



Mass Intentions

November 12 - November 18

Monday, 11/12	9:00 a.m. Christopher Gomes
Tuesday, 11/13	9:00 a.m. Erlinda Quemuel
Wednesday, 11/14	9:00 a.m. Don Smith 7:30 p.m. Josephine Griffin
Thursday, 11/15	9:00 a.m. Gemma Palini
Friday, 11/16	9:00 a.m. Carol Toney
Saturday, 11/17	9:00 a.m. Cecelia Tyson 5:00 p.m. John Lloyd
Sunday, 11/18	8:00 a.m. Robert Coyne 9:30 a.m. Michael Alipui Family (L) 11:15 a.m. Margaret Lyons 5:00 p.m. <i>Pro populo</i>

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Early, grandson of Marie Early, George Wassum, father of John Tomon.

Please pray for the sick...Sandra Powell, Fr. Richard Gancayo, Cecilia Bussard, Ray Spieler, Margaret Weiss Behrus, Heidi Weiss Beedie, Brian Ridder, Kelly Holden, Jeff Smith, Dennis Parnell, Ed Dudenhoeffer, 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 November 11, 2018

Sunday:	1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/ Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44
Monday:	Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/ Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday:	Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 & 23, 27 & 29 [39a]/Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday:	Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6 [1]/ Lk 17:11-19
Thursday:	Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [5a]/ Lk 17:20-25
Friday:	2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18 [1b]/ Lk 17:26-37
Saturday:	3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8
Next Sunday:	Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/ Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On Sunday, October 14, 2018, Pope Francis canonized Blessed Paul VI, Blessed Oscar Romero, Blessed Vincent Romano, Blessed Francesco Spinelli, Blessed Nazaria March Mesa, and Blessed Katharina Kasper. A few weeks ago I wrote about Saint Paul VI. I want to continue writing about these newly canonized saints. Today I am writing about Saint Katharina Kasper. I am going to base my remarks about her on the short biography published recently in the English edition of *Osservatore Romano*.

Katharina Kasper knew no confessional boundaries in loving others, in education, and in the care of the sick. Born on May 26, 1820 in Derbach, Germany (now in the Diocese of Limburg, Germany), she was the seventh child of a large farming family. As a child she became well acquainted with the miserable living conditions of the rural people who tilled the poor soil, braving harsh weather to reap only a meager harvest. Because she encountered such great poverty early on, Katharina's main objective became actively helping people around her in order to lessen their physical and spiritual misery. In addition to her own personal commitment, she founded an organization whose aim, she explained, was "to spread virtue by example, education, and prayer." Thus on August 15, 1851, Katharina and four of her companions made their vows before the Bishop in Wirges.

One year later, on the occasion of the association's first exercises, the young women received their religious names. From then on Katharina was known as Maria and the association as the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Shortly afterward, the statutes of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ were approved by the Vatican.

As Superior General, Sister Maria Katharina did not actively seek to expand the community along a clearly defined plan. On the contrary, she opened houses only when she was invited to do so. By 1855, the Handmaids had spread beyond diocesan confines with the first house in the Archdiocese of Cologne.

At the time of her death on February 2, 1898, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ numbered 1,725 women religious spread throughout 193 houses: 152 in Germany, 28 in America, 4 in Holland, 2 in England, and 7 in what is now the Czech Republic. Sister Maria Katharina never gave any importance to personal growth and the territorial interests of the Institute. What truly mattered to her was to live one's vocation by living with serenity, humility, simplicity, and harmony, above all, for one's own sanctification, because it is the only way to aid in the salvation of others.

In many ways she was ahead of her time. With great ease, she shared friendship and dialogue with representatives from other religions and even with atheists. Her bond with nature and its gifts also reveal a person who can still guide us today. If she were alive today, she might well take part in the environmental or pacifist movement.

Katharina Kasper was beatified by St. Paul VI on April 16, 1978.

