

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

September 26 - October 2, 2022

Monday, 9/26	9:00 a.m.	Selwyn De Souza
Tuesday, 9/27	9:00 a.m.	Deacon Richard Mattocks
Wednesday, 9/28	9:00 a.m.	Jody Bosnick
	7:30 p.m.	Rev. James Isidore Dixon
Thursday, 9/29	9:00 a.m.	Lillian Gordon
Friday, 9/30	9:00 a.m.	Arthur Dederick
Saturday, 10/01	5:00 p.m.	Robert Sauer
Sunday, 10/02	8:00 a.m.	Edythe Bonato
	9:30 a.m.	The De Castro Family (L)
	11:15 a.m.	Jamal Sarrazin & Junior Chery(L)
	1:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Carmella Spano (L)

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Paul Loebach, husband of Pamela Loebach, Nancy Hay, mother of Leslie MacKnight.

Please pray for the sick... Rick Neimiller, Min Xiu, Diane Comly, Carmella Spano, Mark Patterson, Michael Waple, Sophia Jusko, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Cutting, Angelica Santos, 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 September 25, 2022

Sunday:	Am 6:1a, 4-7/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31
Monday:	Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday:	Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/ Lk 9:51-56
Wednesday:	Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/ Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1- 2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51
Friday:	Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16
Saturday:	Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24
Next Sunday:	Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

I am continuing the series on the Doctors of the Church. This week I am writing about Saint Gregory Nazianzus (ca. 330-ca.390), who was one of three children. His father was a bishop of the same name. Later it would become the practice that bishops in the Eastern Church would be chosen from men who were widowers or monks. I don't know if Gregory Nazianzus the Elder was a widower at the time he became a bishop. At any rate Gregory Nazianzus the Younger (about whom I am writing today) studied in Caesaria in Cappadocia (modern day Kayseri, Turkey), Alexandria, and finally in Athens. Gregory met Basil of Caesarea (Basil the Great) when they were both studying in Athens. They became fast friends at that time. Upon returning to Cappadocia after completing his studies, Gregory first spent some time in prayerful solitude. Then he joined Basil. Together they edited an anthology of Origen's writings, the *Philocalia*. Thereafter Gregory was baptized and then, against his will, he was ordained a priest by his father. In reaction to his ordination Gregory fled from Nazianzus. Eventually he returned, explaining his actions in an oration that he entitled *On His Flight* (one of the first treatises that we have on the priesthood). He lived a somewhat secluded life, serving his father as a priest until Basil (at this point the metropolitan—or archbishop—of Caesarea) appointed him as bishop of an obscure town, Sasima. Gregory did allow himself to be ordained a bishop but never went to Sasima. Once again he had to explain his actions. He was eventually elected bishop of a small community in Constantinople that accepted the teachings of the Council of Nicaea. There he took over a small chapel, named the Anastasia where he preached a famous series of sermons that are known as the Five Theological Orations. At that time Constantinople was almost entirely Arian. Theodosius became the emperor. He determined to bring the capital back to accepting the teaching of the Council of Nicaea. In 381, a council was convoked for Constantinople, and Gregory was elected its president. Gregory was challenged straightway by strong opposition, to the point that his position became untenable. The hostilities he endured must have been very difficult for him since he was a sensitive soul. After a few weeks he resigned his office, left the council, and returned to his home. He spent the remaining years writing poetry, including a famous autobiographical poem, *On His Own Life*.

It is clear that Gregory had a complex and introverted personality. At the same time he was a famous writer and orator of his day—known for distinct style. It is only in recent years that his distinct gifts have been appreciated more fully. His literary compositions included a collection of orations, the body of his poetry, as well as an extensive collection of letters. Some of the best known of Gregory's orations include his funeral orations, notably one for his father, for his brother Caesarius, for his sister Gorgonia, and particularly for Saint Basil the Great. He also delivered a famous oration *On the Great Athanasius*. The Five Theological Orations (mentioned above) became an extensively annotated textbook of theology during the Middle Ages in the Eastern Church.

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

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Who is the "Lazarus" at my gate? What can I do for them this week?

