

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

November 1 - November 7

Monday, 11/1	9:00 a.m.	Catherine & Ross Franck
Tuesday, 11/2	9:00 a.m.	All Souls
	7:30 p.m.	All Souls Mass
Wednesday, 11/3	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
	7:30 p.m.	Msgr. Henry Otero-Diogo
Thursday, 11/4	9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
Friday, 11/5	9:00 a.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
	7:30 p.m.	Joseph Gardner
Saturday, 11/6	5:00 p.m.	Patsy & Stella Battista
Sunday, 11/7	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populous</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Carlos Varela
	11:15 a.m.	Rolando Sabalbaro
	5:00 p.m.	Agnes Moran

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 souls of Flavia De Souza, mother of Janice De Mare, Transito Hernandez, Lucy George.

Please pray for the sick... Sam Bergbigler, Pam Kelley, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, Jackie Komlo, Allison Brauer, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, William Komlo, Sandra Kimball, Ed Dudenhoefter, 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 October 31, 2021

Sunday:	Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/ Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
Monday:	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 6]/ 1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Tuesday:	Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1 or 4ab]/ Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40a
Wednesday:	Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 [5a]/ Lk 14:25-33
Thursday:	Rom 14:7-12/Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14 [13]/ Lk 15:1-10
Friday:	Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/ Lk 16:1-8
Saturday:	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 [1b]/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday:	1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/ Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

During the month of October we have been celebrating Respect Life Month. I want to talk today about a specific issue assaulting the right to life: Physician-Assisted Suicide. The next Maryland legislative session will open in January. Powerful out-of-state activists will try to bring physician-assisted suicide to Maryland. It is important for us to realize why this matters for us and our families. To answer that I am going to reproduce here and slightly adapt some points made in a Parish Resource Kit prepared by the Maryland Catholic Conference.

What actually happens in a physician-assisted suicide?

A doctor prescribes a lethal drug cocktail – up to 100 pills – that a person picks up at the local pharmacy, grinds up into half a cup of water, and drinks in less than two minutes. Sometimes, the person can take hours or days to die. Plus, there are no requirements for a witness or notification of family. Assisted suicide isn't dignified; it's deadly.

Physician-assisted suicide incentivizes denying cancer treatment

In states where assisted suicide is legal, insurance companies have turned down coverage for cancer treatment but offered to pay for suicide drugs instead. Stop this from happening in Maryland.

Physician-assisted suicide urges suicide for elderly

Elderly in Maryland have a higher rate of suicide than any other age group - double the teen suicide rate. Yet a proposed physician-assisted suicide bill would not require any mental health evaluation to screen for depression. Assisted suicide isn't dignified; it's deadly.

Physician-assisted suicide tells people they're burdensome

In Oregon, data shows people request suicide drugs not for pain, but because they can't do the same activities that they could before, can't control bodily functions, feel they've lost dignity or feel they are a burden. Suicide drugs aren't the answer. Everyone deserves loving, supportive care, affirmation of their dignity, and to know that they are never a burden.

Physician-assisted suicide is dangerous for Maryland

If assisted suicide became legal, up to 100 pills would be prescribed to a person. These lethal drugs would then be dispensed at your neighborhood pharmacy. Data shows that where assisted suicide is legal, up to 40% of the drugs are never used – and there are no requirements for their disposal. They could end up in the hands of kids, in the trash or in a local creek or pond. We don't need that in Maryland. Assisted suicide isn't dignified, it's deadly.

Continued in the column to the right...

October 31, 2021

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Do I think that Jesus would tell me that I am “not far from the kingdom of God? What should I do to become closer?

NOVEMBER 1 - ALL SAINTS DAY

This year All Saints is not a Holy Day of Obligation since it falls on a Monday.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR *continued*

Disability rights activists oppose physician-assisted suicide

Major disability rights groups including The Arc of Maryland and National Council on Disability oppose physician-assisted suicide. Disabled people already face prejudice from doctors and people who assume they're "better dead than disabled." Assisted suicide encourages this kind of prejudice. People with disabilities deserve care, not suicide.

Doctors oppose physician-assisted suicide

The American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, and dozens of other medical groups oppose physician-assisted suicide. The AMA says, "Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer." Physicians are entrusted with saving lives, not ending them.

Marylanders deserve excellent pain management, not physician-assisted suicide

Maryland has excellent, modern palliative care programs to alleviate suffering – no one's pain should be unmanageable in our state. Hospice care is paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. Marylanders deserve the best in pain management and quality care, not suicide drugs.