Until next week,

Fr. John

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Last week we heard that love of God and love of neighbor are the first of all the commandments. Today we hear three examples of sacrifice. What are we willing to sacrifice for God and for our neighbor?

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE SALE KICKOFF ON NOVEMBER 24

Are you ready for the annual St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale? Need Student Service Learning hours? Starting this weekend, volunteers of all ages will be needed to sign up in the Gathering Space to help with the St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale, a seasonal fundraiser that raised over \$14,000 last year for our church! The Christmas Tree Sale is scheduled to begin at 9 am Saturday, Nov. 24 in the front lawn of the church. Volunteers are needed to help unload trees at 7 am Friday, November 23, sell them starting Saturday, November 24 through Sunday, December 16, and help break down the tree lot on that final day. Please look out for the sign-up table in the Gathering Space on November 10, 11, 17 and 18 after all Masses. For more information, contact Christmas Tree Sale Ministry Coordinator Brian Pettit at brian-pettit@pettitcompanies.com or call him at (240) 372-1662.

A REMINDER FROM FR. JOHN ... If anyone is living in a marriage that has not been recognized by the Catholic Church, it would be wise to consult with a priest to see whether that situation might be rectified. It could be as simple as repeating your marriage vows quietly in front of a priest and receiving the Church's blessing. In that way, one would become eligible to receive the Sacraments of the Church, especially the Eucharist

YOUR OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTION

Just a reminder that we do not record loose checks from the weekly collection. In order for us to track your contribution and send you a statement at the end of the year, it is suggested that you sign up for envelopes or Faith Direct. To sign up for envelopes you can call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407. To sign up for electronic contributions visit www.faithdirect.net. The code for St. Francis is MD110. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.

ARCHDIOCESE OFFERS A ONE-DAY RETREAT ON DECEMBER 1 FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE TO CONTINUE HEALING

As the Archdiocese of Washington moves into the next stage of the Season of Healing, the Secretariat of Pastoral Ministry and Social Concerns recognizes that the healing continues for all survivors of abuse. On December 1, the archdiocese will offer a one-day retreat for survivors from 8:30 am-5:30 pm at a local retreat center. While the retreat is not primarily therapeutic in nature or an opportunity for professional counseling, it offers an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan, including prayer, for their lives and for healing. For more information and to register go to <https://adw.org/outreach-to-survivors/>. Survivors of abuse interested in learning more about the retreat can also contact Deborah McDonald at mcdonald@adw.org or (301) 853-4466.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY FOR INCREASED OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS JUST A WEEK AWAY

As Fr. John mentioned during Mass this weekend, St. Francis parishioners should check their mail this week for a brochure detailing the Increased Offertory Program our parish will be participating in over the next few weeks. This informative brochure aims to further communicate the financial needs of our parish and why we are having a dedicated focus on our parish offertory. We encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the parish's needs and your current level of giving.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Mass next weekend for this very important Commitment Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the Increased Offertory Program, please call the Parish Office at (301) 840-1407.

COME HELP US DECORATE FRESH CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON NOVEMBER 23-24!

Are you needing to get into the Christmas spirit? Please mark your calendar to help decorate fresh Christmas wreaths from 6:30-9 pm Friday November 23 and 9 am-12:30 pm Saturday, November 24, in the Rectory's Youth Room. Many hands are needed to assemble the 72 fresh Christmas wreaths that will be sold alongside 400 trees at the St. Francis Christmas Tree Sale. Participants are asked to bring wire cutters and garden gloves, if they like. Please bring a finger food to share; coffee, juice, utensils and all the decorations will be provided. Join in the fun, enjoy Christmas music playing in the background and bring a friend! And feel free to stay for part of the time or for the entire decorating session. For more information, please contact parishioner Carolyn Brauer at carolyn_brauer@yahoo.com.

