



Mass Intentions

April 9 - April 15

Monday: 4/9	9:00 a.m. Guy Beaven
Tuesday: 4/10	9:00 a.m. Edward Hornick
Wednesday: 4/11	9:00 a.m. Walter Piczak 7:30 p.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory
Thursday: 4/12	9:00 a.m. Edith Betty Harpster
Friday: 4/13	9:00 a.m. Claire Kiley
Saturday: 4/14	9:00 a.m. Don Smith 5:00 p.m. Dereck D'Mello
Sunday: 4/15	8:00 a.m. Dulce Laparel Lejarde 9:30 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 11:15 a.m. Matilde Alcones 5:00 p.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Raul Jimenez, Sr., Sergej Pratsko, grandfather of Anastacia Wooden, Rosalia. Padoail, mother of Mary Sanchez.

Please pray for the sick... Carol Toney, Eusebia Lo, Serge Triau, Jack Price, Dennis Parnell, Bernard Kohan, Geri Trickett, Michael J. White, Cheryl Rickerds, Ed Dudenhoeffler, Bob Coyne, Evelyn Haddad, Mark 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 April 8, 2018

Sunday:	Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/ 1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31
Monday:	Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/ Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7-15
Wednesday:	Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/ Jn 3:16-21
Thursday:	Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/ Jn 3:31-36
Friday:	Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/ Jn 6:1-15
Saturday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/ Jn 6:16-21
Next Sunday:	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/ 1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

One of the features of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening was the Presentation of the Oils. I was asked after the Mass was about the significance of these oils. I want to devote the column today to this important question. I am going to use a nice explanation that was printed in the back cover of the worship aid for the Chrism Mass that was celebrated by His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl on Monday, March 26, 2018 at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle. The blessing of the Oil of the Sick occurred before end of the Eucharistic Prayer, while the blessing of the Oil of Catechumens and the Holy Chrism came after Communion at that Mass. Fr. Jack and I were among many concelebrants who renewed our priestly promises to Cardinal Wuerl during the course of the Chrism Mass.

If, according to the Fathers of the Church, the olive tree stands as an image of the Father and its image of the Son, then the oil—that flows out in all directions as the ultimate and purest extract of tree and fruit—stands as an image of the Holy Spirit. The use of blessed oil in the Church's sacramental practice is the outward sign of the saving power of the promised Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, who sanctifies the people of God.

Each year at the Chrism Mass, the bishop, as pastor of the local Church, blesses the oils that will be used throughout the year in the Church's sacramental celebrations.

The **Oil of Catechumens** is used to anoint those preparing for baptism. As athletes of old covered their bodies with oil before entering the arena to prevent their opponent from grasping them and throwing them to the ground, so catechumens are anointed to remind them that the Christian life involves an ongoing struggle with Satan for which the Spirit strengthens them.

The **Oil of the Sick** is used to anoint those who are seriously ill. Here the oil acts as a spiritual salve in which the Spirit effects healing of body and soul. For those who are dying, the last anointing fortifies the end of their earthly life like a solid rampart for the final struggles before entering the Father's house.

The **Holy Chrism** is used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. Here the oil signifies the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, who at baptism gives to those regenerated of water and the Spirit a share in Christ's priesthood and royal and prophetic mission; who at confirmation strengthens the baptized to give witness to the faith before the world; and who, at Holy Orders strengthens the hands of the priest to raise up and distribute the transformed Gifts of the Eucharistic sacrifice, Christ's own Body and Blood.

Until next week,
Fr. John Dillon

Second Sunday of Easter & Divine Mercy Sunday

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Whom can I forgive who has hurt either me or someone I love? Can I put my trust in God, the author of all mercy? Can I believe that by forgiving my neighbor I am allowing the Holy Spirit to work through me and am participating in the gift of divine mercy?

BROWN BAG CONVERSATIONS

AIM TO SPARK DIALOGUES ON FAITH

Are you looking to grow in your faith in an informal and supportive environment? Come check out a new learning opportunity called Brown Bag Conversations, the first of which will be held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, April 15, in the Assisi Room.