When this comes up in the next session of the General Assembly, it will be important for you to tell your legislators: NO assisted suicide. Visit mdcatholic.org/pas.

Let me take this opportunity to invite you to join the Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network. Our state's General Assembly creates laws that affect us, our church, families, and vulnerable neighbors. The Maryland Catholic Advocacy Network keeps us informed and gives us a voice. If you choose to join (and I hope that you will do so), you will receive occasional email updates from the Maryland Catholic Conference, plus action alerts on topics you choose: mdcatholic.org/joincan or text CATHOLIC to 443-764-8765.

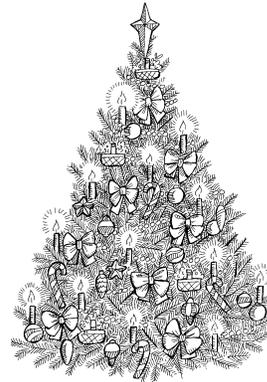
Until next week,
Fr. John

ALL SOULS MASS

During the month of November we will remember those who have died. All Souls envelopes will be placed on the altar for the month of November. The envelopes can be found at the doors to the Church. Also, on Tuesday, November 2, 7:30 p.m. there will be an All Souls Mass for those parishioners who have died within the past year. This Mass is also open to the parish.

BAZAAR VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

As you may have heard, we are having our Annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 13th. This is one of our biggest fundraisers. It will be different this year. ***In order for the Bazaar to be successful, it takes lots of volunteers.*** Volunteer sign-up sheets can be found in the Gathering Space. Any amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated. You can also sign-up to bring a store bought goodie for Millie's Cake Wheel. If you have any question please contact the parish office (301) 840-1407.



VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO SIGN-UP NOW FOR THE ABREVIATED CHRISTMAS TREE SALE STARTING NOVEMBER 27

The St. Francis of Assisi Christmas Tree Ministry is already gearing up for sales but with an unsurprising twist – due to forest fires, supply chain and other COVID-related issues, the parish will be receiving only 60 percent of the inventory it has had over past years, or about 240 trees. This means an abbreviated sales season, which will start Friday, November 27, and end Sunday, December 5, or until supplies last. The smaller inventory, plus all the normal shipping costs, have necessitated a hike in sales prices, but the ministry still anticipates trees will sell out within the week.

Volunteers are needed to sign up now to offload the truck on Friday, November 26; stake and sell trees during all shifts; and break down the lot on closing day. Please sign up to volunteer at the tree sale on Flocknote at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/71961>. The shifts will be Monday through Friday from 3-6 pm and 6 pm until close and Saturday and Sunday from 9 am-12 pm; 12-3 pm; 3-6 pm; and 6 pm to close. For more information, please call Christmas Tree sale Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com or call him at (240) 372-1662.

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 7
2:00 A.M.**





**GROUP B ELEMENTARY CLASSES
MEET OCTOBER 31**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES
MEET NOVEMBER 1 & 2**

**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 class meets online next Sunday, November 7 from 3:30-4:30 pm. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS UPDATE

Even though Religious Education classes have started, space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to begin classes once registration is received and processed. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space, the Parish Offices, and also on the parish website. Please call the Religious Education Office if need more information: 301-258-9193. **Children must be registered before they can begin classes.**

LISTENING SESSION

**ON FUTURE OF YOUTH MINISTRY
TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 7 IN THE CHURCH**

On Sunday, November 7, Travis Tomon, the parish's newly hired youth minister, will facilitate a listening session from 7:30-9 pm in the church to re-imagine Youth Ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. The meeting targets parents of high school-aged youth and students preparing for Confirmation, but anyone interested in Youth Ministry at our parish is invited to attend. Fr. John Dillon extends a special invitation to ministry coordinators, who he hopes will welcome and incorporate youth in their ministries' service. For more information, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
ST. ANN'S CENTER FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH &
FAMILIES**

Please join Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Sister Mary Bader and the Board of Directors of St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families to our **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, December 5, 2021 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm** at St. Ann's Center: 4901 Eastern Avenue, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Please contact Carolyn Boyle for more information: cboyle@stanns.org or 301-559-5500

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS
ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE
ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD**

On October 21, Fr. John Dillon outlined the archdiocesan synod process to members of the Parish Pastoral Council, announcing that a parish wide listening session would be held on Saturday, December 4, in the Parish Center. The synod -- titled, "Synod 2021-2023: For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission" -- calls on archdiocesan parishes by the end of December to collect their parishioners' reflections on being part of a faith community living the Gospel of Christ, especially as we emerge from the pandemic.

