

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

May 22- May 28

Monday, 5/22	9:00 a.m. Jane Spieler
Tuesday, 5/23	9:00 a.m. James Galvin
Wednesday, 5/24	9:00 a.m. Andrew Peck 7:30 p.m. Gonzalo Feliciano
Thursday, 5/25	9:00 a.m. Oscar Palini
Friday, 5/26	9:00 a.m. Federico Taruc, Sr.
Saturday, 5/27	9:00 a.m. Reverend Derek Goerg 5:00 p.m. Mary Anne & Miller McCreddie (L)
Sunday, 5/28	8:00 a.m. Catherine Parnell 9:30 a.m. Greg Bielecki 11:15 a.m. Frances D'Aurora 1:00 p.m. Christos Nicholson 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>

Please pray for the sick....Theresa Krafchik, Carolyn Maltz, John Stehle, Bob Ellenberger, Regino Villagran, Kathy Denchfield, Pam Kelley, Rick Kreter, Bill Devore, Jennie Cargill, Agnes Horrigan, Carla Cosman, Jackie Roebuck King, Bob Coyne, Jeni Stepanek. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Miguel Quintero.

Readings for the Week of May 21, 2017

Sunday:	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21/Ps 66/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11
Monday:	Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-6, 9/Jn 15:26--16:4
Tuesday:	Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday:	Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-14/ Jn 16:12-15
Thursday:	Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1-4/Jn 16:16-20
Friday:	Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-7/Jn 16:20-23
Saturday:	Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10/Jn 16:23b-28
Next Sunday:	Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 /Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Scripture Corner THE LAWS OF GOD

The laws and regulations of God are found throughout the Bible. The highlights of the Old Testament are the Ten Commandments. (Exodus 20:1-17) God gives these commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. The commandments are found a second time in Deuteronomy 5:16-21.

The highlights of the New Testament are love of God and love of neighbor. (Mark 12:29). As his first promise to those who keep these promises in today's Gospel (John 14:15 -21) Jesus assures his followers that the Father will send the Holy Spirit. Since Christ is already seen as an advocate, the Holy Spirit is seen as another, a second advocate for all Christians.

As a second promise for those who faithfully keep the commandments there is the assurance of our Lord's love. "Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." (John 4:21) All are assured that if they observe the laws, they will have a strong spiritual life in union with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit,

At the Last Supper Christ is pondering the future of his followers, He is confident about that future because he has great faith in the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost Sunday the Holy Spirit will descend on the Christians, beginning the final period of salvation history, the period of the Church!

Catholic Social Teaching insists on the importance of love of neighbor, especially of the poor and needy. "How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods, and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?" (1 John 3:17) Pope Francis uses those words of John to encourage all persons to help the poor and needy.

~ Fr. Ralph

GETTING TO KNOW THE MINOR PROPHETS

By

Monsignor Ralph Kuehner

Fr. Ralph's new book is available for purchase. Copies are in the Parish Office.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Remembering my Confirmation anointing and St. Peter's challenge to be able to explain my Christian hope, how will I seek out a faith-enriching resource and set aside time to study it?

OUR CALL IN THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: FRIENDS OF THE POOR.

Pope Francis teaches: "We need to let ourselves be evangelized by [the poor]. The new evangelization is an invitation to acknowledge the saving work in their lives and to put them at the center of the Church's pilgrim way. We are called to find Christ in them, to lend our voice to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them" (*The Joy of the Gospel*, 198). This is our call in the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Is it your call? Come and see. Our next meeting is **Thursday, May 25** in the Assisi Room at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Tony Bosnick, 301-840-1407, Ext. 11.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD May 28, 2017

In the Archdiocese of Washington (as in most dioceses in the USA), the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is transferred from Thursday, May 25, 2017 to Sunday, May 28, 2017.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Kids' needs during Masses were of interest to 3 percent of respondents answering this question. Three respondents specifically asked for "more kid-tailored homilies"; currently, St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers homilies especially tailored for children once a month during the 11:15 a.m. Mass from September to May. A Children's Liturgy of the Word, where children in fifth grade or younger are invited to go to a separate area to hear age-appropriate commentary on the day's readings, also takes place at the 11:15 a.m. Mass from September to May.

