

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

### August 9 - August 15

<b>Monday, 8/9</b>	9:00 a.m.	Daniel Joseph Dillon
<b>Tuesday, 8/10</b>	9:00 a.m.	Francisco Vicuda
<b>Wednesday, 8/11</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mariana Balze (L)
	7:30 p.m.	Paul Stutts
<b>Thursday, 8/12</b>	9:00 a.m.	Tony Chemis
<b>Friday, 8/13</b>	9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday, 8/14</b>	5:00 p.m.	Benicio Huaman
<b>Sunday, 8/15</b>	8:00 a.m.	Brigeth & Joseph
	9:30 a.m.	Lee Beng
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Elizabeth Yeast

**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...** Chuck Huckestein, Michael Lapp, Joe Westner, 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 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 August 8, 2021

<b>Sunday:</b>	1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/ Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51
<b>Monday:</b>	Dt 10:12-22/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/ Mt 17:22-27
<b>Tuesday:</b>	2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 [5]/ Jn 12:24-26
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Dt 34:1-12/Ps 66:1-3a, 5 and 8, 16-17 [cf. 20a and 10b]/Mt 18:15-20
<b>Thursday:</b>	Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Ps 114:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 18:21—19:1
<b>Friday:</b>	Jos 24:1-13/Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22 and 24/ Mt 19:3-12
<b>Saturday:</b>	Jos 24:14-29/Ps 16:1-2a, and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5a]/ Mt 19:13-15
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56

### CONGRATULATIONS BENJAMIN!

Congratulations to parishioner Benjamin Kwiatkowski, a recent graduate of Colonel Zadok Magruder High School who is one of twenty-six Montgomery County Students to earn a \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship. He is planning to study biomedical Engineering. Congratulations, Ben, on this achievement. We are very proud of you and we wish you every success as you begin the next phase of your education.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Christians are called to be saints. Saints are persons in heaven (whether they are officially canonized or not) who lived heroically virtuous lives, offered their lives for others, or were martyred for the faith. Their lives are worthy to be imitated.

We speak about three steps to sainthood: “Venerable,” then “Blessed” and then “Saint.” Venerable is the title given to someone who has died who is recognized by the Pope as having led a heroically virtuous life or offered their life for others or for the cause of Christ. To be beatified and recognized as “Blessed,” one miracle acquired through the candidate’s intercession is required in addition to recognition of heroic virtue or offering of life. Canonization requires a second miracle after beatification. The pope may waive these requirements. A miracle is not required prior to a martyr’s beatification, but one is required before canonization.

What are the stages for the process of canonization? Currently there are three stages for this process. The first state is the examination of the life of a candidate for sainthood. The second stage is the stage of beatification. The third and final stage is the stage of canonization. Let me say a few words about each of these stages.

In the first stage there is the examination of the life of the candidate proposed for sainthood. This occurs in two phases: on the diocesan level and then if all is in good order by the Congregation for the Cause of the Saints. Normally five years must pass from the time of the candidate’s death before a cause may begin. This permits greater objectivity in evaluating the case. The pope can dispense from this waiting period. The bishop of the diocese in which the person died is responsible for beginning the investigation. The petitioner (who could be the diocese, bishop, religious order, or association of the faithful) asks the bishop through a person known as the postulator to open the investigation.

The bishop then begins a series of consultations with the conference of Catholic bishops in his country, the faithful of his diocese, and the Holy See. Once these consultations are completed and the Holy See has informed that bishop that there are no objections for the investigation continuing, the bishop forms a diocesan tribunal. The tribunal will investigate the martyrdom or how the candidate lived a life of heroic virtue, that is, the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity and the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude, and others specific to his or her state in life. Witnesses will be called, and documents written by and about the candidate need to be gathered and examined.

Once the diocesan investigation is completed, the documentation is sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. The postulator for this phase, residing in Rome, under the direction of a member of the Congregation’s staff called a relator prepares a summary of the documentary evidence from the diocesan phase in order to prove the heroic exercise of virtue or the martyrdom.