Under other business, the council also:

- Learned that the parish would host a discussion on the future of Youth Ministry on Sunday, November 7 in the church.
- Learned that the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee had thus far sold \$900 worth of promotional items.
- Heard that the parish's New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance is preparing for the parish to adopt a family of Afghan refugees and will need all types of assistance from parishioners.
- Learned that Fr. John has submitted a proposal to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington to have all standard light bulbs installed in the Parish Center to be converted to LED lights.
- Heard ministry reports from Religious Education, Communications, the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee, the New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance, St. Jude Regional Catholic School and from the Knights of Columbus Council 2323.

To read minutes from past Parish Pastoral Council meetings, please go to <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

Instagram: [stjuderockville](https://www.instagram.com/stjuderockville)

Twitter: [@StJudeRCS](https://twitter.com/StJudeRCS)

Apply for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington for the 2022 – 2023 school year, follow the links from www.stjuderockville.org - Admissions tab- Archdiocese Tuition Assistance or <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-program/>. The Deadline to apply is in December. The Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program is available for students in grades PreK-12 who are applying to or currently enrolled in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington. All tuition assistance obtained through the Archdiocese is based on financial need. Families must apply each year to receive tuition assistance. Once you've completed the application it will roll over to St. Jude Regional Catholic School Tuition Assistance Program. One application and 2 opportunities to receive financial aid.

PAX CHRISTI PEACE CORNER

Excerpts from Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti, On Fraternity and Social Friendship, The Following is from – Chapter 7

#270 I ask Christians . . . and those tempted to yield to violence in any form, to keep in mind the words of the book of Isaiah: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares” (2:4) For us, this prophecy took flesh in Christ Jesus, who seeing a disciple tempted to violence, said firmly: “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword” (Mt. 26:52)

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 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).

PLEASE RETURN BABY BOTTLES FOR THE SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER TO CHURCH

It is time to return the baby bottles that are part of the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center’s Baby Bottle campaign. If you took a baby bottle from the Gathering Space to benefit one of the nonprofit organization’s major fundraisers, please ensure it is filled up with loose change and returned to the Parish Center by Monday, November 1. You can also still donate to the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center by using the online link on the homepage of our parish web site, www.sfadw.org, or access it directly at <https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=15047&n=19002>. You can also donate by text by typing in the word ‘GIVE’ in the message section of your smartphone, typing in the number 4848BOTTLE in the space for a cell phone number, and hitting ‘send.’ For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED: GAITHERSBURG MEALS ON WHEELS

Gaithersburg Meals on Wheels has a continuing need for drivers to deliver hot and cold meals at lunchtime to the elderly and shut-ins in the Gaithersburg area. Meals are prepared at Asbury Methodist Village, 333 Russell Ave., and picked up by drivers between 10:30 and 11:15 a.m. Monday-Friday. Containers are provided for carrying the meals, and delivery takes about one hour, with eight to 12 clients on each route. Volunteers are asked to drive either once a week, or once every other week. Children are welcome to accompany parents. Training is provided. Please call 301-216-4200, or Lisa Koenig at 301-869-0190 or lisamkoenig1@gmail.com.

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, November 13

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We are making crafts for the 2021 Holiday Bazaar on **Wednesday November 3** 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.

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

“ITEMS NEEDED”

Saturday, November 13

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

JEWELRY DONATIONS

Please drop the jewelry off at the parish office or leave your treasured items in the mailbox on the Rectory porch if the office is closed.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are looking for silent auction items such as Time Shares, Sports Tickets, Theater Passes, etc. for our Fall Bazaar (November 13). For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Deby Dicello, 240-599-6503 or the Parish Office.

THEME BASKETS FOR SILENT AUCTION

If you would like to make up a theme basket for the Silent Auction, please call the Parish Office to let us know you are donating a special basket. Theme Baskets are always a big hit!

FLEA MARKET

No Flea Market this year. Please save your items for our Annual Spring Yard Sale - April 2022.

GIFT CARDS OR GIFT CERTIFICATES

If you have unused gift cards or gift certificates that you received but know you’ll never use, please consider donating them to the Silent Auction. You can drop them off at the Parish Office or put them in the collection basket in an envelope.

