

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

June 23 - June 29, 2025

Monday, 6/23	9:00 a.m.	Kevin McGowan
Tuesday, 6/24	9:00 a.m.	Michael O'Hara
Wednesday, 6/25	9:00 a.m.	Peter Wilson
	7:30 p.m.	Anne Russell (L)
Thursday, 6/26	9:00 a.m.	Kevin McGowan
Friday, 6/27	9:00 a.m.	Brian Gallagher
Saturday, 6/28	5:00 p.m.	Selwyn & Flavia De Souza
Sunday, 6/29	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Murtha
	9:30 a.m.	Joanne Myrna Mugala
	11:15 a.m.	Joseph Sheehan
	1:00 p.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Meghan Jones

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Robert Karam, father of Lisa Karam, Betty Guenther, former SFA parishioner, Lolita Lesdema Jardeleza, widow of Deacon Jack Jardeleza II, Reverend Kevin Patrick O'Reilly, retired Archdiocese of Washington.

Please pray for the sick....Remigo Makoni, Allen Kay, Will Hartsell, Mike Kelley, Evelyn Roebuck, Dee Comely, Dr. Hector Asuncion, Virginia Hartswick, George Beall, Diane (Dee) Comly, Richard Yeast, Joan Dudenhoeffer, Virginia Kingkeo, Diana M. Lacour Kustedjo, Marie C. Williams, Tom Breece, Deacon James McCann, Tristan Olin-Fixico, Patricia McGowan, Christine Degen, Nicole Behrus-Weiss, Maryann Murphy, Mark Patterson, Michael Waple, Debra Price, Barbara Schmidt, Angelica Santos, Allison Brauer, Frank Knorr, Allan Degen, Bob Jones, Sandra Kimball, 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 June 22, 2025

Sunday:	Gn 14:18-20/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 (4b)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11b-17
Monday:	Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/ Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday:	Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/ Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
Wednesday:	Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/ Mt 7:15-20
Thursday:	Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16/ Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 7:21-29 & 53,54
Friday:	Ez 34:11-16/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Rom 5:5b-11/Lk 15:3-7
Saturday:	Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 -55/ Mt 8:5-17
Next Sunday:	Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

We are continuing this series of saints in the Augustinian tradition. Today we are looking at Saint Monica (323-387). Monica was born at Thagaste, Numidia Cirtensis, Western Roman Empire (present day Souk Ahras, Algeria. Her parents were north African and devout Christians. When she was about twenty-two, she was in a marriage by arrangement with Patricius (40) who was a Roman official. The mother of Patricius moved in with them. It was not an easy marriage. Patricius was verbally abusive to Monica and unfaithful to her. His mother was a difficult person to live with. By her patience and her prayers Monica was able to have both her husband and her mother-in-law become Christians just before Patricius died.

Monica and Patricius had three children. The eldest was Aurelius Augustinus (Augustine in English). He was her favorite. For years she suffered because Augustine did not share her Christian faith. The suffering was intensified because he was living an immoral life and was heavily involved in the Manichaeian cult. Monica prayed constantly for her son and wept over his sins until a sympathetic bishop (Saint Ambrose of Milan) consoled her: "Go now, I beg of you; it is not possible that the son of so many tears should perish."

Monica's prayers were finally answered when Augustine was baptized in Milan by Saint Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in 387. Augustine decided to return to North Africa shortly afterwards. Monica was planning to travel with him. While they were waiting for a ship to return to Africa, Monica fell ill. While Monica and Augustine were talking about the eternal Wisdom, it seemed, as Augustine recounted later, that they had touched for "just a fleeting moment." Monica confided that she had no need for further life. "There was one reason and one alone why I wished to remain a little longer in this life," she told Augustine, "and that was to see you a Catholic Christian before I died. God has granted my wish.... What is left for me to do in this world?" She died at Ostia Antica (the port of Rome located near the mouth of the Tiber). Her tomb is in the Basilica of Sant'Agostino in Rome.

