

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

October 23 - October 29

Monday, 10/23	9:00 a.m. Don Smith
Tuesday, 10/24	9:00 a.m. Reverend Arne A. Panula
Wednesday, 10/25	9:00 a.m. Reverend Thomas F. Kehoe 7:30 p.m. Robert F. Ruiz
Thursday, 10/26	9:00 a.m. Deacon Mark Gallagher
Friday, 10/27	9:00 a.m. William English
Saturday, 10/28	9:00 a.m. Helen Mooney 5:00 p.m. Florentine Buenaventura, Jr.
Sunday, 10/29	8:00 a.m. Ann De Stwolenski 9:30 a.m. Lillian Gordon 11:15 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 5:00 p.m. Paul Popernack, Sr.

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Monsignor Ralph Kuehner, Adela Cabrera de Salinas, mother of Reverend Rodolfo Salinas.

Please pray for the sick.... Joseph Dreup, Tom Proctor, Jimmy Gerard, Bob Coyne, Gemma Palini, Larry Church, Ed Dudenhoefter, Evelyn Haddad, Carolyn Speaks, Bart Trickett, Katrina Schmidt, Bienvenido Delrosario, 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 October 22, 2017

Sunday:	Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10/1 Thes 1:1-5b/ Mt 22:15-21
Monday:	Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-75/Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday:	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-10, 17/ Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday:	Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-8/Lk 12:39-48
Thursday:	Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 12:49-53
Friday:	Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94/ Lk 12:54-59
Saturday:	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-5/Lk 6:12-16
Next Sunday:	Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51/1 Thes 1:5c-10/ Mt 22:34-40

Scripture Corner

PHARISEES AND HERODIANS

The Pharisees and Herodians in today's Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21) work together in an effort to trap Jesus. It is a strange combination since they did not get along. The Pharisees resented any influence of Rome in the Holy Land. The Herodians had their strength in the connection with Herod Antipas, who owed his power to Rome. Apparently the opposition to Jesus by both the Pharisees and Herodians united them in challenging our Lord. They were aware of Christ's popularity with the people.

Early in the Gospel of Mark they planned to kill Jesus (Mark 3:6) Now they want to trap him. Our Lord is asked, "Is it lawful to pay the census tax Caesar or not?" (Matthew 21:17) The Romans had imposed this tax, equivalent to a day's work, on the adult men, women and slaves of the Jewish people. The image on the coin at the time of Christ was that of the emperor, Tiberius Caesar. The wording on the coin was "Tiberius Caesar, august son of the divine Augustus, high priest." This coin was very offensive to the Jewish people, except for the Herodians.

The enemies of our Lord realize that if he says to pay the tax, he will lose support from his own people. So Jesus with divine wisdom replies, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Matthew 22:21) Jesus not only escapes the trap, but also makes an important religious teaching. Response to God must always be the first priority for every person. There should be love of God and love of neighbor. The prophet Jeremiah has this great guide for all. "Do what is right and just. Rescue the victims from the hand of the oppressors. Do not wrong or oppress the resident alien, the orphan and the widow." (Jeremiah 22:3)

Fr. Ralph

This was the last Scripture Corner Father Ralph wrote for the St. Francis bulletin.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

The Sisters will be at all Masses this weekend standing at the church doors as you leave Mass today. As you may know they must raise more than half the cost to operate the Jeanne Jugan Residence each year from donations. They stand with their baskets asking for your help. On behalf of all the Little Sisters and their elderly Residents, they ask God to bless St. Francis parishioners for your continuing support to their mission.

The Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How am I already exercising faithful, responsible citizenship? Is it time for me to join or initiate a concrete outreach to identify and address specific needs in my community?

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC: A COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Thursday, October 26 7:00 p.m.

Parish Center

The current opioid epidemic has affected many families right here in our area as it has nationwide. The rapid rate of addiction and consequent rising death toll has left countless families and friends devastated in the wake of loss and grief. To address this tragic situation *St. Francis of Assisi Health Ministry* in sponsorship with Catholic Charities is hosting **THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC: A COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE**. This forum is a community wide effort to help families become informed and better equipped to cope with problem of substance abuse and to sustain hope that recovery is possible. Plan now to attend this forum that takes place in the Parish Center on Thursday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Health Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz, lbbaklarz@yahoo.com.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Q. What if I don't want to burden my family by prolonging treatment? (continued)

We should not stop medically useful interventions because we are tired of living, feel we no longer have a contribution to make, see ourselves as helpless or believe our dependency on others is too great a burden to them and, thus, would like to hasten the end of life.

