

May 28 - June 3

Monday, 5/28	9:00 a.m. Deceased Veterans
Tuesday, 5/29	9:00 a.m. Greg Bielecki
Wednesday, 5/30	9:00 a.m. Frances D'Aurora 7:30 p.m. Deacon Kevin Butler, Sr.
Thursday, 5/31	9:00 a.m. Rosalina F. Ruiz
Friday, 6/01	9:00 a.m. Barbara Lynn Beall 7:30 pm. Miriam Eleanor Chesham Borel
Saturday, 6/02	9:00 a.m. Isabel Reyes 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>
Sunday, 6/3	8:00 a.m. Jorge Escarra 9:30 a.m. Jose Relunia, Sr. 11:15 a.m. Margaret Lyons 5:00 p.m. 2018 Graduates (L)

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Josephine Biasini, mother of Patrice Datovech, Deacon Daniel Thompson, Archdiocese of Washington.

Please pray for the sick... Christopher Spano, Mike Goggin, Dennis Parnell, Maria Joseph, Dianne Palmer, Maria Patterson, Nick Powers, Ed Dudenhoeffer, Bob Coyne, 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 May 27, 2018

Sunday:	Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 [12b]/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20
Monday:	1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c [5]/Mk 10:17-27
Tuesday:	1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Mk 10:28-31
Wednesday:	1 Pt 1:18-25/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk 10:32-45
Thursday:	Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [6]/Lk 1:39-56
Friday:	1 Pt 4:7-13/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mk 11:11-26
Saturday:	Jude 17, 20b-25/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6 [2b]/Mk 11:27-33
Next Sunday:	Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 [13]/Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Cardinal Wuerl promulgated a Pastoral Plan to implement Pope Francis' post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia* (AL), on Sunday March 4, 2018. The fourth section of the Pastoral Plan stresses the importance of parish life.

Today I want to present some thoughts for accompanying families in special circumstances that are presented in this section of the pastoral plan.

We need to echo what Pope Francis says: "I thank God that many families, which are far from considering themselves perfect, live in love, fulfill their calling and keep moving forward, even if they fall many times along the way...there is no stereotype of the ideal family, but rather a challenging mosaic made up of many different realities with all their joys, hopes and problems" (AL, 57).

While every family faces challenges and hardships, many of our families have particular circumstances that without the support of prayer and accompaniment tear at the fabric of family life. Families who are separated due to military service, immigration restrictions, and marital strife experience particular challenges that call for specific forms of accompaniment. To families whose members are separated, the Church seeks to "stand in solidarity" with you (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Strangers No Longer*, 9). Parishes should be ready to help families access the proper resources to address legal, social and medical needs. Even amid challenging circumstances, our faith reminds us that God is always with us and we place our hope in him.

Below are listed a number of observations that come out of what we have learned in trying to be of pastoral service to families and individuals in special circumstances.

Immigrant families:

- Know that your parish is a support for you and should have information regarding legal and social services through Catholic Charities and other trusted local entities that can support your family during difficult and challenging moments.
- The Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach offers resources and programs that seek to accompany families and individual Catholics; and
- Contact your parish to find essential correspondence, sacramental preparation and religious education materials that are linguistically and culturally appropriate to serve the diverse ethnic and cultural communities within the parish.

Families in the military:

- Ask your parish to help you connect to families in the parish who can offer friendship and support at holidays, and during times of deployment; and
- Ask your parish to include a prayer space at church or intercessory prayers during Mass that remind people of the sacrifices our military personnel and their families make to defend our country.

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

The Most Holy Trinity/Eighth Sunday of Easter

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What can I do, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to transform my family, my community, the world?

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, our Parochial Vicar, and any pastoral staff residing at the Rectory. Hours are Monday–Friday, 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Applicants should be available to start work in June. Please submit your qualifications to Fr. John, jdillon@sfadw.org.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

All are welcome! Join the Ministry of Eucharistic Adoration and assist with adoration in the following manner:

- *Become a regular attendee at adoration in the Parish.*
- *Pray that Eucharistic Adoration will increase.*
- *Foster Eucharistic Adoration in our parish by evangelizing His Eucharistic Presence.*
- *Deepen your personal relationship with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.*

First Friday Mass will be at 7:30 p.m., June 1, followed by adoration until 9:00 p.m. in the Church.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Families with persons with special needs:

- Encourage your parish to review the standards for compliance that make our churches and parish facilities warmly accessible and welcoming for persons who use audio loops, large print materials, walkers, wheelchairs, and other adaptive devices which support inclusion of all persons.
- Reach out to your pastor or pastoral staff and/or the Archdiocese of Washington's Department of Special Needs Ministries to ensure that your loved one living with a disability has the support needed to participate fully in the life and rhythm of your parish including faith formation, sacramental preparation, social events and service opportunities; and
- Ask your parish to help you connect with other families that include persons with special needs and with opportunities in the community that support and celebrate the lives of all persons.

We will continue this discussion next week.

