

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

August 30 - September 5

Monday, 8/30	9:00 a.m.	Gilbert Reising
Tuesday, 8/31	9:00 a.m.	Juana Quezada
Wednesday, 9/1	9:00 a.m.	Fr. William J. Kaifer, SJ
	7:30 p.m.	Jonathan Percy
Thursday, 9/2	9:00 a.m.	Patri O'Connor (L)
Friday, 9/3	9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
	7:30 p.m.	Ann Dillon Carlin
Saturday, 9/4	5:00 p.m.	Alexander O'Connor
Sunday, 9/5	8:00 a.m.	Josephine Fang
	9:30 a.m.	Jim Connell
	11:15 a.m.	The De Castro Family (L)
	5:00 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 soul of Agricina Babay.

Please pray for the sick... Karen Mason, 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 29, 2021

Sunday:	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday:	Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Haiti is struggling to recover from the earthquake followed by Tropical Storm Grace. This has aggravated the devastation and long-standing civil unrest in the country. The people of Haiti will no doubt see ongoing hardship in the weeks ahead as they begin recovery and rebuilding efforts. On August 20, 2022, Archbishop José H. Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has sent a letter to all bishops in the United States to ask them to consider taking up a voluntary special collection in their dioceses for the Bishops Emergency Fund.

I want to provide an update on our sister parish, Conversion of Saint Paul. Global Health Teams, which has partnered with St. Francis of Assisi Parish for more than two decades in assisting the people of our sister parish, is working on a program of distributing food (bagged beans/rice) to people in the greater Leon area.

We have also recently received a report from Bishop Decoste about the status of all fifty-five parishes in the Jeremie Diocese. The report covered the churches, schools, clinics, rectories, and villages themselves in the diocese. Here is what the diocesan report says about our sister parish. There are no observable damages to the parish church which is undergoing full reconstruction. The school received serious damage from the earthquake and will need to be repaired. The clinic also received serious damage and will also need to be repaired. Finally, the rectory also received serious damage and will need to be repaired. In the village of Leon proper many people lost their houses because of the earthquake. These houses will need to be rebuilt. The houses of other people were damaged in the earthquake and will need to be repaired. Global Health Teams is planning on undertaking an inspection of the clinic as soon as this is feasible. From their own initial investigation, the damage to the clinic did not appear to be grave.

This week we have envelopes in the pew pockets and by the doors of the church that you will be able to use if you want to make a donation toward disaster relief in Haiti. If you wish to use one of the envelopes that we will provide this weekend, please make out any checks to St. Francis of Assisi Church with the notation Haiti Earthquake Disaster Relief on the memo line of the check. We continue to keep the people of Haiti, particularly the people of the Diocese of Jeremie, in our prayers.

Until next week,
Fr. John

August 29, 2021

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*What will I do this week to put God's word into action?
Has God's work truly penetrated my heart?*

SUPPORT THE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORT THOUGH CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Following the massive earthquake that struck the southwestern part of Haiti on August 14, officials in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington are recommending that local Catholics who wish to donate to relief efforts give to Catholic Relief Services, which already has a presence in Haiti. The URL to donate to earthquake relief efforts through CRS is <https://support.crs.org/donate/haiti-earthquake>. This weekend, we will also place envelopes in the pew pockets and by the doors of the church that you can use to donate to this worthwhile cause. If you wish to use one of the envelopes, please make out any checks to St. Francis of Assisi Church with the notation 'Haiti Earthquake Disaster Relief' on the memo line. The parish will send one global check to Catholic Relief Services from the monies collected.

Regarding damage sustained by our sister parish at the Church of the Conversion of St. Paul, the rectory, school, and medical clinic remain standing although each building has apparently sustained minor damage. Haiti Ministry members are communicating with our partners to hire a Haitian engineer to determine whether these buildings are safe to re-enter. In the greater Léon area, Haiti Ministry members have learned that about 50 homes have collapsed. However, Pere Jeanot, the pastor of the Church of the Conversion of St. Paul, reported that the construction of the nearly completed church in Léon is "firm." For more information about our Haiti Ministry, please contact Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile at dancardile@yahoo.com.