JOIN US FOR THE PARISH PICNIC ON OCTOBER 2 ON THE PARISH GROUNDS

Please join us Sunday, October 2, for our Parish Picnic from 12:30-4 pm on the parish grounds. Parishioners can have lunch catered by Simply Fresh from 12:30-3 pm and then enjoy games, a Moon Bounce, face painting and balloon sculptures by Buttons the Clown and an ice cream cart from 1-3 pm. The Blessing of the Animals will take place at 3 pm in front of the church. Please RSVP by September 28 for the Parish Picnic by either responding on Flocknote at <https://sfaderwood.flocknote.com/signup/100017> or by leaving a paper RSVP at the table in the Gathering Space. Please indicate how many children will be attending in your party so we can order the correct quantities of food. To volunteer at the picnic or for more information, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

A REMINDER FROM FR. JOHN ... If anyone is living in a marriage that has not been recognized by the Catholic Church, it would be wise to consult with a priest to see whether that situation might be rectified. It could be as simple as repeating your marriage vows quietly in front of a priest and receiving the Church's blessing. In that way, one would become eligible to receive the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Gregory also delivered noteworthy sermons for Easter, Pentecost, the Epiphany, and the first Greek sermon on Christmas. Rufinus of Aquileia translated some of his sermons into Latin, and Saint Augustine made use of them. Gregory was a mysterious character who was overshadowed by Basil the Great and Basil's brother Gregory of Nyssa. Nevertheless, Gregory Nazianzus had a decisive influence on the formulation of the doctrine of the Trinity.

Pope Benedict XVI devoted two of his Wednesday audiences to the life and teaching of Gregory Nazianzus. I want to close this column with these comments by Pope Benedict on Gregory's teaching on prayer:

"Gregory teaches us first and foremost the importance and the necessity of prayer. He says: "It is necessary to remember God more often than one breathes," because prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with our thirst. God is thirsting for us to thirst for him.

"In prayer, we must turn our hearts to God, to consign ourselves to him as an offering to be purified and transformed. In prayer we see all things in the light of Christ, we let our masks fall and immerse ourselves in the truth and in listening to God, feeding the fire of love."

Until next week.....**Fr. John**

WEEKLY SPANISH MASS

KICKS OFF AT ST. FRANCIS ON OCTOBER 2

At 1 pm Sunday, October 2, new Parochial Vicar Fr. Grzegorz Okulewicz will celebrate our parish's first Spanish Mass in the church, which coincides with our Parish Picnic. The liturgy will mark the first of what will be a weekly Spanish Mass offered at St. Francis of Assisi church, returning our parish to a six-Mass schedule.

Please look out soon for a new Spanish section of our parish web site, www.sfadw.org, to learn more about the Spanish Mass and the clergy members who will celebrate it. For more information about the Spanish Mass, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

On September 27, the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, who knew that "God had sent him to bring good news to the poor." Together with your gifts, the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul continue his work and mission in our parish. For more information about the parish's St. Vincent de Paul Conference, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

PARISH DIRECTORY

We are still working on the 2022 Parish Directory and thank everyone for their participation and patience. We've had a few bumps along the way but are hoping to have the finished product to everyone in October. **Thanks again for your patience!**



ST. FRANCIS PARISH PICNIC
BLESSING OF ANIMALS

ADDED TIMES FOR CONFESSIONS

Beginning Saturday, October 1st, Confessions will be offered in English by Fr. William in the St. Clare Chapel of the Rectory 3:30-4:30 pm and in English and Spanish in the Church by Fr. "G" from 3:30-4:30 pm. Just a reminder Confessions are also available by appointment.

A partir del 1 de octubre (sábado), el Padre "G" ofrecerá el Sacramento de la Confesión en inglés y español en el confesional en la iglesia de 3:30 a 4:30. Además, las confesiones están disponibles con cita previa.

2022-23 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Religious Education classes have started and we are looking forward to a wonderful year! Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. Find registration forms on the parish web site (<https://sfadw.org/children-grades-pre-k-8>), in the Church Gathering Space, and in the Parish Office. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed forms can be mailed to the parish, dropped off in person at the Rectory Office (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm), or returned as digital copies via email to sfareligioused@sfadw.org.

Registration fee: \$125.00 per child

If payment of registration fees poses a financial hardship, please contact us and allow us to assist you.

Children must be registered before they can begin classes.

Questions? Call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193 or email sfareligioused@sfadw.org.

