ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

BMass Intentions

August 18 - August 24, 2025

Monday, 8/18	9:00 a.m.	George Nu Nam Young
Tuesday, 8/19	9:00 a.m.	St. Francis Priests (L)
Wednesday, 8/20	9:00 a.m.	Peggy Smith
	7:30 p.m.	David & George Waghorn
Thursday, 8/21	9:00 a.m.	Rev. William Brailsford
Friday, 8/22	9:00 a.m.	Adolfo Arias, Jr.
Saturday, 8/23	5:00 p.m.	Dennis James Wrona
Sunday, 8/24	8:00 a.m.	Pro populo
	9:30 a.m.	David Osteen
	11:15 a.m.	Maura D'Souza
	1:00 p.m.	Arellano Family (L)
	5:00 p.m.	Anastacia Meneses

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Jeffrey Koscinski, brother of Michael Koscinski., Franz Yap, nephew of Maria Arias.

Please pray for the sick....Ryan Michael Maguire, Paul McKenna, Marlene Russo, Elsa O'Campo, Romana Gomes, Lee Glusing, Allen Kay, Evelyn Roebuck, Virginia Hartswick, George Beall, 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, 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 August 17, 2025

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Ps 40:2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/

Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab

and 44/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/

Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: J gs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16 **Thursday:** Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/

Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-

9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/

Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7,

11-13/Lk 13:22-30

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Before I was ordained to the priesthood I was on the editorial board for Ancient Christian Writers, a book series of English translations of early Christian writers. The managing editor was Fr. Dennis Mc Manus, a priest of the Archdiocese of Mobile. Fr. McManus also worked as a liturgist for a number of years at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Camillo Barone, a staff reporter for the *National Catholic Reporter* (NCR) tells the story in a recent column in NCR about Fr. McManus and the late James Cardinal Hickey, former Archbishop of Washington. (Cardinal Hickey ordained me to the diaconate and priesthood in 1998.)

In 1997, Fr. McManus took a call from Cardinal Hickey who was badly shaken from a very recent experience when he visited Auschwitz, the former concentration camp in Poland. Dennis was known even then as an expert on the Holocaust and Jewish-Catholic history. Cardinal Hickey explained that he wanted to talk with someone who knew something about prayer and Jewish-Catholic relations in light of his experience at the crematorium at Auschwitz.

Cardinal Hickey had been part of a private tour of Auschwitz. As he walked through the gas chamber where hundreds of thousands were killed, he paused before one of the ovens where ashes and bones were still visible. Overwhelmed, he put his hand in the ashes and started to pray.

Suddenly he was surrounded by a group of men in stripped prison uniforms, speaking in German, Polish, and Yiddish—languages that Cardinal Hickey did not understand. He turned to them to say that he was sorry, but he did not understand what they were saying. Then the group of men vanished after a few seconds.

Cardinal Hickey flew to Rome to talk with Pope Saint John Paul II because he was badly shaken by the vision. In a private audience with the Holy Father, Cardinal Hickey related what happened to him at Auschwitz. Pope John Paul II listened and immediately nodded. "It has happened to other priests who visited Auschwitz," he said. "They are saying: This must never happen again." Pope Saint John Paul II also told the Cardinal that the voices he heard were imploring him to do something so that this wouldn't happen ever again. Cardinal Hickey then asked Pope John Paul II what he should do to answer their request. Pope John Paul said in reply, "Ask God."

Cardinal Hickey did that and then launched *Bearing Witness*—a joint program between the Catholic Church and the ADL (Anti-Defamation League)—to help Catholic educators examine the distressing history of Catholic-Jewish relations and to learn the Church's teaching on this important relationship since Vatican II. The program has continued to the present day. From July 23-26, 2025, there was a seminar for Catholic School Educators in New York City entitled "We Remember: Exploring the Holocaust and Antisemitism for Catholic School Educators."

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

OUESTION OF THE WEEK

When has something I've said or done in accordance with my faith divided family or friends? How have I handled this? Could I have handled it hetter?

WOMEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN WALKING WITH PURPOSE THIS FALL

Walking With Purpose Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—Walking with Purpose is for you!

Using the book, "Touching the Divine," this group will learn about divine qualities of Jesus revealed in the Gospel of John. We begin from 10:15-11:45 am Thursday, October 9. Using the book, "Viviendo en el amor del Padre," and conducted in Spanish, a second group will learn about God's unconditional love. We'll meet from 11:15 am-12:45 pm September 14, 21, 28 and October 12, 19, and 26.