The St. Francis Adult Faith Formation Team is launching Brown Bag Conversations to enrich the Sunday Mass experience and help parishioners discuss their faith in a casual setting. The conversations will kick off with a three-week series on prayer, with subsequent dialogues occurring once or twice a month. The first three Brown Bag Conversations are as follows:

- April 15: *Daily Examen* led by Fr. Jack Berard
- April 22: *Discernment of Spirits* led by Fr. John Dillon
- April 29: *Lectio Divina* led by Adult Faith Formation Team Member Medy DeAussen

Bring your lunch and drop in on one of the conversations, which will last between one hour and 90 minutes. If you like what you hear, consider facilitating a future Brown Bag Conversation for your fellow parishioners. Please submit prospective topics to Adult Faith Formation member Medy DeAussen at medy.deausen@comcast.net.



ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR? On Sunday, June 17, at 2:00 p.m. Cardinal Donald Wuerl will preside at the annual Mass honoring married couples celebrating **25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50** and **50+** years of marriage. The Jubilarian Mass will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Personalized scrolls signed by Cardinal Wuerl will be distributed to the couples following the ceremony, or mailed should they be unable to attend. If you are interested in attending or receiving a scroll, please call the Parish Office before **Monday, April 16th**.

NEW SESSION OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM TO BEGIN THIS MONTH

Couples for Christ at St. Francis will conduct a **Christian Life Program** session for married couples that bring a husband and wife to a renewed commitment to Christian family life. Our own parishioners will deliver the “live” Talks, facilitate the group discussion, and share their witnessing. The program is FREE but onsite registrations will take place in the Gathering Space on Sunday, April 8.

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Daniel & Venilda Broderick
John-Paul & Lauren Boudet
Mary Manning-Falzarano & David Falzarano
Dennis & Elizabeth Love
Gregory & Felicia Lyons
Ruben Meza
Christine Sweeney

The following children were baptized during the month of March:

Lorraine Anatalia V. DelaRosa
Francis Scott DeWitt
Osayimwense Okungbowa
Alexander Lee Raybuck
James Henry Theis

REBUILDING TOGETHER PROJECT TO LAUNCH ON SATURDAY, APRIL 28

In just three weeks, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners will be rolling up their sleeves April 28 to participate in the Rebuilding Together project. Formerly called Christmas in April, the initiative allows teams of people to complete critical home repairs at houses owned by vulnerable people in need.

The Rebuilding Together team is seeking both novices and professional trades people to work on the house in Silver Spring where St. Francis has been assigned. A person who can install ceramic tile is especially needed. If the Silver Spring home has an overabundance of volunteers, then participants will be invited to do light cleanup, landscaping and maintenance at the Rectory.

To sign up to help at Rebuilding Together, please register at <http://bit.ly/2oKgRdl>.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

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

April 8, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, April 10, 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 week-end will go to UMAN (Upper Montgomery Assistance Network). *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 gtbpalmer@verizon.net.

SAVE THE DATE

ST. FRANCIS SPRING FUNDRAISERS

ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE SATURDAY, MAY 12

Please start saving your "stuff" and watch the bulletin for additional details regarding drop-off dates and volunteer sign-ups.



PLANT SALE SATURDAY/SUNDAY MAY 19/20

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

LAST WEEKEND TO BUY ADVANCE TICKETS FOR THE HOOPS FOR HAITI BASKETBALL FUNDRAISER

Are you experiencing basketball withdrawal now that the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament is over? If so, then get your basketball fix Saturday, April 14 at the 6th annual Hoops for Haiti Basketball Fundraiser at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in Olney.

The Hoops for Haiti tournament will feature an inaugural 3-on-3 basketball tournament starting at 4:30 pm, followed by the main game between the Ol' Saints (adults) and the Swole Saints (teens) at 7 pm. FRED youth and the CORE Team are also planning half-time games, music, Bible trivia, food concessions and much more.

Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults and a maximum of \$30 per family. Proceeds from the event will go toward building a roof on Conversion of St. Paul's Church in Leon, Haiti. Come support our FRED youth and our Haitian brothers and sisters in Leon!

For more information, contact Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile at dancardile@yahoo.com or CORE Team Member Wendel Hall at wendel@halllawoffice.net.