FR. BOXIE TO SPEAK ABOUT THE TOPIC OF RACISM ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

On Saturday, November 17, Fr. Robert Boxie, who formerly served at St. Francis of Assisi Church, will return at 9:30 am to deliver an address titled, "Reflections on the Catholic Church and the Challenges of Racism." Fr. Boxie's talk will be held in the Parish Center; there will be light refreshments served. For more information about this event, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

November 11, 2018

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, November 13, 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 week-end will go to UMAN (Upper Montgomery Assistance Network). 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.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare's 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.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 2:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

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) 948-6494 or e-mail gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

SOCK-TOBER

Thank you to everyone who donated socks during the month of October to SOME (So Other Might Eat). Six boxes of socks were shipped last week to SOME (over 400 pairs of socks).

SPIRIT TREE INVITES PARISHIONERS TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER TO AN ADULT OR CHILD IN NEED

Get ready for one of St. Francis' most beloved Christmas traditions – the Spirit Tree will be up next week, November 17/18! In a partnership with the Assumption Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Washington DC, the Spirit Tree enables St. Francis parishioners and their families to purchase Christmas gifts for families in need. Starting November 17/18, parishioners are invited to choose a name off the Spirit Tree, purchase a gift for the adult or child listed, wrap it, affix the sticker on the gift and return it to the Gathering Space no later than Sunday, December 9. Thanks for participating in this special Christmas tradition at St. Francis. Let's fill the Gathering Space with generosity from the heart!

THE ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

On Sunday, November 18, join us at 7 pm for the annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service be held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 17740 Muncaster Road, Derwood,. The homilist will be Rev. Mark Adams, pastor of Redland Baptist Church. St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church will participate in the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, along with four other churches. The other participating congregations are Redland Baptist Church, St. Luke Lutheran Church, and Mill Creek Parish United Methodist Church. In addition, any financial donations brought to the service will benefit Our House in Brookeville, MD.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY BROWN BAG CONVERSATIONS FOR DECEMBER TOPIC: "The Gift: Your Call to Greatness"

Choose one date: December. 2 or 9.

First-come; first-served (Seating limited to 25).

Doors open at 12:45 pm in the Rectory's Assisi Room for Brown Bag lunch and fellowship.

Session is from 1-2:30 pm.

"The human body includes right from the beginning... the capacity of expressing love, that love in which the person becomes a gift – and by means of this gift – fulfills the meaning of his being and existence." - St. John Paul II

If you desire to reach your full purpose and potential, then discover the extraordinary Catholic teaching known as the **Theology of the Body**. It will give you a revolutionary and fulfilling vision for life, as it offers a new way to see yourself, your faith, your relationships and your world. Given to us by Pope John Paul II, the **Theology of the Body** is renewing marriages, awakening vocations, healing deep personal wounds and setting people free to live the life of greatness to which we are all called. In *Your Call to Greatness*, an adult faith formation program, best-selling author and theologian **Christopher West** unfolds God's amazing plan for your life. This study addresses the two most fundamental and universal questions of human existence:

- What does it mean to be "made male and female in the image and likeness of God?"
- How can I live my life in a way that brings true happiness and fulfillment?

Come and see! For more information, contact Adult Faith Formation Team Member Medy DeAussen at medy-deausen@comcast.net.

VETERANS DAY
Monday, November 12
PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



CATECHISTS AND AIDES NEEDED

Additional volunteers are still needed in our Monday afternoon Elementary program and Monday evening middle school program. Please consider whether you can serve as a catechist or classroom aide for our children and young people. We need your help to keep our class sizes small. If you would like to learn more about this important ministry, please contact Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

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, November 11 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETINGS

A reminder to families of children preparing to celebrate First Reconciliation this year: the next First Reconciliation Parent Meetings will be held on Wednesday, November 14 or Thursday, November 15 from 7:30-9:00 pm in the Parish Center. Parents are asked to attend one of these meetings. If you have questions, please call the Religious Education Office, 301-258-9193.

