

# Mass Intentions

September 20- September 26

Monday, 9/20	9:00 a.m.	Griff Low
Tuesday, 9/21	9:00 a.m.	Kenneth Sanderfoot
Wednesday, 9/22	9:00 a.m.	Thomas J. & Agnes B. McCann
	7:30 p.m.	William Shaun Beveridge
Thursday, 9/23	9:00 a.m.	Fred Biasini
Friday, 9/24	9:00 a.m.	Raymond Dundon
Saturday, 9/25	5:00 p.m.	Eva Breeden
Sunday, 9/26	8:00 a.m.	Rod & Gaby O'Connor
	9:30 a.m.	Jerry & Virginia Haley
	11:15 a.m.	Guy Beaven
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>

**Mass Intentions will be prayed for in a private daily Mass said by Fr. John if not prayed for in a public Mass.**

### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Helena Gamrot, mother of Reverend Jaroslaw Gamrot, Pastor, Holy Face Parish, Monsignor John Brady, Jr., Archdiocese of Washington, Reverend G. Paul Herbert, Archdiocese of Washington, Maria Turner, wife of Deacon John Turner, Diane E. Chaput.

**Please pray for the sick...** Serge Triau, Carol Polosky, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, Jackie Komlo, Allison Brauer, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Sandra Kimball, 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 September 19, 2021

Sunday:	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/ Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37
Monday:	Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/ Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13
Wednesday:	Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/ Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/ Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday:	Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/ Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Eight days ago we had the twentieth anniversary of that awful day when nearly 3,000 people died in the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the plane crash in Shanksville, PA. Last Sunday about forty parishioners attended a Prayer Service here in which we reflected on Scripture, and prayed for special groups of people during a period of intercessory prayer. It was a very moving night for me, especially since I have ministered to families who lost someone at 9/11 in three of the parishes in which I have been assigned. For them 9/11 is always a sad and painful day of remembrance.

In the course of our Prayer Service to mark the twentieth anniversary of 9/11, we remembered Carol Ann La Plante, the sister of parishioner Jeanne Kavinski, who was working on the 97th floor of the North Tower of the World Trade Center that fateful morning. We also read the names of the eleven residents of Montgomery County who were killed that day: William E. Caswell, Gerald P. Fisher, Lawrence Daniel Getzfred, Michele Heidenberger, Angela Marie Houtz, Teddington H. Moy, Lieutenant Darin Howard Pontell, Scott A. Powell, Todd Hayes Reuben, Patricia J. Statz, and Ernest M. Willcher.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace! May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

I also want to share with you comments made by Archbishop Jose Gomez, the archbishop of Los Angeles, who is also the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. These are remarks he made on the eve of the twentieth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks:

*"As we remember the twentieth anniversary of September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, our hearts are with all those who lost loved ones on that day. We pray for the innocent lives that were lost, and we pray for those who grieve, and for the many who still bear the wounds from these attacks, physical, emotional and spiritual.*

*"It was a dark day of destruction and death, but remember also the heroes—first-responders, firefighters, police, emergency medical and rescue teams. Many gave their lives in the service of their neighbors. This violence, borne of the worst evil in the human heart, also brought the best in our humanity. We think today of the courage and generosity of countless ordinary people and the spirit of unity and authentic patriotism we saw in the days after these attacks.*

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

**September 19, 2021**

## **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

*What can I do to be received into the kingdom with open arms?*

## **RSVP FOR THE OCTOBER 3 PARISH PICNIC**

As our parish prepares to celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will be kicking off our celebration with a Parish Picnic on Sunday, October 3 from 12:30-4:00 pm on the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. Simply Fresh will be catering the event, so families will not need to prepare any foods. After the luncheon, families can enjoy games, a moon bounce, crafts and face painting on the parish grounds. There will also be the Blessing of the Animals at 3 pm in front of the church.

Please sign up for the Parish Picnic by filling out information on the flyer by Sunday, September 26 and drop it off in the basket in the Gathering Space, to ensure organizers order enough food while ensuring as little waste as possible. For more information, please contact 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Co-Chair Sylvia Jones at [decaffqueen@gmail.com](mailto:decaffqueen@gmail.com).



St. Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Church

## **HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF COLLECTION**

St. Francis sent a check to Catholic Relief Services for your donations. *Thank you on behalf of the people in Haiti. Once again St. Francis, your generosity is overwhelming!*

## **THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR *continued***

*"We honor the dead by the way we live. And today we pray for a new spirit of national pride and unity. May God inspire in all of us to seek fellowship, reconciliation, and common purpose.*

*"We ask God to bring comfort to those who mourn and peace to every heart that is consumed by hatred, and may he bring peace to our troubled world.*

*"We entrust our prayers and our nation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and the mother of each of us."*

Until next week,

**Fr. John**

## **HEAR HOW CAN WE LIVE AS MISSIONARY DISCIPLES ON OCTOBER 9**

Are you trying to grow into a deeper faith as a disciple of Jesus Christ? All members of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church are invited to hear a talk by Dr. Susan Timoney, an associate professor of theology at The Catholic University of America, from 10 am to 12 pm, Saturday, October 9. Dr. Timoney will introduce the U.S. Bishops document, "Living as Missionary Disciples," focusing on how the bishops call us to circles of intentional relationships.

Depending on the state of the coronavirus pandemic, this event may be in-person, virtual or hybrid. To register for this event, please sign up at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/67575> or e-mail Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at [abosnick@sfadw.org](mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org). Registrants will be contacted, as to where the talk will take place.

## **WITNESS FOR THE UNBORN AT ST. FRANCIS DAY ON OCTOBER 16**

St. Francis parishioners will have an opportunity to witness for the unborn from 9 am-6 pm Saturday, October 16, when we are called to pray and stand in the presence of women who may be seeking an abortion at a facility in Rockville. Standing in solidarity with other local Catholics, participants will witness at the abortuary located at Jackson Place, off Route 355 near Montgomery College, in Rockville. The campaign is part of the 40 Days for Life Campaign, held September 21 - October 31, during which there are 24-hour vigils at local abortion facilities. If you are called to witness for the unborn in this way, please sign up for an hour-long slot during St. Francis Day at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/67591>. For more information, contact Right to Life Ministry Coordinator Lita Silva at [litasilva4@gmail.com](mailto:litasilva4@gmail.com). Additional information on 40 Days for Life can be found on the last page of this bulletin.

## **9/11 PRAYER SERVICE OFFERS TIME FOR PARISHIONERS TO PRAY, REFLECT & REMEMBER**

On Sunday, September 12, approximately 40 parishioners gathered in the church for a 9/11 Prayer Service led by Fr. John Dillon to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of September 11. During the solemn ceremony, participants remembered the 2,996 people who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and the plane crash in Shanksville, PA. They also reflected on Scripture, prayed for special groups of people during the intercessory prayers, and ended the service with "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Thank you to all those who participated and to the lay ministers who lit candles, read, and set a prayerful tone with their music and singing.

## **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.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS: GROUP A ELEMENTARY CLASSES AND ALL MID- DLE SCHOOL CLASSES START THIS WEEK!

Calendars are posted to the parish website, and are also being mailed to all who have registered. We look forward to welcoming families to this year's two program options:

**Option 1: "Homeschool model"** with parents teaching their children at home with textbook resources and support provided by the parish, including 7 online parent meetings and additional events for students and families. **Our first online parent meeting was held last Sunday, September 12.** Parents who missed this meeting can contact the religious education office to receive a recorded version of the presentation. If you have not already done so, please be sure to pick up materials for the Homeschool Option from the Church Gathering Space as soon as possible.

### OR

**Option 2: "Classroom model"** with children attending in-person classes with modifications in place to comply with covid safety protocols (including keeping 3 ft. distance in classrooms, required use of face masks, and frequent hand washing/sanitizing). In-person classes for Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be offered as follows:

- **Elementary (Kindergarten-Grade 5) classes with students attending class in person on alternating weeks and completing a lesson at-home between each in-person class.** Two Elementary session times will be offered: Sunday morning, 9:20-10:35 am and Monday afternoon, 4:45-6:00 pm. **Group A classes start today and Monday, Sept. 19/20. Group B classes start next week, Sept. 26/27.**
- **Middle School (Grade 6, 7 & 8) classes with students attending weekly.** Two Middle School session times will be offered: Monday and Tuesday evenings, 6:45-8:00 pm. **Classes start this Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 20/21.**
- **Classes for children and youth with special needs will continue to be offered via Zoom meeting on Sunday afternoons 3:30-4:30 pm. Classes begin today, Sept. 19.**

**Children must be registered before they can begin classes.** Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. Find registration forms on the parish web site ([www.sfadw.org](http://www.sfadw.org)), in the Church Gathering Space, and in the Parish Office. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed forms can be mailed to the parish, dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm), or returned as digital copies via email to [sfareligioused@sfadw.org](mailto:sfareligioused@sfadw.org). Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email [sfareligioused@sfadw.org](mailto:sfareligioused@sfadw.org). Please share this information with others, especially those who will be new to our program!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS (continued)

### Ways to Serve

The entire parish community shares responsibility for faith formation and the support of many volunteers makes our programs successful. There are a variety of ways to serve, including weekly, monthly, and "as needed" commitments:

- Catechist
- Classroom Aide
- Substitute Catechist
- Support for Service Projects
- Support for Art Projects (at home preparation)
- Help with Sacramental Celebrations & Special Events

Please consider supporting our Religious Education program as a volunteer! To learn more, please call 301-258-9193.