Q. What does the Church teach about nutrition and hydration?

Feeding tubes and other medically-assisted nutrition and hydration measures are available when patients can no longer take any, or indeed, sufficient food and fluid orally. Such measures are rarely unduly burdensome. While there is a clear presumption in favor of supplying food and fluids to patients, one can only determine what is morally required in light of the specific circumstances. The tube is useful when it delivers nutrients to the patient who, in turn, absorbs them; it is useless if the patient becomes incapable of absorbing the nutrients the tube delivers. It is both morally and medically inappropriate to make a universal statement that medically-assisted nutrition and hydration must be given to all who cannot feed themselves. Likewise, it is misleading to make a medical statement that all gravely ill patients should not be provided with medically-assisted nutrition and hydration. The moral decision is case specific. The prudent course of action is to consider the facts of the particular case and to determine whether a patient's need for nourishment and fluid can be met effectively through a medical intervention that does not impose excessive burdens on the patient.

Until next week

Fr. John

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Last Monday Cardinal Wuerl celebrated the Funeral Mass for Msgr. Ralph Kuehner who had resided at St. Francis of Assisi from 1990 until last year when he moved to Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville owing to health concerns. Fr. Ralph had opted to return to Sacred Heart Home after a short stay in the hospital. There he died very peacefully early on the morning of October 12, 2017. He has given us all a great example of how to live well and how to die well. May he rest in peace!

Fr. Ralph's death is a reminder of one of the themes of Respect Life month that many of us don't like think about. But it really is something that we have to bear in mind. These are Catholic considerations for our earthly passing. I am going to present some questions and answers from a document entitled "Comfort & Consolation: Q & A." This is a supplement to the Pastoral Letter *Comfort and Consolation* from the Catholic Bishops of Maryland.

Q. When should I accept or continue treatment?

God's gift of human life is the foundation for all His other gifts. The most basic right of each person includes the right to preserve his or her life. When professional medical care is needed, we should consent to reasonable use of appropriate medical care and treatment out of respect for our God-given dignity and also so that we can meet our duties to God, our loved ones, and all who depend on us. When a patient consents to medical interventions, they expect a cure, improvement, comfort, or life-sustaining help, but this does not mean that all such beneficial treatments are morally obligatory.

Q. When is it appropriate to deny or withdraw treatment?

No patient is obliged to accept or demand medical care or treatments that have no beneficial effect. In addition, no one is morally obliged to employ every possible beneficial means. While the most basic principles of Christian morality oblige us to preserve human life, these same principles clarify that there is no obligation to accept interventions that impose serious risks, excessive pain, prohibitive cost, or some other extreme burden out of proportion to its anticipated benefit. Furthermore, when death is imminent and inevitable despite the means used, it is permissible in conscience to refuse forms of treatment that would only secure a precarious and burdensome prolongation of life, so long as the normal care due to the sick person in similar cases is not interrupted. Determining whether a particular treatment is excessively burdensome is not simply a matter of preference or merely a medical decision, but a reasoned judgment by the patient that often requires the advice of a priest or someone else well-trained in sound moral theology.

Q. What if I don't want to burden my family by prolonging treatment?

A patient may make a morally correct decision to forgo a potentially beneficial medical treatment proposed by his or her doctor because the treatment itself is too burdensome or because it is useless. However, no one—including the patient, family members, medical professionals, or members of the clergy—ever has the right to decide that a person's life is useless.

Continued in the column to the left.....

October 22, 2017

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, October 24, 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 Olney 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 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL - 2323 FALL FAMILY EVENT

PUMPKIN CARVING & PAINTING PARTY

On Sunday October 29 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. we will host a Pumpkin Carving and Painting Party at Father Cuddy Hall 17001 Overhill Rd Derwood. Pumpkins, stencils, carving tools and art supplies will be provided. There is no charge for participation in this event. We will also have snacks and drinks. Contact John Leighton 301-340-9143 (cin2omn@verizon.net) to reserve your pumpkin. Walk-ins are also welcome.

NEW SAINT FRANCIS STATUE

Thank you to the Daily Mass parishioners who donated money towards the purchase of our new Saint Francis statue in front of the church.

REGISTER FOR THE FOURTH MINISTRY LEADERS RETREAT ON OCTOBER 28

St. Francis ministry leaders and rising leaders are invited to attend the fourth Ministry Leaders Retreat from 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28, in the Parish Center. With a theme of "Servant Leaders of a Missionary Church," the retreat will explore our servant leadership role model, Jesus. During the retreat, participants will have time to pray and meditate, sing and explore topics focused on challenges ministry leaders face today. These topics include:

- Jesus as the servant leadership role model
- How servant leadership can be messy
- How to avoid being a maintenance vs. a missionary ministry leader
- How people process information differently
- How this information can help the servant leader identify and address the biggest challenges facing their ministry

St. Francis parishioner Lisa Singleton will serve as the event's keynote speaker, bridging her experience teaching students at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School about student leadership development with how ministry leaders can further grow in their roles. Singleton is a graduate of Catholic University and has a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in School Leadership. She is also the daughter of Deacon Jim and Patrice Datovech.

