## ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD



May 4 - 10

Monday, 5/4 9:00 a.m. Don Smith Tuesday, 5/5 9:00 a.m. Paul De Castro (L) Wednesday, 5/6 9:00 a.m. Elise Reising 7:30 p.m. Stella M. Klucinikas Thursday, 5/7 9:00 a.m. Benedicta Meneses Friday, 5/8 Millie & Christy Zezzo 9:00 a.m. Saturday, 5/9 9:00 a.m. Fr. Lukas Centeno 5:00 p.m. Pro populo All Mothers Sunday, 5/10 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. All Mothers 11:15 a.m. All Mothers

Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John.

5:00 p.m. All Mothers

#### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Amiel Ortega.

Please pray for the sick...Mary McGrath, James Charbonneau, Allison Brauer, John McCormick, Danielle Payen, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Margaret Weiss, Joseph Michael Gardner, Tom Breece, Sandra Kimball, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoeffer, 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 3, 2020

**Sunday:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1

Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/

Jn 10:11-18

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/

Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/

Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/

Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/

Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/

Jn 14:7-14

**Next Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/

1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

#### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

One of the spiritual practices that we have adopted since we have had to shelter in place during the coronavirus pandemic is to pray the Rosary on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays through Zoom conferencing. We have anticipated the recommendation of the Holy Father to pray the Rosary. His words are a great encouragement for us to continue our practice—which we intend to do until we are able to open the church again. Let me quote two paragraphs from the Holy Father's Letter to the Faithful for the Month of May:

"The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home with the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point for view.

"For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow."

Pope Francis believes that as we look upon the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother, we will be even more united as a spiritual family. This will help us overcome this time of trial.

In Pope Francis' Letter to the Faithful for the month of May, he also includes two prayers to Our Lady that he recommends that we recite at the end of the Rosary. He is also going to pray them in spiritual union with all of us. Last week we began the practice of using these newly composed prayers to end the Rosary we pray on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. We are going to use one prayer one week and the second prayer the next week. We will keep up this pattern until we open the church again.

I am going to devote the rest of this column to something I began to talk about last week. This is a recap of the history of the establishment of the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) which in time became the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Today I am going to focus on an early leader at the NCWC: Monsignor John A. Ryan.

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

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

# **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

How is the Good Shepherd calling me? For what do I need to seek forgiveness so I can be reunited with the flock?

#### **SUNDAY MASS VIA YOU TUBE**

Fr. John says Mass every Sunday at 10 a.m. from the St. Clare Chapel. Please visit our website <a href="www.sfadw.org">www.sfadw.org</a> for more information and also the link to the Mass on Sunday.

#### **FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING**

I want to invite you in joining me and many others at St. Francis of Assisi in setting up recurring eGiving though Faith Direct. Thanks to eGiving, your weekly offertory will be automatically taken care of, which saves you time and saves our parish money by eliminating all those unused offertory envelopes. To sign up for electronic contributions visit <a href="https://www.faithdirect.net">www.faithdirect.net</a>. The code for St. Francis is MD110 or text the word ENROLL to 301-804-2584. I want to thank you for your continued support of our parish family especially during these trying times. God Bless You, *Fr. John* 

#### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Following World War One, Father John A. Ryan, a priest of the Archdiocese of Minneapolis-Saint Paul and a professor of Political Science and Moral Theology at the Catholic University of America was also asked to serve as the Director of the National Catholic Welfare Council's Social Action Department. He did so from 1920 until his death in 1945. In that capacity he published pastoral letters that were deeply influenced by Pope Leo XIII's encyclical Rerum Novarum ("On Capital and Labor") that had been published in 1891. Father Ryan believed that justice in the world could prevent future wars. With this conviction he pushed in these letters for universal health care, fair wages, the abolition of child labor, as well as support of unions. Many of the ideas he espoused influenced President Roosevelt's New Deal. The attempts of the National Recovery Administration to stabilize capitalism by organizing industrial output, wages, and providing some form of worker representation and collective bargaining were familiar to anyone who had read what Father Ryan had published. Archbishop John G. Murray named Father Ryan a Monsignor in 1933. Monsignor Ryan and President Roosevelt became close both personally and politically with President Roosevelt asking him to provide the invocation at the presidential invocation in 1937. Nicknamed "Right Reverend New Dealer" because of his closeness to F.D.R., Monsignor Ryan gave the invocation once again in 1945 shortly before both men died. At the time of Monsignor Ryan's death he was probably the most well-known and influential social action advocate in the Catholic Church.

Until next week,

Fr. John

### PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

THANK YOU TO THOSE PARISHIONERS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO!!

ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR? The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. At this time it is anticipated that this celebration will take place. Please email the parish office to register dzezzo@sfadw.org. Please include the following information in your email:

- Name of the couple (as you want it printed on the certificate)
- Mailing Address
- Telephone Number or email
- Number of years married
- Will you attend the Mass if it is held

Names of Jubilarians need to be turned into the parish office on or before *Monday, May 18*. Please <u>do not call the parish office</u> as it is closed at this time. You can also mail in the above information to the Parish Office, ATT: Donna Zezzo.

