

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

Mass Intentions

March 9 - March 15, 2026

Monday, 3/9	9:00 a.m.	Rommel Yatco
Tuesday, 3/10	9:00 a.m.	Reverend Charles Muzzy
Wednesday, 3/11	9:00 a.m.	Kathleen Lopez
	7:30 p.m.	Reverend Klaus Sirianni
Thursday, 3/12	9:00 a.m.	Kathleen Lopez
Friday, 3/13	9:00 a.m.	Sue Yesko
Saturday, 3/14	5:00 p.m.	Peg & Don Smith
Sunday, 3/15	8:00 a.m.	Kathleen Lopez
	9:30 a.m.	Terry King, Jr.
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	1:00 p.m.	Alex O'Connor
	5:00 p.m.	Richard McKee

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Gary Ager, husband of Antonette Ager, Joan Tatum, mother of Teresa Perryman.

Please pray for the sick... Luisa Mendez, Barbara Pedersen, Darcy Henshaw, Brian Ford, Meghan Fuentes, John Talcott, Ryan Michael Maguire, Allen Kay, Evelyn Roebuck, Virginia Hartswick, Dee Comly, Richard Yeast, Virginia Kingkeo, Marie C. Williams, Tom Breece, Deacon James McCann, Tristan Olin-Fixico, 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 March 8, 2026

Sunday:	Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/ Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/ Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/ Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/ Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/ Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9,

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Ten years ago, Emily Simpson published an article in the now defunct *Our Sunday Visitor* about the spiritual works of mercy. In that article she paired an individual spiritual work of mercy with a particular saint. Let me list those below

- ***Counseling the doubtful:** St. Francis de Sales
- ***Instructing the Ignorant:** St. Francis Xavier
- ***Admonishing sinners:** St. Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe
- ***Forgiving offenses:** St. Maria Goretti
- ***Comforting the afflicted:** St. André Bessette
- ***Bearing wrongs patiently:** St. Jean Juggan
- ***Praying for the living and the dead:** St. Rose Philippine
Duchesne

Another feature of that article is listing some things that we can do to practice that work of mercy. I am going to list Emily Simpson's ideas below, as they may give us some ideas we can put into practice during Lent this year.

Counseling the doubtful

- Take time to answer your child's questions about the Faith. If you don't know the answers, research them together.
- Avoid speaking cynically or sarcastically about the Church, its bishops and priests—especially on social media.
- Speak optimistically about God and his plan for you, even in the midst of trials.

Instructing the ignorant

- Volunteer as a catechist at your parish.
- Share articles and book reviews about the Catholic Faith on Facebook and Twitter.
- Charitably correct those who say something false about Jesus, the Church, or the human person.

Admonishing sinners

- Speak out, with charity, against sinful and unjust practices in the culture.
- Do not vote for political candidates who support abortion and other policies contrary to moral law.

Forgiving offenses

- Forgive and pray for those who have hurt you.
- Do not speak ill of others, even when they've treated you unjustly.
- Invite family members from whom you have become estranged to gatherings.

Comforting the afflicted

- Call or visit a friend who is experiencing difficulties.
- Send a gift or care package to someone who is struggling.
- Write an encouraging note to someone in need of support.

Bearing wrongs patiently

- Pray the Litany of Humility.
- Hold your tongue (and don't honk your horn), the next time someone cuts you off in traffic.
- Don't defend yourself in social media if others speak ill of you.

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

March 8, 2026

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can the life-giving water I received in Baptism flow through me to quench the thirst of others in need?

WELCOME to the Family of Christ!

The following individuals and their families recently joined our St. Francis faith community during the month of February:

William & Colleen Klipstein
Harold & Rosio Maldonado

No Baptisms were held in February.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

STUDENTS

Saturday, March 14 at 10 am in the Church

Students entering 4th grade and older who have already received their First Communion are eligible to attend training.

ADULT SERVERS

Sunday, March 15 at 6:15 pm in the Church.

If you are interested in becoming a student or adult server, please call the Parish Office, 301-840-1407 to register.

Thank you!

PICK UP THE MARCH ISSUE OF OUR PARISH TIMES FEATURING STORIES FROM OUR PARISH

Interested in learning more about the important parishioner work that helps make our parish vibrant? If so, then pick up a copy of the March issue of *Our Parish Times*. The March issue features several stories from our parish on 2026 being the 40th anniversary of our Parish Twinning Partnership between St. Francis of Assisi Church and Conversion of St. Paul's Parish in Léon, Haiti; the return of parish teens to the Mount 2000 Retreat in Emmitsburg, MD, last month; and the first two speakers who took part in our Lenten Parish Mission talks.