FAITH DIRECT

The Lord is risen! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Francis with electronic donations through Faith Direct. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: MD110. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. ~ *Fr. John*

CALLED TO LEADERSHIP: SPIRITUALITY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

Women are invited to register now for *Called to Leadership: Spirituality for Catholic Women*. Discover how to be a faith-filled leader in your home, parish, workplace, and community during this one-day interactive women's conference, taking place on Saturday, April 21 from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Church of the Resurrection in Burtonsville, MD (3315 Greencastle Rd.). Cost is \$50 per person. Speakers are Sr. Sara Dwyer, ASC, Shelia Parker, and Desi Balla. Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. Details and registration at [facebook.com/WashACCW](https://www.facebook.com/WashACCW). Call or text 301-651-8190 or email archdioce

MEN'S DAY OF PRAYER & HEALING Saturday, April 21, 2018

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Have you been impacted by abortion or several abortions? Did you pressure someone or were you both pressured to abort? Were you against the abortion? Did you find out she aborted after the fact? Is your wife or girlfriend post-abortive? For more information call PRM: (301) 982-2008. You can leave a confidential message or email: PRMWashington@adw.org. Location and contacts are confidential due to the personal nature of this experience.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2018 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 25-29 from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm. Look for camper registration information, as well as information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, after Easter!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

RESUME THIS WEEK

Please make note of the schedule for the remaining Religious Education classes for this school year:

April 8, 9 & 10	RE Classes
April 15, 16 & 17	RE Classes
April 22, 23 & 24	RE Classes
April 29, 30 & May 1	RE Classes
May 6, 7 & 8	Last RE Classes (except for Confirmation classes)

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 today, Sunday, April 8, 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.

REMINDER TO GRADE 3-8 CATECHISTS

Catechists teaching grade 3-8 Religious Education classes are asked to attend a planning meeting on Thursday, April 12, from 7-9 p.m. in the Assisi Room.

FIRST EUCHARIST PREP DAY: APRIL 14

Children preparing to receive First Eucharist this spring will attend a day of preparation on Saturday, April 14, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., in the Parish Center.

MCPS PREKINDERGARTEN/HEADSTART PROGRAMS

Registration for the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Prekindergarten/Head Start Programs for low-income Montgomery County residents with children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2018 has begun for the 2018-2019 school year.

For more information regarding required documents and registration locations please contact Prekindergarten/Head Start at (301) 230-0676 or check the Montgomery County Public Schools website www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org and search prekindergarten.



THANK YOU!

We changed lives this Lent, thanks to you!

If you haven't already done so, please turn in your CRS Rice Bowl to the Church Gathering Space this week.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events

FRED

APRIL

- 8 Praise & Worship Holy Hour in the Church
- 14 Archdiocesan Dodgeball Tournament
Hoops for Haiti
- 15 Be Pure of Heart - 1 Cor 6:19-20
- 20-22 FRED Retreat: "What Do YOU Stand For?"
- 22 No FRED
- 28-29 Krispy Kreme/Jewelry Sale
- 29 Be Real - Romans 12:9

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

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

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

LEGALLY BLOND JUNIOR - April 20 & 21

Mark your calendars as our Drama Club performs Legally Blonde Junior at 7:00 on April 20th and 21st in the Thaddeus Room. Legally Blonde Junior follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery and scandal in pursuit of her dreams.

SJRCS JUNIOR SCIENCE FAIR - April 26

Please come and explore the exciting world of science as seen through the students' eyes, as budding scientists from Pre-K through 5th grades display their science projects. The Jr. Science Fair will be held April 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Family Night) in the Thaddeus Room.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL - April 28

Children aged 2 to 7 years are invited to a Children's Carnival on Saturday, April 28, from 11:00 to 1:00 in the Thaddeus Room. There will be free food, games, crafts, activities, and more. The event will be held rain or shine.

BOWMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Due: Friday, April 20

The Kayleigh Anne Bowman Memorial Guardian Angel Scholarship has been designed to provide financial assistance, based on need, annually to a St. Jude student who has displayed academic promise and the values that are learned through a Catholic education. The intent of the Scholarship is to provide a grant of \$4,000 towards tuition for that student. If you are interested in this scholarship, please contact the school office.

BULLDOG BOLT 5K & FUN RUN - MAY 12

St. Jude will host our fourth annual Bulldog Bolt 5K and Fun Run, followed by an HSA sponsored cookout! All proceeds from the race will be used to replace aging athletic equipment and enhance the school facility. This wonderful event is a day of fun and fresh air for families and friends. Register online and check out all the photos from last year's Bolt on the web site! http://www.stjuderockville.org/pages/StJudeRegionalCatholicSchool/Giving/Bulldog_Bolt_5K_race

**PANEL DISCUSSION ON OPIOID EPIDEMIC
TAKES PLACE APRIL 23
AT ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH**

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 11701 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg will host a panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 23 on "The Opioid Epidemic: Our Community, Our Concern" to address the need for resources regarding this class of highly addictive drugs.