Registering for Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist, Confirmation, and Christian Initiation for Children/Teens (CIC/CIT) is not grade specific and involves preparation in addition to grade level Religious Education classes. At minimum, children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament.

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to mark their registration form accordingly so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs. More details will be provided at the fall parent meetings.

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NEXT WEEK, OCTOBER 2, 3 AND 4

There will be no Religious Education classes on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, October 2, 3 and 4. In lieu of class, we hope that all RE families will plan to attend the Parish Picnic on Sunday, October 2.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE & PARENT MEETING: OCTOBER 5

For those who have registered for this year's Confirmation Program, there will be a meeting for students and parents on Wednesday, October 5, from 6:45-8:30 pm in the Parish Center. Letters with additional information are being mailed to families with children registered for Confirmation this year. If you have any questions about this meeting or our Confirmation program, please call Susan Anderson at 301-258-9193.

Continued in the column to the right....

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

**Help SJRCS build a new playground for our students!
Support our Charleston Wrap Fundraiser! Go to <https://registercw.com/GzwldZchA> Shop the collection of home goods, personalized gifts, gourmet treats and more.
Your purchase will make a difference! Thank you.**

***St. Jude Regional Catholic School
along with Fr. Paul D. Lee S.T.D, Pastor***

***Invites All Law Enforcement Officers, their Families,
and Friends to attend a special mass at***

***The Shrine of St. Jude Catholic Church
12701 Veirs Mill Rd.
Rockville, MD. 20853***

Thursday, September 29th at 9:00am

***Feast day of St. Michael the Archangel
(Patron Saint of Law Enforcement)***

Chaplain Raymond L. Fecteau – Presiding

***Join us to pray for those in law enforcement
and their families***

PRAYER SERVICE FOR YOUTH TO CONVENE ON NOVEMBER 5 AT ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

In honor of 40 Days for Life, Fr. James Glasgow of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Rockville and Fr. Stefan Yap of St. John Neumann Parish in Gaithersburg would like to invite parish youth ministers and teens in grades 7-12 to attend a Youth Prayer Day at St. Mary's of Rockville on the morning of Saturday, November 5. The morning will begin at 9 am with daily Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Participants will then walk less than a mile to the McLeod abortion clinic in Rockville for an hour of prayer. They will then return to St. Mary's for lunch. Please RSVP to the St. Mary Catholic Church staff at stmaryrockville@yahoo.com for lunch.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

Ways to Serve

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

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

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

ST FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS YOUTH GROUP

SEPTEMBER

September 25: 6:30pm to 8pm (Parish Center)

OCTOBER

October 9: 6:30pm to 8pm (Parish Center)

October 23 6:30pm to 8pm (Parish Center)

Youth Ministry is looking for teens and adults to help us plan future events. If you'd like to get involved or just have an idea to share, please reach out to sfayouth@sfadw.org.

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. If interested in learning more, contact Gary Palmer (301-948-6494 or email gtdbpalmer@verizon.net).

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR Saturday, November 12

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 12). For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

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! ***Please drop off your Theme Basket no later than Thursday, November 10th.***

SHABBY CHIC

If you have “good quality” items that you would like to donate to the Shabby Chic, please drop them off on Wednesday, November 9, 12 Noon-6 pm in the Parish Center. No clothing or shoes,

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 marked “Bazaar”.

MILLIE'S BAKE SHOP

We will be asking parishioners to sign-up for Millie's Bake Shop at the end of October. Please watch the bulletin for more details. Store bought goodies again this year please.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be asking for volunteers at the end of October so please watch the bulletin for volunteer sign-up dates.

BUY NEEDED STUDY GUIDE BEFORE WALKING WITH PURPOSE BEGINS

All women in the parish are invited to take part in an eight-week Bible study developed by the Walking with Purpose Ministry. *Ordering Your Priorities: Building a Life Well Lived* is a practical small group study whose learnings are consistent with Church teaching. Starting October 6, the sessions will be held from 10:15-11:45 am Thursdays in the Kuehner Room off the Gathering Space.

Session 1 - October 6

Connect Coffee Talk 1: *Building the Good Life* (We will begin with coffee, watch a video presentation, and end with small group discussion. **No home study needed beforehand.**)

Session 2 - October 13

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 3 - October 20

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 4 - October 27

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 5 - November 3

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 6 - November 10

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 7 - November 17

At-home scripture study, coffee, and small group discussion.

