

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

June 30 - July 6, 2025

Monday, 6/30	9:00 a.m.	Serge Triau
Tuesday, 7/1	9:00 a.m.	Emma Navas
Wednesday, 7/2	9:00 a.m.	Xavier Joseph
	7:30 p.m.	Alex O'Connor
Thursday, 7/3	9:00 a.m.	Christine Vilgos-Mitchell
Friday, 7/4	9:00 a.m.	For Our Country
	7:30 p.m.	Barbara Lynn Beall
Saturday, 7/5	5:00 p.m.	Meghan Jones
Sunday, 7/6	8:00 a.m.	Guy Casimir
	9:30 a.m.	John Loh
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	1:00 p.m.	Gabriel Gomes
	5:00 p.m.	Rita Arias

Please pray for the sick.... Donna Ford, Roger Arnold, Remigio Makoni, Allen Kay, Will Hartsell, 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 29, 2025

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
Monday:	Gn 18:16-33/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11/ Mt 8:18-22
Tuesday:	Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday:	Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13/ Mt 8:28-34
Thursday:	Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29
Friday:	Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 9:9-13
Saturday:	Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 9:14-17
Next Sunday:	Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1)/ Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-1, 17-20 or 10:1-9

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

We continue to consider the lives of Augustinian Saints and Blesseds. Today we focus our attention on an Augustinian nun whom Pope Saint John Paul II called one of the "founders" of the Catholic Church in Canada: Blessed Catherine of Saint Augustine.

Catherine de Longpré was born on May 3, 1632, in Saint-Sauveur-le Victome, Normandy, France. She was raised primarily by her maternal grandparents. As a child she was given a good education.

At age five, she had some strong mystical prayer experiences where she felt direct contact with God. When she was eight, she came to the realization that the Holy Spirit was calling her to be a saint. When she was twelve, she decided to enter the Canonesses of Saint Augustine of the Mercy of Jesus (also known as Augustinian Hospitalier Sisters of the Mercy of Jesus).

She entered their novitiate on October 24, 1646, and received as her name in religion Catherine of Saint Augustine. At fifteen, she offered herself for the recently established Canadian mission of her religious community. She made her solemn profession as a nun at age 16 on May 4, 1648, in Nantes and set sail for New France (present day Canada) on May 27, 1648. The ship arrived in Québec on August 19, 1648. Catherine soon began to learn the languages of the First Nations people and looked after the sick. In the spring of 1649, she adopted as her model the recently martyred Saint Jean de Brébeuf. Between 1654 and 1668, she served as treasurer for the Canonesses of Saint Augustine in Québec, director of the hospital owned and operated by her community, and novice director for her community.

Sister Catherine had deep experiences of prayer and, at the same time, inner temptations that caused her great turmoil. She also had health problems. In 1654 she promised to remain in Canada and, four years later, she offered herself in a spirit of reparation for the salvation of New France. For this reason, she is considered a co-founder of the Church in Canada.

Catherine was sensitive to the evils of sin and felt solidarity with sinners. At one point she remarked: "I found myself overwhelmed by the intolerable weight of all the crimes I witnessed.... I let it draw me into being helpful with souls." She prayed for the end of the sale of alcoholic beverages in Québec, because of the violence it provoked among the First Nations people. She offered her suffering to Jesus with a prayer it would call down God's mercy on the colony.

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

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy see and the charitable works of Pope Leo. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Leo to be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous according to your means. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

June 29, 2025

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do the examples of Saint Peter and Saint Paul help me respond to my call and give me hope despite my past actions?

PLEASE PRAY OVER YOUR SACRIFICIAL GIFT TO OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Just two months after formally launching our Upgrading Our Parish Home for Our Children's Children Capital Campaign, our parish has received more than \$950,000 in pledges from about 180 parish households. We are so thankful to all those families and individuals who have given so generously to our capital campaign to make critical upgrades to our parish campus, including replacing our church's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system.

We humbly ask that every parish household make a sacrificial gift to our capital campaign, so that every family contributes to the improvements needed to keep our church welcoming and well-functioning. Your pledges can be paid out over a three-year timeframe and can either be paid with or without a down payment. Please make a recurring or one-time gift by using the QR codes below. Thank you very much for helping our church remain well-maintained, so our body of Christ remains strong!



**PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
FRIDAY, JULY 4**

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Catherine fell ill and died on May 8, 1668, at the age of 36. At the time of her death, she had the reputation as a holy person both in Canada and in France. Both her religious superior and Saint Marie of the Incarnation, an Ursuline nun who was stationed in Québec at the same time as Blessed Catherine of Saint Augustine, attested to the sweetness of her disposition that she exhibited in dealing with others throughout her life, despite the harsh way of life in seventeenth century New France. Saint François de Laval, the first Bishop of Québec wrote, "I don't need to see any extraordinary signs from her to be convinced of her holiness, because her virtues made me perfectly aware of it." She was beatified by Pope Saint John Paul II on April 23, 1989.

