

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

# Mass Intentions

**September 6 - September 12**

<b>Monday, 9/6</b>	9:00 a.m.	All Workers (L)
<b>Tuesday, 9/7</b>	9:00 a.m.	Dominick D'Aurora
<b>Wednesday, 9/8</b>	9:00 a.m.	Teresita Marchany Vda. de Almodovar
	7:30 p.m.	Elsie Mastronardi
<b>Thursday, 9/9</b>	9:00 a.m.	Moria Morel (L)
<b>Friday, 9/10</b>	9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday, 9/11</b>	5:00 p.m.	Eva Breeden
<b>Sunday, 9/12</b>	8:00 a.m.	Carmela Spano (L)
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Mark Bierbower
	5:00 p.m.	Donald Corle

### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Monsignor Robert Cary Hill, Archdiocese of Washington, Mike Petix, uncle of Patrice Datovech..

**Please pray for the sick...** Carol Polosky, 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

### Readings for the Week of September 5, 2021

<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/ Mk 7:31-37
<b>Monday:</b>	Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/ Lk 6:12-19
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
<b>Thursday:</b>	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/ Lk 6:27-38
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/ Lk 6:43-49
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/ Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35



### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On Sunday, August 29, 2021 Pope Francis addressed the people gathered to pray the Angelus with him. He told them that he was following the situation in Afghanistan with great concern, adding “I share in the suffering of those who mourn for the people who lost their lives in the suicide attacks last Thursday, and of those who are seeking help and protection.” The Holy Father commended the souls of the almost two hundred people who were killed in the suicide bombing at Kabul’s airport last week to the mercy of Almighty God. Pope Francis thanked everyone who was continuing to assist those in need and was praying that dialogue and solidarity may lead to the establishment of peaceful and fraternal coexistence and offer hope for the future of the country. The Holy Father reminded everyone that in historical moments like the present one we cannot remain indifferent, adding “I appeal to everyone to intensify prayer and practice fasting, prayer and penance. Now is the time to do it.”

Two weeks before this, Bishop Mario Dorsonville, auxiliary bishop of Washington and chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Committee on Migration, and Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, Illinois, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on International Justice and Peace issued the following statement in light of the widespread humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan:

*“We have known that the withdrawal of American forces and evacuation of vulnerable Afghans, including those who supported our military or worked with NGOs and other organizations, would be a complicated process that had the potential for instability in Afghanistan. The images and videos coming out of the country are difficult to view, as people make life or death decisions in desperation. We are particularly concerned for all those requiring evacuation, as well as Afghan women and girls, who risk losing opportunities gained over the past two decades and now face potential mistreatment.*

*“For the past few weeks, staff from the USCCB, Catholic Charities, and other partners have been at Fort Lee in Virginia, assisting the U.S. government in the welcoming and resettlement of SIV [Special Immigrant Visa] applicants and their families. We will continue that work as long as necessary until those in harm’s way are brought to safety.*

*“The government’s goal to relocate as many as 30,000 SIV applicants to the United States remains a monumental task that hangs in the balance. We know that time is of the essence to help our brothers and sisters in need, and we call on our government to act with the utmost urgency, considering all available avenues to preserve life. We also join the Holy Father in praying for peace in Afghanistan— ‘that the clamor of weapons might cease and solutions can be found at the table of dialogue.’”*

In my August 25, 2021 Flocknote to the St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community I mentioned that through the New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA), we, at St. Francis of Assisi, already have the structure in place to help any of these families wishing to settle in our area. This umbrella group of faith communities offers support to newly resettled immigrants who recently arrived in the Washington DC metro area.

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

## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*Am I open to hearing God's word, even from unexpected sources? How do I live out my baptismal call to proclaim God's word?*

### CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY COLLECTION

This Archdiocesan collection will be taken this weekend. CUA provides an academically rigorous education guided by Catholic intellectual tradition to nearly 7,000 students every year. More than 4,000 students, including many from our archdiocese, receive scholarship aid directly from this collection. Please give according to your means.