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

Praying for the living and the dead

- When frustrated, offended or tempted to anger, pray the "Jesus prayer."
- Keep a list of people who need prayers close at hand and include them regularly in your prayers.
- Have Masses celebrated for those in need and for departed friends and family.

Until next week,
Fr. John



Join Us for Events this third Week of Lent!

- **Confession:**
5-7 pm Thursday, March 12, and 3:30-4:30 pm Saturday, March 14, in the St. Clare Chapel of the Rectory (English) and 3:30-4:30 pm Saturday, March 14, in the church confessional English and Spanish).
- **Stations of the Cross:**
6 pm (Spanish) and 7 pm (English) Friday, March 13, in the church.
- **Lenten Mission Talk:**
7:45 pm, March 13, in the church. Speakers will be parishioners Christine King and Mary Kate Ryner and new neighbors from the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance.
- **Vocations Tree :** Please pick up a card from the Vocations Tree in the Gathering Space to pray for one of the seminarians in the Archdiocese of Washington. These young men need our prayers this Lent, as they discern their vocation.



JOIN US FOR HOOPS FOR HAITI ON MARCH 14 AT OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL

In less than a week, the Haiti Ministry will host Hoops for Haiti, its fun-filled, community-building basketball event, from 3:30-9 pm Saturday, March 14, at

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in Olney. Hoops for Haiti raises funds and awareness for mission work in our sister parish of Haiti through its offering of a 3 x 3 basketball tournament and a marquee game pitting the veteran adults against the young adults and older teenagers. In between the basketball games, the intergenerational event features Bible Trivia, a 50/50 raffle, basketball games for young kids and the young at heart, food and lots of fun.

Admission to Hoops for Haiti is free in celebration of this being the 40th anniversary of the Parish Twinning Partnership that paired St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church with Conversion of St. Paul's Parish in Léon, Haiti. At-will donations are greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in signing up to play in the 3 x 3 tournament or in the main game, then please contact Haiti Ministry Coordinator Dan Cardile, dancardile@yahoo.com or Wendel Hall whall@hallglobal.net. Or if you're interested in just watching and joining in the fun, then please come to Hoops for Haiti at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School!



2025-26 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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 meets today Sunday, March 8, 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.

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Eucharist this year: the next First Eucharist Parent Meetings will be held in the Parish Center on Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 pm. Parents are asked to attend one of these in-person meetings. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP 2026: JUNE 29-JULY 3

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2026 to share in our summer Vacation Bible Camp. VBC volunteer opportunities are also available for middle school and high school age teens, and adults as well. Program details, including camper registration and volunteer application for teens, will be announced in April. Watch our parish website for camper registration and information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens: <https://sfadw.org/vbc>.

SNOW/EMERGENCY CANCELLATION POLICY

If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed for weather, and if schools are dismissed early, Religious Education classes are also cancelled. This applies to Sunday classes as well if Montgomery County Public Schools announces cancellation of weekend school activities.

Cancellation announcements will be posted:

- On the parish website: www.sfadw.org
- On the St. Francis Parish Facebook page: "St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church"
- On the Religious Education Office phone voicemail: 301-258-9193.
- Through Flocknote messages to families

Whenever in doubt, please use your own judgment about local weather and driving conditions, and err on the side of safety when making decisions about bringing your child to class.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14 – Hoops for Haiti

Join in the annual parish basketball tournament. See bulletin and parish website for more details.

March 18 – Youth Night

Pizza, games, scripture and prayer.
Join us for Mercy Part II.
Meet in Parish Center from 7 - 8:30pm.

April Service Opportunity TBD

April 15 – Youth Night

Pizza, games, scripture and prayer.
Meet in Parish Center from 7 - 8:30pm.

April 29 – Youth Night

Pizza, games, scripture and prayer.
Meet in Parish Center from 7 - 8:30pm.

Email Francesca Santos at
sfayouth@sfadw.org to register.