Until then,

Fr. John Dillon

ST. FRANCIS AED TEAM SEEKS NEW MEMBERS TO SAVE LIVES

To enhance the safety of our parishioners, St. Francis is equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) like the ones used at airports and other public facilities. An AED device is used to determine, and deliver if necessary, an electric shock to a cardiac arrest victim. This, along with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), can and does save lives even before the arrival of emergency medical assistance.

The St. Francis AED team is trained and certified to use CPR and the AED, located in the Usher's Room, if a situation at St. Francis requires it. Next month, a CPR/AED HEARTSAVER training course will be offered for persons recertifying or learning these lifesaving skills for the first time.

HEARTSAVER CPR/AED TRAINING

Saturday, June 2 or 9, 8:00 am-12:00 Noon

SFA Parish Center

Registration required: Call Betty Baklarz at (301) 412-1909 or lbbaklarz@yahoo.com.

Already CPR certified? To join the AED team, contact Chris Lee, AED Coordinator, at christin_lee.7@comcast.net.



JUNE 2018 LUNCH – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, June 6 at 12:00 Noon at the That's Amore Restaurant, 15201 Shady Grove Road, Rockville (240) 268-0682. If you are planning to attend, please contact Mary Lou Habib and she will save a seat for you, (301) 417-0243.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Zoe Ann Francisco received her First Holy Communion today at the 9:30 a.m. Mass. *God Bless You Zoe!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACONS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON ON JUNE 1

St. Francis parishioners are invited to take part in the Eucharistic Holy Hour from 8:15-9:30 p.m. Friday, June 1, in the church, to pray for the three deacons to be ordained priests in the Archdiocese of Washington on June 16. The three men for whom prayers will be offered are Deacon Oscar Astigarraga, Deacon Andrew Clyne and Deacon Kevin Fields. They will be ordained at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 16 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC.

May 27, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, May 29, 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 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 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.

FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND

The best Catholic content. All in one place. It's EASY and FREE to Register!

- 1) Go to sfadw.formed.org
- 2) Click "Register" and enter your name, email address, and desired password
- 3) You're all ready to access the inspiring and Engaging content on FORMED!
- 4) Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

FORMED is available 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to all who supported the First Annual St. Francis Plant Sale last weekend! Thank you also to the volunteers who braved the weather elements on Saturday! *You are the best!*

PASTORAL COUNCIL ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT GET OUT THE VOTE CAMPAIGN FOR PRIMARY ELECTION

With Montgomery County's primary election around the corner on June 26, one of the parish representatives of Action in Montgomery (AIM) briefed the Parish Pastoral Council at its meeting May 17 on the organization's proposed platform and desire to increase voter turnout.

"We've been going to meetings and every AIM member is trying to get 20 people to vote in the primary," said Rosemary Hudechek, a St. Francis parishioner and parish representative of AIM. She encouraged Pastoral Council members to stay engaged with the primary election.

Under other business, the Pastoral Council also:

- Met John Winslow, St. Francis' seminarian in residence for the next seven weeks. Winslow grew up in St. Mary's County. His home parish is St. John Francis Regis in Hollywood, MD.
- Reviewed a draft document presented by member Daniel Koscinski that summarized ways the Young Adult Ministry plans to implement *Amoris Laetitia*. He mentioned the ministry would continue reaching out to the regional young adult group 270 Catholic to see how it plans to disseminate the learnings from Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on the joy of the family.
- Heard that 325 people took either paper or online versions of the Indicators of Vitality Survey. Fr. John said the results are still being tabulated.
- Learned the June 21 Pastoral Council meeting would be a short gathering from 6-7 pm., followed by a dinner for council members and parish staff.

Before adjourning the meeting, Fr. John reminded the Pastoral Council of the Social Concerns Ministry's Interfaith Dialogue on May 19 and the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 21.

If you have any questions about the work of the Parish Pastoral Council, please contact Executive Committee Member Alicia Church at asktheppc@gmail.com. Minutes of past meetings can be found on the parish web site at <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>.

CONGRATULATIONS FR. JOHN!

On May 23rd, Fr. John celebrated his Twentieth Anniversary of becoming a priest. We will have a celebration for him in the Parish Center on Sunday, May 27 following the 11:15 a.m. Mass. We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate our Pastor, Fr. John.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019

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 pm (*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 am
Monday afternoons, 4:45-6:00 pm
- Grade 6, 7, and 8 classes offered at two session times:
Monday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm
- Grades 9-12 (Youth Group) meet Sunday evenings 6:00-8:00 pm (following the 5 pm 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!

As we look ahead to next year's Religious Education program, please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

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

27 NO FRED (Memorial Day)

JUNE

3 Aloha Party

JULY

2 Youth Appreciation Event

8-13 Encounter Work Camp

15-18 Quo Vadis

27-29 Fiat Days

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

If you are attending the University of Maryland starting this fall please contact Fr. Jack Berard at sfayouth@sfadw.org. The Catholic Student Center at UMD wants to get in contact with you.



Teen volunteer positions are filled!

Thank you for your support.

Camper spots are filling quickly!

Register NOW for

Vacation Bible Camp 2018

“SHIPWRECKED: Rescued by Jesus”

Who: Children age 4 by 6/24/2018 through those who are completing 5th grade June 2018

Where: St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Center

When: June 25th – 29th, 2018 from 9:00am – 12:30pm

Cost: \$50 per child

How: Complete the Registration Form found in the Church Gathering Space and on our parish website (sfadw.org/vbc) and return by mail or in person to the Parish Office during business hours (Mon-Fri; 8am – 4pm) with the Registration Fee via Check or Faith Direct. **(For Faith Direct information contact the Parish Office, 301-840-1407 for details.)**

**St. Francis of Assisi Church
Religious Education Office – VBC
6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD 20855**

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

Catch our Spirit

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JR. SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

Rosemary Kilmer - Can Aloe Vera Juice Save your Strawberries from Mold?

Clare Rowedder - Do Plants Grow Faster Without Soil?

Eden Tewodros - Can You Keep Candy Cool with Evaporation?

WASHINGTON NATIONALS GAME ON SUNDAY, JUNE 10TH AT 4:05 PM

The Nationals are excited to welcome St. Jude's Regional Catholic School for a Night at Nats Park. Join us as our Washington Nationals take on the San Francisco Giants! Enjoy a special discounted ticket for \$22 that includes an \$8 concession credit. For tickets go to <https://groupmatics.events/event/Stjude2018>. Purchase deadline is June 7th.

CATCH OUR SPIRIT! REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2018!

Spaces are filling up quickly so register now! Applications for fall enrollment are being accepted on a first come basis for our 3 year old Pre-K Program to 7th grade (limited spaces are available). For information on the curriculum, admissions policies and registration, contact Ellen Donnelly in the school office at 301-946-7888 or register your student online at www.StJudeRockville.org

21st ANNUAL FILIPINO PILGRIMAGE AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception invites the faithful to participate in the 21st Annual National Filipino Pilgrimage on Saturday, June 23. This pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage will begin at 10am with a Novena in the Crypt Church. The day's events include Confessions and a reflection on "Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace" by Father Alejandro Pestano. Mass will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Great Upper Church, celebrated by the Bishop of Antipolo, Most Reverend Francisco M. de Leon. Immediately following the Mass, pilgrims are invited to join the procession to the Our Lady of Antipolo oratory for a blessing. For a detailed schedule, please visit www.antipolo.us.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

"And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Is God in your marriage? He is with you to help you have the marriage that will honor Him. Participate in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on November 2-4, 2018 in Gaithersburg, MD and August 3-5, 2018 in Hanover, MD. Go to moments4marriage.org to sign-up or call 301-541-7007. It's not too early to

MOVING/CHANGE OF ADDRESS/E-MAIL

Please notify our parish office, sfaparishoffice@sfadw.org or (301) 840-1407 of any changes in your address, phone number or e-mail address. Thank you!

HEAR FROM CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE & THE MD HOUSE OF DELEGATES ON JUNE 3

Are you wondering who could represent you in the Office of the County Executive and in the Maryland State House this fall? Prior to the primary election contest on June 26, come find out by attending the Communitywide Primary Election Forum to be held on Sunday, June 3, at Temple Beth Ami in Rockville.

St. Francis of Assisi Church is co-sponsoring the event that will occur from 10 am-1 pm at the temple at 14330 Travilah Road. The forum will consist of two moderated panel discussions at these times:

- 10-11:15 am: Candidates for Maryland House of Delegates from Districts 15, 16, 17 and 39 (separate sessions will be held for each district contest)
- 11:45-1 pm: Candidates for Montgomery County Executive

Pre-registration is highly encouraged by logging onto Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-3-community-election-forum-tickets-44345275914>. To find out your state voting district, please see <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch>.

5K WALK & ROLL-A-THON TO BENEFIT PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFERENCES

Please join us for the Upcounty Community Resources (UCR) 3rd Annual 5K Walk and Roll-a-thon, from 4-7 pm Saturday, June 16 at Bohrer Park (next to Gaithersburg High School). Participants can join this fun, family friendly event as a walker, runner, sponsor or donor. And come see our own Deacon Dan Finn, who will emcee the event, alongside NBC 4's Meteorologist Amelia Draper.

Upcounty Community Resources was founded by members of St. Francis of Assisi and offers innovative programs, events, and social opportunities for adults with developmental and intellectual differences. These opportunities promote healthy lifestyles, friendships, self-awareness and personal development.

The Walk and Roll-a-thon is a major UCR fundraiser and is also a wonderful festival to celebrate all members of our community. Please join us as a walker, roller or runner or sponsor a person who's participating. Our own Meghan Jones is leading the way in sponsorships! For more information or to register and donate, go to www.ucresources.org.

VOLUNTEER POSITION SPANISH CATHOLIC CENTER

Are you looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity? Would you like to make a difference? Join our team! The Spanish Catholic Center in Gaithersburg is looking for individuals who would like to join our ESOL Teaching team!

Qualifications: A commitment to English Learners and time availability

Time frame: Classes meet Monday to Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for 12 weeks - this can be flexible - let's talk!

Perks: We offer ALL the training and materials necessary for the classes

To apply for the opportunity or more information, please contact Laura Irwin at 301-740-2523, ext. 972. You may also send an email to laura.irwin@cc-dc.org