hallucinations, in which a person experiences and senses things that don't exist in objective reality)
- Multiple physical ailments without obvious causes (such as headaches, stomach aches, vague and ongoing "aches and pains")
- Inability to perceive changes in one's own feelings, behavior or personality
- Changes in sex drive
- Changes in sleeping habits or feeling tired and low energy
- Changes in eating habits such as increased hunger or lack of appetite
- Overuse of substances like alcohol or drugs
- Inability to carry out daily activities or handle daily problems and stress
- Thinking about suicide

Young children can also begin to develop mental health conditions. Because they are still learning how to identify and talk about thoughts and emotions, the most obvious symptoms are behavioral. Symptoms in children could include the following:

- Changes in school performance
- Excessive worry or anxiety, for instance trying to avoid bed or school
- Hyperactive behavior
- Frequent nightmares
- Frequent disobedience or aggression
- Frequent temper tantrums

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

Third Sunday in Lent

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How does the undeserved mercy that God shows me impact the way I treat those people who have done me wrong or who I consider to be sinners?

VIRTUAL LENTEN PARISH MISSION CONTINUES ON MARCH 12 & 19

Come join us for the virtual Lenten Parish Mission! On the next three Fridays during Lent, come hear from clergy members, parishioners and parish staff members, who will share their faith on the overarching topic of "Encountering Jesus on Your Journey." Signup on Flocknote is required to access the Zoom meetings; please sign up at <https://www.sfadw.org/lentandeaster2021>. After you sign up, you will receive both the Zoom link and pass code to enter the sessions for which you have registered. The speakers for the next sessions are as follows:

- March 12: Deacon Jim Datovech speaking on reading and praying the Word of God
- March 19: Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick and parishioners Betty Baklarz and Carolyn Brauer speaking on serving our neighbors in need.

For more information, please contact Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

The Catholic Relief Services Collection will be taken next weekend, March 13/14. CRS supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from the collection help provide food to the hungry, welcome and support to displaced refugees, and invaluable life skills to those seeking a better life. Please give generously to this Archdiocesan collection.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Don't be afraid to reach out if you or someone you know needs help. Learning all you can about mental health is an important first step. Reach out to your health insurance, primary care doctor or state/county mental authority for more resources. You can contact the NAMI HelpLine (800-950-6264) to find out what services and supports are available in your community. You can also check out the NAMI website (<https://www.nami.org>), which has much valuable information.

Finally, if you or someone you know needs help now, you should immediately call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or call 911.

Until next week,

Fr. John

LENTEN EVENTS & SERVICES

Prayer:

- **Morning and Evening Prayers:** 7:30 am and 7:30 pm daily on Zoom. *During Lent Evening Prayer is at 7:00 p.m.*
- **Virtual Parish Rosary:** 4 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on Zoom.
- **Rosary in Spanish:** 6:30 pm on Tuesdays on Zoom.
- **Stations of the Cross (in the church) Fridays during Lent, 7:30 p.m.**
- **Outdoor Stations of the Cross:** 3:30 pm Palm Sunday.

Fasting and Almsgiving:

- **Catholic Relief Services Activities:** Rice Bowls are available on a table in the Gathering Space.
- **Crosses for Haiti:** Pick up envelopes near the church doors to support this Lenten fundraiser benefitting our Haiti Medical Mission.

Special Liturgies and Services:

- **Confession** heard from 6:30-7:45 pm on March 10, 17, 24, and 31 in the St. Clare Rectory Chapel and from 3:30-4:30 pm on Saturdays in the Church.
- **Lenten Mission** given by clergy and parishioners dedicated to discipleship during two virtual sessions March 12, and 19.

WITNESS AT THE CARHART CLINIC LATE-TERM ABORTION CLINIC

Would you like to witness for the unborn? Come join other local Catholics at 3 pm Sunday, March 7, in praying to end abortion. The group meets at the LeRoy Carhart third-trimester abortion facility in the Wildwood Medical Center in Bethesda, along the public sidewalk facing Old Georgetown Road; please wear a facial mask and stay socially distanced from others who are praying. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

REMINDER-HAITI COFFEE SALE

Just Haiti Coffee will be sold after all in-person Masses in the grassy area just in front of the church the weekend of March 6-7. Please support the Haitian farmers in our sister parish by purchasing a bag or 10 of this fair trade coffee, which is also available in K-cups. Cash or credit cards are accepted payment.