For more information about the retreat, contact Deacon Dan Finn at deacondanfinn@gmail.com. To register for the retreat, contact Ministry Coordinator Ann Pierre at pierrea45@hotmail.com.

PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTION TO TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 4/5

The Pastoral Council will hold its election for new members the weekend of Nov. 4-5 during all Masses. St. Francis parishioners ages 16 and older will be choosing seven new members of the Pastoral Council, an all-volunteer body that provides advice and counsel to Fr. John, as St. Francis' pastor.

Biographies and pictures of the nine candidates who are running for the Pastoral Council will be displayed in the Gathering Space, starting this weekend. The biographical information should also be posted to the Information Monitor, as well.

For more information about the Pastoral Council elections, please contact Pastoral Council co-chairs Alicia Church, alicia.church@collaborationcouncil.org or Miguel Welanetz at welawhat@msn.com.

TICKETS FOR THE HAITI BENEFIT CONCERT TO BE SOLD IN THE GATHERING SPACE ON OCTOBER 21/22

Tickets are for sale in the Gathering Space this weekend for the Haiti Benefit Concert to be held at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, October 28. Don't miss former St. Francis of Assisi music director Verena Anders and her husband William Buthod perform vocal and keyboard works about the heritage and cultural identity of Haiti. Buthod will also debut *Three Quotes*, an original short work composition based on three short quotes from Haitian descendent Alexander Dumas. Tickets are \$20 each and children 12 and under will be admitted for free. For more information, contact St. Francis of Assisi Music Director Deirdre Sweet at sfadwmusic@gmail.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS UPDATE

Even though Religious Education classes have started, space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to begin classes once registration is received and processed. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space, the Parish Offices, and also on the parish website. Please call the Religious Education Office if need more information: 301-258-9193. **Children must be registered before they can begin classes.**

CATECHISTS AND AIDES NEEDED

Additional volunteers are still needed in our Sunday morning and Monday afternoon Elementary programs, and Monday and Tuesday evening middle school program. Please consider whether you can serve as a catechist or classroom aide for our children and young people. We need your help to keep our class sizes small. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

NET RETREAT FOR GRADES 6, 7 & 8 ON OCTOBER 30

Students in 6th, 7th, & 8th grade Religious Education classes will participate in the NET Retreat on Monday, October 30, from 5:00-8:00 pm in the Parish Center. The NET Retreat takes the place of RE classes on October 30 and 31 for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students (i.e., there are no Tuesday 6:45 RE classes on October 31. These students, and all students who attend the 6:45 Monday classes, are expected to attend the NET Retreat instead.) If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL www.StJudeRockville.org

ARCHDIOCESE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The ADW Tuition Assistance Program is available for students who are applying to or currently enrolled in Catholic Schools. All tuition assistance obtained through the archdiocese is based on financial need. Families must apply each year to receive assistance and financial need must be demonstrated each year to qualify. The 2018-2019 ADW Tuition Assistance Program is now online at <http://www.adw.org/tuition-assistance/>. The application deadline is December 1, 2017. Other Scholarship opportunities are also available at the link above.

OPEN HOUSE: November 15, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

QUO VADIS "COME AND SEE" RETREAT

Young men in Grades 11 and 12 who are considering options for college are invited to Saint John Paul II Seminary from Friday, November 3 through Sunday, November 5 to experience seminary life firsthand. This is an opportunity to meet and talk to our seminarians, pray with them, listen to great talks, and enjoy time for sports and recreation. Please encourage high school juniors and seniors to consider attending this great weekend event. Please visit www.DCpriest.org and select "Events" to register. Please call the Office of Priest Vocations at 202-636-9020 or email Fr. Mark Ivany at vocations@adw.org with any questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

FRED

OCTOBER

22 FRED - Protecting God's Children
29 FRED - Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

3-5 FRED Fall Retreat

FRED JR.

OCTOBER

30 NET Retreat

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

270 CATHOLIC OCTOBER EVENTS

(A regional young adult ministry sponsored by the Archdiocese's Office of Young Adult Ministry)

Special Vigil Mass

On **Tuesday, October 31st**, young adults (20s & 30s) are invited to St. Mary's Historic Chapel (520 Viers Mill Road, Rockville, MD) from **7:30-8:30 p.m.** for a special vigil Mass for The Feast of All Saints. Join us after for fellowship in the basement of the rectory.

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/270Catholic/events> or email: 270catholic@gmail.com for more information on any of these events.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are looking for silent auction items such as Time Shares, Sports Tickets, Theater Passes, etc. for our Fall Bazaar (November 11). Items donated are a tax write-off! For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

THEME BASKETS FOR SILENT AUCTION

If you would like to make up a theme basket for the Silent Auction, please call the Parish Office to let us know you are donating a special basket. Theme Baskets are always a big hit!

