

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

November 22 - November 28

Monday, 11/22	9:00 a.m.	Mary Lott (L)
Tuesday, 11/23	9:00 a.m.	Corazon & Felix Magno
Wednesday, 11/24	9:00 a.m.	Rod & Gaby O'Connor
	7:30 p.m.	Msgr. John Brady, Jr.
Thursday, 11/25	10:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
Friday, 11/26	9:00 a.m.	Reverend G. Paul Herbert
Saturday, 11/27	5:00 p.m.	Jacqueline Gordon
Sunday, 11/28	8:00 a.m.	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	9:30 a.m.	Ransom Carter II
	11:15 a.m.	Eleanor Sabalbaro
	5:00 p.m.	Joe Walzer

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

Please pray for the sick... Baby Nathan, Fr. Francis Russo, 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 November 21, 2021

Sunday:	Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/ Jn 18:33b-37
Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/ Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/ Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/ Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/ Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

**PARISH OFFICES WILL CLOSE AT
12:00 PM ON WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 24 AND WILL BE CLOSED
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 &
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26.**

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

November is National Black Catholic History Month. As part of our observance of this important annual event I want to continue our survey of American Leaders of African Descent on the road to sainthood. This week we will look at three saintly individuals: Venerable Augustus Tolton, Servant of God Julia Greeley, and Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA.

Venerable Augustus Tolton (1854-1897)

Venerable Augustus Tolton was the first U.S. Roman Catholic priest publicly known to be black when he was ordained in 1886. A former slave who was baptized and reared Catholic, Tolton formally studied in Rome. He was ordained in Rome on Easter Sunday at the Archbasilica of St. John Lateran. Fr. Tolton led the development and construction of St. Monica's Catholic Church as a black "National Parish Church", which was completed in 1893. Tolton's success at ministering to black Catholics quickly earned him national attention within the Catholic hierarchy. "Good Father Gus," as many called him, was known for his eloquent sermons, his beautiful singing voice, and his talent for playing the accordion. He is the subject of the 1973 biography from Slave to Priest by Sister Caroline Hemesath.

Servant of God Julia Greeley (Sometime between 1833 and 1848-1918)

Servant of God Julia Greeley was born into slavery in Hannibal, Missouri sometime between 1833 and 1848. Freed by Missouri's Emancipation Act in 1865, Julia subsequently earned her keep by serving white families in Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico—though mostly in the Denver area. Julia entered the Catholic Church at Sacred Heart Parish in Denver in 1880 and was an outstanding supporter of all the parish. The Jesuits who ran the parish considered her the most enthusiastic promoter of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus they had ever seen. Every month she visited on foot every fire station in Denver and delivered literature of the Sacred Heart League to the firemen, Catholics and non-Catholics alike. A daily communicant, Julia had a rich devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin and continued her prayers while working. She joined the Secular Franciscan Order in 1901 and was active in it till her death in 1918. As part of the Cause for Canonization, Julia's mortal remains were transferred to Denver's Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception on June 7, 2017.

Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA

Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA was a self-proclaimed, "old folks' child." Bowman was the only child born to middle-aged parents, Dr. Theon Bowman, a physician, and Mary Esther Bowman, a teacher. At birth, she was given the name Bertha Elizabeth Bowman. She was born in 1937 and reared in Canton, Mississippi. As a child, she converted to Catholicism through the inspiration of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity who were her teachers and pastors at Holy Child Jesus Church and School in Canton.

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

November 21, 2021

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Can I live according to the truth, the truth to which Jesus has testified?

SPIRIT TREE

Please take a tag from the Spirit Tree to help a family with a gift card. There are envelopes next to the tree for you to use to return your gift. Although we all like buying gifts, the families at Assumption Parish really welcomed the food gift cards last year. They have asked for food gift cards from Giant, Safeway, Aldi, Lidl in card amounts of \$25 and \$10. You can donate as many cards as you want for each family. Cards should be returned on or before December 12th.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR *continued*

Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, FSPA (continued)

During her short lifetime, many people considered her a religious sister undeniably close to God and who lovingly invited others to encounter the presence of God in their lives. She is acclaimed as a "holy woman" in the hearts of those who knew and loved her and continue to seek her intercession for guidance and healing. Information on these three saintly individuals is based on the following article available on the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: **On the Road to Sainthood: Leaders of African Descent/USCCB.**

As we remember these saintly individuals during National Black Catholic History Month, we would do well to join with the Bishops of the United States in striving for the end of racism in all its forms that we might walk humbly with our God and with all our brothers and sisters in a renewed unity. At the end of their pastoral letter *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love-A Pastoral Letter Against Racism* (2018), the Catholic Bishops asked Mary to intercede on our behalf. Let us follow their lead and do the same:

Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other.