I'll close this column with the Collect (Opening Prayer) prayed at Mass and at the end of Morning and Evening Prayer on the Memorial of Saint Monica (August 27):

O God, who console the sorrowful and who mercifully accepted the motherly tears of Saint Monica for the conversion of her son Augustine, grant us through the intercession of them both, that we may bitterly regret our sins and find the grace of your pardon. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Until next week,

Fr. John

June 22, 2025

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

During the week ahead, how will I offer myself in imitation of Jesus to nourish or sustain someone else?

YOUNG & MATURE ADULTS SOUGHT TO EXPLORE PROSPECT OF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Are you interested in helping support a parish youth group for high school-aged students? Our parish is exploring whether we can offer a high school youth group this coming fall but need young and mature adults to help support this venture. If you are interested in taking part, then please contact Fr. John Dillon by calling the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407. We need your support if we are to make this a reality!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? LEARN MORE ABOUT OCIA

If you know someone interested in developing an authentic relationship with Jesus through the Church, then please tell them about our Order of Christian Initiation program. Led by our dedicated OCIA teams, the OCIA program is for those interested in being baptized, becoming Catholic, or completing their Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

St. Francis of Assisi Parish offers two program tracks – one for English speakers and one for Spanish speakers. On Monday, September 8, Spanish speakers curious about our faith will begin meeting in small groups, while English speakers will begin exploring our Catholic faith starting Wednesday, September 17.

Over a 10-month period, the OCIA teams will meet with interested persons to help facilitate discussions and answer questions about the Catholic faith. If these participants commit to their journey of faith, they will be welcomed next spring as full members of the Church at the Easter Vigil. For more information, please contact Fr. Grzegorz Okulewicz at gokulewicz@sfadw.org about OCIA in Spanish or Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org about OCIA in English.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

On June 28-29 our Archdiocese will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous according to your means. For more information please visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.



WOMEN SEEKING A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE & COMMUNITY ARE

INVITED TO WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Women of the parish, please join the Walking with Purpose Bible Study Group at 10:15 am Thursdays through August 7 in the Kuehner Room. We'll have refreshments as we listen to a podcast in English which focuses on The Second Letter of Paul to Timothy. Learn about the final words of wisdom Paul shared with his dearest friend. In keeping with the more relaxing pace of summer, no home preparation is required. In the fall, consider joining us as we begin a study of the Gospel of John in October. We will meet from 10:15 am to 11:45 am on Thursdays.

New this year: Conducted in Spanish, a six-session study of God the Father will meet on Sundays and begin in the fall.

All Walking With Purpose groups welcome new members at any time.

For more information, see future bulletin announcements or contact Eileen (ehaleygrams@gmail.com) or Lita (litasilva4@gmail.com).

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.

WOMEN'S RETREAT TO BE OFFERED ON AUGUST 16



Jubilee of Hope Women's Retreat: "Seen, Known, Loved and Called" will be held from 9 am to 3 pm Saturday, August 16, at St Paul Catholic Church in Damascus. Take part in inspiring talks, Mass, and time for prayer and heartfelt sharing. Don't miss this opportunity to invest in yourself and nourish your soul. Pick up a retreat registration postcard on the information table in the Gathering Space and register using the QR code above. If you have questions, contact Terri Celmer at terri@blessed-hope.org or (301) 330-4841.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration is held on Fridays
in the **CHURCH**.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

All are welcome to attend.



2024-25 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

SAVE BY REGISTERING NOW FOR 2025-26 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

**Register by August 15 to save on
Religious Education program fees!**

*(turn in your family's registration now and payment can be
made at a later date)*

Our parish offers families a choice of two options for religious education:

Option 1: "Classroom model" offering in-person classes taught by volunteer catechists and classroom aides:

- **Elementary (Kindergarten-Grade 5)** classes offered at two session times: Sunday 9:20-10:35 am and Monday 4:45-6:00 pm. Classes begin September 14 and 15.
- **Middle School (Grade 6, 7 & 8)** classes with students attending weekly. Two session times will be offered: Monday 6:45-8:00 pm and Tuesday 6:45-8:00 pm. Classes begin September 15 and 16.
- **Classes for children and youth with special needs** meeting on Sunday afternoons 3:30-4:30 pm (in-person or online). Classes will begin in September.

