


Mass Intentions
October 17 - October 23, 2022

Monday, 10/17	9:00 a.m.	Rosalina F. Ruiz
Tuesday, 10/18	9:00 a.m.	Alexander O'Connor
Wednesday, 10/19	9:00 a.m.	Peggy Gleason
	7:30 p.m.	Peter Gomez
Thursday, 10/20	9:00 a.m.	Flavia De Souza
Friday, 10/21	9:00 a.m.	Rodger F. Ruiz (L)
Saturday, 10/22	5:00 p.m.	Patsy & Stella Battista
Sunday, 10/23	8:00 a.m.	Mickey Babish
	9:30 a.m.	Don Smith
	11:15 a.m.	Karen Mason
	1:00 p.m.	Teresita Marchani Vda. de Almodovar &
		Luis D. Almodovar Acevedo
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>

Please pray for the sick... Pedro Ustrell, Alicia Church, Tammy Doermann, Mary O'Grady, Rick Neimiller, Min Xiu, 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 Dudenhoeffer, Jackie Roebuck King, Jeni Stepanek. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks,*

Readings for the Week of October 16, 2022

Sunday:	Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/ 2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8
Monday:	Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5/ Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday:	2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/ Lk 10:1-9
Wednesday:	Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 12:39-48
Thursday:	Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/ Lk 12:49-53
Friday:	Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 12:54-59
Saturday:	Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 13:1-9
Next Sunday:	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 [7a]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-1

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

One day Pope Sixtus V (1521 -1590) was looking at a painting of Saint Jerome (ca. 347-419/20) striking his breast with a stone. After viewing it for a few moments, Sixtus remarked. "You do well to carry that stone, for without it the Church would never have canonized you."

Who was this person about whom a Pope would have made such a strong remark? He is the subject of this week's column where I am looking at the Doctors of the Church. Jerome was born in Stridon in Dalmatia (in today's Bosnia) in a well-to-do Christian family. Jerome was educated in Rome. Among his teachers there was a famous grammarian by the name of Donatus. While in Rome, Jerome developed a friendship with Rufinus of Aquileia. Many years after he had finished his studies, Jerome lamented the life he led in Rome. In 373, Jerome left Rome for the East. He learned Greek well and was able to follow lectures by some of the noteworthy Christian scholars of the day, including Apollinaris of Laodicea, Gregory Nazianzus, and Didymus the Blind. For three years he lived as a hermit in the desert near Antioch.

From 382 to 385 he served as a secretary to Pope Damasus. Probably the most significant work of Jerome's life came as a result of a request from Pope Damasus, who asked Jerome to revise the Latin text of the Bible, starting with the Gospels. In time Jerome prepared a new translation of most of the Old Testament from Hebrew and revised much of the New Testament. Translation from the Hebrew was a new thing. The so-called Old Latin translation of the Hebrew Scriptures had been done from the Greek version of the Old Testament known as the Septuagint. Jerome's Latin translation of the Bible was later known as the Vulgate. During this time frame Jerome became the leader for a group of women who sought to live a life of prayer and penance. In 385, Jerome left Rome suddenly and unexpectedly and returned to the East. He remained in the East for the rest of his life.

Jerome's literary output was amazing. Besides the translation of the Bible, he translated many other works from Greek into Latin, including some of Origen's writings, Eusebius's *Chronicle*, and Didymus the Blind's *On the Holy Spirit*. Jerome also wrote a number of commentaries on books of the Bible, some of which drew heavily from Origen. Jerome also wrote works fiercely attacking those whose teaching he rejected. His fiercest controversy was against Origen and his disciples. One result of this was a terrible falling out with Rufinus of Aquileia. Jerome also had an extensive and somewhat contentious correspondence with St. Augustine.

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

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

For what do I feel I am praying for in vain? Can I find the will to pray for it persistently? Meanwhile, how can I be part of God's answer to someone else's persistent prayer?

ADDED TIMES FOR CONFESSIONS

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" or another Spanish speaking priest 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.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE MASS IN SPANISH SOUGHT

The Mass in Spanish continued in its second week on October 9, as St. Francis of Assisi Parish expands its services to Spanish-speaking persons. People who would like to offer a Mass intention for the liturgy in Spanish at 1 pm Sundays should do so at least 10 days before the Mass they would like to offer. These intentions can be made either by calling the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407 or by coming into the office during parish business hours: 8 am-4 pm Mondays through Fridays.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

At the end of his first catechesis on St. Jerome, Pope Benedict made this observation:

"The privileged place for reading and listening to the Word of God is the liturgy, in which, celebrating the Word and making Christ's Body present in the Sacrament, we must actualize the Word in our lives and make it present among us. We must never forget that the Word of God transcends time. Human opinions come and go. What is very modern today will be very antiquated tomorrow. On the other hand, the Word of God is the Word of eternal life; it bears within it eternity and is valid for ever. By carrying the Word of God within us, we therefore carry within us eternity, eternal life."