The subject matter of homilies also struck a chord for respondents listening for themselves. About 3 percent of respondents similarly named "improved homilies" as the enhancement they'd like to make to the weekend worship experience. However, when defining what "improved" means, responses covered the entire spectrum of "educational/not personal experience," "tying the readings to today's complex environment," "less politics," and "longer sermons/Word of God/biblical exposition."

Just about 2 percent of respondents – or five people -- said an investment in the church's sound system would enhance the weekend worship experience. "Improve the sound system," said one respondent. "It is often difficult to understand the speakers – a lot of them mumble."

For more information about the Mass Preferences Survey, contact Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan at Melissa.egan74@verizon.net.

Until next week,
Fr. John Dillon

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

At all the masses last weekend I announced that Father Jonathan (Jack) Berard has been assigned by Cardinal Wuerl to be the Parochial Vicar (formerly known as Assistant or Associate Pastor) for St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Derwood, MD. Fr. Berard will report here on July 12, 2017. I am inviting him to write an article for the bulletin in which he introduces himself to us. Look for that article in a future issue of the bulletin.

Please welcome Joseph Salser, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Washington, to the parish for his summer placement. Joseph will be with us for two months this summer and is slated to return again in September for a seminary placement during the next academic year. While Joseph is here, he will be ordained a deacon. That will occur on June 10, 2017.

I want to continue to report on the Mass Preferences Survey that we took earlier this year. The survey shows that the feeling of community and music are the most noteworthy part about the weekend worship experience here at St. Francis.

Based on targeted results of the parish's recent Mass Preferences Survey, respondents most enjoy the feeling of community at St. Francis, the experience of music within the Liturgy and the messages they receive through the Homilies.

Thirty-four percent of the respondents to the survey administered in March reported that community atmosphere ranks as the best part of the weekend worship experience at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Twenty-nine percent of respondents named music as the highlight of their weekend worship, while 18 percent named homilies as the biggest appeal of attending St. Francis.

Although worship was not specifically listed as a choice respondents could pick from in answering what was the best part of St. Francis' weekend worship experience, nine respondents listed 'worship,' 'receiving Eucharist,' and 'the consecration' under 'Other' on this question.

One respondent advocated for "more spirituality and teaching" from the clergy celebrating Mass. "The music is nice, but we need more quiet prayer time and reflection – especially for the youth," the respondent stated. "Our world is too noisy – they aren't taught to meditate or [are] given opportunities to speak to God quietly in their hearts."

On the question asking respondents if they could change or add one thing to the weekend worship experience at St. Francis, respondents had quite a bit to share.

Of 311 respondents, roughly 12 percent of comments related to music, in some form. At least 13 respondents want to add music that is "more contemporary," "more modern," "so congregation can join in," "more upbeat/faster temp," "more current and uplifting," and "contemporary Christian." On the other hand, five respondents asked for a Mass with "no music."

Currently, St. Francis offers a six-Mass schedule, with musical niches during each Mass. See the parish web site, www.sfadw.org, under 'Worship' à 'Mass' to see the types of music performed at each Mass. Beginning Sunday, July 2, the 1 p.m. Mass will be phased out, eliminating one of the cantor-led Masses.

Roughly 6 percent of respondents to this question stated that they'd like to see more fellowship offered, either through coffee and doughnuts on a regular basis, a meal after Mass, or just opportunities to connect as people.

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

May 21, 2017

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING The Lamb of God Prayer Meeting will NOT meet on Tuesday, May 23. 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 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.

MEALS NEEDED FOR

FR. JOHN & OUR SUMMER SEMINARIAN

We are in the process of hiring a Cook to replace Laura Clymer, our current Cook. Laura has worked as the Cook at St. Francis for 23 years. She will be moving back to Peru to join her family there. We thank Laura for all her years of service to the priests here at St. Francis.

In the meantime, we are asking for volunteers to make meals for Fr. John and Joseph, our Seminarian for the Summer. Meals are requested for Monday - Wednesday - Friday beginning Monday, May 22 and ending June 30. Meals should be delivered no later than 5:00 p.m. You can also drop off meals during Parish Office hours, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to sign-up to cook. *Thank you!*

★ Thank You! ★
THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone who came out last 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*

BUILD UP OUR CHURCH

Trio Illumino Concert Raises Nearly \$3,500 for the Haiti Mission

On May 6, approximately 130 music lovers of all ages attended the Trio Illumino concert benefiting the parish's Haiti Mission at St. Francis of Assisi Church.