FLEA MARKET

Start saving your "stuff" for our flea market

CRAFTING

We will be making craft items on Wednesday, October 25 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Please join us and bring your craft ideas. Projects can be taken home.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Sign-ups will take place in the Gathering Space the weekends of October 29 and November 5. We will need help starting November 8 through November 10 with set-up and help will be needed the actual day of the Bazaar.

SECOND HOLY LAND FILM FOCUSES ON DAILY LIFE IN PALESTINE

The Holy Land Film Series continues this weekend with the screening of *Life in Occupied Palestine* at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 22, at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Montgomery Village, MD. The film by Anna Baltzer, a Jewish-American graduate of Columbia University and a Fulbright Scholar, showcases her discoveries as a volunteer with the International Women's Peace Service in the West Bank, documenting human rights abuses and supporting Palestinian-led nonviolent resistance to the Occupation.

The film series is supported by the St. Francis of Assisi Pax Christi Ministry. All films are free of charge and film goers can park for free at the church located at 9801 Centerway Road.

The next film of the series will be shown November 5 and is titled, *Two Blue Lines*. It will show at the same time and location as *Life in Occupied Palestine*. For more information, contact Pax Christi member Bob Cooke at cookerh1251@gmail.com.

SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

The Alhumayers – the Syrian family adopted by St. Francis of Assisi Church and two other interfaith communities -- are making wonderful progress as well as still battling some serious challenges as they adjust to life in the United States. Bashir, the father, has been working as an electrician helper for the past two months and is proud to be able to help support his family. St. Francis helped purchase a used car last month so Bashir could get to work. The two youngest children, Maher and Yamama, are in a new high school catering to their challenges as new immigrants in the country. They are studying hard and have received commendable grades on their first report card. The eldest son, Yamen, 19, is looking for a job. Ghosoun, the mother, is struggling with serious health challenges as a Type 1 diabetic with numerous other issues. The parents also struggle with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder from the time in their war-torn country. They are in the final stages of the Green Card application process to become permanent U.S. residents.

The family will attend the Haiti Benefit Concert on October 28, so St. Francis families are encouraged to say hello to them. For any questions and to give donations to the family, contact Pax Christi members Chris King at caking.home@gmail.com, or Mary Kate Ryner at rynoslp@msn.com.

MASS WITH HEALING PRAYERS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Following a teaching Mass for children families will be invited to kneel together before Our Lord in adoration, and to receive healing prayers through the priesthood. Friday, October 27, 6:30 p.m. St. Andrew Apostle Church, 11600 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring (301) 649-3700. Confessions will be available.

SFA HEALTH MINISTRY

Encouraging healing in body, mind and spirit

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) is an international grief support organization. TCF offers friendship and understanding to parents who come together to learn how to cope w/ the pain and grief of having a child die. We do not have professional therapists, just other parents who understand what it means to suffer the tragedy of losing a child. The Montgomery County Chapter meets monthly on each first Tuesday.

LOCATION: Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD 20854

DATE & TIME: November 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

For additional information: Contact Barbara/George Beall 301-253-8740 or oldedish@starpower.net. St. Francis parishioners, whose youngest child and daughter, died in 2004. They are available to speak with parents at any time, night or day.

MONTGOMERY HOSPICE

Our six-week bereavement groups are for anyone who lives or works in Montgomery County who is grieving the death of a loved one. Led by a professional counselor, the groups provide emotional support and encourage the sharing of personal experiences. Practical issues and concerns are discussed and educational materials are provided.

To register: Request a Bereavement Counselor at (301) 921-4400. Montgomery Hospice suggests you wait three months after the death to participate in a support group. Members of the community pay a \$25 non-refundable registration fee, but there is no registration fee for Montgomery Hospice family members.

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEERS TO TAKE FOOD TO ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Food Pantry Ministry Coordinator Carolyn Brauer has expressed a warm thank you to the generous St. Francis parishioners who donate food each week to the food bin in the Gathering Space. The food is taken to St. Martins of Tours Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, where its food pantry serves 180-200 families each week.

The Food Pantry is always seeking compassionate volunteers to help deliver the food to the pantry on a rotational basis. If you are looking for a first step to "love your neighbor," as we are commanded to do, why not consider being a part of our Food Pantry Ministry? Currently we have five slots open for the month of December: 12/03, 12/10, 12/17, 12/24 and 12/31. If you are interested, contact Ministry Coordinator Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or the co-coordinator Christine Young at youngbodyworks@hotmail.com.

A Special Request: When grocery shopping, please keep in mind some of the following items that are in short supply and have been requested at the pantry: dry unsweetened cereal, canned fruit, crackers or cookies, Similac baby formula (Blue Label), baby cereal, size 5 and 6 disposable diapers and #2 baby food vegetables.