

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

#### May 1 - May 7

<b>Monday, 5/1</b>	9:00 a.m. Thomas E. Cosgrove
<b>Tuesday, 5/2</b>	9:00 a.m. Louise Carrese
<b>Wednesday, 5/3</b>	9:00 a.m. Homebound Parishioners (L) 7:30 p.m. Msgr. Richard Hughes
<b>Thursday, 5/4</b>	9:00 a.m. Don Smith
<b>Friday, 5/5</b>	9:00 a.m. Barbara Lynn Beall 7:30 p.m. Msgr. Ralph Kuehner (L)
<b>Saturday, 5/6</b>	9:00 a.m. Fr. Don Worch 5:00 p.m. Elise Reising
<b>Sunday, 5/7</b>	8:00 a.m. Joan Boos 9:30 a.m. Gena Asuncion 11:15 a.m. Lorraine Boyd 1:00 p.m. Melba Abbate 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>

**Please pray for the sick...** Rick Kreter, Bill Devore, Jennie Car-gill, Agnes Horrigan, Maureen Ferraro, Marta Monzon, Patrice Datovech, Carla Cosman, 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.)*

#### **Readings for the Week of April 30, 2017**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35
<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/ Jn 6:22-29
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 7:51--8:1/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 7b, 8, 17, 21/ Jn 6:30-35
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 66:1-3, 4-7a/Jn 14:6-14
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-17/Jn 6:60-69
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1 Pt 2:20b-25/ Jn 10:1-10

### *Scripture Corner*

#### ROAD TO EMMAUS

The early Church realized the importance of the resurrection. The empty tomb and the appearance of Jesus confirmed their faith in the resurrection. Two disciples were on the way to Emmaus. In today's gospel (Luke 24:13-35). Jesus appeared to them, "but they were prevented from recognizing him." (Luke 24:16)

The travelers tell Christ about the "prophet" who was in their midst. They told our Lord that the Jewish leaders had worked with Pontius Pilate despite the fact that Pilate clearly sees Jesus as innocent. The travelers mentioned that there were reports about a tomb and "a vision of angels who announced that he was alive." (Luke 24:23)

Our Lord informs the disciples that they are too slow to believe. "Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" (Luke 24:26) The Old Testament does not speak of a suffering Messiah, but the prophet Isaiah does speak effectively of the Suffering Servant, especially in 52:13-53:12, of Yahweh. That section of Isaiah is often referred to as the "Fifth Gospel."

The highlight of today's Gospel is reached when our Lord joins the travelers for a meal. Christ "took bread, said the blessing, broke it and gave it to them." (Luke 24:30) Their eyes are opened. They appreciate how important Jesus' teaching has been. They had been given a wonderful Scripture lesson, beginning with Moses and the prophets. They were greatly impressed and said that their hearts were deeply moved. But, most importantly, they shared with their fellow Christians how they recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

~ Fr. Ralph



#### **MOTHER'S DAY MASS CARDS**

Cards are available this weekend in the Gathering Space. This is a wonderful way to remember your Mother, Mother-in-law, Grandmother, Aunt or anyone special at all the Masses on Mother's Day. Please return your spiritual bouquet envelope to the parish office on or before Wednesday, May 10.

## Third Sunday of Easter

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Where did I encounter Jesus, perhaps by surprise, this past week? Where will I look for Jesus in the week that lies ahead?

### TRINITY DOME COLLECTION

On May 13-14 (Mother's Day) the Archdiocese of Washington will participate in the national collection for the Trinity Dome, the magnificent mosaic that will complete the construction of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. In the beautiful Trinity Dome at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, we see an image of God who made us and who has the power to change us in ways that fulfill us, complete us, and make us truly happy. The dome's gorgeous mosaic depicts the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit surrounded by a procession of saints - men and women from every age of the church - whose lives were rooted in the Catholic faith and transformed by God's love. You are invited to contribute to this work of art that celebrates our life of faith by participating in the May 14 collection for the completion of the Trinity Dome. Learn more at #TrinityDome.org.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

All are welcome! Join the Ministry of Eucharistic Adoration and assist with adoration in the following manner:

