

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

February 7 - February 13, 2022

Monday, 2/7	9:00 a.m.	Roderic O'Connor
Tuesday, 2/8	9:00 a.m.	James Galvin
Wednesday, 2/9	9:00 a.m.	Teresita Marchany Vda. De Almodovar
	7:30 p.m.	Ranjith Leitan
Thursday, 2/10	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
Friday, 2/11	9:00 a.m.	Gemma Palini
Saturday, 2/12	5:00 p.m.	Laurie Aromin Occenio
Sunday, 2/13	8:00 a.m.	Sam Bergbigler
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	11:15 a.m.	Richard De Zao
	5:00 p.m.	Mary Elizabeth Anderson

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Deacon Andy Espinosa, Archdiocese of Washington, Cam McCarthy, sister-in-law of Mike Thomas, Robert Finzel, brother of Betsy Nicholson, Emma Striley, mother of Flor Thomas, Joseph Cammarata, brother of Monsignor Michael Mellone, Mary Tallman Scott, mother of Reverend Alec Scott, Active Duty Chaplain, U.S. Army.

Please pray for the sick... David Burnett, Lauri Frashure, Fred Kolberg, Jeanette Price, James McGuire, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, 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 February 6, 2022

Sunday:	Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30
Monday:	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Thursday:	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday:	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Recently I have received a number of questions about our parish pastoral council. Let me pose some of those questions now and supply some answers based on the *Archdiocese of Washington Parish Pastoral Council Policy and Implementation Guide* issued in 2013.

What are the Responsibilities of Parish Pastoral Councils?

The parish pastoral council is a consultative body for the pastor. Through reflection, prayer, planning, motivation, and support, the parish pastoral council serves the pastor by helping identify and encourage those ministries or services that are needed for the growth of a living parish community, evaluated and implemented on a regular basis. The pastoral council must carefully consider the needs of the faithful and search within the community to recommend to the pastor ideas and means that will adequately respond to those needs. This responsibility of the pastoral council does not diminish the continued mission and responsibility of the parish as a whole. Each baptized parish member remains responsible in his or her own way for the mission of the parish. In this way, the parish pastoral council is an instrument to help the pastor and the parish better discern, clarify, and communicate the responsibilities for proclaiming the Good News.

What is the Main Objective of the Parish Pastoral Council?

The main objective of the parish pastoral council is “to promote pastoral activity that will help the parish achieve its supreme purpose, the salvation of souls.” The parish council assists the pastor with discerning and achieving the overall good of the parish and its mission. The work is both contemplative and active. With the pastor, the council practices discernment. Through reflection, prayer, planning, setting goals and priorities it responds to the movement of the Holy Spirit in the life of the parish and to the Bishop’s pastoral vision for the archdiocese. In action, council members take the leadership in the coordination, motivation, support, and evaluation of pastoral activities in the parish. Concerned with overall pastoral development of the parish, the pastoral council will often serve as liaisons to the various parish groups or coordinate the implementation of specific initiatives of the pastor.

What about Accountability and Transparency?

The *Archdiocese of Washington Parish Pastoral Council Policy and Implementation Guide* recommends that a synopsis of the [parish pastoral council] meeting should be made available to the parish either in the bulletin or on the parish website. Discretion is important and the synopsis need not be overly detailed.

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

February 6, 2022

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When have I felt frightened or foolish by doing something I felt called to do? How has God reassured me and given me confidence?

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Robert Galecki
Alanvin & Celerina Orpia

The following child was baptized during the month of January:

Robert Piotr Galecki, Jr.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Jeanette Price would like to thank everyone who has been praying for her. Jeanette was the recipient of a kidney transplant last week and asks that you continue to pray for her in the days ahead as the next few weeks are very critical to transplant recipients. *Thank you St. Francis - Jeanette & Vince*

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Does St. Francis of Assisi Parish Publish a Synopsis of Council meetings? If so, Where?

St. Francis of Assisi Parish does publish a synopsis of a council meeting in the bulletin soon after the meeting occurs. Parishioners are also able to access past minutes of parish pastoral council meetings at <https://www.sfadw.org/pastoral-council-meeting-minutes>.

Does the Parish Pastoral Council needs any new members?

As a matter of fact, there are several vacancies on the council at the present time. Parishioners interested in serving on the parish pastoral council should contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407 for more information.

Until next week,
Fr. John

2022 PARISH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We will be compiling a parish directory of our families and parish events. Picture taking will take place in March/April. There will be opportunities for families to purchase their family photos. Please watch the bulletin for additional details and important dates.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PARISH LISTENING SESSIONS WAS APPRECIATED

Thank you to all the parishioners who participated in the three virtual Parish Listening Sessions for the archdiocesan synod on January 15 and 29 and February 5 on Zoom. In small groups, participants reflected on questions on Listening, Speaking Out, Sharing Authority, Discerning and Deciding, Celebration and the Holy Spirit, sharing authentic and heartfelt witness on how they view our local church, the global institution, and their place in it.

