# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD



#### March 7 - March 13, 2022

Monday, 3/7	9:00 a.m.	Teresita Marchany Vda. de Almodovar
Tuesday, 3/8	9:00 a.m.	Anne Stehle Hope
Wednesday, 3/9	9:00 a.m.	Jane Lakebrink
	7:30 p.m.	Msgr. John Brady, Jr.
Thursday, 3/10	9:00 a.m.	Kay Chin
Friday, 3/11	9:00 a.m.	Sue Yesko
Saturday, 3/12	5:00 p.m.	Flavia De Souza
Sunday, 3/13	8:00 a.m.	Joyce Hayes Courtner
-	9:30 a.m.	Pro populo
	11:15 a.m.	Angelyn Marzan
	5:00 p.m.	Marcial Mora Wackenhut

#### + In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Myra Breyes, Maria Rahmoeller, wife of Glenn Rahmoeller.

Please pray for the sick...Darla Canon, James Maguire, Jeanne Kavinski, Myrna Batay, Maria Joseph, Maria Espinosa, David Burnett, Lauri Frashure, 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 March 7, 2022

**Sunday:** Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf.

15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

**Monday:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-

46

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-

32

*Thursday:* Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3,

7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

*Friday:* Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/

Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48 **Next Sunday:** Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil

3::17—4:1 or 3: :20—4:1/ Lk 9:28b-36

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

After the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, February 27, 2022, a woman originally from the Ukraine stopped me to ask that we pray for the people of the Ukraine. This individual still has family members living there and implored with me to pray and get other people to pray for this intention as well. This was a most timely request. Both Pope Francis and Cardinal Gregory have urged us to pray for peace in the Ukraine and other hot spots in the world in recent statements.

Here is an excerpt from remarks that Pope Francis made on February 23, 2022:

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few months, increasingly alarming situations are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilizing coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

And here are remarks that Pope Francis made after reciting the Angelus with those assembled in Saint Peter's Square on February 27, 2022:

In recent days we have been shaken by something tragic: war. Time and again we have prayed that this road would not be taken. And let us not stop talking; indeed, let us pray to God more intensely. For this reason I renew to all the invitation to make 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a day of prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine. A day to be close to the sufferings of the Ukrainian people, to feel that we are brothers and sisters, and to implore of God the end of the war.

Those who wage war forget humanity. They do not start from the people; they do not look at the real life of people, but place partisan interests and power before all else. They trust in the diabolical and perverse logic of weapons, which is the furthest from the logic of God. And they distance themselves from ordinary people, who want peace, and who—the ordinary people—are the real victims in every conflict, who pay for the follies of war with their own skin.

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

# March 6, 2022

# **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

What specifically will I do this Lent to take the focus off myself and put it on God and on others?

# WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

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

Missy & Junior Chery Charmaine Islip Shiran & Nilakshini Mack

The following child was baptized during the month of February:

Archie James Ross Woodard

# MAKE AN APPOINTMENT NOW TO HAVE YOUR PICTURE FOR OUR PARISH DIRECTORY

During our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, our parish is updating its pictorial directory to help parishioners better recognize each other at church and in the community. Please make an appointment to have a professional photographer take a picture of you or your family for the directory on either March 22 or 23 in the Rectory or on April 27 or 28 in the Parish Center by signing up at the parish website. Each household that is photographed will receive one copy of the directory and a free 8" x 11" photo of their household. The photos can also be ordered for personal use right after your photo is taken. Learn more information about having your photo taken at <a href="https://www.sfadw.org/50th-anniversary-picture-directory">https://www.sfadw.org/50th-anniversary-picture-directory</a>. For more information or if you need help signing up for your appointment, contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

### THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

I think of the elderly, of those who seek refuge in these times, of mothers fleeing with their children. They are brothers and sisters for whom it is urgent to open humanitarian corridors, and who must be welcomed. With a heart broken by what is happening in Ukraine—and let us not forget the wars in other parts of the world, such as Yemen, Syria, Ethiopia... --I repeat: put down your weapons! God is with the peacemakers, not with those who use violence. Because those who love peace, as the Italian Constitution states, "reject war as an instrument of aggression against the freedom of other peoples and as a means for the settlement of international disputes." Let me close with this statement issued on Twitter by Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, on February 24, 2022:

We turn to the Mother of God, Our Lady Queen of Peace, and ask her to protect the people of Ukraine and strengthen people who seek and pursue a diplomatic halt to this latest tragedy of war. This Ash Wednesday's fasting and prayer is an appropriate time to beg for peace.