May Blessed Catherine of Saint Augustine pray for us!
Until next week.

Fr. John



WALKING WITH PURPOSE BIBLE STUDY GROUPS CONTINUE THIS SUMMER, RE-FORM IN THE FALL

Women's Bible study groups focused on the Gospel of John are beginning to re-form for the fall season. At 10:15-11:45 am Thursday, October 9, join us for an

Open House in the Kuehner Room, where we'll watch a video on this new study. Prospective members need no previous Bible study experience, and the first meeting requires no home preparation. Please consider joining us!

In the meantime, join us at 10:15 am Thursdays through August 7 in the Kuehner Room as we listen to a podcast focusing on The Second Letter of Paul to Timothy. No preparation is needed – just come learn about how the final words of wisdom Paul shared with his dearest friend can apply to your daily life.

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

For further information, see future bulletin announcements or contact Eileen (ehaleygrams@gmail.com) or Lita (litasilva4@gmail.com). Remember that all Walking with Purpose groups welcome new members at any time.

SFA ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) SEEKING NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Our parish OCIA team is looking for additional members to join in guiding adults seeking baptism and completion of the sacraments of initiation beginning this September. If you are interested, please consider the following:

1. Contact Tony Bosnick, OCIA coordinator at St. Francis, to discuss your interest. You can reach him at abosnick@sfdaw.org or call him at (301) 40-1407, Ext. 11.
2. For more information about OCIA, sign up for the OCIA Bootcamp from 9 am-3 pm Saturday, August 2, at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, 917 Montrose Road in Rockville. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP to Lourdes Baeza at (301) 853-5349 or BaezaL@adw.org.

The OCIA Bootcamp provides an overview of the OCIA rites, how it fits into the Church's call to evangelize people and explains the role of OCIA team members. There are currently two Bootcamps scheduled in English, with one in southern Maryland. The archdiocese is working to see if they can offer the bootcamp in Spanish at one of the locations, as well. If not, then the presentation slides will be made available in English and Spanish. The bootcamp is free, but you must register in advance as lunch is provided. To register for one of the trainings, e-mail Lourdes Baeza at baezal@adw.org.



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.

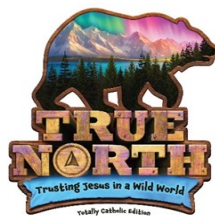
*If payment of registration fees poses a financial hardship,
please contact us and allow us to assist you.*

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 **Gaithersburg Help**. Thank you for your generosity!



St. Francis of Assisi Church Vacation Bible Camp:

June 23-27, 2025

*Thank you to our camper
families and teen and adult volunteers for
making this a great 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.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION UPHOLDS ITS OPPOSITION TO ASSISTED SUICIDE, EUTHANASIA

On June 9, the American Medical Association voted at its annual meeting to uphold its opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide. The vote reinforced the position the physician organization took in 2023, when it strongly considered changing its policy stance but ultimately voted it down.

The AMA's opposition can be found in its House of Delegates Handbook, which states the following: *Of note, the AMA's position on physician assisted suicide is not a position of neutrality and establishes that the profession of medicine should not support the legalization or practice of physician assisted suicide or see it as part of a physician's role.*

The organization's Code of Ethics also drills down its opposition to the policy: *Physician-assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer, would be difficult or impossible to control, and would pose serious societal risks.*

Instead of engaging in assisted suicide, physicians must aggressively respond to the needs of patients at the end of life.

The vote came down the same day that the New York State Senate voted to legalize assisted suicide in the state; New York Gov. Kathy Hochul (D) has not said whether she plans to sign the legislation. Read more at <https://www.ncregister.com/news/klemond-ama-reaffirms-opposition-to-assisted-suicide>.

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.

PLAY, VOLUNTEER OR HELP SUPPORT NNIA'S SET THEM UP FOR SUCCESS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

On August 23, the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance will sponsor its First Annual Set Them Up for Success Volleyball Tournament from 9 am-4 pm at the Interdenominational Church of God in Gaithersburg. Organizers are seeking teams to play in the event, businesses to sponsor the tournament, and volunteers to help run it. St. Francis parishioners are taking a leading role in helping coordinate the tournament and invite you to join us in:

Playing in the tournament: Organizers are fielding eight B level adult co-ed volleyball teams, comprised of up to eight players. B level teams refer to those who play organized recreational volleyball and aspire to execute three hits (pass, set, and hit). Starting June 30, please look for a URL to sign up to register.