This summary of the documentary evidence is examined by nine theologians who vote on whether or not the candidate led a heroic life or suffered martyrdom. If the majority of theologians are in favor, the cause is forwarded to the cardinals and bishops who are members of the Congregation for their examination. If the judgment is favorable, the prefect of the Congregation presents the

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August 8, 2021

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*How does receiving Jesus in the Eucharist strengthen me on my journey? When have I needed a second nudge to go on?*

### **THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)**

results of the entire course of the cause to the pope, who gives his approval and authorizes the Congregation to draft a decree declaring one Venerable if they have lived a virtuous life or a Blessed if they have been martyred.

For the beatification of a Venerable, a miracle attributed to his or her intercession, verified after his or her death, is necessary. This required miracle must be proven through the appropriate canonical investigation, following a procedure like the one for heroic virtues. This investigation is also concluded with the appropriate decree. Once the decree on the miracle is promulgated, the pope grants the beatification, which is the occasion of limited public veneration—usually only in the diocese, region, or religious community in which the Blessed lived. With beatification the candidate receives the title Blessed. For a martyr, no miracle is required. Thus when the pope approves a position paper that a person was martyred for the faith, the title Blessed is granted to the martyr at that time.

For canonization, another miracle is needed for both Blessed martyrs and Blesseds who lived a virtuous life, attributed to the intercession of the Blessed and having occurred after his or her beatification. The methods of affirming the miracle are the same as those followed for beatification. Canonization allows for the public veneration of the Saint by the Universal Church. With canonization, the Blessed acquires the title of Saint.

The Church in the United States has been blessed with numerous Saints, Blesseds, and Venerables. All of them witness in their own unique way to Christ's love through their martyrdom or virtuous lives within in our American culture. Currently there are eleven American Saints: Saint Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, Saint Mother Marianne Cope, Saint Mother Katharine Drexel, Saint Mother Rose Philippine Duchesne, Saint Mother Theodore Guérin, Saint Isaac Jogues and Companions (the North American Martyrs), Saint Bishop John Neumann, Saint Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, Saint Father Junipero Serra, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, and Saint Father Damien de Veuster (canonized as Damien of Moloka'i).

We currently have five American Blesseds: Blessed Father Solanus Casey, Blessed Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, Blessed Father Michael McGivney, Blessed Father Stanley Rother, and Blessed Father Francis Xavier Seelos.

Finally we have twelve American Venerables: Venerable Monsignor Nelson Baker, Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga, Venerable Mother Mary Magdalen Bentivoglio, Venerable Mother Cornelia Connelly, Venerable Mother Henriette Delille, Venerable Mother Mary Theresa Dudzik, Venerable Bishop Alphonse Gallegos, Venerable Mother Maria Kaupas, Venerable Mother Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Venerable Pierre Toussaint, and Venerable Father Felix Varela.

Please join me in asking these saintly individuals to pray for us at this time.

Until next week, **Fr. John**

### **WELCOME to the Family of Christ!**

The following individuals and their families recently joined our St. Francis faith community during the month of July:

Richard & Barbara Rizzo  
Antonio Elias & Dolores Ventura

The following children were baptized during the month of July:

Xavier Daniel Chavez  
Ana Victoria Garcia  
Lucas Alexander Garcia  
Gianluca S. Mean  
Aidan Felipe Memon  
Alice Marlene Vanega Paniagua  
Theodore Van Polissedjian  
Arin Katherine Shanahan  
Nicola Thomas Tito

### **"THE JUSTICE THOUGHT"**

*The Parish Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Racism will provide a brief message each week under the title, "The Justice Thought" that is intended to educate and help us contemplate ways we can combat the sin of racism. This project stems from recommendations made to the committee by participants in the parish-sponsored dialogue, "Four Courageous Conversations on Racism." Please contact Vincent Price at [price93507@aol.com](mailto:price93507@aol.com) with any comments or suggestions.*

#### **Who do you date?**

The United States is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse -- yet relatively few adults marry people of different races or ethnicities. Why is that? Are you comfortable with your children dating someone of a different race or ethnicity?

In the pastoral letter from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Open Wide Our Hearts," the U.S. bishops write that racism occurs because a person ignores the fundamental truth that we are all equally made in the image of God. When this truth is ignored, the consequence is prejudice, fear of the other, and often, hatred. We must remember that every racist act – every comment, joke, and disparaging look as a reaction to a person's skin color or ethnicity – is a failure to acknowledge a brother or sister in Christ.