The concertgoers heard an eclectic program, ranging from classical to American jazz to Broadway masters. The performance by the trio of musicians – Neil Brown on trumpet, Stephen Czarkowski on cello, and Virginia Lum on piano – featured solos, duets, and trio music that engaged the audience, which was even invited to finger snap in the final medley from *West Side Story*.

During the program's intermission, Haiti Ministry Chair Dan Cardile shared an update on work in the Haiti Mission, which has supported economic development, health care and education at St. Paul's Parish in Leon, Haiti, for 30 years. Ketlard Boursiquot described her recent visit to the clinic, where she assisted one of the clinic's doctors in delivering a baby girl. After the concert, attendees enjoyed a generous reception, which was hosted by Sylvia Jones and members of the Special Events Ministry.

St. Francis parishioners support the Haiti Mission by participating in mission trips to Leon; providing financial support through the Haiti Offertory envelopes; and buying "Just Haiti" coffee, a joint initiative between coffee growers in Leon and the nonprofit organization "Just Haiti, Inc." A wide range of St. Francis ministries provide additional support through benefit concerts, the Hoops for Haiti fundraiser, banquet events and other means. Parishioner support helps provide an onsite health clinic for residents of Leon and contributes more than \$25,000 each year toward the cost of running the Bon Pasteur School, a primary and secondary school for the children of St. Paul's.

The concert raised \$3,456 from ticket sales, reception donations and CD sales. Proceeds from the concert will fund medical care for hundreds of poor Haitians during the next medical mission, taking place June 3-17 of this year. For more information about St. Francis of Assisi's Haiti Mission, contact Ministry Leader Dan Cardile at dancardile@yahoo.com.

Montgomery County Fair

August 11 - 19

Food Booth 37

Volunteer sign-ups has started!. Volunteers are needed August 11-19. Students 14 and older can earn Student Service Learning Hours by volunteering. Students must be 16 to work in the kitchen. Students 14-15 can help with bus-ing tables, delivering orders. If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Jones (301) 762-6564 or the Parish Office.

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 and any pastoral staff who reside at the Rectory. Hours are Monday –Friday, 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Applicants should be available to start work on Monday, June 12th. Please submit your qualifications to Fr. John, jdillon@sfdw.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

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 scheduled for today, May 21, 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018

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

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

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

Registration forms were mailed home to families with children currently attending RE classes. For those new to our program, and if additional forms are needed, blank forms will be available on the parish web site (www.sfadw.org), 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

FRED

MAY - High School

26 FRED Lockout

JULY

July 9-14 Encounter Work Camp

FRED JR.

MAY - Middle School

21 FRED Aloha Party - 8th grade welcome!

26 FRED Lockout - 8th grade invited!

JULY

July 9-14 Encounter Work Camp - open to rising 9th through 12th grade

GET SOCIAL

*Instagram "SFASusie"

"FRED - SFA Youth Ministry" Page on Facebook

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

Twitter @SusanFREDLea

CRS RICE BOWL - THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated in CRS Rice Bowl in Lent 2017. We had a wonderful outpouring of support this year for the work of Catholic Relief Services. Our collection at St. Francis of Assisi parish this year was \$1042.71, an increase of almost 2.7 times our collection of \$389.93 last year. CRS Rice Bowl has been helping for over 40 years and is a good way to join in solidarity with the needy around the world. Of the funds donated, 75% goes to CRS work around the world; 25% goes to hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in our own country. May God bless you all for your generosity.

MEMORIAL DAY AT CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

"We are called to remember everyone, even those whom no one remembers," says Pope Francis. "We remember those who sacrificed their lives to serve others. We especially entrust to the Lord those who have left us during the past year." On Memorial Day, come offer a spiritual work of mercy and pray in loving memory of family, friends, and fellow citizens who have given their lives for our freedom and now experience their destiny in the love of Christ. A special Outdoor Memorial Day Mass will be held on Monday, May 29 on the sacred ground of the Catholic cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. by [Bishop Mario Dorsonville at All Souls Cemetery, 11401 Brink Rd., Germantown, MD (301-428-1995); Bishop Barry Knestout at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 13801 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301-871-6500. In case of inclement weather, Mass will be held under a tent.