Session 8 - December 1

Connect Coffee Talk 2: *To the Heights* We will begin with coffee, watch a video presentation, and end with small group discussion. **No home study needed beforehand.**

Please buy the *Ordering Your Priorities: Building a Life Well Lived* study guide at <http://www.walkingwithpurpose.com> before the first gathering. Study guides can be made available at no charge – just ask! For more information or to register, contact parishioners Lita Silva at litasilva4@gmail.com or at (240) 380-4280 or Eileen Grams at ehaleygrams@gmail.com or at (240) 899-7229.

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR Saturday, November 12, 2022

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We will have crafting on this Wednesday, September 28 but there will be no crafting on October 5 & 12. We will start again on October 19 and continue until Bazaar week. Please feel free to join us when we are gathering. We meet in the Parish Center at 7 pm.

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY SHORTAGES

Canned Fruit
Canned Beans
Dry Unsweetened Cereal
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Dry Rice/Beans
Mac & Cheese
Meals in a can (stew, canned pasta, chili, etc.)

Diapers - Sizes Newborn, 3, 5 & 6
Baby Wipes
Pediasure
Baby Formula (Equivalents/substitutes for US produced Similac Blue and Similac Orange (sensitive).

Ensure for Adults
Adult Unisex Pullups - Sizes S/M/L

Paper Bags (Trader Joe size or similar).
Plastic Newspaper Bags
Plastic Grocery Bags
12-egg cartons (Plastic)

Please place donations in the St. Martin's Food Pantry Bin in the Gathering Space or the Rectory front porch if the church is locked.

Special thanks go to all those helping us to help our neighbors in need!

OUR LADY OF BETHESDA RETREAT CENTER UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Take a Personal "Retreat" Day this Fall!

Oct 28/Nov 18

Are your days overcrowded, jam-packed, and busy, busy, busy? Take a break this fall and enjoy your very own personal retreat at Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center. 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. We also have monthly Mini-Retreats for women and Evenings of Reflection for men. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

BENEFIT FOR THE SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER HAPPENING ON OCTOBER 11

All St. Francis of Assisi parishioners supporting the pro-life movement are invited to attend the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center's annual Benefit Banquet at 6 pm Tuesday, October 11, at the Rockville Hilton Hotel. There is no cost to attend, but donations are welcomed. All money raised during this benefit event will support the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. If you plan to attend, please e-mail Shaun Allen, Pro-Life Committee Chair for the Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Council 12127, at allen.e.shaun@gmail.com by October 5. Please include your name and e-mail in your response. There will be a follow-up communication soon.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING (IWOPF) OCTOBER 1-9, 2022

The **opening day** is Saturday October 1st at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC from 8:30am - 3:30pm. This opening day event will consist of Mass at 1pm, Confessions, Adoration, the Global Living Rosary, the Divine Mercy chaplet, and Catholic speakers. The speakers include:

- **Bishop Joseph Coffey**, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. He also serves as the Episcopal Vicar for Veteran's Affairs.
- **Father Francis Peffley**, the parochial vicar at Saint Mary of Sorrows in Fairfax, Virginia, and an author. He also serves as spiritual director to the Legion of Mary, Arlington Regia.
- **Dr. Seggy Acosta**, a Catholic stress and pain specialist at the S.T.R.E.S.S. Centre, in Manassas VA. She is the president of the Legion of Mary, Arlington Regia and has authored the book *Diabolical or Psychological: The Differentiation of Psychological Diseases from Diabolical Disorders*.
- **Joan and Dave Maroney**, founders and directors of Mother of Mercy Messengers, an apostolate of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception based Stockbridge, Massachusetts.
- **Ted Flynn**, a well-known speaker and author of many bestselling books including the *Thunder of Justice*, and *The Hope of the Wicked*. His latest book is *The Great Reset: The Globalist Plan versus Heaven's Victory*.

You can register to watch for **FREE**, on the day of presentation on our website. **If you would like to listen to the talks after each day that they air**, we are offering an **All-Access Pass** online that allows you to listen at your leisure. Sign up for the talks at: www.iwopf.org

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.