Order your book and learn more at <u>walkingwithpurpose.com</u>. Questions? Contact Lita (<u>litasilva4@gmail.com</u>) or Eileen (<u>ehaleygrams@gmail.com</u>).

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

The seminar took its name from the 1998 Vatican document We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah. The Catholic educators who participated not only reflected on the Holocaust but also confronted the tragic history of Jewish-Christian relations and the work done toward healing as they commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of Nostra Aetate (a declaration from Vatican II that emphasized the Catholic Church's commitment to fostering positive relations with non-Christian religions, particularly Judaism and Islam, and condemned antisemitism). Catholic educators explored the profound responsibility of teaching the Holocaust within the context of faith, morality, and human rights through an agenda that included expert-led sessions, survivor testimonies, interactive workshops, the latest pedagogy, and opportunities for prayer and reflection.

Let me close this reflection by quoting the last paragraph of *We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah:*

Finally, we invite all men and women of good will to reflect deeply on the significance of the Shoah. The victims from their graves, and the survivors through the vivid testimony of what they have suffered, have become a loud voice calling the attention of all of humanity. To remember this terrible experience is to become fully conscious of the salutary waning it entails: the spoiled seeds of anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism must never again be allowed to take root in any human heart.

Until next week, *Fr. John*



USE YOUR INTERCESSORY & EVANGELIZING GIFTS IN TELLING OTHERS ABOUT OCIA

As Catholics, we are called to be both intercessors and evangelizers to those who may want to better know Jesus. If you have the gift of offering your prayers and your faith witness, then consider inviting others to 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 Tuesday, September 16, Spanish speakers curious about our faith will begin meeting in small groups in the Rectory's Youth Room, while English speakers will begin exploring our Catholic faith on Wednesday, September 17, in the Kuehner Room.

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 about OCIA in English.

POOR BOX DONATIONS

The donations for next weekend will go to *Catholic Charities Prison Ministry Outreach*. Thank you for your generosity!



THANK YOU & FAREWELL

On Sunday, August 24, our parish will host a farewell reception for Deacon Jim and Patrice Datovech at 6 pm in the Gathering Space of the church. After 44 years in the parish, the Datoveches are moving their parish home to Urbana, MD, where they

recently relocated. We would like to thank Deacon Jim for his decades of ministry service, both as a lay leader in our parish, and as a permanent deacon for the past 17 years. And we would like to thank Patrice for her leadership in many ministries, including as a Religious Education catechist, Bingo team member, Confirmation Team member, and coordinator of writing the Prayers of the Faithful.

Please join us to celebrate the Datovech family, as they pursue this next leg of their lives! For more information, please contact the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.



2025-26 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

SAVE BY REGISTERING NOW FOR 2025-26 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Please be sure to return your registration no later than September 1 so that we can be ready to welcome your child as our program begins!

We look forward to the continuing participation of all parish religious education families, and we are eager to welcome new families.

Please share program information with family, friends, and neighbors!

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. 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 sfareli-gioused@sfadw.org.

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

As we prepare for the start of the 2025-26 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.

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.

REGISTRATION OPEN AT ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We are currently enrolling for the upcoming school year, with limited openings available in Grades 3, 5, and 6 grade. St. Jude is built on the pillars of Faith, Unity, and Educational Excellence. We look forward to welcoming your family to our community! To learn more or to schedule a tour, please contact Principal Jeanne Donatelli (301) 946-7888 or e-mail Jeanne.Donatelli@stjuderockille.org.

HELP CELEBRATE ST. MARTIN OF TOURS SCHOOL'S CENTENNIAL GALA

Our sister parish, St. Martin of Tours, is celebrating its school's centennial gala this year! Please join the celebration commemorating 100 years of faith, education, and community by attending the school's Mass and Gala on Saturday, September 13. The Mass will begin at 5 pm September 13 at St. Martin of Tours Catho-

lic Church. The formal celebration will then follow at 7 pm at the Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Ave, in Gaithersburg. Scan the following QR code to purchase tickets, make a gift, or sponsor the event For more information, please



sponsor the event. For more information, please e-mail sms100@smsmd.org.

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY CLASSES BEGIN THIS SEPTEMBER

Hungry for More?

