

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

### July 12 - July 18

<b>Monday, 7/12</b>	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
<b>Tuesday, 7/13</b>	9:00 a.m.	Kathy Lopez (L)
<b>Wednesday, 7/14</b>	9:00 a.m.	Don Smith
	7:30 p.m.	Pavian Konath
<b>Thursday, 7/15</b>	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Fitzgerald
<b>Friday, 7/16</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mary Bradley
<b>Saturday, 7/17</b>	5:00 p.m.	Truda Frekko
<b>Sunday, 7/18</b>	8:00 a.m.	Jack D'Aurora
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Stella Battista
	5:00 p.m.	Jose Argueta

**Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John if not prayed for in a public Mass.**

**Please pray for the sick...** Jeanette Davidson, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, Jackie Komlo, Allison Brauer, 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 July 11, 2021

<b>Sunday:</b>	Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/ Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13
<b>Monday:</b>	Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 [8a]/ Mt 10:34—11:1
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34 [cf. 33]/ Mt 11:20-24
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7 [8a]/ Mt 11:25-27
<b>Thursday:</b>	Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27 [8a]/Mt 11:28-30
<b>Friday:</b>	Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18 [13]/Mt 12:1-8
<b>Saturday:</b>	Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/ Mt 12:14-21
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/ Mk 6:30-34

### 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**

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Often priests of the Archdiocese of Washington are asked to undertake other responsibilities in addition to their parish duties. Three years ago I was asked to become the Chaplain to the Courage Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Washington. Courage offers support for Catholic men and women who experience same-sex attraction and desire to live chaste lives following the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. In the course of my work in the Courage, I have found a document issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2006 to be of enormous help in understanding the issues involved with this pastoral situation. Today I am going to present the introduction to this document and one of the general principles to bear in mind when considering this issue.

#### INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Church is to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people and to minister to all people in his name. In our time and culture, special challenges are faced by those Church members who carry out this mission among people who experience same-sex attraction. There are many forces in our society that promote a view of sexuality in general, and of homosexuality in particular, not in accord with God's purpose and plan for human sexuality.

To offer guidance in the face of pervasive confusion, the Catholic bishops of the United States find it timely to provide basic guidelines for pastoral ministry to persons with a homosexual inclination or tendency. These guidelines are intended to assist bishops in evaluating existing or proposed programs and ministerial efforts and to provide direction and guidance for those engaged in this ministry.

#### GENERAL PRINCIPLES

##### Respecting Human Dignity

The commission of the Church to preach the Good News to all people in every land points to the fundamental dignity possessed by each person as created by God. God has created every human person out of love and wishes to grant him or her eternal life in the communion of the Trinity. All people are created in the image and likeness of God and thus possess an innate human dignity that must be acknowledged and respected.

In keeping with this conviction, the Church teaches that persons with a homosexual inclination "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity." We recognize that these persons have been, and often continue to be, objects of scorn, hatred, and even violence in some sectors of our society. Sometimes this hatred is manifested clearly; other times, it is masked and gives rise to more disguised forms of hatred. "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors whenever it occurs."

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

July 11, 2021

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*Can I recall a time when I was provided what I needed to bring God's blessings to others? Can I trust in God whenever I feel inadequate to the task?*

### DESPITE PANDEMIC, REBUILDING TOGETHER CONTINUED ITS WORK - HELP US HELP OUT IN OUR PARISH

Despite needing to switch gears in its program model due to the pandemic, Rebuilding Together Montgomery County continued to provide much needed home repairs to seniors and persons with disabilities over the past year by engaging with contractor partners to do the work. For more than a decade, St. Francis of Assisi Parish had an active team of volunteers who helped with home repairs on an annual service day, and if this model is still available next year, we would love to resume this ministry work. Do you have a desire to serve the community and your church this way by stepping forward as the Rebuilding Together team captain? If so, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org) for more information.

### HELP FOR MARRIAGES IN TROUBLE

Is your marriage going down the right road or is it a little off track? Looking for a better way? The Retrouvaille Program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship. It is a Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, in which couples of all faiths or no faith background are encouraged to attend. It can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy, and heal. For confidential information about or to register for the weekend September 3-5 2021, please visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org), call 443-400-7017, or e-mail: [3015@HelpOurMarriage.org](mailto:3015@HelpOurMarriage.org). There is hope!

### SUMMER VACATION MASS TIMES

While traveling this summer, don't forget to visit [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) for Mass times and locations across the country.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

#### Respecting Human Dignity (continued)

Those who would minister in the name of the Church must in no way contribute to such injustice. They should prayerfully examine their own hearts in order to discern any thoughts or feelings that might stand in the need of purification. Those who minister are also called to growth in holiness. In fact, the work of spreading the Good News involves an ever-increasing love for those to whom one is ministering by calling them to the truth of Jesus Christ.

I will continue this presentation of General Principles next week.

Until then,

*Fr. John*

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL HOLDS ITS LAST MEETING OF THE SUMMER

During the Parish Pastoral Council meeting on June 24, members of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Racism announced they would offer another "Four Courageous Conversations" listening session in October and work with the parish's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee to host an International Night to celebrate the diversity of the parish.