### SPREAD THE WORD ON THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS, STARTING SEPTEMBER 15

In less than two weeks, the next year-long journey for those seeking to meet and know Jesus Christ will begin – do you know anyone who would like to take part? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will begin at 7:30 pm Wednesdays on September 15. RCIA is a parish program led by Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick and a dedicated team of adults. Participants will explore their interest in Catholicism before making a commitment to continue with the process later this fall. The program ends in July 2022 with the Mystagogy period. For more information, contact Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Working with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and groups like Catholic Charities, the NNIA offers the welcoming arms, trustworthy advice, and Christian love these families need to acclimate themselves to their new home.

As the Afghan immigrants come to the United States, their immediate need will include housing, psychological support services, family reunification services, and financial help. It is likely that we will be given the opportunity to begin sponsoring a family within a month or so after they have settled.

If you feel called to help with this ministry, I would be happy to put you in contact with parishioner Chris King, who helps lead a small team of parishioners who are seeking asylum and immigrant families from Syria, Cameroon and other crisis-plagued countries for many years. Their ministry in helping our brothers and sisters transition from a fight-or-flight existence to the safe and stable lives we experience every day is one of the best examples of Christian discipleship we could offer as Catholics and as members of the human family. You can sign up for the monthly NNIA newsletter or contact Chris King for more information on helping. Please contact me at the Parish Office if you would like more information or would like to volunteer. I will pass along your contact information to Chris.

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 August:

Carrie & David Booth  
David Chung & Erin Fowler  
Cindy & Brandon Greer  
Jean Hayes  
Patricia Tellish

The following child was baptized during the month of August:

Nelson Petronio Andrade

### 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.*

**Do you know how much more difficult home ownership is for people of color in the United States?** Systemic racism is deeply rooted in our nation's housing market. The gap between black and white home ownership is as great today as it was in the early 20th century. Per 2020 U.S. Census data, nearly 75 percent of White families own their home while only 49 percent of Hispanic families and 44 percent of Black families do. What causes this disparity? There are disproportionately higher mortgage denial rates among borrowers of color due in part to income and savings disparities stemming from disparate employment, education, and unequal rent burdens. More than half of a family's wealth in the US is comprised of the value of their home, even more for Black families. As an example, did you know that it was extremely difficult for Black GIs who fought in World War II to take advantage of the home ownership bill that helped so many White GIs purchase a home and start building family wealth for succeeding generations? See <https://www.history.com/news/gi-bill-black-wwii-veterans-benefits>.

We need to advocate for greater home ownership opportunities to enable families to have an opportunity to build wealth in a home. (Citation: US Census Bureau 2020, and Svenja Gudell, chief economist of the Zillow Group).

In the words of St. Pope John Paul II, "a home is much more than a roof over one's head." It is "a place for building and seeking one's life." In his encyclical *Pacem in Terris*, Pope John XXIII catalogued the rights of every human being, and one of the most prominent among them is the right to appropriate housing. Helping our brothers and sisters secure decent homes is our moral responsibility. (The Home Is the Foundation, Catholic Charities USA, February 2009). Let us understand and support U.S. government programs being proposed to help alleviate the gap in home ownership.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



Calendars are posted to the parish website, and are also being mailed to all who have registered. We look forward to welcoming families to this year's two program options:

**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. Materials will be ready for pick-up starting next weekend and our first online parent meeting will be at 1 pm on Sunday, September 12. Families registered for the Homeschool option will receive an email with link to join.

**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 and Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm. Classes will start Sept. 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.

**Children must be registered before they can begin classes.** Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. You can find registration forms on the parish web site ([www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org)), in the Church Gathering Space, and in the Parish Office. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. 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!**

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

## Opportunities for All Parish Catechists

### Catechist Breakfast & Kick-off

**Saturday, September 11, 9:30 am-12 pm in the Parish Center**

We celebrate the start of this year's catechetical programs with our annual Catechist Breakfast for all parish catechists! Please join us in the Parish Center after the 9 am Mass to share breakfast and reconnect after a busy summer. We will take time to reflect on this year's Catechetical Sunday theme, "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed." Our morning will conclude with brief announcements about plans for this year. Please RSVP by calling the Religious Education office: 301-258-9193.