### Catechetical Sunday Blessing of Catechists at all Masses

#### Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19

*Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.*

Today we celebrate **Catechetical Sunday** with the Blessing of Catechists at all Masses. In the Blessing of Catechists, those who have been designated by the community to serve as catechists are called forth to be commissioned for this important ministry. Please pray for our catechists, our students and all families as together we teach and share the faith this year!

**Catechesis for Children and Youth with Special Needs** Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our first class meets online on Sunday, September 19 from 3:30-4:30 pm. 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.

**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.

## **Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School**

**We are...St. Jude**

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

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

**Instagram: stjuderockville**

**Twitter: @StJudeRCS**

### **SJRCs Drama Club Car Wash**

**Come to the Car Wash on Sunday, September 26!**

**8:30am-1:30pm**

**Have your car washed during Mass!**

**Donations support the St. Jude Regional Catholic School**

**Drama Club**

**This year's performance will be announced after the car wash!**

### **September 22 - Father Kapaun Mass**

Join us in honoring Father Emil Kapaun. Father Lee will celebrate Mass at 9:00 am in the school parking lot.

### **INFANT MEMORIAL SERVICE**

### **TO BE HELD OCTOBER 16**

St. Francis parishioners who have experienced an infant loss are invited to attend an interdenominational Infant Memorial Service to be held at 7 pm Saturday, October 16, at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030. This in-person event will also be live streamed for those who wish to participate but cannot do so in person. Types of infant loss include miscarriage, abortion, ectopic pregnancy, deceased embryos from fertility procedures, stillbirth, fatal perinatal diagnosis, death of a premature baby and infant death. Please register for the event, whether you plan to participate in person or virtually, at [memorialservice@tepeyacogbyn.com](mailto:memorialservice@tepeyacogbyn.com). If you can RSVP by October 11, the sponsoring organizations will recognize your baby with a special gift.

### **BEREAVED CAREGIVERS VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**

Parenting while grieving. Supporting a child grieving the death of a parent. **Free** 7-week online workshop series beginning Wednesday, October 6. Registration is now open for Caring-Matters online workshop series to support grieving parents as they support their children through loss and grief. This interactive series will explore:

- the impact of the loss on children
- developmental reactions to the grief process
- strategies for dealing with the challenges of parenting while grieving

The sessions will include the practice of essential parenting skills, such as listening, expressing, problem-solving, and setting limits within the context of a grieving family. The series, offered free of charge, will be facilitated online by CaringMatters' trained staff on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, with the first session scheduled for **October 6, 2021**. Space is limited to the first 9 registrants. Participants must reside in Montgomery County, MD and be one year past the death. **The registration deadline is September 27, 2021.** To learn more or register for the workshop series, please contact **Mabilia Rastello**, [mabiliar@caringmatters.org](mailto:mabiliar@caringmatters.org) or 301-252-4450.

## **ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

**Saturday, November 13**

### **HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS**

We are making crafts for the 2021 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesday September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you enjoy being creative and socializing with fellow parishioners, please plan on attending. Also, projects can be taken home to work on. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

### **BIBLE STUDY OFFERED**

Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council is hosting a Bible Study at Father Cuddy Hall in Derwood. The Bible Study will run on Mondays from September through May. The Bible Study will utilize the Jeff Cavins Great Adventure Bible Study Course. The only cost for the course will be \$35.95 to order the Study Set from Ascension Press. Sign Up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4BA8AB2CA1FE3-great>

### **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 KofC 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 [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) 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 [gtdpalmer@verizon.net](mailto:gtdpalmer@verizon.net)).

### **YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED**

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior by one adult over another in an intimate relationship. It can consist of repeated severe beatings or subtle forms of abuse, including threats and control. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. For additional information or to learn more about domestic violence, please visit [www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace](http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace).

