

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

#### September 4 - September 10

<b>Monday, 9/4</b>	9:00 a.m. For All Workers
<b>Tuesday, 9/5</b>	9:00 a.m. Msgr. Richard Hughes
<b>Wednesday, 9/6</b>	9:00 a.m. Catherine Dillon Bullen 7:30 p.m. Ania Whelan
<b>Thursday, 9/7</b>	9:00 a.m. Dominick D'Aurora
<b>Friday, 9/8</b>	9:00 a.m. Bertrand Joseph Cassidy
<b>Saturday, 9/9</b>	9:00 a.m. Fr. Don Worch 5:00 p.m. Rodel Reyes
<b>Sunday, 9/10</b>	8:00 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 9:30 a.m. Evelyn L. Wright 11:15 a.m. Mary Ellen Sawyer 5:00 p.m. Carla Cosman

**Please pray for the sick....** Millie Cosman, Madelyn Cabatic, Evelyn Haddad, Carolyn Speaks, Bart Trickett, Katrina Schmidt, Bienvenido Delrosario, Kathy Denchfield, Jackie Roebuck King, Bob Coyne, Jeni Stepanek, Debbie & Roger Petrocelli. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

#### **Readings for the Week of September 3, 2017**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/ Mt 16:21-27
<b>Monday:</b>	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13/Lk 4:16-30
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/ Lk 4:31-37
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44
<b>Thursday:</b>	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11
<b>Friday:</b>	Mi 5:1-4/Ps 13:6/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23
<b>Saturday:</b>	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8/Lk 6:1-5
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/ Mt 18:15-20

### *Scripture Corner*

#### ON TO JERUSALEM

There is a very important statement by Jesus in today's Gospel (Matthew 16:21-27) He tells his disciples, "that he 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) When our Lord uses the word "must", he is insisting that the basis for the necessity is the will of his Father.

When Peter and others do not want to hear of such suffering. But Jesus remains adamant. Later in the Garden of Gethsemane he will pray, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will, but yours be done." (Luke 22:42)

Christ also insists that his followers must be willing to accept the cross, to accept suffering as part of the life of a Christian. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (Matthew 16:22) Today's first reading is from the prophet Jeremiah. He is considered the most Christ-like of the prophets because of his great sufferings. "The word of the Lord has brought me reproach and derision all day long." (Jeremiah 20:8)

Certainly, our Lord wants his followers to have a happy life. But we must be willing to suffer when it is necessary to keep us faithful to God. We see Jesus happy himself when he has a meal with his followers, such as the disciples or Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. He also promises all of us a reward at the Last Judgment. "The Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct." (Matthew 16:27)

**Fr. Ralph**

## The Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus bids me "deny myself" before "taking up the cross" and "following." What radical shift of values, reordering of priorities, refocusing of vision must take place in my heart as discipleship's non-negotiable Step Number 1?

### WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Maria Rubinacci & Jacob Bachmaier  
Cindy Juarez-Choza & Eduardo Choza  
Jennifer & Jim Matysczak  
Albert & Jennifer Ragunton

The following children were baptized during the month of August:

Nicholas Joseph Ciavolella  
Gabriel Joseph Cabotaje Cuya  
Lee Santiago Harwell  
Cormac Brendan O'Brien  
John Thornton Tansey

### MARTHA/MARY WOMEN'S GROUP

Just as Martha opened her home in service to Jesus and Mary sat at His feet to learn, our women's group opens the door to you to join us twice a month to learn and discuss how we, too, can move closer to Jesus. We meet at 7:30 p.m. every other Wednesday, in the Youth Room of the Rectory. We are currently reading the book, *Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self* by Sr. Joyce Rupp. It is a very casual women's group, and we always welcome newcomers. Our next 2 meetings: September 6 & 20. Questions: Email Linda Call at [dcall94080@aol.com](mailto:dcall94080@aol.com) or Marie Yeast at [Mffy313@aol.com](mailto:Mffy313@aol.com)

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTGOMERY COUNCIL 2323 SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, September 9, 2017  
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The Knights invite all St. Francis Senior Citizens to a no charge dinner and dance at Cuddy Hall. Please pick up your ticket from the Parish Office. Tickets are limited.