In April, the Ad-Hoc Committee hosted its first two-part listening session, during which about 20 parishioners took part in discussing their experiences and observations with racism and racial justice. The committee developed an action plan from that dialogue, which included sharing unconscious and conscious racial biases through communications platforms as an educational tool and writing a letter to Cardinal Gregory encouraging church leaders to speak out more visibly about racism.

The Parish Pastoral Council also:

- Heard reports from the Communications, Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns and Religious Education ministries. It also heard a report from St. Jude Regional School, which the parish helps with operational funds, and heard a general parish finances report.
- Heard a report from the New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance, which continues to help asylees, immigrants and undocumented families in Montgomery and Prince Georges counties through partnerships with other faith-based houses of worship.

The June 24 meeting marked the last one before the Parish Pastoral Council reconvenes in September. To read past minutes from the Parish Pastoral Council minutes, please see them at <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>. For more information about the Parish Pastoral Council, please e-mail [asktheppc@gmail.com](mailto:asktheppc@gmail.com).

### FREE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON LAUDATO SI STARTS ON JULY 13

All Catholics are invited to attend a free virtual conference to be held July 13-15 on "Laudato Si and the U.S. Catholic Church: A Conference Series on Our Common Home." Sponsored by the Catholic Climate Covenant and Creighton University, the virtual conference will open July 13 with keynote addresses by Eminence Blase Cardinal Cupich, the Archbishop of Chicago (IL), and Maureen Day, an assistant professor of religion and society at the Franciscan School of Theology. The conference continues July 14 and 15 with interactive breakout sessions in eight areas of the Catholic Church working faithfully to incorporate *Laudato Si*. Register for the free conference at [https://reg.abcsignup.com/s\\_reg/reg\\_registration\\_maintenance.aspx?ek=0036-0013-440150ea4e6b4155aae2e37436d164b1](https://reg.abcsignup.com/s_reg/reg_registration_maintenance.aspx?ek=0036-0013-440150ea4e6b4155aae2e37436d164b1).

### SAVE THE DATE ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATES

### 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.

We expect to continue to offer parents the option to teach their children at home ("home school" model) and also hope to return to some level of in-person classes with covid safety protocols in place.

Families will choose the program model that works best for them. Calendar and frequency of in-person classes to be determined.

- Two session times are expected for Kindergarten-Grade 5 classes: Sunday morning and Monday afternoon.
- Two session times are being planned for Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes: Monday and Tuesday evenings.
- Classes for children and youth with special needs will continue to be offered on Sunday afternoons.

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.

To receive email updates about our parish Religious Education program, including notice when registration opens, sign up for the Religious Education group found in Flocknote: <https://SFADerwood.flocknote.com/ReligiousEducation>.

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.

#### Information Regarding Sacramental Preparation for 2021-22

Sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, and full initiation in the adapted RCIA for children and teens seeking Baptism will also be offered in adapted formats as needed for compliance with covid protocols.

- 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 when registering for Religious Education so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs.

**Parents of registered campers and accepted teen volunteers: Watch your email for additional information and updates as we prepare for VBC!**

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

***Registration is now closed.***

### *Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School*

*We are...St. Jude*

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

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

**Instagram:** [stjuderockville](https://www.instagram.com/stjuderockville)

**Twitter:** [@StJudeRCS](https://twitter.com/StJudeRCS)

#### LOOKING FOR A WONDERFUL, SPIRIT FILLED SCHOOL?

St. Jude Regional Catholic School has openings in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 6th, and 7th. Limited seating! Contact the front office at 301-946-7888 or email Ellen Donnelly at [Ellen.Donnelly@stjuderockville.org](mailto:Ellen.Donnelly@stjuderockville.org). "Build yourselves up in your most holy faith, pray in the Holy Spirit." Jude 1:20

#### ORDER YOUR 2021 SCHOOL SUPPLIES NOW!

Order your student's school supplies for the 2021-2022 school year by **JULY 20TH!** Kits are customized to the teachers of St. Jude Regional Catholic School, and will be waiting on your child's desk on the first day of school. Please visit the following website <https://www.educationalproducts.com/ShopPacks/> School code: stj002.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Shady Grove Pregnancy Center is in need of a Community Outreach Coordinator. This full-time position works with the Executive Director in developing and maintaining fundraising projects and events, digital and social media communications, website management, marketing, advertising, writing and planning outreach activities that advance the Center's name and services in the community. To apply please email your resume to [execdirector@pregnancy-options.org](mailto:execdirector@pregnancy-options.org) to apply!

**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.

#### RIGHT TO LIFE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

This year, Right to Life of Montgomery County will again have a pro-life booth at the Montgomery County Fair, August 13-21. If you are interested in helping out at the booth please call Tharpa Roberts, (301) 962-5611 or [rtl-omc@snk.mail.com](mailto:rtl-omc@snk.mail.com). If you volunteered in 2019, Tharpa will be calling you to see if you can help again this year. Your help is greatly appreciated.

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BIBLE STUDY

Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council 2323 is hosting a Bible Study at Father Cuddy Hall in Derwood. The Bible Study will run on Mondays from September through May. The Bible Study will utilize the Jeff Cavins Great Adventure Bible Study Course. The only cost for the course will be \$35.95 to order the Study Set from Ascension Press. For additional information or details, please contact Kevin McClintock [kevinmc64@verizon.net](mailto:kevinmc64@verizon.net) or 240-305-0337.