### **THE SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER THANKS ST. FRANCIS PARISHIONERS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY**

Maggie Downing, executive director of the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center, recently sent thanks to Fr. John Dillon for the \$1,207.09 our parish donated to the nonprofit organization through its Baby Bottle Campaign, as of June 30. The donations enable the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center to continue providing "cribs and car seats, parenting classes and sonograms, and most importantly, loving and caring counsel to young women faced with an often difficult choice," Mrs. Downing wrote. For more information about supporting the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

## REGISTER FOR 2021-22 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION .

Our religious education program is gearing up for the 2021-22 school year, offering families a choice of two options for religious education:

**Option 1: “Homeschool model”** with parents teaching their children at home with textbook resources and support provided by the parish, including 7 online parent meetings and additional events for students and families

**OR**

**Option 2: “Classroom model”** with children attending in-person classes with modifications in place to comply with covid safety protocols (including keeping 3 ft. distance in classrooms, required use of face masks, and frequent hand washing/sanitizing). In-person classes for Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be offered as follows:

- **Elementary (Kindergarten-Grade 5) classes with students attending class in person on alternating weeks and completing a lesson at-home between each in-person class.** Two Elementary session times will be offered: Sunday morning, 9:20-10:35 am and Monday afternoon, 4:45-6:00 pm. Classes will start Sept. 19/20 for Group A and Sept. 26/27 for Group B.
- **Middle School (Grade 6, 7 & 8) classes with students attending weekly.** Two Middle School Session times will be offered: Monday & Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm. Classes start September 20/21.
- **Classes for children and youth with special needs will continue to be offered via Zoom meeting** on Sunday afternoons 3:30-4:30 pm. Classes begin Sept. 19.

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**Registration fee: \$125.00 per child**

**(\$25 discount for registrations received by 8/15/2021)**

*If payment of registration fees poses a financial hardship, please contact us and allow us to assist you.*

**Register for the 2021-22 Religious Education program and sacramental preparation using the forms found here on our parish website:**

**<https://www.sfadw.org/children-grades-pre-k-8>**

Completed forms can be mailed to the parish, dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm), or returned as digital copies via email to [sfareligioused@sfadw.org](mailto:sfareligioused@sfadw.org). Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email [sfareligioused@sfadw.org](mailto:sfareligioused@sfadw.org).

**Please share this information with others, especially those who will be new to our program!**

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.

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## PRAYERS FOR PEACE REQUESTED ESPECIALLY ON AUGUST 9TH

The members of Pax Christi at St. Francis, a section of Pax Christi Metro DC and Pax Christi USA, invite parishioners to spend time at the beginning of August, especially on August 9, praying for peace.

*Pope Francis has said “... Weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, create nothing but a false sense of security. They cannot constitute the basis for peaceful coexistence between members of the human family.... The total elimination of nuclear weapons is “both a challenge and a moral imperative” of our time.*

## 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).

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** Do you have a heart for women and babies? Do you have experience in marketing, fundraising and outreach? Would you like to use your talents to forward the pro-life mission? The Shady Grove Pregnancy Center is seeking a full-time Community Outreach Coordinator. This paid position will focus on marketing, advertising, fundraising projects and events, digital and social media communications, website management and community activities that advance the Center’s name and services in the community. If interested candidates, please send your resume to [execdirector@pregnancy-options.org](mailto:execdirector@pregnancy-options.org).

## VACATION BIBLE CAMP 2021

**Connecting Kids to Justice Report** Throughout our Vacation Bible Camp, campers discovered that God treasures and loves each and every one of us. They also learned that we help others know how much God loves and treasured them when we help people who are in need. Campers, and their families, demonstrated this important aspect of our faith through their participation in our *Connecting Kids to Justice* outreach project, which taught themes of Catholic Social Teaching and focused on efforts to end malaria. Throughout the week of VBC, campers, families and volunteers were invited to bring in monetary donations to support the work of Catholic Relief Services (CRS). A total of **\$396** was collected and was sent to CRS to support their efforts to help communities across Africa and around the world overcome and wipe out malaria. Thank you to all of our VBC participants who contributed to our outreach project!

## Sacramental Preparation for 2021-22 (continued)

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.