***Good Luck to all St. Francis Students.
Have a great year!***



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 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.

REGISTER FOR 2021-22 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Please be sure to return your registration by **September 1** so that we can be ready to welcome your child as our program begins!

If you have questions about this year's program, or would like to register in person, please stop by the Religious Education information table that will be set up in the Gathering Space after Sunday Masses today, August 29!

See the next page for additional information on our Religious Education Program!

"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 with any comments or suggestions.

If you ever had the responsibility for hiring or filling a position, did you find yourself considering or trying to identify the ethnicity of the people whose resumes you were reviewing? Did it make a difference in whom you called to interview, regardless of the qualifications of the applicants?

A 2017 Harvard University study found that when Blacks and Asians "whitened" their professional resumes by using more "American" names (for example, Jason instead of Jamal) and obscured any information indicating their ethnic identification, they got significantly more callbacks for interviews. The study showed that when using their Asian names and other indicators of their culture, only 11.5 percent of Asians received calls on their resumes, and similarly, only 10 percent of Blacks received calls. After "whitening" their resumes, these numbers increased significantly to 21 percent for Asians and 25 percent for Blacks. It should be noted that even companies that tout diversity among their core values were found to be guilty of this bias. Companies need to ensure they are evaluating resumes fairly and should remove any possible bias-leading information before presenting resumes to hiring managers until implicit bias can be eradicated. (Citation: Harvard Business School, Working Knowledge, May 17, 2017, by Dina Gerdeman)

The Catechism of the **Catholic Church** teaches that, "The equality of men rests essentially on their dignity as persons and the rights that flow from it: 'Every form of social or cultural discrimination in fundamental personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, color, social conditions, language, or religion must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design.'" (CCC 1935)

**PARISH OFFICES WILL CLOSE AT 12 NOON
ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 & WILL BE
CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 FOR THE
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY!**

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.

Registration fee: \$125.00 per child

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 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. Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email 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.

- 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.

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

BIBLE STUDY OFFERED

Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council 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. Sign Up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4BA8AB2CA1FE3-great>

POSITIONS OPEN AT MOTHER OF GOD SCHOOL

Mother of God School in Gaithersburg, MD is recruiting for a full-time or part-time Physical Education Teacher. If full-time, duties would include overseeing our CYO program, seventh-grade homeroom, and K-5 technology. We are also looking for substitutes to be called on for various positions throughout the year. MOG School is an Independent, Catholic PreK through 8th-grade school, affiliated with the Archdiocese of Washington. At Mother of God, faith is not an extra but an integral part of everything we do! Candidates must be practicing Catholics/Christians with a zeal for living out their faith. For more information please email the principal, Melissa Sloan at principal@mogschool.com

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We will begin making crafts for the 2021 Holiday Bazaar (November 13) on Wednesday September 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you enjoy being creative and socializing with fellow parishioners, please plan on attending. Also, projects can be taken home to work on. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

St. Jude Regional Catholic School

St. Jude Regional Catholic School is excited to welcome back our wonderful families. We wish everyone a holy, happy, and healthy school year!

Mark your Calendars

August 31st - 1st Day of Classes (Tuesday, August 31 through Friday, September 3 is full day for grades 1 to 8, ½ day for Pre-K and Kindergarten).

September 22 - Father Kapaun Mass Join us in honoring Father Emil Kapaun. Father Lee will celebrate Mass in the school parking lot. More details to follow shortly.

Sacramental Preparation for 2021-22 (continued)

- 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.

Ways to Serve

The entire parish community shares responsibility for faith formation and the support of many volunteers makes our programs successful. There are a variety of ways to serve, including weekly, monthly, and “as needed” commitments:

- Catechist
- Classroom Aide
- Substitute Catechist
- Support for Service Projects
- Support for Art Projects (at home preparation)
- Help with Sacramental Celebrations & Special Events

Please consider supporting our Religious Education program as a volunteer! To learn more, please call 301-258-9193.