We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another.

We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society.

We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person.

Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us. Amen.

Until next week,

Fr. John

Thanksgiving



**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS
WILL BE AT 10:00 A.M.**

There will be no 9:00 a.m. Daily Mass on Thanksgiving Day.

***Happy Thanksgiving
from Fr. John, Fr. William, Fr. Ted
and the Parish Staff!***

WOMEN ARE INVITED TO START READING A NEW BOOK WITH THE MARY/MARTHA GROUP

The Mary/Martha Group is inviting all women of our parish to join them, as they begin reading a new book, "Boundless Compassion," by Joyce Rupp. This book is one that opens a door to spiritual transformation and how to live a compassionate life, just as Jesus Christ did. The Mary/Martha group meets from 7:30-9 pm every other Wednesday on Zoom. Participants should plan to buy the book at Ave Maria Press at <https://www.avemariapress.com/products/boundless-compassion> or on Amazon. The start date to begin discussing the book has yet to be determined, but the ministry coordinator is considering December 1 or earlier. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Carolyn Brauer at Carolyn_Brauer@yahoo.com.

HYMNAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

It is indeed wonderful that we, as a parish community, may lift our voices in song at Mass once again! Fr. John and Janet Pate, our Director of Music are also happy to announce that new Ritual Song-Second Edition hymnals will be in the pews soon. The decision to acquire new hymnals was made for two important reasons. Our current hymnals do not include the language of the revised translation of the Roman Missal, and some of our current hymnals are in rather poor condition. We would greatly appreciate any financial contributions towards the new hymnals. You can help defray the cost by sponsoring the purchase of one or more hymnals with a small donation. Take this opportunity to celebrate the memory of a loved one, commemorate an important event, or simply honor your family name. A memorial label will be placed on the inside front cover of the hymnal. We ask a donation of \$20 per hymnal. For more information or to get a donation form, call the Parish Office at 301-840-1407.



**GROUP A ELEMENTARY CLASSES
MEET NOVEMBER 21**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES
MEET NOVEMBER 29 & 30**

**RE CLASS SCHEDULE AND
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

There are no Religious Education classes on Monday, November 22; Tuesday, November 23; and Sunday, November 28. (Please note that classes will meet today, Sunday, November 21, and Monday and Tuesday, November 29 and 30.)

PARENT MEETING FOR HOMESCHOOL OPTION RE

Our Online Parent Meeting: Advent/Unit 2 Overview for families sharing in this year's homeschool religious education program will be from 1-2 pm today, Sunday, November 21. Families registered for the Homeschool option will receive an email with link to join.

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE SESSION: MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 22**

Confirmation candidates will meet on Monday, November 22, for Confirmation class from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

CHRISTMAS STOCKING HELP LINE

Religious Education families are invited to support families served by Catholic Charities here in Montgomery County by donating \$25-\$50 gift cards for local department stores (e.g., Target) through our "RE Christmas Stocking Help Line." Families may choose to take one (or more) stockings, purchase a gift card, and return these to RE classes by December 14. Look for a letter with more information about this project given to students in RE classes.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR RE STUDENTS

The students in grades 3 - 8 will have the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of their Religious Education classes in Advent. Catechists will review the Sacrament of Penance in advance, and we encourage parents to talk with their children about the Sacrament as well. Please note the date for your child's session and grade as shown below:

Please see the schedule to the right for dates & times.....

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)

**St. Jude Regional Catholic School
IS PROUD TO BE PARTNERING WITH
#GIVECATHOLIC.**

**Help us raise
\$10,000**

by November 22ND

Monies will go towards student scholarships, teacher supplies, books, technology resources, religion retreats for teachers, and improvements to our campus. **You can donate at**

<https://washington.igivecatholic.org/organizations/st-jude-regional-catholic-school>

ADW Tuition Assistance Program – Deadline for Application is December 3rd Apply for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington for the 2022 – 2023 school year, follow the links from www.stjduerockville.org - **Admissions tab- Archdiocese Tuition Assistance** or <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-program/>. **The deadline for returning families is December 3rd.** The deadline for new families is February 18th. 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. Don't forget to apply for the St. Jude Tuition Assistance Program too.