### RCIA OUR FANTASTIC FAITH

Know of someone interested in becoming Catholic? The rewards can be life-saving. If you know of someone who may be interested, please call or e-mail Terry Davis (301-774-0783, e-mail [davistj23@gmail.com](mailto:davistj23@gmail.com)) or Sara Dean (301-977-6373, e-mail [sgdean129@gmail.com](mailto:sgdean129@gmail.com)). A new RCIA group will begin meeting in mid-September. Come and learn about the wonderful life Christ has ready for those who seek him. Joining the sessions does not mean you have to become Catholic, but is a way to discern if it is right for you.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I am back at my desk after having been away for ten days on vacation. This little break gave me the opportunity to visit with several old friends and family members whom I only get to see when I am in Western Pennsylvania. A highlight for me was attending a dinner on Saturday night (August 26) with about 200 classmates from the 1967 Senior Class of Butler Area Senior High School. Another classmate who is a retired Protestant minister and I gave the invocation at the beginning of the dinner. I sat at a table with several classmates who also attended St. Paul School with me as well. I was in school with them from grades 1-12. Most of the people with whom I talked I had not seen since graduation day in May, 1967. There was a moment of silence for the nearly hundred classmates who have died in the meantime, including three who were killed in the Vietnam War. Two of the three classmates who were killed in that war were good friends of mine in high school. People have good memories and bad memories of their high school years. I am no exception to that experience. It was fascinating to listen to stories of what people have done since graduating from high school. Several people were curious about my journey to the priesthood, which I gladly shared with them. I was able to stay in the rectory at St. Paul and to celebrate several daily Masses there and the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday morning before coming back here to the parish. It is always a great experience for me to celebrate Mass in the Church where I was baptized, made my first Confession, received my first Communion, and was confirmed by Bishop John Wright of Pittsburgh. While I was there the stone mason carved in the date of death on my mother's tombstone. While I was in Butler, I paid several visits to the cemetery to pray at the graves of my parents, my sister Katie, and grandparents. May they all rest in peace! I got some reading done and had a very relaxing time. As good as it was to be away, I am happy to be back at work here in the parish! I want to dedicate myself anew to living out and encouraging us all to embrace more fully our parish vision statement in which we state that we are committed to growing a community that preaches the Gospel at all times through our worship, our words, and our actions.

Until next week.  
*Fr. John Dillon*

### PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH FOR THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY



**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** The Lamb of God Prayer will **NOT** meet on Tuesday, September 5th. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

**POOR BOX DONATION** – The donations for next weekend will go to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. *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.

### 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.

**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.

### 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).

 **CONTEMPORARY FOLK GROUP  
SEEKING NEW MEMBERS**

Are you new to the parish and would you like to meet more people? Have you been a parishioner for years and have thought about being in a music group but just never joined? Come praise the Lord with us in song! If you like to sing or you play an instrument, then come join the **Contemporary Folk Group**. We lead music at the 11:15 a.m. Mass on Sundays and practice on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Share your talents and join us in serving Christ and his church. We are an intergenerational group and welcome people of all ages. Any children interested should be nine years old and older. For more information, e-mail Sue Madison at [musikal76@msn.com](mailto:musikal76@msn.com) or call her at (301) 977-6854. You can also contact John Ryan at (301) 977-2690.

### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: JOYFUL GREETERS

Joyful Greeters serve a vital function of expressing the welcome of Christ to those who enter St. Francis of Assisi Church. Part of our purpose is to help prepare the way for a person to encounter God during the Mass.

- A friendly smile might change a negative attitude. You never know when someone really just needs a smile.
- An expression of compassion might calm the nerves of a stressed parent.
- Holding the door open for parishioners helps them feel valued.
- A warm welcome and genuine conversation may help people feel a greater sense of connection and community.

While the simple action of greeting others may not be life altering, Joyful Greeters may help prepare the way for attendees to hear more from the Lord. Joyful Greeters also help Catholics, new to our community, find a welcoming congregation.