Option 2: "Homeschool model" offering parents the opportunity to teach their children at home with textbook resources and support provided by the parish, including online parent meetings and additional events (in-person and online) for students and families. Our program will kick-off in mid-September.

Registration forms and additional information can be found on the parish website at: <https://sfadw.org/children-grades-pre-k-8>. Program calendars will be posted to the website by August 1. 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.

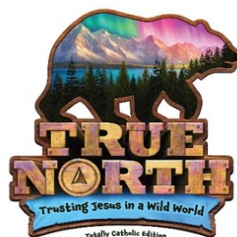
*If payment of registration fees poses a financial hardship,
please contact us and allow us to assist you.*

As we look ahead to next year's Religious Education program, please consider whether you can serve as a catechist for our children and young people. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

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

POOR BOX DONATIONS

The donations for next weekend will go to **Olney Help**.
Thank you for your generosity!



St. Francis of Assisi Church Vacation Bible Camp: June 23-27, 2025

for children age 4 through
those who are completing 5th
grade in June 2025

*This summer's program will be offered in-
person,*

9 am to 12:15 pm daily.

*VBC Family Program & Social at 7 pm
on Thursday, June 26.*

Parents of registered campers and accepted
teen volunteers:

Watch your email for additional information
and updates as we prepare for VBC!

Registration is now closed.

*Please pray for our campers and volunteers
as we share this week of faith and fun!*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (continued)

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. ***Please note: students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend their grade-level Religious Education classes as well as monthly Confirmation sessions.***

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their children 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 parent meetings next year.

PRIESTS IN CONCERT TAKE THE STAGE AGAIN ON JUNE 27 & JULY 11

Ready to hear some priests rock out? Join archdiocesan priests largely formed in the Neocatechumenal Way as they stage two concerts on June 27 and July 11 to raise funds for youth to attend vocational pilgrimages in Rome during this year's Jubilee Year. The first concert takes place from 6:30-9:30 pm at Holy Family Catholic Church in Hillcrest Heights, MD, while the second concert happens during the same timeframe at the Shrine of St. Jude Catholic Church in Rockville, MD. Tickets to Priests in Concert 2025 are \$40 each and can be purchased at <https://priestsinconcert.com/>. For more information, see the web site or contact Parochial Vicar Fr. Grzegorz Okulewicz at (301) 840-1407. ***Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!***

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY SHORTAGES

Pasta & Pasta Sauce
Canned Fruit
Canned Soup
Macaroni & Cheese
Meals in a Can
Canned Vegetables
Canned Beans
Dry Unsweetened Cereal/Oatmeal
Tuna/Canned Meat/Canned Fish

Diapers No. 3, 4, 5, and 6 and baby wipes

Adult diapers sizes small, medium, and extra large
Paper Bags (Wegmans or Trader Joe size or similar).
Plastic Newspaper or Grocery Bags

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

HOST FAMILIES SOUGHT FOR TEENAGE FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Are you willing to open your home this school year to a teenager from a foreign country? If so, ASSE International Student Exchange Programs seek warm and welcoming host families to open their door to an international exchange student.

Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience for families that fosters cultural understanding, builds lifelong friendships, and enriches local communities. Students ages 15-18 come from more than 60 countries, including France, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Australia, and Spain. Students are selected based on their academic performance, English proficiency, and personal character and are eager to become part of an American family.

During their stay, ASSE exchange students immerse themselves in American culture by living with and becoming part of the host family while attending a local high school. The experience allows them to improve their English skills, form lifelong friendships, and gain a deeper understanding of American life and values. In return, host families and communities benefit from the perspectives and cultural exchange these students bring.

Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan, who was an exchange student to Germany with another organization in 1990-91, attested to the lifechanging experience host families give their new daughters and sons on exchange. "It takes a certain amount of openness, adventure, and, yes, faith to open one's home to a teenager from another country," Egan said. "But the benefits brought to the exchange student and host family are many, including the prospect of a lifelong friendship that develops through the experience."