In this context Pope Benedict quoted a remark St. Jerome once made to St. Paulinus of Nola: "Seek to learn on earth those truths which will remain ever valid in heaven." Good advice then and good advice now.

Until next week,
Fr. John

ST. FRANCIS 2022 PICNIC

Sunday, October 2, was the annual picnic and the end of our yearlong celebration of the founding of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. It is hard to believe that 50 years have gone by in service to Our Lord.

Despite the awful weather it was still a great day to reunite with fellow parishioners and welcome members of the Spanish Community in our Parish Center. Over 500 persons came to feast, play games and enjoy the chance to get reacquainted with each other without the need to social distance or plug into ZOOM. Even the animals had a blessed time when the rain miraculously stopped.

A lot of hard work went into this event which illustrates the heart of the St. Francis Community. A special shout out to the people who helped decorate the Parish Center with pumpkins, flowers and scarecrows: Doris Chung, Mary Polissedjian, Debbie Dicello, Geralyn Praskievicz, Lourdes Garcia, Gabriele Barbieri Vechi, Donna Scholl and Isabelle Seyed-Ali. Thanks to the St. Francis Youth Group who manned the craft tables and kept the many young one's busy decorating pumpkins and painting peace rocks. Buttons the Clown was back again this year crafting balloon animals. Dan Huff's handmade games were a big hit and, along with fellow Knights Bernie McGuire and Jim Gierula, managed to keep the many children amused with his unique games. Chris Ryan and Ronnie Malone were on duty keeping the tables bused and ready for the next set of hungry people. Way to go Knights! Our photographer, Alex Chung took lots of pictures to remember the day. Last but not least, thank you to Donna and Nadine for all you do.

Of course, a picnic is not a picnic without food. This year St. Francis was very fortunate to engage Simply Fresh, owned by Matt Phlem, a parishioner, to cater our event. The staff brought plenty of great food including smoked brisket, pulled chicken, hot dogs and all the fixings to complement the meal. And then, when everyone had eaten, the crew cleaned up. A meal is always better when you don't have to wash the dishes. See everyone next year on the first Sunday in October for the

SHADY GROVE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

From October 8-30, St. Francis of Assisi parishioners can support the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center through its "Baby Bottle Campaign," either online or in person. The pregnancy center helps pregnant women facing difficult choices with options -- counseling, ultrasounds, parenting classes, and material aid. Desperate women considering abortion can come to the center and make a life-affirming choice instead, thanks to your support. To support the Baby Bottle campaign, either:

- Pick up a bottle from the Gathering Space and fill it with coins, cash, or a check made out to Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. Put "St. Francis BBC" in the memo. Please return all bottles by October 30, 2022.
- Give virtually at the church's unique giving page: <https://donate.givedirect.org/?cid=15047>

For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.



2022-23 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

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

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 next class meets online today, Sunday, October 16 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.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 2323 PUMPKIN CARVING PARTY October 29, 2022

KofC Montgomery Council is hosting a Pumpkin Carving Afternoon for school age children on Saturday, October 29, 2022 from 1-4PM. The fun will be held at Father Cuddy Hall located at 17001 Overhill Road in Derwood, MD 20855. All parish families are invited with pumpkins and refreshments provided while supplies last. To RSVP or for additional information, contact Steve Willer, 202-809-6784 or email saw.kofc.fs2323@gmail.com or contact the Knights on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Knights2323.

ST FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS YOUTH GROUP

OCTOBER

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.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

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

Celebrating 66 years (1956-2022)

OPEN HOUSE

October 18, 2022

9:00 - 11:30 am & 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Tours will take place where families can meet the principal, administration and see the students in action. Ambassador parents speaking Spanish and Amharic will be available for tours. Questions please call 301-946-7888.

Archdiocese Tuition Assistance 2023-2024 School Year

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. To apply for tuition assistance from the Archdiocese of Washington follow the links from www.stjduerockville.org - Admissions tab- Archdiocese Tuition Assistance or <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/archdiocesan-tuition-assistance-program/>. The application deadline for all returning families is December 2, 2022. The deadline for new families is February, 18, 2023.

SATURDAY MORNING SPIRITUAL READING GROUP - ALL ARE INVITED

A Shorter Summa

By Peter Kreeft

If you have ever wished, you had the time and courage to read St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologica* perhaps now is the time to take advantage by reading along with fellow parishioners a shorter version accompanied by helpful media presentations.

The Saturday Morning Spiritual Reading Group will be embarking on this endeavor with the guidance of the Dominicans and the **Thomistic Institute**. We'll be using videos produced by the **Institute** designed to make the material understandable and relatable, pertinent to our world today.

We meet on Saturday mornings at 8:00 AM. You can join us in person at church with your coffee or Zoom in from home.

For more information email Trish Olin at mpolin@comcast.net or call 240-355-5753.

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.

