

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

**May 31 - June 6**

<b>Monday, 5/31</b>	9:00 a.m.	Deceased Veterans
<b>Tuesday, 6/1</b>	9:00 a.m.	Noah Vincent
<b>Wednesday, 6/2</b>	9:00 a.m.	Patricia Wilson (L)
<b>VIRTUAL</b>	7:00 p.m.	Vivian J. Walker
<b>Thursday, 6/3</b>	9:00 a.m.	Ann Marie Akpan (L)
<b>Friday, 6/4</b>	9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
<b>Saturday, 6/5</b>	5:00 p.m.	<i>Propopulo</i>
<b>Sunday, 6/6</b>	9:00 a.m.	Jose Relunia, Sr.
	12:00 p.m.	All 2021 Graduates (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 souls of Katherine Regina Lewis, sister of Reverend Patrick Lewis, Archdiocese of Washington, Maryanne Culliton, mother of Tom Culliton.

**Please pray for the sick...** Fr. Bob McCreary, Fr. Joe Mindling, Betty Johnson, 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 30, 2021

<b>Sunday:</b>	Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 [12b]/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20
<b>Monday:</b>	Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [6]/Lk 1:39-56
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Tb 2:9-14/Ps 112:1-2, 7-8, 9 [cf. 7c]/ Mk 12:13-17
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a/Ps 25:2-3, 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [1]/Mk 12:18-27
<b>Thursday:</b>	Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 12:28-34
<b>Friday:</b>	Tb 11:5-17/Ps 146:1b-2, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Mk 12:35-37
<b>Saturday:</b>	Tb 12:1, 5-15, 20/Tb 13:2, 6efgh, 7, 8 [1b]/ Mk 12:38-44
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 [13]/ Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-2

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Over the last three weeks we have been looking at *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, a pastoral letter that Catholic Bishops of the United States issued in November 2018 in which they call all Catholics to acknowledge “the scourge of racism” that still exists in our hearts, words, actions, and institutions. The Bishops point out that racism can be individual, when people fail to recognize certain groups as being created in the image of God and equal in dignity. Racism can also be systemic, where practices or policies treat certain groups of people unjustly. One area of systemic racism is lack of access to quality education for persons of color. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have issued a very good background sheet on “Racism and Education” that will be my source of information for this column. Here is the link for the backgrounder for those of you who would want to consult it directly: [Racism and Education | USCCB](#).

As children of God, all persons have a God-given right to flourish and develop their potential, so they may lead lives of dignity and contribute to the common good. The right to education has been cited in Papal encyclicals for over a century.

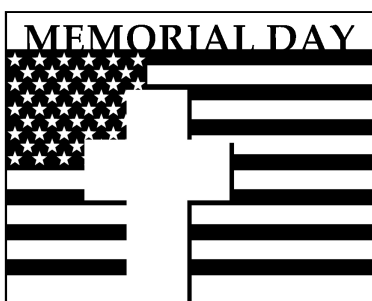
Unfortunately, millions in the United States were denied that right. Before Emancipation in 1863, teaching enslaved black people to read and write was illegal. After slavery ended, for the next century, almost every school in the United States was segregated. Further, public schools for minorities were given limited resources. By the 1960s, the great majority of African-Americans, Native Americans, and Latino students, were educated in segregated and underfunded schools. Most colleges had few, if any, minority students.

During the Civil Rights Movement of the late 1950s and the 60s, school desegregations was a major issue, causing bitter, sometimes violent, struggles. In 1954, the Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* that all U.S. schools should be integrated.

Regrettably, recent studies have shown that after initial gains, schools are now as segregated as they were before the Brown decision. Today in schools located in high-poverty areas, the majority of students are African American, Hispanic or Latino. Because public schools chiefly depend on local real estate taxes for funding, schools in areas with high housing values can offer more to students, often leaving many minority students out of the equation.

The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights has studied the critical gaps of these inequitable funding structures. The recent data from that office shows consistent problems for minority students, such as limited access to early learning, lack of teacher equity, limited access to courses and programs that lead to college and career readiness, and low rates of teacher retention. Schools on Native-American reservations face a host of additional barriers to student success.

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



**May 30, 2021**

### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

*When have I noticed the Spirit's presence in my life? How can I become more aware of the Spirit's effect on me?*

### **CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR CHANGED PROTOCOLS FOR GATHERINGS AT CHURCH**

Beginning at 6 am Friday, May 28, Montgomery County adopted the state's guidelines for local health protocols against the coronavirus, which lift all capacity restrictions for businesses throughout the county and state. Please check the in-person Mass protocols page of the web site at <https://www.sfadw.org/reopening-our-parish> to find out our safety protocols at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, effective May 28. These issues will also be covered in Flocknote messages from Fr. John. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

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

Without quality pre-school programs, many minority students start grade school at a disadvantage. Inexperienced teachers and teachers with limited professional development opportunities are twice as likely to teach in minority public schools. Many African Americans and Latinos attend schools that do not offer the intensive writing classes and upper level math courses needed for college admission, and these schools do not offer adequate college and career counseling. Without resources, consistent support and mentoring, minority students drop out of school at much higher rates than white students—recent statistics show that while 62% of white students get a college degree in 4-6 years, only 38% of Black students, 45% of Latino students and 13% of Native Americans do.