Host families provide a safe and supportive home, meals, and encouragement, while students arrive with their own spending money and health insurance, ensuring that hosting is rewarding without the financial burden. Host families come in many forms, including married couples and single parents.

Families interested in hosting can learn more by visiting www.host.asse.com or contacting Lori Michael at (800) 677-2773.



**Knights of
Columbus**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTGOMERY COUNCIL

2323 is recruiting new members.
Join the largest Catholic fraternal
organization in the world and the

"strong right arm" of the Catholic Church. We are dedicated to charity, unity, fraternity and family while having a lot of fun doing good for others! For more information please contact Membership Director, John DeMare, johnd2323@comcast.net or 240-354-6648. *Vivat Jesus!*



SCAN ME

DC ENCOUNTER SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAM

This program affirms our call to live as children of God and gives practical tools to experience the Holy Spirit first-hand. Using Scripture, the teachings of the Church, and the catechism, each class will be accompanied by practical activations. The program will be held on June 30th to July 3rd at Mother of God School, 20501 Goshen Road in Gaithersburg, MD from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Registration is required: \$110 for 4-day tickets, \$170 for couples, \$40 for single-day tickets. Please visit <https://encounterdc.regfox.com/encounter-dc-summer-intensive-2025> for more information.



St. Jude Regional Catholic School offers a strong Catholic education with a focus on faith formation, educational excellence, and community. Students benefit from small class sizes and a supportive environment with dedicated teachers.

Graduates are well-prepared for high school, earning substantial scholarships to top schools. The school features award-winning faculty, a vibrant community rooted in Catholic values, with daily prayer, weekly Mass, and regular sacraments. Parent involvement is encouraged through the Home & School Association and School Advisory Board.

- ✓ Small Group Instruction for Math and Literature
- ✓ Buddy Mentor Program
- ✓ Sports: Soccer, Basketball, Cross Country and Track & Field
- ✓ Before & After School Care
- ✓ Affordable Tuition & Financial Aid Options

- ✓ 4 Golden Apple Teacher Winners
- ✓ Pre-K through 8 Specials: Spanish, Art, Music, Library, and Technology
- ✓ Art Club and Drama Club
- ✓ Daily Religion Class, Weekly Mass and Adoration, Monthly Confessions

Schedule a tour today!



✉ jeanne.donatelli@stjuderockville.org

☎ 301 946 7888

Anuncios del Boletín para el 22 de junio de 2025:



Las mujeres que buscan una comprensión más profunda de las Escrituras y la comunidad están invitadas a caminar con propósito

Mujeres de la parroquia, por favor únanse al Grupo de Estudio Bíblico Caminando con Propósito a las 10:15 am los jueves hasta el 7 de agosto en el Salón Kuehner. Tomaremos un refrigerio mientras escuchamos un podcast en inglés que se centra en la segunda carta de Pablo a Timoteo. Aprenda acerca de las últimas palabras de sabiduría que Pablo compartió con su amigo más querido. De acuerdo con el ritmo más relajado del verano, no se requiere preparación en casa.

En el otoño, considere unirse a nosotros para comenzar un estudio del Evangelio de Juan en octubre. Nos reuniremos de 10:15 am a 11:45 am los jueves.

Nuevo este año: Realizado en español, un estudio de seis sesiones de Dios el Padre se reunirá los domingos y comenzará en el otoño.

Todos los grupos de Walking With Purpose dan la bienvenida a nuevos miembros en cualquier momento.

Para obtener más información, consulte los anuncios de boletines futuros o comuníquese con Eileen (ehaleygrams@gmail.com) o Lita (litasilva4@gmail.com).