### Catechetical Sunday Blessing of Catechists at all Masses

**Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19**

*Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.*

When you attend Mass this weekend, all parish catechists and Catholic school teachers will be invited to present themselves for a blessing as part of the Prayer of the Faithful. For new and returning catechists, we thank you for allowing us to pray for you and bless your ministry.

### Religious Education Catechist Meetings

New and returning religious education catechists are asked to note the following events as well:

✦ **Catechist Meetings by Session** (in the Parish Center):

**Grade K-5 Catechists:**

Sunday Session: September 12, 9:20-10:35 am

Monday Session: September 13, 4:45-6:00 pm

✦ **Grade 6-8 Catechists:**

Monday Session: September 13, 6:45-8:00 pm

Tuesday Session: September 14, 6:45-8:00 pm

*Ways to Serve (please see next page)*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

### Registering for Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental preparation for 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist, Confirmation, and Christian Initiation for Children/Teens (CIC/CIT) is not grade specific and involves preparation in addition to grade level Religious Education classes. At minimum, children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament. *Please note: students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend their grade-level Religious Education classes as well as monthly Confirmation sessions.*

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to mark their registration form accordingly so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs. More details will be provided at the parent meetings next year.

If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021**

**12:30 - 4:00 P.M.**



ST. FRANCIS PARISH PICNIC  
BLESSING OF ANIMALS

**ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR  
& FLEA MARKET  
Saturday, November 13**

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS**

We will begin making crafts for the 2021 Holiday Bazaar 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.

**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

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 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 the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

**Catechesis for Children & Youth with Special Needs**

Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our first class meets online on Sunday, September 19 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.

**TEAMS OF OUR LADY**

Teams of Our Lady is a movement of Christian Marriage Spirituality that brings together couples united by the Sacrament of Matrimony and who wish, together, to deepen the graces of their Sacrament. It offers married couples a pathway toward love, happiness, and holiness. The movement's aim is to help couples live fully their Sacrament of Marriage. Interested in learning more, contact Fr. John at 301-840-1407 or email him at [jdillon@sfadw.org](mailto:jdillon@sfadw.org).

**ENCOURAGE MINISTRY**

EnCourage is a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of persons who have same-sex attractions. Standing by the true teaching of the Catholic Church, EnCourage members support one another and their loved ones through discussion, prayer, and fellowship. Please contact Fr. John for more information at 301-840-1407 or email him at [jdillon@sfadw.org](mailto:jdillon@sfadw.org).

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

*We are...St. Jude*

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

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

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

Girls on the Run of Montgomery County has a team at St. Jude for 3rd-5th graders! Practicing Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45pm! Register TODAY while spots are still available! <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/Register-Now>

**Mark your Calendars**

**September 22 - Father Kapaun Mass**

Join us in honoring Father Emil Kapaun. Father Lee will celebrate Mass at 9:00 am in the school parking lot.

**TAKE PART IN UPCOMING EVENTS PROMOTED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

The Washington Council of Catholic Women invites all women to hear two upcoming talks and participate in a book discussion starting in September.