Nourishing Futures in Guatemala

In Guatemala, nutrition classes and savings programs give mothers and families better opportunities to improve their health, nutrition and financial well-being. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-e to read how your support of CRS Rice bowl is helping the Guatemala Community thrive.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (*continued*)

WAYS TO SERVE

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

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

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

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY SHORTAGES

Prioritized Needs Include:

1. Pasta (Dry 1 pound boxes or bags) Our biweekly shortage is 300 pounds
2. "Meals in a can" or canned pasta with meat - 1 pound cans- Ravioli, Lasagna, Spaghetti with Meat. Biweekly shortage is 180 cans
3. Canned soup. Biweekly demand is 1,360 cans
4. Canned corn or green beans. Current biweekly shortage of each is 80 cans.

No diapers are required at this time.

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

Because of the snow, your donations supported only 30 families this past week. God Bless You! Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE

PARISH YARD SALE
April 18, 2026 8am - 12pm

Watch the bulletin for donation drop off dates.

ON MARCH 20, JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTGOMERY COUNCIL 2323 FOR A LENTEN FISH TACO DINNER

On Friday, March 20, join the Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council 2323 for its final Lenten dinner from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road, in Derwood. Diners can choose between eating onsite or carry out. Tickets will be sold at the door or in advance. Dinner includes fish tacos, sides, soda, wine, beer, and coffee. The price will be \$15 for adults and \$8 for children six and younger. This dinner will support The Little Sisters of the Poor, the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center, and the Fisher House Foundation. Prepayment for dinners or online donations via credit card is available under the News & Announcement Tab of the KofC Montgomery Council 2323 website: <https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/index.asp?CNO=2323> For more information, contact Joe Merritt at jem15319@gmail.com or text him at (703) 635-5488. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kofc2323



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 a limited time only get **one year free** online membership by clicking on the QR Code! For more information please contact Membership Director, John DeMare, johnd2323@comcast.net or 240-354-6648. ***Vivat Jesus!***



SCAN ME

MOTHER TERESA VOCATION SOCIETY

22nd Annual Day of Recollection

Saturday, March 14, 2026

Annunciation Catholic Church

Washington D.C.

SCHEDULE

- 9:00 am Celebration of Mass ~ Father Mark Ivany
Concelebrants ~ Father Scott Hahn,
Father Alex Wyvill
Homilist ~ Deacon Jessiah Rojas
- 9:45 am Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
and Reflection by Father Ivany
Confessions will be available.
- 10:45 am Benediction and Break
- 11:00 am Keynote Speaker ~ Father Rob Maro
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 12:30 pm Anne-Elisabeth Giuliani
Archdiocesan Delegate for
Consecrated Life
- 1:00 pm Update on Priest Vocations and the Mother
Teresa Vocation Society ~
Father Mark Ivany and Santa Bigony
- 1:30 pm Final Blessing

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 meet every Tuesday evening. In March we will meet March 10, 17, 24 & 31. 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.

SEMINARIAN PREPARING FOR MILITARY SERVICE TO SPEAK MARCH 17 AT KNIGHTS SPEAKER EVENT

The Knights of Columbus Montgomery Council 2323 and the Sullivan Brothers Assembly 2861 will host a speaker in the seminary who is in formation for the priesthood with the Archdiocese of Military Services. Lt. CJ Wild will speak at 8 pm Tuesday, March 17, at the Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road in Derwood. All parish families are invited to attend and hear about the unique faith journey of this future military chaplain. Light refreshments will follow the presentation. For more information, contact Steven Willer at (202) 809-6784

POOR BOX DONATIONS The donations for next weekend will go to the **UMAN (Upper Montgomery Assistance Network)**. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Anuncios del boletín para el 8 de marzo de 2026:



¡Únase a nosotros en los eventos de esta Cuarta Semana de Cuaresma!

- **Confesión:** 5:00-7:00 p. m. el jueves, 12 de marzo y 3:30-4:30 p. m. el sábado, 14 de marzo en la Capilla de Santa Clara de la Rectoría (inglés) y 3:30-4:30 p. m. el sábado, 14 de marzo en el confesionario de la iglesia (inglés y español).
- **Vía Crucis:** 6:00 p. m. (español) y 7:00 p. m. (inglés) el viernes, 13 de marzo en la iglesia.
- **Charla sobre la Misión Cuaresmal:** 7:45 p. m. el viernes, 13 de marzo en la iglesia. Los oradores serán las feligresas Christine King y Mary Kate Ryner, y nuevos vecinos de la Alianza Interreligiosa de Nuevos Vecinos. Por favor, recoja una tarjeta del Árbol de Vocaciones en el Espacio de Reunión para orar por uno de los seminaristas de la Arquidiócesis de Washington. Estos jóvenes necesitan nuestras oraciones esta Cuaresma, mientras disciernen su vocación.



