ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, DERWOOD

BNass Intentions

April 3 - April 9

Monday, 4/3 9:00 a.m. Lynn Krafchik
Tuesday, 4/4 9:00 a.m. Eleanor Slattery
Wednesday, 4/5 9:00 a.m. The Loh Family (L)

7:30 p.m. Bernard J. Kohan Jr. Family (L)

Thursday, 4/6 9:00 a.m. Joseph Gerard O'Sullivan **Friday**, 4/7 9:00 a.m. Barbara Lynn Beall

7:30 p.m. Angel Andrada

Saturday, 4/8 9:00 a.m. Agnes Burke McCann

5:00 p.m. Bobbi Sullivan (L)

Sunday, 4/9 8:00 a.m. Mary Jeanette Shope

9:30 a.m. Antonio Nabor 11:15 a.m. *Pro populo* 1:00 p.m. Carol Miranda 5:00 p.m. Thomas J. McCann

Please pray for the sick....David O'Connor, Carolyn Maltz, Fr. Ralph, Pam Kelley, Vincent Emanuele, Jackie Roebuck King, Bob Coyne, Jeni Stepanek, Robert Dax. (Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of Loretta Meyers, mother of Reverend James Meyers, Maria Flora G. Lopez, sister of Chris Gonzales, Robert Fraser, uncle of Wendel Hall, Katherine Parnell, mother of Dennis Parnell.

Readings for the Week of April 2, 2017

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 /Ps 23:1-6/

Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30 **Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/Jn 8:31-42

 Thursday:
 Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59

 Friday:
 Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42

 Saturday:
 Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10-12, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24/

Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14--27:66



HOLY WEEK/EASTER SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY – April 13

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Church) 7:30 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY - April 14

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Church) 11:30 a.m. Seven Last Words of Christ 1:00 p.m. Children's Stations of the Cross

3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:30 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY – April 15

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Rectory Chapel)

12:00 Noon Blessing of Easter Baskets

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

No 5:00 p.m. Liturgy

EASTER SUNDAY - April 16

8:00 a.m. Church 9:30 a.m. Church 11:15 a.m. Church** 1:00 p.m. Church

No 5:00 p.m. Liturgy

**There will be no additional 11:15 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center on Easter Sunday.

SCRIPTURE CORNER

Fr. Ralph is taking a break while recuperating from pneumonia. He is out of the hospital and back in his room at Sacred Heart Home. His address is below if you would like to send him a card:

Msgr. Ralph Kuehner Sacred Heart Home 5805 Queens Chapel Road Hyattsville MD 20782

REMINDER

Sick Calls: Please notify us concerning any parishioners who are sick or homebound, in hospitals or nursing homes. In case of serious illness or sudden death, notify the parish office immediately.

Funerals: Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How will I move inward this week to discover Jesus within me? How will I move outward to engage more enthusiastically with my sister and brother believers? Toward who is Jesus moving me to be a messenger of freedom?

HOLY THURSDAY- WASHING OF THE FEET

We are looking for volunteers to have their feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to participate please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407, no later than Monday, April 10 or sign-up at the Information Desk in the Gathering space...

CALLING ALL CHILDREN WHO LIKE TO SING!

Come join the Children's Choir that will sing at the Family Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 14, at 1:00 p.m.. All children, 6 years of age and older, are invited. If you will be reading one of the Stations that day, you could also sing because the songs are before and after the readings. We will have rehearsal in the church on Friday, April 7. Rehearsal begins at 5:00 p.m. and will last approximately 45 minutes. We will also meet at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Good Friday, April 14, in the Youth Room (lower level of the Rectory). For those who have sung in the choir for the Family Stations in previous years, please come to the April 7 and April 14 rehearsals. If you are interested in having your child sing in the choir, if you want more information, or if you are musical and want to rehearse with your children at home, please call Sue Madison, 301-977-6854 or email musikal76@msn.com.