- *Become a regular attendee at adoration in the Parish.*
- *Pray that Eucharistic Adoration will increase.*
- *Foster Eucharistic Adoration in our parish by evangelizing His Eucharistic Presence.*
- *Deepen your personal relationship with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

**First Friday Mass will be at 7:30 p.m., May 5**, followed by adoration until 9:00 p.m. in the Church.

### MEMORIAL MASS FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES

On Sunday, May 21, the 23rd Annual Memorial Mass will be held to honor those who have served and are serving in our nation's armed forces. The Mass will take place at 4:30 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Ave., NE). The principal celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop Timothy Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services. Military personnel are encouraged to be in uniform, and civilians should wear business attire. Parking is limited and carpooling is advised. To register and to request group seating, please visit [www.milarch.org/memorialmass/laity-registration](http://www.milarch.org/memorialmass/laity-registration). For more information, contact Jo Ann Redmond at [administration@milarch.org](mailto:administration@milarch.org) or (202) 719-3600.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Several weeks ago now I began what will be a series of columns on *Being Catholic Today: Catholic Identity in an Age of Challenge*, a Pastoral Letter that Cardinal Wuerl issued on May 24, 2015. The Cardinal identified five key themes of being a Catholic today. I want to devote this column to the fourth theme: Religious Liberty.

Catholic teaching presents a beautiful vision of life even as we struggle to live it and to understand it fully. Yet Jesus did not change his message because it was difficult to understand or a hard saying. The Church continues to be faithful to the teaching of Jesus; we are not free to change it. Truth and freedom go hand in hand or they perish in misery. Human freedom is not absolute autonomy to do whatever we want to do, but whatever we ought to do, and to do what is true and be who God made us to be. Religious liberty is part of our human identity and the dignity with which we are endowed by God. As Catholics this gift is the freedom to witness with our whole life to the truth of the Gospel.

Today there are threats to this freedom: laws and policies are being enforced which restrict the exercise of Catholic ministries, and individuals have been threatened with lawsuits or disciplinary action for expressing Catholic teaching. Religious liberty means that there is a limitation on the power of government; it is not within the authority of the state to intrude upon matters of faith generally and in the Church specifically. We coexist with others, and so freedom is necessarily a shared freedom. Invariably there will be conflicts of interest and belief, yet we must be free to protect our Catholic mission and identity. Disagreement is not discrimination. No Catholic institution should be denied its freedom simply because it wishes to follow the Catholic faith.

The Church has the right to recognition and protection of her true Catholic identity. To be clear on this point, among other things, as set out in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* is entitled to be respected in her:

- Freedom of expression, teaching, and evangelization;
- Freedom of public worship;
- Freedom to express her moral judgment on human reality whenever it may be required to defend the fundamental rights of the person or for the salvation of souls;
- Freedom of organization and of her own internal governance;
- Freedom of selecting, educating, naming and transferring her ministers;
- Freedom of constructing religious buildings;
- Freedom to acquire and possess sufficient goods for her activity; and
- Freedom to form associations not only for religious purposes but also for educational, cultural, health care and charitable purposes (426).

The Church proposes; she imposes nothing. She respects individuals and cultures, and she honors the sanctuary of conscience. We simply ask for the freedom to live by that teaching ourselves. Until next week,

*Fr. John Dillon*

**April 30, 2017**

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

**POOR BOX DONATION** – The donations for next weekend will go to the Gaithersburg Help. *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](mailto: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, 2:00 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](mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **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.

### **BUILD UP OUR CHURCH**

#### **Trio Illumino to Play Haiti Benefit Concert on May 6 in the Sanctuary**

Tickets are on sale after all Masses this weekend for the Trio Illumino concert benefitting the Haiti Missions at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6. Come hear this unusual grouping of musicians, comprised of Neil Brown on trumpet, Stephen Czarkowski on cello, and Virginia Lum on piano, play a diverse program of music. Both Neil and Stephen often play with the 9:30 a.m. Traditional Choir and will demonstrate, along with Virginia, the eclectic styles they perform.

Tickets cost \$20 and are on sale in the Gathering Space all weekend. Donations are also appreciated. For more information, visit the Our Sister Parish page on <http://www.sfadw.org> or e-mail St. Francis Director of Music Deirdre Sweet at [sfadwmusic@gmail.com](mailto:sfadwmusic@gmail.com).