Acompáñenos a Aros para Haití (Hoops for Haití) el 14 de marzo en la Escuela Secundaria Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo.

En menos de una semana, el Ministerio de Haití organizará Aros para Haití, su divertido evento de baloncesto que fomenta el desarrollo comunitario, de 3:30 p. m. a 9 p. m. el sábado, 14 de marzo en la Escuela Secundaria Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo en Olney. Aros para Haití recauda fondos y concientiza sobre el trabajo misionero en nuestra parroquia hermana de Haití mediante un torneo de baloncesto 3x3 y un partido estrella que enfrenta a los adultos veteranos contra los jóvenes y adolescentes mayores. Entre los partidos de baloncesto, el evento intergeneracional incluye Trivia Bíblica, una rifa 50/50, partidos de baloncesto para niños pequeños y jóvenes de corazón, comida y mucha diversión. La entrada a Aros para Haití es gratuita en celebración del 40.º aniversario de la Asociación de Hermanamiento Parroquial que unió a la Iglesia Católica de San Francisco de Asís con la Parroquia de la Conversión de San Pablo en León, Haití. Agradecemos enormemente las donaciones voluntarias.

Si le interesa inscribirse para participar en el torneo 3x3 o en el partido principal, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Ministerio de Haití, Dan Cardile, a dancardile@yahoo.com o con Wendel Hall, a whall@hallglobal.net. Si simplemente desea ver y divertirse, ¡venga a Aros para Haití en la Escuela Secundaria Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo!



Reflexión de Cuaresma con Adoración Eucarística

Sábado, 14 de marzo 2026
St. Francis of Assisi - 9:00am - 12:30 p.m.

Director Espiritual
Rev. Juan Pablo Noboa

6701 Muncaster Mill Road
Derwood, MD 20855



Para Información Contactar al Diácono Will Garcia y/o Lourdes Garcia al
240-447-9415

Consiga la edición de marzo de Our Parish Times con historias de nuestra parroquia.

¿Le interesa saber más sobre la importante labor de los feligreses que contribuye al dinamismo de nuestra parroquia? Si es así, consiga una copia de la edición de marzo de Our Parish Times en inglés. El número de marzo presenta varias historias de nuestra parroquia sobre el 40.º aniversario de nuestra Asociación de Hermanamiento Parroquial entre la Iglesia de San Francisco de Asís y la Parroquia de la Conversión de San Pablo en León, Haití, en 2026; el regreso de los adolescentes de la parroquia al Retiro Monte 2000 en Emmitsburg, Maryland, el mes pasado; y los dos primeros oradores que participaron en nuestras charlas de Misión Parroquial de Cuaresma.

Por favor, recoja la edición en la mesa del Espacio de Reunión o léalo en línea en <http://www.parishtimes.com/>.

El 20 de marzo, acompañe al Consejo Montgomery 2323 de los Caballeros de Colón en una cena cuaresmal de tacos de pescado.

El 20 de marzo, acompañe al Consejo Montgomery 2323 de los Caballeros de Colón en su última cena cuaresmal de 6:30 a 8:30 p. m. en el Father Cuddy Hall, 17001 Overhill Road, Derwood. Los comensales pueden elegir entre comer en el local o pedir comida para llevar. Las entradas se venderán en taquilla o con antelación. La cena incluye tacos de pescado, guarniciones, refresco, vino, cerveza y café. El precio será de \$15 para adultos y \$8 para niños de seis años o menos. Esta cena se destinará a las Hermanitas de los Pobres, el Centro de Embarazo Shady Grove y la Fundación Fisher House.

Puede pagar por adelantado las cenas o donar en línea con tarjeta de crédito en la sección de Noticias y Anuncios del sitio web del Consejo 2323 de los Caballeros de Colón de Montgomery: <https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/index.asp?CNO=2323>

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Joe Merritt en jem15319@gmail.com o envíele un mensaje de texto al (703) 635-5488. Siganos en Facebook: www.facebook.com/kofc2323