Do you long to know God more deeply and see His power at work in your daily life? St. John Paul II called the Church to a New Evangelization—a bold return to mission, holiness, and the power of the Holy Spirit. The Encounter School of Ministry – DC Campus exists to answer that call. Rooted in the heart of the Church, Encounter equips Catholics to live from their true identity, be empowered by the Holy Spirit, and bring healing, hope, and the Gospel message into everyday life. This dynamic two-year Catholic ministry school meets Tuesday evenings from 6–9 PM, beginning September 9, 2025 at Mother of God School in Gaithersburg, MD. Come be transformed—and be part of transforming the world. Learn more at encounterschool.org/dc

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY SHORTAGES

Canned Pasta w/meat

(Ravioli, Lasagna, Spaghetti w/meatballs)

Canned Fruit

Canned Beans (15 oz) Red-Black-Cannellini-Baked (Need per week is 100 cans)

Canned Corn (15 oz)

Soup - Chicken Related (15 oz)

Canned Tuna, Chicken, Salmon (5 oz)

Boxes of Pasta (1 lb)

Diapers No. 5 & 6 and wipes

Adult diapers size Large only

Paper Bags (Wegmans or Trader Joe size or similar). Plastic Newspaper or Grocery Bags. Plastic egg cartons are also needed.

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

Thank you for your support-your donations supported 347 families this past week. God Bless You!



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.



HELP FOR MARRIAGES IN TROUBLE

Is your marriage reaching a crossroads? Are you looking for a way to resolve long-held differences? The Retrouvaille Program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship. It is a Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, in which couples of all faiths or no faith background are encouraged to attend. It can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy, and heal. For confidential information about or to register for the weekend on August 29-31, 2025, please visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org, call (443) 400–7017, or e-mail 3015@HelpOurMarriage.org. There is hope!

LAMB OF GOD CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP Come Pray with us. - All are welcome!

We meet from 7:30 to 9:00 pm Tuesday evening in the St. Clare Chapel in the Rectory. We will meet August 19, 26. Our meeting starts with songs of praise and worship and moves into prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. After prayer time we read, discuss, and reflect on the scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday liturgy. This helps us to expand our knowledge and understanding of God's word for us today.

AUGUST 2025 CALENDAR Aug 20 7:30 pm Martha/Mary Group (YR) Aug 22 9:30 am Adoration (CH) Aug 23 7:30 am Prayer & Life Workshop (YR) 8:00 am Book Group (AR) 9:00 am NNIA Volleyball Tournament Aug 24 6:00 pm Datovech Reception (GS) 7:30 pm Aug 25 Haiti Committee Mtg (Virtual) Aug 28 7:00 pm Choir (CH) SVDP Mtg (KR) 7:30 pm Aug 29 9:30 am Adoration (CH)



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration is held on Fridays in the CHURCH.
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
All are welcome to attend.



Please Come to the Set Them Up for Success Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser on August 23!

It's finally here! The second Set Them Up for Success Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser will take place from 9 am-4 pm Saturday, August 23, at the Inter-

Denominational Church of God in Gaithersburg. Please join us at the church, located at 19201 Woodfield Road, for a fun-filled day of volleyball matches, kids' games and activities, a raffle of fantastic gift baskets, and community spirit, in support of the mission of the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance, an interfaith coalition co-founded by our parish that helps welcome and acclimate new immigrant neighbors to Montgomery County.

You can help us out by the following:

<u>Volunteer!</u>: The volleyball tournament needs a lot of hands to run well. Please help check in teams, collect money from spectators, staff the Raffle table, or serve as a photographer. On the tournament side, we need scorekeepers, line judges, runners and other roles filled. Middle school and high school students can also earn SSL ours by working at the tournament; sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4FA4AA2DA2F58-57558762-setting.

Buy an admission ticket and raffle tickets: We invite everyone to attend the volleyball tournament and community event! Please buy an admission ticket at the door or at https://ssl.charityweb.net/nnia-maryland/event/stutickets.htm; the cost is \$5/student, \$10/adult, and \$30/family. At the same link, you can also buy tickets to our raffle, which will take place while the volleyball games are being played. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five.

Thank you for supporting this volleyball tournament. If you have questions, please contact Volleyball Tournament Co-Coordinator Melissa Egan at megan@sfadw.org or Chris King at caking.home@gmail.com. We hope to see you at the 2025 Set Them Up for Success volleyball tournament!

Anuncios del Boletín para el 17 de augosto de 2025:



Use sus dones intercesores y evangelizadores para contarles a otros sobre OCIA

Como católicos, estamos llamados a ser intercesores y evangelizadores para aquellos que quieran conocer mejor a Jesús. Si tiene el don de ofrecer sus oraciones y su testimonio de fe, considere invitar a otros a nuestro programa de Orden de Iniciación Cristiana. Dirigido por nuestros dedicados equipos de OCIA, el programa de 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 programas: uno para angloparlantes y otro para hispanohablantes. El martes 16 de septiembre, los hispanohablantes curiosos sobre nuestra fe comenzarán a reunirse en pequeños grupos en el Salón de Jóvenes de la Rectoría, mientras que los angloparlantes comenzarán a explorar nuestra fe católica el miércoles 17 de septiembre en el Salón Kuehner.