The parishioner sharings will now be compiled and submitted anonymously to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington for the parish report. Our parish will also report on themes that emerged from the parish listening sessions on our communications platforms, as well as for an upcoming issue of *Our Parish Times*. If you would still like an opportunity to respond to the questions reflected on during the parish listening sessions, then please fill out a survey at <https://adw.org/2021-2023-synod-survey-for-individuals/>.

VIRTUAL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP ON IGNATIAN MEDITATIONS STARTS FEBRUARY 9

Are you interested in reflecting on the sin of racism through a virtual book discussion group? Join parishioner Mary Jordan, a member of the Parish Pastoral Council's Ad-hoc Committee on Racism, as she leads an online discussion on "The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola" by Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J. beginning at 7 pm Wednesday, February 9, on Zoom. The book is one on a recommended reading list of religious and secular books on racism that the committee recently shared with the parish. To register for the virtual book discussion, e-mail Mary at marywjordan17@gmail.com.

CONSIDER HOSTING, LEADING OR PARTICIPATING IN A LENTEN SMALL GROUP

The parish's Adult Faith Formation Ministry is beginning to compile opportunities for Lenten Small Groups. Small groups would have the opportunity to read the following texts:

- Dante's "The Divine Comedy" (at the recommendation of Pope Francis)
- "Living as Missionary Disciples" (reflecting our parish 50th anniversary focus)
- A small group booklet from either RENEW, International or Little Rock.

In order to offer several choices, we invite people who would be interested in leading, hosting and participating in a Lenten Small Group to contact Tony Bosnick, director of Adult Faith Formation and Social Concerns, at abosnick@sfadw.org. The discussion groups would likely meet over Zoom and could use one of the parish's Zoom accounts to convene their small group.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS

**SUNDAY GROUP B ELEMENTARY CLASSES
MEET NEXT ON FEBRUARY 6**

**MONDAY & TUESDAY MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLASSES MEET FEBRUARY 7 & 8**

**FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: there will be a First Eucharist Parent Meeting on Wednesday, February 9 meeting online at 7:30 pm. The link to join this meeting will be sent to all families registered for First Eucharist preparation. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

PARENT MEETING FOR HOMESCHOOL OPTION RE

Our Online Parent Meeting: Lent & Unit 4 Overview for families sharing in this year's home school religious education program will be from 1-2 pm next, Sunday, February 13. Families registered for the Home school option will receive an email with link to join.

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, February 13 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.

SNOW/EMERGENCY CANCELLATION POLICY

If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed, and if schools are dismissed early, Religious Education classes are also cancelled. This applies to Sunday classes as well if Montgomery County Public Schools announces cancellation of weekend school activities. Cancellation announcements will be posted:

- On the parish website: www.sfadw.org
- On the St. Francis Parish Facebook page: "St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church"
- On the Religious Education Office phone voicemail: 301-258-9193.

Whenever in doubt, please use your own judgment about local weather and driving conditions, and err on the side of safety when making decisions about bringing your child to class

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

ENROLL NOW FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Catch Our Spirit!

Applications for fall enrollment are now being accepted on a first come basis for our Pre-k to 7th grades.

St. Jude Regional Catholic School has it all!

A Building that:

- has classrooms full of happy, involved students
- has interesting and developmentally appropriate materials
- reflects our Catholic faith and our diverse community

A Curriculum that:

- challenges and integrates real-world examples
- meets the needs of the individual students
- provides a strong middle school foundation in preparation for high school

Teachers who:

- are good role models in life
- successfully connect with and engage each student
- are certified, experienced and enthusiastic

Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis. Please register by following the links on our school website at www.stjuderockville.org. Go to Admission, Apply Now, Enrollment: [TADS: Online Registration and Enrollment](#).

THE GALA DATE IS MAY 7TH! It will be a fun evening of music, food, and friends! We will have a live band, and two huge tents outside the Thaddeus room doors with sides, floor, lights, and heat. Monies raised will build storage cabinets for PreK-4th grades!

International Day at St. Jude Regional Catholic School!

We need your help!

International Day is on: **Thursday, April 7, 2022**, and we want YOU to help by representing your country! This year- we are hosting International Day outside in the parking lot.

We are asking volunteers to set up booths that represent the country you come from. The booth will contain different items from your country (flags, posters, photographs, art, etc.) Each booth will need a small canopy tent as we will be outside.

We are also asking that you bring samples of food from your country for the students to try at International Day (small appetizers, small desserts). The food must be individually packaged or served in small cups/ plates. The food cannot contain nuts. Students will learn about your culture and sample the different foods from all over the world!

Please email Mrs. Balog at: Katharine.Balog@stjuderockville.org if you can volunteer to run a booth to represent your country. This will be a fun community event! Thank you!

**KOC 2323 PRESENTS
SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER NIGHT
FEBRUARY 15 - 8:00 PM**

Meet the Ladies who save lives and help women in a time of need. Ms. Maggie Downing will present an informative program about the work and care they provide for Women. She will speak about the good works and day to day operation of this wonderful organization. Everyone is invited to attend this program. There will be volunteer opportunities available. Refreshment provided. Knights of Columbus Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road, Derwood. Families and Friends are all welcome!