Volunteer! Tournament organizers are seeking approximately 30 people to help with the Raffle, officiate the tournament, check in players, volunteers and general spectators, perform first aid and more. Teen volleyball players also needed to be lines people for the matches. Please look out for a Signup Genius link to volunteer.

Donate: Individuals are invited to buy tickets to the event and businesses are sought to sponsor the event to help defray expenses. Tickets to the event are \$5/student, \$10/adult, and \$30/family. Business sponsorships start at \$100 and carry with them a variety of benefits. Please buy tickets in the Gathering Space this weekend and contact Mark Breslaw at m.breslaw51@gmail.com for more information on business sponsorships.

All proceeds after expenses will benefit the mission of the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance. For more information about the tournament, please contact parishioner Melissa Egan at megan@sfadw.org or Chris King at caking.home@gmail.com.



**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

ENROLL YOUR SCHOOL-AGED CHILD AT ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Enrollment is still open at St. Jude Regional Catholic School for Pre-K through 8th Grade!

Our Pre-K program begins with children who are three years old by September 1, while Kindergarten students must be five years old by that date. Families interested in a tour or with questions should e-mail Principal Jeanne Donatelli at Jeanne.Donatelli@stjuderockville.org or call her at (301)-946-7888.

At St. Jude, our school is built on the pillars of **Faith, Unity, and Educational Excellence.**

- Our graduates are **well-prepared for high school** both academically and spiritually.
- **Faith is the foundation** of everything we do—students grow in their relationship with God and are encouraged to be disciples of Christ.
- Our **standardized test scores have remained the same or risen in both math and language arts**, reflecting strong academic growth.
- All our teachers are **fully certified**, and we are proud to have **four Golden Apple Award-winning teachers** on staff. These teachers are recognized as among the **top 10 in the Archdiocese of Washington** each year.
- Most importantly, our students know they are **loved, respected, and supported**—which inspires them to learn, grow, and live out their Catholic faith.

This year's 8th grade class earned close to \$1.5 million dollars in scholarships and aid toward their Catholic high school education. The graduates are attending: Good Counsel, St. John's College High School, Holy Cross, Holy Child, Stone Ridge, DeMatha, The Avalon, Don Bosco, Wheaton, Paint Branch, Einstein, Seneca Valley, and Walter Johnson.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Jude Regional Catholic education and the mission of St. Jude Regional Catholic School!



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

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

All are welcome to attend.

Anuncios del Boletín para el 29 de junio de 2025:



Los grupos de estudio bíblico "Caminando con Propósito" continúan este verano y se reorganizan en otoño.

Los grupos de estudio bíblico para mujeres, centrados en el Evangelio de Juan, se están reorganizando para el otoño. El jueves, 9 de octubre, de 10:15 a 11:45 a. m., acompáñenos a una jornada de puertas abiertas en la Sala Kuehner, donde veremos un video sobre este nuevo estudio. No se necesita experiencia previa en estudios bíblicos para las futuras miembros, y la primera reunión no requiere preparación en casa. ¡Considere unírseles!

Mientras tanto, acompáñenos a las 10:15 a. m. de los jueves hasta el 7 de agosto en la Sala Kuehner para escuchar un podcast centrado en la Segunda Carta de Pablo a Timoteo. No se necesita preparación; solo venga y aprenda cómo las últimas palabras de sabiduría que Pablo compartió con su querido amigo pueden aplicarse a su vida diaria.

Novedad este otoño: Se realizará un estudio de seis sesiones sobre Dios Padre en español los domingos. Para más información, consulte los próximos anuncios del boletín o contacte a Eileen (ehaleygrams@gmail.com) o Lita (litasilva4@gmail.com). Recuerde que todos los grupos de Caminando con Propósito dan la bienvenida a nuevos miembros en cualquier momento.

Inscriba a su hijo en edad escolar en la Escuela Católica Regional St. Jude

¡Las inscripciones siguen abiertas en la Escuela Católica Regional St. Jude desde preescolar hasta octavo grado! Nuestro programa de Preescolar comienza con niños que cumplan tres años el 1 de septiembre, mientras que los estudiantes de Kindergarten deben tener cinco años para esa fecha.

Las familias interesadas en una visita o con preguntas pueden contactar a la directora Jeanne Donatelli por correo electrónico a Jeanne.Donatelli@stjuderockville.org o llamarla al (301)-946-7888.

En St. Jude, nuestra escuela se basa en los pilares de la fe, la unidad y la excelencia educativa.