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 con 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, comuníquese con el P. Grzegorz Okulewicz en gokulewicz@sfadw.org sobre OCIA en español o con el Director de Preocupaciones Sociales y Formación en la Fe de Adultos, Tony Bosnick, en abosnick@sfadw.org sobre OCIA en inglés.

Se anima a las mujeres a unirse a Caminando con Propósito este otoño

Los estudios bíblicos de Caminando con Propósito combinan el estudio personal con la discusión en grupos pequeños, vinculando nuestros desafíos cotidianos con las soluciones que se nos dan a través de las enseñanzas de Cristo y la Iglesia Católica. Si desea crecer en su fe, en una comunidad de apoyo de mujeres católicas, ¡Caminando con propósito es para usted!

Usando el libro, "Tocando lo Divino", este grupo aprenderá acerca de las cualidades divinas de Jesús reveladas en el Evangelio de Juan. Comenzamos de 10:15 a 11:45 am el jueves 9 de octubre. Usando el libro, "Viviendo en el amor del Padre", y conducido en español, un segundo grupo aprenderá sobre el amor incondicional de Dios. Nos reuniremos de 11:15 am a 12:45 pm el 14, 21, 28 de septiembre y el 12, 19 y 26 de octubre.

Ordene su libro y obtenga más información en <u>walkingwithpurpose.com</u>. ¿Preguntas? Póngase en contacto con Lita (<u>litasilva4@gmail.com</u>) o Eileen (<u>ehaleygrams@gmail.com</u>)



¡Venga a la recaudación de fondos del torneo de voleibol Set Them Up for Success el 23 de agosto!

¡Por fin está aquí! El segundo evento de recaudación de fondos del torneo de voleibol Set Them Up for Success se llevará a cabo de 9 am a 4 pm el sábado 23 de agosto

en la Iglesia de Dios Interdenominacional en Gaithersburg. Únase a nosotros en la iglesia, ubicada en 19201 Woodfield Road, para un día lleno de diversión de partidos de voleibol, juegos y actividades para niños, una rifa de fantásticas canastas de regalo y espíritu comunitario, en apoyo de la misión de New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance, una coalición interreligiosa cofundada por nuestra parroquia que ayuda a dar la bienvenida y aclimatar a los nuevos vecinos inmigrantes al condado de Montgomery.

Puedes ayudarnos de la siguiente manera:

¡Voluntario!: El torneo de voleibol necesita muchas manos para funcionar bien. Ayude a los equipos de registro, recaude dinero de los espectadores, trabaje en la mesa de la rifa o sirva como fotógrafo. En el lado del torneo, necesitamos anotadores, jueces de línea, corredores y otros roles ocupados. Los estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria también pueden obtener SSL nuestro trabajando en el torneo; Regístrese en https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4FA4AA2DA2F58-57558762-setting.

Compre un boleto de admisión y boletos para la rifa:

¡Invitamos a todos a asistir al torneo de voleibol y al evento comunitario! Compre un boleto de admisión en la puerta o en https://ssl.charityweb.net/nnia-maryland/event/stutickets.htm; el costo es de \$5 / estudiante, \$10 / adulto y \$30 / familia. En el mismo enlace, también puede comprar entradas para nuestro sorteo, que se llevará a cabo mientras se juegan los partidos de voleibol. Los boletos cuestan \$5 cada uno o \$20 por cinco.

Gracias por apoyar este torneo de voleibol. Si tiene preguntas, comuníquese con la cocoordinadora del torneo de voleibol Melissa Egan en megan@sfadw.org o Chris King en ca-king.home@gmail.com. ¡Esperamos verlo en el torneo de voleibol Set Them Up for Success 2025!

Ayude a celebrar la gala del centenario de la escuela St. Martin of Tours

¡Nuestra parroquia hermana, St. Martin of Tours, está celebrando la gala del centenario de su escuela este año! Únase a la celebración que conmemora los 100 años de fe, educación y comunidad asistiendo a la Misa y Gala de la escuela el sábado 13 de septiembre. La misa co-

menzará a las 5 pm el 13 de septiembre en la Iglesia Católica St. Martin of Tours. La celebración formal seguirá a las 7 pm en el Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Ave, en Gaithersburg. Escanee el siguiente código QR para comprar boletos, hacer un regalo o patrocinar el

evento. Para obtener más información, envíe un correo electrónico a sms100@smsmd.org.