RE CLASS SCHEDULE AND THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

There are no Religious Education classes on Monday, November 19, Tuesday, November 20, and Sunday, November 25 (Please note that classes will meet on Sunday, November 18, and Monday and Tuesday, November 26 and 27.)

SAVE THE DATE WORLD YOUTH DAY IN DC

Join thousands of college students and young adults (ages 18-39) on Saturday, January 26, 2019 for a one-day Catholic festival at The Catholic University of America. Experience World Youth Day in Panama, including world-renowned speakers, live music, simultaneous streaming of Pope Francis in Panama, and authentic Panamanian culture! Registration begins late summer 2018. For more information visit www.wyddc.org #wydDC

DONATE YOUR USED CLOTHING If you are sorting through gently used clothing to give away, remember that there is a St. Vincent de Paul clothing collection bin in the lower parking lot. Donations of clean clothing in good repair is greatly appreciated. Please put clothing in a plastic bag and deposit in the slot at the top of the bin. Collections are made weekly and will be a great blessing to those in need in the region.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

16-18 Youth Fall Retreat
18 No Youth Group
25 No Youth Group

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School *We are...St. Jude*

www.StJudeRockville.org

ST. JUDE REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Looking for an incredible education in a Catholic Christian community? Visit our Open House on November 14th from 9-11:30 am to see our incredible school in action. We have a few openings in our Pre-k 4 and kindergarten classes. Contact Ellen Donnelly at 301-946-7888 or at mainoffice@stjuderockville.org for further information. We would love to talk to you about our programs.

ARCHDIOCESE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Applications for the 2019-2020 Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Assistance Program are now being accepted online at <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/>. Families of students currently enrolled in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Washington the application deadline for tuition assistance is December 7, 2018. Families enrolling their children for the first time in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Washington the application deadline is February 4, 2019. Email questions to tuitionassistanceprogram@adw.org

FIRST ANNUAL SJRCS VARIETY SHOW

The First Annual SJRCS Variety Show, featuring our very own students, will be held Saturday, November 17th, at 7PM in the Thaddeus Room. For more information go to <https://www.stjuderockville.org> and click on Variety Show Information.



PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE MEN/WOMEN

Please continue to pray for all those parishioners, family members and friends who are serving in the military services in Iraq, Afghanistan and other dangerous areas. We have a prayer list posted in the Gathering Space for those who are serving in these areas. Please help us to keep it current by letting us know of any parishioner who is currently deployed so we can add them, and also those who have returned so that we can remove their names. Please continue to keep all of our military personnel in your prayers.

**OLIVEWOOD GOODS FOR SALE
IN THE GATHERING SPACE
MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

On November 10/11, members of the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America are selling olive wood goods made by Christian artisans who live in the Holy Land after all Masses in the Gathering Space. The goods make beautiful and unique Christmas gifts and may include candle holders, Christmas ornaments, Rosaries, crosses, jewelry and trinket boxes, plaques and Nativity scenes. Please plan to pay with cash or personal check. Thank you for supporting the mission work of the Franciscan Friars, who have guardianship of the Holy Land and other shrines of the Christian religion in the Holy Land. Currently, the friars in the Holy Land are supporting 29 parishes, four homes for orphans and three academic institutions; operating 16 schools with more than 10,000 students in grades Pre-K through 12; relocating and providing homes to Christian families; and creating jobs for Christians in the Holy Land. For more information, please contact Director of Social Concerns and Adult Faith Formation Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

ONLINE GIVING - FAITH DIRECT

Giving Tuesday provides us an opportunity to thank God for all of the blessings that he has bestowed upon us during the year and to look within ourselves to see how we can best use our talent and treasure to help others. This year, St. Francis of Assisi is building upon that feeling of generosity and compassion by asking our parishioners to prayerfully consider enrolling in eGiving for your recurring weekly offering.