Until next week,

Fr. John

# LENTEN SEASON USHERS IN TIME FOR PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

This Lent, our parish offers many opportunities for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Please see these opportunities to commemorate this solemn season:

#### PRAYER:

- **Morning and Evening Prayers:** 7:30 am and 7:30 pm daily on Zoom.
- **Virtual Parish Rosary:** 4 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on Zoom.
- **Rosary in Spanish:** 6:30 pm on Wednesdays on Zoom
- Stations of the Cross: 7 pm Fridays in the church.
- Confessions: Heard by Fr. William Brailsford at 7:30 pm Thursdays from March 3-April 7 in the St. Clare Chapel of the Rectory. Confessions are also heard from 3:30-4:30 pm on Saturdays in the St. Clare Chapel.
- Daily reflection books from the Diocese of Saginaw: Pick-up a black covered book from the Gathering Space while supplies last.
- 40 Days for Life: St. Francis Day to be held Saturday, April 2, at the sidewalk in front of the Potomac Family Planning Center, Jackson Place, 932 Hungerford Drive, Rockville. Sign up www.40DaysforLife.com/Rockville

#### **FASTING & ALMSGIVING:**

- Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl: Pick up a Rice Bowl book from the table in the Gathering Space and commemorate Lent in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in foreign lands this Lent.
- Lenten Food Drive: On March 26-27, take part in this Catholic Charities-led food drive, which will benefit the St. Martin's Food Pantry. Read more at <a href="https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Lenten-Food-Drive-Flyer-2022.pdf">https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Lenten-Food-Drive-Flyer-2022.pdf</a>.

# SPECIAL EVENTS, LITURGIES & SERVICES:

- Lenten Fish Fries: Join Knights of Columbus Council 2323 during their three fish fries from 6-8 pm March 4 (fried fish, cole slaw, and macaroni and cheese) March 18 (salmon with shrimp scampi and a vegetable), and April 8 (fried fish, cole slaw, and macaroni and cheese). Meals cost \$10-12 for adults and \$5 for children six and under. All meals served at the Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road in Derwood.
- Lenten Parish Mission: 7:45 pm in the church on March 11 (speaker: Fr. Tom Weinandy, OFM, Cap.); March 18 (speaker: Anastacia Wooden); and March 25 (speaker: Fr. John Dillon). The theme of mission is "Proclaiming the Primacy of Christ in Our World Today."
- Lenten Penance Service: 7 pm March 28 in the church.

Please see our parish web site at <u>www.sfadw.org</u> for a comprehensive list of Lenten services and events.



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM NEWS

# SUNDAY GROUP B ELEMENTARY CLASSES MEET NEXT ON MARCH 6 & 7

# MONDAY & TUESDAY MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES MEET ON MARCH 7 & 8

# 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 today, Sunday, March 6, 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.

#### FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: the next First Eucharist Parent Meetings will be held by Zoom on Wednesday, March 9 or Thursday, March 10 at 7:30 pm. Parents are asked to attend one of these online Zoom meetings. The link to join will be sent directly to families. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

### **REMINDER TO GRADE 3-8 CATECHISTS**

Catechists teaching grade 3-8 Religious Education classes are asked to attend a planning meeting on Sunday, March 13, from 12:30-2 pm in the Parish Center.

#### SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in June 2022 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 27-July 1. Program details will be announced this spring! Watch our parish website for camper registration and information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens: https://sfadw.org/vbc.

# 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

Instagram: stjuderockville

St. Jude Regional Catholic School has limited openings in Pre-k, 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Register now at <a href="https://www.stjuderockville.org/admissions/apply-now">https://www.stjuderockville.org/admissions/apply-now</a> to be part of our joyful community!

# GIRLS ON THE RUN IS BACK FOR THE SPRING SESSION!

This program inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. Join the Fun! Girls in 3rd through 5th grades are invited. You don't have to love running. Learn about yourself! Explore who you are and build your confidence. Practices will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 4:45 pm beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>. The regular fee for the program is \$175, but financial scholarships are available. No student will be turned away for financial reasons. Please visit <a href="https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/Register-Now">https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/Register-Now</a> to register. Questions or additional information contact Mrs. Merideth at Victoria. Merideth@stjuderockville.org.

