

## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

### Mass Intentions

**May 29 - June 4**

<b>Monday, 5/29</b>	9:00 a.m. Deceased Veterans
<b>Tuesday, 5/30</b>	9:00 a.m. Rosalina Ruiz
<b>Wednesday, 5/31</b>	9:00 a.m. Deacon Eugene Cummins Jr. 7:30 p.m. Maria Gonzalez (L)
<b>Thursday, 6/1</b>	9:00 a.m. Andrew Stephen Magee-Skinner
<b>Friday, 6/2</b>	9:00 a.m. Barbara Lynn Beall 7:30 p.m. In Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday, 6/3</b>	9:00 a.m. Fr. Don Worch 5:00 p.m. Elizabeth Cassidy Gilday
<b>Sunday, 6/4</b>	8:00 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 9:30 a.m. Jose Relunia, Sr. 11:15 a.m. RE Catechists & Families 1:00 p.m. Rosemarie Tay 5:00 p.m. 2017 Graduates

**Please pray for the sick...** Bienvenido Delrosario, Stephanie Black, Theresa Krafchik, Carolyn Maltz, Bob Ellenberger, Regino Villagran, Kathy Denchfield, Pam Kelley, Carla Cosman, Jackie Roebuck King, Bob Coyne, Jeni Stepanek, Michael White, Phillip Trickett, Barta Barnum, Geri Trickett. *(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 Ernesto Avenilla, father of Frank Avenilla, John Stehle, cousin of Fr. John Dillon, Bishop William Newman, uncle of Trish Olin.

#### **Readings for the Week of May 28, 2017**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/ Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3, 4-5acd, 6-7/Jn 16:29-33
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Zep 3:14-18/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/ Jn 17:20-26
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20/ Jn 21:15-19
<b>Saturday: Morning:</b>	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4-5, 7/ Jn 21:20-25
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30/ Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

### *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

*To which periphery of my life is the Ascension's mission impetus sending me?*

### WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Thomas & Claudia Anessi  
Michael & Laura Prizzi

The following children were baptized during the month of April:

Amy Katherine Arteaga  
Leonel Matteo Brown  
Harlynn Diaz  
Isiah Matthias Igiri  
Johanna Elizabeth La Santa  
Christopher Ambrose Mc Donnell  
Thomas Benedict Mc Donnell  
Georgina Nicole Mellonas

### 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.



### FATHER'S DAY MASS CARDS

Cards will be available next weekend in the Gathering Space. This is a wonderful way to remember your Father, Father-in-law, Grandfather, Uncle or anyone special at all the Masses on Father's Day. Please return your spiritual bouquet envelope to the rectory on or before Wednesday, June 14.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I want to begin this column with a Prayer for Memorial Day taken from *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*. I found this prayer on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and present it to you for your thoughts and prayers, particularly for tomorrow when we celebrate Memorial Day:

*God of power and mercy, you destroy war and put down earthly pride. Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters. Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. R/. Amen*

I want to devote this rest of this column to the Mass Preferences Survey to report on some more of the interesting information that we have gleaned from it.

It seems that the only constant on people's minds as they were completing the Mass Preferences Survey in March was that individual respondents feel strongly about different aspects of St. Francis of Assisi Church, according to the results of the last survey question.

Members of the Communications Ministry, which administered the survey, posed the open-ended inquiry, "Are there any other comments you'd like to add?" as the survey's final question. The results of the question varied greatly, with no one answer being the same for more than 6 percent of respondents.

Four respondents – or 3 percent of the total people who answered this question – said they'd like to see an improved sound system, including new microphones, in the church. I am also grateful to the four respondents who reported some complimentary things about my pastoral ministry here at St. Francis of Assisi. I really do feel blessed to be here as the pastor of this wonderful parish.

Three respondents expressed their gratitude for the Joyful Greeter Ministry, whose ministers greet parishioners at the doors of the church at every Mass. The same number of people complimented St. Francis' "great" music program, though, three other respondents said they'd like to hear different styles of music. "[It's] always nice to hear new songs, but traditional songs help people feel engaged," one respondent said. "I want to leave Mass feeling good, happy that I am ready for the week inspired."

One respondent also wondered if it's possible to rotate the choirs and musical groups occasionally among Mass times.

And the answer most given by respondents? Ten people – or 6 percent of the total respondents – said they "loved St. Francis."

For more information about the survey, contact Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan at [Melissa.egan74@verizon.net](mailto:Melissa.egan74@verizon.net).

Until next week,

*Fr. John Dillon*

**May 21, 2017**

**LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING** The Lamb of God Prayer Meeting will **NOT** meet on Tuesday, May 30. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

**POOR BOX DONATION** – The donations for next weekend will go to the Gaithersburg 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](mailto:mariannebu@comcast.net) with your requests.

