

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

November 6 - November 12

Monday, 11/6	9:00 a.m. Reverend Edward Evans
Tuesday, 11/7	9:00 a.m. Ruth Gasca
Communion Service Wednesday, 11/8	9:00 a.m.
Communion Service	7:30 p.m.
Communion Service Thursday, 11/9	9:00 a.m.
Friday, 11/10	9:00 a.m. Evelyn Meade
Saturday, 11/11	9:00 a.m. For All Veterans 5:00 p.m. Barbara Lynn Beall
Sunday, 11/12	8:00 a.m. Diane James 9:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Genovese Family 11:15 a.m. Anthony DiBartolo 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret Karam, mother of Lisa Karam, Monsignor Vincent S. Gatto, Retired Archdiocese of Washington.

Please pray for the sick.... Bernard Kohan, Joseph Dreup, Tom Proctor, Jimmy Gerard, Bob Coyne, Gemma Palini, 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 November 5, 2017

Sunday:	Mal 1:14-2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1-3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12
Monday:	Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/ Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday:	Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde-3/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday:	Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday:	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
Friday:	Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1-4/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday:	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-5, 10-11/ Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday:	Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 /Mt 25:1-13

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE CHANGE

**Wednesday, November 8 - 9:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
&
Thursday, November 9 - 9:00 a.m.**

To allow Father John & Father Jack to attend the Archdiocesan Convocation for Priests, there will be no Daily Masses on the above dates. In place of Mass, the Deacons will offer a Communion Service at the times Daily Mass would normally be said.

CALLING ALL VETERANS

Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces or in the U.S. Public Health Service? St. Francis of Assisi Parish would like to honor your service with prayer and gratitude. Please submit your name and branch of service to the list in the Gathering Space or e-mail the information to Health Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz at lbbaklarz@yahoo.com by Tuesday, November 7. You will be included in our prayers and petitions at Masses during Veterans Day weekend on Nov. 11 and 12. *An initiative of the SFA Health Ministry.*

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK OFFERED AT DAILY MASS ON NOVEMBER 11

St. Francis of Assisi parish will offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at 9:00 a.m. daily Mass on Saturday, November 11. The special grace of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its effects:

- The uniting of the sick person to the Passion of Christ, for his or her own good and that of the whole Church.
- Giving the sick person the strength, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age.
- Imparting the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the Sacrament of Penance.
- Providing for the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of the soul of the sick person.
- Helping the sick person in preparation for passing over to eternal life.

People who are ill but not near death can receive the sacrament. For more information on the sacrament, see the parish web site under "Sacraments" and "Anointing of the Sick."

The Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When I think about the ministry that I undertake in my community of faith, how can I ensure that it always reflects the Word of God and not my own agenda?

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Kathryn Bitonti
Patricia Green
Jose Romero & Vionnette Velez
Ryan & Angie Titcombe
Nicole Torres

The following children were baptized during the month of October:

Elaina Teresa Keller
Lexi Michelle Silva

OFFERTORY STEWARDSHIP APPEAL TO LAUNCH ON STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

On November 19, St. Francis of Assisi Church will launch its annual Offertory Stewardship Campaign. Over the next few weeks, please reflect on the Homilies and communications from Fr. John to consider your blessings and reassess your offertory contributions to help St. Francis do more to help people become more fully formed disciples of Christ and help the poor and vulnerable in our communities.

Please also consider signing up for Faith Direct, an online system that allows you to have your weekly donation automatically debited from your checking account or billed to the credit card of your choice. For more information on Faith Direct, please go to the St. Francis web site, www.sfadw.org, under 'Give' and 'Online Giving.'

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE ST. FRANCIS CHRISTMAS TREE SALE KICKING OFF SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Are you ready for the annual St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale? In coming weeks, volunteers will be needed to sign up to help with the St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale, a seasonal fundraiser that raises thousands of dollars for our church. The Christmas Tree Sale is scheduled to begin Saturday, November 25, in the lawn in front of the church. Volunteers are needed to help set up trees on Friday, November 24, sell them through Sunday, December 17, and help break down the event on that final day. Please look out for the sign-up table in the Gathering Space in coming weekends. For more information, contact Christmas Tree Sale Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Please stop by the St. Clare Room after Mass next weekend to have your blood pressure checked. (Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m. Masses)

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On November 1, 2016, Pope Francis celebrated Mass in Malmo, Sweden at the end of an ecumenical trip to Sweden. In talking about the saints, the Holy Father said a number of things that I want to mention to us again, a little more than a year after he said them, because they are well worth hearing again.