ORDER ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI BRANDED MERCHANDISE AS CHRISTMAS OR SPECIAL GIFTS

Are you beginning to shop for Christmas gifts for your loved ones? If so, then check out the branded St. Francis of Assisi merchandise produced as a part of our parish’s 50th anniversary celebration. The Parish Office is selling adult and youth-sized T-shirts, polo shirts, beanie hats, ball caps, and even a Sherpa throw blanket. We also have face masks in youth and adult sizes. Please download the order form at <https://www.sfadw.org/50th-anniversary-merchandise>, print and fill it out, and bring either cash or check as payment to the Parish Office during business hours. For more information, contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY/
PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH**

THANK YOU for your generous response to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith last weekend on World Mission Sunday. You may stay connected year-round to the Pope's missions, continuing the commitment of World Mission Sunday by visiting MISSIO.org.

PRAYING WITH THE HEART OF A MAN

NOVEMBER 3RD: LIVING THE SABBATH WELL

Join us on Nov. 3 for this month's Reflection for Men, highlighting everyday tips for transforming your relationship with God and your Family. The evening includes: Mass, dinner, directed meditation, a practical talk, and time for personal reflection, plus the opportunity for Confession. Cost is \$20 per person. Advance Registration is required. \$20 per person Visit our website to register www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Hosted by the Men of Regnum Christi. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

THE LORD'S TABLE SOUP KITCHEN

Operating as "The Lord's Table" Soup Kitchen, this charitable organization prepares and serves free meals at 3:30 p.m. daily, Monday thru Friday, at Epworth United Methodist Church, 9008 Rosemont Drive in Gaithersburg, MD. St. Francis is scheduled to volunteer on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 3:30-5:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering at the Soup Kitchen, please contact Tony Bosnick, abosnick@sfadw.org or 301-840-1407, Ext. 11.

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY HELP IS NEEDED

Young adults and teens are needed to help out at the Food Pantry on Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Chores include sorting and lifting. Teens under 18 should be accompanied by an adult. For additional information or to volunteer please contact Sylvia Jones, 240-755-5547.

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.

MISSION COOPERATIVE APPEAL

On Saturday and Sunday, November 6 & 7, 2021, the second collection will be for the Mission Cooperative Appeal. The missionaries supported by this appeal rely on financial support and prayers to share their witness of Christ's love to those in need. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this year's appeal and remember all missionaries in your prayers.

WALK WITH MARY

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

The Archdiocese of Washington's annual *Walk with Mary* procession and Mass to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, will take place on Saturday, December 11, 2021. The gathering for the procession will start at 11:30am at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart (16th St. & Park Rd., NW), and the procession will conclude at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (4th St. & Michigan Ave., NE). Following the praying of the Rosary at 1:30 pm, Mass at the Basilica will begin at 2:30pm, with Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory as the main celebrant and Bishop Mario Dorsonville as the homilist. For more information, visit adw.org/walkwithmary or search on social media using #WalkwithMary

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Last Sunday Parishioner Maria Shumar was available after the Masses to talk to people about issues focusing on domestic abuse. Several people approached Maria about volunteer opportunities with families and also working with children. They provided their contact information and we are very grateful that they came forward and for their offer to help. If you would like to get involved with working with those who are dealing with domestic abuse, please call the Parish Office, 301-840-1407 and we will put you in touch with Maria.

NIGHTLY ROSARY

The Council of Catholic Women for the Archdiocese of Washington (CCW-ADW) invites all, who would like to unite in prayer at this time of uncertainty, to join in our nightly Rosary at 8 p.m., 7 days a week. We offer this prayer for the healing of the Church and for our currently health - challenged world. To join us, call 605-468-8016, ID 357090# at 8 p.m. seven days a week. If you have any questions, please email us at archdiocesecw@gmail.com. For other prayer resources please see our website <https://www.councilofcatholicwomen-adw.com/> See the tab: Coronavirus Prayer Resources, which lists many opportunities for daily Mass and meditations.

**MASS & ROSARY IN HONOR OF
OUR LADY OF FATIMA**

Please join the World Apostolate of Fatima Archdiocese of Washington Division as we resume monthly Mass and Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception-400 Michigan Ave, NE at 1:00 pm in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel every 13th of the month (except when the 13th falls on a Sunday.) For more information call Mary Ann at 301-595-1770.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.