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, November 12, 2022

HOLIDAY BAZAAR CRAFTERS

Bazaar crafting begins again this week on Wednesday, October 19, 7 pm in the Parish Center. Projects can be taken home for completion if need be. Questions, please call the Parish Office 301-840-1407.

BLESSING OF TREES

TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 16

On Sunday, October 16, all parishioners who donated to the Memorial Tree Planting and Beautification Project are invited to attend the Blessing of the Trees, which Fr. John Dillon will lead after the 11:15 am Mass. During the blessing, Fr. John will formally dedicate the four Maples, four American sycamores and four Red Oak trees that were planted on the parish grounds on September 21 to replace dead and diseased trees in need of replacement. Please plan to join us!

CELEBRATE THE FEAST DAY

OF ST. JOHN PAUL FROM OCTOBER 20-23

Honor the feast day of Saint John Paul II with a visit to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine October 20–23. All the feast day events are free and include:

- October 20: An evening of prayer and preparation for the feast day of Saint John Paul II. Includes exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a meditation led by Fr. Seith, solemn vespers, benediction, and a reception. Cosponsored by the Saint John Paul II Seminary.
- October 21: Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Canonization of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, who was beatified by Saint John Paul II in 1980. Includes Mass featuring Eagle Dancers and Butterfly Dancers from the Laguna Pueblo in New Mexico. Cosponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions.
- October 22: Solemn Mass in honor of Saint John Paul II celebrated by Bishop Roy E. Campbell, prayer at the Hour of Mercy, and an Evening with the Merciful Jesus.
- October 23: "Mary's Thread," a play on Our Lady in the life of Saint John Paul II followed by Sunday Mass celebrated by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States.

There will also be daily opportunities for confession, veneration of a first-class relic of Saint John Paul II, and a plenary indulgence.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2022

Next week, we join Catholics around the world for the celebration of world Mission Sunday. We are called to offer our prayers and financial help for the Church's missionary work in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and parts of Latin America and Europe. Please be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of Faith for the missions. *Thank you!*

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.

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY SHORTAGES

Canned Soup
Canned Fruit
Canned Beans (black/kidney/red, etc.)
Dry Unsweetened Cereal
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Meals in a can (stew, canned pasta, chili, etc.)

Diapers - Sizes Newborn, 3, 4, 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 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!

"SAINT MARY MAGDALENE - AT THE FEET OF JESUS" a one-woman drama about repentance and God's mercy, comes to Saint Peter's Catholic Church on Sunday, October 30th at 2:30 PM. This compelling story brings familiar Bible stories to life, and transports us to the time of Jesus and the Blessed Mother. Mary Magdalene was one of the few disciples to remain at the foot of the cross and to announce the Resurrection. Catholic performer Nancy Scimone portrays Mary Magdalene. No tickets needed; a free-will offering will be accepted. Performance is in Saint Peter's Hall and runs 65 minutes. A reception with light refreshments follows. 2900 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd., Olney, MD 20832; For more details, please contact Saint Peter's Office of Social Concerns at 301-774-0162 (MaryMagdaleneDrama.com)

SETON SHRINE UPCOMING EVENTS

Back from the Dead Cemetery Walks

The Seton Shrine's popular faith drama resumes this October, and tickets are selling fast! Hear what the saints have to say about their visions of hell, and learn about the meaning of suffering in the afterlife in this powerful experience. Visit setonshrine.org to reserve your tickets today.

Hands-On Living History Activities

Every 2nd and 4th Saturday at the Seton Shrine, historic hands on activities are offered for families of all ages. From pen and ink, colonial games, and more, you'll learn something new each time.

Virtual Memento Mori Book Club

Teens and young adults welcome! Beginning Oct. 13th, the Seton Shrine is offering a virtual book club series on the importance of remembering the Last Things: death, judgement, heaven and hell. Visit setonshrine.org/bookclub to learn more.

MASS IN COMMEMORATION OF FEAST OF THE LORD OF THE MIRACLES

The Archdiocese of Washington invites you to join the Mass in commemoration of Feast of the Lord of the Miracles, patron saint of Peru. The celebration will be on **Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 10: 00 a.m. at Our Lady Queen of the Americas** (2200 California St NW, Washington, DC 20008.) Mons. Mario E. Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington will be the Principal Celebrant. This event is organized by the Brotherhood of the Lord of the Miracles in our archdiocesan region. For more information, contact the Office of Cultural Diversity at culturaldiversity@adw.org.

ROSARY FOR PEACE

We need to come together in prayer for healing and prevention as horrible mass shootings and all violence in our communities tear at the heart of humanity. Please join the Council of Catholic Women-Archdiocese of Washington in praying the Rosary, starting on October 31st and concluding on All Souls Day by visiting Rosary for Peace in Our Communities (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084fa5a929aa8-adoration1>).

OUR LADY OF BETHESDA RETREAT CENTER

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.