- Volunteer roles: (Coordinator- Helen Hayes, assistant coordinator- Jack Price) There are approximately 60 Joyful Greeters at St. Francis. We always want more! Everyone is welcome!
- Monthly time commitment: Flexible- approximately one to two times per month.
- Required training/pre-requisites: NONE, except a warm smile and a 'hello!'
- Benefits: Creating community and making people feel valued is immeasurable.
- Contact: Helen Hayes at (240) 601-5852 or at [helenlhayes@aol.com](mailto:helenlhayes@aol.com)

### MINISTRY MEETINGS & GATHERINGS

#### Last Chance to Join Scripture Study Class on Letter to the Hebrews

If you've considered joining the Scripture Study Class on the Letter to the Hebrews, then it's time to sign up. The weekly small group will begin meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6 at the church, room to be determined. Come join group leader Brent Hanson and other inquisitive parishioners, ready to study what some say is the best Christian sermon ever written. To sign up, e-mail Hanson at [bhanson123@comcast.net](mailto:bhanson123@comcast.net) or register at the Information Desk after Mass.

#### Joyful Greeter Meeting and Social to Be Held September 16

The Joyful Greeter Ministry will have a meeting and wine and cheese social from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Saturday, September 16, in the Gathering Space. All Joyful Greeters and anyone interested in joining this ministry are welcome to attend the meeting and social. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Helen Hayes at [helenhayes@aol.com](mailto:helenhayes@aol.com).



**SEPTEMBER 2017 LUNCH** – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, September 6, 12:00 Noon at the Fontina Grill, King Farm Village Center, 801 Pleasant Drive, Rockville (301) 947-5400. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

### REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018

Classes begin September 17, 18 & 19

*So that we can be ready to welcome your child to class on the first day, it is important that we receive your registration by Wednesday, September 6!*

If you have not yet registered your child for Religious Education classes, please be sure to register today. New registration forms must be submitted each year even for children who attended classes last year. Even if you do not know which Religious Education session will best match your family's schedule, please return a registration form now, marking your best guess for session time with a note indicating that this is subject to change.

Registration forms are 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 mailed, 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. Calendars are being mailed home to those who have registered and are also available on the parish website: [www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org).

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 pm Youth Mass)

### Registering for Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, 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 this fall.

### Catechists Needed

Please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. Additional catechists are always welcome and much needed, especially for our Monday and Tuesday evening middle school program. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

### ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

#### Upcoming Events

### FRED

#### SEPTEMBER

10	FRED Family Night
17	FRED Kickoff
24	FRED

### GET SOCIAL

"FRED - SFA Youth Ministry" Page on Facebook  
"St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church" page on Facebook

### INFORMATION FOR CATECHISTS

New and returning catechists are asked to note the following dates:

**New Catechist Orientation (Returning catechists are welcome as well!):** Thursday., September 7, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Assisi Room

**Breakfast and Catechist Gathering:** Saturday, September 9, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in the Parish Center

- **Catechist Meetings by Session** (in the Parish Center):  
- *Pre-K/K Catechists:* Sunday, September 10, 11:10- 12:15 p.m.
- **Grade 1-5 Catechists:**  
- Sunday Session: September 10, 9:20-10:35 a.m.  
- Monday Session: September 11, 4:45-6:00 p.m.
- **Grade 6-8 Catechists:**  
- Monday Session: September 11 6:45-8:00 p.m.  
- Tuesday Session: September 12, 6:45-8:00 p.m.

### Catechetical Sunday, September 16/17:

Blessing of Catechists at all Masses

### CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY COLLECTION

During the weekend of September 9-10, the Archdiocese of Washington will take up the collection for The Catholic University of America. This institution is unique among universities in the United States – even among Catholic universities. Established by the Vatican and the U.S. bishops in 1887, it is the national university of the Catholic Church. It is proud to have nearly one third of the U.S. bishops as alumni, along with over 12,400 living priests and religious from around the world. In Washington, DC the university provides an education based in Catholic intellectual tradition to nearly 7,000 students through its 12 schools, including arts & sciences, music, engineering, philosophy, social work, law, and business, in addition to ecclesiastical degrees in canon law and theology. Your support will enable Catholic University to expand its impact in preparing the next generation of leadership for our Church and nation. Thank you for your generosity.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

**Sunday, October 8**

*45th Anniversary Mass @ 11:15 a.m. with Bishop Barry Knestout followed by our Parish Picnic and Blessing of the Animals at 3:00 p.m..*

**Saturday, November 11**

*Annual Holiday Bazaar & Flea Market*

### **HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS**

We will begin making crafts for the 2017 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesday September 13 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.

