

Mass Intentions

April 17 - April 23

Monday, 4/17 9:00 a.m. Natividad D. Roxas
Tuesday, 4/18 9:00 a.m. Helen Mooney
Wednesday, 4/19 9:00 a.m. Millie Bussard
 7:30 p.m. Carole Hrin
Thursday, 4/20 9:00 a.m. Eugene Dudenhoeffer
Friday, 4/21 9:00 a.m. Luigi & Bernice Mastronardi
Saturday, 4/22 9:00 a.m. Ron Carpenter
 5:00 p.m. *Pro populo*
Sunday, 4/23 8:00 a.m. Than Porter
 9:30 a.m. Teresa De Guzman
 11:15 a.m. Peter Erskine
 1:00 p.m. Christine Martin
 5:00 p.m. Antonio Faria

Please pray for the sick....Patrice Datovech, Carla Cosman, David O'Connor, Carolyn Maltz, Pam Kelley, Jackie Roebuck King, Bob Coyne, Jeni Stepanek, Robert Dax. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Reverend Thomas F. Crowley, Archdiocese of Washington, Lamar Williams, brother-in-law of Alicia Church and Evelyn Roebuck, Mary Ann Stokes, mother of Reverend Harry Stokes, Fr. Thomas Kehoe, Archdiocese of Washington..

Readings for the Week of April 16, 2017

Sunday: Acts 10:34, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/
 Col 3:1-4 /Jn 20:1-9
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-4, 6-9/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2, 5-9/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16-21/
 Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/

Scripture Corner

THE RESURRECTION

The resurrection of Jesus is the most important reality in history. Together with the crucifixion it made clear the divinity of Jesus. Our Lord had highlighted these events when he said that ‘he (Jesus) must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly, from the elders, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.’ (Matthew 16:21)

Easter Sunday assures the followers of Christ of the resurrection by the empty tomb and the appearances of Jesus. Today’s Gospel (John 20:1-9) highlights the empty tomb. The importance of witnesses of the resurrected Savior is taught by Saint Paul. “This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance.” (Acts of the Apostles 10:40)

Saint Paul, the first author to write about the resurrection, provides a list of those who saw our Lord. He lists Peter and the Twelve, more than 500 people at one appearance, then James and all the apostles. Paul lists himself as the last one to whom Jesus appeared, even though he had persecuted the Church. Paul notes, “By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace in me has not been ineffective.” (1 Corinthians 5:10)

At baptism every Christian dies and rises with Jesus. We become brothers and sisters of our Lord. The Blessed Virgin Mary becomes our spiritual mother! Saint Paul encourages us., “If then you were raised with Christ [at baptism], seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.” (Colossians 3 1)

~ Fr. Ralph



HAPPY EASTER

*from
 the Parish Office Staff*

PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

April 17 - Easter Monday

Easter Sunday

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

To whom and how do I need to bring the Good News of Jesus' resurrection in this paschal springtime of grace?

RCIA

After an extended journey, the RCIA and RCIC elect and candidates were received into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil. Our elect, Brandon Cao, Nala Ton, Giselle Hernandez, Emily Hernandez, Kimberly Hernandez, Jacob Hernandez, Eric Moss and our candidates, Karla Capellan, Juan Veloz, Robert Blankenbaker and Jamie Popernack celebrated the initiation sacraments. At the same time two young people received the sacrament of Baptism and another parishioner received the sacrament of Confirmation. As we celebrate the Easter season, we are called to continue to pray for and to welcome these individuals, now called "neophytes," more fully into our St. Francis of Assisi community.

OUR CALL IN THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY. IS THIS YOUR CALL?

Our patron, St. Vincent de Paul, wrote: "Our vocation is to go . . . to set people's hearts on fire, to do what the Son of God did. He came to set the world on fire in order to inflame it with his love." "We must begin by establishing the Kingdom of God in ourselves." We are on a life-long journey learning what this means, especially as we reach out to the needy in the Derwood area. If this speaks to you in any way, come see if the St. Vincent de Paul Society is where you belong. In April to avoid conflicts with Holy Week, our meeting dates is Thursday, April 20, in the Assisi Room at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Tony Bosnick, 301-840-1407, Ext. 11.

