

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

**May 17 - May 23**

<b>Monday, 5/17</b>	9:00 a.m.	Peter Konieczny
<b>Tuesday, 5/18</b>	9:00 a.m.	Glenn Young
<b>Wednesday, 5/19</b>	9:00 a.m.	Bob Balkam
<b>VIRTUAL</b>	7:00 p.m.	John Francis Stehle
<b>Thursday, 5/20</b>	9:00 a.m.	Joshua Kloster
<b>Friday, 5/21</b>	9:00 a.m.	Catherine Dillon Bullen
<b>Saturday, 5/22</b>	5:00 p.m.	James Galvin
<b>Sunday, 5/23</b>	9:00 a.m.	<b>Fr. John Dillon (L) 23rd Ordination Anniversary</b>
	12:00 p.m.	RE Catechists & Families (L)

**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 Teresita Marchany Vda. de Almodovar, mother of Wanda Canino.

**Please pray for the sick...** Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, Jackie Komlo, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Sandra Kimball, Ed Dudenhoefter, 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 16, 2021

<b>Sunday:</b>	Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/ Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/ Jn 16:29-33
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/ Jn 17:1-11a
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/ Jn 21:20-25
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/ Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16: 12-15

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Happy Solemnity of the Ascension! This is a special feast day in the history of the Church. On the day that Jesus ascended to heaven to remain with his Father he commanded his disciples to carry on the task to proclaim the good news to the whole world. Now, two thousand years later, we are the disciples who must carry out this task to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.

Here is a question that I think all of us could consider today: What can I do today to witness actively to my faith? Do we speak up when someone says or does something unchristian? Do we speak out against social injustice, political injustice, or economic injustice? I want to single out an issue of social, political, and economic injustice for which our late beloved Father Ralph Kuehner advocated tirelessly for decades: affordable housing for all. This is a task that still remains before us. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has provided some good background information on Racism and Housing that I want to rely upon for the rest of this column. This will help us appreciate the work that remains before us.

Decent housing is a basic human right—deserved by all due to their dignity as being created in God's image. Without decent, safe, and affordable housing, all aspects of family life suffer, and a life of dignity is impossible. Yet an affordable housing crisis is a current reality in the U.S., and for minorities, it has been a reality throughout the nation's history.

After the Civil War, the great majority of freed slaves lived in the South, often in dilapidated shacks. Such housing was provided by white landowners to Black sharecroppers who would work for free for the housing and a small portion of the crops. The workers did not own the dwellings and could be evicted at any time. With the Great Migration north in the beginning of the twentieth century to seek employment and better lives, African Americans were crowded into low-income housing in cities like Chicago or Detroit in areas that became increasingly segregated.

Later in the twentieth century, African Americans seeking housing were faced with both private and governmental prejudice. Private homeowners, real estate agents, and private developers (such as the founder of Levittown) could, and would, refuse to sell to Black citizens, so they were confined to segregated areas. The U.S. Federal Housing Administration policies and programs in the 1930s-1950s used strategies to deny mortgages, home loans, and home ownership to Blacks. For example, the practice of redlining—actually drawing red lines on maps around predominantly African American neighborhoods to indicate where banks could not get federal insurance for loans they made—ensured that banks denied all mortgage requests from people in these areas. African American WWII veterans were denied access to low-rate mortgages available to white veterans under the GI Bill.

The U.S. Government also built segregated public housing (as part of the New Deal in the 1930s), first for low-income whites, then for low-income Blacks. With the housing boom after WWII, whites could leave public housing and buy low and moderate-priced houses in the growing suburbs with new means of financing; both the new suburbs and new forms of mortgages were closed off for African-Americans.

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

**May 16, 2021**

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

*What can I do to witness actively to my faith?*

### **SPRING PROJECT CONTINUES MAY 22**

#### **AT THE OUTDOOR STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

On Saturday, May 22, the Garden Care Ministry welcomes parishioners of all ages to come weed, mulch and plant ferns from 10 am-12:30 pm at the Outdoor Stations of the Cross behind the Rectory as part of an outdoor spring cleanup project. All are welcome, but a parent or guardian should plan to accompany any children under the age of 13 who participate. For more information, please contact Social Concerns Director Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### **LOOK OUT FOR PREMIERE DATE OF THE PARISH VIRTUAL MAY CROWNING SERVICE**

Please check Flocknote and other electronic communication platforms for the premiere date of our virtual May Crowning service. The service to honor our Blessed Mother will premiere on the parish YouTube Channel before the end of the month of May.

### ***THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR***

They were often trapped in decaying older housing stock in certain urban blocks or in the blocks of public housing, poorly designed and poorly maintained by the Federal government.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 required the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to take "affirmative" steps to end housing discrimination and promote integration. But after five decades, the federal housing discrimination ban has failed to end segregation and provide equal access to housing opportunities for all, particularly African Americans. Today, many Latinos also face limited opportunities for decent housing. Native Americans on reservations continue to live in substandard housing. The plight of homelessness continues to be a major social problem, especially for minorities, who are a population more vulnerable to eviction. The American Dream of owning decent homes still remains a distant dream for many in this country.