**MAY 2017 LUNCH** – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, May 3, 12:00 Noon, at Outta the Way Café, 17503 Redland Road, Rockville, (301) 963-6895. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib, (301) 417-0243 and she will reserve a seat for you and answer any questions.

### **ANNUAL YARD SALE IN THE PARISH CENTER**

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

Please sign-up **this weekend** to help with the Annual Yard Sale. We need lots of volunteers. You can also sign up by calling the Parish Office (301) 840-1407. This is a good fundraiser for the parish and a great chance to meet fellow parishioners. **Also, time to spring clean - we welcome your stuff you want to get rid of!**

#### **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:**

*Come for the whole time or just a few hours. Whatever time you can work will be appreciated!*

**Wednesday, May 10, 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, May 11, 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Friday, May 12, 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, May 13, 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

#### **DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE PARISH CENTER**

**Wednesday, May 10 2:00 - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Thursday, May 11 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Friday, May 12 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Please make note of the schedule for the remaining Religious Education classes for this school year:

April 30, May 1 & 2	RE Classes
May 7, 8 & 9	Last RE Classes (except for Confirmation classes)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018

We are now accepting registration for next year's Religious Education Program! Our program offerings for children and youth include:

- Pre-school and Kindergarten classes on Sunday mornings, 11:10-12:15 p.m. (*Preschool classes are for children age 3 or 4 by September 1*)
- Grade 1-5 classes offered at two session times:  
*Sunday mornings, 9:20-10:35 a.m.*  
*Monday afternoons, 4:45-6:00 p.m.*
- Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes offered at two session times:  
*Monday evenings, 6:45-8:00 p.m.*  
*Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 p.m.*
- Grades 9-12 (FRED) meet Sunday evenings 6:00-8:00 p.m. (following the 5:00 p.m. Youth Mass)

Since the curriculum of the Religious Education Program is designed to be taught in sequence and each year builds on the content presented in previous years, families should plan for their children to participate in Religious Education classes each year.

Registration forms were mailed home to families with children currently attending RE classes. For those new to our program, and if additional forms are needed, blank forms will be available on the parish web site ([www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org)), in the Gathering Space of the Church, and in the Parish Offices. Completed forms can be returned to RE classes this week, sent in by mail, or dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm). Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please complete and return the registration forms as soon as possible!

### 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.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

### ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

#### *Upcoming Events*

#### **FRED**

#### **APRIL - High School**

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**

29/30	Work Camp Krispy Kreme Presale
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#### **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 - SFA Youth Ministry" Page on Facebook

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

Twitter @SusanFREDLea

### **FREE DINNER & DISCUSSION FOR YOUNG ADULTS**

Are you a young adult ages 18-30s? Pope Francis and our parish wants to hear from you! In preparation for an international gathering of Bishops (Synod) next year, Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment. Young adults are invited to join Fr. John for dinner and discussion at the parish on May 9th. Feel free to bring friends as we want to hear from both Catholics and nonCatholics! To RSVP for dinner please email [SFAYouth@sfadw.org](mailto:SFAYouth@sfadw.org). Can't make the dinner? Share your opinion online at [www.SharewithFrancis.org](http://www.SharewithFrancis.org).

### **ONLINE SURVEY TO SHARE WITH POPE FRANCIS!**

Pope Francis wants to hear from you! In preparation for an international gathering of Bishops (Synod) next year, Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment. People of all ages, Catholics and non-Catholics, are invited to give their feedback on how the Church can engage and support youth and young adults in making major life decisions. To participate in the survey visit [www.SharewithFrancis.org](http://www.SharewithFrancis.org).



## 2017 VACATION BIBLE CAMP

Register NOW for Vacation Bible Camp 2017 –  
Maker Fun Factory VBS: Created by God, Built for a Purpose.

**Who:** Children ages 4 by June 26, 2017 to those who completed  
the 5<sup>th</sup> grade in June 2017

**Where:** St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Center

**When:** June 26-30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

**Cost:** \$40 per child

**How:** Complete the registration form found in the Gathering  
Space with a check (or pay through Faith Direct, contact main  
office 301-840-1407 for details) and return it to the Rectory Of-  
fice, Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. or mail it to:

St. Francis of Assisi Church  
6701 Muncaster Mill Road  
Derwood, MD 20855

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE FIFTH ADW WOMEN'S CONFERENCE!