FAITH DIRECT

Do you have plans for Memorial Day? Are you booking your summer vacations? Consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct to make sure that your gift can reach St. Francis even when you cannot. 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

2017 VACATION BIBLE CAMP

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

Who: Children ages 4 by June 26, 2017 to those who completed the 5th grade in June 2017

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Center

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

Cost: \$40 per child

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

St. Francis of Assisi Church
6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD 20855
Attn: Religious Education Office-VBC

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School *Catch our Spirit*

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

The Maryland BOOST scholarship

Application Deadline: Thursday, June 15, 2017, 11:59 p.m.

<http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Pages/boost/application.aspx> The Maryland BOOST scholarship applications are now live! Please see the guidance below. Please forward the receipt of your application to Mrs. Donnelly in the school office. You will need the following items to apply:

- 1) proof of pursuit of enrollment (i.e. re-enrollment confirmation, completed application, TADS proof of application)
- 2) proof of reported household income (they request 2016 tax returns, but they may also consider W2's or social service letters verifying income if the tax return is unavailable).

Priority for Public School Students For any new awards, "priority shall be given to students who attended public schools in the prior school year".

Current Students Enrolled in Your School While income eligible students already enrolled in our school may not be the first priority, we encourage those families to still apply. The remaining funds may still allow some of them to receive scholarships. Additionally, the more demand this year helps make the case that the Maryland legislature needs to continue to increase the BOOST appropriation.

Award Amounts Current BOOST students that remain eligible and re-apply will receive the *same award amounts as last year*. There is no confirmation of award amounts for new awardees.

NEED A SUMMER TUTOR FOR YOUR CHILD?

Get tutoring from the best! These SJRCS teachers offer their services during the summer months.

Maura Bayley: Reading and Math for students in Pre-K -2nd

Grade Maura.bayley@stjuderockville.org

Carol Hampe: Science and Math for Grades K-9

Carol.Hampe@stjuderockville.org

Victoria Meredith: Reading and Math for Grades K-4

Victoria.Meredith@stjuderockville.org

Pat O'Connell: Reading, Math, Algebra 1 and Spanish for Grades

K to 8 PatOConnell2@hotmail.com or

Patricia.O'Connell@StJudeRockville.org

MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Do you know someone who can't get to Mass? Please tell them about the Sunday TV Mass, which is produced by the Archdiocese of Washington and taped in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. It is a wonderful ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshipping community for the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy. The Mass airs every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. on WDCW-50:

- No cable; Dish or Direct TV subscribers: Ch. 50.
- Comcast: Ch. 23 in Washington, DC & Montgomery County; Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland
- RCN: Ch. 15
- Verizon: Ch. 3

9th ANNUAL QUO VADIS CAMP

This event for young men in high school will be held on July 16-19 at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. The four-day camp includes daily Mass, prayer, talks, sports, and much more. Bus transportation is available. For information and registration, visit www.dcpriest.org. Questions? Contact the Office of Priest Vocations at 202-636-9020 or vocations@adw.org.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

An introductory class on the Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Family Planning will be offered Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. in the Library of Our Lady of Lourdes School, 7500 Pearl Street, Bethesda, MD 20814. Parking is available in the church lot across from the school. Enter via the handicap walk to the right of the Rectory entrance. There is no fee for this class but a one time donation of \$25 is welcome. Follow-up appointments are arranged individually and are available as long as needed to understand and follow the Billings Method. Call 301-897-9323 or email hannaklaus@gmail.com to reserve a place.

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 or 240-374-3297, or Diane Reinke 301-946-4815.

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.

UPCOUNTY COMMUNITY RESOURCES INC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, June 17, 4:00 p.m. Annual UCR 5K Walk & Roll-a-thon at Bohrer Park. Mark your calendar for the Twilight Walk and loads of fun! For more information contact Jenn Lynn, Executive Director, jennlynn@ucresources.org.