# Gala May 7<sup>th</sup>

Join us on May 7<sup>th</sup> for our 80's theme gala. It will be a fun evening of music, food, and friends. All money raised by this event will fund school building improvements as well as provide educational opportunities and scholarships to our families and students. We are asking you to consider participating in this event by donating an item or service that we can include in our auction. We are also seeking advertisers for the Gala website. We will be happy to display your company logo, literature, and materials at the event and on our auction website. For more information go to <a href="https://www.stjuderockville.org/giving/GALA2020">https://www.stjuderockville.org/giving/GALA2020</a>.



### THE PILLARS OF LENT

As we begin our Lenten journey, reflect on how your prayers, fasting and almsgiving can guide you. As Pope Francis explains, these are "elements which, when lived sincerely, can transform life and provide a sure foundation for dignity and fraternity." How can practicing the Lenten pillars transform your life and the lives of our sisters and brothers around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



# JOIN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTGOMERY COUNCIL, 2323 FOR THE LENTEN FISH DINNER

### March 18th

# "Irish Night" Performance from Hurley School of Dance and Irish Music by Kevin Ginley

Enjoy the Lenten season with family, friends and the community. The first fish dinner will be on Friday March 4th. Dinner will be served from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Father Cuddy Hall, located 17001 Overhill, Rd. Derwood. Tickets will be sold at the door \$10.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Children 6 and under. Dinner includes fried fish, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, and dessert. Beer, wine, soda, and coffee are included. The dinner supports various charities supported by the council. For further information contact Pete Carlson PGCARLSON@GMAIL.COM. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kofc2323 "Sit down Dinner or Carry

#### **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 <a href="www.kofc.org">www.kofc.org</a> and click on "Join Us". If you wish you can join the Council later. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301-948-6494 or email <a href="mailto:gtdbpalmer@verizon.net">gtdbpalmer@verizon.net</a>).

### 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.

# 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.

# LENTEN PARISH MISSION KICKS OFF FRIDAY WITH FR. TOM WEINANDY

Next Friday, March 11, Fr. Tom Weinandy, OFM, Cap., will kick off the Lenten Parish Mission at 7:45 pm in the Church. With a theme of "Proclaiming the Primacy of Christ in Our World Today," the Lenten Parish Mission will continue March 18 with a talk by parishioner Anastacia Wooden and a final talk March 25 by Fr. John Dillon. Please look out for additional details in the bulletin, on Flocknote, and on the parish web site. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at <a href="mailto:abosnick@sfadw.org">abosnick@sfadw.org</a>.

# JOIN US FOR THE LENTEN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE IN ROCKVILLE

Through April 10, St. Francis parishioners are invited to make a stand for life during the 40 Days for Life campaign held on the sidewalk in front of the Potomac Family Planning Center, at Jackson Place, 932 Hungerford Drive, in Rockville. Local Catholics walk along the sidewalk on Route 355 praying for the unborn and their mothers during the campaign, as an expression of their love for God. Won't you sign up to become a prayer warrior? Sign up at <a href="www.40DaysforLife.com/Rockville">www.40DaysforLife.com/Rockville</a>. Also, join us Saturday, April 2, for St. Francis Day, at which our parishioners are invited to make a special effort to take part. For more information, contact Respect Life Ministry Coordinator Lita Silva at <a href="litasilva4@gmail.com">litasilva4@gmail.com</a>.

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 2323 SPECIAL OLYMPICS POLAR PLUNGE

For over 25 years, the Annual Polar Plunge has been the kickoff for the year in helping to support our Special Olympics athletes and provide inclusive experiences. This event generally brings athletes and plungers from all over the state to participate in one of the largest fundraisers of the year. Due to the corona virus, the events have been postponed to March 25th. The Knights need your help to continue to make this event possible. We'll perform the icy plunges, but we need your assistance in donating to the cause. Our team website for donations, and where we'll post our plunges is: https:// support.somd.org/Council2323. Team Members of the plunge will also have individual sites you can view from there. Donations are being accepted through March 25th, so please help us to reach our goal and make this year's Polar Plunge a great one!! If you have any questions, please feel free to visit our council website at www.kofc2323.org where you can contact one of our Team Members.

# MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT WEEKEND March 25-27, 2022 Saint John Paul II Seminary & the Washington Retreat House

Cardinal Gregory invites men in their 20s through 40s, who are interested in learning more about seminary and the priesthood, to attend the 2022 Men's Discernment Retreat Weekend. This is an opportunity to pray and reflect on God's call, meet priests and seminarians, and hear their stories. For additional information call 202-636-9020 or email vocations@adw.org. To register please visit https://dcpriest.org/2022-mens-discernment-retreat weekend.

#### THE JUSTICE THOUGHT

# A Healing Beatitude

Blessed are you who are willing to engage in a sincere conversation about race.

Blessed are you who embrace your Black sisters and brothers in the fight for social justice.

Blessed are you who are willing to be uncomfortable for the sake of healing our society.

Blessed are you who ask your bishop about racial equity training and programming in your diocese.

Blessed are you who pray to end racism as a pro-life issue.

Amen

https://uscatholic.org/articles/202006/how-catholics-canwork-for-racial-justice/Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J., June 9, 2020

A group of us are reading Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J.'s book, "The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola." Each week we respond to journal prompts that challenge us to reflect, and then articulate what we have done/are doing (as individuals) to fight the sin of racism. We recognize that, as individuals, we may be able to influence our families and friends.

I see Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J.'s healing beatitude above as another opportunity to challenge ourselves.

- What am I doing to engage in a sincere conversation about race with my family? friends?
- What am I doing to embrace my Black sisters and brothers in the fight for social justice?
- How do I allow myself to be uncomfortable for the sake of healing our society?
- What have we done as a parish in conversations with our bishops about racial equity training and programming in the Archdiocese of Washington?
- Do I view ending racism as a pro-life issue? Why/ why not?

#### LENTEN VIRTUES FOR WOMEN:

discover fresh ways of Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving

St. Andrew Apostle Catholic Church Women's Ministry 11600 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring

Corner of Arcola Avenue and Kemp Mill road; enter from Kemp Mill Road where you see a green awning on the side of the main entrance. Park in the lot and enter under awning. The focus of this series of talks will be the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to enter into Lent with Christ. Rose Folsom will provide education and inspiration for reflection, with plenty of small group discussion, followed by time in personal prayer during Eucharistic Adoration.

- March 9 Prayer is Lent's Solid Foundation
- March 23 Fast-track to Successful Fasting
- *April 6 The Win-Win Spirituality of Almsgiving* Register at https://standrewapostle.org/lenten-virtues-forwomen-registration-2/.

# UPCOMING RETREATS OUR LADY OF BETHESDA RETREAT CENTER 7007 BRADLEY

# Take a Personal "Retreat" Day: 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.

### <u>Teach Me Your Ways, O Lord</u> Lenten Retreat Weekend For Women

Apr 9-10

### **Lenten Retreat Weekend For Men**

Mar 19-20

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 <a href="www.ourladyofbethesda.org">www.ourladyofbethesda.org</a>. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! Plan your next retreat today!

# Workshop Series: Understanding Anxiety & Stress in a Post-Pandemic World - starts March 3.

Learn how to feel stronger and healthier in a post-pandemic world by attending this upcoming series of workshops presenting talks and time to practice learning a new technique experientially. Presented Dr. Kathleen Musslewhite, Executive Director of the Alpha Omega Clinic, the series will run on Thursday afternoons: Mar 3, Mar 17, Mar 31, Apr 14, Apr 28, May 12; each session duration: 12:00-2:30pm and includes Mass and a light lunch. The cost for each session is \$50 per person, or sign up for the entire series for \$250 per person. Come to all or some. This program is a collaboration of Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center with the Alpha Omega Clinic, both located at 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. For additional information and to register please visit www.ourladvofbethesda.org

# 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 pilgrimages 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: Allinclusive LAND price \$3,500 per person on double occupancy basis. Find more details on our website: <a href="www.ourladyofbethesda">www.ourladyofbethesda</a>, or contact Pilgrimage Coordinator: Cristina Tallent at ctallent@ourladyofbethesda.org or 301-365-0612