RCIA

The third scrutiny will be celebrated at the Sunday evening Mass. The scrutinies are rites of self-searching and repentance for those seeking initiation into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil. They are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak or sinful in the hearts of the elect; and to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good. Today's Gospel reading of Lazarus will fill the spirit of the elect with Christ the Redeemer, who is the resurrection and the life. During our Lenten journey, we should use the scrutinies of the elect to prepare ourselves for Easter. Please, continue to pray for our elect, Brandon Cao, Nala Ton, Giselle Hernandez, Emily Hernandez, Kimberly Hernandez, Jacob Hernandez, Eric Moss and our candidates, Karla Capellan, Juan Veloz, Robert Blankenbaker and Jamie Popernack

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

All are welcome! Join the Ministry of Eucharistic Adoration and assist with adoration in the following manner:

- Become a regular attendee at adoration in the Parish.
- Pray that Eucharistic Adoration will increase.
- Foster Eucharistic Adoration in our parish by evangelizing His Eucharistic Presence.
- Deepen your personal relationship with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

First Friday Mass will be at 7:30 p.m., April 7, followed by adoration until 9:00 p.m. in the Church..

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

Last week I began what will be a series of columns on *Being Catholic Today*: *Catholic Identity in an Age of Challenge*, a Pastoral Letter that Cardinal Wuerl issued on May 24, 2015. The Cardinal identified five key themes of being a Catholic today. I want to devote this column to the first theme: Our Catholic identity is given to us by Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism and the communion fellowship of the Church. This is our encounter with him.

When we were baptized, we were reborn as members of God's family. Cardinal Wuerl also teaches that Baptism is the sacrament in which we are reborn. In Baptism we die with Christ and our sins are forgiven. Through Baptism we rise to a new and divine life as members of Christ, sons and daughters of God, and heirs of everlasting life. Baptism, like Confirmation and Holy Orders, imprints a permanent character or sign; this identifies the recipient as belonging forever to Christ. Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders may not be repeated.

In Being Catholic Today, Cardinal Wuerl goes on to describe the Church as a family. Christ has a spousal relationship with the Church. He is the bridegroom; the Church is the bride. The Church is our mother from whom we receive the gift of new life in faith through celebration of the sacraments. Through Baptism we are incorporated into Christ as his brothers and sisters; we are members of the family of God. In God's plan we are called to love him and one another in truth as a family. At Pentecost, the distinct beginning of the Church, the Church was established by Jesus Christ. The Church is not simply man-made. It is not a business, a club, or a specialinterest group. The Church is not the result of like-minded people coming together and deciding to form an organization, nor are her moral teachings decided by popular vote or societal trends. Like any family, the Church has a hierarchical structure: the pope in union with the bishops who form the touchstone of the apostolic faith. To be a Catholic is to recognize the role of the Church in the very means created and given by Jesus so that his work, accomplished in his death and resurrection, might be re-presented in our day and applied to us.

Cardinal Wuerl reminds that every time we make the profession of faith, we say, "We believe in the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church." Here we are simply affirming that we are Catholics and that Christ is present in his Church, as we also renew our dedication and offer our fidelity to the Church that brings us his truth and love every day. The Catholic Church is the home of the seven sacraments - Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony. The sacraments continue in a visible manner to manifest and effect the saving work of Christ in our world and in the lives of the faithful, giving us the grace to life the Gospel.

One final thought on this first theme: "Being a Catholic means to recognize a unique and special relationship with Jesus, risen from the dead, and his mission to bring everything to God the Father. We are not bystanders but rather participants in his work." (*Being Catholic Today*, p. 6)

Until next week,

Fr. John Pastor

April 2, 2017

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next weekend will go to Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. *Thank you for your generosity*.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare Chapel in the Rectory a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are actively pursuing new members. Our council incorporates members from St. Francis, St. Mary's and St. Martin's. Though best known for our many charitable projects, we also have a lot of fun with dinners, fund raisers, family nights and many other fraternal social occasions. If interested in learning more, please contact Gary Palmer, (301) 412-1237 or e-mail gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

HOOPS FOR HAITI

Saturday, April 8 - 6:30 p.m. Our Lady of Good Counsel High School 17301 Old Vic Blvd, Olney MD

Join us for tons of family fun as we raise the roofs in Haiti. Tickets can be purchased at the door. All proceeds benefit the effort to reconstruct homes in Haiti after destruction by Hurricane Matthew.

ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR? On Sunday, June 25, at 2:00 p.m. Cardinal Donald Wuerl will preside at the annual Mass honoring married couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years of marriage. The Jubilarian Mass will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Personalized scrolls signed by Cardinal Wuerl will be distributed to the couples following the ceremony, or mailed should they be unable to attend. If you are interested in attending or receiving a scroll, please call the Parish Office before **Monday, April 24**th.

BUILD UP OUR CHURCH

Spring Ministry Coordinators Leadership Retreat Coming around the Corner

Our Spring Ministry Coordinators Leadership Retreat will be held Saturday, April 22, from 9:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. With a theme of "Leading a Parish Ministry in Challenging Times," the retreat will feature talks and discussion on:

- Identifying as Catholic
- Building a Ministry Identity
- Growing a Ministry through New and Old Communications Tools

All ministry leaders, assistant leaders and those interested in leading a parish ministry should plan to attend this retreat. In response to feedback from participants of past retreats, the event will offer extended time for prayer and additional opportunities to get to know other ministry leaders. For more information, contact Deacon Dan Finn at deacondanfinn@gmail.com.

Mass Preference Survey Results Are Getting Tabulated

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Mass Preference Survey over the past two weeks. Parishioners and attendees at Mass submitted approximately 700 surveys that were administered on Survey Monkey and as a paper survey during Mass. A team from the Pastoral Council is now working to tabulate the results. The survey results will be shared in coming weeks and a town hall meeting will soon be scheduled to discuss them in more depth. For more information, contact the Pastoral Council at ask-theppe@gmail.com.

Trio Illumino Returns for a Repeat Performance at St. Francis

Music lovers will soon get their next opportunity to hear great music for a good cause when Trio Illumino returns Saturday, May 6, to St. Francis of Assisi Parish. The trio of musicians – Neil Brown on trumpet, Virginia Lum on piano and Stephen Czarkowski on cello – will play in a concert beginning at 7:00 p.m. and benefitting the parish's Haiti Medical Mission. Tickets will be \$20 apiece and will go on sale Monday, April 3, in the Parish Office. For more information, contact Director of Music Ministries Deirdre Sweet at sfadwmusic@gmail.com.

Rebuilding Together Event Helps Bring Entire Community Together for Service Projects

Volunteers are still needed for St. Francis' Rebuilding Together project on Saturday, April 29. Participants will be working on a house in the Aspen Hill area of Silver Spring. In a second project, teams of volunteers will be helping paint in the Parish Office and Rectory, as well as plant some flowers. Rebuilding Together is a great time of fellowship and a good way to serve others in need. Stop by the Information Desk in the Gathering Space to have any remaining questions addressed. For more information, contact parishioner Pat O'Connor at (240) 426-1794 or e-mail her at pjoconnor826@gmail.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS

FAMILY STATIONS OF THE CROSS VOLUNTEER TO READ OR ACT

Family Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday at 1:00 p.m. Children read a special version of the stations, while youth act out the Way of the Cross in a silent tableau. We need children (grades 1-5) to read the stations and youth (grades 6 through high school) to act in the tableau. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Susan Anderson at sanderson@sfadw.org, or 301-258-9193.

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER HOLIDAYS

Religious Education classes will not meet during Holy Week and Easter week. Please make note of the schedule for the remaining Religious Education classes for this school year:

No RE Classes
No RE Classes
RE Classes
RE Classes
Last RE Classes

(except for Confirmation classes)

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE & PARENT MEETING

A reminder to Confirmation Candidates and Parents: There will be a meeting for students and parents on Wednesday, April 19, 6:45-8:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE CAMP!

St. Francis of Assisi Church invites children from age 4 to those who will complete the 5th Grade in June 2017 to join us at Vacation Bible Camp, June 26-30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Look for camper registration information, as well as information about volunteer opportunities for adults and teens, after Easter!