Let me close this column with a quotation from Saint John Paul II:

*"Lord, our God, you created the human being, man and woman, in your image and likeness, and you willed the diversity of people within the unity of the human family. At times, however, the equality of your sons and daughters has not been acknowledged, and Christians has been guilty of attitudes of rejection and exclusion, consenting to acts of discrimination on the basis of racial and ethnic differences. Forgive us and grant us the grace to heal the wounds still present in your community on account of sin, so that we will all feel ourselves to be your sons and daughters." (Universal Prayer on the Day of Pardon)*

Until next week,

**Fr. John Dillon**  
**Pastor**

### ***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*

### **LEARNING HOW WE MIGHT HELP OUR FAMILY MEMBERS RETURN TO THE CHURCH**

Do you have a family member who has left the Catholic Church? In June, our parish will organize a small group discussion on the book, "RETURN: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church," by author Brandon Vogt. It is a practical guide providing insights on how we might prop open the door for our children and other family members to return to the Church. The parish can order copies of the book at \$10 apiece. The small groups will meet on Zoom, with participants having the option to either join a parish group that will gather on Tuesday evenings starting June 1 or forming their own groups at the time and date of their choosing. If you are interested in joining a small group to discuss this book, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### **ROSARY TO PRAY FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC TAKES PLACE MAY 17 AT WASHINGTON DC'S BASILICA**

Join other Catholics around the world, as the Basilica of the National Shrine for the Immaculate Conception hosts a recitation of the Rosary at noon Monday, May 17, as part of Pope Francis' appeal for Rosaries to be prayed worldwide to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Led by Wilton Cardinal Gregory, the Rosary prayed on May 17 will be prayed for all world leaders and for all heads of international organizations. With the Great Upper Church having the capacity to seat 1,000 people in a socially distanced manner, the event is open to the public. Local Catholics are encouraged to pray in person by registering at [www.nationalshrine.org/mass-registration](http://www.nationalshrine.org/mass-registration). For those unable to attend in person, it will be live streamed at [www.nationalshrine.org/mass](http://www.nationalshrine.org/mass).

### **NEW PAGE LISTING COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS FOR PARISH'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY NOW LAUNCHED**

Did you know our parish is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June 2022? Find out how our parish is marking this milestone anniversary on the new parish web page, <https://www.sfadw.org/50thanniversarycelebration>. The web page will feature all new activities and events that are being planned by the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee. The first activity involves a parish wide contest to identify a theme for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Please send any suggestions to co-Committee Chairs, Linda Foster at [thebchmom@gmail.com](mailto:thebchmom@gmail.com) or Sylvia Jones at [decafqueen@gmail.com](mailto:decafqueen@gmail.com), by May 21.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATES

- All Religious Education parents are asked to join us for a time of reflection and celebration as we meet online for a wrap-up Religious Education Parent Meeting at 11 am today, Sunday, May 16. The link to join will be shared with registered families by Flocknote.
- Special Needs Catechesis Class meets online at 3:30 pm on Sunday, May 16.

Thank you to all of our catechists and Religious Education families for all that you have done to support our children's continuing growth in faith! Student textbooks are yours to keep and you may wish to take time over the summer to complete any lessons that have been missed during the school year. Please continue to also use the Bible provided for reflection and prayer at home. We hope that students will be able to use their Bibles again for RE classes when we resume in the fall.

### REGISTRATION FOR 2021-2022

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION WILL OPEN IN MID-JULY

We will be following with care the safety protocols required by Montgomery County and the Archdiocese of Washington as we make plans for next year's Religious Education classes. Please watch for updates on the parish website and through parish communications. We will announce plans and open registration for next year's Religious Education program and sacramental preparation in mid-July.

As we look ahead to next year's Religious Education program, please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

#### UPCOMING SACRAMENTS AT ST. FRANCIS

Please pray for the young people of our parish who are preparing for Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at 11:00 am on Saturday, May 15; 7:30 pm on Friday, May 21; 11:00 am on Saturday, May 22; and 5:00 pm on Sunday, May 23.

### PLANT SALE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our Annual Plant Sale. A big thank you to the volunteers who weathered the rain, winds and cold. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus who helped unload the plants on Friday and set up the tents for the sale. We appreciate everyone's support. See you next year! *Sylvia Jones*

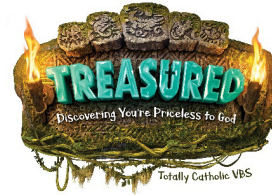
#### COMMUNION SERVICE SUNDAYS - 1:30-2:00 PM

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

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN** If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or [mariannebu@comcast.net](mailto:mariannebu@comcast.net) with your requests.

*Send your kids on a gem of an adventure!*

**Vacation Bible Camp: July 19-23, 2021  
for children age 4 through those who are completing 5th grade in June 2021**



*At Treasured VBC, kids will discover they are priceless to God as they enjoy one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures, creative art projects, memorable Bible-learning activities, saint stories, & Catholic i.d., lively music and movement, games and more. Plus, we'll help kids see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®.*

Our program this summer will include options for participating from home OR in-person (with covid safety protocols in place) — families can choose the format that's best for them!

*ADULTS & TEENS (GRADES 6-12 AS OF JUNE 2021) CAN SHARE THE FUN AS WELL AS VBC VOLUNTEERS!*

Check the parish website for registration information and more details. We expect to open registration and application for teen volunteers by June 1.

### Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

*We are...St. Jude*

[www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org)

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

**BOOST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** We are excited to share that the state is currently accepting applications for the BOOST Scholarship Program for the 2021-2022 school year! The program is open to both public school students seeking a scholarship to St. Jude Regional Catholic School (or any other nonpublic school) and current St. Jude students! Please remember that you must reapply even if your student received BOOST in prior years. All applications must be submitted by **midnight on May 17, 2021**. To apply or learn more about the BOOST scholarship program visit: [www.marylandpublicschools.org/BOOST](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/BOOST).

#### CATCH OUR SPIRIT!

#### REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2021!

Spaces are filling up quickly so register now! Applications for fall enrollment are being accepted on a first come basis for our 3 year-old Pre-K to 7<sup>th</sup> grade (limited spaces are available). For information on the curriculum, admissions policies, and registration, contact Ellen Donnelly in the school office at 301-946-7888 or register your student online at [www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org)

**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