### *Occasions of Grace - Encountering God's Grace in Day to Day Life*

Catholic University on Saturday  
May 20, 2017, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

There will be presentations in English and Spanish. Keynote  
speaker is ValLimar Jansen. Breakout sessions speakers are Rev.  
William Byrne, Christina Lamas (*en espanol*) and Michael Ca-  
rotta. The day will also include Mass, lunch and many faith  
based exhibitors. For further information about speakers and  
schedule and to register go to: [www.adw.org/womensconference](http://www.adw.org/womensconference).  
Registration fee: \$40.00 includes lunch.

#### **Conference Highlights**

Keynote speaker ValLimar Jansen is blessed with an extraordi-  
nary speaking and singing voice. She is a highly regarded inspi-  
rational/catechetical speaker, singer, composer and recording  
artist.

Mass celebrated by **Bishop Knestout**

#### **Breakout sessions**

**Rev. William Byrne**, Pastor of Our Lady of Mercy:

*Encountering Grace in the Realities of Life*

**Christina Lamas**, Executive Director, National Federation of  
Youth Ministry, Washington DC.,

*Encountering Grace in the Heart of Family Life*  
(*en espanol*)

**Michael Carotta**, author:

*Unexpected Occasions of Grace*

**ASL Interpretation provided upon request.**

## SFA HEALTH MINISTRY

*Encouraging health and wellbeing of body, mind and soul*

**CELEBRATING THE LORD'S RESURRECTION &  
PLANNING FOR YOUR OWN - *Peace I leave with you;  
my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do  
not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*** (John  
14:27).

These familiar words of Christ resonate with us at Easter. We  
understand that by the glorious Resurrection of Our Lord death  
and sin are conquered and our destiny of eternal life is possible.  
This year Easter Sunday fittingly coincided with National Health-  
care Decisions Day and begs this question, "Are we prepared to  
"go in peace"? Can we say to our loved ones, "Let not your  
hearts be troubled?" Perhaps the answers lie in first asking these  
questions,

- When is the right time to think about the healthcare de-  
cisions (advance directives) you would make for your-  
self in times of serious illness or at the end of life?
- When is the right time to appoint someone (healthcare  
agent) to carry out your choices if you could not speak  
for yourself?

A: when you are in good health or B: when you are in a  
coma.

The answer is of course A. The problem? We are reluc-  
tant to even think or talk about the reality of our own mortality  
or the loss of loved ones, much less make decisions about it. For  
your peace of mind and spirit...and for your family's, the Catho-  
lic Bishops of Maryland address these concerns in their pastoral  
letter, Comfort and Consolation, Care of the Sick and Dying.

Relying on the underlying moral principles and wisdom  
of Church teaching, this letter outlines a process of discernment  
to guide our medical decision-making in times of illness and at  
the end of life. By providing a clear and concise understanding  
of church teaching it encourages families to have conversations  
and make choices in advance of critical illness or family crisis.  
The supplement publication, Healthcare Directives, A Catholic  
Perspective, includes both the Catholic Declaration for Health  
Care Decision Making and the Appointment of My Health Care  
Agent documents. Both documents have been designed to meet  
Maryland law and to give you an opportunity to express your  
wishes in a form that reflects Church teaching. Both publica-  
tions, Comfort and Consolation, Care of the Sick and Dying and  
Healthcare Directives, A Catholic Perspective can be obtained  
from the SFA rectory office and are available at  
[www.mdccathcon.org](http://www.mdccathcon.org). Additionally, the SFA pastoral staff and  
our Faith Community Nurse, Betty Baklarz, RN are available for  
consultation.

Whether death comes unexpectedly or at the end of a  
long and full life, it is important for us to consider not only the  
spiritual dimension of death, but to think in a very practical way  
about how we would want the circumstances of our death to re-  
flect our deepest beliefs. We know that Jesus is coming for each  
of us at the hour of His choosing. Especially, during this Easter  
Season we are reminded that we wait and prepare for His arrival,  
not in fear, but full of expectant hope.