Catholic schools, in fulfillment of their mission on behalf of all children of God, must strive to increase enrollment of underserved populations, including Hispanic/Latino and African American students, in order to ensure that high-quality educational opportunity is available to all students. We must work together as people of faith to improve educational opportunities for all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Let me leave you with this closing thought, which is taken from *Open Wide Our Hearts*:

*"The poverty experienced by many...communities has its roots in racist policies that continue to impede the ability of people to find affordable housing, meaningful work, adequate education, and social mobility."*

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*

### **WITNESS AT THE CARHART CLINIC LATE-TERM ABORTION CLINIC**

Would you like to witness for the unborn? Come join other local Catholics at 2 pm Sunday, June 6, 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. The wearing of face masks is not required, but is strongly encouraged for those who are not fully vaccinated against the coronavirus. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### **SEND YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR PARISH'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY THEME**

It's not too late to offer your ideas for our parish's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme! In June 2022, St. Francis of Assisi Parish will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an archdiocesan parish, but festivities will kick off at our Parish Picnic and Feast Day on October 3, 2021. Help organizers identify an overarching theme around which to celebrate and plan our events; ideal themes would be less than 10 words and be reflective of our warm and diverse parish community. Submit your idea for a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme to Planning Co-Chairs Linda Foster at [thebchmom@gmail.com](mailto:thebchmom@gmail.com) or Sylvia Jones at [decaffqueen@gmail.com](mailto:decaffqueen@gmail.com) by May 31. A \$100 Amazon gift card will be awarded to the person submitting the winning entry. Good luck and thank you!

### **LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR COLLECTION**

Normally the Little Sisters would visit our parish and stand at the doors asking for donations. Unfortunately due to COVID they are not able to do that at this time. They are still in need of your help. We will have envelopes at the church doors marked "Little Sisters of the Poor" for the weekends of June 5/6 and June 12/13. Please put your donation in the regular collection basket. If you are writing a check please make the check out to St. Francis and we will make sure your donation gets to the Sisters. ***On behalf of the Little Sisters thank you for your generosity.***

### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Beginning Tuesday, June 1 the Parish Office will be back to normal office hours. Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4 pm.

We are asking visitors to please wear Face Masks when coming to the Parish Office.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our class meets online next Sunday, June 6 from 3:30-4:30 pm. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

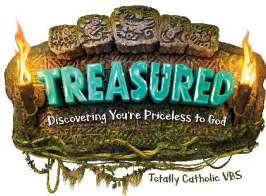
### REGISTRATION FOR 2021-2022

#### 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.

### 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®.*

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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!

**Registration is now open!**

**Check the VBC page of parish website for registration form and more details!**

Due to covid protocols, our in-person option is limited to 48 campers total. Registrations will be processed in the order received. To allow time to order supplies and t-shirts, camper registration will close on June 12, 2021.

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

*Due to covid protocols, in-person teen volunteer positions are limited. However, additional spots are available for those willing to help with preparation for the at-home option and other tasks as needed in preparation for VBC. To be considered for these volunteer opportunities, complete the teen volunteer application form (found on the VBC page of the parish website) by June 7, 2021. Placement will be announced by June 10, 2021.*



### CONFIRMATION 2021

Rafael MICHAEL Babay  
Aldrin ALOYSIUS Blor  
Gianluca MAXIMUS Cannetti  
Andrea ANDREA Castillo  
Ryan DOMINIC Corkery  
John PAUL Corkery  
Charles SEBASTIAN Devereux III  
Dysan DYSAN DEJESUS Diaz Veloz  
Randall MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL Drago  
Lia CLARE Federico  
Million FRANCIS Fessuh  
Niyat TERESA Fessuh  
Yesha YESHA Flores  
Skyler CHRISTINE Galley  
Sebastian ALOYSIUS GONZAGA Garcia  
Brian ANTHONY Gomes  
Makayla MAKAYLA Gross  
Jason PETER Hennessey  
Kieran ROCH Keiller  
Caitlyn CATHERINE OF BOLOGNA Kelly  
Tod Dave SEBASTIAN L.S.A. Don  
Annabelle MICHELLE Leonard  
Ryan RYAN Magnani  
Ana MARIE Malasquez  
Ashley ASHLEY Mathwin  
Adam NICHOLAS STENO Meyer  
Eleanor FRANCIS Mikula  
Maryn GEMMA Moore  
Kelsi MARIA GORETTI Munsey  
Charles ANDREW Planty  
Kevin DAVID Reyes  
Kaylin JULIA Reyes  
Natalia CATHERINE Rodriguez Vasquez  
Trinity MARK Rosario  
Vincent JOSEPH Ryba  
Gabrielle KATERI Smith  
Carissa GEMMA GALGANI Tanseco  
Mia ISABEL Tunche  
Rane TERESA OF CALCUTTA Vitug  
Chris MICHAEL Zang Mvogo

### 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](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace).