



Mass Intentions

May 21 - May 27

Monday, 5/21	9:00 a.m. Catherine Dillon Bullen
Tuesday, 5/22	9:00 a.m. Jack Wassler
Wednesday, 5/23	9:00 a.m. James Galvin 7:30 p.m. Fr. John Dillon (L)
Thursday, 5/24	9:00 a.m. Deacon Adrien Picard
Friday, 5/25	9:00 a.m. Sheila Jane Spieler
Saturday, 5/26	9:00 a.m. Pari Ronda Davila 5:00 p.m. Anne & John Sullivan (L)
Sunday, 5/27	8:00 a.m. Raul Jimenez, Sr. 9:30 a.m. Reverend Derek Goerg 11:15 a.m. <i>Pro populo</i> 5:00 p.m. Paul McManus

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Sister Angela Miller, Brother Saul Soriano-Rodriguez, Kimberly McDonough.

Please pray for the sick....Maria Joseph, Betty White, 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 20, 2018

Sunday:	Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23
Monday:	Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23 [23a]/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11 [Mt 5:3]/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday: J	as 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20 [Mt 5:3]/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12 [8a]/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8 [2a]/Mk 10:13-16
Next 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

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 older couples and adults that are presented in this section of the pastoral plan.

In his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*), Pope Francis writes: "It [the parish] is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey" (28). For many single adults and older couples, the parish can feel like a very young, family-centric experience. Parishes have an opportunity to help people experience the fruitfulness of intergenerational relationships and the beauty of the life of the parish family that is diverse in age, experience, and culture.

From many older couples and adults we learn of the special role they play in this intergenerational community which includes:

- Sharing their time and gifts to enrich the whole parish family by serving regularly in the parish community;
- Finding other families in the parish to befriend and make space for friendships across generations;
- Including single people in the events and life of your own family;
- Praying regularly for your children or loved ones and offering Mass intentions on significant moments in their lives;
- Continuing to grow deeper in your faith by practices like attending daily Mass, joining an annual retreat, learning a contemplative style of prayer, or belonging to a small faith community or prayer group; and
- Ensuring that you have made aware your desires in regards to health care, end of life, funeral planning and possessions.

Finally, a number of people have asked me to publish on the parish website the seven points found in the proclamation of the Gospel in the early Church. I mentioned these in my homily for the Ascension of the Lord. Jeff Cavins, an American Catholic evangelist, author, and Biblical scholar, did a very good presentation recently on these seven points in his weekly commentary on the Sunday readings. Let me give you the link so that you can watch his presentation at your convenience: <https://tinyurl.com/y727e8zb>.

Until next week.

Fr. John

2018 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR

St. Francis will not be participating this year in the Montgomery County Fair. While the volunteers enjoyed working at the fair and getting to know one another, the food booth was not a good fundraiser for the parish. Thank you to everyone who volunteered or supported our Food Booth 37 over the years!

Pentecost Sunday

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Can I sense the movement of the Holy Spirit in my life right now? Does it feel more like a gentle breath or a strong driving wind?

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Benjamin Alfred & Stella Mary
Michael & Heather Fazio
Gail Michaels
Lorraine & Bernard Nagy
Enitza & Juan Rodriguez
Karen Taylor
Jose & Aida Vodniza
Susan Weschler

The following children were baptized during the month of April:

Jon Anthony Linga-Diamola
Emerson Camille Mitchell

CONGRATULATIONS FR. JOHN!

On May 23rd, Fr. John will be celebrating 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.

AED TEAM SEEKS NEW TEAM MEMBERS

The St. Francis AED team is seeking new members! The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Team is comprised of parishioners trained to use the AED located in the Usher's Room, along with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), should an emergency arise at St. Francis.

To enhance the safety of St. Francis parishioners, St. Francis is equipped with an AED like the ones used in public places, such as airports. An AED device is used to determine – and deliver, if necessary – an electric shock to a cardiac arrest victim. This, along with CPR, can and does save lives even before emergency medical assistance has arrived.

St. Francis will host two Heartsaver AED Trainings on June 2 and 9 for adults recertifying or learning these lifesaving skills for the first time. The two trainings will be held from 8 am-12 Noon in the Parish Center. Registration is required by calling Health Ministry Coordinator Betty Baklarz at (301) 412-1909 or e-mailing her at lbbaklarz@yahoo.com.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO VIRTUAL BABY SHOWER SOUGHT

The St. Francis of Assisi St. Vincent de Paul Society is sponsoring a “virtual” baby shower for a mother belonging to St. Martin's Parish who has a 3-year-old child and a 4-month-old infant and was recently widowed after her husband was in an accident. If you can help, please make out a check to “SVDP Society,” place it in an envelope and put in an upcoming Sunday collection. Please clearly mark the envelope, “Baby Shower—SVDP.” St. Martin SVDP will help the mother make needed purchases. The parish has expressed its gratitude for any help parishioners can give. For more information, please contact St. Vincent de Paul Ministry Coordinator Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

PASTORAL COUNCIL TO SOON PUBLICIZE RESULTS OF THE INDICATORS OF VITALITY SURVEY

Thank you to the 320 people who completed the Indicators of Vitality survey last month. Your input is greatly appreciated! The Parish Pastoral Council was briefed on the survey results at its meeting May 17 and is looking at developing a survey action plan. Communications on the survey results will be forthcoming. If you would like more information about the Indicators of Vitality survey, please contact the Parish Pastoral Council via e-mail at asktheppc@gmail.com.

SMALL GROUP PARTICIPANTS, PLEASE COMPLETE SURVEY ON LIVE LENT! SOURCE MATERIAL BY MAY 29

If you took part in the *Live Lent!* Small Group Series this past Lent, then don't forget to complete the survey seeking feedback on the experience. A survey on Survey Monkey was sent to all known participants on May 9 and the survey will remain open until 11:45 pm Tuesday, May 29.

Please provide your feedback so the Small Group Planning Team can continue offering source material that appeals to and would interest St. Francis Small Groups. If you participated in a *Live Lent!* Small Group but you did not receive a copy of the survey, then please contact St. Francis Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan at Melissa.egan74@verizon.net.

May 20, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, May 22, 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 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'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.



**Parish Offices will close at 2:00 p.m.
on Friday, May 25
and
will be closed Monday, May 28th
in observance of Memorial Day**

YOUR OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTION

Just a reminder that we do not record loose checks from the weekly collection. In order for us to track your contribution and send you a statement at the end of the year, it is suggested that you sign up for envelopes or Faith Direct. To sign up for envelopes you can call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407. To sign up for electronic contributions visit www.faithdirect.net. The code for St. Francis is MD110. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

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**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS INVITED TO ATTEND PRIMARY ELECTION FORUM

On Sunday, June 3, St. Francis parishioners are invited to attend a community-wide Primary Election Forum to be held from 10 am-1 pm at Temple Beth Ami, 14330 Travilah Road, in Rockville. The forum – for which St. Francis of Assisi is a co-sponsor – will consist of two sessions:

- 10-11:15 am: Four concurrent breakouts featuring candidates for the Maryland House of Delegates from Districts 15, 16, 17 and 39. To find out your voting district, contact <https://voterservices.elections.marylandgov/VoterSearch>.
- 11:45 am-1 pm: Candidates for Montgomery County Executive.

Attendees are highly encouraged to pre-register for the event at the following e-mail address: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/june-3-community-election-forum-tickets-44345275914>. For more information, contact bethamigotv@gmail.com.

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.

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

- 20 Be Marian - Luke 1:27
27 NO FRED (Memorial Day)

JUNE

- 3 Aloha Party

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFAFRED.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE
TEENS AT THE JEWELRY/KRISPY KREME SALE!**

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.

CHILDREN'S HOLY HOUR

St. Peter's Church - Olney

Monthly Children's Holy Hour: Join us on the 4th Friday of each month. Children of ALL ages, alongside their parents, are invited to join us Friday, May 25th from 4:00-5:00 pm in the Chapel to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament through Scripture, song and quiet reflection. Opportunities for confession available. Please join us!

CATHOLIC SINGLES WELCOME

Catholic Singles of Greater Washington is an organization for single Catholics, ages 21 to 65-plus, enjoying each other's company in a wide variety of social, religious, and cultural settings. Please find out more about us by visiting <http://CatholicSinglesOfGreaterWashington.org> or call Tricia at 301-460-9195.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION THIS MONDAY

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Mario Dorsonville for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation this Monday, May 21. The Confirmation Mass will begin at 7:00 pm. Please join us in praying for these young people as they are united more firmly with Christ and the Church through the outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation Candidates are asked to arrive by 6:30 pm and meet in the Parish Center.

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, May 20, 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.

RENTING IN MARYLAND? YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A STATE TAX CREDIT

The state of Maryland has a program that aims to assist low income renters struggling with rising rent payments, particularly for those who are over 60 years old, permanently disabled, or have a dependent under age 18. If you are a renter in Maryland and want to learn if you qualify for up to \$1,000 in financial assistance, contact the Housing Partnership Initiative (hiphomes.org) at 301-916-5946 or ccastro@hiphomes.org. More information at MarylandTaxCredit.com.

FIAT CAMP FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Fiat is Latin for "Let it be done." This was Mary's response to the angel Gabriel when she was asked to become the mother of Jesus. Mary was called to live courageously and to give her whole life, and because of her response, she changed the world. At Fiat Camp, young women will be challenged to become fully who they are – to embrace the unique gifts given to them by God and to discover the great dignity of their vocation as a woman. For this year's camp for young women who are rising 9th-12th Graders, the Archdiocese of Washington is partnering with the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The camp will be held from July 27-29 at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, and it includes prayer, talks, discussions with religious sisters, games, and sports. Fee is \$150 (sibling discounts & scholarships available). Details and registration at www.quovadisfiat.org.

MEMORIAL DAY AT CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

"A person who sees things as they truly are and sympathizes with pain and sorrow is capable of touching life's depths and finding authentic happiness," says Pope Francis in *Gaudete et Exsultate*. *"He or she is consoled, not by the world but by Jesus."* On Memorial Day, come gather in loving memory of family, friends, and fellow citizens who have given their lives for our freedom. *"Knowing how to mourn with others: that is holiness,"* says the Pope. Special outdoor Memorial Day Masses will be held at 10:00 am on Monday, May 28 on the sacred grounds of the Catholic cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington, including All Souls Cemetery, 11401 Brink Rd., Germantown, MD (301-428-1995); Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 13801 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD (301-871-6500);

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH IN CHINA

Thursday, May 24 is the liturgical memorial of Our Lady Help of Christians, venerated with great devotion at the Marian Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai, China. It is also a World Day of Prayer for the Church in China, and you are invited to join the Holy Father and friends around the world, especially those in China, in praying for God's grace upon our brothers and sisters in Christ. From 6:30-8:30 pm on that day, Our Lady of China Pastoral Mission is hosting an evening of Taizé prayer and faith sharing (English-Chinese) in the parish hall of St. Mary's Church in Rockville, MD (520 Veirs Mill Rd.). A light meal will be served; fruits, desserts, and donations are welcomed. If planning to attend, please RSVP to info@ourladyofchina.net by Sunday, May 20.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School Catch our Spirit

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

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.

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT ON MAY 24TH AT 8:15 PM

Fun for the whole Family! Movie to be determined by students. Thursday, May 24th at 8:15 pm on Bowser Field (no school on Friday) For more information contact Sandra Cortez at scortez1108@gmail.com

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

STATE BOOST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE MONDAY, MAY 21

May 21 marks the last day St. Francis parishioners with school-aged children can apply for \$7.6 million in BOOST Scholarship money that will help income-eligible school-aged children in Maryland attend a Catholic school of their parent's choice. Thanks to funding by the Maryland General Assembly, the available BOOST Scholarship funds have risen to nearly \$8 million for the upcoming school year. Several hundred scholarships are expected to be awarded.

BOOST Scholarship reports that every student who sought transfer from a public school last year was offered a scholarship. In addition, it reported that larger scholarships may be awarded to students with special needs for the upcoming school year. To learn more about the BOOST scholarship, see <http://www.educationmaryland.org/BOOST>. If you have further questions, contact the BOOST Scholarship Coalition at (443) 510-4501.

HELP FOR MARRIAGES IN TROUBLE

Is your marriage going down the right road or is it a little off track? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. It can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy, and heal. For confidential information about or to register for an upcoming program, please visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com, call 443-400-7017, or email 3015@retrouvaille.org.