



May 14 - May 20

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, 5/14 | 9:00 a.m. Don Smith |
| Tuesday, 5/15 | 9:00 a.m. Walter Henderson |
| Wednesday, 5/16 | 9:00 a.m. Monsignor Vincent Gatto 7:30 p.m. Andrew Clayton Emery |
| Thursday, 5/17 | 9:00 a.m. Adela Canino |
| Friday, 5/18 | 9:00 a.m. Christy & Millie Zizzo |
| Saturday, 5/19 | 9:00 a.m. Martin Almodovar 5:00 p.m. Bobbi Sullivan (L) |
| Sunday, 5/20 | 8:00 a.m. Ismael Almodovar Garcia 9:30 a.m. Guy Beaven 11:15 a.m. RE Catechists & Families (L) 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i> |

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Michael Corner, husband of Peggy Corner, Prospero Bello, uncle of Mark Harang.

Please pray for the sick....Dennis Parnell, Josephine Biasini, Maria Joseph, Dianne Palmer, Maria Patterson, Betty White, Nick Powers, Ed Dudenhoeffer, Bob Coyne, Jackie Roebuck King, Jeni Stepanek. (*Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.*)

Readings for the Week of May 13, 2018

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|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday: | Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 /Mk 16:15-20 |
| Monday: | Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17 |
| Tuesday: | Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a |
| Wednesday: | Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19 |
| Thursday: | Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26 |
| Friday: | Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19 |
| Saturday: | Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25 |
| Next Sunday: | Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23 |

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Cardinal Wuerl promulgated a Pastoral Plan to implement Pope Francis' post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia* (AL), on Sunday March 4, 2018. The fourth section of the Pastoral Plan stresses the importance of parish life.

Today I want to present some thoughts for accompanying young families that are presented in this section of the pastoral plan.

Families are schools of love in which family life shapes the formation of children and young people and teaches how to care for the aging and elderly. Our Holy Father reminds us that the family "is where we first learn to relate to others, to listen, to share, to be patient and show respect, to help one another and live as one" (AL, 276).

Families are a school of human formation and so to the extent that there is a vibrant practice of the faith in the home, our children and young people will be formed as followers of Jesus. A parent's witness of the Christian life is the first experience a child will have, and parents remain the children's first and most important teachers, especially in the faith. By parents' example, children will learn enduring lessons about reflecting Christ's love in marriage and family life. As Pope Francis notes, "Marriage preparation begins at birth. What they received from their family should prepare them to know themselves and to make a full and definitive commitment" (AL, 208).

Parents also tell us that among the ways for them to teach their children about the beauty of Christian marriage and family life include:

- Letting your youngsters see you praying—at Mass, before meals, before bed, etc. Pray with your children daily. Talk to your children about what your faith means to you. Tell them stories of important "faith moments" in their life;
- Planning for Mass in your weekly schedule and make Sunday Mass the center of your family's prayer life;
- Bringing the Church into your home. Invite your parish priest or religious women and men to dinner for conversation, a house blessing, etc;
- Teaching your children gratitude—offer a sincere "thank you" to God in your children's presence each day;
- Modeling God's forgiveness in all family relationships by asking and offering forgiveness to one another—parents to each other, parents to children, children to parents and among siblings;
- Going together to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation;
- Reading and exploring as a family Bible stories and age-appropriate stories of the lives of the saints as models of virtue and perseverance in faith;
- Volunteering to serve the poor together as a family year-round (e.g., mission trips, food pantry, soup kitchen); and
- Continuing to schedule date nights and invest in your marriage, even as schedules get busier and more attention is focused on caring for children.

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

The Ascension of the Lord/Seventh Sunday of Easter

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How often do I just stand around looking when there is work to be done, when there is injustice occurring, or when there is someone in need? What can I do so that I am spurred to act day in and day out?