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).

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.

**ARCHDIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT
FOR SURVIVORS**

As the Church continues to minister to all survivors of abuse, the Archdiocese of Washington is sponsored a retreat for survivors. The Archdiocese will offer a women's retreat on February 18-20, 2022. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information go to <https://adw.org/the-way-retreat/>. To register email mcdonald@adw.org or call Deborah McDonald at 301-853-4466.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES WINTER COAT DRIVE

Thank you St. Francis parishioners! Over 300 coats were collected. The coats were distributed at the Family Center in Wheaton. Remaining coats were taken to the Catholic Charities Center in DC for distribution.

**TAKE PART IN THE MARYLAND CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE'S VIRTUAL ADVOCACY DAY
ON FEBRUARY 16**

With several critical pieces of legislation before the Maryland General Assembly, Catholics throughout the state are called to participate in this year's Virtual Catholic Advocacy Day on February 16.

The Maryland Catholic Conference will provide action alerts on three issues – on respect for life, education and youth justice, and social and economic justice – all you must do is click, sign, and send.

Visit the Maryland Catholic Conference's Catholic Advocacy Day page at <https://www.mdccatholic.org/advocacyday> to sign up and learn more. Please invite your friends and parishioners to be part of Catholic Advocacy Day in Maryland! For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

VIRTUAL PRAYER SERVICES AT ST. FRANCIS

We invite you to join us for virtual prayer services during this Season of Ordinary Time.

- Morning Prayer at 7:30 am every day. Hosted by a member of the Liturgy of the Hours Ministry.
- Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm every day. Hosted by a member of the Liturgy of the Hours Ministry.
- Parish Rosary at 4:00 pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Led by Fr. John Dillon.
- Rosary In Spanish at 6:30 pm every Wednesday. Led by Deacon Will Garcia.

Please visit our website www.sfadw.org "Worship" for links to these different prayer services.



TAKE THE NEXT STEP

It's not too late to send in your Take the Next Step response envelope. To date we have received 60 responses. Some of the responses asked for prayers for family and friends. Please know that all of the prayer requests will be included in Fr. John's daily prayer time. Thank you again to everyone who responded.

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.

DONATE YOUR USED CLOTHING

If you are sorting through gently used clothing to give away, remember that there is a St. Vincent de Paul clothing collection bin in the lower parking lot. Donations of clean clothing in good repair is greatly appreciated. Please put clothing in a plastic bag and deposit in the slot at the top of the bin. Collections are made weekly and will be a great blessing to those in need in the region.

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!

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.

GABRIEL PROJECT

The Gabriel Project Cluster of Montgomery County serves mothers and their families in crisis pregnancies. We are so thankful for the support we received during our recent Christmas Appeal. January is March for Life month. Please help us support our client families. **Our client moms have said yes to life.** With 79 new client mothers added within the past 12 weeks, your continued support is appreciated. Please visit our website, www.gpmoco.org, click on our Amazon wish list, and choose from any number of items. Also, we are in need of volunteers, especially bi-lingual ones. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Ray at natalieanneray@gmail.com.

UPCOMING RETREATS

OUR LADY OF BETHESDA RETREAT CENTER 7007 BRADLEY

Take a Personal "Retreat" Day: Feb 18 / Mar 11/Mar 18

Are your days overcrowded, jam-packed, and busy, busy, busy? Jesus tells you to "Come away with me..." to Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center where your very own personal retreat awaits. During your personal retreat, from 8:30am-4pm, an experienced retreat director will guide you to a place of rest with Christ. The retreat schedule allows for one-on-one spiritual direction (optional), quiet reflection, Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, plus continental breakfast and lunch, so you will be nourished and cared for while Our Lord speaks to your soul about the depths of His love for you. Cost is \$120 per person. Advance Registration is required, and registrations will be limited to facilitate appropriate social distancing. Visit our website to register and to find more dates ourladyofbethesda.org. Or call 301-365-0612.

Marriage Workshop: Strengthening Your Love Marriage Renewal Workshop: Feb 26-27

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. See our website for more details about measures to limit exposure to illness, details about the program and links to register: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

Teach Me Your Ways, O Lord Lenten Retreat Weekend For Women Mar 5-6, 2021

New COMMUTER Option for weekend retreats! Grow in your faith and become spiritually stronger this Lent. Explore your mission in life and experience His Presence in the silence! Silent retreat weekend with overnight and commuter options to attend. Registration is required. Cost w/ overnight: \$250 per person; Commuter cost: \$210 per person. Find more retreats and links to register on the website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. Plan your next retreat today!

Holy Land Pilgrimage this Summer June 20-July 1

Explore the Holy Land and experience the places where Christ lived! Our Lady of Bethesda will host a pilgrimage to the Holy Land this June. "A Destination Retreat" this trip will incorporate each holy site with the dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Travel Dates: June 20-July 1. Cost: All-inclusive LAND price \$3,500 per person on double occupancy basis. Find more details on our website: www.ourladyofbethesda.org, or contact Pilgrimage Coordinator: Cristina Tallent at ctallent@ourladyofbethesda.org or 301-365-0612