- Nuestros graduados están **bien preparados para la preparatoria**, tanto académica como espiritualmente.
- **La fe es la base** de todo lo que hacemos: los estudiantes crecen en su relación con Dios y se les anima a ser discípulos de Cristo.
- Nuestros **puntajes en las pruebas estandarizadas se han mantenido o incluso han aumentado, tanto en matemáticas como en lengua y literatura**, lo que refleja un sólido crecimiento académico.
- Todos nuestros maestros están **completamente certificados** y nos enorgullece contar con cuatro maestros ganadores del Premio Golden Apple. Estos maestros son reconocidos entre los 10 mejores de la Arquidiócesis de Washington cada año.

Lo más importante es que nuestros estudiantes saben que son **queridos, respetados y apoyados**, lo que los inspira a aprender, crecer y vivir su fe católica.

¡Gracias por su continuo apoyo a la educación católica regional de St. Jude y a la misión de la Escuela Católica Regional de St. Jude!

Juegue, sea voluntario o apoye el Torneo de Voleibol "Prepárelos para el Éxito" de NNIA el 23 de agosto.

El 23 de agosto, la Alianza Interreligiosa de Nuevos Vecinos patrocinará su Primer Torneo Anual de Voleibol "Prepárelos para el Éxito", de 9:00 a. m. a 4:00 p. m., en la Iglesia Interdenominacional de Dios en Gaithersburg. Los organizadores buscan equipos para participar en el evento, empresas que patrocinen el torneo y voluntarios para ayudar a organizarlo. Los feligreses de San Francisco están desempeñando un papel fundamental en la coordinación del torneo y los invitan a unirse a nosotros en:

Participación en el torneo: Los organizadores presentarán ocho equipos mixtos de voleibol para adultos de nivel B, compuestos por hasta ocho jugadores. Los equipos de nivel B se refieren a aquellos que juegan voleibol recreativo organizado y aspiran a ejecutar tres golpes (pase, colocación y golpe). A partir del 30 de junio, busquen el enlace para registrarse.

Voluntariado! Los organizadores del torneo buscan aproximadamente 30 personas para ayudar con la rifa, arbitrar el torneo, registrar a los jugadores, voluntarios y espectadores, brindar primeros auxilios y más. También se necesitan jugadores adolescentes de voleibol para ser asistentes de línea en los partidos. Busquen el enlace de Signup Genius para ser voluntarios.

Donaciones: Se invita a las personas a comprar entradas para el evento y se buscan empresas que patrocinen el evento para ayudar a sufragar los gastos. Las entradas cuestan \$5 por estudiante, \$10 por adulto y \$30 por familia. Los patrocinios empresariales comienzan en \$100 y ofrecen diversos beneficios. Por favor compren sus entradas en el Espacio de Reunión este fin de semana y contacten a Mark Breslaw en m.breslaw51@gmail.com para obtener más información sobre patrocinios empresariales.

Todos los ingresos, después de los gastos, se destinarán a la misión de la Alianza Interreligiosa Nuevos Vecinos. Para más información sobre el torneo, contacte con la feligresa Melissa Egan en megan@sfdw.org o con Chris King en caking.home@gmail.com.

La Orden de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (OICA) de la SFA busca nuevos miembros para el equipo

Nuestro equipo parroquial de OICA busca nuevos miembros para acompañar a los adultos que buscan el bautismo y completar los sacramentos de iniciación a partir de septiembre. Si le interesa, considere lo siguiente: 1) Contacte a Tony Bosnick, coordinador de OICA en San Francisco, para hablar sobre su interés. Puede contactarlo en abosnick@sfdw.org o llamarlo al (301) 240-1407, Ext. 11.2) Para más información sobre OICA, inscribise en el campamento de entrenamiento de OICA de 9:00 a. m. a 3:00 p. m. el sábado, 2 de agosto en la Iglesia Católica de Santa Isabel, ubicada en 917 Montrose Road, Rockville. Se ofrece almuerzo. Por favor, confirme su asistencia a Lourdes Baeza al (301) 853-5349 o a BaezaL@adw.org.

El taller de OCIA ofrece una descripción general de los ritos de OCIA, cómo se integran en el llamado de la Iglesia a evangelizar y explica el papel de los miembros del equipo de OCIA. Actualmente hay dos talleres programados en inglés, uno de ellos en el sur de Maryland. La arquidiócesis está trabajando para ver si puede ofrecer el taller también en español en alguna de las ubicaciones. De no ser posible, las diapositivas de la presentación estarán disponibles en inglés y español. El taller es gratuito, pero debe inscribirse con anticipación, ya que se ofrece almuerzo. Para inscribirse en uno de los talleres, envíe un correo electrónico a Lourdes Baeza a baezal@adw.org.