COOK POSITION OPEN AT ST. FRANCIS

There is a position open at our parish for a Cook. As Cook you would plan, shop and cook meals for our Pastor, our Parochial Vicar, and any pastoral staff residing at the Rectory. Hours are Monday–Friday, 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Applicants should be available to start work in June. Please submit your qualifications to Fr. John, jdillon@sfadw.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR PLANT SALE PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY IN THE GATHERING SPACE



PLANT SALE
SATURDAY/SUNDAY MAY 19/20
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

(Annuals, Herbs, Hanging Baskets, Potted Plants!)

★ Thank You! ★
THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone who came out Saturday to help with the Yard Sale. Whether you donated treasures or volunteered, we could never do it without you. It was a great success and a lot of fun because of YOU! Thank you! *The Yard Sale Committee*

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Finally let me say a few words about the Ascension of the Lord, which we celebrate today. I am taking these thoughts from the *Dictionary of the Liturgy* by Fr. Jovian Lang. The theme of the Ascension is that Christ has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. He is the beginning, the head of the Church, where He has gone we hope to follow. Our hope is strong because Christ, although gone physically, has not left us spiritually. He is present in His signs—in His ministers, in His assembly, in His Word, and especially in His Eucharist (by His Real Presence). In this way, Christ will be with us until the end of the world. Hence, we must continue to carry out the task given by each of us to labor to build His Kingdom until He comes again.

Until next week,
Fr. John Dillon

JOIN THE SFA AED TEAM

The St. Francis Automated External Defibrillator (AED) team has received training and been certified to use both cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the AED when a situation at St. Francis requires it. St. Francis of Assisi Parish is now offering two more opportunities for people getting recertified or to learn these life-saving skills.

Heartsaver CPR/AED Training

8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon Saturday, June 2, or Saturday, June 9
SFA Parish Center. Registration required: Call Betty Baklarz at (301) 412-1909 or e-mail her at lbbaklarz@yahoo.com.

Already CPR certified?

To join the AED team, contact Chris Lee, AED Coordinator, at christin_lee.7@comcast.net.

To enhance the safety of our parishioners, St. Francis is equipped with an AED in the Usher's Room like the ones used at airports and in other public facilities. An AED device is used to determine and deliver, if necessary, an electric shock to a cardiac arrest victim. This, along with CPR, can and does save lives even before the arrival of emergency medical assistance.

RESULTS FROM THE 2018 CRS RICE BOWL CAMPAIGN

Thank you to all St. Francis parishioners, especially those in Religious Education, who contributed to the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl campaign during Lent this year. The parish raised \$1,216.06, a slight increase over the \$1,098.71 raised last year. Of the monies raised in this campaign, 75 percent of gifts support the organization's humanitarian programs around the world while 25 percent remain in each U.S. diocese to help alleviate hunger and poverty in the local population. In 2017, St. Francis of Assisi Parish received a local grant to help with our own charitable efforts. For more information on Rice Bowl, go to <https://www.crsricebowl.org>. You can also contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

A THANK YOU TO ALL THE BROWN BAG SERIES PARTICIPANTS

Thank you to the parishioners who participated in the Brown Bag series featuring forms of prayer, such as the Daily Examen, Spiritual Discernment, and Lectio Divina. Brown Bag Conversations will continue in June with more stimulating topics. Stay tuned!

May 13, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, May 15, 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 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.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare's 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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR A COMMUNITY ELECTION FORUM ON JUNE 3

If you are looking to hear from many of the local candidates running for county and state offices this fall, then consider attending a community election forum from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Temple Beth Ami in Rockville on June 3. St. Francis of Assisi Parish is serving as a co-sponsor of the event, which will bring candidates running for Montgomery County Executive and local House of Delegates seats to serve on moderated panels. Attendees are encouraged to pre-register for the free event on Event Brite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-3-community-election-forum-tickets-44345275914> and submit questions for the candidates.

Voter registration will be offered onsite. For more information, contact St. Francis Pax Christi Ministry member Chris King at caking.home@gmail.com.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Members of the Health Ministry Team will be on hand for blood pressure screening this weekend in the St. Clare Room after the Saturday, 5:00 p.m. Mass and Sunday morning Masses.