Save the Dates:

Breakfast with Santa – December 4
SJRCs Christmas Program, *The Animal Alleluia*
December 6th at 10:30 a.m.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE FOR RE STUDENTS
Dates & Times**

Sunday 9:20 Session:

Grades 3-5 (Gr. A) – Sun., Nov. 21
Grades 3-5 (Gr. B) – Sun., Dec. 5
Grades 3-5 (Gr. A) – Sun., Dec. 12
Grades 3-5 (Gr. B) – Sun., Dec. 19

Monday 4:45 Session:

Grades 3, 4 and 5 – Mon., Dec. 13

Monday 6:45 Session:

Grades 6, 7 & 8 – Mon. Dec. 13
Participating in the Parish Penance Service starting
At 7:00 pm)

Tuesday 6:45 Session:

Grades 6, 7 & 8 – Tues. Dec. 14

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).

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

SEE OUR UPCOMING ADVENT ACTIVITIES & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

In one more week, our holy season of Advent begins. We have many opportunities for service at our parish to prepare the way for our newborn King this Christmas. Please take part in the following events:

- **Saturday, November 20: Spirit Tree gift card project.** Choose an envelope off the Spirit Tree in the Gathering Space to help a family with a gift card with which they can buy food for the holidays. For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.
- **Friday, November 26: Christmas wreath decoration,** 6:30-9 pm in the Parish Center. Artistic adults and older teens are invited to decorate 72 wreaths to be sold at the parish Christmas Tree Sale. Contact Sylvia Jones at decaffqueen@gmail.com for more information.
- **Saturday, November 27: Opening day of the parish Christmas Tree Sale,** 9 am-closing on the church grounds. Sign up to volunteer at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/71961>.
- **Saturday, November 27: Lighting the Advent wreath in church.** Individuals, couples, and families are sought to light the Advent wreath in the church at all weekend Masses during Advent. Sign up at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/73235>.
- **December 4/5: Olivewood sales.** Come browse handmade religious items made by families in the Holy Land in the Gathering Space this weekend. For more information, contact Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.
- **December 4/5 and 11/12: Sales of Alternative gift cards.** Take the commercial emphasis off Christmas by purchasing services at local nonprofit organizations that benefit people in need. Contact Pat O'Connor at leafs20879@aol.com or Doris Chung at di-chung14@gmail.com for more information.
- **December 11/12 and 18/19: Sale of right-to-life Christmas cards.** Come buy Christmas cards that respect life and benefit right-to-life organizations. For more information, contact Marianne Bullen at mariannebu@comcast.net

CRAFTERS NEEDED TO DECORATE CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON NOVEMBER 26



Parishioners are invited to come to the Parish Center from 6:30-9 pm Friday, November 26, to help decorate more than 70 wreaths. The parish will supply all the decorations and floral wire, but participants should bring their own wire cutters and glue guns if you have them. Volunteers will be socially distanced, working safely in the Parish Center. All volunteers are strongly encouraged to wear face masks or facial coverings. Any children over 12 who attend must be accompanied by an adult. Christmas music will be played and the wonderful smell of fresh wreaths are sure to stir up the spirit of the season. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com or call Sylvia Jones at 240-755-2247.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED TO HELP AT THE CHRISTMAS TREE SALE STARTING NOVEMBER 27

With less than a week before our parish Christmas Tree Sale opens, we still need volunteers to help offload and stake trees on Friday, November 26, and sell trees from November 27-December 5. The sales shifts are weekends from 9 am-12 pm; 12-3 pm; 3-6 pm; and 6 pm to close. Weekday sales shifts are from 3-6 pm and 6 pm to close. Come join us for this annual fundraiser, which raises money for our parish community and brings together our parishioners as we celebrate the beginning of the Advent season.

Sign up to volunteer at the Christmas Tree Sale at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/71961>. For more information about the Christmas Tree Sale, please contact Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brianpettit@pettitcompanies.com or call or text him at (240) 372-1662.