### **ROSARY FOR PRIESTS**

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

### **HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING**

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare Chapel in the Rectory a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

### **ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE**

Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 2:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323**

The Knights of Columbus are actively pursuing new members. Our council incorporates members from St. Francis, St. Mary's and St. Martin's. Though best known for our many charitable projects, we also have a lot of fun with dinners, fund raisers, family nights and many other fraternal social occasions. If interested in learning more, please contact Gary Palmer, (301) 948-6494 or e-mail [gtdbpalmer@verizon.net](mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

### **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!*

### **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](mailto:jdillon@sfdw.org).

## ***BUILD UP OUR CHURCH***

### ***St. Francis Parishioners Aim to Help Syrian Refugee Family Get on Their Feet***

St. Francis of Assisi Church is part of an interfaith group, also consisting of Temple Beth Ami and the Islamic Center of Maryland, that is sponsoring the Alhumayer family, who resettled from a Jordanian refugee camp to Maryland. The family is very positive, loving and working hard to understand their new homeland, yet they also face challenges. Ghosoun, the mother, has serious health issues with diabetes. Bashir, the father, works very limited hours in a custodial position and needs a full-time job. The eldest son, Yamen, also works very limited hours at a catering job, and needs a full-time position. The two younger teenage children, Mayer and Yamama, are doing well in school and quickly learning English.

To date, the family's sponsors have been financially subsidizing their living expenses with donations from individuals who came forward after hearing about them. We will need additional funding to support upcoming expenses, including health assessments and vaccinations not covered by medical insurance and other fees for their Green Card processing. This expense will be approximately \$300 per family member. In addition, we continue to need funds to help with their living expenses until they are financially independent.

The specific areas we are currently helping with include financial support, English tutoring, interfacing with the children's school, budget education, social support and integration, interfacing with health providers, transportation, providing food supplements, legal and tax support, and many other areas.

We are requesting your support in the following areas:

- Financially sponsoring health assessments and vaccinations for one or more members of the family, or contributing financially at any level.
- Providing support in helping Bashir and Yamen find full-time employment. Bashir was an electrician in Syria, although he cannot take the required certification test in the United States until he learns how to better read English and write in the language. We believe he can work as a very knowledgeable apprentice electrician. He can also work in any type of handyman-related area. We are also seeking an experienced electrician who can help mentor and tutor him in passing the required exam.
- Yamen, age 20, is passionate about food services but is open to any type of full time employment.
- They are living in a two-bedroom apartment but really need three bedrooms so their teenage daughter can have her own room. With the supplements we have been providing, they can afford a maximum of approximately \$1,200 per month in rent. Housing in a specific area is not required, since they have a car. Any support in finding adequate housing would be appreciated.

If you would like to help in any of these areas, or have any questions about our support to the family, please contact parishioners Chris King at [caking.home@gmail.com](mailto:caking.home@gmail.com), or Mary Kate Ryner at [rynoslp@msn.com](mailto:rynoslp@msn.com).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

### 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



**JUNE 2017 LUNCH** – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, June 7, 12:00 Noon at Mama Lucia's Restaurant, Falls Grove Shopping Center, 14923-J Shady Grove Road, Rockville. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

### ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

*Upcoming Events*

#### FRED

#### JULY

July 9-14 Encounter Work Camp

**FRED JR.**

#### 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

### 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 busing tables, delivering orders. If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Jones (301) 762-6564 or the Parish Office.



### 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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

**PLEASE NOTE: TEEN VOLUNTEER POSITIONS ARE FILLED. THOSE WHO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS NOW WILL BE PLACED ON A WAIT LIST.**

## 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.

### Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

*Catch our Spirit*

[www.StJudeRockville.org](http://www.StJudeRockville.org)

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

### 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADER RECEIVES RECOGNITION FROM DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Department of State appreciates Olivia Vincent giving up her dad to serve the US Government and they sent her a medal and certificate for her sacrifice. Mr. Benjamin presented the certificate and medal to her. The certificate reads "In appreciation for the sacrifice asked of you while separated from your father during his unaccompanied tour of duty, this Certificate and accompanying Medal of Recognition are offered as a symbol of the Department of State's gratitude. Just as we are proud of the men and women serving at Unaccompanied Posts, we are also proud of their families. Thank you for sharing your father."

### 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATION

Join us for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation at 12:00 pm on Saturday, June 3, 2017 in the Shrine of St. Jude. Please pray for our graduates as they continue on their journey to high school.

### *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.

## SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

### Are you interested in Serving in a Social Concerns Ministry with St. Francis Parish?

We have Leadership Openings and membership openings in:

- \* Prison Ministry
- \* Care for God's Creation
- \* Shady Grove Pregnancy Center
- \* Friendly Visitors

Check the parish website for more information: [www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org). Click on Serve, then Service locally, to read more about these ministries. If you are interested, please contact Social Concerns Minister, Tony Bosnick, (301) 840-1407, Ext. 11 or e-mail Tony at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org).

### 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 meetings are **Thursday, June 8 and Thursday, June 22** in the Assisi Room at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Tony Bos-

### 9th ANNUAL QUO VADIS CAMP FOR HIGH SCHOOL MEN

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](http://www.dcpriest.org). Questions? Contact the Office of Priest Vocations at 202-636-9020 or [vocations@adw.org](mailto:vocations@adw.org).

### FIAT DAYS CAMP FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Fiat Days Camp for young women in high school who may be considering consecrated life, will be held from June 29 to July 2, at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary. Information is available and registration is open at [www.bmorevocations.org](http://www.bmorevocations.org).

### MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Mother of God Catholic School has openings preK3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade- Attend our Pre-K Open House on Saturday, June 3, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg. For more info or to schedule a tour any time call (301) 990-2088, Ext. 12 or e-mail [mmoriarty@mogschool.com](mailto:mmoriarty@mogschool.com) or visit [www.mogschool.com](http://www.mogschool.com). Mother of God School has the largest Catholic Pre-K program in the area including 3's and 4's, with before and after care available year-round.