# 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  $24/\overline{7}$  for you to grow in your faith. St. Francis has purchased this gift for parish use.

FORMED is also offering many resources for parishioners to use for meditation and prayer during this difficult time.

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

The Knights of Columbus are looking for new, transferring or readmitted members to share in their Charity, Fraternity, Unity and Patriotism activities. Council 2323 supports many St. Francis activities and has many social events. The K of C offers life and long term care insurance opportunities as well as annuities. A new opportunity: join as an Online Member for \$30 per year; go to <a href="www.kofc.org">www.kofc.org</a> and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301) 948-6494 or email gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN** If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (240) 751-7259 or <a href="mariannebu@comcast.net">mariannebu@comcast.net</a> with your requests.

#### INVITATION TO PRAY

Please remember we have the outdoor Stations of the Cross which you are welcome to visit and pray the Stations. Also, we have our Mary Garden where you can also pray. Please remember to keep social distancing when visiting either of these locations.

# FUNDRAISING EVENTS POSTPONED/CANCELED

Our Annual Yard Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 9th is being postponed to a later date. There is a possibility it may also be cancelled for this year. Please watch the bulletin for additional information.

Our Annual Plant Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 1-3 is cancelled at this time.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

In keeping with the public health emergency measures in place to limit the spread of the coronavirus, St. Francis Religious Education classes and Religious Education program activities will not be meeting until further notice. During this time when we cannot meet, we are providing resources for use at home and are sending these by email each week. Families are encouraged to continue to be intentional about faith formation through use of these at-home lessons and by sharing prayer daily. Religious Education program updates are being sent through *Flocknote*. If you are not receiving these messages, please contact Susan Anderson at <a href="mailto:sanderson@sfadw.org">sanderson@sfadw.org</a>.

# WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL ENCORE?

If you are transitioning to full or part-time retirement and are thinking about all that follows a long and successful career, consider meaningful service with the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC), a program established by the Jesuits to give seasoned women and men ages 50 and better an opportunity to share their experience and wisdom with those in our community in greatest need while also participating in a formation program rooted in Ignatian Spirituality. The commitment is part-time and there are a number of rewarding service opportunities in Montgomery County and D.C. For more information on IVC, please contact local director (and St. Francis parishioner) Mike Goggin at 202-277-4447 or mgoggin@ivcusa.org."

### THIS WEEK AT HOME

(Bulletin Insert)

# Monday, May 4 - One Flock

The first big challenge the early Church faced was whether to admit non-Jews into the community. Since Jesus was Jewish, some people insisted that non-Jews who wished to follow Christ also had to follow Jewish laws, such as what foods they could eat. In response, Peter speaks of a vision in which God dispenses both Jews and Gentiles from such laws. The two groups can now come together to form one flock with Jesus as their shepherd. Pray for the grace to welcome all kinds of people into God's flock.

### Tuesday, May 5 - Speaking to Them

The sheep who recognize the voice of their shepherd include the people of Antioch. At first, only the Jews in Antioch had the story of Christ proclaimed to them. No one talked with the Gentiles. When some people finally did, their preaching was so successful that a large number "was added to the Lord." There are people who will welcome the Good News if we share it with them, and if we speak with compassion and sincerity.

## Wednesday, May 6 - The Spirit Speaks

In a rare moment in Acts, the Holy Spirit speaks directly to the Apostles. If we long for the Holy Spirit to speak clearly to us, we should note that the Apostles heard the Spirit while they were praying and fasting. Moreover, they had dedicated themselves to God's work, just as Jesus had. Jesus spoke only as his Father commanded him and worked signs because of his perfect obedience. Our Lenten practices helped us listen to the Spirit and follow Christ. Do you have Easter practices that are helping you heed the Spirit's call?

# **Thursday, May 7 - Salvation Continues**

Jesus tells his disciples to imitate his life of loving service, but he also notes that not all of them will. He knows that Judas will betray him. In Acts, Paul and Barnabas travel with a fellow Christian, John, but he leaves them after a short while. It is difficult, sometimes even painful, when someone close to us turns away from us. Sometimes there is nothing we can do, but sometimes there is. Have you had a conflict with a family member or a friend that you can resolve?

## Friday, May 8 - His Way

As Paul continues his speech in the synagogue, he reminds his listeners that people rejected Jesus. What happens to people who reject Jesus? If we expect such people to be excluded from God's reign, we might be in for a surprise. Sometimes we forget that Jesus is "the way, the truth, and the life," and we are not. Jesus alone decides who enters God's Kingdom. Such final judgments are not ours to make. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for God's great mercy.

## Saturday, May 9 - Light from Light

By asking Jesus to show them the Father, Philip reveals that he doesn't yet understand that by seeing Jesus, he sees the Father. Jesus is the light who reveals the eternal radiance of God. Therefore, by proclaiming Jesus to the Gentiles, people like Paul and Barnabas spread God's light across the world. They do great works, just as Jesus did. Spend time in prayer today asking Jesus what works you could do to further glorify God.