Pope Francis remarked that the best description of the saints is found in the Beatitudes. He also said that Christ's followers today are called to confront the troubles and anxieties of our age with the spirit and love of Jesus, as Christian saints have done throughout the ages. Because our new situations require new energy and new commitment, Pope Francis offered a new list of Beatitudes for modern Christians:

Blessed are they who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.

Blessed are they who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized and show them their closeness.

Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover him.

Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.

Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

Pope Francis commented that all these are messengers of God's mercy and tenderness. Surely, the Holy Father believes, they will receive from God their merited reward. I think that it can be helpful to look on these New Beatitudes as the priorities that Pope Francis has stressed for the four years that he has been pope: the importance of faithfulness and forgiveness, caring for those on the margins, reaching out to evangelize others, caring for the environment and integrated ecology, and furthering ecumenical efforts.

When I think of the recently Blessed Stanley Rother and Capuchin Father Solanus Casey who will be beatified later this month, I see them as individuals who lived out well this new list of Beatitudes. Blessed Stanley was certainly someone who remained faithful while enduring evils inflicted on him by others. One of his famous sayings was that the "Shepherd does not run at the first sign of danger." Father Solanus clearly looked into the eyes of the abandoned and showed them that God had not forgotten them or forsaken them.

Let's ask their prayers for us that we also may remain faithful in these difficult times when the culture of death threatens to overwhelm us. Let us continue to preach the Gospel on every occasion and, when necessary, use words.

Until next week,

Fr. John Dillon

November 5, 2017

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, November 7, 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 *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 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.

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Come join us for a fun time and great fellowship decorating fresh holiday wreaths. Mark your calendars for either Friday evening, November 24th from 6 - 9:00 p.m. or Saturday, November 25th from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Youth Room, lower level of the Rectory. No experience is necessary, we'll show you how! Just bring a pair of wire cutters (if you have them) and something "yummy" to share. We'll provide the beverages, decorations and holiday tunes playing. For additional information or questions contact carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

November 5-11

The number of priests being ordained has risen slightly in recent years, and while ordinations still aren't keeping pace with priests' retirements, there is good news to report. According to CARA's annual survey of soon-to-be ordained priests, men are being ordained younger and receiving more encouragement than in past years. *Please see today's bulletin insert for additional information on National Vocations Awareness Week.*

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

Starting Monday, November 6th you can start dropping off your *Flea Market & Shabby Chic* items in the Youth Room located in the Rectory. You can drop off your items until 7:00 p.m. each evening (November 6-9). ***THERE WILL BE NO DROP OFFS TAKEN ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH***.

JEWELRY

Please drop the jewelry off at the parish office or leave your treasured items in the mailbox on the Rectory porch if the office is closed.

MILLIE'S BAKE SHOP

We are asking parishioners to sign-up to bake for Millie's Bake Shop. Please stop by the Volunteer Table to sign up to bake. Sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Space November 4/5. If you forget to sign-up just bring a baked goodie the Friday before the Bazaar starts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Sign-ups will take place in the Gathering Space this weekend and next weekend, 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, November 11.

LAST TWO FILMS IN THE HOLY LAND SERIES ON NOVEMBER 5 & 12

This weekend, "Two Blue Lines," the third film in the Holy Land Film Series, will screen at 2:30 p.m. at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Montgomery Village. Winner of the 2016 "Best Documentary Feature" at the Canada International Film Festival, the film examines the ongoing dispute among Israeli citizens about their government's occupation of Palestine. On November 12, "Where Should the Birds Fly," the final film in the series, will screen at the same time at the church, located at 9801 Centerway Road. This film documents Israel's siege of Gaza and its 2008-2009 attack told through the eyes of an 11-year-old girl Mona Samouni and the filmmaker and educator Fida Qishta.