REBUILDING TOGETHER: SFA GROUNDS

Volunteers Needed: On Saturday, April 29, while the Rebuilding Together crew is working on the house in Silver Spring, we hope to have other volunteers work several hours at the parish office/rectory. Can you help with this: painting inside, cleaning the grounds, planting a perennial garden in front of the rectory. If you can help, sign up in the Gathering Space or contact Pat O'Connor, pjoconnor826@gmail.com or Tony Bosnick, (301) 840-1407, Ext. 11 or abosnick@sfadw.org. It was lots of fun last year. Lunch provided!

CONGRATULATIONS DAVID & JULIE THEIS

Earlier this year, parishioners David and Julie Theis were awarded the Archdiocese of Washington Manifesting the Kingdom Award. Cardinal Wuerl presents this award to people who are nominated by their pastor for their exceptional service to the Church. The award recipients all serve the Church in a variety of ways or lead ministries in their parish. Each pastor of the 139 parishes in the Archdiocese nominates a person or couple from the parish. Cardinal Wuerl instituted the awards after he became archbishop of Washington in 2008, and this is the third time they have been presented.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Christ is risen, alleluia! He is risen indeed, alleluia! Today on Easter Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The risen Jesus began to appear to the disciples after they went and saw the empty tomb. Today we celebrate our belief in life after death. Easter ranks first among the feasts of the church. Indeed, Easter celebrates Jesus' life and our share in it. Easter celebrates Jesus love for all humanity and our call to love as Jesus did. It celebrates darkness giving way to life, death giving way to life, sacrifice giving way to love.

When we come to Mass today we will see that a few things will be different. The new paschal candle has been lit and has been placed besides the ambo (pulpit). We did not sing "Alleluia" during Lent, but now we will sing it with gusto! We will sing the Easter Sequence after the Second Reading today. Today we will renew our baptismal promises and we will be sprinkled with holy water. The use of holy water reminds us that we have been baptized into Christ Jesus as well as the fact eight individuals were baptized at the Easter Vigil last night. Two were received into full Communion in the Catholic Church. Eleven individuals received the Sacrament of Confirmation during the Easter Vigil. We had a lovely reception after the Vigil to say congratulations and welcome the newest members of our faith community and their families.

Please pay particular attention to the Eucharistic Prayer today, for you will hear, during the Preface, that Christ became our paschal sacrifice "on this day." At the end of Mass today, the deacon will add two "alleluias" to the words of the dismissal. The congregation will respond with, "Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!"

I want to offer a special word of welcome to those who are joining us today. Perhaps you have traveled a distance to be with family and friends today and then you decided to come to Mass with them. Perhaps some who are here today have gotten out of the habit of coming to Mass regularly on Sunday. Today is a wonderful day to resume that custom. Please know that you will be very welcome here! This is indeed a great day to celebrate with family and friends.

Happy Easter to all!

Until next week,

*Fr. John
Pastor*

April 16, 2017

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Lamb of God Prayer meeting will **NOT** meet on Tuesday, April 18: For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next weekend will go to the Prison Ministry Outreach Program. *Thank you for your generosity.*

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE
Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare Chapel in the Rectory a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are actively pursuing new members. Our council incorporates members from St. Francis, St. Mary's and St. Martin's. Though best known for our many charitable projects, we also have a lot of fun with dinners, fund raisers, family nights and many other fraternal social occasions. If interested in learning more, please contact Gary Palmer, (301) 948-6494 or e-mail gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR? On Sunday, June 25, at 2:00 p.m. Cardinal Donald Wuerl will preside at the annual Mass honoring married couples celebrating **25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50** and **50+** years of marriage. The Jubilarian Mass will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Personalized scrolls signed by Cardinal Wuerl will be distributed to the couples following the ceremony, or mailed should they be unable to attend. If you are interested in attending or receiving a scroll, please call the Parish Office before **Monday, April 24th**.

BUILD UP OUR CHURCH

Sign Up Now for the Spring Ministry Retreat on April 22

Members of St. Francis ministries have one more week to register for the Spring Ministry Retreat on Saturday, April 22, from 9:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Parish Center. With a retreat theme of "Serving in Ministry in Challenging Times," attendees will participate in the following activities:

- Time for prayer and meditation around topics, such as Being Catholic in Ministry Today.
- Discussion on how your ministry supports St. Francis.
- Information on new communications tools and ministry building.