SUSTAINABILITY IN EL SALVADOR - Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques-and a new generation of young farmers-are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can your support young people in your community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATES

- As noted on the Unit 4 checklist provided to all Registered families by US mail, students are scheduled to complete lessons in their textbooks as follows:
 - * Week of March 7: Session 18
 - * Week of March 14: Session 19
- Special Needs Catechesis Class meets online at 3:30 pm on Sunday, March 7.
- Family Small Groups meet online during the week of March 14 on Sunday at 11 am and 7 pm; Monday at 7 pm; and Wednesday at 7:30 pm.
- Online sessions for Middle School students meet next on March 15 and 16.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: the next First Eucharist Parent Meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 10 or Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 pm. Parents are asked to attend one of these online Zoom meetings. The link to join will be sent directly to families. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2021 to join us for this summer's Vacation Bible Camp, July 19-23. Program details will be announced later this spring as we know more about safety protocols for summer programs. Our VBC format could include any or all of the following: some level of in-person sessions, at-home activities, digital content, and possible online gatherings. We expect to open registration for campers and teen volunteers by June 1.

VIRTUAL PARENTS WORKSHOP OFFERED AT 7:00 PM THURSDAYS DURING MARCH

Every Thursday through March 25, the Archdiocesan Office for Family Life and the Christian Family Movement will offer a four-week virtual workshop series for parents from 7-8 pm. Topics will include recognizing God in our families, using our time faithfully, caring for our relationships, faith-building customs and activities and guarding our children to live for Christ. Materials for all the sessions will be provided and the cost per family is \$10. To register, go to <https://workshopforparents.eventbrite.com> or call the Archdiocesan Office for Family Life at (301) 853-4546 or e-mail visiblesign@adw.org.

ENCOURAGE MINISTRY

EnCourage is a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of persons who have same-sex attractions. Standing by the true teaching of the Catholic Church, EnCourage members support one another and their loved ones through discussion, prayer, and fellowship. Please contact Fr. John for more information at 301-840-1407 or email him at jdillon@sfadw.org.

A MILLION ROSARIES

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

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 - 1:30-2:00 PM

Fr. John offers Holy Communion from 1:30-2:00 pm in front of the church or in the Gathering Space depending on the weather 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.



ANNUAL PLANT & FLOWER SALE

Friday, May 7

Saturday, May 8

Sunday, May 9

Save the date!!

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

<http://www.facebook.com/stjuderockvillemd>

CURRENT FAMILIES RE-REGISTER FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR NOW! Please re-registered your children for the 2021 school year now! We have a waiting list in a number of classes, and we wouldn't want your children to lose their places! To register go to <https://www.stjuderockville.org/admissions/apply-now>. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Donnelly at Ellen.donnelly@stjuderockville.org or 301-946-7888.

MARYLAND BOOST SCHOLARSHIP - *We need BOOST!!* The Maryland BOOST program supports over 40 students at St. Jude and so many others in private schools throughout Maryland. Follow the link below to show your support for the BOOST program to ensure families have the opportunity to receive a St. Jude education! **Please ask the Senators and Delegates on key committees to support economic justice for Maryland families by voting for full BOOST funding of \$10 million. They are expected to vote on BOOST within the next few days.** Go to <https://www.marylandboost.org>, then click on "Join the BOOST Action Network" Fill out the form. Your message will be sent directly to the legislators. If you are from a BOOST family, add a personal message about how BOOST has made a difference for your family. BOOST students are thriving in school and the achievement gap is closing. BOOST empowers families who would not otherwise be able to afford to send their child to a nonpublic school to provide their children with the education that best fits his or her needs. Thank you for being a voice for BOOST and educational options for Maryland families.