APRIL 2017 LUNCH – The St. Francis Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, April 5, 12:00 Noon, at Hershey's Restaurant, 17030 Oakmont Avenue, Gaithersburg, (301) 948-9893. If you are planning to attend, please contact Liz & Serge

Triau (301) 840-1128 and let them know you are coming. They will reserve a seat. for you and answer any questions.



On Wednesday evenings, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., visit St. Francis and experience the simple generosity of God's love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To find Confession times at other parishes and for additional resources visit www.TheLightisON.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Events FRED

APRIL - High School

- FRED Immaculata
- 7 First Friday Mass & Adoration
- 8 Hoops 4 Haiti'
- 9 FRED Psalm Sunday Praise & Worship
- 15 Easter Vigil

20

- 16 No FRED Easter Sunday
 - Service @ Our Lord's Table
- 23 FRED Lost Ark
- 29/30 Krispy Kreme Presale
- 30 FRED Dwelling Place

FRED JR.

APRIL - Middle School

- 7 First Friday Mass & Adoration
- 8 Hoops 4 Haiti
- 9 FRED Jr. Psalm Sunday Praise & Worship
- 20 Service @ Our Lord's Table

GET SOCIAL

*Instagram "SFASusie" FRED - St. Francis of Assisi Youth Ministry Page on Facebook

"St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church" page on Facebook.

ARCHDIOCESE LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Many thanks to our parishioners for your generosity with the non-perishable food donations. We counted 202 number of bags totaling (1,443) pounds of food. There were also monetary donations given to Catholic Charities as well. A BIG "Thank You" goes out to the volunteers who came out to sort, pack and make the delivery to the St. Martin's Food Pantry in Gaithersburg: Michael and Daniel Joseph, Tom Reese, Sylvia Jones, Mary and Fred Kolberg, Alex Robbins, Kathleen Burch, Christopher Goh and Linda Call. If we left anyone off the list, please accept our apologies but know that your help was most appreciated.

If you missed donating to the food drive, don't worry. St. Francis of Assisi collects non-perishable food donations year-round! These can be placed in the labeled wooden bin in the Gathering Space, by the glass doors. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry or volunteering at the food pantry you can contact us Carolyn Brauer at Carolyn_Brauer@yahoo.com or Christine Young at youngbodywork@hotmail.com.



ENCOUNTER RESILIENCE

We encounter Dita in Ethiopia, and see how her newfound entrepreneurial skills are providing three meals a day for her children even during a devastating drought. What skills have you discovered this Lent that can be put to good use in building God's kingdom? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Please plan to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl to Religious Education Classes or to the Church Gathering Space no later than Sunday, **APRIL 9.**

2017 SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Thank you to all the St. Francis parishioners who came out on a rainy cold night to celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a pancake feast. It was exciting to see so many new families with lots of young faces and all the familiar faces of all our parishioners who enjoyed breakfast for dinner. The evening's success is all due to the kitchen staff led by our kitchen manager Nadine who is always there to help with a smile along with Deacon Dan, Tom Reese, Chris Gonzales, Dan Verner and Christina Hamilton who frantically flipped pancakes to keep up with the crowd. A special thank you belongs to Georgana Finn, Sue Madison, Gary Palmer, Christine Sweeney and Jeanne Kavinski. who did all the prep work. Rose Hudecheck, served as the floor manager and kept every one hopping. Barbara Potter was our utility runner who kept the desserts and fruit tables full. A special thanks to Margaret Talcott and Jane Ruiz who filled in for the servers when the students left for class. Thanks also to Mary Kate Ryner. Alex Robbins and Marianne Moore who welcomed everyone with a smile as they collected the money while Meghan Jones, Amy Christopher, Jennifer Shannon and Rachael Seipp passed out beads. I want to acknowledge the 8th Grade Confirmation class who did a superb job serving food with a smile. Also, thank you to Chris Ryan, Al Butler, Rita Tomas and Sara Becker for your help with the fruit and drinks and the kitchen clean up done by Mary and Fred Kolberg. The rest of the sticky mess was handled by Rose Hudecheck and Marianne Moore. Last, but not least, I thank Donna Zezzo who made sure all the food was ordered and delivered on time. See you all next year! ~ Sylvia Jones