### **SENIOR CONNECTION**

*Our Senior neighbors' independence depends on US!*

Seniors who no longer drive still need to get to medical appointments, something that many of us who drive take for granted. They also need groceries, prescriptions, and services from local banks, dry cleaners, and shopping malls. While county buses and taxis provide a wonderful service to many, not all seniors are to use them easily and safely. The Senior Connection provides the answer for many of Montgomery County's seniors, offering "escorted transportation" services for those who need someone to walk with them and wait with them. Volunteers who drive for the Senior Connection offer critical support to seniors who want to live as independently and remain integral members of the community for as long as possible. For over 20 years, the Senior Connection has successfully maintained its volunteer programs without charging one cent to those who use them – helping older adults to "age in community" for as long as it is safe to do so. Consider volunteering as a driver with the Senior Connection. Training and liability coverage are provided. Volunteer trainings at 3950 Ferrara Drive in Silver Spring include: To learn more, contact [susan.girard@seniorconnectionmc.org](mailto:susan.girard@seniorconnectionmc.org), call 301-962-0820 or visit [www.seniorconnectionmc.org](http://www.seniorconnectionmc.org).

### **SFA HEALTH MINISTRY**

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

#### **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TO BE HELD NEXT WEEKEND**

The St. Francis Health Ministry will have its monthly blood pressure screening after Masses at 5:00 p.m. Saturday, September 9, and after the 8:00, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Masses on Sunday, September 10, in the St. Clare Room off the Gathering Space. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz at [lbbaklarz@yahoo.com](mailto:lbbaklarz@yahoo.com).

### **GOODBYE TO:**

**Fred & Kathy Abel**, who will soon relocate to Myrtle Beach, SC. Parishioners since 1990, the Abels taught Religious Education, served as a caller and team captain for Bingo, were founding members of the first Youth Committee and sponsored a diocesan childrearing class. Most recently, they served as ministers on the Information Desk. Kathy said one of her best memories at St. Francis was remembering Fr. Don Worch's "Miracle Prayer" during one of the St. Francis Fourth Grade Boys' Basketball games, which Fred helped coach. With a perfect record of losses, the team entered halftime of their last game trailing. After Fr. Don spoke to the team and led them in prayer, the team won the game by one point. "[It taught] the young boys not to give up and the power of prayer," Kathy wrote.

The Abels are on a retirement trip of Alaska and the western national parks. This fall, they will move to Myrtle Beach to live closer to their daughter and her family.

**Steve & Barbara McCully**, who have relocated to Point of Rocks, MD. The McCullys joined St. Francis of Assisi in 1984 and were active in several ministries, including Marriage Preparation. In a recent note, Barbara wrote, "I can't imagine what our lives would be like without St. Francis. It's been a wonderful place to raise our children and to strengthen our own faith." The McCullys will be moving to Bethany Beach, DE, next year after Steve retires.

### **THE EUTHANASIA DECEPTION**

Join the Maryland March for Life for a screening of *The Euthanasia Deception*, a one-hour documentary featuring powerful testimonies from Belgium and beyond of lives devastated by the false ideology of "mercy killing." Learn what you need to know to help prevent physician-assisted suicide from being made legal and how you can prevent it from becoming a reality in Maryland. The film screening and discussion will be held on Tuesday, September 26 from 7-9pm in the Trumpet Room of St. Raphael Church in Rockville, MD (1513 Dunster Rd.). For more information, contact the Maryland March for Life at [info@marylandmarchforlife.org](mailto:info@marylandmarchforlife.org) or Anthony Bosnick at 301-840-1407.

### **YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED**

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior by one adult over another in an intimate relationship. It can consist of repeated severe beatings or subtle forms of abuse, including threats and control. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence, please visit [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace).

### **REQUEST FROM GABRIEL PROJECT**

The Gabriel Project assists women in a crisis pregnancy. Items such as new and gently used clothing for infants through teens, diaper bags and receiving blankets are provided to mothers and their families in need. Donations are greatly appreciated. Bilingual Angel Friends are very helpful and appreciated. Men are needed to deliver and haul items. E-mail and daily prayer supporters are also needed. For more information please contact Natalie Ray at [natalieanneray@gmail.com](mailto:natalieanneray@gmail.com) or 240-374-3297, or Diane Reinke 301-946-4815.