The Holy Land Film Series is supported by St. Francis' Pax Christi Ministry. For more information, contact parishioner Pat Labuda at palabuda@aol.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

CATECHIST MEETING: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

There will be a Catechist Meeting for all RE catechists today, Sunday, November 5 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in Room 6 of the Parish Center. Please join us as we share ideas for enriching our faith formation classes!

CATECHESIS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our class meets today, Sunday, November 5 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the St. Clare Room. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

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.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School www.StJudeRockville.org

Ask us what we can do for your child!

St. Jude Regional Catholic School offers challenging academics for students in Pre-k through 8th grade. At SJRCS we educate the whole child, delivering academic excellence within a Catholic community of faith.

On Wednesday, November 15th, tour the school and see our excellent teachers in action! Can't make the Open House - Additional information about SJRCS may be found on our website at www.stjuderockville.org, check out our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/stjuderockvillemd> or speak to Ellen Donnelly in the school office at 301-946-7888

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.

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL

GCTC's production of *And Then There Were None & The Real Inspector Hound* runs for two weekends at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Performing Arts Center, 17301 Old Vic Blvd., Olney, MD. Performances are Friday and Saturday November 10 & 11 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20, and can be purchased on www.showtix4u.com. Come see some of our St. Francis students perform.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY *Upcoming Events*

FRED

NOVEMBER

- 3-5 FRED Fall Retreat (No Sunday Night Meeting)
- 12 Why do we need a Pope? (Matthew 16:18)
- 19 Living a Virtuous and Happy Life (1 Peter 1:13-25)
- 26 NO FRED — **Happy Thanksgiving!**

FRED JR

- 11 Archdiocesan Jr. High Rally

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

270 CATHOLIC - a regional young adult ministry supported by the Archdiocese's office of YA ministry that serves several cities in the Montgomery County region (our home base is St. Mary's in Rockville).

270Catholic's Theology on Tap in Bethesda

On **Thursday, November 16th** (*this is a change from our usual second Tuesday*) young adults (20s and 30s) are invited to The Barking Dog (4723 Elm Street, Bethesda,) for Happy Hour from 6:00-7:00 p.m. followed by a talk and Q&A from 7:00-8:00 p.m. with Fr. Augustino Torres, C.F.R., president and founder of Corazon Puro, and host of the EWTN Español television show "Clic con Corazon Puro." His talk is titled "In Order to Live you Gotta Give."

270Catholic's monthly service event

Young adults (20s and 30s) save the date: **Saturday, November 18th**, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon for our monthly service event at A Wider Circle (9159 Brookville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910). Tasks involve sorting through donations, re-stocking the show rooms, and helping load up trucks or client's vehicles. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/270Catholic/events> or email: 270Catholic@gmail.com for more info.

270Catholic's monthly Holy Hour

On **Tuesday, November 28th**, young adults (20s and 30s) are invited to St. Mary's Historic Chapel (520 Viers Mill Road, Rockville) from 7:30-8:30 p.m. for a music-infused hour of adoration (option of confession). 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 info on any events..

ST. PETER'S OLNEY YOUNG ADULTS

St. Peter's of Olney would like to welcome any Young Adults in their 20's and 30's from St. Francis to our Young Adult ministry! Our past activities have included hiking, holy hours, swing dancing, and Sunday brunch- always with Christ as the center! We hope you will join us and grow with your peers in faith and friendship. Please email us and like our Facebook page to stay updated on events:

Email: youngadults.stpeters@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Young-Adults-100207856724931/>

SFA HEALTH MINISTRY

Encouraging health and wellbeing of body, mind and soul

SFA Hosts The Opioid Epidemic: A Compassionate Response

On October 26, the St. Francis of Assisi Health Ministry and Catholic Charities co-hosted a community forum on “The Opioid Epidemic: A Compassionate Response” to address the affliction of substance abuse disorder sweeping the nation in staggering proportions.