### **RECEIVE GOD'S MERCY AFTER AN ABORTION THROUGH A DAY OF PRAYER AND HEALING**

Have you or someone close to you experienced an abortion about which you still have unresolved feelings? Experience God's mercy by taking part in an in-person *Entering Canaan* Day of Prayer and Healing next month. This day-long retreat will feature someone giving a witness talk on her healing journey, time for retreatants to share their story with others who have had the same experience, Eucharistic Adoration and an opportunity to go to Confession. There will be a day of prayer of healing in Spanish on October 9, 2021, and on April 2, 2022 and two in English on October 23, 2021, and on April 23, 2022. For more information, contact the Project Rachel Ministry at (301) 982-2008 or e-mail [hope@adw.org](mailto:hope@adw.org). There is a suggested donation of \$40 for each attendee, but financial assistance is available.

## **107th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES**

The Archdiocese of Washington invites you to join in commemorating the 107th World Day of Migrants and Refugees that will take place at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in Washington, DC, **on Saturday, September 26, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.** The theme chosen this year by the Holy Father is Towards an Ever Greater "We." The Most Rev. Mario E. Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, will be the Principal Celebrant, and Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, V.F. the concelebrant. For more information, contact the Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach via email at [culturaldiversity@adw.org](mailto:culturaldiversity@adw.org).

## **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

The St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry will offer a support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, or significant other. The next bereavement support group will begin Thursday, Sept 23rd, and run for 7 consecutive Thursday evenings ending Nov. 4th. The series will take place from 7:00 - 8:30 PM through ZOOM. Registration is required. To register contact Deacon Kevin Byrne (301-279-5962) or Claudia McAuliffe (301-881-1457).

## **COMING THIS FALL**

### **ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY**

Be encouraged in your efforts to live as a disciple of Jesus! Gain confidence in your identity as a child of God - hear the Lord's word for yourself and others - learn to evangelize with joy. **Encounter School of Ministry** draws from the richness of our Catholic heritage as we seek to teach, equip, and activate disciples to demonstrate the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. This one year program with Encounter DC begins Sept. 21 and meets weekly on Tuesday nights in Gaithersburg with worship, teaching, and time for ministry activation. Join the hundreds who have found new grace and power to live out their calling. Check out [encounterschool.org/dc](http://encounterschool.org/dc) for more information and to register.

## **STRENGTHENING YOUR LOVE MARRIAGE RENEWAL WORKSHOP OCTOBER 9-10**

A Christ-centered weekend designed to offer practical tools that can help foster effective communication and emotional closeness in your marriage. Make your marriage thrive, not just survive! The expert speaker team includes Catholic psychologists, therapists, and priests who will offer their expertise and experience, plus they will be on hand the entire weekend to offer individual consultation, upon request. Please note: This is NOT an overnight program. Cost: \$400 per couple. Seating will be limited to facilitate social distancing. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. See our website for more details about measures to limit exposure to illness, details about the program and links to register: [www.ourladyofbethesda.org](http://www.ourladyofbethesda.org)



Join us for 40 Days for Life, a 40-day campaign to access God's power through prayer and fasting to end abortion. Our community will unite with communities across the country and throughout the world for a major, simultaneous pro-life mobilization.

Prior abortion workers have said that as many as 75% of women scheduled for an abortion don't show when people are there praying, and many women who had had abortions have said if just one person had asked them to keep their baby, they would have let the child live. Please be that person for women and be their sign from God that He wants them to have their baby. *Let them know that Jesus will help them.* Make an appointment with God on the streets and join us at our 40 Days for Life Campaign –

## **Pray for Life Rockville!**

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers who have been recruited, trained, and mobilized; 30% of which were first time pro-life volunteers. **With God's help**, here are the measurable, lifesaving results from 40 Days for Life campaigns conducted between 2004 and 2021 in over 8,000 cities in 64 nations:

- More than 19,000 babies saved from abortion – that we know of!
- Thousands and women, *and* men, have been spared from the pain and regret of abortion.
- Many individuals with abortion experiences in their past found healing.
- More than 110 abortion facilities have closed and gone out of business following 40 Days for Life campaigns outside their doors.
- Over 221 abortion workers have quit their jobs.
- 92% of 40 Days of Life participants reported that they grew spiritually and personally through their involvement in the campaign.
- People have turned back to God with renewed **HOPE**.

For more information, contact St. Francis Right to Life Ministry Coordinator Lita Silva at [litasilva4@gmail.com](mailto:litasilva4@gmail.com)

## **A MILLION ROSARIES**

Every prayer counts! Please join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the coronavirus pandemic. Sign up for the one million Rosary campaign at <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.