Panelists will discuss prevention, addiction, recovery, support and resources available to help people impacted by opioid drugs. Most importantly, the panel wants to instill hope that recovery is possible. The panel's members will include parents, law enforcement, treatment and recovery specialists, those in recovery and those who have lost a family member to addiction.

For additional information or details, contact Christine Jeffrey at cjeffrey@strose.com.



**American Red Cross
Blood Donation Drive**

When: Sunday, April 22, 2018
Where: St Patrick Parish Center (GYM)
4101 Norbeck Rd at Muncaster Mill Rd
Hours: 9:00 a.m. through 2:30 p.m.
Appointments: Please arrange appointment with
Mary Beiter RN at mtbrhb@verizon.net
or 301-460-3971.
Walk-ins : can be accommodated, but may cause delay
for all.) Prefer to SET SPECIFIC TIMES.

***SCHEDULE your life-saving DONATION today!!
Please mark your calendar.***

***QUO VADIS* HIKING TRIP**

On Sunday, April 15, all high school aged men who are interested in learning more about the priesthood are invited to go on a *Quo Vadis* hiking trip in Montgomery County. The day will include Mass, lunch, Eucharistic Adoration, dinner, and the opportunity to spend time with priests, seminarians, and other high school aged men who are open to the priesthood. Bus transportation is available from throughout the archdiocese. More information is available and registration is open at www.DCpriest.org. Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations (vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020) with any questions.

***QUO VADIS* CAMP**

The Office of Priest Vocation's annual *Quo Vadis* Camp for high school aged young men will be held at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD from July 15-18. The four-day camp includes daily Mass, prayer, talks, sports, and much more. Bus transportation is available. More information is available and registration is open at www.DCpriest.org! Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations (vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020) with any questions.

**SEMINAR TARGETS ADULTS WITH SPECIAL
NEEDS AND ISSUES THEY FACE
IN THE VOTING BOOTH**

On Tuesday, April 10, adults with disabilities and developmental differences are invited to attend an important voting rights seminar to be held from 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Rose of Lima Church in the Woodlands Room.

Tracy Wright of Disability Rights Maryland will present on how to help people with special needs explore issues facing people with physical and intellectual disabilities in the voting process. There will be an opportunity to register to vote.

Please RSVP at specialneedsministry@adw.org or by calling (301) 853-4530. The seminar is in partnership with Upcounty Community Resources, St. Rose Accommodating Hearts Ministry, the Archdiocese of Washington's Special Needs Ministries and the ARC Montgomery County.

**INFERTILITY? MISCARRIAGE?
DAY OF HOPE & HEALING**

The archdiocesan Office for Family Life is organizing a Day of Hope and Healing for those struggling with infertility or who have suffered a miscarriage. It will be held on Saturday, April 14 from 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Beltsville, MD (11007 Montgomery Rd.). There will be Holy Mass, a panel with Q&A, and praise and worship during Adoration and Confessions. To register for this free event, visit dayofhopeandhealing2018.eventbrite.com. Simultaneous Spanish Translation Available. For more information, please call 301-853-4499 or email visiblesign@adw.org.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

"Have you lost a parent, child, spouse, or close friend and think you might benefit from group support as you grieve? St. Patrick's will offer a Spring grief support group. The group will be small in size and will provide a safe, compassionate, and prayerful environment for you to discuss your loss with others who share your experiences. The group will meet for 7 weekly sessions starting Thursday, April 12, 2018, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the St. Patrick's Parish Center, Norbeck Road, Rockville. There is no fee, but registration is required. For more information and to register, please call Diane Salem at 301-924-4958."

**SAINT JOHN PAUL II NATIONAL SHRINE
WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

The Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC (3900 Harewood Road, NE) has launched two new ongoing weekly programs: Thursday Adoration from 7-8:00 p.m., hosted in collaboration with parishes and groups of the Archdiocese of Washington, and "The Art of Prayer" series on Sundays from 6-7:00 p.m., on interior prayer with time for silent meditation followed by a Sunday Vespers service. On Sunday, April 29, "The Art of Prayer" will be led by two Brothers of Taize, Brothers Emile and John, who will lead a Taize Evening Prayer Service. For more information, please contact Anne-Elisabeth Giuliani at Anne.Giuliani@jp2shrine.org or 202-635-5428.