- Cardinal Wilton Gregory will speak at 1 pm Wednesday, September 8, at the National Press Club in-person Headliners Luncheon in Washington DC. Lunch will start at 12:30 pm, followed by his remarks and a question-and-answer session. Tickets cost \$25 for National Press Club members and \$45 for all other non-member tickets. For all ticketing-related questions, e-mail [reservations@press.org](mailto:reservations@press.org).
- Come hear Dr. Diana Hayes, an Emerita Professor of systematic theology at Georgetown University, speak on the topic of "Leading with Agape Love" from 10 am to 3 pm Saturday, September 11. The video presentation will start at 9:30 am. Tickets are \$15 and pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Cynthia Morris at [SistersInTheSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:SistersInTheSpirit@gmail.com).
- Join the Sisters in Spirit Book Club from 2-3 pm Sunday, September 19, when they begin reading "Racial Justice and the Catholic Church" by Bryan Massingale. To join the five-week book discussion, participants must register in advance. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8177777777?pwd=ZlIkc-lopzwpHtHCdfb717DS4AvXCe2wQa82>. For more information, contact Cynthia Morris at [SistersInTheSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:SistersInTheSpirit@gmail.com).

## 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>

## 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 KofC 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)).

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 2323

Enjoy an Evening with Family and friends  
Montgomery Council #2323 will host a  
**Council Picnic, Saturday September 11th**

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Rd., Derwood Md.

Tickets will be sold at the door

Payment by Credit Card Available

\$20.00 for Families with Kids,

\$5.00 per person.

Dinner includes

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, BBQ Chicken,

Corn on the Cob, French fries,

Inside and outside seating available

Proceeds will benefit

Archdiocese for Military Services

<https://www.milarch.org>

For further information contact Dan Huff at

[Huffdar@gmail.com](mailto:Huffdar@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kofc2323](http://www.facebook.com/kofc2323)

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS MASS & ROSARY AT ALL SOULS CEMETERY** Since the earliest days of the Church, believers have found consolation and hope in the companionship of Our Lady in prayer at the cemetery. Gather with us at All Souls Cemetery on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 5:00PM. For more information, please contact All Souls Cemetery at 301-428-1995.

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry will offer a support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, or significant other. The next bereavement support group will begin Thursday, Sept 23rd, and run for 7 consecutive Thursday evenings ending Nov. 4th. The series will take place from 7:00 - 8:30 PM through ZOOM. Registration is required. To register contact Deacon Kevin Byrne (301-279-5962) or Claudia McAuliffe (301-881-1457).

## MASS & ROSARY IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Please join the World Apostolate of Fatima Archdiocese of Washington Division as we resume monthly Mass and Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception-400 Michigan Ave, NE at 1:00 pm in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel every 13<sup>th</sup> of the month (except when the 13<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday.) For more information call Mary Ann at 301-595-1770.

## LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE SEARCH

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is accepting nominations for its 11th Annual Longest Married Couple project. The project's goal is to recognize couples with long marriages from each state and across the country. Winners are selected solely from nominations submitted. Learn more about the project and to nominate a couple online. Visit [wwme.org/community/sponsored-events/longest-married-couple](http://wwme.org/community/sponsored-events/longest-married-couple). Nomination deadline is Friday September 10th. Get your nominations in soon!

## PERSONAL RETREAT DAY

### SEPTEMBER 24 OR OCTOBER 29

Are your days overcrowded, jam-packed, and busy, busy, busy? Jesus tells you to "Come away with me..." to Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center where your very own personal retreat awaits. During your personal retreat, from 8:30am-4pm, an experienced retreat director will guide you to a place of rest with Christ. The retreat schedule allows for one-on-one spiritual direction (optional), quiet reflection, Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, plus continental breakfast and lunch, so you will be nourished and cared for while Our Lord speaks to your soul about the depths of His love for you. Cost is \$120 per person. Advance Registration is required, and registrations will be limited to facilitate appropriate social distancing. Visit our website to register and to find more dates [ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/personal-retreat-days](http://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/personal-retreat-days). or call 301-365-0612. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

**HEALING PRAYER** Fr. Greg Bramlage, a Catholic priest with a nationally-known healing ministry, will lead three nights of healing prayer at Mother of God Community, 20501 Goshen Rd, Gaithersburg MD 20879, Sept. 13-14-15 starting at 6:30 pm. Get ready to experience the healing power of Jesus! For more info call Teri at 301-990-2081 or visit [www.motherofgod.org](http://www.motherofgod.org)