By using eGiving you are supporting our parish's shared mission to give back to others and spread the word of God. We are excited about Giving Tuesday and all of the miraculous work our parish can do in our community, with your support.

Enrolling in eGiving is a safe and secure way to give to our parish and getting started is easy—just visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: MD110.

Your gifts and your participation are a blessing to us and I ask you prayerfully consider making a donation on Giving Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

God Bless You,
Fr. John

**17TH ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY
TROT FOR HUNGER**

SOME (So Others Might Eat) invites you to join them on Thursday, November 22 for their 17th Annual Thanksgiving Day Trot for Hunger. As the only Turkey Trot in the District, this is a tradition for thousands of area residents and a meaningful way to remember people in need on Thanksgiving Day. Proceeds from the 5K benefit thousands of homeless families and single adults experiencing poverty, hunger, and homelessness. At Freedom Plaza (corner of 13th St. & Pennsylvania Ave., NW), the One Mile Little Turkey Fun Run begins at 8:30 am; the timed 5K Run begins at 9am; and the 5K untimed Run/Walk begins at 9:15am. Please visit www.some.org to register and learn more, or contact the Trot for Hunger office at trotforhunger@some.org or 202-797-8806, x1131 for additional information. Thank you for your support of our community's most vulnerable men, women, and children.

THE SUNDAY TV MASS

Do you know someone who can't get to Mass? Since 1952, the Archdiocese of Washington has produced a weekly televised Mass for those who are homebound, broadcast from the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. It is a wonderful ministry for those members of our Catholic family who are unable to be physically present with a local worshipping community for the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

The Mass airs every Sunday at 10:30am on WDCW-50:

- No cable; Dish or DIRECTV subscribers: Ch. 50
- Comcast: Ch. 23 in Washington, DC and Montgomery County; Ch. 3 in Prince George's County and Southern Maryland
- RCN: Ch 15
- Verizon: Ch. 3

Would you like to be on TV? Join the congregation at a taping of the TV Mass! Your presence at the TV Mass is a wonderful way to bring the Mass to those who are homebound. Two Masses are taped on the same evening, from 7:30-8:45pm in the Crypt Church of the Basilica at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 400 Michigan Ave., NE in Washington, DC. Come for one Mass or stay for both! Upcoming Thursday taping dates are November 8 and November 15. To receive the free Celebrate! TV Mass newsletter, please email communications@adw.org.

PUT YOUR PRO-LIFE BELIEFS INTO ACTION

The Gabriel Project assists needy women and women in crisis pregnancies in Montgomery County. Women volunteers (**especially bilingual Spanish speaking women**) are needed to stay in touch with client mothers. This includes keeping in touch with them via phone or email during their pregnancy, bringing them needed items such as diapers, baby clothes, etc. that are provided by the Gabriel Project, and praying for them. The average time commitment would be approximately 1 - 4 hours per month (or less). Men are also needed to pick up donations once or twice per month. Daily prayer supporters are also needed. Donations of diapers, formula, and baby clothes are also appreciated. For more information, please call Diane Reinke at 301-946-4815, or e-mail Carmen Rojas at gccthompson@juno.com.

**RENTING IN MARYLAND?
YOU MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR
A STATE TAX CREDIT**

The state of Maryland has a program that aims to assist low income renters struggling with rising rent payments, particularly for those who are over 60 years old, permanently disabled, or have a dependent under age 18. If you are a renter in Maryland and want to learn if you qualify for up to \$1,000 in financial assistance, contact the Housing Partnership Initiative (hiphomes.org) at 301-916-5946 or ccastro@hiphomes.org. More information at MarylandTaxCredit.com.

YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE ABUSED

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of violent and coercive behavior by one adult over another in an intimate relationship. It can consist of repeated severe beatings or subtle forms of abuse, including threats and control. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. To learn more about domestic violence, please visit www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/familypeace.