All attendees will be expected to complete a short advance reading to help inform the reflections and discussions taking place at the retreat. On the day of the retreat, attendees are encouraged to attend Mass at 9 a.m. and then enjoy a light breakfast in the Parish Center before the retreat begins.

To register for the retreat, sign up at the Information Desk after all Masses this weekend or e-mail Deacon Dan Finn at deacon-danfinn@gmail.com.

Trio Illumino Tickets Go on Sale in the Gathering Space Next Weekend

Are you a fan of musical trios? If so, buy tickets to see Trio Illumino, featuring piano, trumpet and cello players who frequently accompany the Traditional Choir at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Trio Illumino will perform in a concert to benefit the Haiti Medical Mission at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6, in the Sanctuary.

Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased in the Gathering Space after all Masses on Sunday, April 23, Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30. Come enjoy this musical trio performing some eclectic works for the St. Francis community. For more information, contact Music Ministry Director Deirdre Sweet at sfadwmusic@gmail.com.

FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING

The Lord is risen! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Francis of Assisi with electronic donations through Faith Direct. You can sign up online by visiting www.faithdirect.net using our church code: **MD110**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family! God Bless You, ~ Fr. John

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER HOLIDAYS

Religious Education classes will not meet during Holy Week and Easter week. Please make note of the schedule for the remaining Religious Education classes for this school year:

April 16, 17 and 18	No RE Classes (Easter week)
April 23, 24 and 25	RE Classes
April 30, May 1 and 2	RE Classes
May 7, 8 and 9	Last RE Classes (except for Confirmation classes)

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE & PARENT MEETING

A reminder to Confirmation Candidates and Parents: There will be a meeting for students and parents on Wednesday, April 19, 6:45-8:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our parish offers monthly catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our next session is Sunday, April 23 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the St. Clare Room. 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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2017 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 26-30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Look for camper registration information, as well as information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, after Easter!

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL YARD SALE

*Saturday, May 13
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon*

Please start saving your "stuff" and watch the bulletin for additional details regarding drop-off and volunteer sign-ups.

2017 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR

*August 11 - 20
Food Booth 37*

Watch the bulletin for additional information regarding volunteer sign-ups. This was a *major fundraiser* for St. Francis last year.

45TH ANNIVERSARY

Our parish celebrates its 45th anniversary this year! We will be planning a celebration on the day of our Annual Parish Picnic, Sunday, October 8th. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend to make this a special day for our parish! Watch the bulletin for more details.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

FRED

APRIL - High School

16	No FRED Easter Sunday
20	Service @ Our Lord's Table
23	FRED Lost Ark
29/30	Krispy Kreme Presale
30	FRED Dwelling Place

MAY - High School

5-7	FRED Spring Retreat
7	No FRED
13/14	Work Camp Bake Sale
14	FRED Eternal Crown
18	Service @ Our Lord's Table
19	Confirmation
21	FRED Aloha Party
26	FRED Lockout

July 9-14 Encounter Work Camp

FRED JR.

APRIL - Middle School

20	Service @ Our Lord's Table
29/30	Work Camp Krispy Kreme Presale

MAY - Middle School

13/14	Work Camp Bake Sale
18	Service @ Our Lord's Table
19	Confirmation
21	FRED Aloha Party - 8th grade welcome!
26	FRED Lockout - 8th grade invited!

July 9-14 Encounter Work Camp - open to rising 9th through 12th grade

GET SOCIAL

**Instagram "SFASusie"*

*FRED - St. Francis of Assisi Youth Ministry Page on
Facebook*

"St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church" page on Facebook.



ENCOUNTER THE RISEN CHRIST

We prayed, fasted and gave alms - now we celebrate Easter Joy! Our Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl ends as we encounter our risen Lord. We reflect on our brothers and sisters whom we have walked with in India, Zambia, El Salvador, Mexico, Ethiopia and Hawaii. And we commit to bring Easter joy to each person we meet in our daily lives. If you haven't already done so, please turn in your CRS Rice Bowl to the Church Gathering Space this week.

**Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School
Catch our Spirit**

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

SJRCS JUNIOR SCIENCE FAIR - April 27

Please come and explore the exciting world of science as seen through the students' eyes, as budding scientists from Pre-K through 4th grades display their science projects. The Jr. Science Fair will be held April 27th from 9:00 am to 2:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Family Night) in the Thaddeus Room.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL - April 29

Children aged 2 to 7 years are invited to a Children's Carnival on Saturday, April 29, from 11:00 to 1:00 in the Thaddeus Room. There will be free food, games, crafts, activities, and more. The event will be held rain or shine.

SJRCS FUNDRAISER: Mets @ Nationals

Please join us for a day at the park with the Washington Nationals on April 29th. Tickets are \$25 each and come with an \$8 concession credit. Please spread the word and use the link to purchase tickets. We hope to see you there! The deadline for ticket purchases is April 27th. To purchase your tickets visit <https://groupmatics.events/s/email/Stjude7>.

BULLDOG BOLT 5K & FUN RUN - MAY 13

St. Jude will host our third annual Bulldog Bolt 5K and Fun Run, followed by an HSA sponsored cookout! All proceeds from the race will be used to replace aging athletic equipment and enhance the school facility. This wonderful event is a day of fun and fresh air for families and friends. Register online and check out all the photos from last year's Bolt on the web site!

5K Bolt - \$35 before May 11; \$40 on site

1K Fun Run - \$25 before May 11; \$30 on site

<http://www.stjuderockville.org/pages/>

[StJudeRegionalCatholicSchool/Giving/Bulldog_Bolt_5K_race](http://www.stjuderockville.org/pages/StJudeRegionalCatholicSchool/Giving/Bulldog_Bolt_5K_race)

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." Happy Easter! He has risen! Let us welcome Jesus even more into our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on April 21-23, 2017 or October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD. For more information and to apply online visit welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007, or email at applications@welovematrimony.org.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

"Have you lost a parent, child, spouse, or close friend and think you might benefit from group support as you grieve? St. Patrick's will offer a spring grief support group. The group will be small in size and will provide a safe, compassionate, and prayerful environment for you to discuss your loss with others who share your experiences. The group will meet for 7 weekly sessions starting Thursday, April 27, 2017, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in St. Patrick's Parish Center. There is no fee, but registration is required. For more information and to register, please call Diane Salem at 301-924-4958.

SFA HEALTH MINISTRY

Encouraging health and wellbeing of body, mind and soul

THE ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE RESOURCE FAIR

For young people with disabilities from age 14 and up and their families, hosted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Transition Work Group of Montgomery County, offering a wealth of information about post-high school employment, social and recreational programs from over 35 local organizations.

WHEN: April 30, 2017 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
Abraham S. & Minnie Kay Conference Center
6101 Executive Blvd., North Bethesda, MD

REGISTRATION: SHALOMDC.ORG/RESOURCEFAIR

COST: FREE, on-site parking available

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Blood Donation Drive

Sunday 23 April 2017

@ St Patrick Parish Center (GYM)

4101 Norbeck Rd at Muncaster Mill Rd

Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Please arrange appointment with parish rep

Mary Beiter RN at mtbrhb@verizon.net

or 301-460-3971. Please mark your calendar.

Walk-ins can be accommodated, but may cause delay for all.

Prefer to SET SPECIFIC TIMES.

SCHEDULE your life-saving DONATION today!!

THE SUNDAY TV MASS

Do you know someone who can't get to Mass? Since 1952, the Archdiocese of Washington has produced a weekly televised Mass for those who are homebound, broadcast from the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. It is a wonderful ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshipping community for the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

The Mass airs every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WDCW-50:

- No cable; Dish or DIRECTV subscribers: Ch. 50
- Comcast: Ch. 23 in Washington, DC & Montgomery County; Ch. 3 in Prince George's County & Southern Maryland
- RCN: Ch 15
- Verizon: Ch. 3

Would you like to be on TV? Join the congregation at a taping of the TV Mass! Your presence at the TV Mass is a wonderful way to bring the Mass to those who are homebound. Two Masses are taped on the same evening, from 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the Crypt Church of the Basilica at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 400 Michigan Ave., NE in Washington, DC. Come for one Mass or stay for both! Upcoming Thursday taping dates are April 27, May 4, and May 18. To receive the free *Celebrate!* TV Mass newsletter, please email communications@adw.org with your mailing address.