INTERFAITH DISCUSSION ON MAY 19 TO FEATURE PANELISTS FROM CATHOLIC, MUSLIM & JEWISH FAITHS

The Interfaith Discussion to be held at 9:50 a.m. Saturday, May 19, in the Parish Center is shaping up to be a well-rounded conversation among lay representatives of varying religious faiths.

Fr. John Crossin, who worked in interfaith relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will moderate the event and speak for the first 45 minutes on the Catholic understanding of interfaith relations. Four panelists – including two Muslim participants, one Catholic participant and a representative of the Jewish faith – will then have an opportunity to comment on the speaker's talk and share his or her own experiences and thoughts. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACONS ON JUNE 1 DURING THE FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Participants in our First Friday Holy Hour on Friday, June 1, are respectfully asked to pray for the three deacons from the Archdiocese of Washington who will be ordained June 16 and for their intentions. The Eucharistic Holy Hour for the deacons will be held from 8:15-9:30 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church. The three deacons from the archdiocese who will be ordained are Deacon Oscar Astigarraga, Deacon Andrew Clyne and Deacon Kevin Fields. For more information and for a complete listing of Parish Holy Hours throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, please visit adw.org/dcpriest.

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

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- 1) Go to sfadw.formed.org
- 2) Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3) You're all ready to access the inspiring and Engaging content on FORMED!
- 4) Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

FORMED is available 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Thank you to our catechists and volunteers who have helped to make this a successful year for our Religious Education Program. This parish is blessed to have so many wonderful catechists who volunteer their time each week to teach and share the faith. We pray that God will continue to bless each of them with his gifts of joy and peace!

As we look ahead to next year's Religious Education program, please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

END OF THE YEAR CATECHIST CELEBRATION

All catechists are invited to this End of the Religious Education Year Celebration on Tuesday, May 15 from 6:30-9:30 pm in the Parish Center. And we invite you to bring guests who may be interested in teaching next year! Please RSVP by calling the RE Office phone, 301-258-9193, or email SFArelig-ioused@sfadw.org.

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 next Sunday, May 20, from 3:30-4:30 pm 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.

REMINDERS FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Our Confirmation program continues as follows:

- Confirmation Candidate Session: Mon., May 14, 6:45-8:30 pm
- Rehearsal with Sponsor: Fri., May 18, 6:45-8:30 pm
- Confirmation: Mon., May 21, 7:00 pm

REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019

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 pm (*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 am
Monday afternoons, 4:45-6:00 pm
- Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes offered at two session times:
Monday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
- Grades 9-12 (Youth Group) meet Sunday evenings 6:00-8:00 pm (following the 5 pm 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.

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

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

FRED

MAY

- 13 NO FRED (Mother's Day)
- 20 Be Marian - Luke 1:27
- 27 NO FRED (Memorial Day)

JUNE

- 3 Aloha Party

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

APPLY NOW FOR BOOST SCHOLARSHIP

Parents of school-aged children take note: There is just over a week left to apply for \$7.6 million in state BOOST Scholarship money that will help income-eligible children in Maryland to attend a Catholic school. Scholarship applications for the 2018-19 school year are being accepted through May 21, with several hundred scholarships expected to be awarded. BOOST Scholarship reports that every student who sought transfer from a public school last year was offered a scholarship. In addition, it reported that larger scholarships may be awarded to students with special needs for the upcoming school year. To learn more about the BOOST scholarship, see <http://www.educationmaryland.org/BOOST>. If you have further questions, contact the BOOST Scholarship Coalition at (443) 510-4501.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

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), 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 1st Reconciliation, 1st 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.

Teen volunteer positions are filled!

Thank you for your support.

Camper spots are filling quickly!