Jóvenes y adultos maduros buscaron explorar la perspectiva de un grupo de jóvenes de la escuela secundaria

¿Está interesado en ayudar a apoyar a un grupo juvenil parroquial para estudiantes de secundaria? Nuestra parroquia está explorando si podemos ofrecer un grupo de jóvenes de secundaria este próximo otoño, pero necesitamos adultos jóvenes y maduros para ayudar a apoyar esta empresa. Si está interesado en participar, comuníquese con el P. John Dillon llamando a la Oficina Parroquial al (301) 840-1407. ¡Necesitamos su apoyo si queremos que esto sea una realidad!

El retiro de mujeres se ofrecerá el 16 de agosto

El Retiro de Mujeres del Jubileo de la Esperanza: "Vistas, Conocidas, Amadas y Llamadas" se llevará a cabo de 9 am a 3 pm el sábado 16 de agosto en la Iglesia Católica de San Pablo en Damasco. Participe en charlas inspiradoras, misa y tiempo para la oración y el intercambio sincero. No pierda esta oportunidad de invertir en sí misma y nutrir su alma. Recoja una tarjeta postal de registro de retiro en la mesa de información en el Espacio de Reunión y regístrese usando el código QR a continuación. Si tiene preguntas, comuníquese con Terri Celmer al terri@blessed-hope.org o al (301) 330-4841.



¿Interesado en convertirse al catolicismo? Más información sobre OCIA

Si conoce a alguien interesado en desarrollar una relación auténtica con Jesús a través de la Iglesia, entonces por favor cuénteles sobre nuestro programa de Iniciación de la Orden Cristiana. Dirigido por nuestros equipos dedicados a OCIA, el programa OCIA es para aquellos interesados en ser bautizados, convertirse en católicos o completar sus Sacramentos de Iniciación (Bautismo, Confirmación y Eucaristía).

La Parroquia de San Francisco de Asís ofrece dos horarios: uno para angloparlantes y otro para hispanohablantes. El lunes 8 de septiembre, los hispanohablantes curiosos sobre nuestra fe comenzarán a reunirse en grupos pequeños, mientras que los angloparlantes comenzarán a explorar nuestra fe católica a partir del miércoles 17 de septiembre. Durante un período de 10 meses, los equipos de OCIA se reunirán con personas interesadas para ayudar a facilitar las discusiones y responder preguntas sobre la fe católica. Si estos participantes se comprometen en su camino de fe, serán bienvenidos la próxima primavera como miembros de pleno derecho de la Iglesia en la Vigilia Pascual. Para obtener más información, póngase en contacto con el P. Grzegorz Okulewicz en gokulewicz@sfadw.org sobre OCIA en español o con el Director de Asuntos Sociales y Formación en la Fe de Adultos, Tony Bosnick, en abosnick@sfadw.org sobre OCIA en inglés.



ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL FAITH UNITY EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

La Escuela Católica Regional St. Jude ofrece una sólida educación católica con un enfoque en la formación en la fe, la excelencia académica y la comunidad. Los estudiantes se benefician de clases pequeñas y un entorno de apoyo con maestros dedicados. Los graduados están bien preparados para la escuela secundaria, obteniendo becas importantes para las mejores escuelas. La escuela cuenta con una facultad galardonada y una comunidad vibrante arraigada en los valores católicos, con oración diaria, misa semanal y participación regular en los sacramentos. Se anima a los padres a participar a través de la Asociación de Hogar y Escuela y la Junta Asesora Escolar.

- ✓ Instrucción en grupos pequeños para matemáticas y literatura de 3.º a 8.º grado.
- ✓ Programa de Mentoría entre Compañeros.
- ✓ Deportes: fútbol, baloncesto, campo traviesa y atletismo.
- ✓ Cuidado antes y después de la escuela.
- ✓ Matrícula accesible y opciones de ayuda financiera.

- ✓ 4 ganadores del premio Maestro Golden Apple
- ✓ Especiales de Pre-K a 8.º grado: español, arte, música, biblioteca y tecnología.
- ✓ Club de arte y club de teatro.
- ✓ Clase diaria de religión, misa y adoración semanales, confesiones mensuales.



¡Programa una visita hoy!

✉ jeanne.donatelli@stjuderockville.org

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