7 Church Walk

DCCatholic invites all young adults (20s and 30s) to the 14th Annual 7 Church Walk! On Saturday, April 8, join hundreds of young adults for an annual Lenten pilgrimage that brings a Roman tradition to D.C. The pilgrimage will include prayer at seven D.C. churches in the Brookland neighborhood and conclude with a 3:45 p.m. Mass with Cardinal Wuerl at the St. John Paul II National Shrine. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (400 Michigan Ave., NE). Bring comfortable shoes for a 3-mile walk, a Rosary, and a bag lunch or lunch money. Register at decatholic.eventbrite.com. For more information, contact Jonathan Lewis at 301-853-4559 or decatholic@adw.org.

EVENING MASS AT ST. PETER'S DURING LENT

On *Monday through Thursday evenings*, Saint Peter's Parish celebrates Mass at 7:15 p.m. Saint Peter's is located just one quarter mile east of Georgia Avenue on Olney-Sandy Spring Road (MD Route 108). For further information, call 301-924-3774 or visit their website at www.saintpetersolney.org.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, AIDES, SUBSTITUTES & EXTENDED CARE WORKERS WANTED-

Mother of God School seeks teachers, aides and substitute teachers who are committed, practicing Catholics with a zeal for living out their faith, for the 2017-2018 school year. Please email Mrs. Alice Garvey agarvey@mogschool.com with your information and questions. www.mogschool.com.

SFA HEALTH MINISTRY

Encouraging health and wellbeing of body, mind and soul

WALKING TO THE CROSS LENTEN PRO-GRAM

Meets Saturdays in Lent through April 15 9:30a.m. Gathering Space

Walking to the Cross is a 40-day devotional designed for the Season of Lent. It invites you to make walking, reflecting and prayer a part of your daily Lenten practice. Group gatherings on Saturday will begin with a psalm and the opportunity to set a "movement goal" for the week such as walking or another reasonable physical challenge for yourself.

Weeks 2-6 Group share about how their movement goal was met/not met/ successes and roadblocks, etc. Set Movement Goal for upcoming week. **New Comers welcome.**

Just as Jesus traveled the long journey to the cross, walking or meeting another intentional challenge can discipline and strengthen us physically and spiritually.

REQUEST FROM GABRIEL PROJECT

The Gabriel Project assists women in a crisis pregnancy. Items such as new and gently used clothing for infants through teens, diaper bags and receiving blankets are provided to mothers and their families in need. Donations are greatly appreciated. Bilingual Angel Friends are very helpful and appreciated. Men are needed to deliver and haul items. E-mail and daily prayer supporters are also needed. For more information please contact Natalie Ray at natalieanneray@gmail.com or 240-374-3297, or Diane Reinke 301-946-4815.

THE SAVVY CAREGIVER

Alzheimer's/Dementia Seminar Series, Tuesdays, April 4-May 9, 2-4 p.m., Brooke Grove Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, 18131 Slade School Road on the Sandy Spring campus of Brooke Grove Retirement Village. This is the first in a new, six-week series offered by the Alzheimer's Association that provides clinical-level training for caregivers. To register, contact Toni Davis, 301-388-7209 or tdavis@bgf.org, by April 2.

THRIVING WITH PARKINSON'S KICKOFF EVENT

Wednesday, April 5, 7-9 p.m., Brooke Grove Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, 18131 Slade School Road on the Sandy Spring campus of Brooke Grove Retirement Village. During this kickoff event, Dr. Stephen Grill, co-founder of the Parkinson's and Movement Disorder Center of Maryland, will share his expertise and Terrie Daniels, Brooke Grove's senior fitness and wellness specialist, will provide detailed class information. Free. To register, contact Toni Davis, 301-388-7209 or tdavis@bgf.org, by April 3.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School Catch our Spirit

St. Jude Regional Catholic School Drama Club Presents

BYE BYE BIRDIE

Friday, April 7th& Saturday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Thaddeus Room General Admission: \$5.00 - Children/Students, \$8.00 - Adults