Parishioners do not forget to buy your trees early! The parish will only receive 60 percent of the inventory it has received in past years, so trees are expected to sell out quickly. Please remember that trees will be priced higher than they have in the past, due to forest fires, supply chain challenges, and issues related to COVID-19. Thank you for understanding and for supporting our parish.

INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES & FAMILIES INVITED TO LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH IN CHURCH

Would you like to help light the Advent wreath in church this Advent season? Individuals, couples, and families are invited to sign up to light the Advent wreath at Mass this Advent season, which begins Saturday, November 27. Please sign up on Flocknote at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/73235>. For more information, contact Ministry Coordinator Sue Madison at musikal76@msn.com or call her at (301) 977-6854.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AT THE LORD'S TABLE SOUP KITCHEN

The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen at Epworth United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg is seeking teams of five to six people to cook and serve meals for those who visit the soup kitchen for a hot meal. St. Francis parishioners are especially sought to serve from 1-5 pm on the third Thursday of every month, or any portion of the afternoon. People serve in cooking and serving roles. Both adults and older teens are invited to engage in this service work, but all participants must be vaccinated. Those best suited for this volunteer work have energy, are friendly, are willing to engage with people from all walks of life, and can lift trays and some cookware. It is a great service opportunity for teams of families or a ministry looking for service work. For more information, contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

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.

Catholics believe that God loves and cares for everyone, and that God knows their pain and concerns. Catholics for Family Peace invites you to join us in a moment of prayer at 3 pm every day, wherever you are, for those suffering from violence and abuse and those who use violence to control others. We pray for them and for all who work to end domestic violence. Would you set an alarm to join us each day to pray at 3 pm? To learn more, please visit www.catholicsforfamilypeace.org

HEAR DR. JOHN GRABOWSKI ADDRESS PARISHIONERS IN NEXT INSTALLMENT OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER SERIES

Save the date to hear Dr. John Grabowski speak to our parishioners on Thursday, December 16, as part of the 50th Anniversary speaker series. The Wisconsin native and professor at The Catholic University of the America will address parishioners on a topic of high interest, as we begin celebrating our parish's Golden Anniversary next year. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org. See other 50th Anniversary talks at <https://www.sfadw.org/50th-anniversary-talks>.

AMAZONSMILE ENABLES ST. FRANCIS TO INCREASE FUNDRAISING THROUGH ONLINE SHOPPING

St. Francis parishioners can support our church whenever they're shopping online at Amazon.com. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church recently became a recipient of AmazonSmile, which enables the church to receive 0.5 percent of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases you make. Go to our Home Page, Give, Give Now and start shopping!

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

Are you in the throes of Christmas shopping 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, keychains, 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. To receive promotional items for Christmas, please submit your order forms by November 30. For more information, contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

NIGHTLY ROSARY

If you would welcome a time-out from your busy schedule, come join us in prayer. Since September 2018, the Council of Catholic Women (CCW) has been hosting a nightly Rosary call for the healing of the Church. We also pray for healing from the COVID pandemic and for callers' personal intentions. All (men, women, children, non-CCW members) are welcome to join us any night of the week or every night of the week. How often is up to you. How about once a month on your birthdate? Please join us at 8:00 p.m. as we read meditations on the Rosary's mysteries and pray together. Remember, in prayer we are never alone. Call 605-468-8016, code 357090# 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week

AFTERNOON TEA

You are invited to join the Council of Catholic Women- Archdiocese of Washington for our November 2021 Black Catholic History Month Afternoon Tea. Mr. Rawn Harbor, liturgist and Minister of Music for Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, will guide us through an exciting journey of authentic Catholic music. Date: Sunday, November 21, 2021, Time: 3:30pm. For more information, email ArchdioceseCCW@gmail.com.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE MEN/WOMEN

Please continue to pray for all those parishioners, family members and friends who are serving in the military services. We have a prayer list posted in the Gathering Space for those who are serving in these areas. Please help us to keep it current by letting us know of any parishioner who is currently deployed so we can add them, and also those who have returned so that we can remove their names. Please continue to keep all of our military personnel in your prayers.

MOVING/CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR EMAIL

Please notify the parish office, 301-840-1407, of any changes in your address, phone number or email. Thank you!