Approximately 75 attendees heard a collective message from keynote speaker Dr. John Rosa and panelists that “it takes a village” to address the many challenges impacting the families affected by substance abuse. Dr. Rosa, an integrated medicine physician with Accessible Beltway Clinics, demonstrated how the overuse of legal prescription opioid drugs -- all rapidly causing physical addiction -- has created an unprecedented demand for opioids in ever increasing dosages. Legal distribution of prescription opioid drugs, coupled with illicit drug trafficking, has made the supply for opioids ample, cheap and lethal. This self-perpetuating vicious cycle has claimed the lives of more Americans in less than two years than the Vietnam War did in 20 years. The collateral damage for grieving families is incalculable.

Betty Baklarz, coordinator for the St. Francis Health Ministry, stressed the importance of building resiliency for life through strong faith and family bonds.

Panelists at the community forum included James Place Advocacy Group Founder Barbara Allen, who has lost three family members to opioid abuse; Judith Clarke of Women Who Care Ministries, who is 21 years in recovery; Fr. John Dillon; Dr. Rosa; and Lt. Ronald Smith of the Montgomery County Police Department. The panel addressed questions from the audience, stressing the need for a multi-disciplined response to this epidemic.

Ms. Allen explained her journey from grieving mother to executive director of James Place whose mission is to educate and provide scholarships for recovery services for the disease of addiction. She advised the use of a drug lockbox to safeguard prescription medicines at home and to dispose of unused prescription opioids through the county police department.

Ms. Clarke shared her recovery journey and outlined the services her ministry provides to care for women who are victims of abuse.

Dr. Rosa addressed the question of medical marijuana. Noting that there are mixed results as to whether marijuana is an effective treatment as some have claimed, Dr. Rosa stressed that there’s evidence marijuana may be a gateway drug to opioids. States that have legalized marijuana are experiencing employment and increased crime issues, he said.

Fr. Dillon explained the emotional challenges of working with families who have lost a loved one to an overdose.

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

ARE YOU AFFECTED

BY SOMEONE ELSE’S ADDICTION?

NAR-ANON offers hope. Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else’s addiction. As a twelve step program, we offer help by sharing our experience, strength, and hope. A meeting is held on Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m., 15886B. Gaither Drive, Gaithersburg. For additional information contact Alison, (301) 963-6640 or visit the website nar-anon.org.

BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH

November was designated as Black Catholic History Month by the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus. During the month of November, we celebrate the gifts of diversity within the Archdiocese of Washington and the steadfast faith of the African-American Catholics who worship here.

On the evening of Friday, November 10, please join the Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach as it celebrates the Archdiocese of Washington’s Gospel Mass Choir for its steadfast witness. The Mass will begin at 7:30 p.m., preceded by Praise and Worship starting at 7:00 p.m. The liturgy will be held at St. Joseph Parish in Largo, MD and will be celebrated by Bishop Roy E. Campbell, Jr. For more information, please contact Sandra Coles-Bell at 301-853-4469 or colesbells@adw.org.

DR. SCOTT HAHN PRESENTATION

Living Sacrifice: The Gospel According to St. Paul.

Do not miss this special event with world renowned Catholic Biblical Scholar, teacher and apologist Dr. Scott Hahn, on November 11, at St. John Neumann Church, Gaithersburg, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please register online www.saintjohnneumann.org/adult-faithformation.html. \$15 per person in advance, \$20 per person at the door. Bring your own lunch.

SFA Hosts The Opioid Epidemic:

A Compassionate Response

(continued)

Lt. Smith of the Montgomery County Police Department explained Maryland’s Good Samaritan law and encouraged persons to call for help for suspected overdose. The Good Samaritan Law protects persons from arrest or prosecution when calling 911 for help during an overdose crisis so that no charges for use or possession of a controlled dangerous substance or drug paraphernalia or for providing alcohol to minors will be incurred, according to the Maryland Department of Health’s Behavioral Health Administration.

The engaging question and answer discussion illustrated that the comprehensive approach to saving lives should include medical treatment, sustainable recovery programs, prevention education, effective public policy and law enforcement. For more information about resources for opioid recovery, contact Health Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz at lbbaklarz@yahoo.com.