Register NOW for

Vacation Bible Camp 2018

“SHIPWRECKED: Rescued by Jesus”

Who: Children age 4 by 6/24/2018 through those who are completing 5th grade June 2018

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Center

When: June 25th – 29th, 2018 from 9:00am – 12:30pm

Cost: \$50 per child

How: Complete the Registration Form found in the Church Gathering Space and on our parish website (sfadw.org/vbc) and return by mail or in person to the Parish Office during business hours (Mon-Fri; 8am – 4pm) with the Registration Fee via Check or Faith Direct. (For Faith Direct information contact the Parish Office, 301-840-1407 for details.)

**St. Francis of Assisi Church
Religious Education Office – VBC
6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD 20855**

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

Catch our Spirit

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

SPRING ART SHOW & CHOIR AND BAND CONCERT

May 14th at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. the SJRCS Choir and the Beginning and Advanced Bands will perform a spring concert. Artwork created by students in grades Pre-K to 8th grade will be on display throughout the school. Come and listen to our talented performers. See the creative under-the sea artwork floating above your head in the hallways.

**GIRLS ON THE RUN OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY
SPRING 5K**

Please support our SJRCS Girls on the Run. The GOTR MoCo 5K, an untimed event, will be held on Sunday, May 20th at Westfield Montgomery Mall (8:00am-arrival time / 9:00 a.m.-5k start time). Web site: <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/5K-Detail#reg-details>

CATCH OUR SPIRIT! REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2018!

Spaces are filling up quickly so register now! Applications for fall enrollment are being accepted on a first come basis for our 3 year old Pre-K Program to 7th grade (limited spaces are available). For information on the curriculum, admissions policies and registration, contact Ellen Donnelly in the school office at 301-946-7888 or register your student online at www.StJudeRockville.org

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Happy Mother's Day! Allow Jesus to be Lord of your marriage relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are on August 3-5, 2018 in Hanover MD and November 2-4, 2018 in Gaithersburg MD. Got to moments4marriage.org to sign up or call (301) 541-7007. It's not too early to sign-up!

**THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN
REBUILDING TOGETHER**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Rebuilding Together Projects on Saturday, April 28! Whether you removed trash, wielded a paintbrush or rake, laid carpet, installed floor tile, replaced a 20-year-old fixture, repaired foundation leaks, provided coffee and food to a hungry volunteer or just prayed for the good weather we desperately needed, your contributions were much appreciated. The prayers worked – we had wonderful weather! Here is what we did:

Volunteers at the house in Silver Spring:

- Repaired and painted walls and trim in four rooms
- Removed all the existing trash and old furniture items
- Repaired or replaced central heating and air conditioning supply vents
- Replaced the kitchen stove range hood
- Taped and sealed vents in the bedroom and living room
- Repaired living room window
- Raked, weeded and trimmed the yard and flower beds and laid 60 bags of mulch in the gardens
- Removed a 20-year-old ceiling fan and replaced it with an LED kitchen light fixture
- Organized furniture and installed wall-to-wall carpeting in the downstairs store room to create a children's playroom
- Cleaned and sealed areas of the house foundation and driveway that was leaking into the downstairs

Volunteers at the church ground and Rectory:

- Scraped, painted and washed windows at the Rectory
- Cut and removed fallen trees that were brought down by heavy winds this spring
- Fixed the damaged parking lot concrete parking stops
- Replaced broken fence posts and repaired the fence at the church playground
- Cleaned up, repaired and painted the Stations of the Cross area
- Removed tree branches and brush and raked out wood chips to the Stations of Cross area
- Trimmed overgrown trees that blocked the pathway
- Painted the Rectory wood trim and hand railings
- And other needed tasks

Thank you! Mike Rogewitz and Pat O'Connor, Rebuilding Together ministry coordinators

FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING

May can be a busy month. Are you booking travel for Memorial Day? Gearing up for summer vacation? Consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct to make sure your gifts reach St. Francis when you cannot, and our ministries can continue uninterrupted. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our Church Code: MD110. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family! God Bless You, ~ Fr. John.